



Rehovot Conference 2010

**"Inclusive Sustainable Development Initiatives"
*Sharing Regional and Local Best Practices***

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***Weitz Center for Development Studies at Robert H. Smith Faculty of
Agriculture, Food and Environment***

ABSTRACTS

Sustainability Outlook 2030: Environmental Future for Israel
(Perspectivas de Sostenibilidad para 2030: El futuro ambiental de Israel)

Dr Valeri Brachya

Environmental Policy Center, Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies, Israel

Outlook 2030 will be Israel's first long term policy framework for environmental governance. Whilst changes over the coming decade have largely been determined by decisions which have already been taken, planned interventions in the coming decade are still open to change and can determine whether Israel will be on a sustainable or a non-sustainable path by 2030.

The rationale of Outlook 2030 is that policy makers should be well aware of what is likely to happen, recognize the paths they want to be on and those which they do not want to be on, in order that they may in good time create and harness opportunities as they arise and minimize risks and vulnerabilities before they occur.

Outlook 2030 is currently in the first stage of preparation by an interdisciplinary team as a joint project with the Ministry of Environmental Protection and is due to be completed by mid 2012. It consists of 4 sub projects, each of individual value but together generate synergy: the indicator base, the expert opinion base, scenario building and policy packages for implementation. Outlook 2030 is designed to be the initial stage of an ongoing process, to be reviewed and revised on a regular basis.

Looking at the long term future is full of uncertainties. Outlook 2030 will not try to forecast a likely future but will try to clearly put on the table of decisions makers the range of likely futures and the paths towards them, back casting rather than forecasting.

Valerie@jiis.org.il

20 Radak Street Jerusalem, 92186

02 5630175(ext: 29/27)

**Tourism Development Tools for Inclusive Sustainable Development: Towards a Green
Tourism Policy**

*(Herramientas del desarrollo del turismo para un desarrollo sostenible e inclusivo: Hacia
una política de turismo ecológica)*

Eran Ketter

Center for Tourism Research, University of Haifa

This presentation is based on a policy paper prepared for the OECD High-Level Roundtable on green tourism policy and the Israeli Ministry of Tourism by Prof. Maria Gravari-Barbas, Prof. Yoel Mansfeld and Eran Ketter.

The development of Green Tourism and its role in achieving sustainable development has been discussed thoroughly since the mid 1970s. Yet, the results are still limited and success in implementing Green Tourism is sporadic, fragmented and far from being common practice on a global scale. Moreover, when analyzing global and national policies it becomes evident that there is still a major debate as to what is Green Tourism, to what extent international and national organizations should become involved in its promotion and what benchmarks and standards should we use in order to attain a much more environmentally balanced tourism sector.

The current presentation will highlight key issues in developing Green Tourism policy and will outline major concepts as to how to better implement Green Tourism, and transform it from a desirable ideology into pursuable, environmentally balanced, practical, workable, and attainable routine functioning of the tourist industry.

info@eketter.com

Tel: 972 523 788329

www.eketter.com

Future urban structure of Palestinian state: Model for sustainable approach
(Estructura urbana futura del Estado de Palestina: Modelo para un enfoque sostenible)

Dr Ahmad Saleh Sadaqa

Engineering Center for Planning and Design – ECPD

The Palestinian Territories -West Bank (5850 km² and 2.5 million inhabitants) and Gaza Strip (365 km² and 1.5 million inhabitants)- never practiced any sort of political independence. The result was a random-unstable urban structure and inefficient networking system. The targeted Palestinian state is supposed to incubate most of current population in those regions (around 4 million) in addition to a portion of the Palestinians in diaspora (around 5 million). Among the 5 million refugees and displaced Palestinians, around 1 million are expected to return to the West Bank region following a stable peace treaty. The population in the Gaza Strip is already extremely dense and will most likely reach an absorption limit where the overflowing population may be allocated to the West Bank also.

The challenge of the population "increase" within an environment with limited resources must be managed in order to maintain sustainability. The current urban sprawl is replaced with a "scientific" model for the urban structure and networking system. The "Leaf" is a conceptual plan achieving the concepts of sustainability and balanced development of the West Bank in addition to high absorption capacity. It provides a high level of services and coverage networking system and connecting both Palestinian regions by a holistic corridor. In the long-term, this high density model –the Leaf- requires the implementation of a set of future trends to function properly and to maintain a sustainable feature.

Sustainable Development Strategies (Local Agendas 21) in Belarus, Russia and Ukraine
(Estrategias de Desarrollo Sostenible (Agendas locales 21) en Bielorrusia, Rusia y Ucrania)

Dr. Aleg Sivagrakau,
Minsk, Belarus

Recently we have seen a growing interest in the theme of sustainable development at the regional and local level in Belarus, Russia and Ukraine. The words “sustainable development” are heard more often at Governments ministry and departmental meetings, in the sessions of deputy Councils and sessions of executive committees at different levels, in forecast documents and private businesses and organizations. The importance of this issue for all these countries is increasing because of the lack of traditions of self-government and democracy at the regional and local level. At the same time there are several distinctions in the pace of the “sustainability movement” in these countries.

In Belarus “The National Strategy for Sustainable Development of the Republic of Belarus to 2020” was approved in 2004 by the Council of Ministers. This document serves as a “legal umbrella” for local and regional initiatives in the sphere of sustainable development (Local Agenda 21). There are not similar national documents approved at the Governmental level in Russia and Ukraine.

At the same time thanks to developed self-government system in Ukraine (in comparison with Belarus) regional and local initiatives related with sustainable development have better possibilities to grow “from the bottom” and to create their networks.

In Russia there is a number of regional and local strategies and plans based (declared) at principles of sustainability; but this work is not systematic.

Now in the Republic of Belarus there are about 80 regional and local initiatives under the guise of Local Agenda 21. About ¼ of them are School Local Agendas 21. Many of the Local Agendas 21 are developed in the rural areas.

Local action groups in regions, towns and villages develop various initiatives and projects, oriented to sustainable development of their communities. Among the themes of such initiatives and projects there are the following: organization of local festivals and public holidays, concerts and exhibitions; creation of museums, sport facilities and green ways for tourism; support of small and medium enterprises, youth activities and educational events.

All these initiatives and projects based at the following principles of sustainability: orientation to the vision; combination of social, economic and environmental approaches; partnership; using of local resources; monitoring with a set of indicators.

Development and implementation of the Local Agenda 21 creates better environment for investments, serves as ‘yeast’ for activation of social capital and opening of new resources for territorial development.

Institutional basis for effective Local Agenda 21 includes relative legislation (both at national and local level), organizations (municipal departments of Local Agenda 21, agencies for regional development, NGOs, etc.), and their networks (including international).

Integrating vulnerable populations into the development agenda
(Integración de la población vulnerable en la agenda del desarrollo)

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC)

JDC has been working in the area of development with vulnerable populations since its beginnings in 1914. The session will look at different methodologies that have been employed to integrate and incorporate vulnerable populations into the development agenda. It will explore the value of working in this way with a variety of different populations both inside and outside Israel and in different contexts at different stages of program management: at the level of needs assessment, planning and implementation.

Specific program initiatives that integrate target populations will be each briefly presented (verbally with supporting written material) through the prism of several cross cutting themes. These *populations* include:

- People living with disabilities
- Women
- Migrants
- Elderly
- Children and Families at Risk

The session could be expanded to look at how other vulnerable populations have been integrated into the development agenda, including PLWHIV/A. The five populations above have been chosen since JDC can demonstrate innovative approaches to working in partnership with these populations that may stimulate a wider discussion on appropriate and effective methodologies for inclusive and sustainable development.

During the presentations, each of the programmatic interventions with specific populations will be examined and analyzed through the following crosscutting lenses:

- Peer-to-peer activity: to what extent is a peer-to-peer component included in the intervention and what kind of impact does it have?
- Disaster and social change: how does the wider social context influence the need for integrated development?
- Community support: how is the community involved in the intervention and what is the interface with the target population?
- Inclusiveness in the broader development agenda, beyond this specific population: how is it possible to engage the target population in more general issues relating to human development?
- Leadership/empowerment opportunities: to what extent is a leadership development component included in the intervention and what kind of impact does it have?

Sustainable Development of Open Spaces in Semi Arid Regions: Ecological Perspective
(Desarrollo sostenible de los espacios abiertos en regiones semiáridas: Perspectiva Ecológica)

Moshe Shachak and Itzhak Moshe
Ben Gurion University and L.T.E.R.

Sustainable development of open spaces in semi arid landscapes implies sustainable biological production and conservation of biodiversity. In natural ecosystems sustainability is maintained by rainfall water redistribution by runoff. This redistribution creates soil moisture patchiness which consists of water enriched and water deprived patches. Human activities such as grazing and clear cutting disturb the natural water redistribution which leads to desertification. Rehabilitation of such areas, in order to achieve sustainable development, should reconstruct soil moisture patchiness resembling the natural mode.

In our presentation we will demonstrate how scientific based ecosystem management carried out by the JNF helps in creating a landscape mosaic that sustains high productivity and diversity. In addition, we will generalize from the JNF experience to promoting sustainable development of dry lands.

Agamon Hula – A Model for Sustainable Ecotourism Development
(Agamon Hula – Un modelo para el desarrollo sostenible del ecoturismo)

Dr. Omri Bone
Northern Region KKL – JNF, Israel

Agamon Hula Located in the Hula Valley in the Northern Eastern Galilee and is a part of the Great Rift Valley that serves as major flyway for 500,000 million birds of more than 350 bird species migrating from Northern Europe and Asia to Africa and back.

The site was opened to the public in 2003 and became very rapidly birding site number one in Israel with more than 300,000 visitors a year and contribution of 60 million NIS to the tourist economy of the Galilee.

Agamon Hula Park composed of a shallow marsh surrounded by wetlands and Agricultural fields. Visitors can explore the wonders of the site by walking, biking, using electric golf cars and boating. There are special "Safari Wagon" tours offering bird watching from close distance.

The sustainable site management requires the continuous searching of the delicate balance between the ecological values and the tourist and agriculture impacts and pressures.

omrib@kkl.org.il

מען למכתבים : קק"ל ת.ד. 45 קרית חיים 26103 , רח' הגליל 30 , קרית ביאליק
04-8470331/2
04-8470380

Partnerships and Community Forestry in Israel
(Bosques comunitarios en Israel)

Moshe Shaler
Community Forestry, KKL

Interrelations between local community, their recreational use of woodland, woodland management, and woodland structure have been studied in Israel. In 2005, Israel had a population density of 305 people per km², more than 91% of the population resided in urban settlements. Israel has a highly diverse population- people from many origins (Europe, America, Africa and Asia). Immigration contributes significantly to the already high population growth rate. In the 1990s, for example, more than one million people immigrated to Israel. Rapid population growth has led to ongoing development and has created tremendous pressure on green open spaces, including forest areas. Threats to forests are particularly severe near urbanized areas. On the other hand, more urban woodland is needed to meet the demands of the urban population.

In order to meet the changing demands in a highly urbanised society, about six years ago, KKL embarked on a special programme to improve the forest areas near cities. Together with cities and local communities, KKL is developing so-called 'community forests' that should meet the demands of local urban society.

As a rule, community forests in Israel are usually small. In some cases the forests become a rather unpleasant 'backyard' of the community. The community forest is bordered by diverse neighbourhoods which might differ significantly in their attitude to the forest and the way they make use of it. The challenge for KKL and other actors now face is to transform these forests into a green window of opportunity for improving the environment and quality of life for the surrounding communities, with full cooperation of members of the community.

Addis Ababa Integrated Housing Development Program: A strategy for Urban Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Socio- Economic Transformation

(Programa Integrado de Desarrollo de Viviendas en Addis Abeba: Una estrategia para reducir la Pobreza Urbana y llegar a transformaciones Socio-Económicas Sostenibles)

Mekonen Wube Ermed

Addis Ababa Housing Development Project Office

Addis Ababa, the capital city of Ethiopia, was established in 1886 to accommodate only 50,000 inhabitants and covering an approximate area of 54,000 square km. The population size is currently thought to be more than 4 million and UN HABITAT estimates that this number will continue to rise, reaching 12 million in 2024 (UN HABITAT, 2008). The existing housing stock is dilapidated and lack of basic infrastructure. At the same time, the current social and economy changes of the city have impacted negatively on the existing housing markets such as increasing inequality and insecurity. Moreover, Addis Ababa, the industrial, commercial and service center of the country, has long been overwhelmed by massive unemployment. Further, women and young people face particularly challenges in terms of labor market success.

The environmental condition of the city is very poor and results in many health problems. The rapid population growth of Addis Ababa has been putting tremendous pressures on the city, in terms of environmental degradation. For instance, 35 % of the solid waste generated by the city is not collected (AAEPA, 2006). According to UN HABITAT (2008), only about 9 percent of the built up of Addis Ababa is connected with a sewer system to which only 1600 housing units are connected. The poor are more vulnerable to health risks and directly and indirectly affected by the quality of the environment (Ibid).

Addis Ababa city, despite its economic and political importance to the country and to the Africa continent, is facing multi-dimensional economic, social, political, and cultural problems and challenges. Housing has been and still one of the major problems in Addis Ababa. Seventy five percent of Addis Ababa's residents live in slums, and almost 50 percent of these slums dwellers lives below the poverty line and their hardship are enormous. The housing shortage in Addis Ababa was worse than it had been 10 years earlier. The total deficit of housing is ranging from 350,000 to 450,000 and this is expected to increase by more than 60,000 housing units annually (ACA, 2004). The unemployment rate in Addis Ababa has also reached 40 percent. With this rapid urbanization, poverty is about to become a primarily urban phenomena in Ethiopia in general and in Addis Ababa in particular.

The long term objective of the integrated housing development program is to improve the living standard of low & middle-income citizens by creating employment opportunities through massive housing construction and at the same time providing decent affordable housing (AAHDPO, 2006). The specific objectives of the program are to enable low-income urban dwellers with special attention to female-headed households to acquire homes of their own; Alleviation of urban poverty through the participation of Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE) and creation of employment opportunities in the house construction sector; Changing the image of the city so as to meet international standards and become conducive environment; Transfer of knowledge and skill to the construction industry; Promoting cost efficient housing construction technology; Empowering citizens of the city through ownership of houses and tenure security; And to create better quality employment opportunities and a competitive market structure in the construction sector, which can absorb more labor force.

Reducir la pobreza desarrollando la clase media en Suchitepéquez, Guatemala
(Reduce poverty developing the middle class in Suchitepéquez, Guatemala)

Eddie Rodolfo Maldonado Rivera

Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala, Mazatenango, Suchitepéquez, Guatemala

Según el informe de desarrollo humano 2005 PNUD Guatemala, un 67.4% de habitantes se encuentran en pobreza y de ellos un 15.9% estarían en pobreza extrema. No obstante el continente Asiático en el periodo 1981-2001 redujo del 53 al 25 % las personas que viven con menos de 1 dólar al día. En el mismo lapso de tiempo y hasta la fecha el departamento de Suchitepéquez Guatemala, no ha logrado absolutamente nada en la reducción de la pobreza. Por el contrario aumenta día a día, siendo descorazonador para la academia el hecho de saber que la eficacia es el factor que puede cambiar esta condición y que lamentablemente no se le presta atención por parte de las autoridades, sociedad civil y sector productivo de la región.

La libertad económica es la mejor terapia para la erradicación de la pobreza, con la integración de los distintos actores para mejorar la economía dando mayor participación en la construcción de escenarios como educación y cultura atractivos como base para una economía del conocimiento.

Nuestro origen cultural empeora las cosas considerando la pobreza como un valor, lo que en realidad es un desvalor, (“Jesús también fue pobre”, “el rico es malo”, “los ricos ya están completos”, etc.) de igual manera los enemigos de la libertad argumentan que la globalización, las inversiones foráneas, son los que generan pobreza, cuando la realidad es todo lo contrario.

Es necesario entonces anular el conformismo y volver a los incentivos necesarios para la creación de riqueza.

maldonado_eddie@usac.edu.gt, eddiemr020359@yahoo.es

3ª. Avenida 2-32 Zona 2. San Francisco Zapotitlán Suchitepéquez, Guatemala. C.A.
Teléfonos: (502) 7871-8826, (502) 4643-3761, (502) 54602692

Leapfrogging in Israel's geographic periphery
(Desarrollo en saltos de la periferia de Israel)

Amit Granek

The Regional development team, The Reut Institute, Tel-Aviv, Israel

The paper presents a conceptual framework for the socioeconomic leapfrogging of Israel's geographic periphery. It is based on the world's latest research in the field of regional development and management of two "regional laboratories" in two Partnership 2000 regions; in the Judean plains and in the Western Galilee. The paper shows that such a leapfrogging requires leveraging "regional assets". These include unique local qualities (such as a specific climate, history and heritage, nature and landscape, or even a definite burden) which are rooted in the region and cannot easily be moved. Since globalization enables human capital, goods and knowledge to migrate easily from one place to another, these assets could be leveraged for sustained regional development. In Israel, this regional-global potential is greatly significant, as the state is characterized by vast geographic, demographic and climatic diversity.

Our work calls on the government to adopt this approach by encouraging new regional organizations that would focus on regional assets. It should also adapt existing tools in order to facilitate and promote a regional leapfrogging. These tools include, for example, regional R&D centers of the Ministry of Science, and regional colleges. Other stakeholders crucial to the regional leapfrogging include Civil Society, which has the potential to serve as catalysts by bringing together the players in the region (local authorities, entrepreneurs), in order to learn from similar case studies around the globe, and foster local leadership.

Mainstreaming financial inclusion in India: Sustainable initiatives
(Integración financiera en India: Iniciativas sostenibles)

Dr K.G. Karmakar

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), India

The importance of agriculture in Indian economy can not be undermined. Despite achieving self sufficiency in food grain production at the National level and technological advancement in agriculture starvation deaths and suicide continue in different parts of the Country.

Financial Inclusion should aim towards providing basic needs of human existence with food shelter and clothing. Food security has been major development issue since its independence in recent years there has been a shift in policy focus towards household level food security. India has been able to mitigate the challenge of food security to some extent degradation and erosion of natural resources are major hindrances for rainfed farming in India. Therefore, watershed development programmes have been launched in order to improve availability of drinking water, crop diversification, availability of fodder, etc.

Credit has a very important role to play in supporting agricultural production and investment activities. However, to poor outreach of formal institutional credit structure is a serious issue that needs to be corrected expeditiously.

The strategy for inclusive growth revival in agricultural growth, access to essential services, special thrust on infrastructure development, environmental sustainability and special attention to disadvantage groups. Access to financial services allows the poor to save money outside the house safely, prevents concentration of economy power in few individuals. In the past, various efforts have been taken for financial inclusion in India. They include cooperative movement, SHG movement, Joint Liability Groups, Kisan Credit Card and other banking sector reforms. Recently, there has been various initiatives for financial inclusion such as creation of special funds, ICT model for banks, capacity building for BC/BFs, region specific thrust, mobile banking, financial literacy and counseling centres and integrating various schemes for financial inclusion. Dr. K.G. Karmakar, Managing Director, NABARD has attempted to build a bridge between the past actions and the current initiatives for total financial inclusion which will help in sustainable efforts for food security and thrust in agricultural activities.

**Rethinking Public Participation as a tool for sustainable development:
A lesson from the unrecognized Bedouin Village in the Negev**
*(Repensando la participación del público como una herramienta para el desarrollo
sostenible: Una lección de un pueblo beduino no reconocido en el Negev)*

Ofer Lerner

Technion, Israel Institute of technology

During the past few decades, Public Participation in Planning has become a common concept among planners, decision makers, NGOs and the public at large. The concept has been operationalized so that to include (or supposedly include) the public in planning processes in order to achieve a more democratic planning processes. At this presentation I will argue that the concept of Public Participation in Planning, and the ways it has been implemented, suffers from misunderstanding, confusion and even embarrassment. Contemporary participation, might lead to planning outcomes that do not meet the real requirements and needs of people and communities.

In the presentation I will sketch an outline for a better understanding of the concept of Public Participation in Planning by presenting different theoretical backgrounds of the concept and its various objectives, tasks and tools. I will demonstrate these ideas using planning processes that took place in the Unrecognized Bedouin Villages in the Negev. These processes were initiated by the government, planners, NGOs, and communities, and reflect a misunderstanding of Public Participation, that in many cases might lead to unsustainable planning outcomes. Through lessons learned from the Bedouin example, I will present a model of Public Participation that can be readjusted to meet its goals, and promote better sustainable planning outcomes.

oferlerner@hotmail.com

20 Brener st., Tel Aviv Jaffa, Israel
+972-52-5395745

Sustainable development: Aid effectiveness and efficiency in light of the Paris declaration and the Accra agenda for change

(Desarrollo sostenible: Eficacia y eficiencia de la asistencia a la luz de la Declaración de París y de la agenda de Accra para el cambio)

Jeremy Ben –Shalom

Consultant for government: Ministry of Environmental Protection and Ministry of Foreign Affairs Kibbutz Neve Etan, Israel

It is well accepted that the purpose of aid is to contribute to tangible improvements in the lives of the world's poorest people. The aid effectiveness agenda, enshrined in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (2005) and the Accra Agenda for Action (AAA) (2008), aims to improve the quality of the delivery, management, and use of official development assistance in order to maximize its development impacts.

The Paris Principals and the AAA provide a structured framework for aid moving from a project based perspective to a program approach that is more closely formulated and implemented in coherence with national development plans, national priorities, and national planning and implementation systems.

Although, the Paris Principals and the AAA present greater aid effectiveness and subsequent efficiency it will be argued that unless aid agencies experience a paradigm shift redefining mainstream concepts of development, the greater purpose of aid may not be fulfilled. This perception is demonstrated by examining the role of aid for sustainable development.

jbenshalom@gmail.com

Kibbutz Neve Etan, Bet Shean Valley, Zip 10840

Phone number: Mob: 0504217616 ; Office: 046063628

Fighting transboundary river pollution in China: Is cooperation possible?
(Lucha contra la contaminación de los ríos transfronterizos en China ¿Es posible la cooperación?)

Dr. Reut Barak

Transboundary water pollution is one of the most challenging environmental problems faced by China today. Most of China's water flow through seven large cross-provincial river basins which are home to more than 80% of its population.

The transboundary nature of these basins stands as a significant obstacle to achieving successful pollution abatement along them; provinces are generally reluctant to join efforts in coordinated action and the Chinese governance structure limits the success of cooperation efforts which do take place. Without joint action, localities maximize local short-term benefits in the expense of water quality.

Transboundary river basin management in China takes place in a strict top-down management, where regional agencies of the Ministry of Water Resources manage these basins without local participation in decision making. The existing hierarchical structure limits the enforcement power of these agencies and with limited incentives to protect water quality in the local level, provinces pursue local interests which hinder basin-wide sustainable management. Interestingly, this presentation examines a unique case of environmental cooperation between eleven provinces along the Pearl River Delta, Southern China, which was established in 2004. Strong economic interdependencies have drawn these provinces to joint action for river protection. The cooperation platform has been successful in developing joint management plans, designing a joint monitoring database and promoting regional environmental protection industry. However, the Chinese governance and institutional structure limits the success of this cooperation platform. This presentation suggests steps to strengthen this cooperation and river basin management more generally.

reutb1@yahoo.com

Flat 3, 67 Highbury Park, London N5 1UA, UK
Tel: 0044-7885329830

“The Omora Ethnobotanical Park”: Conceptual and Methodological Advances for Linking Ecological Sustainability and Social Well-Being in southern South America
(“El Parque Etno-botánico Omora”: Avances conceptuales y metodológicos para la vinculación de la sostenibilidad ecológica y del bienestar social en el sur de América del Sur)

James Kennedy and Alexandria Poole

Sub-Antarctic Biocultural Conservation Program, University of Magallanes (UMAG) -
Institute of Ecology and Biodiversity (IEB) in Chile & University of North Texas (UNT) in
USA

The Cape Horn Archipelago (CHA) comprises an extensive area of the sub Antarctic, or sub polar, Magellanic evergreen rainforest that extends north to the Penas Gulf. This area constitutes one of the Earth’s 24 most pristine eco-regions. CHA also hosts the world’s southernmost forest ecosystems and a diverse mosaic of habitat types. CHA also has high cultural value. It encompasses the ancestral territory of the Yahgans, the world’s southernmost ethnic group. Nomadic hunters, fishers, and gatherers, the Yahgans canoed the channels of the sub Antarctic archipelago region south of Tierra del Fuego, leaving behind a remarkable Amerindian archaeological and cultural legacy. Hundreds of shell middens found along the coasts of Navarino and other islands in the archipelago testify to their material culture, and represent one of the highest concentrations of archaeological sites in the world. Today, only 100 Yahgan descendants remain, and they are severely acculturated. The Yahgan’s complex cosmology and ecological knowledge survive today in their artisan practices, as well as in ethnographic records. CHA, furthermore, occupies a central place in the history of science, as Charles Darwin (1839) spent a significant proportion of his time during *The Voyage of the Beagle* in the area, and his encounters with the Yahgans were crucial for the development of his theory of human evolution.

Today, the remote CHA region of fjords, mountains, glaciers, sea, and intact natural landscapes represents a cultural and natural heritage for all humanity. However, this region faces major conservation challenges because the two “protective barriers” that have helped to preserve its pristine character are now being eroded: (1) Its remoteness is being eliminated by rapid transportation and infrastructure development and (2) Vast areas formerly protected as a military reserve are being reduced. It was therefore examine how the health of humans and ecosystems, as well as the conservation of biodiversity and social well-being goes hand in hand rather than in opposition with each other.

It is against this backdrop of rapid social and economic transformation, and this sustainability vision that links social well-being with conservation that a group of scientists, artists, philosophers, and other professionals, both Chilean and foreign, in collaboration with the Yahgan Indigenous community and the Government, initiated a program of biocultural conservation in 1999 that led to the creation of the Omora Ethnobotanical Park (OEP) at the southern end of the Americas.

Together with families of the Yahgan, and with support from the regional government, Omora Park researchers have been working in educational programs and ecotourism projects which have let to the creation of a communitarian center of handcraft production and sale point, an ecotourism hostel, and the preparation of traditional Yahgan food. The conservation of Yahgan language and culture, and the well-being of the members of the local community represents a most important goal of the Omora Park program, and the development of ecotourism in Cape Horn.

In addition, the OEP program has implemented an innovative methodology to integrate community education from pre-school level to graduate university education in the region, in partnership with Latin-American and US students, academics, and institutions to make a difference in global sustainability.

massardorozzi@yahoo.com; Phone & fax numbers: 0056-61-207112; 0056-61-621715

The Megiddo biosphere region: A bottom-up initiative for sustainable development
(La región de la biosfera de Megiddo: Una iniciativa de abajo hacia arriba para el desarrollo sostenible)

Yoel Siegel and Hadas Bashan
Regional Council of Megiddo, Israel

There are three primary themes to the presentation:

The role of local government as a convener and leader in promoting sustainable development: In order for local government to lead processes of sustainable development its mission must encompass additional components and a fundamentally different relationship with its citizenry. Traditional government has been acting primarily as a statutory regulator, as a service provider, and as a pipeline for outside funds (often a passive one). Its new role is as convener for planning and undertaking joint endeavors, as leader for fostering the commitment for a shared future of their communities, as a manager of conflicts enabling their communities to work as a mosaic of interests and identities, and as the body responsible for establishing new development and service mechanisms.

The significance, benefits, and considerations in community based planning: The initiative and control over planning and developing programs usually is in the hands of outside funding agencies. Community's "needs" are assessed and taken into consideration. The Biosphere Region planning process undertaken in Megiddo will present an approach in which the local community is the "owner" and initiator of the planning process and its implementation. The leaders of planning teams were from the community, not outside specialists. The specialists provided input into the community not vice versa.

The UNESCO Biosphere concept: The goal is to balance human development with the conservation of biodiversity. It is based upon a three tier zonation plan with different levels of conservation and development.

Yoel Siegel
yoels214@zahav.net.il 050-5255741
POB 40105 Mivseret Zion, Israel 90805
Hadas Bashan
handasa3@megido.org.il 04-9598430
POB 90001 Afula, Israel 18120

Monitoring systems for sustainable tourism development
(Sistemas de seguimiento para el desarrollo del turismo sostenible)

Tobias Mendelovici

Total Environmental and Tourism Solutions, Sydney, NSW, Australia

Like any industry tourism brings both positive and negative impacts. Destinations throughout the world are seeking ways to check on the health of tourism and are attempting to find better ways of managing tourism to maximise the positive impacts (income, jobs, conservation of valued assets, improved facilities etc) and minimise the negative impacts (cultural displacement, inappropriate development, crowding, littering etc). With a good planning tourism can be a positive force, bringing benefits to destinations. If poorly planned and managed, tourism can severely impact the destinations.

The problem for heritage managers is to be able to understand the way in which heritage, the tourism destination and the demands placed upon it are shaped and how can this knowledge then be used to help to determine proactive management responses.

The use of monitoring systems represents a strong planning tool that provides reliable information to stakeholders to make better decisions. For monitoring to be efficient it needs to use appropriate indicators and methods for collecting and sharing the information. However, monitoring should be integrated into the decision making process by applying adaptive management actions.

**Assessment of the Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership for Sustainable Coastal
Communities and Ecosystems Project**

*(Evaluación de las alianzas de Manejo Costero en Tanzania para el Proyecto de
Comunidades Costeras y de Ecosistemas Sostenibles)*

Meshack Meliyo Ndaskoi

Ministry of Community Development Gender and Children

The coastline of Tanzania stretches for approximately 2,300 kilometers, encompassing five coastal regions and three large islands. The coastline is ecologically and economically important to the nation as it supports approximately a quarter of the total national population. Despite the fact that this coastline is richly endowed with vast resources and opportunities, the standard of living of its people however, is generally lower than the national average.

This study has focused on three coastal districts of Bagamoyo, Mkuranga and Pangani where the Tanzania Coastal Management Project has been implemented for the purpose of conserving coastal and marine biodiversity as well as improving the well being of coastal communities, through the implementation of the National Strategies on Integrated Coastal Environment Management, and Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction at national and local levels. At the local level, the project focused on coastal and marine conservation in the three landscape areas, supporting the districts in improving their integrated coastal management planning and implementation processes.

The study therefore, aimed at evaluating how the project has promoted sustainable natural resource based livelihoods among the vulnerable groups and communities in general. Qualitative and quantitative methods were used to collect and analyze the data. The major findings indicated that due to the project: seaweed production has increased from 2.5 tons to 14.8 tons; there is increased involvement of women in decision making; increased income as a result of expanded opportunities in sustainable natural resource-based micro-enterprises and specifically those which targeted HIV/AIDS vulnerable groups; reduction of illegal fishing; replanting of mangroves and corals and decreased beach pollution. In addition, the co-management of resources between villages and districts has resulted in the development of a Community Based Fisheries Management Plan which consequently, has reduced the number of trawlers in the coastal waters. Increased income due to the project has enabled community members to pay for school fees, uniforms and medical care services for their children as well as being able to purchase corrugated iron sheets for roofing their houses, including furniture.

The findings of this study show that the project has been able to attain its main objective by empowering communities to conserve the costal biodiversity as well as enabling them to utilize local resources for improvement of their livelihoods and development in a more sustainable manner.

mndaskoi@yahoo.com

P. O. Box 3448, DAR ES SALAAM

Phone: +255 784 698655 (mobile); +255 22 2137679 (office)

Alianzas para el desarrollo sustentable e inclusivo a niveles local y regional
(*Partnerships for inclusive sustainable development at local and regional levels*)

Oscar Sánchez León
Alcaldía Municipal de Facatativa, Colombia

El programa de gobierno propuesto por la Administración del Alcalde Óscar Sánchez León promueve el acceso a los derechos, en el marco del concepto de equidad, fundamentos que sirvieron de base para formular, en conjunto con la ciudadanía, el mejor plan de desarrollo de Colombia, el cual incluye un claro compromiso para la disminución de la pobreza, el cumplimiento de los Objetivos del Milenio –ODM; y el desarrollo de la Red para la Superación de la Pobreza Extrema -Juntos.

Así, **“Renovación en Serio para Facatativá”**, identifica desde sus estrategias generales la implementación de una *“Red de Protección para reducir a 75% las familias en pobreza extrema”* partiendo de un indicador de dos mil familias; revelando un esfuerzo estructurado por incluir desde su formulación, criterios técnicos que soporten las bases para el esquema de gestión por resultados y mejoramiento continuo, haciendo posible el monitoreo permanente de la gestión, el seguimiento y control de los programas y proyectos propuestos.

El municipio reporta una experiencia innovadora de focalización denominada **“Alcaldía al Campo y Alcaldía al Barrio”**, la cual lleva de manera directa los programas de la Administración hasta los barrios y veredas donde se encuentran la población más pobre. El equipo de gobierno, durante los fines semana, llega hasta las localidades Facativeñas para identificar temas prioritarios para las familias más pobres; dichos encuentros permiten a los secretarios de despacho apropiarse de las metas que tiene a su cargo en materia social y adquirir compromisos particulares para solucionar problemas asociados con las dimensiones de la Estrategia Juntos.

Para ello, ha sido importante el ejercicio de georreferenciación de la población más pobre, el cual ha permitido identificar como se distribuyen en el territorio las familias más pobres, cruzando esta información con la oferta de servicios sociales provenientes de la Nación, el Departamento y el Municipio.

En el marco del Plan de Desarrollo y de acuerdo con los ejercicios de “Alcaldía al Campo y Alcaldía al Barrio”, la Administración ha venido implementando las siguientes acciones:

- Legalización de 4 sectores subnormales, suministrando servicios, legalizando predios y mejorando viviendas
- Acompañamiento a 305 familias en el desarrollo de habilidades productivas y de comercialización, contribuyendo de esta forma a mejorar sus capacidades de generación de ingresos para subsistir. Adicionalmente, se promueven oportunidades de empleo a través de la Oficina de Empleo en la Secretaría de Desarrollo Económico; y las maratones laborales.
- Incorporar al sistema educativo regular de la población en situación de vulnerabilidad.
- A través del Plan de Seguridad Alimentaria se ha.
- Apoyo a mujeres cabeza de familia a través de proyectos de micro emprendimiento apoyado desde la cooperación internacional.
- Atención de 70 niños y niñas en hogares de paso y tres mil familias son atendidas por el Programa Salud a su Casa-Ruta Saludable.

oscarhsanchezl@yahoo.com

Calle 3 No 5-68, Facatativá, Cundinamarca

Tel. 57-1- 842 4822

Cel. 57-3138888031

Integración de la inclusión y la sustentabilidad en las políticas nacionales de desarrollo
(Integrating inclusion and sustainability in development national policies)

Julián Peña y Antonio Rinaldi

Weitz Center Internacional (WCI), Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina

El Proyecto Integración desarrollado en el municipio de San Isidro, en la Provincia de Buenos Aires, Argentina, se ideó para orientar la política de los asentamientos humanos hacia el logro de una de mayor equidad, cumpliendo el objetivo de eliminar la vivienda precaria y urbanizar a la totalidad del Partido con servicios sanitarios, convirtiéndose así en una política de desarrollo inclusiva.

A través de este proyecto, se propuso dar un salto en términos de equidad que no significó sólo el mejoramiento de las condiciones de habitabilidad del medio, sino la integración de la población de los barrios de emergencia en áreas con condiciones urbanas regularizadas y con equipamiento.

Para alcanzar este objetivo se desarrolló un Programa Social para generar un modelo de cambio donde la integración fue el eje conductor, tanto en el aspecto urbano como en el social, en la educación, la salud y el empleo. Produciendo de esta forma un verdadero cambio cultural donde cada familia pudo reiniciar su vida impulsando así la reinserción social y la adaptación al nuevo rol de propietario, ya sea dentro o fuera del barrio. La consecuencia de todas las acciones implementadas tuvieron el mismo punto de encuentro: **la movilidad social ascendente** con prioridad para los sectores de población bajo la línea de pobreza y de indigencia.

Con estos objetivos políticos no se buscó sólo la construcción de viviendas sino la inserción social de las familias que vivían en condiciones de pobreza habitacional, para quienes se propuso una gestión de INTEGRACIÓN.

Julián Peña: julianp@fundacionwci.org

Antonio Rinaldi: antoniorinaldi@fundacionwci.org

Av. Santa Fe 846 3° piso CABA (C1059ABP)

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Teléfono: +54 11 4314 8722

Colombia Líder: El compromiso del sector privado con la superación de la pobreza
(Colombia Líder: Compromizing the private sector to overcome poverty)

Karem Judith Labrador Araujo
Colombia Líder

Colombia ha diseñado políticas para la superación de la pobreza y la desigualdad, cuyos resultados deben ser aún más visibles. Por ello se requiere establecer mecanismos innovadores promotores de inclusión social, mediante la rendición de cuentas, el mejoramiento de la gobernabilidad y el incentivo de la gestión pública hacia el logro de resultados.

Dado el rol del sector privado y la sociedad civil en este contexto, nació **COLOMBIA LÍDER**. Un proyecto de Publicaciones Semana S.A, Asobancaria, Fundación Antonio Restrepo Barco, Fedesarrollo, el PNUD, Fescol, RCN Radio y Televisión y la Fundación Saldarriaga Concha, que evalúa y retroalimenta al Estado sobre los temas de agenda de Gobierno, para evaluar e informar sobre los resultados de las gestiones adelantadas por el Gobierno Nacional y local.

Su Premio a los Mejores Alcaldes y Gobernadores y el Observatorio de Reducción de la Pobreza y la Desigualdad, buscan incentivar el mejoramiento de la gestión de las entidades territoriales; contribuir en los procesos de formulación de los planes de desarrollo; construir el espacio de participación y seguimiento de las políticas sociales; e implementar actividades que vinculan a la sociedad civil a la Estrategia de Reducción de la Pobreza Extrema, en el marco del cumplimiento de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio.

Como mecanismo de rendición de cuentas, realiza un seguimiento de las acciones sectoriales y sociales, exaltando y visibilizando la buena gestión de los gobernantes. Además, es conector de las políticas nacionales con las locales en cuanto a los programas tendientes a la reducción de la pobreza.

karem.labrador@fescol.org.co

kjla76@hotmail.com

Calle 71 No 11-90 Bogotá, Colombia

Tel. 57-1-3473077 Ext 110

Cel. 57-3007763773

Iniciativas de desarrollo sustentable en la aeronavegación comercial
(Sustainable development initiatives in the commercial aviation)

Maria Albertina Lavigne

Universidad Nacional de San Martín, Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Provincia de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Este trabajo aborda un análisis de iniciativas vinculadas al desarrollo sustentable por parte del sector privado en la aeronavegación comercial. Si bien este sector no fue incluido en el protocolo de Kyoto y por ende sus actores no tienen metas vinculantes de reducción, existen casos de empresas que lideran iniciativas de este tipo en el sector. No sólo se intenta aquí exponer los programas y acciones, sino también las estrategias que se han llevado a cabo con miras a la Conferencia de Naciones Unidas sobre Cambio Climático de 2009, en el firme objetivo de incluir a la industria aerocomercial en el nuevo protocolo.

El caso más destacado en los ejemplos de aerolíneas es British Airways. Su liderazgo se explica teniendo en cuenta que la empresa es de capitales privados, y que el país en el que se radica es Estado firmante del protocolo de Kyoto.

El trabajo hace énfasis por un lado, en cómo funciona el esquema voluntario de compensaciones de emisiones de CO₂ (MDL) puesto a disposición del usuario final para las emisiones de su viaje, apoyando proyectos de energías limpias en países en desarrollo. Por el otro, se analiza la alianza con el grupo Solena, para la construcción de la primer planta de Europa productora de biocombustible para aeronaves creado a partir del procesamiento de residuos urbanos. A situarse en el Este de Londres, la planta proporcionará 1200 nuevos puestos de trabajo y ayudará a regenerar esta área de la ciudad, evitando el relleno sanitario.

Se concluye en que el sector aerocomercial tiene aún un gran camino por delante en estas iniciativas, y se resaltan los ejemplos analizados como guías para el resto de la industria

albertinalavigne@hotmail.com.

Av. Del Libertador 498, piso 13, Lado Sur. C.P. 1009.

Tel: (+54 9) 114470 2448

**Monetisation of Carbon Credits in Kenya Produced by Use of Low-Carbon
Efficient Cooking Stoves**
*(Monetización de créditos de carbono en Kenia, producido para el uso de estufas de cocinas
eficientes, con bajas emisiones de carbono)*

Geoffrey Kiringa
Carbon Manna Africa Ltd.

Carbon Manna Africa Limited is a company incorporated under the laws of Republic of Kenya. It specialises in developing and managing Clean Development Mechanism projects with the main goal of supplying quality Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) to the carbon market.

Carbon Manna Africa Ltd is working on low-carbon efficient cooking stove technology for rural households in Kenya from which, carbon credits are developed using the approved methodology. Other than satisfying the carbon market with quality certified emission reductions, low-carbon efficient cooking stoves project also address the environmental, social and economic challenges which many rural communities in Kenya are facing. These challenges are compounded by climate change.

This project will improve the indoor air quality, reduce the time spent by women and girls in collecting firewood, reduce the amount of money spent in buying wood fuel, reduce the time spent in cooking a meal, protect the biodiversity, protection of critical watershed areas, increase the forest cover, create employment for artisans among others.

Carbon Manna Africa Ltd has established production capacity of more than 6,000 stoves per month through collaboration with leading ceramic company and metal workshop in the region.

Carbon Manna Africa has a team of specialists that comprise highly qualified environmentalist scientists, engineers, climate change experts, legal experts and business analysts.

Revitalising and modernising smallholder agriculture: The Aldeia Nova project in Angola
(Revitalización y Modernización en medio de los pequeños agricultores: El proyecto Aldeia Nova en Angola)

Ayal Kimhi

Department of Agricultural Economics and Management, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The Aldeia Nova project is an experiment with a new concept of rural development that has had remarkable early and interim results. The project demonstrates the potential of this revolutionary concept of demobilising ex-combatants with no prior experience in modern agriculture to a rural area and providing them with modern infrastructure, housing, farm buildings and equipment, agricultural technology, livestock, production inputs, guidance, and a supporting institutional environment.

It has been four years since the first settlers arrived in the Waku-Kungu Valley and now 600 families are using modern agricultural technology to produce milk, eggs and vegetables, which are marketed in the urban centres. These families earn an enhanced living and, in addition, the project has provided employment to hundreds of other Angolans. More specifically, the entire region has been revitalised, with thousands of families pouring in to enjoy the benefits of the improved local economy.

This research presents the concept of the Aldeia Nova project, describes its evolution and discusses its strengths and weaknesses. It concludes that the benefits of the project go far beyond its measureable economic impact and that Aldeia Nova's original and ambitious goals are not beyond the reach of the Angolan people.

kimhi@agri.huji.ac.il

PO Box 12, Rehovot 76100, Israel
+972-8-9489376.

Olive Groves Plantation as a Sustainable Solution to Abandoned Agricultural Land
(Plantación de olivares como una solución sostenible para las tierras agrícolas abandonadas)

Dr. Adi Naali

This study explores the possibility of planting olive groves in abandoned agricultural land in the Judean lowland, this can be a sustainable solution, which will provide livelihood to the rural communities in the area and will sustain the productivity of the land.

Sustainable systems of production have 3 components: economic, biophysical and social.

Main research question: whether olive groves could provide a sustainable solution to the abandoned farmland of the Judean lowland.

Secondary research questions:

Is the solution will be socially accepted by the farming communities?

What are the existing institutional tools which could support this solution?

Will the planted olive groves provide ecological services to the area?

Institutional Tools: All the decision-makers who were interviewed for this study agreed that abandoned farming land is a negative phenomenon which results from the size of family farmsteads, which is too small.

Social Acceptability: Survey of 160 families found that 64% of the residents of this region were ready to return to farming in certain conditions.

Environmental Services : In this study, olive groves role as home habitat and transitional areas for three large mammals: Jackal, Gazelle and Porcupine.

Confirmation of Hypotheses

1. Olive groves were found socially acceptable solution, in conditions of guaranteed profitability of these groves.
2. There are many and sufficient institutional tools which could support the suggested solution. There is a need to improve coordination among all the governmental agencies involving.
3. Olive groves were found to provide good environmental services in comparison to other agricultural land uses.

naaliadi@gmail.com

Kfar Vitkin, 40200 Israel

Tel: 0507231795

African success story: Agricultural Services & Training Centers (ASTC) and Advanced agriculture and the transfer of know-how

(Historia africana de éxito: Servicios agrícolas y Centros de Formación (ASTC), la agricultura avanzada y la transferencia de know-how)

Mark Fishman

Green 2000

This is the story of an Agricultural Services and Training Centers (ASTC) in Plateau State, Nigeria. The ASTC was based on proven Israeli principles of modern agricultural development that introduced the concept for the advancement of agriculture and the wellbeing of its rural population.

The ASTC was established and is managed by Green 2000.

The ASTC concept principle is the extension of services and training and it includes:

- Service center providing mechanized services including tillage, planting, spraying, cultivation and weeding, and harvesting for farmers in the vicinity.
- Supply of input goods including high quality (hybrid) seeds, fertilizers, chemicals, basic tools and other supplies of interest will be made available, sold and delivered on a cost basis.
- Organized post-harvest and marketing service.
- Diverse training programs in crop production, irrigation, fertilization, tillage and soil preparation, plant protection, post-harvest management and more.
- R&D program together with extension as growers and extension Service advisors and Research members share problems and possible solutions to achieve maximum production potential

Progress in agriculture depends greatly upon quality input components such as hybrid seed, fertilizer and chemicals; on availability of services and infrastructure (agricultural services, transportation of goods – inputs and produce, organization of marketing), and agricultural know-how at the farmer level. As the basic key for solving most of the constraints is know-how.

Some environment-friendly technologies for managing pests of agriculture and vectors of livestock and public health importance in Tanzania

(Algunas tecnologías amigables al medio ambiente para la gestión de plagas en la agricultura y vectores de importancia de la ganadería y la salud pública en Tanzania)

Epiphania E. Kimaro

Tropical Pesticides Research Institute (TPRI)

Tanzanian economy depends heavily on agriculture (crops and livestock). Agriculture accounts for more than 25% of GDP, provides 85% of exports and employs 80% of the work force.

Livestock production contributes 6.1% of national GDP, provides about 30% of the Agricultural GDP and enhances national food supply and income. Livestock also provide manure, hides and skins and are potential source of draught power for cultivation of crops and transport.

Major constraints which face Agricultural production in Africa and Tanzania in particular are pre and post harvest pests and disease vectors of livestock and public health importance. Pesticides have mainly been used to protect plants, animal health and public health against pests and vectors. However, intensive use of these pesticides contributed to development of resistance by target parasites, overuse of pesticides. Overuse of pesticides result in residues in plant and animal products which compromise international trade. Today, alternative pest and vector control technologies have been developed to minimize use of pesticides.

This paper highlights two community based sustainable environmentally friendly technologies developed to manage:

- i. Tsetse flies of public health and veterinary importance in Africa;
- ii. Post harvest pests.

**Agriculture and tourism as tools of regional development of Republic Northern Osetia –
Alania, Russia**

***(La agricultura y el turismo como instrumentos de desarrollo regional de la República
Osetia del Norte - Alania, Rusia)***

Natalia Romanova, Julia Stagnieva and Constantin Antipov
North-Caucasian mining and smelting institute, Russia

Mountain forest landscapes of the republic of North Ossetia-Alania are favorable for the development of tourism.

Under the federal investment program, "South of Russia" of North Ossetia received more than 15 billion 864 million rubles for the development of tourist and recreational complex in the period from 2008 to 2012. In total, the federal target program "South of Russia" was spread on 35 sites in the region, also providing for the construction and further development of infrastructure of two large mining and recreational facilities - ski resort Mamison and mining complex Digoria. On campus "Digoria" is also planned construction of small hydropower plants in the basin Uruk and appropriate physical infrastructure, including roads.

The sum of one billion dollars of infrastructure arrangement will resort setting lifts, as well as construction of 25 ski trails and 15 lifts length of 25 kilometers and a capacity 33,000 people per hour. Simultaneously, the slopes of "Mamison" can hold up to 25,000 skiers, and the maximum elevation change planned for the resort ski runs will be 900 meters. Ski resort takes an area of 1.48 hectares. The resort will house several categories of hotels four stars, five stars for the rest of the middle class, theater, concert halls, a wellness spa-centers and swimming pools. The complex is designed for cross-sectional stay ten and a half thousand people, including seven thousand tourists and three and a half thousand staff. Last year, the future of the resort began to lay the road, electricity, water and gas supply. For this purpose in the program "South of Russia already laid 3.2 billion.

The growth of industrial production and agriculture require additional amounts of consumed electric energy. For consumers, it is important to bear in the form that the inevitable rise in energy prices can be compensated by increased energy efficiency, increase the productivity of its consumption and thus reduce payments for energy resources. The construction of new sources of electric energy based on traditional solutions (HPP, TPP, NPP), reconstruction of existing stations way to improve their effectiveness, the use of alternative energy sources (solar, wind, ground heat, bio-energy, utilization of secondary energy, micro hydro). One method of saving fossil fuels and reduce pollution is the massive use of renewable and alternative energy sources. Of particular interest renewable energy sources represent to consumers located in remote places where the population is mainly engaged in agricultural production. Unconventional solutions are based on primary energy sources available on-site consumption, fit well with the program of balanced development in remote regions. Thus a significant deficit of electrical power and electrical energy, the high cost of the purchase of electricity with its own significant water resources in some mountainous areas makes the problem of the use of renewable energy. The most available and cheapest source of electricity nick here is the construction of small and heavy hydro sverhma on rivers and streams.

Massovoe construction of micro hydro will improve living conditions, increase the use of farmland and recreational potential mining areas, will improve the efficiency of investments in the energy sector, given that the period of construction of small and micro hydropower varies from one month to three years, depending on the specific hydrological conditions and power.

**KA'ET: A Model for Encouraging Business Initiatives of Young Communities
in the Periphery**
*(KA'ET: Un modelo para la estimulación de iniciativas de negocios para las comunidades
jóvenes de la periferia)*

Offer Isseroff

Priority Regions Division, Israel Department, Jewish Agency for Israel

"Young communities" are groups of young people and students, who live in the geographic and social peripheries where they build rural and urban communities in under-resourced neighborhoods which strengthen the social fabric of the region.

In Israel today there are some 100 young communities with over 5,000 members who live and study in peripheral regions, while volunteering in a range of fields such as education, assisting new immigrants, providing activities for children, youth and the elderly and environmental protection.

A major challenge facing these young communities is how to develop independent sources of income that will reduce their dependence on philanthropy, make their social activities economically sustainable and jump-start economic growth in the region.

The KA'ET program encourages business initiatives of young communities. The program provides educated and motivated young people with the tools to combine their successful social activism with financially sustainable business development in order to strengthen the entire region.

KA'ET raises awareness about business opportunities and provides multi-level services that craft an entrepreneur's idea into a viable business. This includes workshops, business courses, mentoring from established business people, financial consulting, investor networking and connections with loan funds that provide preferred conditions for young entrepreneurs in under-resourced areas.

The "Youth Futures" Model: An Intervention Model for Children and Youth at Risk to Help Overcome Under-Utilization of Social Services

(El modelo Juventud Futura: Un modelo de intervención para niños y jóvenes en situación de riesgo para ayudar a superar la subutilización de los servicios sociales)

Shai Lazer

Youth Futures Program, Israel Department, Jewish Agency for Israel

In Israel, the Government and third sector provide an extensive network of social services designed for helping disadvantaged groups reduce social gaps. However, while stronger groups in society are aware of these services and know how to access them, the weaker sectors do not utilize these services to their full extent, for a variety of reasons. This is particularly true in regard to children and youth at risk. It seems that the more a disadvantaged group requires the services and resources which the community and the state have to offer, the less its ability to utilize these resources. This constitutes a "social paradox".

We believe that while developing new services for disadvantaged groups is important, it is more beneficial to help them access and utilize existing resources and services. This is one of the main objectives of the Jewish Agency's Youth Futures program, which currently operates in 32 local authorities in Israel, the majority of which are in the geographic periphery, and caters for 10,000 at-risk children and their families.

Youth Futures offers a unique model of a "Trustee" – a young and dedicated paraprofessional, with roots in the local community, who works in it as an agent of change. Each Trustee works with 16 children and their families for a period of three years, acting as an influential older figure in the child's environment and helping to bridge and mediate between the child and his family, and the various service providers (education, welfare, etc.).

Results of an external evaluation indicate that this model is highly successful - helping increase the utilization of services in the communities, improving perception of the various service providers, and boosting the community members' belief in their ability to generate change for themselves and for their children.

This model currently focuses on children and youth at risk. However, this approach can be implemented for use with other special groups who find it difficult to utilize services, such as senior citizens, new immigrants, disabled groups, etc. The Jewish Agency is currently developing these new directions.

Youth participation in development: Strategies and best practices
(Participación de la juventud en el desarrollo: Estrategias y mejores prácticas)

Daniella Ben-Attar

International Development Consultant & Youth Specialist

The international community is in the midst of celebrating the International Year of Youth (12 August 2010 -11 August 2011), launched by the United Nations to generate much needed attention for youth participation and youth development at local, national and global levels. Today, there are more than 1.2 billion young people aged between 15 and 24 years in the world, of which an estimated 87% live in developing countries. Despite their growing number, youth are largely excluded from participation in the decision-making which affects their present and future, leaving them socially and politically marginalized.

Addressing today's development challenges requires full engagement by a majority of the population. Policy makers and practitioners are increasingly recognizing that youth are a major human resource for development, positive social change and technological innovation. In order to benefit from young people's capabilities and harness their potential, societies must ensure opportunities for authentic youth participation in development processes. How can we meaningfully engage youth in the social and economic development of their communities and countries?

This presentation will introduce key strategies for fostering the effective participation of youth in decision-making frameworks and development actions. The *Youth-Led Development (YLD)* paradigm will be presented as a pragmatic model for integrating and empowering youth for inclusive development. In addition, *Youth Mainstreaming* will be discussed as a policy level approach recognizing youth as key stakeholders with diverse rights and interests, the exercise of which will enrich the quality of life for all. Finally, lessons learned and best practices will be highlighted by case studies that demonstrate actual programs, projects and organizations that meaningfully engage youth.

daniella.benattar@gmail.com

PO Box 1012, Givat Ada Israel 37808

Mobile: +972-544-838867

The impacts of high incidence of urban poverty on students' educational performance and effects on inclusive sustainable urban development

(Impactos de alta incidencia por la pobreza urbana en el nivel de la educación y los efectos en el desarrollo inclusivo y sostenible en zona urbana)

John K Barreh

City Council of Nairobi, Kenya

Currently, it is estimated that Nairobi's stable/night population is about 3.2 million people (2009 Census). However, the day population is estimated to increase by between 400,000 to 600,000 persons, hence contributing to extra demands on the city's educational and job market sectors. The city's employment sector appears to be skewed towards informal business sector comprising of slightly over 1.5 million people by 2009, while about 0.6million work in the formal sector that consists of mostly semi and highly skilled personnel.

In retrospect, it is notable that in 2003, the Government of Kenya [GoK] implemented compulsory free primary education to achieve the MDGs. Thereafter, enrolment in primary schools increased and reached more than 90 %. In addition, the average number of pupils per class increased from about 45 to more than 90, particularly in schools serving informal settlements.

In Nairobi, it is now estimated that at least 60% of the population, or 2.0 million people, reside in the city's informal settlements including 200 informal settlements that are unequally distributed all over the city. These 'slum' or informal settlements developed spontaneously and the inhabitants have inadequate housing and basic social services, and low provision of educational facilities. Ordinarily, informal settlements are not officially recognized and addressed by public authorities as an integral or 'equal' part of the city, and did not form part of the city's second Master Plan formulated in 1973.

This paper will posit that the Nairobi's third 'Master Plan' or City Development Strategy has to incorporate the important informal sector and thus inculcate an inclusive & sustainable Strategic City Development framework that must be developed in a proactively participatory manner. Essentially, it has to pursue a strategic planning methodology throughout its planning, implementation & monitoring cycle and respond to the dynamic needs of the citizenry. Making pragmatic and integrated planning interventions will include the majority of the City's population who is experiencing higher incidences of income poverty and are disadvantaged from optimizing their knowledge base & productive capacity.

Therefore, Students' Educational performance in Nairobi's Informal Settlements will be considered through a case study of one of the 'Informal Settlements' in Nairobi in the regard of: Enrolment level against the %age of Children of school going age; Rate of Access to Education; Rate of Retention; Rate of Drop out; and Rate of Completion.

The analysis of the foregoing issues will enable to establish incidence of urban poverty on Students' Education Performance & Attainment and what its resultant effects are on one's participation in the City's Inclusive & Sustainable Development process; Which type or level of wage employment is one capable of accessing in the city?; What type or level of wage income does one receive & how does this include or exclude one from the city's main Socio-economic development process? Which responsive planning intervention(s) should be pursued to influence reduction of high incidences of income poverty & realize envisaged and/or expected effects to reduction of high incidence of urban poverty and thereby support Inclusive & Sustainable city development process for majority of the city residents?

Experiencia del proceso de integración interinstitucional del proyecto de promoción de cultura ambiental, en la gestión integral de residuos sólidos en Piedecuesta, Santander (Colombia)

(Experience of interagency integration of a project promoting environmental awareness in the integrated solid waste management in Piedecuesta, Santander (Colombia))

Ruth Zarate Rueda y Christian Humberto Niño Rincón
Universidad Industrial de Santander/Colombia – UIS

La normatividad ambiental del área metropolitana de Bucaramanga reglamentada en los Plan de Gestión Integral de Residuos Sólidos PGIRS, exige a los Municipios implementar programas como: Inclusión social, alternativas de tratamiento de residuos sólidos y cultura ciudadana ambiental, entre otros. Según esto en el 2009 se ejecutó un convenio entre ECOPETROL, Piedecuestana ESP, CDMB y UIS, a través del cual se implementó la estrategia educativa “Reciclar tiene valor” y se fortaleció la organización de reciclaje equipo Re - Útil. Por tanto, es importante continuar, reforzar y replicar el modelo de gestión de residuos y la dignificación de los recuperadores ambientales.

La experiencia de promoción de cultura ambiental en Piedecuesta – Santander, es resultado de una alianza estratégica entre cuatro instituciones que componen tanto la academia (Universidad Industrial de Santander, UIS), empresa privada (ECOPETROL S.A.), Estado: (Piedecuestana de Servicios Públicos ESP) y la autoridad ambiental (Corporación para la Defensa de la Meseta de Bucaramanga – CDMB), en su interés por dar cumplimiento a la política ambiental (PGIRS, fundamentada en el artículo 79 de las Constitución Nacional y la ley 99/93), cada una desde el sector al que pertenece, desde un enfoque de Responsabilidad Social para dar sostenibilidad al mencionado proceso, mediante la gestión de residuos sólidos, la inclusión social y laboral de los asociados a la Cooperativa de reciclaje Re – Útil (organización comunitaria del municipio que se dedica a la revalorización de los residuos sólidos), con el fin de fortalecer el desarrollo sostenible del Municipio, comprometiendo a la comunidad Piedecuestana, como agentes activos participes de su propio desarrollo socio-económico en equilibrio con el medio ambiente.

Los Objetivos del proyecto son:

- Promover la cultura ambiental mediante la implementación de un modelo de gestión de residuos sólidos y del programa de uso y ahorro eficiente del agua en Piedecuesta - Santander (Colombia).
- Fortalecer la capacidad de gestión y sostenibilidad económica de la Organización de Recuperadores ambientales de Material Reciclable de Piedecuesta.
- Incentivar las prácticas de la separación en la fuente de residuos reciclables en 4000 hogares piedecuestanos, y reforzar en 4000 hogares ya educados, mediante la estrategia educativa “Reciclar Tiene Valor”, implementada por 5 Colegios del municipio a través del Proyecto Ambiental Escolar - PRAES entendido como el núcleo del Proyecto Educativo Institucional – P.E.I

Los Beneficiarios directos son:

- 8.000 hogares a quienes se sensibilizó en procesos de reciclaje.
- Recuperadores asociados al Equipo Re-Útil cooperativa de recuperadores ambientales y sus familias.
- Centros educativos del municipio.

Culturally inclusive nutrition education for Ethiopian immigrants in Rehovot, Israel
(Educación a la nutrición inclusiva y respetuosa de la cultura para inmigrantes de Etiopía, Rehovot, Israel)

Aliza H. Stark and Eitan Israeli

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, The Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Environment, The Institute of Biochemistry, Food Science and Nutrition, School of Nutritional Sciences

Health problems directly associated with poor nutrition are prevalent in the immigrant population from Ethiopia. Preschool children suffer from dental caries and obesity rates are increasing. Exposure to the Western/Israeli diet has led to indiscriminate food choices (sweets, “junk food”) and traditional foods are being abandoned. In 2002, a nutrition education program was initiated by the School of Nutritional Sciences in collaboration with the Rehovot Municipality, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Services. Third year students plan, implement and evaluate activities in a variety of community settings: kindergartens, schools, youth centers, women’s groups and senior citizen clubs. The program allows for community organizations to share resources and is an example of inclusive, sustainable education. Objectives include providing participants with a basic understanding of healthy nutrition and acquiring skills to meet contemporary nutritional challenges. Healthy foods available in Israel are presented along with hands-on cooking activities, taking into consideration personal and cultural preferences. Participants are encouraged to apply this knowledge to planning their daily diet and preparing foods at home. Emphasis is also placed on the health benefits of the traditional Ethiopian diet. The program has proven to be an overwhelming success. The students are given a unique opportunity to become acquainted with the Ethiopian immigrants while the residents of Rehovot benefit by being able to participate in a series of health promoting activities provided locally, that present useful information on how to guarantee that their families get the essential nutrients needed for optimal growth and development.

stark@agri.huji.ac.il

P.O.Box 12, Rehovot 76100 Israel.
972-8-9489612

Manejo sostenible de la vicuña con inclusión social, económica, ambiental
(Sustainable management of the vicuna with social, economic and environmental inclusion)

María del Pilar Tuppia Villacorta

Dirección General Forestal y Fauna Silvestre- Ministerio de Agricultura – Lima, Perú

En el Perú milenario, la vicuña (*Vicugna vicugna*), ha sido un recurso importante para el desarrollo de culturas prehispánicas, las cuales en base a su conocimiento supieron aprovecharlos para satisfacer sus necesidades en equilibrio y armonía con el medio ambiente. El desarrollo de tecnología ha ido adaptándose a las condiciones biológicas y etológicas de la especie, del hábitat y la idiosincrasia de las comunidades campesinas. Sobre esta base hay un marco técnico legal que la asiste como especie silvestre protegida por el Estado.

Actualmente el equilibrio en el uso de recursos para mejorar la calidad de vida de las poblaciones alto andinas, sin rebasar la capacidad de carga de los ecosistemas que las albergan, garantizando su participación progresiva y permanente para la satisfacción de sus necesidades y de generaciones futuras, es la idea central del enfoque de desarrollo sustentable con inclusión.

Las políticas públicas vinculadas al desarrollo de procesos de conservación, manejo y aprovechamiento de la Vicuña, van orientadas a la generación de modelos y herramientas que permitan una mayor participación de los diferentes niveles de gobierno establecidos, pero sobre todo de las comunidades campesinas que manejan el recurso, haciéndolos partícipes de los beneficios obtenidos, como una manera de asegurar y precisar la sostenibilidad social, económica y ambiental, importantes para el desarrollo integral del sector.

ptuppia@yahoo.com, mtuppia@minag.gob.pe

Jr. Mariátegui N° 112 Dpto. 102 – Block C- Barranco-Lima

Teléfono: (511) 2476659, (511) 986004115

**Utilizing the Environment for Educational and Economic Purposes – The Case of the
Nitzana Educational Community in the Desert**
*(Utilización del medio ambiente para efectos educacionales or economicas: El caso de la
comunidad educacional Nitzana en el desierto)*

David Palmach

Nitzana, Israel Department, Jewish Agency for Israel

The Nitzana educational community is located in the Negev desert, near the Israel-Egypt border and is a model village for education, sustainable living, environmental initiatives, immigration and absorption.

Nitzana's educational activities include seminars for over 15,000 Israeli high-school students from across the country annually. These seminars are conducted using the innovative educational infrastructure developed in Nitzana, which include a solar park, water reclamation systems, recycling systems and desert agriculture facilities. These provide students with unique educational experiences.

As an ecological village, Nitzana not only uses the environment for educational purposes, but also strives for economic self sufficiency by utilizing solar energy for power, purifying waste water and more.

Combining its educational vision with practical concern for Israel's future, Nitzana also utilizes its grounds for scientific ecological research and innovation. Working closely with some of Israel's leading scientists, it currently is involved in three major research projects: A water reclamation project with the Ben Gurion University of the Negev, a Desert Ecosystems project with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and a desert agricultural and water research and development project with a team of researchers at the Ramat HaNegev R&D Institute.

The village's unique infrastructure and research initiatives designate Nitzana as an instrumental component in building a bright and promising future for the region and the entire country.

Integrated rural development through cooperative lease farming in Nepal
(Desarrollo rural integrado por contrato de arrendamiento en cooperativa en Nepal)

Krishna Bahadur Kunwar
Three S Foundation, Anamnagar, Kathmandu Nepal

The paper describes the project on Sustainable Integrated Commercial Agricultural and Entrepreneurship Development through Cooperative Lease Farming in Nepal based on the inspiring concept of Raan Weitz's Rehovot Approach to integrated rural development (IRD). Three S Foundation has implemented this pilot project as an action research to have replicable model for the developing countries.

In IRD context, the village cooperatives could play a key role in rural transformation. Such cooperative must be multi-purpose or all inclusive, that is, it must cover all the services needed by the farmers. Second it should be a statutory body officially recognized by all the service supplying organizations as representative of the farmers and supported as such by government agencies. Third, the village cooperative must be the only organization which provides services in the village, and membership must be obligatory to all farmers.

Even after the peace accord, Nepal (with the GDP per capita US\$582) is facing serious problems of poverty and post internal conflict as the youth generation was compelled to go cities and abroad for employment. The root cause of conflict is considered poverty especially in rural areas. As we are aware with the fact *Poverty anywhere is threat to everywhere*; not only the developing countries but also the developed ones also can not protect themselves from the negative effect of poverty.

Author Krishna Bahadur Kunwar in his publications (*The Himalayan Poverty; Rural Development in Developing Countries*) recommends 3Ss prescription for poverty alleviation and rural development (S1 = *samuha* means groups or organization or community; S2 = *seep* means skills or empowerment; S3 = *sano punji* means micro-finance). Even if they are able to make their voice louder and are equipped with skill, still they need capital to start some sort of enterprise. The poor do not need large amount of capital; they need only micro-finance. If they possess three basic elements (i.e. organization, skill and micro-finance=OSM), they would be able to make productions and take benefits from rural development initiation.

The author took initiation to have fusion of Raan Weitz' s integrated rural development and three S approach for rural development in two fronts. These are:

- Inclusion of Rehovot Approach of IRD in the curriculum at MA level degree in Rural Development discipline of Nepal's leading university: Tribhuvan University.
- For the institutional development, Three S Foundation was established in March 2006 as a non-profit and non-governmental organization to implement the Rehovot Approach making applicable to Nepalese context with *three S* concept and started a pilot action research project in Dhading district of Nepal.

The objective of the project is to develop a sustainable integrated commercial agricultural and entrepreneurship development model by appropriate and scientific consolidation of fragmented land parcels to increase the production and productivity creating employment opportunities for local people with due consideration of alleviating poverty, social inclusion, gender equality and climate change for economic and social upliftment of the rural people and to extend this replicable model in other developing countries.

kunwarkb@ntc.net.np

Phone: 4233068 (o) 4038646 (r)

Fax number: 977-01-233068

**A life cycle approach to capacity building in rural semi-arid lands: A case study FPR
Saura village, Kenya and the new Arava center
for sustainable development of arid lands**
*(Enfoque del ciclo de vida para el desarrollo de las capacidades en las zonas rurales semi
áridas: Un estudio del caso FPR el pueblo Saura, Kenya y el nuevo centro de Arava para el
desarrollo sostenible de las tierras áridas)*
Clive Lipchin, Shmuel Brenner, Shira Kronich
Arava Institute for Environmental Studies

Many poverty reduction and environmental initiatives concentrate on the introduction of a single technology or on specific capacity building. Discounting the social, economic and environmental contexts of these interventions reduces their effectiveness. For example, in Sauri, western Kenya, a project offered families drip irrigation systems to improve their agricultural and water use efficiency without considering an appropriate water source for the new systems. Another project increased agricultural yields but did consider farmers' limited access to the market.

For several years, the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies (AIES) developed and successfully implemented leading programs mainly in the fields of agriculture, energy and water associated with sustainable living in arid conditions under the threat of climate change. The acquired experience and know-how of the AIES has now been gathered under the newly established Arava Center for Sustainable Development (ACSD). Through a relationship with Israel's National Agency for International Development Cooperation, MASHAV, ACSD developed and implemented a unique assistance program for communities in a remote area near Lake Victoria in Kenya, where issues of water harvesting, water for irrigation and water purification are all dealt with in the framework of adaptive water management.

This presentation will relate the experience of ACSD in transferring its interdisciplinary, trans-boundary expertise to developing countries facing conditions of poverty, food insecurity, desertification and water problems. The ultimate objective of this presentation is to discuss the potential and limitations of the life cycle approach to development in semi-arid lands.

The environmental cost of poverty to a society: The Kenyan Experience
(El costo de la pobreza sobre el medio ambiente de una sociedad: La experiencia del Kenia)

Mulongo, Leonard Simiyu, Kerre Patrick, Oseko Jacqueline
Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya

A society basically implies a community and a community is a group of people with variant interests and desires who decide to come together in order to fulfill their obligations as a group. Poverty on the other hand manifests itself in various ways and whenever it sets foot on the community, the consequences are usually felt in different capacities. This paper examines the causes and manifestation of poverty to a society laying more emphasis on the environmental injuries incurred and the way forward towards a harmonious and sustainable environment. Among the major environmental concerns emerging from the paper include:-, why most hazardous activities are usually located closer to squalor settlements, what came first between the Community Settlements and Dumping sites, Oxidation bonds and the Community and finally whether it is by design that most of the Squalor settlements should lack the basic amenities such as clean water, roads and poor sanitary facilities.

Research approach to sustainable development strategy by using space technology
(Enfoque de investigación para una estrategia de desarrollo sostenible mediante el uso de la tecnología espacial)

Massimo Ruggero and Stefano Bonfa
London School of Economics-London- University of London
University of Genoa

The Lisbon strategy is an EU programme which aims to improve the productivity and competitiveness of the EU economy. Ten years ago, the Lisbon European Council committed Europe to a programme of reform with the aim of making the EU “the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world” by 2010. This reflected concerns that the EU economy was performing poorly compared with its competitors and that increases in productivity were necessary to offset the effect of an ageing population on economic growth. But not only.

This presentation is a contribution to a project to generate Asian, African and Latin American perspectives of the external dimensions of the EU sustainable development strategy, and on key policy instruments and processes which shape the interaction of the EU with other regions of the world. One of these is ICT applied to development integrated issues. Our experience and proposal is oriented to the creation of an environmental space based clouding computing platform for the management of Lisbon strategy process in the Mediterranean and in development countries, such as Gmes-Africa in SADC regions. The implementation will be carried out by an “HUB & WEBBING” architectural layout. This action will be made easily possible by adopting the clouding computing infrastructure as described as technological information factory enabling to provide on a continuous knowledge regardless distance, time and local infrastructure problems. The proposal intends to re-design through environmental pilot projects an integrated innovative environmental policy and disseminate on a larger scale to Consortium Partner.

Stefano BONFÁ
Hungerdown road 87 –E4 6QJ-London - United Kingdom
Massimo RUGGERO
m.ruggero@libero.it
Piazza San Donato 23/12 – 16123 Genova – ITALY
Tel/fax 0102473793; cell. 3896897506

Community work and local economic development: "Maavarim" project in Israel
(Obra comunitaria y Desarrollo Económico Local: El proyecto "Maavarim" en Israel)

Esti Doron

Community Work Service, Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services

Historically, many of Israel's rural settlements were developed on the basis of a shared social and economic community organization. Social changes and economic upheavals caused community crisis in many of these settlements.

The "Maavarim" (passages) project developed by the Service of Community work in the welfare ministry together with Joint Israel and the Community Center Organization (matnasim) built a strategic intervention that included both community and economic aspects.

Today "Maavarim" includes 13 local rural municipalities assisting in both community and economic development with important short term and long term results. A quick look at these activities include: working and developing local leadership, facilitating social networks, working with indigenous volunteers, working with local government, building technological tools and other creative projects.

**Empowering rural girls through self initiative programmes: The case of Siwinde Nyiri
Oruba mix and Lifunga Girls**
*(Empoderar a las niñas rurales a través de programas de iniciativa independiente: El caso
del mezclo Siwinde Nyiri Oruba y de la niñas Lifunga)*

Dr. Anne Achieng Aseeey
University of Nairobi

Achieving quality education is a nightmare for some of the girls in the rural schools in Kenya. The girls are a victim to male chauvinism, discrimination by parents, and source of labour when there is need in the family, victims of sexual exploitation and household poverty amongst others. The girls are usually vulnerable to many circumstances at home, at school and in the geographical environment. Which makes them drop out of school, be absent from school most of the time and even register poor performance

The girl's from two secondary schools in Nyanza province -Kenya with the aid of and advice from some professionals decided to come up with two projects which can help them overcome some of their economic barriers and get away of getting along and fitting in the society socially. The projects are a small business shop run by the girls at Oruba Mix and a tree planting nursery project at Lifunga girls. With more effort and investment, these projects could act as an example to the others in that situation and for the girls involve in the projects, they could earn some income from the projects for self sustainability.

aaseey@yahoo.com

P.O.BOX.1903 00100 GPO, NAIROBI, KENYA

Phone: 0721202685

Empowering Excluded Women through Feminist Concepts
(Empoderamiento de las mujeres excluidas a través de conceptos feministas)

Beth Offer, M.S.W.

Israeli Counseling Center for Women

In the general population women's voices are weak. In excluded populations women's voices are hardly heard at all. Therefore, the Counseling Center for Women takes the mandate to empower these voices.

The Counseling Center for Women is a non profit Israeli feminist organization which gives therapy and develops tools for working with women in both main stream and excluded populations.

The counseling center's aim is to have an impact on the Israeli society by changing concepts and creating alternative tools to deal with women and societies' issues with women such as; domestic and sexual violence, women with handicaps, living in traumatic times such as war, refugees, border settlements and belonging to excluded populations such as Israeli Arabs, the poor, ultra orthodox Jews and female soldiers in predominately male units.

Our experience shows that the challenge is two fold:

- To develop a culturally sensitive model, that takes into account the excluded populations unique difficulties and needs and helps the people who work directly with them develop the specific tools that they need to help bring on a change. This is done by being in an ongoing dialogue with the people that we work with and continually learning and evaluating what works.
- To develop a system that allows continual ongoing impact on the designated population, this is done by working with other professionals, service providers or institutions that work directly and continually with these women and so we succeed in indirectly reaching larger populations and are able to have continual ongoing impact.

The presentation will focus on projects done with various groups.

The Disabled of Bangladesh: Running a Replicable Model for Sustainable Development
(Personas con discapacidad en Bangladesh: Un modelo replicable para el desarrollo sostenible)

Tamara Edell Gottstein
BPKS Bangladesh

Bangladesh Protibandhi Kallyan Somity (BPKS) is a non-governmental, voluntary organization of persons with disabilities (PWDs) founded in 1985 in Bangladesh. BPKS a National Resource Organization of persons with disabilities is currently implementing a development strategy entitled, Persons with Disabilities' Self-Initiative to Development (PSID) throughout the nation that is being replicated in numerous regions countrywide. The disabled are directly involved in the planning, the decision-making, the implementation as well as in the on-going management process of the PSID program, from the grassroots level to national level. In essence they own the project and are fully responsible for it.

Persons with Disabilities' Self-Initiative to Development (PSID) is a consumer-driven, rights-based, holistic approach that empowers people with all types of disabilities to take responsibility for the initiation, participation and ownership of the development process. It affirms that persons with disabilities can effectively contribute to this process when able to enjoy the same opportunities as other citizens of a nation. PSID recognizes that disability issues are development issues and the success of persons with disabilities accelerates the overall development of a nation. Through a democratic process, persons with disabilities are directly responsible for the management of their own programs and organizations from the grassroots to the national level. PSID works to achieve a barrier-free society that helps to build the capacity of persons with disabilities to become innovators able to fully enjoy their human rights while also ensuring that their primary needs are met. It has proven to be an adaptable and cost-effective approach that allows for high returns on investment in relation to both economical and social benefits for individuals, their families and their nation. Each chapter receives the guidance and training to become self sufficient within three years time. All chapters maintain contact and are part of a national advocacy body.

The effectiveness of the PSID approach is attributed to its three main components which are identified as being consumer-driven, rights-based and holistic .

PSID assists people with disabilities to ensure their organizations' sustainability and their ownership of programs which fulfill their basic needs. They run numerous initiatives including their own savings and loan funds, small businesses, physical accessibility projects, and they advocate for equal access to schools. Disabled youth take an active role in the centers.

Micro Business as a Way for Improvement of Social Economic Status and Personal Satisfaction

(Microempresa para mejorar la situación social y económica y la satisfacción personal)

Lena Gurary, Diana Ahdout and Amy Slater Ovadia
Supportive Community

People and in particular minority women from disadvantaged backgrounds open micro businesses due to not receiving decent salaried employment, possibly because of age, ethnicity, religion, culture, education etc. Women open businesses to be their main source of decent income, flexibility, financial mobility, necessity, family needs and more. Self employed women point out that by opening micro businesses they feel they have improved their family financial status, hold a sense of security and capability, enhanced self worth and improved relations with their children and family all while enabling them to support themselves and their families. In addition women who open micro businesses have a better chance of developing them into a larger and more established business.

The question still remains: Why are some women still not able to break out of the cycle of poverty even after opening a micro business?

- Lack of National Policies regarding Micro Businesses: such as taxes and credit that is almost non-existent for women without other sources of income.
- Personal Finances: what does money symbolize in the community, resistance and fear of government agencies, offices or the established systems i.e. banks.
- Difficulty in defining and setting boundaries of business and difficulty to refuse requests that come from the community: neighbors and relatives that want free items or services and/or how to take payment. Power struggles within the family concerning business decisions including management, product choice and flexibility.

Thoughts for Discussion

- Women entrepreneurs, are they an excluded populations?
- Business Success depends upon: What status does the business have within the family? What connections (especially personal) to the community are there?
- How to influence governmental policy promoting micro businesses?
- Learning models which include participants from multi cultural backgrounds and varying socio-economic status – do these variable inhibit or promote the entrepreneur?
- What happens if a micro business owner stops working: due to health reasons; or family matters; or becomes a senior citizen. Where does the responsibility end for the woman and begin for the government or does it?

**The Water Crises across the Jordan Valley
and the Reflects On Environment and Human Dignity**
*(La Crisis del Agua en el Valle del Jordán
y el reflejo sobre el Medio Ambiente y la dignidad humana)*

Dheeb Hussien
Pella Heritage Society

Jordan and Israel are going through a water crisis the last decades which is highly compromising the environment of the Dead sea valley as well as the human activities developed in these localities. Due to the rapid pace of development around the Dead Sea, it is urgent to address environmental concerns resulting from these developments.

The water crisis in Jordan is intertwined with the crisis among the water net of Jordan. This net includes the Dead Sea, the Jordan River and the Yarmouk River, as well as the fourteen springs and streams of Eastern Jordan. Regarding the Jordan River, Israel, Jordan and Syria have all diverted its upstream waters for domestic and agricultural uses, leaving precious little fresh water for the river and its once thriving ecosystem. Since the Dead Sea and its valley is a single ecosystem, there is an urgent need to develop an overall strategy and master plan for the region, across the borders.

The repercussions of the water crisis are alarming as it already obliges families to migrate to the heights of Jordan, in search for water and moist. For instance, one the biggest streams, called Pella, is dry while it used to supply hundred of farms and then be a tributary of the Jordan River and the Dead Sea. As hundreds of citrus fruits areas dried up, farmers simply left their lands looking for employment opportunities in other localities. Loss in the tourism industry will also come at high cost for the local population, not only in Jordan but also in Israel.

Following the presentation, recommendations will be made to enable partnerships and innovative solutions to bring to a halt the water crisis. Couple of solutions and advices that were produced at the Pella conference, organized end of September, and gathering people around the Red Sea and Dead Sea canal issue, will be shared.

Proyecto: Desarrollo rural y territorial en la región norte-norte de Costa Rica
(Project: Rural and territorial development in the north-north region of Costa Rica)

Jesús Ortega López

Fundación Escuela Andaluza de Economía Social, España

El actual Proyecto está situado en los Cantones de Upala, Guatuso y Los Chiles, se encuentran ubicados en la Región Norte-Norte de Costa Rica. Esta Región es una de las zonas más deprimidas del país. Sus habitantes son en su gran mayoría descendiente Nicaragüenses que por los procesos migratorios se asentaron en estos cantones por la cercanía fronteriza. Su economía ha estado sustentada históricamente en la agricultura y ganadería de subsistencias. Son los cantones con mayores deficiencias en materia de servicios tales como salud, educación, comunicaciones etc.

Pero, tienen un potencial en recursos naturales y ambientales importantes, que con el tiempo y algunas actuaciones externas se van deteriorando. Las políticas centralistas y las inversiones externas han sido nulas en su mayoría y en otros casos ineficaces. Esto nos lleva a identificar una Región con un grado alto de desestructuración social, sectores importantes de exclusión y de dependencia y emigración de los RRHH más jóvenes que buscan una oportunidad laboral y académica.

Desde este contexto, en los últimos 8 años, ha sido el sector cooperativo el único que ha generado propuestas económicas desde la organización de los grupos en las actividades agrícolas, ganaderas y algunos servicios, pero sin tener una visión general de la realidad y menos una estrategia global, que pudiera dar algunas respuestas a la multitud de necesidades y carencias de la población de la Región. Pero no es más cierto que ha sido la única célula activa: Se ha de mencionar igualmente que las actuaciones de diversos Organismos Internacionales de Cooperación, han estado incidiendo en el territorio desde la misma perspectiva.

Es por lo que a principio del 2009, se decide poner en marcha un proyecto desde una iniciativa generada por el Consejo Nacional de Cooperativas de Costa Rica y la alianza estratégica con la Economía Social Andaluza a través de su Fundación Escuela Andaluza de Economía Social, se decide abordar un proceso de desarrollo rural desde el contexto integral y sostenible, basado esencialmente en los aspectos endógenos, sustentándonos en los pocos grupos organizados. Se basa en dos ejes esenciales. El fortalecimiento del sector de la Economía Social con factor determinante de desarrollo; y afrontar un proyecto de desarrollo integral y participativo con todos los agentes sociales del territorio (Jóvenes, mujeres, grupos culturales, pequeños empresarios, municipalidad, iglesia etc.). Para ello se ha utilizado la metodología de participación de abajo arriba, acompañado de procesos de formación y capacitación.

Del resultado de tal trabajo se generó y constituyó la Asociación de desarrollo "Red Local de Desarrollo Rural y Territorial de la Región Norte-Norte", incluyéndose en ella a las Municipalidades de los diferentes cantones. En la actualidad está siendo uno de los procesos seguidos más de cerca por las Administraciones, ya que puede convertirse en un referente válido.

Desde la Fundación Eaes, en el marco del Convenio con la Agencia Andaluza de Cooperación en el Programa 2010-2011, se están implantando tres proyectos en la Región: Uno específico sobre Turismo Rural Comunitario y otros dos transversales relacionados con liderazgo Juvenil e Incidencia de la Mujer.

Lo que pretendemos en la Conferencia es exponer la sistematización de este proceso como clave para asegurar que es posible y la experiencia que se ha ido generando a través de este periodo de tiempo.