

Newsletter

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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Have Impact Assessments Passed Their "Sell By" Date?

• Richard Fuggle, IAIA President

We need, all of us, to use this Association, its members and its energies to dispel the negative perceptions that have become widespread.

During the past twelve months, professional activities related to impact assessment have taken me to twelve different countries and five continents. From the world's poorest to its richest, from the most corrupt to the most honourable, from South to North and East to West, I have come into contact with politicians and peasants, rich and poor, scientists and sociologists, international and local NGOs, CBOs of various types, the world's largest impact assessment consultancies and one-person consultancies, some of the world's largest businesses as well as small village-based self help schemes, international financial institutions and small micro-credit schemes. Why tell you this? Because in my personal experience, everywhere and across the entire spectrum of persons, there is a common theme: disillusionment with measures designed to promote sustainable development, and scepticism that impact assessments are in fact contributing to better decisions, be they environmental or economic, health or heritage, social or strategic in nature.

I am not saying that impact assessment as a concept has

failed completely and is about to be discarded. I am saying that a wide spectrum of persons are disillusioned with it. Some by the product, some by the process, some by decision makers being unresponsive.

Yes, there are some positive developments: the world's major banks have adopted in principle the International Finance Corporation's safeguard policies—the so-called Equator Principles. Regional planning and strategic assessments are finding each other compatible. As impact assessment practitioners we should ensure that those involved with these new initiatives don't also become disillusioned. Already some banks appear to be having second thoughts about the Equator Principles.

Why should there be this disillusionment? One reason may be that too many different things are being expected from impact assessments. Different stakeholders have very different ideas as to what IA is and what can be expected of it. Proponents of projects often expect IA to make opposition go away; opponents of projects expect IA to prevent change from happening in their backyard. Investors expect IA to save them money, while consultants expect projects to spend more money on impact assessments. Quite simply, all

these aspirations cannot be satisfied simultaneously! Throughout the world there is a real need for people—the general public, NGOs and decision-makers—to be better informed about IA: All need to appreciate what it is and what can be expected from it. Capacity building in IA needs to reach all these groups and not only bureaucrats and consultants.

It could also be that disillusionment is widespread because the fundamental principles of environmental impact assessment are not being respected and applied except in very few countries. IA is often not done before plans or projects have been designed and approved. IA frequently does not focus decision-making on significant effects and real issues. And very seldom are genuine reasonable alternatives put forward for all affected parties to debate. The data gathering processes and the scientific interpretations of this data are sometimes not carried out fairly and honestly and according to agreed procedures. When these basics are not respected, impact assessment becomes no more than a bureaucratic exercise that will cause frustration, delays and disillusionment.

The lack of faith in impact assessment may also be caused because of a lack of political

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■ ■ ■ Affiliates & Branches News



Celebrate the Spirit! IAIA's 25th Anniversary 1980-2005

IAIA Milestones #4 Did you know...

2000: IAIA Committee structure revised

Individual membership numbers reached 1,200, representing 111 nations

IAIA Affiliates provide local programs to Affiliate participants

IAIA Strategic Plan presented as "map to the future"

2001: 20th anniversary year
First annual conference held in South America

First Branch established (IAIA-Washington Area Branch)

MoU signed with Ramsar

2002: IAIA participated in the World Summit on Sustainable Development

MoU signed with the Convention on Biodiversity

2003: Work begun on Capacity Building and Impact Assessment (CBBIA) grant

IAIA-World Bank SEA in China project begun

Web site divided into member and non-member sections; training component developed

2004: Largest meeting to date: 876 attendees in Vancouver, Canada

IAIA co-sponsors first international forum on IA in China

Membership reaches more than 1,500



This is the last of a four-part milestones series. Look for 25th anniversary celebrations taking place in Boston!

Portuguese Affiliate Hosts First National Conference on IA

IAIA's Affiliate in Portugal, the Portuguese Association for Impact Assessment (APAI), hosted the 1st National Conference on Impact Assessment, under the general theme "What future for Impact Assessment?". About 110 participants including government officers, consultants, industry and infrastructure developers, and academics actively participated in the Conference that was held at Aveiro, a Portuguese city south of Oporto, from 3-5 November 2004. Overall, thirty-five papers and six posters were presented, while keynote papers at the opening session were offered by two past presidents of IAIA—Maria Partidário and Elvis Au—who shared with participants their visions on the future of impact assessment.

An energy saving and carbon free policy was adopted. The Portuguese Railway companies (REFER and RAVE) sponsored the conference by making free train tickets available to all conference participants to encourage the use of public transport and to reduce GHG emissions. The outcome was that the energy saved was the equivalent to about one-third of the daily consumption of public illumination in the city of Aveiro. Results were presented in the closing session.

Conference debates were dominated by concerns related to the need to improve the quality of EIS and of the EIS review system, the need to improve dialogue between stakeholders and the need for better screening and scoping approaches.

A key output of this Conference is a list of sixty-one measures intended to improve the national system of EIA. These measures were approved by conference participants based on the results of seven thematic workshops carried out between September 2003 and March 2004, which involved more than 150 participants throughout more than 600 hours of workshop discussions. These conclusions—which include suggestions for changes in the regulations and in procedures, and the publication of guidelines—will be presented to the Parliamentary Commission for the Environment, the Ministry of Environment and other Government departments.

Julio Jesus julio.jesus@apai.org.pt

Western and Northern Canada (WNC) Affiliate: Report of the Regions

The WNC Affiliate has three active regional committees: Calgary, Southern Alberta; Yellowknife, Northwest Territories and Nunavut; and Vancouver, British Columbia. Efforts are underway to establish new committees in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. At present we have approximately 80 paid members.

2004 Activities

In April, the WNC Affiliate in association with the Quebec and Ontario Affiliates organized and co-hosted IAIA'05 in Vancouver.

Lunch time seminars and conferences were held in the regional centres. In Calgary, Dr. Alan Kennedy of Imperial Oil Resources spoke on *Challenges and Opportunities* relative to the Mackenzie Gas Project Environmental Impact Assessment. Dan Woynilowicz of the Pembina Institute for Appropriate Development spoke on *The Multiple Personalities of EIA in Alberta: The Challenge of Being "Every-*

thing to Everybody," and Dr. Angus Morrison-Saunders of Murdoch University, Australia spoke on *EIA Follow-up: What's it all about?*

In Vancouver, Wayne Soper of Duke Energy spoke on *Sustainability and Environmental Assessment* and seminars were held on Environmental Assessment of the Richmond-Airport-Vancouver Rapid Transit Project and on The First Nations Environmental Assessment Tool-kit.

In Yellowknife, Theo Hacking, a doctoral candidate at Cambridge University, spoke on *Sustainable Development: Is EIA a useful tool for ensuring that mining projects contribute to sustainable development?* Ginger Gibson, Trudeau Scholar at the department of mining engineering at UBC, described emerging research collaborations with northern aboriginal communities focusing on approaches to sustainability indicator development, with an emphasis on social impacts.

The NWT region hosted a conference on EIA and Transportation in March. In November they hosted a conference focusing on northern environmental assessment issues. Speakers included Dr. Brian Chambers, Northern Gas Pipeline Secretariat (*The Assessment Process for the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline*), Louie Azzolini, Terra Firma Consultants (*Paying for Pollution: Using Market Forces to Achieve a Sustainable Future*), Albert Genier, Band Councilor, Mayo, Yukon (*Environmental Impacts of Coal Bed Methane Revealed*), Bill Tilleman, Adjunct Professor of Environmental Law, University of Calgary (*Segmenting Projects*), Alan Ehrlich, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Assessment Review Board (*Challenges in Integrating Traditional Knowledge in EIA*), and Tiffany Paul, Nunavut Impact Review Board (*Transboundary Issues of the Bathurst Port and Road*).

continued on page 3

Affiliates & Branches News ■ ■ ■

Washington Area Branch (WAB) Highlights

The WAB met 8 December 2004 in Washington, DC. Richard Fristik of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Institute for Water Resources, spoke on the "U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Training Course: Planning for Ecosystem Restoration—International Applications?". The presentation began with a broad overview of the Corps of Engineers, its mission areas, and a description of the project planning process that the agency uses, then described one of the Corps training courses involving planning for ecosystem restoration, including the course purpose, course components, method of presentation, etc. Follow-up discussion solicited suggestions for possible improvements to the course and posed the important question of whether a modified version of this course is "exportable," i.e., could it have application in the international development/impact assessment realm?" For a copy of the presentation, contact Richard Fristik (Richard.Fristik@WRC01.USACE.ARMY.MIL).

WAB's next meeting will be held 12 January 2005 (venue to be determined). Carl Gallegos, a consultant and former head of the Environment at the Africa Bureau of the US Agency for International Development will discuss modernization of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). For information on the meeting, contact Jean-Roger Mercier (jmercier@worldbank.org).

WNC Affiliate (continued from page 2)

2005 Events

Upcoming 2005 events include the Southern Alberta Region's hosting the 2004/5 AGM in Calgary 7-8 April. The AGM will be part of a two-day conference on Corporate Social Responsibility. Conference chair Miles Scott-Brown can be contacted at miles_scott-brown@praxis.ca. Out of town visitors are welcome. The website for the WNC IAIA Affiliate is www.iaia-wnc.ca. Leigh Speed leigh.speed@highwoodenv.com

International Report Reveals Georgia Basin-Puget Sound Airshed Air Quality

A team of researchers led by Environment Canada and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has released the "Characterization of the Georgia Basin-Puget Sound Airshed Report."

The report provides crucial scientific support for Canadian and U.S. decision makers who are working to develop an International Airshed Strategy: the first high profile, international effort to address air quality in the Pacific Northwest.

Air pollution negatively affects human health and places a burden on health care systems. Health impacts range from eye, nose and throat irritations to more serious lung disease and cancer. Poor air quality also costs our economy in the form of lost tourism revenue. For a single extreme visibility event, computer models estimate losses in future tourist revenue to be more than \$7 million in the Greater Vancouver area. Georgia Basin farmers are also affected by poor air quality due to damaged crops caused by airborne pollutants. The full report is available online at www.pyr.ec.gc.ca/air/gb_ps_airshed. Geoff Gilliard geoff.g@telus.net

Okanagan Climate Change Report Released

In November 2004, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Environment Canada and the University of British Columbia completed the report "Expanding the Dialogue on Climate Change & Water Management in the Okanagan Basin, British Columbia." This report is the culmination of a two-year collaborative research project, supported by the Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Program of Natural Resources Canada, which examined the implications of climate change for the Okanagan's water resources.

An electronic version of the report is available on the web site of the Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability at UBC (www.ires.ubc.ca). An electronic version of the report's executive summary is available on the Government of Canada's Climate Change web site (www.climatechange.gc.ca).



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■ ■ ■ Professional News

SEA/Transport Planning Newsletter Published

The 6th edition of the SEA and Transport Planning Newsletter, sponsored by the European Conference of Ministers of Transport, has been published. This edition deals with recent SEA guidance from the UK, Ireland, Japan, France and the European Commission and provides signposts to over 140 articles. Contributions are sought for the next edition, due early next year. The Newsletter can be downloaded for free from www.sea-info.net/newsletters.htm. Paul Tomlinson Head - Environmental Assessment & Planning, TRL Limited Ptomlinson@trl.co.uk

Biodiversity in SEA



Kolibri (hummingbird) in South America's Pantanal, the world's largest wetland. Photo courtesy of Roel Slootweg.

The Netherlands Commission for EIA is preparing Guidelines for the integration of biodiversity considerations in Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). They will be drafted in close consultation with the Biodiversity & Ecology and SEA sections of IAIA and will be based on lessons learned from "success stories"; i.e., good quality SEAs in which biodiversity was an important issue. A first set of guidelines will be drafted in January 2005 and will form the basis for an open discussion with practitioners at IAIA'05 in Boston and the IAIA-SEA conference in Prague. Additionally, a meeting of senior experts on SEA and biodiversity is planned in March/April 2005.

The activity is part of IAIA's Action Programme for Biodiversity in Impact Assessment. Close collaboration with IAIA's Capacity Building on Biodiversity in Impact Assessment (CBBIA) project provides relevant input and exchange of views with practitioners. Suggestions for good case material or any other ideas are welcome. Please direct comments to Robert Höft, Secretariat of CBD, robert.hoft@biodiv.org; Arend Kolhoff, Netherlands Commission for EIA, akolhoff@eia.nl; and/or Roel Slootweg, SevS human and natural environment consultants, sevs@sevs.nl. Roel Slootweg

French Version of UNEP EIA Training Resource Manual Released

The French version of the UNEP EIA Training Resource Manual was launched 20 September 2004 at the 9th annual Colloquium of Francophone experts in impact assessment, Ougadougou, Burkina Faso. The colloquium was organized by le Secrétariat international francophone pour l'évaluation environnementale (SIFÉE).

Since the manual's initial publication, Francophone professionals have sought a French translation. This request was voiced most recently at IAIA'03 in Marrakech, and at a February 2004 meeting on EIA capacity building in Central Africa—jointly organized by the Sub-regional Secretariat for Environmental Assessment in Central Africa (SEACA), UNEP and the IUCN Regional office of central Africa.

The launching was attended by Colloquium participants and representatives of national and international environmental management agencies working in Burkina Faso. Background on the manual was presented, as well as experiences and opportunities for using and customizing the manual in Francophone countries. CDs of the manual were also distributed. For further information, contact UNEP ETB at etb@unep.ch. Dieudonne Bitondo, Executive Secretary, Sub-regional Secretariat for Environmental Assessment in Central Africa (SEACA), bitondo@hotmail.com. Dieudonne Bitondo

JICA's New System for Environmental and Social Considerations

In April 2004 the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the major body for Official Development Assistance (ODA), implemented its revised Guidelines on Environmental and Social Consideration for ODA activities. The guidelines are seen as an improvement over the 2003 guidelines issued by the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), in that they require information disclosure and the application, where appropriate, of strategic environmental assessment. The requirements for public involvement under the new guidelines are more rigorous than those of the World Bank and similar to the US NEPA in that public consultation is required during scoping, draft EIA and final EIA report submission. In addition to the creation of a division specifically for managing ODA activities, a special external board of experts has been established for reviewing EIA documents and an inspection panel created under the JICA president for ensuring compliance with the guidelines.

For access to the JICA guidelines in English, including the study committee: www.jica.go.jp/english/index.html. For access to the JBIC guidelines in Japanese: www.jbic.go.jp/japanese/environ/. For access to the study group of the JBIC guidelines: www.sg-egl-jbic.org/. Sachihiko Harashina Tokyo Institute of Technology sahara@depe.titech.ac.jp



Former IAIA board member Sachihiko Harashina (left) hands the committee report to Ms Sadako Ogata, president of JICA. Photo courtesy of JICA.

UNEP ETB Initiative on Integrated Assessment and Planning for Sustainable Development

The Economics and Trade Branch (ETB) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is currently conducting a major initiative to enhance the capacities of countries, particularly developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to conduct *ex-ante* integrated assessment and planning (IAP), with particular focus on sustainable trade promotion, poverty reduction and sound environmental management. The project is being funded by the Norwegian Government. Country projects have already been launched in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Indonesia, Russia and Uganda, and projects are due to be launched in China, the Czech Republic, Kenya, Lebanon and Tanzania in the coming months.

A mid-term review meeting is scheduled to take place 16 -18 February 2005 to review the status of each project and to provide a forum for participating countries to exchange knowledge and experiences with other country teams.

For further information: www.unep.ch/etu or contact UNEP ETB at etb@unep.ch. Hussein Abaza
UNEP Economics and Trade Branch husein.abaza@unep.ch

UNEP-UNCTAD CBTF Capacity Building Workshop on Integrated Assessment

A Capacity Building Workshop on Integrated Assessment will be held in Geneva back-to-back with the mid-term review meeting, 14 -15 February 2005. The workshop is organized under the auspices of the UNEP-UNCTAD Capacity Building Task Force (CBTF) for Trade, Environment and Development and responds to requests for further training on integrated assessment in several regional meetings and workshops. It targets the country teams of the IAP projects and other institutions that are in a position to either conduct integrated assessments in cooperation with their governments or train others on integrated assessment (training institutes, universities, research institutes, NGOs, etc.). The workshop aims to provide participants with a better understanding of the concept of integrated assessment, with a particular focus on trade-related policies, and discuss its application in the participating countries. It is based on the experiences gained through 18 country projects on integrated assessment and the ongoing IAP projects.

For further information: www.unep.ch/etu or contact UNEP ETB at etb@unep.ch. Hussein Abaza
UNEP Economics and Trade Branch husein.abaza@unep.ch

SEA Legislation for Austrian Spatial Plans

The requirements of the European Union Directive on strategic environmental assessment (2001/42/EC) were to be integrated with the legal systems of the 25 EU member states by 21 July 2004. In Austria this requires the efforts of the federal and the nine provincial legislatures. Viewing spatial planning as a legislative and executive competence of the provinces, three provinces (Carinthia, Salzburg and Styria) have implemented the SEA Directive with regard to their spatial plans (various supra-local as well as local plans). The new Carinthian Environment Planning Act goes beyond spatial planning and covers other plans like the provincial waste management plan, whereas Salzburg and Styria only amended their existing Spatial Planning Acts in order to implement the SEA Directive and meet its requirements. Ralf Aschemann Austrian Institute for the Development of Environmental Assessment (An !dea) office@anidea.at

Law of the People's Republic of China on Environmental Impact Assessment

Laws on EIA in China have evolved significantly in recent years. On 28 October 2002, at the 30th standing committee conference of National Congress, the Law of the People's Republic of China on Environmental Impact Assessment was passed, coming into effect on 1 September 2003. The Law includes provisions for SEA and a chapter on planned environmental assessment, which includes both area wide, or land use planning, and sector specific plans, such as industry, agriculture, transportation, energy, and tourism. Issues of public participation and censoring of EIAs for sector plans are emphasized, with SEA and public participation providing for a deeper understanding of citizen concerns. The rigor of EIA application since the Law's inception is well evidenced in practice. An EIA database is currently under construction. For additional information: www.zhb.gov.cn/english/. Xiaoge, Hou Beijing University houxiaoge0925@sina.com

Mark Your Calendar

III Spanish Congress of EIA and International Seminar on SEA and EIA

6-9 April 2004, Pamplona (Navarre), Spain. Organized by the Spanish Association for EIA in collaboration with the University of Navarre and the Public University of Navarre. For more information: +34 91 3731000 or www.eia.es.

■ ■ ■ From the President

Have Impact Assessments Passed Their "Sell By" Date (continued from page 1)

Disaster in Southeast Asia

"Whether devastation and destruction are by the hand of Man or Nature, IAIA is of one mind in its compassion and intent to make this world a better place for all. There are simply no insignificant human or environmental tragedies." Rita Hamm, IAIA CEO, September 2001 (on the occasion of the major terrorist attacks in the USA)

With hundreds of thousands of people found dead, missing, or left hungry, homeless, and facing uncertain futures following the devastating tsunami in Southeast Asia on 26 December 2004, once again our global village is struggling with destruction and human tragedy of unthinkable proportions.

We at IAIA extend our sympathy, encouragement and support to colleagues and friends in the affected nations and encourage compassion for our neighbors, not only during these times of crises, but throughout the years in our own back yards.

appetite for IA. Changing IA content or process is not going to help if the people who make decisions don't want or don't believe in impact assessment in the first place, or if they have no intention of implementing findings that are not politically expedient.

Another reason why environmental impact assessments may have lost their credibility is because of an almost universal lack of follow-up and enforcement of provisions and findings. Without follow-up, bad practice is not exposed, mitigation measures are ignored, ineffective mitigation methods are not abandoned, and economists and technical people are not held accountable for bad work or inaccurate predictions. Quite simply, without monitoring and follow-up, much needed learning and feedback is not being built into impact assessment. All too often there is a mismatch between what is stated in an impact assessment report and what actually takes place on the ground. Follow-up is needed to ensure that this divergence does not cause impact assessments to lose their credibility even more.

Suggestions for overcoming scepticism about EIA

I have reflected on why many people in many countries are disillusioned with impact assessment. I offer the following suggestions for actions that might move IA ahead positively.

1. Technical and scientific competence and political processes are equally important in impact assessment. If one aspect is stressed at the expense of the other, the entire enterprise is weakened. Environmental and social impact assessment is certainly intended to empower the marginalized and to promote inclusive planning and governance, but it is also required to be technically and scientifically accurate and robust

and to be pragmatic with respect to costs. Impact assessments should contribute to debate and a search for optimum solutions based on holistic and integrated decisions mutually acceptable to all affected parties.

2. In the modern world we all suffer from information overload. Impact assessments should not make this worse! Encyclopedic impact assessment reports should be taboo. Shorter focused studies and reports that deal with the issues that will affect the decision should be the aim. Sometimes predominantly social analyses will be needed, sometimes predominantly economic or technical analyses will be needed. Studying and reporting on issues that will have no bearing on the decision to be made serves only to inflate costs and to increase skepticism as to the value of impact assessments. Genuine scoping that involves all role players early in the decision-making cycle is essential.

3. Follow-up is an integral part of the impact assessment process, but it is the element that is most often being ignored. Impact assessment without follow-up creates the illusion of environmental responsibility, when in fact no one is defending the public interest or the environment. When this happens disillusionment with the IA process sets in. Adequate provision of personnel and budget for monitoring and follow-up of the terms and conditions set in EIAs or in Records of Decision is in urgent need of attention throughout the world.

4. If governments, at all levels, continue to regard impact assessments as a largely bureaucratic and administrative exercise that they can apply, rework or ignore as they deem fit, impact assessments will not contribute to

sustainability or gain in credibility. All levels of government need to be reminded that they have a moral duty, as well as international obligations under numerous conventions, to safeguard the well being of their citizens and the environment.

5. Impact assessments are not "magic bullets" to solve all social and political problems. The benefits of impact assessment should not be over-stated and their limitations must be recognized. Linking the EIA process closely to urban and land-use planning so that the two disciplines interweave and complement each other is also highly desirable. Situations in which environmental impact assessment and land-use planning are uncoordinated or in which they compete with each other are counter-productive and must be avoided.

Around the world the International Association for Impact Assessment has been making valuable contributions to both the science and politics of impact assessment. IAIA brings together persons involved with impact assessment from all sectors, consultants, regulators, developers, and investors. We need, all of us, to use this Association, its members and its energies to dispel the negative perceptions that have become widespread. The IAIA'05 meeting in Boston with the theme of Ethics and Quality presents an ideal opportunity for impact assessment practitioners to debate whether impact assessment has indeed passed its "sell by" date.

This article is a shortened and modified version of the keynote address that Richard Fuggle presented at the 1st China International Forum on Environmental Impact Assessment held in Bo'ao, China, 13-15 December 2004.

Kuwait Honours Husain Sadar for EIA Contributions

Husain Sadar was presented a certificate of appreciation signed by the Kuwaiti Ministry of Health, Kuwaiti EPA, Kuwait National Petroleum Company and Kuwait Society of Occupational Health & Environmental Medicine during a Kuwait-Canada Colloquium on EIA capacity building held April 2004 in Montreal, Canada. Husain was recognized for "his valuable contributions to EIA and environmental health impact assessment capacity building, and for promoting Canada- Kuwait cooperation in this area" and "his efforts to establish linkages among Canadian and Kuwaiti institutions and professionals." Mark Curtis McGill-UNEP Environmental Assessment Unit curtis@nrs.mcgill.ca

Meeting Held on Draft Marrakech Declaration Action Plan

About twenty IAIA members met 7-8 October 2004 in Marrakech to provide input to the draft Plan of Action of the Marrakech IAIA Declaration on IA Capacity Building for Developing Countries (2003).

The meeting was held back-to-back with a Capacity Building and Linkages in EIA in Africa (CLEIAA) meeting to capitalize on the human resources already gathered in Marrakech.

Presentations and key preparatory documents from the meeting are available on CD-ROM from IAIA HQ. Jean-Roger Mercier World Bank jmercier@worldbank.org

Noble Joins Newsletter Team; Morrison-Saunders Steps Down

Bram Noble, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography at the University of Saskatchewan (Canada), is taking over as co-editor of the professional news section for Angus Morrison-Saunders. Angus stepped down in December 2004 to assume duties as book review editor for IAPA.

The Publications Committee and HQ staff, on behalf of IAIA, welcome Bram to the team and express our deepest appreciation to Angus for his service over the past three years.

IAIA's success depends on individuals like you who generously volunteer their time and talents!

CBBIA Update

2004 Small Grants Program:

The Capacity Building in Biodiversity and Impact Assessment (CBBIA)-IAIA Steering Committee approved seven projects for funding under the 2004 Small Grants Program. The regional spread of the approved projects: two in South and Southeast Asia (Nepal and Malaysia), two in Southern and East Africa (South Africa and Tanzania), two in West and Central Africa (Nigeria and Cameroon) and one in the Middle East (Lebanon). The projects approved ranged from independent proposals to proposals from non-governmental organizations to university/research institutes and parapublic institutions.

EIA as a Tool for Regulating Activities In and Around Protected Areas:

The CBBIA-IAIA Steering Committee also approved funding in 2005 for sub-projects in support of Decision VII/28 of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Five proposals were recommended from the 2004 Small Grants applications from South and Southeast Asia (Nepal and Lao PDR), Central and South America (Costa Rica), and West and Central Africa (Ghana and Cameroon).

Preparation for IAIA 2005 Annual Conference:

The CBBIA-IAIA will organize a pre-conference meeting/training session as well a main conference during the IAIA'05 in Boston, USA. Information on the modalities of CBBIA sponsorship will be posted on the IAIA website by mid-February 2005. Napoleon Tiapo CBBIA Program Administrator peoject@iaia.org

A D V E R T I S E M E N T

ASSESSING IMPACT

Handbook of
EIA and SEA Follow-up

Edited by Angus Morrison-Saunders and Jos Arts

New books on EIA/SEA from
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“The first book to coherently present the theory of EIA and SEA follow-up...”

“While sustainable assessment must always be adjusted to particular circumstances, the generic approach set out in this book is applicable virtually anywhere...”

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

Criteria, Processes and Applications

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Look not mournfully into the past. It comes not back again. Wisely improve the present. It is thine. Go forth to meet the shadowy future, without fear.

*Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
(1807 - 1882)*



IAIA'05: Ethics & Quality

31 May - 3 June 2005
Boston-Cambridge,
Massachusetts, USA

International Experience and Perspectives in SEA

26-30 September 2005
Prague, Czech Republic

Welcome!

New IAIA members 16 September - 15 December 2004

John Ndamieye Abby-Kalio, Nigeria; **Eragbae Aikhoje**, Nigeria; **Charles Asare**, Ghana; **Jo Ann Beckwith**, USA; **Dieudonné Bitondo**, Canada; **Janet Blackadar**, Canada; **Klara Brandl**, Austria; **Gilles Brasseur**, Canada; **Neal Burnham**, Canada; **Eduardo Castaneda**, USA; **Jorge Chavez and Rene Lozada**, Peru; **Botsalano G Coyne**, Botswana; **Ian L Dickson**, New Zealand; **Allen Eade**, Canada; **Doug Feremenga**, USA; **Adam Fraser**, England-UK; **Melissa French**, USA; **Dianne Gee**, Australia; **Carl Hawkings**, England-UK; **David Hickie**, England-UK; **Eric Johnson**, Switzerland; **Jasna Koblar**, Slovenia; **Nabil Ktaily**, United Arab Emirates; **Soo Kung**, USA; **Hélène Létourneau**, Canada; **Nicholas A. Linacre**, USA; **Rene Lozada**, Peru; **Sian Newsome Magadza**, Zimbabwe; **Mapula Makara**, South Africa; **James Malick**, Canada; **Sabine Mayer & Klara Brandl**, Austria; **Nicole McDonald**, Canada; **Lucie McNeil**, Canada; **Alia Mobarik**, Scotland-UK; **Lynda Diane Mull**, USA; **Sarah Murfitt**, England-UK; **Tracey Nitz**, Australia; **Shyam Nokta**, Guyana; **Joyce Ogwezi**, Nigeria; **Antonius Pascale**, France; **Jesper Persson**, Sweden; **Dawn Phillip**, Trinidad & Tobago; **Cécile Rechatin**, France; **Laurie Rivers**, Australia; **Christiane Roy & Lucie McNeil**, Canada; **Laura Russo**, Italy; **Sophia Ifiok Samuel**, Nigeria; **Chris Schmidt**, Canada; **W.G.B. Smith**, Canada; **Graeme Smith**, Ecuador; **Saviour Ufot**, Nigeria; **Salim Vohra**, England-UK; **Gareth Wilson**, England-UK; **Alice Woodhead**, Australia

IAIA Calendar of Important Dates & Deadlines Subject to change - watch for updates

January 2005

31 IAIA'05 Student fee waiver applications due

February 2005

15 IAIA'05 presenting authors to be notified of acceptance status

March 2005

1 IAIA'05 Regular rate ends

10 Last date authors may register and pay in full to be included in IAIA'05 final program

15 Newsletter articles due

31 IAIA'05 deadlines: Technical visits, training courses, social events, booths & exhibits, Quickpass, requests for materials in delegate packets due, SEP/Mentor participant forms due, requests for special audio-visual equipment due

April 2005

1 Newsletter mailed

28 IAIA'05 Hyatt hotel reservations special rate cutoff

May 2005

1 IAIA'05 deadlines: requests for inserts in delegate bags, raffle, hotel conference rates

1 Training course instructor agreements due

1 Board action items due

1 Annual reports due

1 Annual General Meeting action items due

12 IAIA'05 Pre-registration cutoff (all registrations after this date should be made on-site)

31 May - 1 June IAIA'05

June 2005

3 Council meeting

..... Board meeting

15 Newsletter articles due

July 2005

1 Newsletter, IAIA'06 Call for Submissions mailed

September 2005

28-29 . SEA-Prague

IAIA Newsletter

Next issue: April 2005

Submission deadline: 1 March Professional News/15 March General News

Professional practice articles should be a maximum of 150 words. Send submissions or questions by 1 March to professional practice news co-editors Richard Fristik (richard.fristik@usace.army.mil) and Bram Noble (b.noble@usask.ca), or see the online Guidelines for News Network Contributors.

General interest articles should be a maximum of 500 words. Send to editor Jennifer Howell (jen@iaia.org) or mail/fax to IAIA Headquarters by 15 March. Suggestions and comments are always welcome.

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