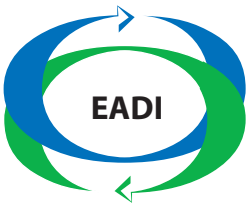

12th General Conference

CONFERENCE REPORT

GLOBAL GOVERNANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The need for policy coherence and new partnerships

Geneva08

24 - 28 June

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE | GENEVA

INSTITUT DE HAUTES ÉTUDES
INTERNATIONALES ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT

GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL
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EADI

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The European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI) is the leading professional association and network in its field, with more than 350 institutional and individual members and partners in 29 European countries.

EADI was founded in 1975 with the aim to create an adequate framework for pan-European collaboration and information exchange. Since February 2000, the Secretariat has been based in Bonn, Germany.

EADI aims to be the prime professional association for development studies in Europe. As such it promotes: quality in research and education in development studies, the exchange of relevant information among members and with other institutes, the strengthening of relevant knowledge networks at the regional and global level, influencing both national and European decision-makers in the field of development co-operation.

To meet these aims, members take part in currently 15 thematic working groups in order to conduct common, interdisciplinary research. They organise seminars, research projects, and publish their results in the EADI Book Series. And every three years, an EADI General Conference assembles more than 500 participants on global topics concerning development issues.

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The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID), Geneva, is the result of the merger of two academic institutions specialised in international relations and development studies and benefiting from a long experience in training students from all over the world: the Graduate Institute of International Studies (HEI) and the Graduate Institute of Development Studies (IUED), established respectively in 1927 and 1961.

The Institute's mission is to provide independent and rigorous analyses of current and emerging world issues. It has a particular concern for promoting international cooperation and bringing an academic contribution to less advanced nations. It offers in particular:

- Postgraduate study programmes, some disciplinary (International Law, International Economics, International History and Politics, Political Science), others interdisciplinary (International Affairs, Development Studies);
- Institutional research focusing on half a dozen crucial issues for world governance (trade, conflicts, migrations, environment, world health);
- On-going training to fulfill the needs of a large spectrum of international public and private actors.

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Foreword

The 12th EADI General Conference was hosted by the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies of Geneva from 24 to 28 June 2008. It brought together over 500 development academics and practitioners from more than 50 countries. The rich conference programme included plenary sessions, thematic parallel sessions, workshops, roundtables, a mini-symposium, three public lectures and 15 working groups that discussed around 180 papers on relevant development issues.

The theme of the conference – *Global Governance for Sustainable Development* – was chosen soon after the Conference on *Insecurity and Development* was held in Bonn in 2005. The Bonn conference had shown that there were more threats to human security than war, civil war and terrorism. The carrying capacity of our planet shows signs of been overstretched and, as a consequence of human activities, environmental degradation and disasters threaten the survival of mankind. Pollution and climate change do not stop at borders and such threats cannot be met by a single country or group of countries therefore international action and cooperation are needed. The theme of global governance was a choice topic for a Conference to be held in Geneva where many international and civil society organisations have a base.

Of course, concerns with the environment are not new but what is new is the urgency of taking action. Since the decision to focus the Conference on sustainable development was taken climate change, the increase in the price of oil and the food crisis have become new priorities of the development agenda, and all have found an echo in the conference debates. But growth, inequality, poverty, security, democratic representation and participation, changes in the world system, asymmetries between North and South and development cooperation remain perennial development concerns as reflected in sessions' debates and working groups' discussions. The breakdown of multilateral negotiations to bring the Doha Development Round in the WTO to a successful conclusion after more than six years and the dramatic crisis of the banking system in the United States reveal the vital importance of improving global coordination in economic policy-making and the need for powerful multilateral institutions to avoid a slide back into protectionism and economic depression.

The format and duration of the conference underwent a few changes. More visibility has been given to the thematic Working Groups. Three sessions had been reserved for their meetings. Several groups held four sessions and one even five. The record number of papers ever submitted to an EADI conférence attests to the interest of participants in sharing and discussing their research.

The conference duration has been lengthened. A pre-conference day was added to the three-and-a-half-day traditional conference format. It permitted to accommodate extra workshops organised by EADI institutional members, a roundtable, as well as business meetings. Two networks, the European Forum on International Cooperation (EUFORIC) and the Europe-Africa Policy Research Network (EARN), chose to hold their business meeting in Geneva to coincide with and participate in the EADI conference.

Participation from the South was very strong among speakers but also paper presenters. Over the last three years renewed efforts to boost up the interaction between development associations from different continents, under the umbrella of ICCDA, led to a fruitful outcome at the conference. Two themes of common interest had been identified, *Megacities* and *Migration,* and two ICCDA roundtables on those themes were organised.

Many EADI member institutes contributed to the success of the conference. First of all the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies of Geneva that was responsible for the local organisation of the conference. It was the first major international event organised under the aegis of the new institute issued from the merger of the Graduate Institute of Development Studies, a founding member of EADI, and the Graduate Institute of International Studies. But several stakeholders from other EADI member institutes also volunteered to organise parallel sessions, workshops and special events. All should be thanked for their substantive and logistics contributions. Special thanks should also be addressed to the University of Geneva for putting the University premises at the disposal of EADI free of charge.

The conference could not have taken place without financial support to the conference budget. The biggest share was provided by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation that supported not only the General Conference but also the preparatory ICCDA activities. The French Development Agency, the Finnish Foreign Affairs Ministry and the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation all made significant contributions. Smaller but gratefully received contributions were made by the Institute of Social and Economic Development of Paris (IEDES), the Institute of Social Studies of The Hague (ISS), the Advanced Studies Programme of the University of Geneva (Formation Continue), the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF), Taylor & Francis and the Canton of Geneva. On behalf of EADI and the host Institute I would like to thank all of them for their timely and generous support to the conference budget and contributing to the success of the conference.

Juergen Wiemann

Vice President of EADI
in charge of the General Conference

Deputy Director,
German Development Institute (DIE)

Note from the President

The 12th EADI General Conference was a great success and I would like to thank the speakers and conference participants who, through their challenging presentations, questions and debates, made it lively and stimulating. Many of the issues discussed are reflected in this report. In this short note I would like to recall some important points made in the plenary sessions and the public lectures.

The first plenary session focused on policy coherence among international organisations. The transnational nature of many of today's challenges and the increased interdependence of countries call for a better global governance and mechanisms for distributional impact. At present a limited group of countries lays down the law. However, this industrialised core is losing its place, not only in terms of legitimacy but also because of the power shift to emerging markets (China, India, Brazil, South Africa, Russia). There is a need to democratise the global economic governance institutions if we want to secure developing countries' and emerging powers' cooperation on urgent global challenges.

"How to reconcile economic growth and sustainable development?" was the question asked to the panellists of the second plenary session. The shortage of environmental macro-data and statistics on long term poverty dynamics hinders the analysis. At the same time, there is a need for a more complex approach to MDGs and development issues. Until now the interpretation of MDGs has been too partial. A shift in paradigm is called for to widen the view of what wealth means and to include common goods. This implies changing the patterns of consumption and a structural change towards lower energy use at both national and international level but, first of all, thinking globally beyond the national frames of reference.

Politics is still national. Hence the necessity to mobilize people and networks to pressure political leaders. The third plenary session brought together representatives of the business community, an academic and a representative of global civil society. Beyond their diversity those panellists pointed to common problems: the difficulty to link different levels of action (the local and the global) and the difficulty to link different regions and actors.

The three public lectures touched upon topical and controversial issues. Tariq Banuri made us think of the world as a single country – Earthland – with all the characteristics of a developing country. He showed that global challenges, such as climate change, would be best solved if approached as development problems. Ndioro Ndiaye stressed the linkages between migration and development. The dialogue between countries of origin and recipient countries has improved but there is still a long way to go to find win-win solutions. Gilbert Etienne looked at the structural causes of the food crisis that stem from the neglect of agriculture over the last decades. He denounced the cacophony of current dogmas and pleaded for a more balanced approach. Jean Ziegler looked at the food crisis from the perspective of a human right – the right to food. He analysed the aggravating effects of speculation, the spread of biofuels and the structural adjustment programmes, and advocated in favour of food to be considered as a public good.

Three main conclusions can be drawn. First, unresolved or worsening development issues have invaded the agenda of international relations and domestic policies worldwide. Hence, the relevance of development research in setting today's global policy agenda. Second, in the current period of multiple crises the need for global governance is more pressing than ever. Third, a shift in paradigm is necessary to make sustainable development possible.

Lastly, I would like to thank all EADI members for renewing my mandate as President of the association. I stood for reelection knowing that I could count on the unfailing and efficient support of the EADI Secretariat and on a team of dedicated Vice-Presidents. The next three years will be challenging but also exciting. The current crises and dysfunctioning that affect the world system have shaken many assumptions. We have reached the turning point I mentioned in the text below, written three years ago:

"My vision is that both development studies and EADI have a promising future, on the basis of their interdisciplinary legacy since half a century, development studies will play again a crucial role when our humanity will shift away from the present day excesses of globalization, which predominately subordinates the well-being of society to the needs of the economy. Then it will be largely left to our field of specialization to find a more reasonable pace for economic and social change, as well as to help implementing a global development model for our planet that can be both socially equitable and ecologically sustainable."

A window of opportunity has opened up for development specialists to make their voice heard. Let EADI be equal to it.

Jean-Luc Maurer

President of EADI

Professor, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva

Opening Session

J.-L. Maurer | J.-D. Vassalli | J. Wiemann | J. Streuli | J. Forster

Speakers:
Jean-Dominique Vassalli, Rector, University of Geneva
Ambassador Jürg Streuli, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations Office in Geneva
Jacques Forster, Vice-President, Board of the Foundation for International and Development Studies, Geneva
Jean-Luc Maurer, President of EADI, Professor at the Graduate Institute, Geneva

Chair: Jürgen Wiemann, EADI Vice-President, Deputy Director, German Development Institute

Professor Vassalli

As a researcher in biology of development, Professor Vassalli gives great importance to sustainable development. He is convinced that if humanity does not change the course of its development it will exceed the carrying capacities of planet Earth. The poor and the disadvantaged will suffer most and this cannot be allowed. A system of global governance is needed.

The concept of sustainable development is a noble concept but concrete actions seem to be slow to come. We need a radical change, we need to break the direction that our development has taken. Geneva is an appropriate venue to reflect on Global Governance for Sustainable Development.

Geneva has been the craddle of radical changes: the Reformation with Calvin, 450 years ago, the foundation of the Red Cross with Henri Dunant and the creation of the World Wide Web at CERN in the Canton of Geneva.

Geneva is also a place of dialogue. It is the EU regional headquarters of the United Nations and numerous international organisations. Every year, Geneva host more international meetings than any other place in the world.

Finally, Professor Vassalli recalled that Universities and research institutes have a major role to play in helping radical changes to be carried out, especially comprehensive universities that shelter a diversity of competences. Regarding sustainable development it is particularly important to integrate all concerned areas: hard sciences, life sciences, social sciences, etc. All are found at the University of Geneva and the University works in close partnership with the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies.

Ambassador Streuli

On behalf of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Madame Calmy-Rey, Ambassador Streuli welcomed the participants to the EADI conference. He said that the choice of Geneva as conference venue is most appropriate to discuss international cooperation. Geneva hosts five competence centres: peace, security and desarmament; humanitarian affairs and human rights; health; labour, economy and trade; and sustainable development and conservation of natural resources.

Interdependence is what characterises the relations between countries today. The network of complex interactions generates risks difficult to forecast. A reshuffle of international politics and transnational cooperation is needed. Ambassador Streuli thought that Einstein's remark that a problem could not be solved by the way of thinking that created it, applied very well to the theme of the EADI conference.

A quarter of human beings consume three quarters of the resources of planet Earth. This unequal distribution fuels fights over oil, water and fertile land. The last IPCC report shows the harmful effects of our consumpion patterns. The consequences of global warming hit poor countries harder while they have contributed to it less. If the North countries want to preserve peace they have to change their consumption patterns. Those fundamental questions place equity between and within countries at the top of polical concerns.

The EADI conference offers an opportunity to discuss a long term vision, understand correlations, review current thinking and develop new ideas. To answer the imperatives of sustainable development we need creative thinking and innovative policies. The good news is that some solutions already exist and

could be implemented straight away. But a single country cannot overcome the foretold crisis alone. Govenments as well as people have to learn to think beyond their own borders. Solutions to and responsibility for global problems are international. A major task will be to democratise international regulations and institutions.

Jacques Forster

The Board of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies was honoured and happy to co-host the 12th EADI General Conference and on its behalf Jacques Forster welcomed the participants.

He explained that the Graduate Institute was a newly created institution that brought together two well known institutes, the Graduate Institute of Development Studies (IUED) and the Graduate Institute of International Studies (IUHEI). IUED had been closely associated with EADI since the founding of the association. Jacques Forster himself had been member of the EADI Executive Committee and member of the working group on *Aid Policy and Performance* for a number of years.

The title and subtitle of the conference encapsulate in a few words what Jacques Forster considered to be the main item on the agenda of the international community. It represents a key meeting point for two areas of studies, international and development studies, that perhaps did not interact as intensively as what was taking place in society would have warranted.

The dichotomy between the developing world and developed countries, relatively clear half a century ago, has been replaced by a more complex constellation. The group of so called developing countries has become increasingly heterogenous while rich countries (OECD) are faced with development problems. Nowadays all regions of the world are faced with development problems and sustainability is a universally relevant key concept.

The field of international relations has also significantly evolved. Globalization is a phenomenon that goes well beyond economic integration, it encompasses social, political, cultural, environmental and legal dimensions. External influences, external norms affect the everyday life of citizens of a nation state, blurring the line between domestic and foreign policy. The transformations taking place in international relations are also characterised by the growing diversity of international actors besides states and international organisations. NGOs and the corporate world have become necessary partners. Global governance is a momentous challenge on the agenda of a very heterogenous international community marked by deep structural disparities, numerous conflicts and diverging priorities.

The theme of the conference is right at the crossroads of the academic fields of international and development studies. As representative of a new academic institution that has chosen to link the two fields of studies, Jacques Forster welcomed the EADI conference to Geneva.

Jean-Luc Maurer

Jean-Luc Maurer welcomed the participants to the conference and gave an overview of the conference programme. He thanked people who contributed to the organisation of the conférence: Thomas Lawo and Susanne Itter and their team from the EADI Secretariat, Janine Rodgers from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Anouar Belkhodja and Nicole Gilodi from the congress organising firm Axécible.

Thanks were also addressed to the institutions that sponsored the conference: the French Development Agency, the Finnish Foreign Affairs Ministry, the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, the Institute of Social and Economic Development of Paris (IEDES), the Institute of Social Studies of The Hague (ISS), the Advanced Studies Programme of the University of Geneva (Formation Continue), the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF), Taylor & Francis and the Canton of Geneva. Special thanks were addressed to the University of Geneva for putting its premises at EADI's disposal. Three fifths of the conference budget had been provided by the Federal Departement of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland through its division of Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC). Thanks were addressed to Ambassador Walter Fust, former director of the SDC and now CEO of the Global Humanitarian Forum, Serge Chapatte, the former Vice-Director, and their colleague Martin Faesler.

Lastly, the Graduate Institute, Geneva, being the host institute deserved a special mention for its support to EADI. However, for EADI it was very satisfactory that the first major Institute's international event was a conference on development because, as shown by Tariq Banuri, development studies are more relevant than ever to understand and solve current world problems.

Jean-luc Maurer concluded by asking the conference participants to think seriously about two challenging proposals: Tariq Banuri's proposal to view the world as a single developing countries and Rector Vassalli's notion of radical change.

Report by Janine Rodgers,
Graduate Institute, Geneva

Public Lectures

Dudley Seers public lecture

Earthland, six billion characters in search of an author

Speaker: Tariq Banuri, Stockholm Environment Institute, Sweden

Chair: Jean-Luc Maurer, EADI President

In the kick off lecture to the conference Tariq Banuri challenged the participants to think of the world as a single country – Earthland. He showed that Earthland is a developing country – unequal, dualistic, weakly governed and corrupt – that fails to act collectively even in the face of danger. He argued very convincingly in favour of the relevance of development research in setting today's global policy agenda.

Characteristics of Earthland

Earthland is 6.4 billion people, 136 million square kilometers, 47 persons per square kilometer, a per capita income of about US$ 6'400 and 207 states. The population can be divided in three groups: 15% in the North (= OECD countries), 80% in the South (roughly the Group of 77) and 5% in Eastern Europe (Economies in transition). Per capita GNP is approximatively US$ 32'000 in the North, US$ 1'600 in the South and US$ 3'000 in Eastern Europe. In 2004 Earthland was more unequal than any country in the world and presented some striking similarities with 1978 South Africa under apartheid.

Earthland has no single government; its constituent states have formal legitimate sovereignty. However, at least four regimes construct policy at the global level through different processes:

- The trade regime, built around WTO, in which a significant portion of the laws are being made through global negotiations and global agreements.
- The financial regime in which the transfer of national sovereignty is not so explicit.
- The security regime which implies a considerable transfer of sovereignty.
- The environmental regimes that have not become parts of any global governance structure. They have been a kind of global moral regime in which broader values are agreed upon and pursued on the basis of national decision-making and national sovereignty as and when governments and countries so decide.

Some innovations and new structures have developed at the global level:

- The number of "Gs" has increased. The Group of 77 is the oldest (created in 1964 when UNCTAD was set up), G8, G24, etc.
- Networks and global social movements have emerged on a number of issues: the labour movement (the oldest that emerged in the 19th century), the women's movement, the human rights movement, the environmental movement, etc.
- The diplomacy of global summits and meetings i.e. a new diplomacy that tries to create laws and structures:

Finally, various global identities have started to emerge: the identity of the visionary, the steward, the international civil servant, the activist, the businessman and so on. Banuri showed that what is happening at the global level is similar to what happened at the national level in some post colonial countries where a common identity interacts with local identities. In Pakistan or India, for example, multiple identities co-exist: local identities (e.g. Sindhi, Pathan or Punjabi), a national identity, but also that of the westernized elite. Each identity has its own structure, own dynamics and own ethos. The common identity may be more important than the others. As a Pathan and a Westernized Pakistani Tariq Banuri has more in common with other westernized Pakistanis or westernized Africans or Indians than with a Pathan villager.

The narratives of the world as a single country

The narratives of the world as a single country have begun to split into two parts. Banuri made an analogy with Pirandello's play *Six characters in search of an author* which shows how reality and illusion are connected. For people like Thomas Friedman the world is flat. Today's reality does not matter because tomorrow things will change. You may be poor today but you will be rich to-morrow. On the other hand, for people like Martin Khor, we are stuck; our reality cannot change because of the political structures that confine us. The two narratives reflect the nature of politics of Earthland: the politics of hope and the politics of despair. How can the politics of hope be extracted from the politics of despair?

For Banuri, development itself, or the South itself, needs to be seen as a movement that plays a particular role mandated by very strong objective conditions. The perception of the South went through different phases: colonialism, developmentalism, and structural adjustment. The control of natural resources, closely linked to the idea of colonialism, has played a central role in

shaping the South's perception of itself, in the North-South relations and the environmental relations.

For the first time in the first decade of the 21st century some early promises have been fulfilled. The 1962 international development strategy was a consensus agreement passed by ECOSOC: minimum 5% economic growth for developing countries, Official Development Assistance of 1%, stabilization of commodity prices and fair trade. None of these four demands were fulfilled before the year 2000. Since 2000 we have had 5% growth (but the decade is not over yet and the oil, energy and food crises will have a downwards impact). Official Development Assistance has come nowhere near 1% but the level has been reached if various resource transfers and foreign direct investment are included. Commodity prices are rising again and WTO has come into existence.

Why do we need the idea of Earthland as a single country?

So far the discourse on globalization has been a very passive discourse. Globalization is something that happens to us. We need a discourse that puts people back in the center and admits "this is us, this is what we have created and if we don't like it, this is what we will change". We need a term that does not express the integration of the world but our responsibility as citizens of the world. You need a name to parochialize this idea. "Earthland" as something for which we take responsibility. A feeling of love and a feeling of commitment.

Thomas Friedman, an apostle of globalization, starts his book *Lexus and the Olive Tree* with a chapter that says "The world is ten years old". In his view globalization started in 1990 with trade expansion, the collapse of the Berlin wall and the Soviet Union, etc. Banuri says no, the world is 46 years old. It started in 1962 with Rachel Carlson's book *Silent Spring* in which for the first time she said "we are destroying ourselves". The subsequent ten years produced a huge amount of popular literature: *The Population Bomb*, *The Tragedy of the Commons*, *The Closing Circle*, *Limits to Growth*, *The Shallow and the Deep* and… the first poster of the blue planet.

In Banuri's youth the word "Earth" was a symbol of robustness, hardiness, sturdiness, it was brown color, solid as rock, nothing would change. It was the ever forgiving mother, strong, resilient, robust. Nowadays, when googling the word "Earth" websites show that the Earth is fragile, it is an unforgiving child we have to take good care of. "Earthland" became a concept when we first realized that we were responsible. And our realization that we were responsible began with the environment.

How do we act in the world as a single country?

As Dudley Seers pointed out, when thinking about a developing country, do not think about growth, think about what is happening to unemployment, what is happening to inequality, what is happening to poverty.

Inequality is a critical fundamental problem to address. The Brundtland Commission Report stated that "growth has no set limits before disaster". We need equity before disaster becomes imminent, because equity will enable us to deal with the disaster. Currently the disaster is approaching but we have not reached equity.

In terms of climate change, danger is coming up ahead and the impact will fall in particular on poor countries and poor communities. For Banuri the best way to think about climate change is to think of it as a development problem. How to address the development problem for the climate problem to disappear? The South is an energy-poor region, even China. The ratio of per capita energy consumption between developing and developed countries is about 1 to 5/1 to 6. What should be done to get energy to energy-poor countries? The solutions currently proposed are a new version of the Washington Consensus much akin to the structural adjustment programmes. The rationale of the Washington Consensus was that countries were overspending, overconsuming. The proposed solution was to reduce consumption by making the market function.

The new Washington Consensus proposes to address climate change by building a global carbon market, a uniform carbon tax, no interference with trade, finance and investment and property rights regimes and the removal of energy subsidies in developing countries. There is a vague foreign support for poor countries, more or less along the lines of the old Washington Consensus but no money provided. Policy-makers are focused on the global market and do not recognize the question of energy poverty.

The eradication of the energy poverty of developing countries and sustaining their economic growth are central to solving the climate problem. Policy-makers should focus on the poor and on the reduction of energy poverty, and start investing in alternative renewable energy sources through publicly funded programmes.

In conclusion Tariq Banuri stressed how important it is to think of the world as a single country when talking about sustainable development. He called upon development specialists to bring not only their expertise and professional tools to solve global problems but more importantly their commitment as citizens.

Report by Janine Rodgers,
Graduate Institute, Geneva

Public Lectures

The link between migration and sustainable development in Africa

Speaker: Ndioro Ndiaye, Deputy Director General, International Organisation for Migration, Geneva, Switzerland

Chair: Kenneth King, Centre for African Studies, Edinburgh University, UK

After outlining the characteristics of current migration in Africa, Ndioro Ndiaye showed that migration can contribute positively to the development process of a country but that the absence of proper governance can have adverse consequences.

Dynamics of current migrations

- In recent decades, migratory phenomena have accelerated due to the progress in information and transport technologies.
- There are 16 million African migrants out of a world stock of 190 million migrants.
- It is estimated that migrants born in Africa amount to about 5% of the population of OECD countries.
- Half the migrants are women.
- Migrants display a whole range of competences.
- Migration is a phenomenon that affects all countries (internal/transnational migration; country of origin/transit country/country of destination)
- Migration can have different motivations: voluntary migration is by far more important but forced migration is more visible.

The abuses that characterise current migration result from bad management. The vast majority of African countries do not have any migration policy. There are no information campaigns to explain to migrants their rights, their obligations and the risks incurred. In the absence of proper management, departures and abuses will continue. However, over the last decade, the discourse on migration has evolved. It is now possible to get both countries of destination and countries of origin around a table and discuss. Discussions are more positive and less acrimonious.

Migration and Millennium Development Goals

Migration and development are interconnected. Migration can have an impact:

- on poverty eradication
- on the equality between men and women
- on the prevention of HIV/AIDS
- on environment protection
- on the creation of global development partnerships

The brain drain and the role of diasporas

The brain drain adversely affects countries of origin by depriving them of highly skilled human resources. For example, every year about 20.000 medical and paramedical personnel trained in Africa leave the African continent. The aggregate cost of their formation amounts to a subvention to the North by the South. It far exceeds the Overseas Development Aid that the continent receives annually.

How to create a win-win situation? The only alternative is development that will offer potential outmigrants attractive working conditions in their home country. In the mean time it is necessary to find a solution to give to those migrants who want to help their country of origin opportunities to do so. The diasporas can play a role in the development of their countries of origin because of their knowledge, experience, savings and networks.

Launched in 2001 the programme “Migration for Development in Africa” (MIDA) is a programme that helps mobilize competences of African nationals abroad for the benefit of Africa’s development through knowledge transfer (virtual or short term assignments of professionals) and joint ventures.

Remittances

In 2006, remittances to Africa through official channels amounted to $20 billion. It is estimated that total remittances may be two or three times this amount. In some countries they represent a substantial proportion of GDP (e.g. 20% in Cape Verde).

Transfer costs are high (between 13% and 20%) and in some countries transfer channels are not well developed. Many transfers are done through informal channels and therefore are difficult to track down.

More needs to be known on the impact of remittances to understand how they can contribute to sustainable development. What is their impact on poverty (80% of transfers are spent on household expenditures), on gender (women migrants send higher and more regular amounts of money than men), and on inequality?

Problems of reintegration of migrants in their country of origin

More attention should be paid to the legal and social status of returning migrants. Women face specific difficulties within their families.

Policy coherence on migration and development

In any country several ministries are concerned with migration issues: Home Office (its voice is predominant), Foreign Office, Plan and Development Ministry, Labour Ministry, etc. But it is extremely rare to find an inter-ministerial coordinating committee on migration. The mechanism of MIDA programmes helps to address this problem.

Two MIDA examples were presented: Ghanacoop, a joint venture set up by Ghanaian migrants from Italy, and a microfinance programme for women from Sierra Leone and Liberia in Guinea.

Linkages between migration and development have to be resolved at the global level. But partnerships between countries of origin and recipient countries can only be negotiated on a relatively egalitarian basis. At the moment, the gap is still enormous. *"Circular migration"* in a global context refers to the mobility of expertise and know-how. Its promotion is viewed as a win-win situation beneficial to all: host country, home country and migrants. It promises accelerated development, remittances, and brain gain by means of circles of migration in which migrants should be able to come, go and come back again, without many restrictions, making use of transnational networks.

In her conclusion Ndioro Ndiaye stressed the need to understand better the migratory phenomena. Several African universities are currently developing a migration course and establishing partnerships with universities from other parts of the world.

The **discussion** brought out the following issues:

- Differences in the transfer costs of remittances to different parts of the world. The case of Western Union was referred to. IOM denounces abuses but cannot act on behalf of the states. There is an initiative to set up an observatory of remittances in Benin.
- The attitude of European countries. The new EU directive on return of illegal immigrants and the non-ratification of the Convention on protection of rights of migrant workers by North countries.
- The inequity in consular practices and the responsibility of governments.

Report by Janine Rodgers
Graduate Institute, Geneva

Food crisis, biofuels and the right to food

Speakers: Gilbert Etienne, Emeritus Professor, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva
Jean Ziegler, Former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food,
Member of the Consultative Committee of the Human Rights Council
Chair: Michel Carton, Vice-Director, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland

Gilbert Etienne devoted his lecture to the food crisis and focused his analysis on Africa and Asia. First, he quickly surveyed the conjunctural and structural aspects of the food crisis. Several causes made the prices soar considerably:

- The speculation of global but also local traders.
- The behaviour of some governments. About 40 governments have limited or forbidden the exports of grains.
- The increase in fuel costs.
- The problem of biofuels.

The deep rooted causes of the crisis are problems of production: laxity, deficiency of agricultural policies, low output, increase in demand (due to population growth as well as the increase in standards of living). But the fate of Asia and Africa is quite different.

Asia started from a higher level

Over the period 1950-1965, rural infrastrucuture building (electrification and roads) started as well as more sophisticated agricultural development (in particular irrigation) so that when the green revolution arrived around 1965 the context was favourable. Other factors ensured the success of the green revolution in irrigated areas of Asia: a political will to get out of the grain deficit in many countries, competent civil servants, and the efficient support of the Ford and Rockefeller foundations. Most countries were able to reduce or wipe out their food deficit and even build up stocks for lean years.

This period roughly run from 1965 until the 1980s and the introduction of economic reforms, liberalisation, borders opening, etc. Public expenditure decreased and the peasants were forgotten. Agricultural production slowed down drastically but at the same time the demand for some products (fruit, vegetables, meat) increased with the emergence of a new middle class. The first symptoms of crisis appeared in 2005-2006.

The situation of Africa is more precarious

Since 1970 the population curve in Sub-Saharan Africa increases faster than subsistance agriculture output. Hence the imports of grain have increased and, at the same time, there is also a higher dependence on rice and wheat due to the change in urban eating habits.

There have been serious political shortcomings. Armed conflicts have plagued many countries but, in recent years, their number has decreased and even countries that did not suffer from conflicts (e.g. the Sahel) did not perform spectacularly.

There have also been shortcomings on the part of foreign aid to agriculture. It decreased in volume (from US$ 8 billions in 1969 to 3.4 billions in 2004) but also in quality. Countries were overburdened by numerous foreign missions with divergent views. There was no unity of doctrine (except in the case of cotton) which contrasted with the support of the Ford and Rockefeller foundations to the green revolution in Asia.

How to revive agriculture in both Asia and Africa?

First, it is necessary to get over the current cacophony of dogmas.

- Too much *protectionism* may be harmful but one must remember that most Western countries and South-East Asian success stories developped behind highly protected borders. A pragmatic approach would be a well adjusted protectionism to safeguard local production.
- *Biological farming*. Biological agriculture is less damaging in zones where a green revolution cannot be envisaged (scarcity of rain and no irrigation), but where rain or water are sufficient some fertilizer helps doubling yields.
- *Green revolution*. In Asia, the first green revolution was relatively easy. The next stages – extension to new products (vegetables and fruit), maintainance of irrigation systems, ensuring the renewal of seeds, the mix of fertilizers, etc. – are more complex and more expensive. In Africa, possibilities are more limited: only 4-5% of alluvial land, less developed rural infrastructures and agricultural techniques. Nevertheless, possibilities of development exist but they will require time.
- *Genetically Modified Organisms* (GMO). There are 5 million hectares of GMOs in the world. GMOs should not be cast away but it is necessary to introduce some safeguards to prevent farmers from becoming dependent on Monsanto. Under favourable conditions GMOs would require less pesticides but the yields cannot be expected to increase two- or threefold as in the case of the green revolution.

More attention should be paid to agriculture. Here, Institutes of development studies bear some responsibiliy in the decreasing number of agronomists and village studies falling out of fashion. In international conference reports agriculture is hardly mentioned. The 2007 World Development Report constitutes a spectacular turnaround. After 25 years the World Bank has rediscovered agriculture and big dams.

In conclusion, the food situation is not completely hopeless. It could evolve favourably in the long term but, in the short term, emergency aid is necessary to avoid the worse. The ingredients for a favourable long term evolution of agriculture are: a strong political will and commitment, the reduction of the urban-rural gap, the definition of proper priorities (a massive effort on agriculture for the next few years). Aid will be important for Africa. The question is whether it will be adequate in both quantitive and qualitative terms. Finally, environmental concerns should not be overlooked. The problems of water, soil, etc. are delicate and becoming more acute. Collaboration will be needed. Men have to play their part in both South and North countries.

Jean Ziegler analysed the desastrous consequences of the neglect of agriculture from the perspective of a human right – the right to food.

Right to food is the right to free, regular and permanent access, either directly or by means of purchase, to quantitatively and qualitatively adequate and sufficient food in line with the cultural traditions of the consumer's people, with the view to ensuring a satisfactory physical life, free of anxiety and in dignity, to individuals and society (see art.11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights).

Dimension and causes of the food crisis

Over the previous 12 months food prices have rocketted: the price of rice more than doubled (from $480 per ton to over $1000 per ton), wheat increased by 87%, maize 63%, etc. Last year developing countries imported $223 billion worth of food. The increase in food prices affects the poorest very badly. Between January and June 2008 there had been 37 food riots. This comes along on top of the pre-existing tragedy of structural hunger. This pre-existing tragedy continues to be ignored. However, the Report of FAO on food insecurity estimated that in the current state of agriculture the planet could feed 12 billion of human beings.

Hence, death from hunger is not a fatality, it is an absurdity and a murder.

Jean Ziegler elaborated on three main causes for the crisis:

(i) *Spéculation* (estimates of the contribution of speculation to the increase in food prices vary between 36 and 60%);

(ii) *The spread of biofuels*. The USA are the first producer of biofuels. In 2007 they transformed one third of their maize harvest in ethanol fuel. To fill up a 50-litre tank with ethanol you need to burnt 358 kg of maize. 358 kg of maize can feed a child in Mexico for a year. But burning food in a world where hunger wreaks havoc is not the only evil of biofuels. They have many other human and social consequences: competition over land, expulsion of peasants and take over by multinationals (see the massacre of Curcavado in Colombia). One should fight for a ban on biofuels. The right to live, the right to food should prevail over all other rights.

(iii) *The IMF paradigm* is wrong. 122 developing countries have debt. The IMF imposes structural adjustment programmes cut out to servicing the debt. To that end it promotes export agriculture (coton, sugarcane, coffee, tea..) while subsistence agriculture shrinks and is neglected. In all the countries where a structural adjustment programme has been implemented, hunger has increased.

What can be done?

The first step would be to stop speculation and take staple foods out of the stock exchange. They represent only 7% of all goods exchanged in the world but determine the world prices. Food should be considered a public good. Eight multinationals dominate 80% of the food market. Last year Cargill, the biggest one, controlled 25.8% of the world trade for grain. Its net profits during the first quarter of 2007 reached $553 million, for the first quarter of 2008 they reached $1.03 billion. Of course the role of a private firm is not to give access to food to all men and women on earth, its goal is to maximise profits. The responsibility for making the right to food a reality lay with public firms and intergovernmental entities like the United Nations. A long time ago UNCTAD developed an alternative model to the WTO model. It relied on market mechanisms (it is the only way), on agreements between producers and consumers and on mechanisms such as buffer stocks, STABEX, etc. in order to control and forecast variations.

A second step would be to ban biofuels. The third conference on food security in Roma (3-5 June 2008) was a scandal. Its agenda had been dictated by agrobusiness. South countries were represented by heads of states while North countries sent their ambassadors and civil servants. Also, a EU directive prescribes that, by 2020, 10% of all consumed energy should come from agricultural origin and not fossile origin. But European farmers will not be able to provide such an amount of energy, it will have to be imported from Africa.

A third step would be to change the management of the debt. Priority should be given to subsistence agriculture, to food solidarity through multilateral and bilateral agreements.

Jean Zeigler made a last remark related to human rights. Countries like the USA, Canada, Australia recognise civil and political rights that are mentioned in the United Nations charter but refuse to recognise the second generation of economic, social and cultural rights. They think that market liberalisation will enable productive forces to develop, world wealth to increase and hunger to disappear, and that any market dysfunction can be sorted out by humanitarian aid. But neoliberal theory has turn deadly and a normative approach is now required. Ziegler concluded with a quote attributed to Rousseau “Between the weak and the strong, it is liberty which oppresses and law which sets free.”

The **discussion** raised the following issues:

- The cost of energy to non-oil-producing developing countries.
- The correlation between the food crisis and economic growth in Asia.
- How can Asian governements, that are tied up servicing their foreign debt, provide equitable growth and benefits to their own people?
- The necessity to redefine partnerships and policies between North-South institutions.
- Could the efficient Indian public distribution system be replicated?
- Speculation is only the froth on the top of structural causes, but for Jean Ziegler it has pernicious effects and ought to be stopped.
- Whether biofuels are competing with food production. All biofuels are not bad they can be made from agricultural waste. But you will not make big profit from processing waste.
- The mobilization of civil society. The next World Social Forum in Belem in January will focus on biofuels, speculation and so on.
- Whether agriculture should be taken out of WTO and developing countries have the right to protect themselves against the dumping of agricultural products.

Report by Janine Rodgers
Graduate Institute, Geneva

Plenary Sessions

I. Global governance for sustainable development: The challenge of policy coherence among international organisations

B. Ramcharan | J. Somavia | D. McNeill | K. Dervis | N. Woods

Speakers:
Kemal Dervis, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Juan Somavia, Director General, International Labour Office (ILO)
Bertrand Ramcharan, former Acting High Commissioner for Human Rights and Assistant Secretary-General
Ngaire Woods, Director, Global Economic Governance Programme, Oxford, UK

Chair: Desmond McNeill, EADI Vice-President and Centre for Development and the Environment, University of Oslo, Norway

Desmond McNeill introduced the session. The challenge of sustainable development has recently become more acute with the problem of climate change. As starting point for the discussion on the role that international organisations can and should play he recalled some quotes from the Brundtland Commission Report: "growth has no set limits before disaster, but we need equity before disaster hits, because we need equity to face disaster", from the report of the South Commission, led by Julius Nyerere: "A nation so divided within itself would be recognised as unstable" and from Tariq Banuri's view of the world as if it were a single country: "weakly governed and incapable to act collectively even in the face of danger".

Kemal Dervis first pointed out that over the last two decades there has been a structural growth acceleration in the world economy. This acceleration is due to three factors: the rapidly shifting technological frontier in the advanced economies, the faster diffusion of technology and the unification of world markets, and the unprecedented high investment rates of 40% in emerging Asia (more than double that in the US). But short term trends are volatile and tend to mask the long term acceleration. At the same time, there is a paradigm shift where the binding constraints on growth are not capital and labour anymore but environmental resources and energy. It is illustrated by the relative price shift towards some primary commodities and in particular energy related primary commodities. The growth acceleration, the relative price shift and global warming have become the major obstacles to sustainable growth.

Kemal Dervis devoted his second point to the importance of policy coordination and the challenges of policy coherence as well as finance. Failure of policy coordination has been partly to blame for the increase in oil and food prices. Better policy coordination would have prevented serious negative impact on the world economy. The impact on the poor and vulnerable sections of the population is dramatic and will set back achieving the MDGs by several years. An example of policy and coordination failure is the ill conceived massive subsidies to crop-based biofuels. Another is related to the price of oil since a carbon tax would have had a much more balanced distributional impact on the world economy. Many of those problems are global public goods issues. They are not just about benefits or costs to particular countries, they cross over borders. There is a need for global governance, for mechanisms where the distributional impacts of policies can be discussed and negotiated.

Global warming and the protection of the atmosphere have to be tackled through an international approach and all the major players have to be part of it. The rich countries have a historical responsibility (72-75% of the actual stock of carbon emissions is due to their past activities) but nowadays China is about equal to the US in terms of carbon emissions. The distributional problems can be summarized by the following carbon emission figures: 20 tons per capita in the US, 9 in the European Union and Japan, 11 in Russia, 5 in China, 1.8 in India. The challenge is to find a fair, equitable global deal. We are very far from it.

It will only be possible if a fair decision making mechanism that has legitimacy is in place. The reform of the Bretton Woods Institutions and the United Nations system (Security Council and the General Assembly) has to be addressed.

Juan Somavia analysed policy coherence through three questions: policy coherence for what? by whom? and how? *What:* The liberal paradigm that prevailed for the last 25-30 years is not defensible anymore; we need a new paradigm based on both people and the planet, a sustainable development vision of social, economic and environmental balance. *By whom:* it is the biggest problem because we do not have the necessary political leadership. Politics continues to be national, promoting national interests. We need a (civil society) movement to convince people that change is necessary and to push governments. This is about power and social struggle. *How:* the United Nations has to do it, but a more efficient and better run United Nations. Any smaller group will not work because their democracy deficit would rob them of their legitimacy.

The vision of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) is a fair globalization that creates opportunities for all. The Commission on the Social Dimensions of Globalization, set up by the ILO, highlighted some current imbalances and policy confusion:

- Globalization permits to reduce poverty but does not permit to reduce inequality,
- It permits high growth rates but does not reduce the size of the informal economy,
- There is a transfer of power from the State to the market,
- The labour component of national income has been going down while the share of capital income has gone up.

The current model of globalization devalues the dignity of work which, in every society, is a fundamental value. Human values are more important than market values.

The work of the ILO promotes decent work and social justice:

- Every society should have a social floor i.e. a basic social protection system.
- The growth pattern should be decent work intensive. Decent work = quality jobs with rights at work, social protection and social dialogue as an instrument for conflict resolution (reference to the ILO's tripartite system).
- The 'green jobs initiative' to address environmental changes (changes in consumption patterns, production patterns and technology). During the transition there will be winners and losers. We should learn from the experience of trade; there were also winners and losers in free trade.

But a fair globalization cannot depend only on the ILO, policy coherence across international institutions is needed. There are some positive signs at the level of the UN and Bretton Woods Chief Executives board.

Bertrand Ramcharan brought two dimensions to the panel's discussion: a policy and legal dimension and a rights dimension.

The United Nations Charter is based on the idea that peace would be built on the foundation of economic and social progress and respect for human rights. On the human rights front we have a beautiful normative architecture but we have a crisis of implementation. People's movements and some governments validate the idea of human rights but many governments are not really interested in governance grounded in the respect for human rights.

The report of the Coherence Panel (set up by Kofi Annan) is rather superficial on human rights. What can be expected from the UN field structure? Resident Coordinators have to tread very carefully. The stumbling block is that most states do not want to deal with issues of principle. But an organization that does not stand up for its principles has no future.

From the human rights arena there is an impressive rights agenda on paper; but we need ideas for change. Elements of a way forward:

- The right to development: this has been heavily contested; can researchers exploit the idea?
- The national protection system,
- The International Covenant of Economic Social and Cultural Rights,
- Serious, shocking violations of economic, social and cultural rights should be viewed on a par with violations of civil and political rights,
- Perhaps we need a new 'Russell Tribunal' like the one Bertrand Russell proposed in the Vietnam war. Reactivate the concept to apply to the situation in Zimbabwe or Myanmar. The International Criminal Court is mainly applied in wartime; but what about in peacetime to leaders and governments that wreck their own countries?

Ngaire Woods focused her remarks on global economic governance. The global economy is perceived as more precarious, more unequal and less governed. What role should global economic governance play? All thinking about global governance has to be grounded in a strong principle of subsidiarity. But this does not exclude the need for global action.

We have experienced a similar kind of economic crisis before. The 1979-80/81 conjuncture highlighted that the institutions of global economic governance did not have capacity to deal with the crisis. They went into developing countries with meagre resources, used heavy conditionality and in many countries this

resulted in a pro-cyclical contraction. They had no jurisdiction to bring about policy coordination. They were not capable of preventing the rise of a new protectionism, the spread of the banking and financial crises and bring order to the global dimension of the crisis.

What could we expect from global institutions?

- To be a forum for countries to define their position;
- To have capacity to adjudicate, to prevent countries free riding;
- To foster the sharing of information and knowledge so that countries can better lead their goals.

In the early 1980s global institutions were not able to do that, and in the 80s and 90s they developed a habit of intervention rather than cooperation. Now climate change is an added challenge - with economic as well as physical effects.

No developing country can mitigate climate change by acting alone. Hence global governance is vital. But a small group of industrialized countries – the 'stable core' – has taken over global governance hoping that through their economic management and leadership they can spread their stability, growth and best practices to the rather disorderly margins of the global economy. But this is not how the world is today. It is the core that is in a state of financial crisis – not the disorderly margins.

The new challenge is not just one of legitimacy but of recognising that there has been a power shift: in trade, in global resources, investment, energy resources, etc. The USA has moved from being the largest creditor nation to the largest debtor. The IMF, World Bank, International Energy Agency, etc., no longer have the right people engaged at the top. They need to persuade the emerging market economies to join at the top table. The new economic powers do not see these international organisations as their own – as important arbiters and unbiased advisers – they will need some assurance mechanisms to come to the top table.

The ensuing **discussion** was very lively, with time for 10 questions from the floor and responses from panel members – both those with more 'economic perspectives' (Dervis and Woods) and those with more 'political perspectives' (Somavia and Ramcharan). The issues discussed included the issue of subsidiarity and the role of 'elephants' (notably the US). In relation to the later point, Somavia noted that different countries can be 'elephants' at different times; the question is how such countries react when their power dwindles; and how newly powerful countries act. There is a cross-over point as the balance of power changes, which may or may not result in effective collaboration.

Report by Desmond McNeill, Centre for Development and the Environment, University of Oslo, Norway and Janine Rodgers, Graduate Institute, Geneva

Left to right: Desmond McNeill, Ngaire Woods, Juan Somavia, Kemal Dervis, Jean-Luc Maurer

Plenary Sessions

II. Can economic growth be reconciled with sustainable development? On knife-edge between climate change and millennium development goals

J.-L. Arcand | O. de Riveiro | M. Bucar | W. Sachs | C. Gore

Speakers:
Jean-Louis Arcand, Center for Studies and Research on International Development (CERDI)-CNRS, France; European Union Development Network (EUDN)
Charles Gore, UNCTAD, Switzerland
Wolfgang Sachs, Wuppertal Institute, Germany
Oswaldo de Rivero, former Peruvian Ambassador to the UN and WTO

Chair: Maja Bucar, EADI Vice-President and Center of International Relations, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

In her brief introduction **Maja Bucar** stated that combining environment protection and efficient management of natural resources with the fight against poverty was difficult to translate into practical and effective policy-making. The aim of the session was to reflect on the current state of the debate on economic growth and sustainable development.

Jean-Louis Arcand looked at what researchers do not have but would need to answer the question raised in the title of the session.

At the macro level, cross-country environmental literature is often plagued by horrible data, poor econometrics and very little in terms of theoretical framework. At the same time, cross-country growth literature has improved a lot, resting on proper economic theory, carefully crafted identification strategies and the rather recent emphasis on very long term phenomena, taking data from the 1500s until today.

The micro level analysis counted with thousands of household surveys around the world. There are good analyses of household and individual responses to variations in institutions or policies. Those studies help understand the short-run poverty dynamics, but long-term data is missing. This means that there is no long-term view in micro level studies for a number of reasons: no research continuity, data retention by governmental offices, staff turnover and lack of incentives within international institutions and feeble interest by local policy makers.

Jean-Louis Arcand ventured some possible solutions to these dilemmas:

- Ensure continuity in data collection efforts.
- Construct a greater involvement with institutions that routinely gather data.
- Foster better relations and involvement with developing countries' universities.
- Greater interdisciplinary cooperation between sociologists, anthropologists and economists.

In his conclusion Jean-Louis Arcand said that he was unable to anwer the question of the session. In his opinion, economists and development economists have an impressionistic knowledge of macro phenomena but do not understand the determinants of growth or environmental sustainability in statistical and economic terms. The data that would enable to answer the question was not available. Long-run micro panel data on households and firms would also be needed in order to identify the sources of poverty traps.

Charles Gore had a more optimistic view and thought that sustainable development could be reconciled with economic growth. "Saving lives vs. saving the planet" was a false choice. He stressed that the crucial issue was to get the conceptual framework right.

Development thinking has been switching paradigms every 25 years since 1957. From 1957 to 1982 the mainstream paradigm was a national developmentalism, a post colonial period concentrated on the political and economic independence of peoples. From

1982 to 2007, policies of global integration took the lead, with the introduction of structural adjustment programmes and the liberalisation of economies. But now, from 2007 to 2032, a new paradigm is coming into place, a new way of thinking development in a global context, bringing together the different elements of climate change, development and economic growth. Five critical aspects characterise the new emerging paradigm:

- Resource scarcity, with technological progress lagging,
- Radical global inequality and interdependence (a large share of global inequality was attributed to intercountry inequality but a large share was also attributed to between social group inequality),
- Increasing importance of complex North-South and South-South interactions (emergence of the BRICs),
- Globalization of expectations without globalization of opportunities,
- Conceptual confusion as global issues were addressed within national frames of reference.

There needs to be a more complex approach towards MDGs and development issues. MDGs were an attempt to specify a minimum social floor for society, minimum standards of decent living to be achieved by national means but they are too partial. We have to recognize their flaws and try to improve them, but not wipe them out of the map.

There are different theoretical approaches to growth. The dominant approach was the production function approach (neoclassical and new endogenous growth theories). But there was a more heterodox stream of thinking: the structure and agency approach to growth taking into account the way in which productive capacities are developed and utilized. Growth and poverty reduction are emergent properties of how you develop your productive capacities and that is the key to reconciling growth with environmental sustainability. Employment is the critical link between productive capacities and poverty reduction.

Productive capacities are the key to reconcile economic growth and sustainable development. As policy implications, Charles Gore recommended to focus on the utilization of productive capacities and industrial policies to promote structural change towards lower energy use at national level. At the international level, rich countries "must cut emissions more deeply to support low-carbon transition in developing countries".

Wolfgang Sachs drew our attention towards seven affirmations:

1. The Euro-Atlantic rise of civilization was based on carbon and colonies. This rise was due to a temporary resource bonanza, and now it faces some constraints both in terms of resources and absorptive capacities of the earth. The particular tragedy of our time is that the world's imagination is shaped by the rise of the Euro-Atlantic civilization while the means to get there are becoming scarce. The kind of welfare generated by that civilization cannot be democratized across the world. To go for greater equity it is necessary to consider new models of wealth. Equity and ecology are closely linked together.

2. Monetary growth implies material growth, and this in turn implies growth in ecological footprint until the latter becomes so large that the biophysical capacities of the earth are undermined.

3. Monetary growth is an inefficient way to reduce poverty. What matters is not just the level of the aggregate growth, but its distribution. Tackling income distribution would be a much more efficient way to eradicate poverty.

4. A drastic reduction of carbon emissions is not compatible with an exponential growth path. Energy efficiency measures will not be enough to reach the necessary CO2 reduction of about 80-90% by 2050. The current kind of growth cannot continue, a sustainable economy has to be resource light, An environmental conversion can have lots of potential for new growth but it is not very likely to solve the long run constraints.

5. There is not enough carbon left for new industrializing countries to follow the Euro-Atlantic path for decades. The South cannot wait for the North to mitigate, but has to reduce its emissions now. This is why ecological leapfrogging, not industrial growth, is the way for industrializing countries to go. It is a chance for poorer countries, because they can still take decisions about infrastructure, agriculture, construction etc.

6. Ecological footprints are especially noticeable in poorer countries. In the North we have to make our growth system more sustainable.

7. There is no sustainable development until growth of commercial goods is constrained by a growth in common goods. It is especially important to enlarge our view on what wealth means.

Ambassador de Rivero started his intervention by stating that in his opinion economic growth could not be reconciled with sustainable development, not for decades. Production in the global economy depends on fossil fuels, and in the absence of viable alternatives these will not be replaced at least in the short term.

We have to change our patterns of consumption. Right now we live in a "California model" of high consumption. Over the last 50 years, GDP growth in industrialized countries has degraded ecosystems more rapidly than in any other period before.

One added problem is that the big international institutions, like the World Bank, the IMF and even the UN venerate the annual growth of GDP as indicator of

development while in fact it is worshipping the destruction of our own habitat for future generations.

MDGs are no development goals, only damage control of human misery. Hereby one forgets that low income can be rather high, more so now with increased food and oil prices. But more importantly, depending on food, water and energy, humanity now lives over its possibilities and a collapse is to be expected more or less soon, if there are no changes.

The majority of governments are overwhelmed by debts and their policy-making has been dedicated to adjustment rather than addressing a physical and social imbalance which could convert their countries into non-viable national states. National and international technocrats do not discuss the viability of national states, and this is due to the myth of development: all nations sooner or later will become developed.

In the actual ecological situation of the world we need to free ourselves from the myth of development. We need to replace the elusive agenda of the rich nations by an agenda for the survival of the poor nations. There needs to be a social pact between countries to overcome shortages.

But all problems will not be resolved by governments. Only an exercise of democracy can help to overcome these imbalances and prevent their most dreadful consequences. The question is whether we are ready to change our way of life. We need a social revolution, individual and collective, to tackle the problem of global warmth, because it is due to our own patterns of consumption.

The **discussion** brought up the following issues and comments:

- The geographical and gender representation of the panel was queried.
- Scientific data on environmental outcomes does exist but not much is known about the link between environmental factors and household behaviour.
- Traditional knowledge in matters of sustainable development is very valuable. The issue is to bring traditional knowledge together with new technologies and new information.
- Development goes beyond the MDGs. The MDGs are imperfect but the whole UN system and the donor community are centered on the MDGs. The challenge is to work with this imperfect set of targets, get over their limitations and transform them into an sustainable economic development framework.
- The neglect the MDGs to focus on climate change would represent a shift from social issues to technical and technocratic approaches. The discourse on climate change today is all about energy efficiency and alternative technologies.
- The development discourse and practice have focused on the poor and about lifting the floor for the poor and never speaks about bringing down the ceiling for the rich. Climate change basically comes from the rich which will wash away efforts about the MDGs.
- To address the issues of inequality and lack of opportunities it is necessary to go beyond MDGs.
- There are two components in the relationship between increasing income and environmental degradation. Environmental degration is about pollution and about excessive use of non-renewable resources. While for the first one you may have an environmental Kuznets curve it is very unlikely to have one for the second one.
- There is a huge amount of literature down South on ecological debt.
- Development and climate change are global issues. Problems have to be approached in a multilevel way, from both a country-specific and a global framework.
- The psycho-social study of the needed change has been neglected. Global warming is the result of our patterns of consumption. Changing the patterns of consumption implies an ethical, personal and collective revolution of the world.
- Sufficiency. Activities are still very similar to what they were forty years ago but they are much more capital and material intensive. Is it possible to live well with less economic value attached?
- Relations of people with the natural environment are critical elements of well being in rich societies. A positive political change can be obtained through this focus on well being.
- How to resolve the conflicts within the group of actors? What are the incentives and possibilities to put pressure on them?
- There is no way to avoid catastrophic consequences and reach a climate path without the collaboration of southern countries. The condition for the collaboration of southern countries will be a greater equity, a greater fairness.
- Can the world change through governance and cooperation? Some felt that conflict and conciliation move humanity and that in the future the world will face a lot of social disturbances.

Report by Kimana Zulueta-Fülscher, FRIDE, Spain and Janine Rodgers, Graduate Institute, Geneva

Plenary Sessions

III. Mobilizing networks to strengthen global governance: Research community, civil society and business communities

S. Shashikant | J. Haertle | B. Agarwal | I. Baud | C. Elleboode | C. Dunand

Speakers:
Jonas Haertle, Global Compact Office, United Nations, New York
Christine Elleboode, Novartis, Switzerland
Bina Agarwal, Institute of Economic Growth, Dehli University, India
Christophe Dunand, Chambre de l'économie sociale et solidaire de Genève, and Réalise, Geneva, Switzerland
Sangeeta Shashikant, Third World Network, Malaysia

Chair: Isa Baud, EADI Vice-President, and AMIDSt, The Netherlands

Isa Baud outlined the main questions to be raised at this plenary session: 1) How to create a fair and equitable society, how can researchers, civil society and business contribute to changing the course of economic development towards sustainability in both developed and developing countries? 2) How to strengthen networks for collective action? 3) How do the different segments of civil society interact and cooperate with international organisations, in order to stimulate effective collective action by national governments.

Jonas Haertle presented the Global Compact (GC). Launched in 2000 by the United Nations, the GC is a CEO-led, voluntary corporate responsibility initiative. When a company signs up to the GC, it agrees to make ten principles (in the fields of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption) part of its business strategies, operations and culture. It has approximately 4000 business participants worldwide and 1000 non business participants (representatives of civil society, labour and academic institutions, etc.). Half the participants come from the South.

The environmental aspect has become increasingly important for companies. In July 2007 the intiative "Caring for climate" was adopted. Approximately 250 companies made the commitment to take practical actions to increase energy efficiency within their own operations and to reduce the carbon burden of their products, They are also committed to report publicly their progress. The business signatories of the "Caring for climate" platform, also undertake to press their governments to take long-term action.

What can be done to increase the level of awareness of corporate responsibility? Some important drivers for responsible business have been identified (civil society with their function of holding companies accountable, academic research, training future business leaders in business schools, etc.). There is also an initiative (founded in 2006) called "Principles for Responsible Investment" aimed at raising level of awareness in financial institutions.

To increase transparency companies are asked to publish an annual report about their progress towards reaching or towards implementing the ten GC principles. 78% of the companies active in the GC do it. The GC Office is trying to link its vast repository of documents with the academic and the NGO sectors to make sense of those reports.
[further details on http://www.unglobalcompact.org]

Working for Novartis, a health care company, **Christine Elleboode** focused her talk on the issue of access to medicines for poor people living in the developing world. It is a complex issue that generates an emotional debate. The international community, national governments, charitable organisations, medical professionals and business all have a role to play to support the right to health. When forging partnerships it is crucial to recognize the rights and obligations of each actor as well as the expertise and resources that each partner brings to the table.

Private/public partnerships have become a distinctive feature in the health care industry. Christine Elleboode

presented some Novartis examples regarding malaria, leprosy, the Novartis Institute for tropical diseases in Singapour and the Novartis Institute vaccine institute.

Only companies that create value for society will be considered part of the solution and not part of the problem. Christine Elleboode regretted that free corporate contributions or innovative models to improve the access to health of poor patients rarely result in reputation capital.

She concluded on three points: the necessity to work with all serious actors, the necessity to reach agreement on controversial approaches, and though there are significant differences in opinion over the extent, depth and breadth of the pharmaceutical companies commitments there is a basic agreement that donations and pro bono resources are important elements.

Bina Agarwal centered her talk on local governance and global outcomes. Issues of governance arise at many levels and constituting interlinkages between levels can prove key. Many global outcomes depend critically on successful local governance, and this is especially the case about conserving natural resources, forest, water, soil, air. Not only there is interdependence between local and global governance and their outcomes but there are dimensions that matter at all levels of governance, in particular equity, accountability, representation and deliberation.

To illustrate the importance of multi-level approaches and their linkages Bina Agarwal took the example of forestry management in India and Nepal where forests are both a livelihood resource (as fuel) and a rich, albeit fragile, eco-system. Today new partnerships between the state and communities for forest conservation are spreading. Community forestry embodies a very significant shift in the idea of governance from top-down to participatory, and creates new systems of communal property rights as co-managed arrangements between civil society and governments. But community forestry faces many challenges such as hidden equity and efficiency costs (as communities are replete with social and economic inequalities) and external pressures from commercial exploitation.

For Bina Agarwal an important part of the answer lies in constituting strategic organisational alliances. We need new forms of horizontal association which reconnect the local with the interest of the local, in order that the perspectives and interests of the local can be effectively represented in the global arena (critical mass). And we also need vertical reach to make an impact beyond the local, and an answer lies in another type of institutional innovation namely the federations. But at all levels whether it is civil society or governments, we need forums of deliberation to ensure effective representation.
[further details on http://www.binaagarwal.com]

Christophe Dunand, local actor and activist, presented the *Chamber of Social and Solidarity Economy of Geneva*, a local initiative all the more interesting since it came from the North. The mission of the Chamber is to promote, encourage and help enterprises of the social and solidarity economy. Funded in 2004 it comprises already 200 enterprises active in all sectors of activities and employing between 6 and 9% of the Canton wage earners. The social and solidarity economy (the third economic sector beside the public sector and the profit-making private sector) creates utility and employment and is primarily characteristized by its practices. What are the values and principles of its entreprises?

- Their main goal is not to create profits but to serve the community
- Continous economic activity
- Paid employees
- Coherence between values and practice
- Democratic self management
- Long terme commitment to sustainable development
- Limited environmental impact

Their legal status is diverse: cooperative, association, foundation, non-profit making limited liability company.

The aim is to promote sustainable modes of functioning and consumption among individuals and communities, and develop a social and solidarity market through fair practices at the local and global level. Networking with likewise organisations is needed to influence regional and global governance towards sustainable development and coordination with national, regional or worldwide similar initiatives remain a challenge. [website: www.apres-ge.ch]

Sangeeta Shashikant, from the Third World Network, focused her presentation on NGO activism.

Traditionally civil society groups work at the grassroots level, mobilizing local communities, linking up with various groups nationally and building networks around issues such as consumer rights, environment, forest, women's rights. From the 1980s, with the globalization process picking up, it became obvious that operating at the national level was not enough and they formed networks with other groups from North and South around issues with the intention to influence not only national but also international processes.

Sangeeta Shashikant presented some examples related to intellectual property (IP) rights in the context of access to medicines as well as development. Her first example concerned patents under the TRIPs agreement administered by WTO. A second example concerned the reform of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in order to mainstream development into WIPO activities and culture. The

third example referred to linking the sharing of viruses from developing countries to fair and equitable benefit sharing.

Three conclusions emerged from the presentation:

- Civil society groups link together around specific issues;
- To strengthen their impact on international processes southern civil societies realized that it is very important to link up with northern civil societies, researchers and where appropriate also with business communities;
- To create an impact at the national level it is important to cooperate with international organizations such as WHO, UNDP, and other bodies which are developing capacities at the national level
  [further details on www.twnside.org.sg]

The interest of this plenary session lay in the diversity of the panellists. Institutional attaches, means and scale of action, and ideological positions were very different hereby presenting a relatively comprehensive picture of the current world. However, beyond their diversity the panellists pointed to some common problems: among them the difficulty to link different levels of intervention (the local and the global) and the difficulty to link different regions and actors.

Report by Jean Fabien Steck, Paris X-Nanterre, France and Janine Rodgers, Graduate Institute, Geneva

Parallel Sessions

1.1 Multilevel governance and livelihood strategies of migrants

Organised by the EADI Working Group on International Migration

Speakers: Germán A. Zárate-Hoyos, University of New York College, USA; Massimiliano Cali, ODI, UK; Vesselin Mintchev, Bulgaria Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria; Narayanan Nair Krishnan, CDS, Trivandrum, India; Rasha Moh'd Said Amin Istaiteyeh, University of Kassel, Germany

Chair: Beatrice Knerr, University of Kassel, Germany

The following issues were highlighted in the discussion:

- In order to profit from synergy effects, it would be helpful to link remittance flows with appropriate financial sector policies.
- Remittances could serve as a tool for poverty alleviation, but at the same time be a result of economic under-development itself.
- Migration and remittances flows require a multidisciplinary field of research, being influenced by many factors. They might be analyzed separately, but finally linked together.
- Questions about the benefits of sending labour force abroad and later motivate migrants to return home were put forward. This policy could be costly for the government of the migrants' sending country, but might support the country of origin's labour market (brain and skill gain). Reducing transaction costs might help motivate migrants to return.
- Problem could arise when a country has more highly skilled peopled than employment opportunities, and they have no possibility to out-migrate. Participants stressed that this is not relevant for the Sub Sahara African context. "Over training" should be taken as a warning signal for the government to be considered in their policy.
- The case of the Indian state of Kerala demonstrates that religion influences the direction of migration, both through the preferences of migrants as well as through those of employers and policy makers in the (potential) host countries.
- Higher education export raised particular awareness as a new area of research.

Report by Agnes Pohle and Rut Schwitalla, University of Kassel, Germany

1.2 Equity, economics and ecology: New technologies, new threats?

Organised by the Department of Technology and Sustainable Development, University of Twente, The Netherlands

Panellists: Bina Agarwal, Institute of Economic Growth, University of Delhi, India; Lee Stapleton, SPRU, University of Sussex, UK; Eliakimu Zahabu, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania

Chair: Jon Lovett, University of Twente, The Netherlands

The approach in this parallel session was to engage the audience in a more participatory discussion rather than to have three presentations and question and answer session. The three panel members represented different strands of Sustainable Development. Each spoke in turn to propositions on specific themes of sustainable development related to natural resources, technology and participation. The audience was invited to respond as to whether or not they agreed with the propositions and the speakers.

Bina Agarwal spoke to the propositions on participation.

Proposition 1. Participation enables voices of the poor to be heard at the global table.

Proposition 2. Transaction costs of participation are too high and central government control is a more effective way of linking global and local.

Non-participation by the poor is costly but much depends on whether or not participation is nominal. You can have participation for instrumental and intrinsic reasons. An example of the former is that community consent is a requirement for conservation of natural resources, e.g. forests and water. The intrinsic reason is that you should be able to have a voice in decisions that affect you. However, participation does not mean that you can have influence. Social norms can exclude you from participation in groups. Here there is a distinct gender dimension – women's participation in a group can be passive while men's is active.

The audience response was that it was too difficult to generalise. The effectiveness of participation and who is communicating at the global level (state or communities) is context dependent – e.g. in case of disasters governments are quicker to respond. Although there are

examples of good participation by people after the tsunami in Sri Lanka – where their response of giving even small amounts have changed their way of doing things.

In terms of technology selection it depends on the type of technology whether or not communities can make effective decisions: in terms of GMO (in India there are examples of farmers resisting and influencing government – counteracting business) yes; but information technology – government.

Central government managing natural resources does not always mean low transaction costs. For example, in Nepal, community forest management proved a greater burden on poor than the rich who captured the benefits.

We are sometimes naive with our enthusiasm for participation – it does not always produce good results and processes can be highjacked. Participation can be worked on and improved.

But do governments always make the decisions that coincide with the interests of the poor? For example the Zambia government on moral grounds rejected a gift of GMO maize when there were considerable food shortages in the country. What would the decision of hungry people have been?

Participation – for what? Who is in charge? Who has the strongest voice? Often it is the interests and power structures which oppose the interests of the poor. However, if you organise the poor they can take on the rich.

Bina Agrawal concluded this part of the debate by stating that participation holds governments accountable. (More on the typography of participation can be found in a paper by Professor Agarwal on her website (www.binaagarwal.com)

Under the environmental dimension of sustainable development one of the current "hot topics" was selected as the topic for debate: Climate Change. **Elikamu Zahabu** spoke on the propositions related to one of the policy instruments for reducing the impact of climate change: Carbon Markets

Proposition 1. Carbon trading enables communities in the South to benefit from oil dependency of the developed world.

Proposition 2. Carbon trading legitimizes ecological destruction by industrial economies.

Kyoto Protocol is the basis for construction of Carbon trading through which the North as part of its commitment to the Protocol can purchase Carbon credits. Carbon trading should transfer benefits from North to South – gives access to benefits of oil. But does not it legalise ecological destruction by the North? Does not this just allow the North to carry on as usual? At the same time the South has no commitment to limit their GHGs emissions. Forestry & EE projects get support.

The audience felt that only to talk about Carbon trading is too restrictive – there are other aspects such as capping which is a commitment on North – but they do not keep to the cap limit. Capping the level of GHG emissions has opened up the road to nuclear power.

How effective is the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)? What is happening on ground is too skewed to China and little is going on in Africa. There are too many technical difficulties for forestry which is where Africa could benefit. But who is really benefiting? The North is doing the investment and still emitting GHGs and so gets the double benefits!

The third theme related to the role of technology in development. **Lee Stapleton** spoke on the following:

Proposition 1. Technology transfer solves problems such as food security in developing countries.

Proposition 2. Imposition of technologies creates dependency and a flow of resources from poor to rich.

High yield rice developed as part of the Green Revolution substantially reducing the number of people from starving. Why was the Green Revolution necessary when there was a food surplus in the world?

Technology imitation has been contributing to economic growth.

The audience raised the issues of GMOs which are now being linked to solving food security. New pressure from outside on countries to have GMOs. Although there are actors who are moderating this pressure e.g. Greenpeace.

The use of "imposition" in proposition 2 is already a negative connotation – there can be good transfers. Governments in the South can unite and define what they want e.g. renewable energy.

Whether to agree with the proposition depends on the technology and their mechanisms of transfer. Proposition 1 works when the mechanisms are not restrictive.

How to define food security? Defining this is a debate in itself – encompassing access to food/availability/ nutritional value. There are issues not only of technology but also of markets/actors/climate change/ vulnerability/resilience.

In the past states were the central actor – but this has changed – now companies play a bigger role. However, we don't seem to have learned the lessons of history. When Rockefeller/Ford brought new seeds to the South they also brought American farming methods.

Technology is only part of the problem. North is dominant in social construction of technology. How can the South influence this and contribute? Research needs investment – where can this come from in constrained government budgets?

It is not where the research takes place that matters but the type of research that's carried out. Agriculture and health have been neglected. The institutions that support technology development (e.g. for repair or quality control) need to be in place as well as those doing the research. For example, how can we stabilise CO2? Technological solutions are available – but it is the institutional issues that have to be addressed.

Report: Joy Clancy,
University of Twente, The Netherlands

1.3 Recognising multiple knowledges for better governance and sustainable development: Conceptual and methodological challenges

Organisers: EADI/IKM Programme

Speakers: Valerie Brown, Australian National University, Australia; Kingo Mchombu, University of Namibia, Namibia; Wangui Wa Goro, Kenya; Martha Chinouya, London Metropolitan University, UK

Chair: Cees Hamelink, Amsterdam University, The Netherlands

If development is about change, how can real change which involves a whole community be brought about? **Valerie Brown** used an analysis of the types of knowledge brought to bear on the dynamics of a community and how the relationship between these knowledges can lead to either inertia or development. Using it as an example of the diversity of knowledges which exist in all the many communities with which the Local Sustainability Project of the Australian National University has worked, she told the story of a change process in the community which hosts the world's largest lead smelter. The starting point was one of heavy pollution and ill health, masked by anxiety about the impact of any change on employment. Individuals, the community, the mine company, the town council and local professionals, such as doctors, all looked at reality from their own set perspective, neither engaging with the problem or with the perspectives of the others. The change process started as a worried grandparent, related to a local trade union official, changed the focus of attention from employment to child health. Gradually the various knowledges – the individual, communal, organisational and specialist – moved out of their protective silos to communicate with each other on joint solutions to what came to be seen as a joint problem. "How", Valerie Brown concluded by asking the audience, "do you address the multiple knowledges in your own community? Who wins? Who loses? Whose truth prevails?"

Kingo Mchombu, in a video produced by the Interactive multimedia Studio of the University of Namibia, discussed very similar issues in the context of Namibia, its development and its national goal of becoming a knowledge society. He explained the diversity of knowledges in Namibia in relation to their historic antagonisms during the brutal years first of German colonialism and then rule by apartheid South Africa. How can these competing knowledges, with their legacies of very different socio-economic realities for different sections of the community become a shared resource for national development? He reported on research in slum neighbourhoods in Windhoek, which found very low levels of confidence and belief in the value of their own knowledge amongst poor people and contrasted these findings both with the requirement for inclusivity found in the relevant development and knowledge management literature and in national policies for development. Thus, sharing knowledges, harnessing all competing knowledges in the service of an inclusive, knowledge-based national development is both a pre-condition of success and a real challenge for knowledge management. Professor Mchombu ended by outlining ideas for a research programme, based on a participatory research process, in which the University of Namibia could work in partnership with the relevant ministries to seek to improve their joint understanding of the process and how to manage it.

Wangui Wa Goro and **Marthe Chinouya** then offered a conversation, which aimed to explore the connections between their seemingly different areas of work, and how these connections were made. Martha Chinouya is a sociologist who has specialised in working with families affected by HIV. Wangui Wa Goro is both a sociologist and a renowned literary translator who has come to focus on the importance of translation, in its widest sense, to the communication of ideas and culture and hence to political and social change. Thus her interest in Martha Chinouya's work was far less in its research content but in the process whereby her research is planned through conversations with the communities she intends to research and the results, as well as being written up in academic format, are fed back and used by the communities concerned. The conversation mapped their discovery of relevance in each other's work as well as looking in some detail at the approaches of accountability and translation used

by Martha Chinouya. Her successful involvement of a Zimbabwean community in the UK, with whom she had conducted research on behalf of the National Health Service, to translate, interpret in dramatic form and then send back by video her findings to the researched communities in Manicaland, Zimbabwe, at a time when further travel there was difficult, was particularly inspiring.

As such the presentations and much of the subsequent discussion with the audience, returned to questions which the audience had been asked to discuss briefly at the outset. Is development research set up to be accountable to the people whose lives are researched and to the development processes with which they are engaged? Is work to translate development research into research for development valued in the premier research institutes, who seem to esteem themselves – and often be measured by others – in terms of their academic output? Three young researchers approached speakers afterwards to confirm that these were dilemmas they faced as they tried to link their professional practice to the visions of development which had originally inspired them.

The challenge seems therefore to be twofold. There is a need to further explore the role and interplay of multiple knowledges in the context of development. It is equally important that such exploration is done in a way that reinforces the links between reflection and practice. If better understanding of multiple knowledges is to improve development policy making and practice, new and creative approaches to expressing, interpreting and, above all, using them are essential. For this reason, this IKM Emergent parallel sessions represents only 'Work in Progress'.

IKM Emergent Director **Mike Powell** had opened the session with a series of projects illustrating emerging methods to reflect on Information and knowledge for development. These ranged from land use planning using 3D models (www.ipad.org) through videos of policy opinion (http://euforic.blip.tv) to animated representations of statistics (www.gapminder.org).

Report by the organisers

1.4 Global governance, SADC and liberation movements as governments in Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe

Organized jointly by the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation and the University of Bologna, Italy

Speakers: Henning Melber, Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation, Uppsala, Sweden; Ian Phimister, University of Sheffield, UK; Arrigo Pallotti, University of Bologna, Italy

Chair: Mario Zamponi, University of Bologna

The session took place on the day the run-off election was held in Zimbabwe despite international protests and appeals, including from the SADC organ on security, to postpone the second round of presidential election after Morgan Tsvangirai had pulled out due to the wave of repression. Hence, Zimbabwe's ongoing crisis was a focal point of the debate, but appraised in the overall context of the structural legacies in the Southern African sub-region, particularly that of former settler societies.

A first presentation by **Henning Melber** highlighted the process "from controlled change to changed control" in the case of Namibia, where global governance in the form of United Nations involvement in the decolonization process that led to Independence in 1990 was a unique case of "trust betrayed" dating back to the mandate system of the League of Nations. While external constraints and constitutional principles adopted reduced the autonomy of the new government in terms of initiating profound social transformation for the benefit of the formerly colonized majority, the limited space was used for a class-based project rooted in continued structural inequality. The end result was a new political elite with access to the country's public wealth for the sake of self-enrichment schemes. The lack of delivery eroded over time the political legitimacy of the new government and its liberation gospel. In turn, an increasingly populist rhetoric seeks to regain the credibility. But there is a biological expiry date to the effectiveness of the liberation narrative, since a growing number of new voters have been born after Independence. This will increase the pressure further. A recent shift in Namibia's external relations might be the indicator of a new positioning: the Nordic countries, who were among the first Western supporters of the liberation struggle in Southern Africa, have all reduced their diplomatic presence and ties – none of them are represented at the ambassadorial level any longer. At the same time, friendly relations have been strengthened with countries like China and North Korea. The final question raised is whether the United Nations' approach to stop involvement in Namibia's Independence Day is a sign of benign neglect or of necessary respect for national sovereignty at Independence. Clearly, the democratic notion has not been fully implemented and remains "work in progress".

Ian Phimister presented the case of Zimbabwe and its escalating crisis since 2000 in a historical context. He reminded the audience that already during the early 1980s with the atrocities committed by the Fifth Brigade under direct command of Mugabe the writing was on the wall, when an estimated 20,000 people were murdered in indiscriminate acts of mass violence bordering to genocide. The Operation "clean up" 20 years later displayed continuity in such a mindset, which showed no respect for the ordinary people suffering under the regime of ZANY/PF, which by then had lost all legitimacy among the majority of people. It is estimated that close to three million people are currently living as refugees outside Zimbabwe, with most of the educated middle class amongst them. The so-called fast track land reform displaced landless rural people even further and privileged the tiny elite among political office bearers and securocrats in the army and police. Phimister pointed to the noteworthy fact that despite the crisis Zimbabwe is anything but a failed state: sections of the (hard currency) economy run by local and South(ern) African capital in collaboration with international (European and US-based) transnational companies do function and prosper. Similar to the Namibian case, Zimbabwe shows that the authoritarian character bred in midst of the anti-colonial struggle is not very suitable for transformation into democracy but resembles very much the same oppressive mindset fought against under colonial minority rule. Violence and election rigging have been an integral part of post-colonial Zimbabwe's social and political realities ever since Independence. A victory of Tsvangirai at the ballot box would only result in another "chimurenga" (war), as under the militarized state ZANU Mugabe would not abandon power. Western criticism remained largely verbal and very little action if any follows and recent efforts to raise African concerns have had little effect. So far, it had been words without action.

In the third and final presentation, **Arrigo Pallotti** was seeking to explain the passivity of SADC in terms of the political challenges posed by the Zimbabwe regime and the reluctance to interfere. Democracy, good governance and development are part of SADC's mandate, but already in the mid-1990s the security organ of the sub-regional body was paralyzed by the conflict between Zimbabwe (refusing to vacate the chair) and South Africa. The differences in SADC over the intervention in the Democratic Republic of Congo shortly afterwards contributed to a further estrangement on security matters among the SADC members. Since the regional body was mainly perceived as a vehicle for trade and economic competition, the latter weakened policy commitments and positions on good governance. The reluctance to interfere in internal matters of member states was also a result of the established intimate links between the erstwhile liberation movements now executing power as governments. Other reasons for the non-interference included SADC's strategy to promote Zimbabwe's economic stabilization by means of dialogue, a resistance to external interference (mainly from the West), political divisions among the member states, a clash of political and economic issues and the fear to be criticized by national constituencies if not backing Mugabe, who had a lot of populist support especially for his land policy, with his anti-imperialist discourse. Since it came into existence SADC had not played any constructive role in overcoming the structural legacies and, as a regional project, continues to display a democratic deficit in both the political and the social spheres.

The **discussion** touched upon a comparison with other societies, where governments came from a background of warfare against illegitimate rule (such as in Vietnam). It was noted that such comparisons with the view to identifying similarities and differences in trajectories could be a valuable research endeavour. It might also be worthwhile to gather more insights into the similarities and differences with other countries in the region (such as Botswana, Zambia and Tanzania), which had no track record of armed anti-colonial resistance prior to Independence. Another set of issues were related to the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), originally welcomed as a promising prospect for enhancing democracy and human rights. In the meantime, sobering experiences have frustrated the expectations originally created.

Report by Henning Melber,
Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation, Uppsala, Sweden

2.1 European Development Cooperation to 2020: Emerging issues for Europe's development policy-making

Organiser: EADI Secretariat, Bonn, Germany

Speakers: Sven Grimm, German Development Institute, Germany; John Humphrey, Institute of Development Studies, UK; Garth le Pere, Institute for Global Dialogue, South Africa

Chair: Nadarajah Shanmugaratnam, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway

Nadarajah Shanmugaratnam opened the parallel session by commenting on the background of the EDC2020 project. He highlighted some of the challenges posed by the European structure such as the growing number of new member states in the European Union resulting in an increased diversity of member state policies. But the global South is also highly differentiated and undergoing dynamic processes in many countries. Emerging powers such as China, India and Brazil implement their own development cooperation; in many states governance failure can be observed and underdevelopment has not been overcome yet. Therefore, the questions "How to address development issues in the new complex environment" and "Which issues have to be addressed in development cooperation or international relations" remain crucial.

EDC2020 project identified three main emerging issues for European development cooperation:

- New actors in international cooperation
- Energy security, democracy and development
- Climate change and development

Sven Grimm gave a short overview of the issues and aims of the project "European Development Cooperation to 2020". In three work packages on the above mentioned emerging issues, the three-year project aims at identifying which trends on the agenda for the next decade will impact on development cooperation. He referred to Charles Gore's presentation in Plenary Session II "Can Economic Growth Be Reconciled with Sustainable Development? On Knife-Edge between Climate Change and Millennium Development Goals" who had identified the same topics in his presentation. Sven Grimm stressed that various dates in the next years (e.g. 2015 for the MDGs) will force us to assess our work and to see whether we failed or were successful. The project intends to provide inputs for those different scenarios. Issues, opportunities and risks of development cooperation will be analysed and policy advice will be given at a time when a number of reforms are pending on the European level and the future of the Lisbon Treaty is uncertain. The aid architecture is facing challenges with regard to the division of labour when new actors emerge on the international scene.

John Humphrey presented some thoughts about new actors in international cooperation (i.e. on one of the work packages). Within the range of new actors (new EU members, countries in the Middle East, Latin America and parts of Asia) he focused on China and India and stressed the point that they are not new in a literal sense, but the interest in their politics is new and growing. China who is widely criticized for not pledging to DAC criteria on governance only accounts for 10% of trade with Africa. If taking the EU member states together the Union and the United States are still by far the biggest partners of Africa. Moreover, with regard to the exploitation of resources, China exports far less than the US. Hence, John Humphrey stressed that China's commitment in Africa is less outstanding than widely assumed. Two particular issues are of interest to development cooperation:

- There may be lessons that we, Europeans, want to learn from Chinese projects and their poverty reduction policies
- Chinese politics are most relevant to the production of public goods like climate protection, equity or security.

The challenge which Europeans will have to address is the way in which China and India structure their development cooperation. They raise questions for EU policies as they do not split aid from trade, investments and other policy areas. For Europe this raises the question: How do European development ministries link to ministries for international relations or trade?

Garth Le Pere depicted some important trends on the global scene that, according to him, should be taken into account by the EDC2020 project.

- The increase in global population
- Global food scarcity
- Global economy and globalisation
- Tensions between national and global governance

He stressed that little if any progress has been made on the framework for global warming, in reaching MDGs and the threat of a nuclear catastrophe. The systemic order is in a weak state after the end of the cold war:

- The values of the UN system have been contested
- The future of the EU is unclear
- WTO faces the divide in the DOHA round.

During the **discussion** various questions were raised and constructive feedback on the project was given.

Aid should not be separated from international relations and thus development cooperation should form part of a broader agenda. The sole focus on aid might well have contributed to the poisoning of relationships between many countries. Hence, the EU-Africa strategy also states that the EU envisages a broader partnership that goes beyond the mere aid relationship.

However, the complexity of a broader approach – the whole of international cooperation set together by many different issues – is one of the main challenges of the project. Due to budgetary restrictions, a choice of which issues to focus on had to be made by the consortium and other important issues like security or global governance cannot be addressed in detail.

The project seeks to build scenarios on project issues and provide inputs for policymaking. Therefore, its focus is on the question: How will a global Europe look like in 2020?.

The remark was made that so far comparative research is lacking. Therefore, it could be of interest to compare China and India to the EU and the US, as policy-makers are under the impression that China and India have a very big influence. Comparative data could give us a framework to estimate their impact and importance.

It was stated that one of the problem might be that, until recently, Europe did not see China and India as actors in competition with European policies. Now, the EU needs to define a new global strategy to meet the recent developments.

On the other hand, it was emphasized that the threat perception of China as an international actor was widely exaggerated. One should note that besides following its own interests China has provided some valuable inputs to Africa among others in the area of telecommunications and infrastructure. Chinese engagement allows African leaders to choose more freely what fits into their own national policies. However, it was stated that China would have to rethink its policy of non-interference.

An interesting comment made stated that the EU is not a monolithic actor as it is often assumed, but is made up of different member states. Therefore, it is less monolithic than for example China or the US and it is also less threatening to partner countries.

China is currently studying European aid projects to avoid the errors we made in the past. Evaluation of aid project have shown that private projects work better than projects financed by governments.

By contrast, the EU should study structural aspects of China and India: How could these still poor countries become powerful and what do their poverty reduction strategies look like?

It was emphasized that the EDC2020 project gives a great value to policy oriented products. A website www.edc2020.eu gives information on project outcomes and activities, provides a regular e-newsletter and free download of project publications. Furthermore longer working papers describing the project research and its outcomes, shorter policy briefs and briefing papers provide policy-makers with policy advice and research summaries.

Finally, two other important initiatives were highlighted by participants: (i) a project of the China Agriculture University "Red Rise and the Black Fall" which analyses agricultural politics in China and could give some input on how they would work in Africa, (ii) a new "China Poverty Centre", funded by UNDP and the Chinese government, that reflects the successes and mistakes of Chinese policies.

Report by Charlotta Heck,
EADI Secretariat, Bonn, Germany

2.2 Migration and development: Policy coherence and effective partnerships

Organiser: OECD Development Centre

Speakers: Denis Drechsler, OECD Development Centre, France;
Bachir Hamdouch, Institut national de la statistique et de l'économie appliquée (INSEA), Rabat, Morocco;
Binod Khadria, Jawaharlal Nerhu University, India

Chair: Ibrahim Awad, International Labour Office, Switzerland

Highlights arising from the discussion:

- For measuring development it is important to choose a set of indicators. They could include remittances (most visible), knowledge transfer and labour market imbalances.
- Most remittances are sent by workers in low-skilled jobs. They contribute to the reduction of poverty in the countries of origin.
- "Brain drain" and "brain gain" are not clearly defined and are subject to controversial discussions.
- There is no agreement on the impacts of migration on development.
- Because of the lack of a social security system people often do not want to return to their country of origin.
- There are different definitions of highly skilled, skilled and unskilled workers. The indicators used are, for example, the educational level or the profession.
- Highly skilled education does not automatically lead to development. It might even imply a certain level of labour market imbalance.
- International migration flows are more and more difficult to measure, due, in particular, to the increase in temporary and circular migration.
- The EU migration policy is becoming in part more restrictive. Because there is a need for highly skilled labour, several initiatives have been launched to facilitate the immigration of this group. But, in contrast, the immigration of unskilled labour tends to become more difficult.
- The competition between the U.S. and the EU for highly skilled migrants influences their immigration policies.
- Presentations and discussions of the session focused on remittances flows. Related questions of interest were the influence of Diaspora networks and the social costs of migration.
- The international community is requested to take over responsibility for creating employment and implementing development policies. Destination countries and migrants' countries of origin should cooperate to achieve positive results for those involved.
- It should be taken into account that migration has long-term implications.

Report by Agnes Pohle and Rut Schwitalla, Kassel University, Germany

2.3 Global governance and sustainable development in the Middle East

Organiser: Martin Hvidt, University of Southern Denmark

Speakers: Gerd Nonneman, Exeter University, UK; Waleed Khalil Zubari, Arabian Gulf University, Bahrain;
Martin Hvidt, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark

Chair: Martin Hvidt, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark

Gerd Nonneman's presentation, *Governance and political sustainability*, focused on the political aspects of global governance. So far the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region have only hold a relatively modest place in global go0vernance system, due to characteristics of the individual states. Among them are the absence of political middle class in those countries, the lack of institutional legitimacy, the regime policy choices taken etc. He divided the MENA states into two broad categories; the Gulf states plus Morocco and Jordan, and the 'rest'.

The 'rest' is characterized by a significant lack of political reforms, and it was pointed out that political reform was very unlikely because the role of the state is very much perceived as an autocracy. Thus reforms would erode the credibility of such states. Second, these states have been good at resisting the pressure from e.g. international donor organizations or financial institutions to enact reforms.

The Gulf states (including Morocco and Jordan) have undertaken political reforms which through gradual changes would lead to political sustainability in the long run. Bahrain might be the only exception to this general picture.

Waleed Khalil Zubari's presentation focused on *GCC environmental issues and future development scenarios*. He first pointed out the five priority issues within the GCC environmental policy:

- Water Scarcity & Quality;
- Land Degradation & Desertification;
- Degradation of Coastal & Marine Environment;
- Management of Urban Environment;
- Peace, Security & the Environment.

He then explained and analyzed four possible scenarios to deal with these issues. The scenarios were called: the market forces scenario, the policy reform scenario, the security scenario and the sustainability scenario.

He concluded the presentation by highlighting that the most important choices affecting the environment in the future are not necessarily environmental sector choices (environmental sustainability will rely on the adopted development paradigm) and that environmental management policies need to be mainstreamed into the national socio-economic development planning (it should not be compartmentalized). As a result the key issues for the GCC states in order to secure sustainability are: i) investment in human resources development, ii) governance improvement, iii) investment in R&D to solve societal problems and iv) regional integration and cooperation.

Martin Hvidt's presentation focused on *Economic sustainability in a globalized world*. The aim of his paper was to analyze the economic sustainability of the states in the MENA region as an outcome of their previous and current policies. He provided an overview of the traditional type of economic policies (1960-1999) and the new type (after 2000). The former type was characterized by significant state intervention and had led to very disappointing economic results. Due to the sharp increase in the population of most states, the economic performance during this period had not been enough to raise or even keep pace with population growth.

New economic policies have been introduced as a result of the bad performance of the economies and have, in a number of countries, actually led to significant reforms. Sharp rises in the level of FDI to the region was found to be a consequence of this policy shift. The presentation ended with a discussion of the sustainability of the economic model applied in the Gulf countries. Questions related to the expatriate workforce, the real estate sector and the depth of the reforms were raised.

Report by Martin Hvidt,
University of Southern Denmark

2.4 Governing the gift of nature: The links between governance, conflict and natural resources

Organiser: Bonn International Centre for Conversion (BICC), Germany

Speakers: Anneke Galama, Fatal Transactions, the Netherlands Institute for Southern Africa (NiZA), Amsterdam; Morten Boas, Fafo – Institute for Applied International Studies. Oslo, Norway; Ayodeji Olukoju, University of Lagos, Nigeria; Joloien Schure, Bonn International Centre for Conversion (BICC), Germany

Chair: Wolf Christian Paes, Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC) introduced the speakers

Resource governance, conflict and campaigning were the key issues discussed. **Jolien Schure** started off with a presentation on her research on the link between resource governance and conflict. She explained the theoretical discussion on the so-called 'resource trap', referring to the theory that if a country is depended on natural resources for its income, it will be more vulnerable to civil war. Recent studies show that there are more factors contributing to the possibility of violent conflict, namely the role of the governments and how they manage the resource revenues. The hypothesis was that a high resource governance, which can be defined as "the way in which governments regulate and manage the use of natural and revenues deriving from those resources and the redistribution of costs resources", leads to long-lasting peace. From this starting point, BICC studied the role of governance with regard to resource revenues, in order to see if high governance led to increased stability and long-lasting peace. The research results show that there is a correlation between these two variables: High resource governance leads to low intensity, and a reduced chance, of violent conflict and a redistribution of resource wealth is a necessary (though not sufficient) condition for peaceful and sustainable development. More information can be found on:
http://www.resource-conflict-monitor.org

Professor Ayodeji Olukoju presented his case study on the Niger Delta in Nigeria where oil and gas form the backbone of the Nigerian economy. In his presentation, he gave a historical overview of the Niger delta, the link between natural resources and politics. According to Professor Olukoju, resource management has shaped the political landscape of Nigeria since the countries' independence, resulting in a wealthy elite supported by oil companies playing the ethnic card in local and national politics. This led to agitation amongst minority groups who felt that they were not only marginalized in politics but also denied the

revenue from oil and gas present on their own land. The production of oil and gas led to environmental degradation and injustice amongst the local population (such as the Ogoni people) who stood up against the government and the major oil corporations.

In the last decade, the Niger delta saw an increased militarization, even after the return to democratic rule. This resulted in a growing militancy amongst ethnic groups. According to Olukoju, the root causes of the support for the militant groups can be found in the high unemployment rates, high poverty, a growing perception of deliberate marginalization of ethnic groups in the Delta by the Nigerian state, and discriminatory employment practices against indigenous people by the oil firms. This led to the rise of militant groups such as the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) who attack oil stations and kidnap politicians and personnel working at major oil companies.

He argued that in order to solve the problem with the government and resource control, both a more decentralized form of Nigerian federalism and the fight against the high level of youth unemployment is necessary. The state needs to tackle the poor state of social infrastructure, providing better education and health care with the oil revenues, and reduce the militarization of the Niger delta.

Morten Boas approached the resource-conflict issue as well, but from an agricultural perspective. His presentation, *A bitter harvest: Cocoa and identity in the Ivory Coast conflict*, focused on the role of labour migration, and identity which arose from the growth of the cocoa sector and how this affected the relation between the local populations and the 'strangers', i.e. people who migrated to the south were most of the cocoa plantations are located. Cocoa is seen as the blood of the country, since Ivory Coast is the world's largest cocoa producing country, which results in more than US $1.4 billion in export revenues and creates jobs for over four million of the 17 million citizens. Although there is a persistent image that most of the cocoa is grown on large plantations, the reality is that cocoa is mostly cultivated by small scale farmers.

Economic opportunities in the cultivation of cocoa led to an increase in migration from the north to the fertile south where most of the plantations are located. The local populations welcomed the workers, and established a patronage system whereby the 'stranger' gets certain rights on land in exchange for gifts, labour and money with which he expresses his gratitude towards his 'patron'. This system worked well in the beginning, but, in the last decades, as land became scarce in Ivory Coast tensions started to rise that led to increased hostilities between the local populations and the 'strangers'. Boas explained that we need to become aware of and understand the discourses used by both local and national elites, who are using the migration and different identities issues in their political language to divide and conquer.

After the presentations of the academics and researchers, **Anneke Galama** from the Fatal Transactions Campaign (FT) stressed the need for more collaboration and cooperation between researchers and campaigners. FT is an umbrella organization of European and African NGOs, who initially started campaigning against the so-called 'blood diamonds', diamonds which were sold to fund wars in West-Africa. Fatal Transactions assisted in pushing forward the international agenda to establish a certificate for diamonds, so that blood diamonds could be filtered out, and put pressure on diamond companies to improve the working conditions for their labourers (see Kimberley Process at http://www.kimberleyprocess.com/).

The campaign strategy pursued by FT is to make the European public aware of the presence of natural resources from conflict regions in consumer goods (laptops, mobile phones) and to lobby for policy change. Although sound research is needed to form the basis of the campaign, Galama pointed out that this may not be an excuse to delay necessary action with the argument that reality is "too complex and therefore further research is needed".

In the **question and answer session** that followed, participants asked about the methodology of the research, the concept of resource governance and root causes of conflict. Important observations were that natural resources can be approached as an economic asset financing the conflict, but also from an environmental viewpoint by looking into the many cases where scarcity of resources such as water and or land may trigger conflicts. Many related issues of resource governance were discussed. An important suggestion made was to step out of the conceptualization and look into 'who actually governs'. The position of vulnerable people and their rights to access resources on a local level was found to be one of the major concerns. The discussion then changed to the outcome of campaigning. What can consumers actually do with the information and are the alternatives realistic? The FT team acknowledged that there are no clear-cut solutions but campaigns such as FT and events like the EADI conference are the beginning of a changed attitude towards resource governance and the responsibilities of Western companies and consumers.

Report from the BICC

Workshops, Roundtables, Mini-Symposium

Rethinking poverty reduction strategies: The role of social policy

Organiser: United Nations Research Institute on Social Development (UNRISD), Switzerland

The speakers were all UNRISD staff members:

Yusuf Bangura, Naren Prasad, Katja Hujo, Shahra Razavi, Terence Gomez

The workshop concentrated on the legitimate role of the state in social policy, particularly for poverty reduction.

Although poverty reduction is currently high on the agenda of international development, many countries will be unable to make meaningful dents in their poverty figures. Critics affirm that the deflationary adjustment model that gained prominence in the 1980s still imposes constraints on the types of anti-poverty strategies that countries can adopt. Moreover, lessons have not been drawn from the experiences of late industrializers that have been successful in reducing poverty in very short periods. These countries did not focus on poverty reduction in particular, but on long-term processes of structural transformation that included employment expansion and/or the pursuit of universalist social policies.

The experience of the now developed countries demonstrates the critical role of social transfers for reducing poverty, where social-democratic models have been the most successful at doing so. Yet, the role of social protection goes beyond risk management and poverty reduction. A broad approach takes into account that social policy has the potential to contribute to economic development, (gender-) equality and equity, democratization and political legitimation, as well as social cohesion. Social policy is concerned with redistribution, production, reproduction and protection and works in tandem with economic policy in pursuit of national, social and economic goals. Indeed, UNRISD research shows that for social polices to be inclusive and equitable, the various roles of social policy must be equally represented in a national social policy strategy. In particular, pursuit of the productive and protective objectives of social policy should not come at the expense of the redistributive or reproductive ones.

The following topics were presented and discussed at the workshop:

1. **Yusuf Bangura:** Poverty reduction and policy regimes
2. **Naren Prasad:** Pro-poor provision of social services
3. **Katja Hujo:** Social protection and poverty reduction
4. **Shahra Razavi:** The gender dynamics of labour markets and unpaid care: implications for poverty reduction
5. **Terence Gomez:** Targeting horizontal inequalities? Affirmative action, identity and conflict

Related web-links:

UNRISD Poverty project:
www.unrisd.org/research/poverty

Social Policy Programme:
www.unrisd.org/research/socialpolicy and
www.unrisd.org/research/spd

Report by Katja Hujo

Showcasing information and knowledge services

Organiser: Euforic and the EADI Working Group on Information Management

The workshop hosted 12 speakers. Facing the impossible task of reflecting on every single service presented, some red lines from the discussion should be highlighted.

As **Cheryl Brown** and **Alan Stanley** from the IDS Information Services put forward, we have a twofold problem nowadays: On the one hand, you may not be able to get hold of the information you need. On the other hand, there is too much information, but not enough time to read it. Accordingly, we can distinguish two underlying purposes within the diverse collection of services presented. In order to tackle the lack of access to relevant information, some services see their main aim in collecting relevant knowledge and making it accessible to the target group. **Chris Addison** presented R4D, a portal initiated by CABI, where information on DFID funded projects is disseminated with the help of email alerts, RSS feeds and collects feedback on research through a blog and video interviews. Newsfordev, the recently launched CTA portal presented by **Kevin Painting**, strives to facilitate access to development information news, especially on agriculture and rural development. This is available through RSS sources organized in thematic dossiers and keyword searches. **Susanne von Itter** presented El@nd, which aims to enhance the visibility of libraries specialising in development issues in the EADI network. Eland collects and selects resources screened by librarians, to improve information finding for researchers

and students. The Hinari Programme from the WHO library was presented by **Kimberley Parker**. Hinari provides free or very low-cost online access to journals in biomedical and related social sciences to nonprofit institutions in 108 developing countries. Representing the second approach to tackle the problem of information overload, **Fani Kakridi** underlined the editing and commenting focus of InfoResources, an initiative at the University of Berne. To reduce the information available, they carefully choose, and comment only on the most important sources on natural resources and international cooperation issues. **Alan Stanley** and **Cheryl Brown** very much underlined the enourmous effort and time of the IDS Knowledge Services allocated to selecting, synthesizing and filtering the information. Editing decisions are crucial to structure information.

A re-emerging issue in the presentations was language. Providing information services was by many identified as a challenge for the future. **Wilma Roem** from ILEIA explained how they produce the LEISA magazine and the network portal on sustainable smallholder agriculture in more than five languages. Colleagues in, among others, China, Latin America, Brazil and West Africa produce regional versions of the magazine and the internet portal, and provide experience-based information for small farmers adjusted to the need of the particular region.

Knowledge and information sharing appeared as a trend throughout the presentations. The Focuss.Info initiative from ISS (Institute of Social Studies), presented by **Richard Lalleman**, is a good example of this approach. Focuss.Info is a collaborative platform of peers to share and store regional, national and international knowledge from valuable electronic resources, brought together through social bookmarking. The EADI Portal and Research Monitor, presented by **Can Akdeniz**, improves access to development research and enhances information sharing between the EADI members through the portal and email alerts, RSS feeds and newsletters.

Another tendency seems to be that services aim to be much closer to the target group. **Maarten Boers** from ICCO introduced ComPart Flowers, a set of interactive web 2.0 tools to support Communication with Partners. According to the individual needs, partners in the South and North can choose their set of tools to better share information and communicate amongst each other and with other regional offices and donors. ReliefWeb, as presented by **Eva Vognild**, operates from five offices around the word to ensure 24/7 news on natural disasters and humanitarian crisis. Through this proximity to the target group and the dissemination of reliable information amongst the stakeholders, ReliefWeb aims to strengthen the response capacity of the international humanitarian community.

Many speakers identified interactivity as a key challenge for the future. The KIT portals, presented by **Wiebe de Boer**, are thematic portals with different search options to provide access to free internet sources. For the future, the KIT portals aim to raise the level of interactivity, to ensure feedback and input from users. After having learnt and discussed 12 different ways to provide information and knowledge services, an interesting reflection popped up: Is the large number of initiatives a good thing, or are they overlapping? Is there too much diversity, can there ever be too much diversity?

Report by Birthe Paul, Euforic

Planning for the future and managing change in research institutes and think-tanks

Organiser: Simon Maxwell, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), UK

The first day of the conference was dedicated to a workshop of directors of European development institutes debating change in their institutions. This refers to the trend to merge institutes of development studies with institutes of international development to global studies, as well as the changing demands on development researchers: there is more and more requirement to produce policy-relevant outputs, rather than academic publications. However, on the other hand the academic review system still evaluates researchers based on their output in peer-reviewed journals. Different approaches of different institutes to deal with this have been presented. Institutes need to provide both training and incentives for researchers to act as policy advisors at the same time as producing publications for peer-reviewed journals – if this is the way to go, or if this is possible at all, has not found agreement among all participants, and there are both diverging views and strategies to deal with this trade-off. To me, two observations were particularly relevant for KEF: there is a huge heterogeneity among European development research institutes, and what is true for some is not true for others. This refers to both our different academic traditions, as well as to our histories in development studies, and the way we have been cooperating with partners. Not even mentioning the huge differences in institutional and political support and the money resulting from this…

Report by Birgit Habermann,
Commission for Development Studies at the Austrian Academy of Sciences

Workshops, Roundtables, Mini-Symposium

Asymmetries in North-South research partnerships

Organisers: Amsterdam Institute for Metropolitan and International Development Studies (AMIDSt), The Netherlands; Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM), Norway; Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Genève, Switzerland; Centre of African Studies (CAS), UK

Panellists: Desmond McNeill, Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM), Norway
Louk de la Rive Box, Institute of Social Studies (ISS), The Hague, The Netherlands
Claudia Zingerli and H. Andrés Uzeda V.A, University of Zurich, Switzerland
Barbara Becker and Lucien Diby, ETH Zurich/Swiss Centre for Scientific Research, Switzerland/Ivory Coast

Chair: Isa Baud, AMIDSt, The Netherlands

Desmond McNeill

How symmetrical are N/S research partnerships, in terms of what they put in – time, money, expertise – and what they get out? This is an issue of relevance for many EADI members, and a subject for discussion with EADIs sister organisations in the South – the ICCDA 'network of networks'.

McNeill took the experience of GDN as a starting point: the Global Development Network initiated by the World Bank ten years ago and now spun off as an independent organisation based in Delhi. More specifically, two issues which were controversial.

'Global knowledge': a term used in some of the GDN conferences: what does it mean? If not the totality of all knowledge, it must imply an 'essence', distilled by someone according to some criteria. Who decides what is the best, or the most important, or what? Is it people in the North or the South? Academics or policy-makers? Researchers or those funding research? Proponents of 'hard' or 'soft' disciplines? The selection of what constitutes global knowledge is a question of power.

Networks and hubs: How does one organise research collaboration? The idea of a network is very popular, but such networks normally require a hub, or hubs. Who creates and maintains the hub? In the case of GDN the criticism was made that the World Bank selected the regional hubs, in a way that was undemocratic and favoured economic research centres. And the relationship between the regional hubs and the World Bank could also be seen as asymmetric. Again, issues of power cannot be avoided.

These issues also face EADI as an organisation, in collaborating with its sister organsations; and EADI members in collaborating with researchers in the South. Power relates not only to control over funds, but also over research priorities and project design, and over journals and journal rankings. But the situation is complicated: 'the North in the South' – e.g. Southern research institutions funded and partly staffed from the North; and 'the South in the North' – senior researchers and doctoral students from the South, working or studying in the North. Our hope is to use this roundtable as the start of an open and honest discussion of this challenging topic.

Louk de la Rive Box

He summarised experience from the Netherlands on research partnerships, with alternatives ranging from the earlier 'supply-driven' model, where Dutch researchers, and especially a small number of well-established research institutes, exercised considerable power over who and what received funding, to the opposite extreme – an experiment initiated by Dutch Minister of Development Jan van Pronk – which was not only 'demand-driven', but driven by the priorities of local 'users' (eg NGOs) in the countries concerned. With this latter model, researchers in the Netherlands were almost entirely excluded. The most successful model was, in his view, an intermediate one; he described his good experience with this model in India – which had been extremely productive for both parties. But he stressed that such a partnership could succeed only if based on assured, long-term funding and criticised the recent and sudden cutting off of this partnership. (The Indian partner was in the audience and supplemented these comments during discussion).

He noted the dangers that arise from quick and excessive funding that expects rapid results. He cited an example of PhD students in Mozambique expecting to be paid 50,000 euros to produce an academic article; and asserted that the higher the external funding the greater the opportunism on both sides. The greater the asymmetry, the less the benefits – he concluded.

Claudia Zingerli and H. Andres Uzeda

This paper is on the CD-rom. In brief: the presenter (Claudia Zingerli) explained that she was wearing two hats – both working in a partnership and researching it. Development studies is concerned with unequal access to resources – a reality which is also played out in our own work, as here. Which forms of knowledge are valued? Social studies of science can be informative for researching such questions. Funding agencies have made it an obligation to do research in partnerships and there exist numerous guidelines. Science policy

frameworks often measure performance but not process. Long term programmes are still rather rare. The challenges of crossing disciplnes, boundaries, cultures, identities, are not often addressed explicitly. Success will contine to be the exception rather than the rule. At the individual level, research partnerships are very demanding but very rewarding.

Barbara Becker and **Lucien Diby**

The two researchers, both natural scientists, presented a specific case in which they had been involved, in West Africa (Ivory Coast). Introducing the background to the case, Becker noted that research in sub-Saharan Africa is grossly underfunded: the total budget for 43 countries is only three times the budget of one Swiss university. She noted that KFPE had produced guidelines (11 principles for research partnership) ten years ago, and that these were still valid. Presenting the case, Diby described the form of collaboration – which involved both a national university and a regional agricultural research centre – relating to the research (on yams and nutrition). Lessons learned included the importance of long-term vision, harmonization of research priorities, reinforcement of research infrastructure, and contribution of South countries to research funding.

Discussion

There was time for some discussion, which ranged widely. Some extracts:

- There is a 'Dutch Disease' afflicting research in the South: too much money is distorting the prices.
- How about taking up an earlier suggestion: to have a collaborative project studying social exclusion in both North and South?
- DANIDAs latest attempt, in Vietnam, is to give the choice of topics and collaborating researcher instituions to the recipient; it is fairly sure that they choose high-tech research, and not social sciences.
- Is any power relation symmetrical?
- How can we bypass the research bureaucrats? Private foundations, such as Ford, are more democratic.
- The KFPE guidelines seem a bit naïve. And the suggestion of having 'brokers' is dangerous. PhD students can clearly not have symmetrical relations with their advisers.
- The same mistakes are made over again. There often exist fake partnerships.

Report by Desmond McNeill

Interrogating Open Access

Organiser: EADI Information Management Working Group

Speakers: Leo Waaijers, SURF Foundation, The Netherlands
Michel Wesseling, Librarian, Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, The Netherlands
Jacques Charmes, Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD), Paris, France

Hard Talk host: Lawrence Haddad, IDS, Sussex, UK

The mini symposium 'Interrogating Open Access' at the EADI General Conference in Geneva brought together a publisher, a librarian, a nuclear researcher and an advocate for open access, all chaired by the director of a research institute.

Professor Leo Waaijers (SURF Foundation) opened this debate with an impassioned talk on a hybrid model for publishing journal articles in an open access arena (i.e. free for everyone to view online).

The subsequent discussions resulted in 10 clear messages on the process, options and progress towards Open Access in development research.

1. Research backing: Over 800 research institutions have committed to Open Access. In particular the heads of research councils in Europe have signed up to a commitment to providing free access to research findings.
2. Policy backing: Policy makers are acting with the US senate and congress making statements, the EU council and OECD but to date there is very little comment from the South.
3. Peer reviewed journals: Peer reviewed research papers published in established journals remain the main indicator used to assess research organizations, but these journals now offer open access options. The reviewers follow the same procedure in accessing the article (being unaware whether it is open or closed access).
4. Hybrid Journals: A journal can provide open access to an article within such a journal for between 2-3000 Euros.
5. Citation advantage: There is a documented advantage to citation for open access articles vs closed articles.
6. Open Access Levels: There is a metallic rainbow of open access agreements. WHITE: Publishers require copyrights and allow nothing never; YELLOW: Publishers allow open preprints; BLUE: Publishers allow postprints; GREEN: Publishers allows pre and postprints, embargo periods and reuse changes and exceptions can be negotiated; GOLD: Publishers waive copyrights (open access journals).
7. Action: The suggestion was made that Universities and research institute members of EADI should sign the Berlin declaration followed by a policy to setup their own institutional OAI repository. (Ideally this would involve a distributed national service setup by the community with an OA project together with a group such as eIFL).
8. Initiatives: Some organizations are demonstrating the value of open access through innovative initiatives.
9. Concerns about cost and the politics of knowledge: Discussions focused on how the author can pay to ensure open access, how access in the south will be affected and what about print content. Does this activity privilege larger organizations and will the politics of northern knowledge become even more dominant.
10. To be successful and to drive down costs, the true impact factors of journals need to be published. If open access journals are cited more, they will be better value for money. This matches the research funders increasing requirement to see research outputs communicated successfully.

Papers presented in the EADI Working Groups

WG 01 Aid Policy and Performance

- From Project Aid to Budget Support: How far Have We Come and What Have We Gained in Latin America?
  Geske Dijkstra[1] and Kristin Komives[2] ([1]Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam, Netherlands; [2]Institute of Social Studies, The Netherlands)
- Ownership with Adjectives. Donor Harmonisation: Between Effectiveness and Democratisation – Synthesis Report
  Stefan Meyer and Nils-Sjard Schulz, FRIDE, Spain
- The Bumpy Road from Rhetoric to Reality – the EC on the Slippery Slope: Does the Governance Incentive Tranche Strengthen or Weaken Aid Effectiveness under the Umbrella of the Paris Declaration?
  Nadia Molenaers and Leen Nijs, Institute of Development Policy and Management, University of Antwerp, Belgium
- Poverty Reduction Strategies and Results-oriented Budgeting: A Case Study of Bolivia
  Niek de Jong, SEOR, Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Does Size Really Matter? Small Bilateral Donors and Programme-Based Approaches (PBAs) – Exemplified by Austria and Ireland
  Laura Leyser, London School of Economics and Political Sciences, UK
- The "Spirit of the Paris Declaration" Requires a Fundamental Reform of the ODA Concept.
  Michael Obrovsky, Austrian Research Foundation for International Development (ÖFSE), Austria
- Danish and EU Development Assistance: Any Possibilities for a Division of Labour?
  Lars Engberg-Pedersen, Danish Institute of International Studies, Denmark
- How Fit are Donors to Implement the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness? Results from an Evaluation on Germany
  Guido Ashoff, Sven Grimm, Stefan Leiderer and Martina Vatterodt, German Development Institute (DIE), Germany
- Shifting Organisational Arrangements of Donors' Aid Administrations: A Critical Assessment of the Underlying Drivers of Change
  Eva Beuselinck[1] and Robrecht Renard[2] ([1]Public Management Institute – K.U.Leuven, Belgium; [2]Institute of Development Policy and Management, Universiteit Antwerpen, Belgium)
- The Paris Declaration and Task Division among Donors: Messages from Donor Darlings
  Paul Hoebink, Centre for International Development Issues, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
- Policy Coherence: The Newest Fad in the International Discourse?
  Rolph van der Hoeven, ILO, Switzerland
- Redefining Relations between the EU and the ACP Countries: Main Challenges of EPAs
  Frederic Lapeyre, Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium
- Policy Coherence for Development of the Czech Republic: Case Studies on Migration and Trade
  Ondrej Horky, Institute of International Relations, Prague
- The Pacific Economic Partnership Agreement
  Stephen J. Dearden, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK
- Aid Regime at Work: European Aid and Transnational Policy-export into Nepal and Tanzania
  Lauri Siitonen, IDS, University of Helsinki, Finland
- Food Aid: Cooperation Strategies and Good Practices
  Francesco Burchi[1] and Sara Turchetti[2] ([1]University Roma Tre, Department of Economics. Italy; [2]University of Florence, Department of Economics; Italy)
- Security-related Development Cooperation of Small States
  Jan Pospisil and Stefan Khittel, Austrian Institute for International Affairs, Austria
- The Role of European Local Governments in Development Cooperation: Examples from the Netherlands and Germany
  Marike C. Bontenbal, Utrecht University, The Netherlands
- Compensatory Finance in the 21st Century
  Adrian P. Hewitt, Overseas Development Institute, London, UK
- An Evaluation of European Strategies to Involve the Private Sector in Energy Projects in Africa
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  Birgit Habermann[1] and Margarita Langthaler[2] ([1]Commission for Development Studies at AAS, Austria; [2]Austrian Research Foundation for International Development (ÖFSE), Austria

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www.gc2008.net
The conference website containing the detailed programme, the working group contacts and papers, the blog including session reports and a photo gallery.

www.edc2020.eu
Website of the European Development Cooperation to 2020 containing a report on the parallel session organised at the General Conference on the emerging issues for Europe's development policy-making. It includes video interviews of two panellists.

List of Speakers and Participants
The full lists of speakers and participants can be consulted on the conference website.

Editor:
Janine Rodgers, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland

November 2008

Desk Publishing:
Atelier Françoise Ujhazi, Geneva, Switzerland

Printing:
Druckerei Brandt, Bonn, Germany

Geneva08
24 - 28 June / Juin
EADI

The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies acknowledges and
thanks the following institutions for their financial support of the 12th EADI General Conference:

Schweizerische Eidgenossensch
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iss
Institute of Social Studies

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