

IAIA Newsletter

International Association for Impact Assessment

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Rita R. Hamm, Chief Executive Officer

IAIA... Reinventing Itself

President Elvis Au

When I delivered my Presidential Address in June, I outlined three key directions that IAIA is going - enhancing professionalism, extending our international connection and contribution, and strengthening our regional network and influence. I am pleased to let you know that there has been significant progress in these three areas, thanks to the dedicated efforts by many IAIA members and our headquarters staff.

We have developed a strategic action plan to put words into actions; Bridget John at HQ and her team have prepared a summary, which is enclosed with this newsletter.

On the professional aspects, IAIA made a submission to the secretariat for the Convention on Biodiversity in July, promoting the integration of biodiversity aspects into impact assessment and a better use of impact assessment tools for biodiversity purposes. In July, IAIA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ramsar Convention Bureau on professional collaboration, similar to the one IAIA signed with World Health Organization last year.

Providing better professional services for our members, particularly about latest policy advancements and professional practices, is one of our primary goals. We intend to significantly enhance the quarterly newsletter early next year to deliver the most current professional news around the globe to you. Over the past two months, we have received very encouraging responses to our initiative to set up an international news network on impact assessment. Key professionals and organizations from UNEP, World Bank, Canada, The Netherlands, USA, Australia, Norway, Denmark, Portugal, South Africa, Austria, New Zealand, Hong Kong, UK, Eastern and Central Europe have already agreed to participate in the network and contribute pro-

fessional news. If any of our members or organizations wish to participate in this news network, please contact Jennifer Howell at HQ (jen@iaia.org).

To further strengthen our professional standing and provide opportunities for professional enhancement, IAIA has set up a task force, chaired by Barry Sadler, on IAIA's submission to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and another task force, chaired by Director Tuija Hilding-Rydevik, on the World Status Report on Impact Assessment.

We have also set up four other task forces, covering a web strategy to satisfy members' needs, the business and industry sector, our policy on multiculturalism, and revenue generating strategy.

Some good progress has been made on the setting up of the first IAIA branch, and our Chief Executive Officer, Rita Hamm, went to Washington, D.C., to meet with relevant IAIA members to further develop the arrangement.

Through all these on-going actions, IAIA is gradually transforming and reinventing itself. There are now many more opportunities for you to contribute your professional knowledge and talents. So please do not hesitate to contact the chairs of various committees, sections and task forces. After all, this professional Association belongs to you.

In closing, I'd like to express our condolences and deepest sympathy for those who have been directly or indirectly affected by the tragedy in the US on September 11. Many IAIA members sent in their support to our HQ and we deeply appreciated it. It's hoped that the world would move forward with compassion and courage.

*After all,
this Association
belongs to you*



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SEA Directive of the European Union

On July 21, 2001, the European Union published officially its "Directive on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment", Directive No. 2001/42/EC. Until July 20, 2004 member states have time to implement its regulations into their national legislations, cf. IAIA Newsletter July 2001, p. 2.

The EU SEA Directive covers certain formal plans and programmes, which are prepared

for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use AND which set the framework for future development consent of projects listed in the EIA Directive and for plans and programmes, which, in view of the likely effect on sites, have been determined to require an assessment pursuant to the so called "Fauna-Flora-Habitat" Directive.

Interested IAIA members can find the full text of the Directive in all EU languages (English, Spanish, French, German, Portuguese and so on) under <http://europa.eu.int/com m / environment/eia/sea-legal context.htm#adopt>

- **Ralf Aschmann** • Austrian Institute for the Development of Environmental Assessment (Anidea) • office@anidea.at

Publications Announced

Citizen Participation in Romania: The Right Way to Democracy

For almost two years, under a USAID funded project in Romania implemented by Research Triangle Institute, the citizen participation program revealed some experiences that can make an external auditor believe that this country is on the right way to democracy.

Conclusions and highlights of the program include:

- Critical mass has been reached - there is a considerable variety and volume of citizen participation and citizen information activity occurring in Romania, which offers good prospects for achieving sustainability.
- Self help projects with a strong citizen participation component were used successfully to carry out action plans to resolve community problems.
- Several local government units shared annual program budget information with citizens through an open hearing on the draft budget which led to the creation of Citizen Advisory Committees (e.g., on transport and education).
- At the end of the program, at two Sustainability and Impact Evaluation workshops, participants (selected local government units) defined criteria for evaluating impact and sustainability and then applied these to the local government assistance/citizen participation projects they were familiar with; outcome was outstanding.
- A practical guide to Citizen Participation in Local Government in Romania has been produced (available at www.lga.ro).
- Support for citizen information has been facilitated through the National Association of Citizens Information Centers (interactive website: www.anci.ro).

Lessons Learned

- Some local government leaders were found to be receptive to citizen participation. There is a need to continue to work with leaders who are receptive to these kinds of changes, supporting their step-by-step progress into transparent and participatory government.

- Working with local government leaders is only part of the equation - it is also necessary to work with citizens, members of local councils, NGOs and other stakeholders.
- The electoral cycle should not be ignored - citizen participation projects that are too close to an election may be "hijacked" and made into an electoral tool.
- Some rural communities have a history of citizen participation and voluntary community organizations that were crushed under the heavily centralized former regime. Revising such institutions through the citizen participation process can be the first step to more vital local government.

Some would say that Romanian democracy is too young to address many difficulties regarding public participation, but I strongly believe that all these good experiences should be shared at least within a Central and Eastern European context.

- **Daniel Serban**

Research Triangle Institute
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IAIA Action Programme on Biological Diversity in Environmental Impact Assessment

Summary. Article 14 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) recommends that biodiversity considerations should be integrated in existing impact assessment legislation and procedures. The International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA) has recently endorsed an action programme for incorporating biological diversity with impact assessment. The goal of the action programme is to strengthen the role of biodiversity in Impact Assessment so that Impact Assessment can become an effective instrument in addressing issues related to biological diversity in decision making. The action programme will be carried out by the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) which will commission the work to member organisations and individuals.

The Netherlands Commission for EIA has implemented an initial phase of the action programme resulting in a conceptual and procedural framework for the integration of biological diversity considerations in national systems for impact assessment. It serves as a guidance document for countries to further develop their own country-specific mechanisms. IAIA

members furthermore participated in a Biodiversity Planning Support Programme (UNDP/UNEP/GEF) study collecting case studies on the integration of biodiversity with national environmental assessment processes. Case studies as well as the framework document have been submitted to the secretariat of the CBD. Members of IAIA have subsequently collaborated with the CBD secretariat to produce a formal note to the CBD secretariat. This note will be on the agenda of the upcoming meeting of the Standing Body for Scientific Technical and Technological Advice in November 2001, with a request to consider the draft framework and subsequently forward it in a suitable form for endorsement by the sixth Conference of Parties (The Hague, 2002).

The case studies and the integration framework are only first steps. Follow-up activities are clearly defined in the action programme:

1. Further elaboration of the integration framework for strategic environmental assessment.
2. Collect further case studies (a number of countries has indicated willingness to contribute case studies, if

the means would be available to collect the information).

3. Further expansion of the initiative to other biodiversity related conventions.
4. Invite pilot countries to use the existing guidance for the development of in-country mechanisms and to develop adequate capacity.

Endorsement of the approach by the CoP of CBD at next years meeting will provide a great opportunity to harmonise efforts world-wide and exchange lessons based upon a commonly agreed upon approach. Donors, international organisations and countries alike are invited to join this IAIA initiative and indicate in what ways they are capable to contribute to the action programme.

For more information, contact

- ◆ Netherlands EIA Commission: www.eia.nl
- ◆ Convention on Biological Diversity: www.biodiv.org
- ◆ IAIA: www.iaia.org
- ◆ IUCN: www.biodiversityeconomics.org/assessment

- Roel Sootweg • Sootweg en van Schooten Consultancy • SevS@SevS.nl

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IAIA has recently endorsed an action programme for incorporating biodiversity with impact assessment

IAIA Task Force Established on IA: The Last 10 Years and the Next Decade

IAIA president Elvis Au has struck a task force to prepare a Rio+10 report card on the impact of IA. The task force will draft the report for submission to the World Sustainability Summit to be held in Johannesburg in September 2002.

During the coming months, IAIA will be working closely with its South African affiliate to establish how best to participate at

Johannesburg and in events leading to the summit.

The task force will be chaired by Barry Sadler and is to include members with regional as well as thematic expertise.

As part of the information base for the report, a survey of IA trends and issues accompanies this newsletter. An electronic copy can also be downloaded from the IAIA web site.

All members are urged to complete and return the survey by email or fax to info@iaia.org at IAIA HQ. In forthcoming issues of the newsletter we will be carrying further information on how IAIA members can assist in this process. But to start, we need to hear your view on the state of impact assessment.

- Barry Sadler
• Bsadler01@aol.com

Impact of Trade-Related Policies Section Announced

The Integrated Assessment of Trade-Related Policies (IATRP) Section will assist members in keeping abreast with this rapidly developing area of impact assessment by giving its members the opportunity to meet, exchange ideas with, and learn from others who practice in the field. The Section will promote and publish in IAPA scholarly and general information on policy

development, case studies, methodologies and codes of good practice that will enable practitioners in the developed and developing countries to conduct IATRPs. And from time to time the Section will submit to IAIA Newsletter information and articles of interest to the Impact Assessment community on IATRP.

Motivated by our very successful IAIA'01 sessions, we are planning to participate in The Hague at IAIA'02. We welcome your inquiries and encourage your participation.

For information, contact Section co-coordinators **Bernice Goldsmith**, Concordia University • Bernice@encs.concordia.ca, or **Shirley Conover**, Aber Ecological Consulting Ltd • aberecl@eagle.ca.

Share IAIA with Others!

Are you attending a conference, seminar, or meeting and think some participants might be interested in IAIA?

If so, feel free to contact IAIA HQ for extra brochures to take with you. You can distribute them to interested people during networking sessions or arrange them on an information table.

Please send your requests at least three weeks prior to leaving for the event to allow for sufficient mailing time.

Thanks for helping spread the IAIA mission!

First Annual World Bank Green Awards Announced

The first annual World Bank "Green Awards" were announced at an Environment Month in June 2001 reception on June 4th to recognize country directors and project teams across the Bank who have been promoting the mainstreaming of environment into operations.

"These awards," said Managing Director Shengman Zhang, "are the Environment Family's recognition of colleagues outside of the Environment Department who have promoted the importance of environment for development."

Nominations were called for in two categories: Country Director and Task Team. Environmental specialists from headquarters and from the field offices submitted dozens of names to the Environment Sector Board, whose members voted anonymously on each nomination in accordance with the following broad criteria:

- ◆ Country Director Award: supporting and successfully facilitating the inclusion of key environmental objectives into the policy dialogue and into country assistance, as appropriate.

◆

- ◆ Task Team Award: taking the initiative and being effective in mainstreaming environmental objectives into projects or ESW.

◆ The four winners in the country director category:

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◆ The five winners in the task teams category:

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Congratulations to the winners: they are role models for demonstrating that environment matters, that it is key to the Bank's poverty alleviation mission to successfully integrate environment into the development agenda. For more information on winners of the Green Awards, see the Today story at: <http://ispace.worldbank.org/today2/html/feature.html>

—Juan Quintero

- The World Bank
- jquintero@worldbank.org

IAIA'02: A live and Kicking

Progress on IAIA'02 is going well. Over a year ago we started preparation and now we have a beautiful city to host the meeting, a comfortable congress centre to stay in, sufficient sponsors to feel at ease, enough responses from members to be enthusiastic. And, best of all, still energy left for the next step: programme and technical visits.

The theme of the programme is *assessing the impact of impact assessment*. The tools we develop will only have an effect if our customers use them and want to use them. We felt it was time to ask decision makers and planners what they think of the existing assessment toolbox: If it helps them find answers to their problems. If it gives them new ideas. If it speeds up or slows down planning. If it motivates them.

The first day of the programme will be devoted to this theme. We are now inviting speakers on these issues from across the globe and from different backgrounds: politicians and investors, both from developed and developing countries. In the morning we will listen to what they say, in the afternoon we will ask IAIA's members to invent and discuss solutions to the problems that we heard.

Topics we will ask speakers to address include:

- Planners are not always happy about impact assessment. When is that, why is that and what will it take to turn a burden into an asset?
- All decision makers need and like Quick Scans. When can these be applied? Which tools are available and what minimum quality requirements should apply?
- Decisions need to be taken even when impacts will be uncertain. What has IA to

offer about dealing with uncertainty?

- Planners don't need all information available, they only want the relevant stuff. But what is relevant and what is not? How can we improve our scoping?

Days 2, 3 and 4 will be devoted to the backbone of IAIA meetings: the concurrent sessions and workshops. Here we will try to combine the best elements of the IAIA meetings of the last 10 years. For example, we will use a structured approach as in the Portugal meeting, an attempt to translate findings into a visionary statement as in the Hong Kong meeting and include enough 'Indaba' to facilitate spontaneous creativity as in the South Africa meeting. A careful mix of these elements with Kiwi energy, Colombian passion and Scottish cost effectiveness should lead to an effective and inspiring meeting.

As to content of the meeting, we analysed the topics addressed in the last three IAIA meetings. A consistently high level of interest exists for topics such as strategic IA, public participation, social IA, integrated IA, health IA, biodiversity, cumulative IA, indigenous people and IA & industry. A consistent, although lower level of interest, exists for IA and information technology, sustainability assessment, developments in specific regions, dams and water, IA follow up and urban issues. These topics we will include in the programme. To this we will add new topics if sufficient papers on these are sent in and topics that are related to the main theme. We will discuss these with our contacts in industry and government.

The coming months we will use to discuss with IAIA's sections and find workshop leaders, chairs and rapporteurs. With

them we will discuss the best approach to sessions with regard to content, structure and format. As a minimum we want to avoid the traditional problem of having too many papers in a too limited time, preventing effective presentation and excluding time for discussion. We need all the creativity we can get to achieve this goal. So, don't be surprised if in the weeks ahead you get a phone call or mail from us asking for help. We would like it even better if you would contact us before we contact you. Please send us ideas, initiatives and advice. Send it to IAIA2002@eia.nl and we will get back to you.

A specific feature of IAIA'02 is the impact assessment that currently is carried out for the event of the meeting itself. In line with the Dutch EIA approach we will investigate the available alternatives to optimise the environmental performance of the meeting. Clearly, one of the issues of the assessment will be to compare the impact of hundreds of experts flying all across the globe to the positive environmental impact of them doing so. Will a better quality of assessment tools and processes outweigh the pollution caused and energy sources used?

At a minimum the negative impacts oblige us to make the meeting as effective as possible. For this, we are looking at the possibility of organising a pre-meeting to the event itself to prepare and focus as much as possible the sessions in The Hague. To avoid even more required travelling, a 'virtual' meeting in which we discuss from behind our PCs

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would be ideal. We have contacted a software company, with whom we are trying to develop the necessary software. A trial run will take place end of this year. If this proves to be both effective and fun we plan to organize a web-meeting of IAIA members in April next year. We will keep you updated.

As to technical visits we find it important to relate these to topics at the meeting. So far we have arranged for the following visits:

- An excursion to the Dutch dunes to monitor the nature aspects of drinking water production (and the challenge to use a bicycle for that if you dare).
- An excursion to the Rotterdam port to find out what IA means to industry development.
- Which is also true for the excursion to the Belgian harbour of Antwerp in relation to nature in the Schelde estuary and the excursion to the new urban development of Amsterdam in a wetland area.
- We will also use a boat for the excursion to the lake IJssel in the centre of the Netherlands and the underwater sludge deposits in this lake. Don't just look down; if you look up, the sky will show you what the Dutch mountains are.
- And finally, an excursion to the Floriade, to find out what environmental aspects are related to this tourist facility. For lovers of flowers.

To these technical visits we will add social visits that will not teach you anything, except that contrary to widespread belief, Calvinism does allow for pleasure in the low countries. And so will the meeting itself. We need you for that, so we hope that in 2002 we may welcome you in our country. And if you book a flight, please check IAIA's website for information on how to subscribe to the Trees for Travel programme. We will make sure that the conference will be CO₂-neutral; you can make it CO₂-positive. If IAIA can't do that, nobody can.

- **Rob Verheem**, on behalf of the IAIA'02 core planning group:
Job van den Berg, Jos Arts, Johan Meijer, Jules Scholten, William Veerkamp, Hans Gortworst and Liesbeth Verbeek

Trees for Travel Program

IAIA'02 organizers are working with the Trees for Travel (TfT) Foundation, which enables air passengers to neutralize the harmful CO₂ emissions caused by the aircraft in which they fly. Under the plan, travelers can buy a certificate which guaran-

tees one new tree will be planted. The number of certificates or trees required to absorb a flight's pollution is based on officially recognized calculations for CO₂ absorption. Further information on the program, and details on how

IAIA'02 delegates can participate, will be provided in the IAIA'02 preliminary program. Information on the TfT Foundation may be found at www.treesfortravel.nl. At the beginning of October the website will also be available in English.

Last Call for Training Course Proposals

Proposals for IAIA'02 pre-meeting training courses or workshops should be submitted

electronically to the IAIA Headquarters (rita@iaia.org) on or before 12 October. For information

tion: **Benita Olen** • Training & Professional Development Committee Chair • OlenB@bv.co.za

Mark Your Calendar: Important IAIA'02 Dates

- ♦ 12 October 2001: Training course proposal deadline
- ♦ 1 December 2001: Abstract deadline
- ♦ 1 December 2001: Deadline to submit requests for special meetings, workshops, or IAIA'02 add-on meetings
- ♦ January 2002: Preliminary program distributed
- ♦ 1 April 2002: Deadline for payment of fees in order for paper or poster to be included in final program

IAIA'02 Hotels & Special Events

For your convenience, IAIA and ATP Congresses and Meetings have selected a number of hotels within easy transportation of the Netherlands Congress Centre, and have negotiated special conference rates.

You can indulge yourself at the elegant elegant Sofitel, enjoy shopping, restaurants, gardens, and beachscapes at Dorint, Mercure, Novotel, Parkhotel, Badhotel, Ibis Scheveningen, and Sebel, maximize networking at the Golden Tulip Bel Air (at the conference centre), or for the ultimate in mixing business with pleasure, try a Kijkduin holiday house situated in the dunes of the North Sea.

IAIA'02 organizers are also working on special events, social activities, and an accompanying persons program. Although the decisions have not been finalized, some attractions under consideration include Holland in miniature at Madurodam, Oud-Wassenaar Castle, Koninklijke Porcelain Fles (Delft earthenware factory), and the Gemeentemuseum. Watch for special events in the preliminary program (January 2002)!

ATP, a Professional Congress Organizer and member of the Dutch Association for Congress Interests, has years of expertise and specialized knowledge in managing conference needs,

and will be handling hotel reservations for IAIA'02 delegates. Complete hotel details, maps, and booking forms will be provided by ATP in the IAIA'02 preliminary program. However, The Hague is a popular tourist destination and choice hotels fill quickly, so if you would like to begin making your accommodation plans, feel free to contact ATP now for the hotel list or further information.

ATP Congresses & Meetings

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Fax: +31 (0)70 427 27 70
IAIA@atp.nl
www.atp.nl/congresses

IAIA'02 Abstract Submission Instructions

Format:

1. Title of submission
2. Specify format: paper, poster, or workshop
3. Complete name(s) of author(s) and complete contact information for each author (organization, street address, city, state/province, postal code, country, phone, fax and e-mail; URL if applicable)
4. Name of presenting author. All correspondence will be directed to this person.
5. Abstract- 300 words maximum. Excess will be deleted.
6. Key words
7. Indicate under which conference topic you would like to submit your paper. Feel free to suggest topics not already included.
8. Any brief additional information you think may be useful to the Program Committee, including the link with the major theme of the conference.

Deadline: 1 December 2001

Language: English

How to submit:

Send only once. E-mail is preferred. Do not send attachments. Place your abstract (plain text only) in the body of the e-mail message.

You may submit more than one abstract; however, only one abstract per e-mail, please.

In the subject line, write *primary author's last name-02 abstract* (example: McDonald-02 abstract). Send to the IAIA HQ in care of Jennifer Howell (jen@iaia.org). If e-mail submission is not possible, fax to the HQ at +1. 701. 297. 7917.

Acceptance and Registration. Please allow 2-3 weeks for confirmation of receipt and preliminary acceptance of your abstract by the HQ. Your presentation will be forwarded to the Program Committee for final approval and placement on the program as soon as HQ receives your registration form together with the \$60 non-refundable abstract processing fee or full conference fees. The processing fee may be applied toward full conference registration.

The deadline for full payment of fees (authors) is 1 April 2002; however, early registration will save you money! Funds are not available from IAIA to pay registration and travel expenses for program participants.

The Early Bird form is included in this mailing; the preliminary program and full registration information will be available on the web site and from the HQ from 1 January 2002.



*Register Early
and Save!*



The panel (pictured left to right): **Jean-Roger Mercier**, The World Bank; **Gary Williams**, Williams Associates; **Horst Greczmiel**, US Council on Environmental Quality; **Walter Arensberg**, Inter-American Development Bank; **Maninder Gill**, The World Bank. Photo courtesy of Rita Hamm.

IAIA History in the Making

Pop open the champagne! Thanks to the organizing efforts of IAIA members **Gary Williams** and **Jean-Roger Mercier**, the Washington, D.C., Area Branch (WAB) is a reality. IAIA WAB held its first meeting on 18 September, hosted by Carl Gallegos, head of the African Bureau, USAID. The Branch plans to hold meetings every other month in the DC area. These meetings are open to all IAIA members, and transcripts/tapes

of the programs from these meetings will be shared with all IAIA. For more information about WAB, contact either Gary or Jean-Roger (william1@erols.com or jmercier@worldbank.org)

Jean-Roger Mercier (Lead EA Specialist, World Bank) identified four major themes from the panel presentations and subsequent discussions: (1) increasing the effectiveness of IA by going from simply impact assessment to impact manage-

ment, including data and knowledge management, (2) harmonization of IA requirements, (3) capacity building in impact assessment, and (4) public participation and using impact assessment as a consensus building tool. For a more complete summary of the meeting and the presentations by the panelists, contact IAIA Headquarters.

- Jean-Roger Mercier
• The World Bank
• jmercier@worldbank.org

Giving Credit Where Credit Is Due

C C

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T F C

IAIA Submission to the World Summit on Sustainable Development

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World Status Report on IA

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These individuals have volunteered their time and talents in 2001-2002 as IAIA committee chairs, section leaders, and task force chairs. We would like to thank them for their efforts; they make IAIA's progress possible! All IAIA members are encouraged to contact these individuals to contribute suggestions, comments, or questions.

UN and AAAS Liaison Networks Established

IAIA is in the process of establishing a number of liaisons for key global and regional organizations in order to promote IAIA and its mission. The liaisons will monitor activities of the group or organization which they are responsible for liaising with and pass relevant information back to IAIA as a whole through the Public Affairs Committee (PAC). Additionally, liaisons will provide semi-annual reports on their activities with information on the organization, meetings attended, contacts made, relevant activities, and proposals for further involvement.

Currently, IAIA has established the following network of liaisons to the United Nations (UN) and the American Association for the Advancement of the Sciences (AAAS):

UN Reps

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PAC is also seeking individuals who would be interested in acting as a liaison with the following organizations:

- Commission on Sustainable Development
- International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- International Federation of the Red Cross
- International Committee of the Red Cross
- UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
- Convention to Combat Desertification
- European Union
- Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

Interested individuals should contact Bridget John at HQ (bridget@iaia.org).

The PAC has been created to identify and establish links with key organizations and individuals in the field of impact assessment and related disciplines. The committee will ensure representation and participation in important forum. This includes:

- promoting links with Associated Organizations
- providing a communication forum to support the activities of representatives
- identifying and recommending additional opportunities for IAIA representation
- maintaining regular reporting to Board and Executive Office
- developing guidelines to assist IAIA representatives

- **Andrea Athanas** • IUCN •
Andrea.A.Athanas@shell.com
and **Bridget John** • IAIA HQ •
bridget@iaia.org

• • • • •

Inserts

The following items have been included with this mailing of your newsletter:

- ♦ **WCD CD-ROM**
- ♦ **Strategic Plan Summary**
- ♦ **Rio+10 Questionnaire**
- ♦ **IAIA'02 Early Bird Registration Form**

Note from the IAPA Professional Practice Editor

The professional practice section of *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal* provides a forum for the non-scholar to share activities in his/her particular area of practice of interest to a worldwide readership. This year I finished my 10th year as Professional Practice Editor. I also finished my 27th year as an impact assessment practitioner. I took on the role of Professional Practice Editor for what was then called *Impact Assessment Bulletin* because I am firmly convinced that by sharing the lessons learned in the daily practice of impact assessment, the practitioner can make a substantial contribution to the advancement of impact assessment.

We have generally published one professional practice report per issue. The Publications Committee and I would like to expand the opportunity for practitioners to share their practice by publishing two reports per issue. To achieve this objective, more candidate reports need to be submitted for consideration. Thus, here are some thoughts on potential professional practice reports:

- ♦ They do not need to be long or complex. Shorter reports are preferred (1,500 to 4,000 words). Their outline could be as simple as: here was the

problem we faced, here was the strategy we used to address the problem, here is how well the strategy worked and the lessons learned, and for more information contact the author.

Potential topics:

- ♦ Current and evolving impact assessment law and regulation in your country or state
- ♦ Challenges of a project or project type, particularly as it relates to cultural or natural resource issues unique to a particular part of the world
- ♦ New methodology or unique applications of traditional methodology developed in the context of a project.

We generally do accept reports that:

- ♦ Consist of a critique without a proposal for an alternative approach
- ♦ Present a detailed description of the application of a common method to a single project;
- ♦ Offer a suggested solution to a problem, a description of a method, or a data set with no discussion of their application
- ♦ Present conclusions that are unrelated to the data presented or include no basis for their conclusions.

We try to select reports on a diversity of topics and from all parts of the world. The approximately 40 professional practice reports over the last ten years came from: The Netherlands, Turkey, Kenya, South Africa, Japan, Cambodia, Hong Kong, Bangladesh, Nepal, Russia, the Slavik Republic, Australia, New Zealand, Costa Rica, Brazil, Mexico, the United States, and Canada. Recognizing that English is a second language for most of our potential authors, potential reports are evaluated on the merits of the thoughts expressed and not on their use of English grammar. We can always edit the grammar and word choice. All reports must be submitted in English but potential authors should not worry that their English writing skills may not be acceptable.

Candidate professional practice reports should be submitted to me in the form of an e-mail to pagej@pbworld.com. I use Microsoft Word 2000 and will accept any file type that Word can read.

I am looking forward to reading your submissions.

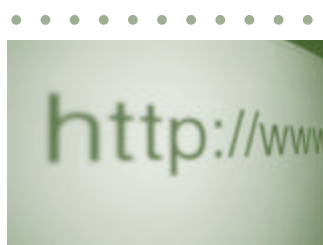
-John Page

• Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas / IAPA Professional Practice Editor •
pagej@pbworld.com

New on the 'Net

Recent additions or updates include:

- Elvis Au's IAIA' 01 Presidential Address and PowerPoint Presentation
- Learning Exchange updated—new people! new topics!
- Committee and Affiliate annual reports
- Calls for Board and Awards Nominations
- IAIA' 02 call for papers, training course guidelines, Early Bird registration form, other conference info & updates
- Board minutes
- Lists of UN and AAAS representatives
- Updated Affiliate guidelines & application/renewal forms
- Updated Section and Listserv information
- EIA Index of Websites updated
- Guidelines for Newsletter Network Contributors
- List of associated organizations



Revised IAIA Newsletter: Coming in January!

The existing IAIA newsletter provides IA practitioners with a source of information on IAIA members' activities, with a focus on articles detailing the research or policy activities that members are involved with. The revised IAIA newsletter will continue to provide much of the existing information, but will shift its focus to providing a reliable source of information on professional news. The revised newsletter will continue to include some of the existing structure, providing informational updates on members' activities, but it will focus on providing up-to-date

'snapshots' of professional practices around the globe. These news items will focus on the important and relative issues of IA, noting the practical lessons learned, as well as practices and policies under development.

The Newsletter Task Force* has gathered together an exceptional group of what we are calling our "News Network Contributors."

This is a group of individuals around the globe who have agreed to provide professional practice news to the IAIA Newsletter. These volunteers are professionals in the practice of IA, whether it be environmental,

social, health, strategic or related fields. In addition to the Network, it is our hope that individual IAIA members will feel free to contribute news items as they see fit. For any members interested in doing so, please see the *Guidelines for News Network Contributors*, posted on the IAIA web page under the "NEWS" section.

- Jill Baker • Environment Canada / IAIA Publications Committee Chair • jill.baker@ec.gc.ca

- ◆ New newsletter!
- ◆ New software!
- ◆ New activities!

IAIA Receives Adobe Software Gift

IAIA HQ recently applied for an Adobe product donation through Adobe System Inc.'s Philanthropy Program and Gifts in Kind International, which facilitates the donation of software, hardware, and other computer products to non-profit organizations.

We are pleased to report that the donation has been granted and we can look forward to receiving PageMaker 6.5 Plus software in the near future!

PageMaker desktop publishing software facilitates the production and design of newsletters, brochures, and other visual

communications projects and will help us at HQ reduce the cost in pre-press and printing while increasing the quality of printed materials. The first application of the new software will coincide with the launch of the "new" newsletter in January 2002. **-HQ**

Board of Directors Activity

At its 25 May 2001 meeting in Cartagena, the IAIA Board of Directors:

- Confirmed the minutes from October 2000
- Reviewed the Treasurer's report
- Discussed organizational models for IAIA Branches & Affiliates
- Reviewed Committee reports and officially disbanded the International Cooperation Committee, integrating its relevant responsibilities with other committees
- Reviewed the report from the task force on Professional Products and Services

At its 2 June 2001 meeting in Cartagena, the IAIA Board of Directors:

- Confirmed their responsibilities and liaison assignments for the year
- Reviewed and updated the strategic plan
- Set up a task force to develop a web site strategy
- Set up a task force to develop a proposal on taking forward a world status report on IA
- Formally acknowledged Peter Leonard as the liaison to the Francophone Secretariat
- Confirmed members of the committees for 2001-2002
- Approved a proposal that the Branches & Affiliates Committee draft guidelines for Affiliate & Branch activities
- Approved a proposal that IAIA establish a pilot project re-

garding fee structures in conjunction with the Western and Northern Canadian Affiliate

- Approved a proposal to upgrade award presentation materials
- Gave conditional approval of a statement to the CoP of the Convention on Biological Diversity SBTSTA7 prepared by the Biodiversity & Ecology Section of IAIA
- Requested the Public Affairs Committee to follow up on World Commission on Dams discussions
- Confirmed assignments to the 2001-2002 Strategic Plan Task Force

For complete meeting minutes, see the IAIA web site under News-Board of Directors, or contact the HQ. **-HQ**

September 11, 2001

We would like to thank the many of you in the IAIA community who sent messages of condolence and support to us at the IAIA Headquarters following the horrifying terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C.

Never before has "impact" resonated with such meaning. Although this office is located far from the East Coast, we hold the same pain in our hearts for the victims, their families and friends, and the far-reaching consequences these events will have on the world community from this time onward.

At the same time but on the opposite side of the globe, IAIA Treasurer Stephen Granger was working around the clock, attempting to mitigate the impacts of severe flooding in the Cape Town metropolitan area that displaced thousands of informal dwellers.

Whether devastation and destruction are by the hand of Man or Nature, IAIA is of one mind in its compassion and intent to make this world a better place for all. There are simply no insignificant human or environmental tragedies.

Rita Hamm, CEO

Jennifer Howell, Publications/Meetings • Bridget John, Marketing/Database
Kelly Twit, Membership Clerk

..... Q U O T A B L E

We will be known forever by the tracks we leave.

Sioux Proverb

The Sioux are also known as the Dakota, a North American Plains Indian people, or confederation of peoples, of Siouan linguistic stock.
(Encyclopedia Britannica)

..... W E L C O M E

New IAIA members from 16 June to 15 September 2001

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS: **Wafic T. Ayoub**, USA; **Alain Ronald Berger**, FRANCE; **Brent Bitter**, CANADA; **Laurie Bruce**, CANADA; **Ian Campbell**, USA; **Barbara Carroll**, ENGLAND-UK; **Kyong C. Chun**, USA; **Yantio Yantio Debazou**, CAMEROON; **Felicia Dobos**, SWEDEN; **Winston A. Fisher**, USA; **Maninder Gill**, USA; **Halldora Hreggvidsdottir**, ICELAND; **Keryn James**, AUSTRALIA; **Toshiaki Keicho**, AUSTRALIA; **Monica Krahe**, CANADA; **Erik Lebre**, THE NETHERLANDS; **Eric M. L. Liou**, TAIWAN; **Jaroslav Machacek**, CZECH REPUBLIC; **Greg Milford**, CHINA; **Ruth Minogue**, IRELAND; **Barbara A. Mohrman**, USA; **Desmond Page**, IRELAND; **Nathalie Risse**, BELGIUM; **Viviana M. Rocco**, URUGUAY; **Nigel Russouw**, SOUTH AFRICA; **Craig Schwartz** and **Julia Custer**, USA; **Kristine K. Schwebach**, USA; **Paul Scott**, IRELAND; **Timothy Scrase**, AUSTRALIA; **Robert St. Louis**, CANADA; **Nicholas Lue Sue**, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO; **Beverly Ann Walker**, IRELAND; **Anna Wilczynski**, USA; **Kirsten Williams**, IRELAND; **Lisa D. Winn** and **Jeffrey Miller**, USA; **Austin Umezurike**, NIGERIA.

CORPORATE MEMBER: Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic

IAIA Calendar

OCTOBER

- 1 Newsletter, IAIA '02 update mailed
- 1 Action items for mid-term Board meeting due
- 1 Committee and Liaison mid-term reports due
- 12 Deadline for submission of IAIA '02 training course proposals
- 30 Nominations Committee members submit final slates of nominees to Committee Chair
- 31 TPC selection of IAIA '02 training courses complete

NOVEMBER

- 1 Nominations Committee Chair sends approved slate of nominees to IAIA HQ
- 7-9 Board meeting

DECEMBER

- 1 IAIA '02 abstract deadline
- 1 Last day to request special meeting/program space at IAIA '02
- 15 Newsletter deadline
- 31 Last day for IAIA '02 Early Bird rate

JANUARY

- 1 IAIA '02 preliminary program, newsletter, ballots for '02-'03 election mailed

IAIA Newsletter

Next issue: January 2002

Submissions due: 15 December 2001

IAIA will launch its "new" newsletter in January 2002 (see story on page 11). Professional practice articles should be a maximum of 150 words. Send submissions or questions to professional practice news co-editors Angus Morrison-Saunders (angus@essun1.murdoch.edu.au) and Roger Creasey (roger.creasey@eub.gov.ab.ca), or see the Guidelines for News Network Contributors on the web site.

General interest articles should be a maximum of 500 words. Send to editor Jennifer Howell (jen@iaia.org) or mail/fax to the HQ. Suggestions and comments are always welcome.

