



IYPF NEWS

JUNE 2007

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The June 2007 Edition – World Environment Day

Dear Friends and colleagues, I am very excited to welcome you to our June World Environment Day edition of our newsletter.

The BIG NEWS is that the first announcement about the International Young Professionals Summit – our flagship international gathering for members and young professionals – is out! The dates are set, our venue confirmed, and the first draft of our programme released. Now we want YOU to help us refine the program, spread the word about the event, and start planning to be in Manchester, UK, in August 2008.

Speaking of coming to the event – airline travel is a huge contributor to carbon emissions fuelling global warming. The carbon generated by delegates attending our Summit's would be the single biggest contributor to the IYPF's total carbon emissions – even though they only happen once every 3 or 4 years! In this context, the development of IYPF's Climate Strategy is important as we seek to 'walk the talk' on addressing the challenge of climate change. As a staff team, we have been discussing what our Climate Strategy should be and have asked for members and stakeholders to give us their thoughts too – with little response to date. See the story on our climate strategy in this newsletter and follow the links to have your say.

Further on the environment and our World Environment Day theme, we have articles on local youth sustainability initiatives and projects, a new Earth Portal for information and inspiration, the power of citizens and simple actions like installing energy efficient light bulbs to massively reduce carbon emissions, and an insightful article on preserving biodiversity in the Congo by one of our members.

World Environment Day is an important time to reflect on how amazing our planet is and how interconnected we are with ecosystems. Our dependence on our environment is often overlooked in the hustle and bustle. 'The economy is a wholly owned subsidiary of the environment' is a saying doing the rounds a lot lately in terms of addressing climate change. What is true for the economy is pretty much true of our lives as well – so we better look after our planet!

Happy (belatedly) World Environment Day!
Cameron, CEO

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About IYPF – Who are we? How can you get involved?

IYPF NEWS**THE NEXT INTERNATIONAL YOUNG PROFESSIONALS SUMMIT, IYPS 2008
SET TO TAKE PLACE IN MANCHESTER, ENGLAND FROM 19-23 AUGUST 2008**

Registration for IYPS2008 will commence later but you can find out more about this event and contribute to its development by:

- visiting our website www.iyps.org
- visiting our TIG Blog on <http://events.takingitglobal.org/14421>
- contacting us direct on iyps2008@iypf.org

Sarah-Jo Dawson, IYPF President,
On behalf of IYPS2008 International Organising Committee

IYPS 2008 Programme Update & Call For Input!

By Rassel Chisango

IYPS Programme Coordinator, On Behalf of the IYPS 2008 Organising Committee

rasselchisango@iypf.org

I am certainly excited once again to be in touch with all of you amazing YPs from across the globe, both IYPF members and non-members. Here's hoping that I find you equally excited about our upcoming International Young Professionals Summit 2008 (IYPS 2008) in Manchester, England from the 19th to the 23rd of August 2008. As part of our commitment to making this Summit a holistic, responsive and comprehensive Young Professionals oriented Summit we are glad to offer you this opportunity to meaningfully contribute to the whole Programme Planning process.

Accordingly, please be advised that this Consultative Program Planning Process is guided by our vision and mission as IYPF (www.iypf.org) and follows on from our two previous far reaching Summits held in 2001 and 2004 where the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were a key theme (see www.iyps.org/iyps08/past_events.htm).

This consultative process also aims at ensuring that YPs attending IYPS 2008 get the greatest possible benefit from it's the various sessions. Therefore your focused participation and contributions are invaluable. Our programme will have delegate registration and Summit Introduction on the 19th, the 20th-22nd as full discussion and workshop days, and an optional on the ground field trip on the 23rd.

We will therefore have 3 days to discuss the following proposed themes, which yet again are MDGs-centric, and how IYPF can support its members and other young professionals in helping to achieve them:

- Governance, economy and education under MDGs 1 & 2
- Women and gender equality under MDG 3
- Healthcare and HIV / AIDS under MDGs 4,5 & 6
- Water, energy, sustainable consumption and infrastructure under MDG 7

Emphasis will also be made throughout the summit to ensure that we use IYPF as a platform to achieve the MDGs that entails promoting a global partnership for development.

Over and above that we will certainly have as part of our final programme such items as the Global Change Fiesta, an equivalent to "Bush Yoga", Coaching sessions, skills workshops and a Field trip. As has already been expressed, we look forward to your passionate focused contribution as we strive to set up a really difference making final YPs oriented IYPS 2008 Program that we will all enjoy!

For more details on IYPS2008 please visit www.iyps.org.

Board News

By Sarah-Jo Dawson, IYPF President

The Board of the IYPF has held a formal and an informal meeting during May. With IYPS2008 on the horizon, we have been thinking a lot about the future direction of IYPF. Greg Nelson has organised the first Strategy Working Group meeting and the whole Board have been discussing ongoing funding for the organisation.

After some discussion, we have set a target of \$15000 funds to be raised before IYPS 2008 so that more value added projects can be launched before or at that event and to support the 2008 to 2012 strategic plan. This inspirational target will provide a SMART objective for the fundraising working group, led by Casius Chuma, over the coming year. It also shows the Board's commitment to the development of a long-term strategy for IYPF starting from fundraising for a number of future-focused projects such as memberships and the IYPF magazine.

We are delighted to also welcome to our team our new interim director and Treasurer Jodie Nelson, our new compliance working group chair Attar-ur-Rehman and our new Executive Assistant Constance Georgina. I am sure all the IYPF staff and members will welcome them and get to know them well over the coming months and the Board looks forward to working with them.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES & PROJECTS

One of the IYPF's network members, Tigist Kassa, was in Germany to attend the latest G8 summit as an African Journalist sponsored by Panos. We include one of her articles below and a brief profile. For more, see her blog http://panos.blogs.com/africavox2007/tigist_kassa.html.

Money Is Necessary But Not A Solution: NEPAD Urges G8 Leaders

By Tigist Kassa

We are now in the last day of the G8 summit in Heiligendamm, Germany. This summit somehow it seems successful that Africa has been one of the agendas. In Russia summit, 2006, it was a challenge that issues regarding Africa weren't considered. Aids always available in all summits but G8 leaders commitment weren't in place.

Mrs. Thaninga Shope-Linney, Director General Manager of communication and outreach NEPAD secretariat disclosed that Africa has been receiving aid for many decades, but once that aid mismanaged, it is not properly accounted for it seems pointless.

After one trillion dollars of aid to Africa, and Africa a bigger basket case now than ever it has been, for the G8 leaders to state that they have come to the realization that Aid is no solution to anything, in fact it is just like welfare, but on an international scale, and like welfare it just creates corruption and dependency. As such they are now going to cease filling the pockets of African despots with taxpayer's cash.

After the delivery of the "Action Plan on Africa" by the G8 in Kananaskis, Canada, leaders of African countries were invited to the June 2007 G8 summit in Heiligendamm, Germany, to discuss the future of NEPAD. It is clearly see that NEPAD is not invited in the G8 summit but its countries are invited to discuss more about Africa said Mrs. Thaninga Shope-Linney.

Ethiopia is represented by Prime Minister Meles Zenawi as chairperson the house of state government implementation, Ghana represented by president Kufor as chairperson of Africa Union, South Africa represented by Thabo Mbeki chairperson of Africa Union Commission and Senegalese President Abdoulaye Wade also in the summit.

Topics such as debt relief, increase the aid, access to medicines, the fight against poverty and HIV/AIDS might have been on their agendas, but the summit hardly addressed these issues. But the head of states have taken Africa position that to talk more about implementation of the promises and better economic, political management to be put into effect after this summit.

Reports showed that the NEPAD program estimates that for Africa to achieve 7 per cent annual economic growth and reduce the number of people living in poverty by half by the year 2015, the continent will need to fill an annual resource gap of about \$64 bn. Much of that can be mobilized domestically, NEPAD's advocates argue, through increased export earnings and foreign investments and by reversing the flow of capital flight. But some African leaders were also hoping to receive \$10-12 bn more a year in aid.

However, the question is better economic, political management to implement the aid properly. Representatives of Africa may emphasize the point that money is necessary but not a solution for Africa.

Member Profile: Tigist Kassa



Panos G8 fellow
Broadcast Journalist, Media Consultant and Trainer
National Focal Point –Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS

About Me: I am a broadcast journalist, Media consultant and Media Trainer on HIV/AIDS reporting, currently working as a Local Voice Project Manager at Internews Network Ethiopia. I am also working as producer and presenter at Radio Voice of Eve. I have reported extensively on HIV/AIDS, reproductive health and Gender issues, and was awarded a Panos/Stop TB fellowship and Women Broadcast journalist of the Year in 2005.

From 2002-3 I was in Nairobi for a year to take part on the Fredskorpset south-to-south women's media exchange program. I also attended different media skills trainings in South Africa, Uganda, Kenya and Zambia. I recently spoke at the Youth Media Development Forum in Bamako, Mali.

Through my career I learnt so many things and got vast experiences and now it is the right time to share for others. I am just started being a media trainer and it really requests more effort to share what I have at hand. But the first thing is that tell your mind you are a positive thinker and wish positive for people. If you have good heart it will be very easy to exploit yourself so as to share what you have.

TOP LISTS

Capacity Day 2007

Effective leadership is a critical prerequisite for ownership and accountability for development results. Leadership development is more than training individuals; it encompasses a broader set of changes in institutions, policies, and behaviours. Yet the development community has paid limited explicit attention to leadership development in partner countries. The World Bank Capacity Day 2007 explored, through keynote addresses, discussion panels, and interactive audience engagement, how the World Bank and others might improve the support for leadership development.

Among the questions addressed throughout the day were:

- What aspects of leadership are critical to achieving development results?
- Which leadership development approaches make an impact and under what circumstances?
- How can the World Bank and others strengthen the attention and support provided to leadership development?

This event can be viewed on line here: <http://info.worldbank.org/etools/capacityDay2007/index.htm>

International Youth Day – 12 August 2007

It's time to begin preparing for International Youth Day 2007 (IYD), if you haven't already! The theme for IYD 2007 is "Be seen, be heard: youth participation for development". Team up! Organize! Celebrate! Take action! The Day presents a great opportunity to create awareness of the importance of youth participation and inclusion in the societies in which they live. For more information, please visit www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/iyouthday.htm.

Global Monitoring Report 2007: Confronting The Challenges Of Gender Equality & Fragile States

Released mid-April during the World Bank-IMF Spring Meetings, the 2007 Global Monitoring Report on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) assesses the contributions of poor and rich nations and international financial institutions toward meeting universally agreed development commitments. While progress on the first goal of halving poverty is on track everywhere except in Sub-Saharan Africa, efforts to attain goals related to child mortality, disease reduction, and environmental sustainability are falling short, according to the report. Fourth in an annual series, this year's report highlights two key thematic areas —gender equality and empowerment of women (the third MDG) and the special problems of fragile states, where extreme poverty is increasingly concentrated – where attention will need to be focused to meet critical development goals by 2015. The report also noted little or no increase in official aid to developing countries in 2006.

Multilingual website & downloadable text

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/EXTGLOBALMONITOR/EXTGLOMONREP2007/0,,menuPK:3413296~pagePK:64218926~piPK:64218953~theSitePK:3413261,00.html>

Video <http://streaming3.worldbank.org/asxgen/ext/media/041307-GMR07story.wmv>

Order the book http://publications.worldbank.org/ecommerce/catalog/product?item_id=6365770

World Development Indicators 2007

World Development Indicators is the World Bank's annual compilation of data about development. This statistical reference allows you to consult over 900 indicators for some 150 economies and 14 country groups in more than 80 tables. It provides a current overview of the most recent data available as well as important regional data and income group analysis in six thematic sections: World View, People, Environment, Economy, States and Markets, and Global Links.

Click here for more information:

http://publications.worldbank.org/ecommerce/catalog/product-detail?product_id=6355166

YEN Guide To Collaboration On Youth Employment

The Youth Employment Network (YEN) Secretariat and the YEN's Youth Consultative Group are jointly producing a new publication: *Joining Forces with Young People: A Practical Guide to Collaboration for Youth Employment*. The Guide has been designed to facilitate and motivate young peoples' participation in youth employment policymaking.

It also provides guidance for other stakeholders, primarily Governments, on why they should, and how they could engage youth organizations, demonstrating the added value of youth involvement. A public draft of this guide can be accessed at: www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/strat/yen/download/yendraft.pdf

Comment on Climate Strategy

Go here to read and comment: www.tigblog.org/group/iypfmembers/post/183163.

Some suggestions so far:

- all travel for IYPF business by staff and board members must be judged as necessary, logged and offset
- make an annual investment in renewable energy and/or revegetation projects being run by, preferably, young professionals or youth
- involve IYPF in tree planting activities in Australia (and perhaps other places as we expand)
- seriously look at each IYPS and other events we organise from a 'no impact' approach

PARTNER ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Pioneers of Change: An Invitation to Experience Sustainable Communities: A Call for PoC Global Journey in Brasil

"When we feel that any 'Other' and that goes for other than humans too, can never be an 'It', but always a 'Thou', then we will be community building from the roots." Lils Gunn on the PoC Global Journey 2007

"An Invitation to Experience Sustainable Communities" has been the motto and focus of this year's Cultivation Team and will also be the theme of our Global Journey, which will take place in Brasil from December 1st to 8th. Whether you'll be able to make it for this global event or not, we'd like to count on your collaboration and inputs for the design of this great learning adventure that is starting now... So we'd love to hear your reflections and learnings on things like:

- Occasions when you felt deeply INVITED and stepped forward to devote the best of yourself to a cause, an organization, an "impossible" job, a passion etc.
- Unique, life-long transformative EXPERIENCES you've had
- Your understanding of SUSTAINABILITY and/or examples of initiatives, organizations, people, communities trying to apply this concept wisely, and how they're doing it
- The importance of COMMUNITY at the various dimensions of your life, or examples where the sense of belonging to a community made a real difference for you

Last but not least, we'd like to hear also examples of things you yearn to experience being part of a global community like Pioneers of Change, and that could be offered in the particular context of this global event in Brasil...

Please send your inputs or any further question to cristina at pioneersofchange dot net

We look forward to starting this process with you all and to seeing many of you in Brasil soon!

- Cristina, Graziela, and Luciana, the Brasil hosting team

Partner Profile: Pioneers Of Change

Pioneers of Change is a global learning network supporting practitioners in their mid-20s to mid-30s. Founded in 1999 by a group of people from 16 countries, it now includes participants from around the world.

Pioneers are people who question underlying assumptions and move into new territory in order to create the change we want to see in the world. We include social entrepreneurs, members of the business, government and non-profit communities, as well as artists, teachers, and free agents from a variety of cultural and social backgrounds.

When you join Pioneers of Change you explicitly commit to the following principles:

- Be yourself
- Do what matters
- Start now
- Engage with others
- Never stop asking questions

For more information on Pioneers of Change, see www.pioneersofchange.net.

Development Marketplace Winners Announced

Twenty two projects won grants today from a \$4 million award pool co-funded by the World Bank's Development Marketplace (DM) and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Educating deaf youth about sex and HIV in Vietnam, creating a network of secondary health science schools in Southern Sudan and deploying novel mosquito traps to suppress dengue fever transmission in Brazil are among the winning ideas. Using DM funds, they will now have up to two years to carry out their projects and bring concrete benefits to local communities. South Asia was the most represented region among winners, with seven of 22 projects. Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean followed with six winners each. The largest number of winners from a single country was India, with four projects, followed by Kenya, Malawi, Costa Rica, Haiti, Philippines and Bangladesh with two each.

Titled "Improving Results in Health, Nutrition and Population for the Poor", this year's competition drew a record high of more than 2,900 applicants. Through a vigorous assessment process by health and development experts from inside and outside of the World Bank, the applicants were narrowed down to 104 finalists, who showcased their ideas at Bank headquarters May 22-23.

We believe fundamentally that this is one of the breeding ground for some of the best and brightest ideas in development today, said Joe Cerrell, director for Global Health Advocacy at the Gates Foundation, who served as juror for the competition. This is an area where the foundation can really make a good investment in spawning some of the innovative concepts and initiatives that you can find in any other place.

The DM is a competitive grant program that identifies and supports emerging development ideas. It has awarded some \$40 million to more than 1,000 projects through global and country-level competitions since 1998. Most of these years winning projects are carried out by non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as the New Sudan Initiative, which will create five health science secondary schools in Southern Sudan in an effort to jump-start a nearly collapsed health sector. Peace only came to southern Sudan in 2005, said project leader Abraham Awolich. There are basically zero health posts in some of the communities. For us to build the health care infrastructure, we have to begin with human resources.

Among the winners are a number of private businesses - alone or in partnership with local government or NGO. But most winners feature partnerships between an NGO and local government (such as a Zambia project treating acute malnutrition through outpatient care), or an NGO and academia (such as in Haiti, where the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Haitian NGO will create micro-enterprises specializing in the production and sale of affordable, clean-burning cooking charcoal made from agricultural waste).

To view the complete list of the winners, check: www.developmentmarketplace.org.

3427 Business Plan Entries In The Bid Challenge

After an intensive promotion campaign, with many thanks to the effort of our devoted partners, over 3000 entrepreneurs from all over the world registered to participate in this years' BiD Challenge. During the course of promotion we received 3427 entries from over 107 countries. Of these plans 2056 complied with the BiD Challenge criteria and were accepted to participate in round 1. An increase of 228% compared to last years' competition. The BiD Challenge 2007 consists of 1 international and 7 national competitions.

At this moment over 700 professionals all over the world are screening the round 1 business plans that were submitted to the BiD Challenge. The main objective of this screening procedure is to value the potential of the plans and to give constructive feedback to the participants. This feedback can be used in the development of the business plan before the round 2 deadline of September 3rd. Participants with the highest potential will receive assistance from a personal coach in writing a professional business plan.

Through prize money and financial commitments from the market, the BiD Challenge 2007 aims to assist in the start-up of businesses that contribute to poverty reduction in developing countries. The winners of the BiD Challenge will be announced in December.

Find out more here <http://www.bidnetwork.org/bidchallenge2007results>.

New records in the BiD Challenge 2007

The largest amount of plans submitted and accepted to the BiD Challenge International are from the Netherlands followed by Bolivia.

Of all the 7 national BiD Challenges, BiD Challenge Kenya received the most plans, followed by BiD Challenge Colombia.

The BiD Challenge welcomes for the first time participants from Haiti, Gabon and Norway.

New target countries of the submitted business plans include the islands Comoros, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Saint Helena, Barbados and also Antarctica.

The top 3 sectors targeted in the BiD Challenge 2007 are Agriculture, Training and Education and Services.

BiD Challenge 2007 round 1 statistics will be available on www.bidnetwork.org/bidchallenge as of Friday June 15th 2007.

IYPF COMMUNITIES

Putting Aid To Work

In recent years, the number of donors per country has tripled from a dozen in the 1960s. Regrettably, this has been accompanied by fragmentation in delivery: there are 230 funds, programs or organizations today - with 100 operating in health alone. For aid recipients, all this has meant more transaction costs, greater strain on capacity, and reduced flexibility in the use of these resources. In light of this, how can donors adopt a more coherent approach to avoid increasing aid fragmentation? IEG's Director-General Vinod Thomas offers his thoughts on how to address the changing landscape of development aid.

Read more: http://commentisfree.guardian.co.uk/vinod_thomas/2007/04/the_world_today_faces.html.

African Liberation Day And African Women's Youth Conference Report

The African Women's and Youth conference honoring African Liberation Day held at the University of Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar, Senegal on May 27, 2007 was a tremendous success. The African Women's Charity Organization and the Pan African Youth Organization of Senegal organized the conference. Flyers and posters were distributed throughout Dakar and its different schools, its suburbs and their schools, the countryside (Touba, Thies, Bagny, Rufisque and Mbacke) and its schools.

The debate was waged at a high level (politico-economic, social and moral). Various sisters brought their contribution to the debate. The call for building women collective savings, collective health care, education and agriculture has been put forward by the students.

The African Women's Charity Organization thanks the Pan-African Youth Organization for co-sponsoring this event with the African Women's Charity Organization. Our next conference will be in Ghana on March 8, 2008. We would like to thank all the people who are helping us build African Women and Youth Movements that are necessary to educate, mobilize, and organize the largest number of African Women and Youth as possible. Our vision includes collectively solving our problems to obtain proper childcare, housing, collective kitchens, transportation, healthcare, clean drinking water for all and employment/skills, etc. We must build a strong infrastructure in Africa and we must be tightly organized outside of Africa. We call for people who want to be an active part of the movement to contact us.

African Women's Charity Organization
P.O. Box 23074 Oakland, CA 94623-0074 U.S.A.
Phone: (415) 789-7360
Email: ForAfricanWomen@aol.com
Website: <http://hometown.aol.com/forafricanwomen/myhomepage/index.html>

Building African Women's & Youth Movements and Forming International Sisterhood

UNAIDS And Young People

Educate yourself and others, create awareness, raise funds, volunteer for your local HIV/AIDS organization, or join the fight against discrimination and prejudice. Find out more about how you can play a part in uniting the world against AIDS. Please see www.unaids.org/en/GetStarted/YoungPeople.asp.

GYAN Looking For Summer Interns

We are gearing up for a busy summer here at the GYAN Headquarters in New York, and we are looking for dynamic young people that want to spend parts of the summer with us. Several positions are available, and you'll get to learn more about the non-profit world, the global youth movement and the United Nations. We usually look for people that share our vision, are flexible and reliable, and have a good sense of humor. All internships are based in New York City and are unpaid. We are also seeking technology savvy people that can come in and help us set up and administer our computers and network. For a full listing of internships and volunteer opportunities and information on how to apply, please check out our page on Idealist.org www.idealists.org/en/org/105714-54.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY THEME

ACT otherWISE Showcases Youth Projects On World Environment Day *By Julia Collin*

Exciting things are happening for ACT otherWISE, a joint IYPF and RMIT pilot program in the ACT that educates young Canberrans about the impact of their lifestyle on the planet and motivates them to undertake their own sustainable projects to change their lives and communities. ACT otherWISE operates by running youth workshops where young people can learn, network and share ideas, and then supports emerging sustainable projects with a staff member and links to further resources, training and helpful organizations.

On June 4th ACT otherWISE hosted a World Environment Day celebration at the ACT Legislative Assembly to draw attention to environment issues in the National capital, and showcase the vibrancy and talent of young people who are working on their own sustainable projects. Several individuals and groups spoke about the projects they are currently working on, including personal lifestyle changes, a national day of action protest for environment change, a sustainable rock gig, a documentary on uranium mining, and a sewing skills group. Each group spoke of their motivations, how the ACT otherWISE workshop assisted them in taking sustainable action, and how they aim to achieve their goals now and in the future.

ACT otherWISE also celebrated a successful year of operations, after running 5 youth workshops, training almost 100 young people, training many local facilitators, and establishing lots of positive links between government, non-government and business sectors. A few days later the project groups received the fantastic news that their joint application for funding from the Foundation for Young Australians was successful (one of only 8 from a field of 61!). This includes almost \$10,000 for them to purchase vital equipment so that they can begin filming, sewing, learning, creating and rocking out! Much of this basic equipment will then be used to host ongoing free sewing workshops, documentary making projects and other exciting events and activities and will contribute to a vibrant youth-led sustainable community in the ACT.

Stay tuned for more news about ACT otherWISE and young Canberrans working to achieve their sustainability goals in the near future....

For more information on ACT otherWISE please contact project officer Julia Collin at actotherwise@gmail.com and check out the project blog at <http://ozotherwise.wordpress.com/>.

Positive Energy: Harnessing People Power To Prevent Climate Change

In the UK, the energy we use in our homes and for personal transport is responsible for almost half of the country's carbon dioxide emissions. The active participation of the public in solutions is therefore critical to reducing the country's overall contribution to climate change. This report examines ways to enable and persuade people to act, suggesting policies, techniques and communications approaches for promoting behaviour change.

Barely a week goes by without a press headline warning us of the dangers we face from climate change. Behind the stories, real people are already being hit, with climate change now killing 150,000 people a year. The technological solutions to prevent it from becoming much worse already exist. The challenge is to make the transition to them in time to avoid dangerous climate change.

Some of the changes needed to make that transition will be achieved entirely through regulations that largely affect industry. Others will require individuals to choose to behave differently. In the UK, the energy we use in our homes and for personal transport is responsible for 44 per cent of the country's carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. Engaging with the public is therefore critical to reducing the country's overall contribution to climate change.

Engaging the public will not only benefit the climate: helping individuals to use energy more efficiently and be less reliant on fossil fuels will also help government meet its other energy policy objectives of increasing energy security and reducing fuel poverty. More broadly, empowering people to exert control and resolve problems for themselves is a good in its own right: improving governance, deepening democracy and rebuilding trust.

Read more via the link below: www.ippr.org/publicationsandreports/publication.asp?id=541.

Earth Portal Launched

www.EarthPortal.org

The National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE) (www.ncseonline.org) is pleased to announce the formal launch of the Earth Portal.

Earth Portal is a comprehensive, free and dynamic resource for timely, objective, science-based information about the environment built by a global community of environmental experts: educators, physical, life, and social scientists, scholars, and professionals who have joined together to communicate to the world.

In contrast to information from anonymous sources with no quality control, the Earth Portal is created and governed by individuals and organizations that put their names behind their words and where attribution and expert-review for accuracy are fundamental.

The Earth Portal includes:

- Encyclopedia of Earth www.eoearth.org with an initial 2,300 articles from over 700 experts from 46 countries, as well as such content partners as the World Wildlife Fund and the United Nations Environment Programme. The Encyclopedia is a means for the global scientific community to come together to produce the first free, comprehensive expert-driven information resource on the environment. The Encyclopedia includes articles, e-books and reports, interactive maps, and biographies, and will eventually be published in other major languages. Environmental scholars and experts are invited to become contributors to the Encyclopedia www.eoearth.org/eoe/contribute.
- Earth News www.earthportal.org/news/ includes breaking news updates from many sources, with links from key words to Encyclopedia articles, enabling readers to learn about the science behind the headlines.
- Earth Forum www.earthportal.org/forum/ allows the public to engage in discussions with experts, ask questions and get answers, and to participate in community debates about issues that matter to them.
- Environment in Focus www.earthportal.org/?page_id=70 provides an exploration of a major issue each week -- energy, climate change, environmental economics and other topics -- led by a prominent expert in the subject and involving articles, news, places, discussions, Q&A, interesting facts, and more.

The National Council for Science and the Environment is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the scientific basis for environmental decision-making. The NCSE specializes in programs that foster collaboration among diverse institutions, communities and individuals. The NCSE serves as secretariat for a growing Environmental Information Coalition of environmental experts and organizations, which is building the Earth Portal. ManyOne Networks www.manyone.net, an innovative IT firm based near San Jose, California, has provided engineering and vision for the Earth Portal.

BAN THE BULB: Worldwide Shift from Incandescents to Compact Fluorescents Could Close 270 Coal-Fired Power Plants *By Lester R. Brown, Earth Policy Institute*

On February 20, 2007, Australia announced it would phase out the sale of inefficient incandescent light bulbs by 2010, replacing them with highly efficient compact fluorescent bulbs that use one fourth as much electricity. If the rest of the world joins Australia in this simple step to sharply cut carbon emissions, the worldwide drop in electricity use would permit the closing of more than 270 coal-fired (500 megawatt) power plants. For the United States, this bulb switch would facilitate shutting down 80 coal-fired plants.

The good news is that the world may be approaching a social tipping point in this shift to efficient light bulbs. On April 25, 2007, just two months after Australia's announcement, the Canadian government announced it would phase out sales of incandescents by 2012. Mounting concerns about climate change are driving the bulb replacement movement.

In mid-March, a U.S. coalition of environmental groups--including the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Alliance to Save Energy, the American Coalition for an Energy-Efficient Economy, and the Earth Day Network--along with Philips Lighting launched an initiative to shift to the more-efficient bulbs in all of the country's estimated 4 billion sockets by 2016.

In California, the most populous state, Assemblyman Lloyd Levine is proposing that his state phase out the sale of incandescent light bulbs by 2012, four years ahead of the coalition's deadline. Levine calls his proposed law the "How Many Legislators Does It Take to Change a Light Bulb Act." On the East Coast, the New Jersey

legislature is on the verge of requiring state government buildings to replace all incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescents by 2010 as part of a broader statewide effort to promote the shift to more-efficient lighting.

The European Union, now numbering 27 countries, announced in March 2007 that it plans to cut carbon emissions by 20 percent by 2020. Part of this cut will be achieved by replacing incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescents. In the United Kingdom, a nongovernmental group called Ban the Bulb has been vigorously pushing for a ban on incandescents since early 2006. Further east, Moscow is urging residents to switch to compact fluorescents. In New Zealand, Climate Change Minister, David Parker, has announced that his country may take similar measures to those adopted by Australia.

In April, Greenpeace urged the government of India to ban incandescents in order to cut carbon emissions. Since roughly 640 million of the 650 million bulbs sold each year in this fast-growing economy are incandescents, the potential for cutting carbon emissions, reducing air pollution, and saving consumers money is huge.

At the industry level, Philips, the world's largest lighting manufacturer, has announced plans to discontinue marketing incandescents in Europe and the United States by 2016. More broadly, the European Lamp Companies Federation (the bulb manufacturers' trade association) is supporting a rise in EU lighting efficiency standards that would lead to a phase-out of incandescent bulbs. (See data at www.earthpolicy.org/Updates/2007/Update66_data.htm.)

At the commercial level, Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer, announced a marketing campaign in November 2006 to boost its sales of compact fluorescents to 100 million by the end of 2007, more than doubling its annual sales. In the U.K, Currys, Britain's largest electrical retail chain, has announced that it will discontinue selling incandescent light bulbs.

While a worldwide phase out of the inefficient incandescents would reduce world electricity use by more than 3 percent, shifting to more-efficient street lighting and replacing older fluorescent tubes with newer, more-efficient ones might double this reduction in power use.

Although highly efficient compact fluorescent bulbs have been around for a generation, they have until recently been on the fringe, used only by environmentally-minded consumers and typically sold in hardware stores, but not in supermarkets. One reason consumers lacked interest was that the new bulbs can cost five times as much as incandescents. Only the more knowledgeable consumers knew that an incandescent bulb uses only one fourth as much electricity, lasts 10 times as long and easily saves \$50 during its lifetime.

One disadvantage of compact fluorescents is that each bulb contains a small amount of mercury, roughly one fifth the amount in a watch battery. This mercury is only a small fraction of that released into the atmosphere by the additional coal burned to power an incandescent.

Mercury released by coal-fired power plants is the principal reason why 44 of the 50 states in the United States have issued mercury intake advisories limiting the consumption of fish from freshwater streams and lakes. Nonetheless, worn-out compact fluorescents, watch batteries, and other items that contain mercury still need to be recycled properly. Fortunately, this is possible, whereas the mercury spewing from coal smokestacks blankets the countryside, ending up in the water and food supply.

Shifting to the highly efficient bulbs sharply reduces monthly electricity bills and cuts carbon emissions, since each standard (13 watt) compact fluorescent over its lifetime reduces coal use by more than 210 pounds. Such a shift also substantially reduces air pollution, making it obviously attractive for fast-growing economies plagued with bad air like China and India.

In the United States, an ingenious website called www.18seconds.org (the name derives from the time it takes to change a light bulb), provides a running tally of compact fluorescents sold nationwide since January 1, 2007. As of early May, it totalled nearly 37 million bulbs, yielding a reduction in carbon emissions comparable to taking 260,000 cars off the road. Sponsored by Yahoo! and Neilson, the site also provides data on how many dollars are being saved and how much less coal is burned. Data are available on the website for each state, providing a convenient way of monitoring local progress in replacing incandescents.

The challenge for each of us, of course, is to shift to compact fluorescents in our own homes if we have not already. But far more important, we need to contact our elected representatives at the city, provincial, or state level and at the national level to introduce legislation to raise lighting efficiency standards, in effect phasing out inefficient incandescent light bulbs. Few things can cut carbon emissions faster than this simple step.

In a world facing almost daily new evidence of global warming and its consequences, there is a need for a quick decisive victory in the effort to cut carbon emissions and stabilize climate. If we can engineer a rapid phase-out of incandescent light bulbs it would provide just such a victory, generating momentum for even greater advances in climate stabilization.

For Data and additional resources, visit www.earthpolicy.org

Problem Of The Biodiversity In Democratic Republic Of Congo
By ELUKESU KBOMBI Tonton Elton, NYP Executive Director, And KEKYA Léon, Specialist In
Environment At NYP-DRC Network Office

The strategy of the conservation for the biodiversity especially in protected areas in Democratic Republic of Congo "DRC" expresses the determination to play a major role in the conservation and the rational and durable use of its natural and cultural resources in favour of the future generations of the whole humanity. In this context, its general and specific objectives are in accordance with the world strategy of the conservation and with the agreement on the biological variety ratified by the DRC respectively in 1975 and 1994.

A plan should bring to light the priorities of management of protected areas as well as the practical modalities of their realization, in the precise context of abolishing wars and the progressive normalization of the general situation in the country. The strategy and the plan should have appropriate and effective instruments of management, so as to rehabilitate and restore functionality.

The conservation means the management of use of the biosphere by man in a way that the current generations achieve the maximum advantages of the living resources while insuring their perpetuity to be able to satisfy needs and aspiration of future generations.

The conservation process thus includes protection, maintenance, durable use, the restoration and the improvement of the natural environment. The conservation of the protected areas touches specifically the flora and the fauna, and also several other elements of the natural environment.

Contrary to the situation which prevailed ten years ago, the DRC is confronted with enormous difficulties of socio-economical-financial type and security problems, which determined the sensitive capacity reduction of diversity protection to assure their respective responsibilities in conservation of natural resources.

This difficult situation determined inestimable damages both on biodiversity, and infrastructure, without forgetting so many human lives sacrificed especially in periods of occasional wars during which the impoverishment of the population affected large proportions.

Natural inhabitants also have been, until today, have been practising several forms of despoliation, occupation, destruction and illegal exploitation of the mining and forest resources.

It is important to mention that more than 80 % of investments granted by the DRC and the International Community with the aim of the biodiversity conservation is annihilated. Nevertheless, the signature of the peace agreements among warring parties in DRC in 2002 on one hand, and the implementation of the republican institutions of transition on the other hand, have allowed, since June 2003, the normalization of the general situation in the country and gradually increase the security of the national territory.

The forest law which defines a new legal frame of management of RDC's forest resources is a major asset of the national land settlement as well as, the management of natural resources of the RDC, if applied in a convenient way.

Inventories of fixtures of the biodiversity, the sector protected areas. Protected Areas of the RDC include seven national parks (VIRUNGA, GARAMBA, KAHUZI-BIEGA, SALONGA, UPEMBA, KUNDELUNGU, MAIKO), Reserve of fauna To OKAPI, Marine Park of Mangrove swamps, and approximately 57 domains and hunting reservations. UNESCO considers five of these protected areas world heritage.

The threats to these protected areas are numerous, the most important are: poaching, occupation of some protected lands by the populations and illegal armed gangs, the exploitation of ores and the forestry development, among other threats such as wars and poverty.

We call for the rescue of the Biodiversity in RDC, which is for the good of all humanity.

Murdoch Turning His Empire Green

www.theage.com.au/news/national/murdoch-turning-his-empire-green/2007/05/09/1178390390101.html

Rupert Murdoch has got the message, and he wants the rest of us to get it, too.

He has become a convert to concerns about global warming and climate change, even recently buying a hybrid car for himself. He also announced that his worldwide media company, News Corp, intends to reduce its own net greenhouse gas emissions to zero by 2010. "We're not a manufacturer, or an airline, but we do use energy; printing and publishing newspapers, producing films and television programs, operating 24-hour newsrooms. It all adds carbon to the atmosphere," he said.

Mr. Murdoch said an independent audit had found the company's global operations produced 641,150 tons of carbon. Although some of his newspapers were once sceptical about global warming, he said that although he was no scientist, he knew how to assess a risk. "This one is clear. Climate change poses clear, catastrophic threats. We may not agree on the extent, but we certainly can't afford the risk of inaction," he said.

"When all of News Corporation becomes carbon neutral it will have the same impact as turning off the electricity in the city of London for five full days."

He said the company would install energy efficient light bulbs, buy energy from renewable sources and purchase hybrid cars. The carbon emissions it could not avoid would be offset by investing in projects that avoid releasing greenhouse gases. He said the company had already invested in wind power in India.

But Mr Murdoch made it clear the company's goal was much larger – to reach out to its vast audience and influence them to change their behaviour. "Our audience's carbon footprint is 10,000 times bigger than ours. That's the carbon footprint we want to conquer," he said.

"Imagine if we succeed in inspiring our audiences to reduce their own impacts on climate change by just 1 per cent. That would be like turning the state of California off for almost two months. "And imagine if we were able to take on the carbon footprint of our audience in Asia - in India alone, we reach 100 million people."

News Corp's MySpace has started a channel devoted to climate change issues, the TV series 24 will be produced using bio-diesel generators, and National Geographical Channel will launch an effort called Preserve Our Planet. But Mr. Murdoch signalled that News Corp would not be reporting climate change as "the end of the world". "The challenge is to revolutionize the message," he said. "For too long, the threats of climate change have been presented as doom and gloom - because the consequences are so serious.

"We need to do what our company does best: make this issue exciting. Tell the story in a new way. There are limits to how far we can push this issue in our content. Not every hero on television can drive a hybrid car. Oftentimes it just won't fit. We must avoid preaching. And there has to be substance behind the glitz. "But if we are genuine, we can change the way the public think about these issues."

OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES

Development Gateway Foundation Photo Contest

Have you ever thought that a picture of one of your projects could be worth \$500?

The Development Gateway Foundation is launching a photo contest open to all at least 18 years of age. We are looking for compelling photographs of socio-economic development in developing countries.

Four types of photographs will be accepted:

- 1- The images may show information and communications technologies helping ordinary people.
 - 2- The images may show people making something, selling wares, working in a field, constructing a building or type of infrastructure, or acquiring knowledge.
 - 3- The images could be abstract images representing hope, the future, or capacity building.
-

- 4- The photographs may also include images of original artwork from a developing country. Please do not include photographs of groups of people posing.

Each online entry must include a description explaining how that image is representative of development. Images will be judged on technical excellence, composition, overall impact, and artistic merit. Each entrant may enter up to three photographs. Acceptable photo formats are TIFF, JPEG, GIF or BMP. Photo size must be no larger than 3 megabytes.

The deadline to submit your photographs is September 21, 2007. The top ten photographs will be posted on the Development Gateway Foundation Web site from October 1-8. The winner of the \$500 prize will be announced on October 9. All visitors to the site will be eligible to vote.

For complete information and entering photo contest, check:

www.dgfoundation.org/news-events/photo-contest.html

For Photo contest questions or inquiries, e-mail: photocontest@dgfoundation.org

Third Global Knowledge Conference

Global Knowledge Partnership (GKP) will hold the Third Global Knowledge Conference (GK3) on 11 to 13 December 2007, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. GK3 will mark the 10th year celebration of GKP as the leading international multi-stakeholder network committed to harnessing the potential of Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) for sustainable and equitable development.

GK3 will bring together over 2,000 visionaries, international leaders, practitioners and policy-makers to engage on the theme of "Emerging People, Emerging Markets, and Emerging Technologies".

"GK3, a GKP Event on The Future, will not only be a celebration of what GKP has become, but more importantly, it will be a springboard into what we see our world becoming in the future. As GK3 will be presented in excellent array of expert panels and hands-on workshops, we are confident that our delegates will feel empowered with the knowledge that they have made a positive impact on the growing concerns around the world," said Walter Fust, Chair of the GKP Executive Committee and Director-General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Corporation (SDC).

More @ www.GKPEventsOnTheFuture.org.

About Global Knowledge Partnership

GKP is a multi-sector, multi-stakeholder partnership that acts as an effective agent for change as the organisation works collaboratively with members and partners. All members share the GKP vision, and belief, that development across all spheres (social, political, economic) is dependent on knowledge and access to knowledge, that development should be guided by knowledge, and that knowledge sharing is an effective and empowering means of enabling growth and development.

"Due to GKP's shared conviction that together we achieve more, and together we can create an understanding that ICT is fundamental in helping expand people's access to knowledge, we can make the use of knowledge more effectively in our efforts to improve lives, reduce poverty and empower people. This is a source of strength that enhances our effectiveness as a network and enables us to work together towards a common cause that transcends the ethnic and geographic diversity of our members," said Rinalia Abdul Rahim, GKP Executive Director.

More @ www.globalknowledge.org

3rd International Women's Peace Conference: Empowering Peacemakers

Organiser: European Marketing Research Center (EMRC)

Organiser: Peacemakers Incorporated

Date: 10 to 15 July 2007

Venue: Dallas, Texas, USA

www.globalknowledge.org/gkps_portal/eventsmaster.cfm?action=detail&menuid=85&retrieveid=1300

25-29 June: Young People In Asia Make Their Voices Heard

The series of UNESCO Regional Youth Forums continues with a regional youth forum in Asia to be held on Jeju Island in the Republic of Korea.

The forum, under the theme, Young People and the Dialogue among Civilizations, Cultures and Peoples, is expected to bring together young delegates from 28 countries in the region and representatives of youth organizations to debate on Intercultural and Interfaith dialogue and to elaborate related recommendations for youth-led action. The series of UNESCO Regional Youth Forums will continue with Forums for Africa, the Americas and the Arab States. For more information, please contact: mh.henriques-mueller@unesco.org.

12-15 August: 4th Annual Youth Assembly At The United Nations

An NGO-based project, the Youth Assembly at the United Nations is a youth empowerment gathering that focuses on social enterprise through the realization of the Millennium Development Goals. Every year, the Assembly provides avenues for students and young professionals (18-26 years old) to learn about, and become involved with, programmes that address global and local issues. It also provides networking opportunities to the participants. For additional details, please visit www.faf.org.

26-30 August: UNEP Tunza International Youth Conference

The TUNZA International Youth Conference will be held this year in Leverkusen, Germany. It is one of the main platforms for cooperation and interaction between the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and its youth partners. It is the vision of the organization to "foster a generation of environmentally conscious citizens who will better influence decision-making processes and act responsibly to create a sustainable world". Organized for young people (15-24 years), the Conference provides opportunities for youth to learn from one another, share experiences and ideas on community-based environmental actions and develop joint strategies on promoting environmental protection. For more information, please visit www.unep.org/tunza/youthconference.

MERCOSUR Youth Social Forum

Date: September 6-9, 2007

Location: Florianópolis, Brazil

The purpose of this event is to collect new proposals to make a new world without violence and poverty. You can participate or suggest a workshop on youth employment, poverty reduction and education. For more information, click www.forumsocialdajuventude.com.br or send an email to forumdajuventude@terra.com.br.

ABOUT IYPF

What is the IYPF?

The International Young Professionals Foundation (IYPF) is a not-for-profit organisation based in Australia that has been mobilising young professionals to take action on social and sustainability issues since it was founded in October 2001.

The IYPF's vision is *"a global community of young professionals creating a better world current and future generations through local and global action"*. The IYPF sets out to achieve this by informing, inspiring and equipping young professionals as sustainability practitioners and social change agents. Young professionals are those aged 18 – 40, typically in the early stages of their careers.

To achieve its vision, the IYPF's mission has it working with existing young professional social entrepreneurs and change agents, as well as reaching out to educate, inform and inspire others to use their power, privilege, skills and abilities to create a better world for current and future generations.

WHAT DO WE DO?

We build and resource a global network of young professionals who are creating a better world for current and future generations through local and global action. We do this through 5 key activities:

1. Facilitating conversations and information sharing between young professionals that informs and inspires them to take action on important local and global issues through online communities, newsletters, blogs, publications, and presentations. See www.iypf.org/IYPF-campaigns.htm, www.iypf.org/news.htm
2. Running projects that facilitate youth and young professional led social change, e.g. the Blueprint Project (www.iyps.org/blueprint) to nurture youth entrepreneurship; the Youth & Sustainable Consumption project (www.iypf.org/IYPF-projects.htm#YouthSC) to develop young sustainability leaders
3. Assisting young professionals to start and run successful community projects (www.iypf.org/member-projects.htm) and local events
4. Convening regular international summits of young professionals. www.iyps.org.
5. Growing and managing a Member Activities Fund to support young professional led projects, events and organisations and assist young professionals in their development as community leaders (starting in 2007)

How You Can Help

Join our team

www.iypf.org/employment.htm

If you are interested in developing yourself professionally through volunteering your time to assist the IYPF achieve its vision, contact IYPF's Human Resources Officer, Britt Jacobsen, on brittjacobsen@iypf.org.

Become a member

www.iypf.org/membership.htm

Become a paid or associate member and help IYPF develop a worldwide network of young professionals who catalyse positive change in their lives, communities, organisations, and ultimately the world. Review the information online for benefits and how to join.

Spread the word

Use information from our website, including introductory PowerPoint presentations on the IYPF, IYPF membership application forms and information, and this and past newsletters, to encourage others to become members. Get people to sign up to receive the newsletter for free each month through the website.

Help others become members

www.iypf.org/payments.htm#donations

The IYPF maintains a Membership Donations Trust fund to assist young professionals who wish to be IYPF members but who cannot afford the full fees.

Share opportunities and resources

www.iypf.org/IYPF-campaigns.htm

Join your regional online community and share development opportunities, sustainability, and social change resources with other young professionals. You can also join topical communities on sustainability and social change issues, including globalisation, fresh water, poverty eradication, HIV & AIDS, Downshifting, Education and ICTs.

Support

www.iypf.org/member-projects.htm

IYPF has a number of endorsed projects and supports its members to turn their ideas into successful projects and ventures. The IYPF regularly receives new project proposals and there are always opportunities for young professionals to get involved.

Got something to say?

We're always searching for passionate and dedicated writers to contribute news of events, resources, articles and stories relevant to young professionals who are creating a better world for current and future generations.

Contact us at newsletter@iypf.org