

Newsletter

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Rita R. Hamm, Chief Executive Officer

Are You Ready?

Are you ready to contribute to the coming world events relating to the field of impact assessment?

The IAIA '02 conference in The Hague in June is getting near. **Are you ready** to take part and contribute to this important event that can have a significant impact to the future direction of impact assessment as a tool for sustainable development? You must not miss this event. For those who have not yet registered, please do so as soon as possible.

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) is going to be held in late August in Johannesburg. When I read the Chairman's report on the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the WSSD, it becomes clear to me that there is still a significant gap in the implementation of Agenda 21 and that this gap has to be bridged with, among others, practical steps and partnerships. **Are you ready** to contribute to the discussion to help shape the future agenda in the next decade?

In the last two to three months, the IAIA Board of Directors and our Task Force on the World Summit have thoroughly considered how best IAIA can contribute, having regard to our very limited resources, and how best to work with other partners in striving for a positive contribution to the World Summit. Eventually we came up with the following strategy:

1. IAIA participated in the Third Session of the Preparatory Committee of the WSSD held in New York from 25 March to 5 April. Rita Hamm, Peter Leonard and Stephen Granger attended the Committee meeting in conjunction with some other partners.

Proper impact assessment is an important means for navigating a "Journey of Hope."

2. In conjunction with others, we have submitted a concise statement on impact assessment and proposed actions to the Third Session of the Preparatory Committee of the WSSD, with a view to seizing the best opportunity to promote wider and better use of impact assessment tools for sustainable development.

3. IAIA-South Africa (IAIAsa) has agreed to assist us in organizing a side event during the World Summit. I would like to express our gratitude for their assistance. IAIAsa will work closely with the IAIA Task Force on the World Summit and other partners in looking into the logistical arrangements.

4. We also wish to prepare a brief policy statement ready for members to review and comment on during the IAIA '02 conference in The Hague, with a view to distributing it to the side event in late August.

Our professional contribution is not just for IAIA, but also for the global community and the present and future generations. For many of us, it is probably a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to contribute to a significant world event and to help shape the world's future agenda. I believe that proper impact assessment is an important means for navigating the "Journey of Hope" envisioned by Mr. Emil Salim, Chair of the Preparatory Committee for WSSD.

There are still many obstacles to overcome before we can realize our contribution. We need help. We need your voluntary professional contributions to document preparation or any of the above activities. So please do not hesitate to contact President-elect Peter Leonard (leonard.peter@hydro.qc.ca) who will be presiding over IAIA at the time of the summit, me (elvis_au@hk.super.net) or Rita Hamm (rita@iaia.org) **if you are ready** to assist or contribute in whatever way you can.


• Elvis Au, President

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IAIA '02 Update

*We're happy to report that registrations are ahead of schedule for IAIA '02, and we expect a large gathering of environmental professionals in The Hague. There are still openings in every **training course, technical visit, and social event**, so don't miss out on the activity. To help ensure you receive your first choices, don't delay in sending your registration!*

*As you begin to plan what to pack for The Hague, remember your **Round the World Raffle** donation. We've received only one donation form thus far, but we're hoping for an even larger event than last year. Details and the donation form can be found on Page 22 of the IAIA '02 Preliminary Program.*

• HQ

Cost Benefit Analysis as Integral Impact Assessment

Compare and discuss how (Social) Cost Benefit Analysis (SCBA) can be used as Integral Impact Assessment: Can environmental effects be represented sufficiently in an SCBA? What is the relationship between SCBA as integral impact assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment?

Cost-benefit analysis (CBA) originates from business-economic assessment. In dealing with large investment decisions, however, governments have to address not only economic aspects, but also ecological and social aspects. To be used as an instrument for governmental decisions, elements of welfare theory (including financial-economic, ecological and social aspects) were introduced in CBA. With this extension, the CBA-method can be used for integral impact assessment.

In several countries (The Netherlands and the United Kingdom, for example), CBA has developed over the last few years towards integral impact assessment, including welfare distribution effects. The resulting SCBA is a transparent overview of all effects, which can be expressed either in monetary terms, in physical quantities or qualitative measures. The overview is input for political decision-making.

WORKSHOP LEADER: *Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management, The Netherlands*

Doing Business with Indigenous Peoples: Informed Decision-Making to Ensure Lasting Solutions

This workshop will consider how including indigenous peoples and addressing their needs, concerns, and knowledge will lead to more informed environmental decision making, and ultimately more durable solutions. For businesses, where a high degree of certainty is required before a large investment is made, the quality of this early decision-making process is key to the ultimate success and longevity of a project.

Focusing on several regions throughout the world, as well as several topical subject areas, as discussed at IAIA '01 in Cartagena, we will explore the relationships between project decision-makers and indigenous peoples, and the steps in the assessment process that ensure informed decision-making. We will examine different methodologies and results from across continents, with our continuing desire to spur discussion and compile a handbook of case studies and best practices based on these and other presentations.

WORKSHOP LEADER: *Ram Vemuri*

Impact Assessment for Linear Infrastructure Projects

Linear infrastructure projects like roads, railways, waterways and energy lines, share unique features that require high quality standards in impact assessment. Areas are irreversibly altered: landscapes are dissected, habitats are destroyed, humans and animals are affected by traffic, noise, air pollution etcetera. In addition, the realisation of infrastructure may have impact on the social and economic structure and development. This can be viewed both positive and negative. Therefore, impact assessments for linear infrastructure should deal with prevention, mitigation and/or compensation of the negative impacts and promote positive impacts. Decision-making on infrastructure is characterized by the NIMBY-nature of the projects (NIMBY = Not In My Back Yard). In addition, the growing concern on infrastructure is reflected in, for instance, the troublesome implementation of several EU-directives, like the Birds Directive, Habitats Directive and the Directive on Local Air Quality. A European Directive on Noise is being prepared now. In short, impact assessment and decision-making on infrastructure project are complex. The major objectives of this workshop is to discuss such issues as:

- How can impact assessment contribute to sound decision-making and sustainable projects in this field?
- How to deal with prevention, mitigation or compensation of negative impacts? How can we improve the quality of IA in such a way that pristine areas can truly be protected from being dissected, disturbed or even destroyed by infrastructure?
- How to balance short-term versus long-term, human versus nature, project and cumulative impacts?
- Share good experiences in impact assessment for infrastructure projects?

WORKSHOP LEADER: *Theo Verstrael*

IAIA'02: Three Months to Countdown

Thirty workshops, nine training courses, six technical visits, four conference tours, three social events, one poster session, a reception, a party, a banquet, two plenaries and more than 250 abstracts...

With British understatement: IAIA'02 is doing not too bad. In plain Dutch: it's doing great. In this newsletter, we want to share our enthusiasm with you and give a short round trip through some of the elements of the meeting in The Hague.

To start with, at the opening reception we will meet you in the smallest city we have in The Netherlands. It's called Madurodam. If you think Holland is small, you should see Madurodam. Accompanied by a real Dutch brass band, you will have the chance to renew old friendships and start new ones. Also, we will formally present to the Mayor of Madurodam the world's smallest impact assessment. Size does matter.

The next day, the meeting will formally start. We have asked a number of top decision makers and politicians to challenge us with their view on the usefulness of impact assessment: How are we doing? Do you get what you need? Where should we improve? This first day will not just be listening; we have made it interactive. In the afternoon we will ask you to be part of a series of smaller workshops to tackle the issues brought to us in the morning session.

The second day will be the start of the more traditional workshops. Abstracts poured in, and we are actively discussing with all workshop leaders how to most effectively organise the workshops, and especially how to ensure sufficient time for creative thinking and plenary discus-

sion. Typically, too little time is left for this important element of the annual meeting. We want to improve on that.

In the evening of day two we will try to combine the two halves of the human brain. In one of the biggest rooms of the congress centre we will organise an "IAIA marketplace," at which you can find both wisdom and fun. The first part of the evening will be devoted to poster presentations. We want to give this method of presenting information a bigger role at IAIA'02. This is also the time to claim empty slots in the programme on Thursday and Friday for the things you find important and missed so far in the programme. This is our way of INDABA: on-the-spot programming by participants themselves.

As the evening progresses, rational activities will slowly be replaced by more emotional ones. An IAIA jam session will be organised, proving that IA experts know how to rock and roll. We already have a band together – including an IAIA past president – but if you want to join in, check with the programme committee. And the best limerick about impact assessment will definitely receive an award (if the award committee allows). Start rhyming.

Day three will present the latest developments in the creation of an International Commission on Impact Assessment. Also, by special invitation from IAIA's Board of Directors, we will use part of the morning for a presentation on typical Dutch approaches to environmental management and planning. Finally, the morning will include IAIA's Annual General Meeting: i.e., your chance to tell the Board where the Association should be going.

The afternoon is again for the workshops, followed by the official Conference Dinner. A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, since it will take place in the same hall where the Dutch Queen once every year announces the state of the nation. We have limited places, so please make early reservation. The throne, unfortunately, is not available.

The last day will continue with workshops in the morning and a plenary conclusion in the afternoon. This includes a summary of the results of the discussions on improving IA effectiveness during the first day.

Finally, we are also organising events both leading up to the meeting and following the meeting. For example, in April we plan to organise a "virtual pre conference" on the web. This is meant to set as much as possible the agenda of the workshops at the annual meeting and to find out what the hot issues are. It will enable us to get straight to the point in The Hague. We need your active participation for that, so please help us out. In April we will contact you and hope you join in with a short response.

As to actions after the meeting, we are discussing the possibility to summarise the most important findings of the workshops into a little booklet that will accompany the formal proceedings. Short, concise and readable. We will make sure it looks as good as you will make the meeting.

Three months to countdown... see you soon!

• Rob Verheem, on behalf of the IAIA'02 Program Committee

We have asked a number of top decision makers and politicians to challenge us...





New Workshop Visions

(continued from page 2)

Integrated Assessments and World Trade Policy – Post-DOHA (UNEP Session Part 2)

Explore how new forms of impact assessment may be developed and used in world trade negotiations to promote sustainable development.

The recent World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference, held in Doha (Qatar), launched a major new program of World Trade negotiations which could have profound economic, environmental and social consequences. At the same time, it strongly reaffirmed its commitment to the objective of sustainable development. This provides a timely incentive to develop new methodologies and use them in trade impact assessment studies to support this objective.

The workshop will commence with the presentation of two papers, partly based on recent and ongoing European Union-supported studies at the University of Manchester, UK, on the Development of a Methodology for the Sustainability Impact Assessment of WTO Negotiations. Colin Kirkpatrick, Institute for Development Policy and Management (IDM), will speak on “Sustainability Impact Assessment and the Post-Doha Trade Negotiations Agenda,” focusing on the SIA methodology which has been developed, and its application to different regions and types of developed and developing countries. Norman Lee, EIA Centre and IDPM, will speak on “Integrating Sustainability Impact Assessments into Decision-making and Implementation of Trade Agreements” and focus on the measures needed to enhance the contribution which SIA can make to realising sustainability benefits.

Other topics to be addressed include, but are not limited to: the relative merits of specialised and integrated trade policy assessments, the role of consultations and stakeholder participation in trade assessments, and research, capacity strengthening, guidance and training requirements for trade assessments.

WORKSHOP LEADERS: *Bernice Goldsmith and Shirley Conover*

IAIA 2001-2002 Award Winners Announced

The 2002 IAIA Global Environment Award goes to **Jan Pronk**, in recognition of his contribution to the Kyoto Protocol/Climate Convention, and for inspiring the world in his role as Special Envoy to the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg.

IAIA members will recall that Maurice Strong was the inaugural recipient of IAIA's Global Environment Award. Unfortunately, Maurice was not able to attend IAIA'01 in Cartagena, but he will be present at IAIA'02. We will take the opportunity to present Maurice with the first Honorary Life Membership of IAIA, which is to be awarded to all future Global Environment Award recipients. Maurice Strong was responsible for organising the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm and the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development of “Earth Summit” in Rio de Janeiro. More recently, he has been the Chairman of the Earth Council responsible for developing the Earth Charter.

The inaugural winner of the Honourable Mention is the **Biodiversity and Ecology Section** for its members' enthusiasm and dedication, commitment, and contributions to the Convention on Biodiversity.

The Rose-Hulman Award goes to **Shirley Conover** for a lifetime of work promoting impact assessment at all levels, especially within

Canada, and for service to IAIA, especially to the Ontario Affiliate.

The Individual Award goes to **Maria Partidario** for excellence in intellectual and practical contribution to the development of the field of Strategic Environmental Assessment and for contribution to IAIA.

The Regional Award goes to **Annelies Stolp** for a major personal contribution to the broadening of the scope of impact assessment in The Netherlands, and particularly for the development of the Citizens Values Assessment Unit in the Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management.

The Institutional Award goes to the **International Institute for Environment and Development** for its management of the Mining, Minerals and Sustainable Development project.

The Corporate Award goes to **Van Melle** for commitment to environmental management, reducing its ecological footprint, and setting an example to all companies.

In addition to these major awards, awards will also be presented for Outstanding Service to IAIA, Certificates of Appreciation, Best Poster presented at the IAIA'02 Poster Session, and Best Paper published in IAIA's journal, *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal*.

• Frank Vanclay • IAIA 2001-2002 Awards Committee Chair • University of Tasmania, Australia • frank.vanclay@utas.edu.au

To be presented at an
Innovative New Awards
Program during IAIA'02

SEA Directive in Ireland

The implications of the European SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) for Ireland were discussed at a series of seminars organised by Environmental Resources Management (ERM) Ltd held in Dublin and Cork in October 2001. The purpose was to highlight the requirements of the SEA Directive through a discussion of SEA experience elsewhere in Europe and how the new EU requirements may affect authorities and the public in Ireland. Ireland has had some experience of undertaking environmental assessments at the national policy level but this has not been transferred to the regional or local levels of government. The majority of these strategy-level assessments were undertaken during the preparatory stages of the SEA Directive and did not incorporate many of its requirements. However, in anticipation of its adoption, the Irish Government incorporated specific requirements for the SEA of specific land-use plans within the Planning and Development Act, 2000 which have now entered into law. While Ireland has not always been the most effective at implementing European environmental law (including the Habitat and EIA Directives) in comparison to other EU Member States, the integration of SEA into recent planning legislation is a clear signal that the Irish government intends to comply with the SEA Directive by the 2004 deadline. • Paul Scott • Environmental Resources Management Ltd., Ireland • pvs@ermuk.com

Public Participation Directive

Following the signature of the Aarhus Convention by the Community on 25 June 1998, the European Commission adopted on 18 January 2001 a Proposal for a Directive COM(2000)839 amending amongst others the EIA Directive. This proposal intends to align the provisions on public participation in accordance with the Aarhus Convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters. It can be accessed at <http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/eia/eia-legalcontext.htm>. • Karen Raymond • Environmental Resources Management Ltd. • kr@ermuk.com

Implementing the "SEA Directive" in Finland

In December 2001, the Finnish Ministry of the Environment appointed a working group consisting of representatives from key ministries to develop the legislative solutions for implementing the "SEA directive" (2001/42/EC). Specifying its scope is a key issue.

Two alternative directions are available. All the requirements of the SEA directive could be applied to the same broad range of policies, plans and programmes that are covered by the present EIA Act. Alternatively the directive would apply to a subset only. This would, for example, restrict the procedural requirements to those plans and programmes that fall under the scope of the directive.

The working group will present its alternatives in midyear in 2002. The alternatives will be accompanied by an analysis of environmental and other effects of the proposals in order to support a discussion among a broad group of stakeholders in an "SEA-spirit." Watch for updates and information on where to access a copy of the alternatives in future newsletters. • Mikael Hildén • Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE) • mikael.hilden@vyh.fi

Consultation on UK Appraisal Guidance on Port Developments

In December 2001, the UK Department of Transport Local Government and the Regions (DTLR) issued a consultation document on the appraisal of port developments (www.dtlr.gov.uk/consult.htm). Building upon the Guidance on Methodologies for Multi-Modal Studies (GOMMMS) (www.dtlr.gov.uk/itwp/index.htm) the consultation document invites comments on how effects can be identified, and the measurement of different effects using monetary values, different methods of quantification or structured qualitative statements. Responses to the consultation should be sent to paf.consultation@dtlr.gov.uk.

A consultation paper has also been issued on the Proposed Revision of Community Guidelines for the Development of the Trans-European Transport Network (<http://www.dtlr.gov.uk/europe/consult/transnet/index.htm>). • Paul Tomlinson • TRL Limited • ptomlinson@quista.net

Environmental Assessment Technical Specifications of Highway Works in Cordoba, Argentina

Since December 2001, in the Cordoba Highway Administration, the Environmental Assessment Technical Specifications related to the designs of Highway Works is mandatory. This is a component of the environmental management policy that Cordoba Highway Administration has implemented with the creation of the Environmental Unit. This Unit is responsible for conducting the EIA of projects and controlling the work during the implementation stage.

Cordoba is the first province in Argentina to introduce mandatory environmental assessment technical specifications related to highways works,

which implies the possibility to control the performance of those who rehabilitate or rebuild highways. The specification are included in the construction contract.

The work inspection with the collaboration of the Environmental Unit, will verify the mitigation measures implementation whenever necessary.

The Technical Specifications mentioned above also include an item related to the sanctions to apply if the contractor does not comply with the specifications.

• For further information, contact Norberto Jorge Bejerman • Direccion de Vialidad de Cordoba • jbejerman@infovia.com.ar

IDPM to Develop Sustainability Impact Assessment Methodology for WTO Negotiations

The Institute for Development Policy and Management (IDPM), University of Manchester, UK, has been selected by the European Commission to undertake development of a Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) methodology for use during subsequent stages of World Trade Organization WTO negotiations. As part of this work, the IDPM group is encouraged to interact with interested stakeholders and experts in the field.

The IDPM group recently completed their Mid-Term Report, "Further Development of the Methodology for a Sustainability Impact Assessment of Proposed WTO Negotiations" which contains their thinking on the further development of the Sustainability Impact Assessment Methodology.

The IDPM website where this and other related documents can be found is: <http://idpm.man.ac.uk/sia-trade/>. • Colin Kirkpatrick • IDPM, University of Manchester • MZDSSCHK@fs1.ec.man.ac.uk

CIDA Develops an Innovative EA Sourcebook

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is developing a CD-ROM Sourcebook in Environmental Assessment for CIDA personnel to enhance their knowledge of EA and put into practice CIDA's EA regime. This tool may have broad applicability and be useful to all those with an interest in environmental assessment. It contains all of CIDA's publications on EA and external reference documents that are important to an understanding of the subject. All documents are provided in both French and English, with others

available in Spanish. Document categories include: policy, operations, training, reference and branch-specific. Environment specialists from the Environmental Assessment and Compliance Division worked with innovative graphic designers to develop an easily accessible tool that would be useful to all CIDA personnel. The Sourcebook will be released in late spring. • For more information, contact Peter Croal • Environmental Assessment and Compliance Division, CIDA, Canada • Peter_Croal@acdi-cida.gc.ca

Environmental Assessment Yearbook

In September 2001, the EIA Centre at the University of Manchester, UK, in collaboration with the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment, Lincoln, UK launched the first issue of the annual Environmental Assessment (EA) Yearbook. The aim is to provide an annual review of progress in the field, and to keep EA practitioners abreast of key changes in EA legislation, policy and institutional arrangements.

The second issue of the EA Yearbook will be published in June 2002 to coincide with the IAIA

Conference at The Hague, the Netherlands. It will report on progress made in the field of environmental assessment since the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. It will benchmark EA practice, giving an update on the most notable developments, and highlighting the implications for EA practice and performance.

To receive the first edition, please contact Gloria Miller by email: g.miller@iema.net. • Liz Billing • University of Manchester, UK • liz.billing@man.ac.uk

SEA Reports in Hong Kong

In January 2002, the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Reports for three major studies in Hong Kong (Territorial Development Strategy Review (TDSR), Third Comprehensive Transport Study (CTS-3), and Second Railway Development Strategy (RDS-2)), were placed on the website of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government. The studies are all related to land-use frameworks or transport networks which have major implications to the sustainable development of Hong Kong.

In addition to the above, five Environmental Baseline Study Reports, as part of a study called 'Sustainable Development for the Century in Hong Kong (SUSDEV 21)', have also been placed on EPD's website.

These Environmental Baseline Reports provide important findings on the baseline conditions of the natural capital stocks in Hong Kong, including natural and ecological resources, assimilative capacity and heritage resources. The Reports also identify major issues and pressures of the resources, and the resulting impacts on HKSAR's environmental sustainability. The information will be useful for future SEA in assessing the environmental sustainability of major proposals in HKSAR.

The SEA reports can be found on the EPD website (<http://www.info.gov.hk/epd/>).

• H.M. Wong, Hong Kong Environmental Protection Department • hmwong@epd.gov.hk

Canadian Environmental Assessment Act: Changes Proposed

National public consultations have resulted in legislative proposals to strengthen the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* via Bill C-19 which was presented to Parliament, by Canada's Minister of the Environment, the Honourable David Anderson.

The goals of proposed changes are:

- a certain, predictable and timely process
- high quality environmental assessments
- more meaningful public participation

Highlights of the legislation include:

- measures to improve coordination
- a more predictable comprehensive study process
- mandatory follow-up programs for larger projects
- a quality assurance program
- an Internet-accessible registry of project information
- new opportunities for public participation

If approved by Parliament, the revised process could come into effect in late 2002. Information on these and other proposed changes may be found at <http://www.ceaa.gc.ca>.

• Jim Clarke • Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency • Jim.Clarke@ceaa.gc.ca

Database of International Environmental Quality Objectives for SEA

A database of international and EU-wide environmental quality objectives has been developed by the German EIA Association (UVP Verein), supported by the European Commission. Its main purpose is to help the preparation of SEAs following the European SEA Directive 2001/42/EC, providing a checklist of international and EU wide quality objectives. The checklist can be tested at www.uvp.de. • Thomas B. Fischer • The University of Liverpool • thomas.b.fischer@iname.com

Strategic Assessment of Australian Fisheries

The Federal Minister for the Environment and Heritage has signed seven agreements under the strategic assessment provisions of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. The agreements with the Australian Fisheries Management Authority are to assess the relevant impacts of actions in fisheries managed by the Federal Government. A number of assessments are nearing finalisation.

The terms of reference for each assessment are based on generic terms of reference approved by the Minister and include reporting environmental performance of management against Guidelines for the Ecologically Sustainable Management of Fisheries. The reports will also be used to assess the ecological sustainability of the fisheries in relation to export controls under the wildlife trade provisions of the Act. Further information can be found at: <http://www.ea.gov.au/epbc/assessapprov/strategic/index.html>. • Nick Gascoigne • Environment Australia • Nick.Gascoigne@ea.gov.au

For up-to-date information about the World Summit on Sustainable Development, including Preparatory Committee Chairman Salim's "Journey of Hope" message, visit the WSSD website at www.johannesburgsummit.org.

Health Impact Assessment in Europe

A European partnership led by staff from the University of Liverpool's IMPACT consortium is assisting the European Commission to implement Article 152 of the Treaty of Amsterdam which states that "a high level of human health protection shall be ensured in the definition and implementation of all Community policies and activities." All policies affect health and this can be positive or negative. New tools such as health impact assessment (HIA) are needed to provide a systematic way of identifying potential health effects of new policies and projects and their distribution in the population. The project will help to provide an accepted methodology for assessing the health impact of EU policies within the Community and will also act as a bridge between the current and the proposed Community health strategies by providing a tool for EU policy makers to take account of their policies' potential impact on health. An HIA of policy for the European Union will be carried out and the project will test different methods and compare their effectiveness at national and international levels. • For more information, visit www.ihia.org.uk or contact Dr. Martin Birley • International Health IMPACT Assessment Consortium, UK • M.Birley@liverpool.ac.uk.

Best Practice Guidelines for Improving Scientific Rigour in EIA Specialist Studies

The CSIR-Environmentek has developed best practice guidelines for improving scientific rigour in EIAs. The guidelines are aimed at EIA project managers and technical specialists, and include:

- An overview of local and international thinking and developments concerning the quality of EIAs;
- Current weaknesses, gaps and problem areas associated with EIA scientific and technical quality;

- Best practice guidelines for EIA project managers to improve the technical and scientific quality of the EIAs that they manage by addressing potential specialist problem areas up front; and
- Best practice guidelines for specialists to improve the effectiveness of their EIA specialist studies through addressing the scientific rigour of their studies.

• For more information, contact Lionel Pero • CSIR Environmentek, South Africa • LVPero@csir.co.za

SEA Workshop on Developing and Transition Countries

On 26-27 November 2001, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety organized an international workshop on strategic environmental assessment (SEA) in co-operation with developing and transition countries (especially Central and East European countries) in Berlin. Some 30 experts from development co-operation organizations, governments, recipient and donor countries as well as universities, research institutions and NGOs discussed the main issue of how to develop and apply SEA as a tool for integrating environmental considerations into international and bilateral assistance. The two main themes were "sharing experiences" and "promoting SEA as a tool in the co-operation with partner countries."

The Ministry is preparing a document on the workshop containing all speeches, the discussions and the conclusions drawn by the participants (contact: Mr. Michael Kracht, e-mail: kracht.michael@bmu.de). • Ralf Aschemann • Austrian Institute for the Development of Environmental Assessment (ANIDEA) • office@anidea.at

Capacity Building on Environment, Trade and Development

At the recent Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference in Doha, governments reaffirmed their commitment to sustainable development and mutually supportive trade and environment policies. The decision taken in Doha to launch a new round of WTO negotiations on trade-related environment and development issues, further underscored the need for effective capacity building programmes.

UNEP in collaboration with the WTO Secretariat convened a Workshop on Capacity Building on Environment, Trade and Development in Geneva on 19 and 20 March 2002.

Further information on this event, including a discussion paper and survey of capacity building providers prepared to support the workshop is available at <http://www.unep.ch/etu/index.htm>. • Hussein Abaza • United Nations Environment Programme, Switzerland • Hussein.abaza@unep.ch

New Agricultural EIA Regulations, UK

The UK has finally implemented regulations applying EIA to the intensification of use of agricultural land - one of the few classes of development covered by the EU EIA Directive that escaped coverage in the UK up till now. They are Statutory Instrument No 3966 of 2001 The Environmental Impact Assessment (Uncultivated Land and Semi-natural Areas) (England) Regulations 2001. There are equivalent regulations also for Scotland and Northern Ireland. They can be found by performing a search for EIA Regulations on the following website <http://www.hms.gov.uk/stat.htm>. • Karen Raymond • ERM • kr@ermuk.com

New Book on SEA in Transport and Spatial Planning

In February 2002, Earthscan released a new book on SEA in transport and spatial planning. Based on comparative research of transport and spatial planning practice in the late 1990s, it pulls together theory and practice in advanced Western European planning systems: Fischer T B 2002. *Strategic Environmental Assessment in Transport and Land Use Planning*, Earthscan, London. The book can be ordered online at <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/>. • Thomas B. Fischer • The University of Liverpool • thomas.b.fischer@iname.com

World Bank Publishes Pollution Regulation Newsletter

For several years now, the World Bank has been publishing a free newsletter on "New Ideas in Pollution Regulation" (NIPR), which describes methods, findings and results of various types of pollution regulation built into World Bank projects around the world. For example, the most recent issue was sent to subscribers by e-mail on 26 February 2002. Four pollution regulation topics were featured:

1. "Industrial Environmental Performance in China: The Impact of Inspections"
2. "Incomplete Enforcement of Pollution Regulation: Bargaining Power of Chinese Factories"
3. "Estimating Conventional Industrial Water Pollution in Thailand"
4. "New applications of the Industrial Pollution Projection System (IPPS)"

The NIPR Newsletter is also the vehicle for distributing World Bank news on their Geographic Information Systems Resources section updates, and on Conferences of interest, noted as:

5. Updated GIS and Conference sections.

David Shaman is in charge of the NIPR Newsletter, which comes out several times a year. Interested parties can sign on by contacting him at dshaman@worldbank.org. • Shirley Conover, Aber Ecological Consulting, Ltd. Canada • aberecl@eagle.ca

EIA Approval System in Egypt

Egypt uses a list approach to screen projects into three project categories: "white list" (minor impacts), "grey list" (may result in substantial impacts), and "black list" (full-fledged EIA required due to their potential impacts). The Egyptian guidelines utilise a screening form A for the white list, a scoping form B for the grey list and a brief outline for the full-fledged EIA. The law specifies that the proponent should submit the EIA study to the EEAA through the Competent Administrative Authority (CAA). The EIA must then be reviewed and the EEAA opinion given within 60 days. EIA review is made with the assistance of universities and research centers staff members. A permanent appeals committee is provided for in the law, the executive regulations and the EIA guidelines. The services of international consultants have also been utilized in a number of cases through Danida and Dfid. • For more information, contact Ahmed Abul-Azm • ecma@access.com.eg

This article is second in a series to inform IA practitioners around the world about the EIA system in Egypt.

Washington Area Branch Notes

David A. Burack, an international consultant and long-time practitioner of environmental impact assessment (EIA), integrated comprehensive planning, and sustainable development, presented provocative remarks on overcoming obstacles to implementing truly interdisciplinary multisectoral approaches to development, poverty and the environment.

Burack is doubtful that anything less than a full-fledged comprehensive planning approach, but beneath the country level, will overcome the substantial geo-institutional and analytical constraints. A "sharp departure from customary pedagogical and discipline/sector-specific procedures; perversely, a refocus from macro/policy to more local geographic and program/project levels; as well as novel leadership will be needed" in order to make holistic development happen. Burack adds that EIA practitioners, well versed in interdisciplinary approaches, are at least as well suited as the numerous other contenders, if they will "turn EIA on its head" and make it dynamically proactive. A lively discussion among environmental specialists and task managers followed. Burack's complete paper is available on the IAIA web site under News > Branches and Affiliates > Current News Items. •

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

Western and Northern Canada Affiliate Launches Web Site

Congratulations to IAIA's newest Affiliate, Western and Northern Canada (WNC) on the development of their web site! Check it out at <http://www.praxis.ca/iaiawnc/index.htm>.

WHO'S WHO in the news

Mwalyosi Elected President of Eastern Africa Association



Mwalyosi

Congratulations to Raphael Mwalyosi on his election to the office of President with the Eastern African Association of Impact Assessment.

At a December 2001 meeting in Nairobi, the new association was inaugurated and attendees passed the constitution, prepared a work plan, and elected officers. Mwalyosi's colleague and fellow IAIA member **Issa Abdulrahman** was elected Secretary General.

The Association is off to a great start, and IAIA looks forward to developing a mutually advantageous partnership.

COMMITTEE News

Awards Committee Announces Changes

The IAIA Awards Committee is pleased to introduce a new award this year: the Honourable Mention, which will be awarded in situations where a group of people have done something that deserves commendation, and it is not really appropriate to single out an individual to receive the award or certificate. Thus, the Honourable Mention will tend to be made to collective entities, usually within IAIA, such as sections, committees, or task forces.

The Committee has decided to announce award winners in advance of the conference to allow for publicity associated with the winners and to help advertise the conference and IAIA (see story on page 4). Future issues of the newsletter will include profiles of each of the major award winners.

Awards will be presented during IAIA'02 in an innovative format consisting of mini-presentations at various places in the program, rather than the usual single (long) ceremony. This format will allow a greater profile of each of the major award winners..

The 2001-2002 Awards Committee is comprised of Ingrid Belkacova, Slovakia; Hans Gortworst, Netherlands; Juan Quintero, Colombia; Nick Taylor, New Zealand; Wil Thissen, Netherlands; Jo Treweek, United Kingdom; Lara Verocai, Brazil; and Alex Weaver, South Africa, and is chaired by Prof Frank Vanclay of the University of Tasmania in Australia.

• Frank Vanclay, IAIA 2001-2002 Awards Committee Chair •
frank.vanclay@utas.edu.au

Mark Your Calendar

- **April 22.** Earth Day
- **May 10.** International Migratory Bird Day
- **June 5.** World Environment Day
- **June 10-12.** 1st ASEM International Conference on Public Participation. Asia-Europe Environmental Technology Centre (AEETC) and Asia-Europe meeting (ASEM). Bangkok, Thailand. www.aeetc.org/
- **June 15-22.** IAIA'02. The Hague, The Netherlands.
- **June 23-26.** INTA26. International Network for Urban Development (INTA). The Hague, The Netherlands. www.inta-aivn.org/20-activities/20-2-inta-congress.htm
- **July 11.** World Population Day
- **August 12-15.** 6th International Conference on Technology Policy and Innovation. Kansai, Japan. <http://in3.dem.ist.utl.pt/kansai2002/>
- **August 26 - September 4.** The World Summit on Sustainable Development 2002. Johannesburg, South Africa. www.johannesburgsummit.org/default.htm
- **September 21-26.** 38th Annual Conference of the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISoCaRP). Urban Planning and the Pulsar Effect: Coping with Peaks, Trough and Repeats in the Demand Cycle. Athens, Greece. www.isocarp.org/

Key Citations Updated

Please note that the Key Citations Lists on the IAIA web site have recently been revised. The following four Key Citation Lists were updated in December 2001 and January 2002: Technology Assessment, Policy Assessment (previously Policy Appraisal), Public Consultation and Risk Assessment.

While the Key Citation series is not meant to be exhaustive, it is intended to provide an overview of the various specialty areas to the newcomer to the field or to the casual observer.

The Publications Committee would like to acknowledge and thank **Aleg Cherp** for his efforts in this task, as well as the **many IAIA members who contributed their time and efforts** in updating these lists!

• Jill Baker • CIDA • IAIA 2001-02 Publications Committee Chair

Contributors to Water Encyclopedia Sought

The compilation of the much-anticipated *The Encyclopedia of Water* is now underway and many of your fellow colleagues, scientists, educators, graduate students and water professionals have already reserved over 40% of the topics to be included in this monumental four-volume encyclopedia.

When published in 2004, *The Encyclopedia of Water* will consist of over 2,000 (500 to 2,000 word) original works, divided into 14 water-related categories, to form the largest and most comprehensive assortment of water-related information ever created.

John Wiley & Sons Publishing and the editors of *The Encyclopedia of Water* invite you and your colleagues to join in creating this ultimate resource in water-related

information. As well as being a part of this work, you will be given a \$100 honorarium for books from the John Wiley & Sons catalog for each entry that is included in the encyclopedia. We urge you to complete the short Contributor Application very soon as the number of available entries is quickly decreasing. However, if the entries that you would like to author are already reserved, you may propose your own titles for review.

For more information or to complete the Contributor Application: www.WileyWater.com. Questions: e-mail the editors of the encyclopedia at info@WileyWater.com.

• Jay Lehr • Senior Editor, John Wiley & Sons, Encyclopedia of Water

GIS Application to EIA in Africa

The *African Journal for Environmental Assessment and Management* (AJEAM) (see www.melissa.org > Journals) is planning a special issue on the Application of GIS to EIA in Africa. If you have appropriate experience and are interested in submitting a paper, please contact Wilson Eedy, International Advisor, AJEAM, edith@attcanada.ca or terfa@geoniger.com.



A sample of what's new on the 'net...

- IAIA '02 updates and links
- Key Citations updated: Risk, Technology Assessment, Public Participation and SEA
- Strategic Action Plan Updated
- New Professional Links
- Western and Northern Canada Affiliate Information
- Training Course Database updated for 2002

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Welcome

New IAIA members from 16 December - 15 March

Joe Acorn, Canada; **Helga Adalgeirsdottir**, Iceland; **Michael Ahlheim**, Germany; **Ann Akerskog**, Sweden; **Terry Antoniuk**, Canada; **Pieter J Aucamp**, South Africa; **Steven Kenyon Ault**, Brazil; **Luciano Azzolini**, Canada; **Marcel Ayite Baglo**, Benin; **David Burack**, USA; **Hon Fai Chan**, Hong Kong; **Eric Chernoff**, Canada; **Komatra Chuengsatiansup**, Thailand; **Koenraad Coudere**, Belgium; **Alastain Neil Craik**, Canada; **Holger Dalkmann**, Germany; **Frank Davidson**, USA; **Tom Davies**, New Zealand; **Sarah Dawson**, New Zealand; **Lea Den Broeder**, The Netherlands; **Hendrik Dik**, Australia; **Alan Ehrlich**, Canada; **Marcus Eyre**, Canada; **Warren Fenton**, Canada; **Mario Gauthier**, Canada; **Kelly Goody**, Canada; **Leslie Green**, Canada; **Kenneth Green**, USA; **Gilber Guey**, Cote D'Ivoire; **Pam Gunther**, USA; **Jung Jong Gwan**, Korea; **Karen Hall**, Canada; **Oli Halldorsson**, Iceland; **Duomgpoon Hengboonyaphan**, Thailand; **Amanda J. Herzog**, USA; **Robert Hollaender**, Germany; **Lucy Hoyle**, England-UK; **Sally Innanen**, The Netherlands; **Dana Jackowicz**, USA; **Ross Kapitzke**, Australia; **Meg Keen**, Australia; **Charles Kelly**, USA; **Elizabeth Keysar**, USA; **Colin Kirkpatrick**, England-UK; **Robert Kleinjan**, England-UK; **Marinus J. Kolkman**, The Netherlands; **David Malcolm Lang**, Dominica; **Laurent LePage**, Canada; **Gerard Linden**, The Netherlands; **Merle Lowman**, South Africa; **Juliette McDonald**, England-UK; **P.E. Mijsbergh**, The Netherlands; **Ulla Mortberg**, Sweden; **Andres Evangelista Muego**, Philippines; **James Newell**, New Zealand; **Bram Noble**, Canada; **Sibout Nooteboom**, The Netherlands; **Joseph Chikelue Obi**, England-UK; **Alied Oosterhoff**, The Netherlands; **Harm Oosthoek**, The Netherlands; **Marita Oosthuizen**, South Africa; **Manon Penris**, The Netherlands; **Shirley Standafer Pfister**, Canada; **Jaco Quist**, The Netherlands; **Ramon Jun Quitales**, Solomon Islands; **Neil Redgate**, Scotland-UK; **Zoe Richards**, England-UK; **Annemarie Rodenhuis**, The Netherlands; **Ben Rolfe**, Wales-UK; **Judith Roper-Lindsay**, Switzerland; **Bobbi Schijf**, New Zealand; **Roland Semjanous**, Canada; **Robert Sisler**, Canada; **Parichart Siwaraksa**, Thailand; **Bryce Skarratt**, Australia; **Steven Smith**, England-UK; **Tarja Soderman**, Finland; **Mark Stoughton**, USA; **Mattias Stronmgren**, Sweden; **Maurice F. Strong**, Canada; **Riki Therivel**, England-UK; **Thoroddur Thoroddsson**, Iceland; **Dr. Tosovic**, Yugoslavia; **Heinz K. Unger**, Canada; **Diana Valiela**, Canada; **Herman Van Der Most**, The Netherlands; **Hans van Maanen**, The Netherlands; **Paul Van Ruiten**, The Netherlands; **Jacqueline Van Vliet**, The Netherlands; **Bert Wachelder**, The Netherlands; **Mark Walmsley**, Canada; **Roberta Willis**, USA; **Witold Woloszyn**, Poland

IAIA Calendar

APRIL

- 1 Deadline for registration and payment of full registration fee in order for presentation to be included on the IAIA'02 final program
- 1 Last day to request for booth/exhibit space
- 1 Last day to request delegate packet inserts

MAY

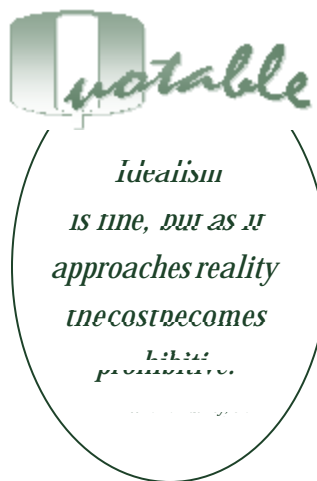
- 1 Affiliate, Branch, Committee and Liaison annual reports due
- 1 Action items for Board and AGM meetings due
- 1 Comments on mission/vision statements and Strategic Plan due
- 1 IAIA'02 Raffle donation forms due
- 31 Technical visit registration deadline

JUNE

- 1 IAIA'02 Netherlands Flower Tour and Amsterdam Day tour registration deadline
- 15-22 ... IAIA'02
- 30 Newsletter deadline

JULY

Newsletter, IAIA'03 Announcement mailed



Missing Journals Sought

IAIA HQ is seeking to complete the archived set of journals lost in the June 2000 flood. The following issues are still needed. If they are taking up space on your bookshelf, please consider sending them to HQ to help preserve IAIA's history!

- Vol. 5, No. 2 (1986)
- Vol. 7, Nos. 1 and 4 (1989)
- Vol. 8, Nos. 3 and 4 (1990)
- Vol. 10, Nos. 1, 3 and 4 (1992)

IAIA Newsletter

Next issue: July 2002

Submission deadline: 30 June 2002

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@shell.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 IAIA Headquarters. Suggestions and comments are always welcome.

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