

# Newsletter

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Rita R. Hamm, Chief Executive Officer

## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT

# Greetings, 2003

### Best wishes in the new year

Greetings to all IAIA members at the beginning of 2003. Best wishes and happiness to you, your family, loved and dear ones. Hope the past year was good and that the new year will be even more generous and fulfilling to you both professionally and personally.

### Building on 2002

For IAIA, 2002 was overall a very good year. Much was on the agenda. IAIA'02 proposed the challenge of assessing the impact of impact assessment. This was a novelty, a coming of age. The impact assessment community is questioning its impact, questioning how to improve its efficiency and to extend its influence beyond its traditional boundaries. IAIA'02 was also a significant step forward because it clearly demonstrated a willingness to reach out beyond our traditional audience to bring in decision makers, industry and other key stakeholders. Both questioning impact assessment's impact and outreaching beyond our present members need to be pursued in the future with strong resolve and much tenacity. We are still far from where we should and want to be. Among other merits, IAIA'02 has the enormous merit of providing a template for action upon which we can further build, looking at IAIA'03 and beyond.

### WSSD and beyond

IAIA's involvement in the WSSD preparation meetings and the summit in Johannesburg, South Africa, in late August was also a major piece of the 2002 agenda. In the process, IAIA was forced to articulate in a short and very concise way what the role and contribution of IA is or can become in putting together the sustainability agenda and action plan together. In doing so, issues such as the linkages between the seemingly ever-growing types of IA and the Sustainability action plan that resulted from the Summit came to light, as did the

need to better promote and explain to decision makers, politicians and other stakeholders what impact assessment is. Is it a tool, a process or both? And, of course, the role and contribution of impact assessment in the concerted efforts and partnerships that lay ahead towards capacity building remains to be determined.

### The role of capacity building

The role of impact assessment in capacity building is at the very heart of IAIA'03 which will take place in Morocco next June in the historic city of Marrakech where desert, oasis and the snowy Atlas mountains converge to display spectacular sceneries. In fact, the main conference theme of IAIA'03 is capacity building and impact assessment. We wish to continue the discussions of IAIA'02 while contributing to the ongoing debates on the WSSD implementation plan by creating as wide and varied synergies as we can throughout the IAIA'03 conference. From the result of the 2003 annual conference, we expect IAIA to become ever more action oriented in order to influence more significantly developments and best practices in the field of IA.

### See you in Morocco

Thus, with 2003 the new year in mind, the first and most important wish for IAIA is the success of the annual international conference in Marrakech, Morocco. It is difficult to overstate how important the annual conferences have become. Coming and being part of IAIA'03 in Marrakech is the biggest show of support you can possibly provide to IAIA. Hope to see every one of you in Morocco next June.

- Peter Leonard, President

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## IAIA Members Speak: Annual Conference Event

*With IAIA'03 rapidly approaching, it seems somewhat timely to discuss the questions relating to IAIA conferences in this installment of "IAIA Members Speak."*

*This is the third edition of a series begun in the July 2002 newsletter to report the results of the latest membership feedback survey. This edition focuses on the annual conference event.*

### Worst month to attend a conference?

December	67%
August	36%
January	35%
July	31%
November	28%
June	27%
February	25%
September	24%
March	23%
April	23%
May	21%
October	19%

*Note: IAIA HQ welcomes feedback from members at any time.*

The membership feedback survey asked several questions about the annual conference event. Since the surveys were returned in April 2002, prior to IAIA'02 in The Hague, these responses are not inclusive of IAIA'02. You can find a summary of the IAIA'02 survey results in the July 2002 newsletter.

The feedback survey listed all conference events in IAIA history (from Toronto in 1981 through Cartagena in 2001) and asked respondents to indicate which conference(s) they had attended. Of the 84 survey respondents, 60 (71%) had been to at least one IAIA annual conference event. Each of the 20 conferences had been attended by at least two or more of the respondents.

Of the 20 IAIA conferences, Hong Kong was the most frequently attended with 33 of the respondents (39% of all respondents or 55% of those who attended at least one conference). The next most frequently attended conferences were Glasgow (30 respondents), Cartagena (29 respondents), New Orleans (21), Christchurch (20), and Estoril (20). The most frequently attended conferences by the respondents were those from the last six years.

### New Names, New Faces at IAIA HQ

If you contact IAIA about your membership or your conference registration, you'll most likely be communicating with **Ana Hallstrom**. She was hired in December to be IAIA's Member Liaison, replacing Kelly Twit who took a position elsewhere. Ana is of Spanish heritage, and although spending most of her life in California, USA, she has retained her fluency in Spanish. She recently moved to the Fargo area for improved quality of life, and we are fortunate to have her with us. Ana will be part of the IAIA team in Marrakech, so those of you attending IAIA'03 will get to meet her.

When asked what factors were important to them in deciding whether or not to attend an IAIA conference, networking opportunities was the factor most often identified as important or very important (77% of respondents). This was followed by program content of the main conference (74%), an opportunity for active participation such as presenting a paper or chairing a session (63%), availability of funding (63%), and ease of traveling to the conference location (61%).

Concerning the time when they would be least able to attend a conference, December was understandably rated the worst month, by 67% of respondents. The month which appears to have the least resistance is October, with only 19% identifying it as a bad month for a conference. The next best month is May (21%). The months are listed in the sidebar along with the percentage of people who thought each month was a bad time for an IAIA conference.

With three universities in the Fargo area, IAIA has been able to take advantage of the availability of student interns. They have been a great resource for helping us complete short-term projects and for making use of technical expertise. And best of all, they work for free just to gain experience!

**Ralf Glowna** is majoring in Computer Information Systems and Management Information Systems. He interned with us this past summer, making our membership database more relational and improving its functionality. He liked us so much that he returned in January for a second

(Note that because respondents could select multiple answers to this question, the percentages do not equal 100%.) Currently, IAIA typically plans its annual conferences in May or June. From the results of the survey, it appears May is a slightly more favorable month than June.

At the end of the survey, an open-ended question asked respondents what changes they would like to see made in IAIA's annual conferences. From the 30 people who answered this question, the comments varied greatly. Reducing the registration rate was mentioned by 5 respondents, and offering regional conferences was mentioned by 2 respondents. The remaining comments ranged from suggestions to offer more pre-conference workshops to linking the conference with UN development to opening registration in April or May. All results and comments from these questions will be considered and evaluated by the IAIA Conferences Committee.

Watch future newsletters for more detailed survey results on the web site, training, and more.  
• Bridget John • IAIA HQ • [bridget@iaia.org](mailto:bridget@iaia.org)

internship. This time, he is working on web site improvements as we add a members-only section to the site. A native German, Ralf has lived in the United States for 13 years.

**Marie-Estelle Voisin** is part of a college exchange program with France. She is a management and finance major and began her internship with IAIA last fall. She will continue with us through the spring of 2003. Marie has been working to identify and solicit potential sponsors for IAIA'03. Since she is a native French speaker, her fluency in French has also been helpful as we work toward IAIA'03, the first bi-lingual conference in IAIA's history.

## Highlights of IAIA Board's Mid-Term Meeting

24-26 November 2002 • Valencia, Spain

- In his professional role as a consultant, Bill Jones performed an effectiveness study for IAIA HQ. The question was whether HQ and the Board are actively pursuing the actions identified in the SAP. The resulting report is comprehensive and includes a review of organizational governance, strategic linkage, policies and procedures, positions, compensation, organizational processes and office procedures, task analysis, priority analysis, and the Board survey requesting input on accumulated data. The results showed that IAIA has an effective organisation, which provides a sound basis for IAIA to achieve continuous improvement.
- IAIA Treasurer Bill Jones reported that this year's budget is operating at a loss due to failure to meet revenue projections from the IAIA'02 conference. Jones stressed the vital importance of implementing a revenue diversification plan. Jones and Veerkamp will be working with HQ and the IAIA'02 to ensure mutual understanding of conference budget and financial requirements.
- IAIA will issue a summary report of the side event during the WSSD in Johannesburg.
- The draft SIA Principles document from Frank Vanclay was distributed simultaneously to the Board and to the Publications Committee. The Board commented that the development of such documents and the subsequent internal discussion among the membership of IAIA is one of the cornerstones of IAIA mission and vision fulfillment.
- The Board received a proposal for the Japan Society for Impact Assessment (JSIA) to be accepted as an Associated Organization; the former IAIA-Japan Affiliate is being merged into the JSIA and the IAIA members could then become a Branch of IAIA. The Board approved the proposal for to add JSIA as an Associated Organization and sees this an essential development, hopefully followed by other organizations. • William Veerkamp • Director-Secretary •

william.w.veerkamp@opc.shell.com

### Abstract Submission Instructions

#### Format

1. Title of submission.
2. Specify format. Paper, poster, or workshop/session.
3. Complete name(s) of author(s) and complete contact information for each author (organization, street address, city, state/province, postal code, country, phone, fax and e-mail; URL if applicable). Contact information will be published as provided by the author.
4. Name of presenting author. All correspondence will be directed to this person.
5. Abstract. 300 words maximum. Excess will be deleted.
6. Key words.
7. Indicate under which conference topic you would like to submit your paper (paper submissions only). Feel free to suggest topics not already listed.
8. Any *brief* additional information you think may be useful to the Program Committee, including the link with the major theme of the conference.

#### Deadlines

1 March (paper and poster abstracts)  
Early submission is encouraged.

**Language** English or French

#### How to Send

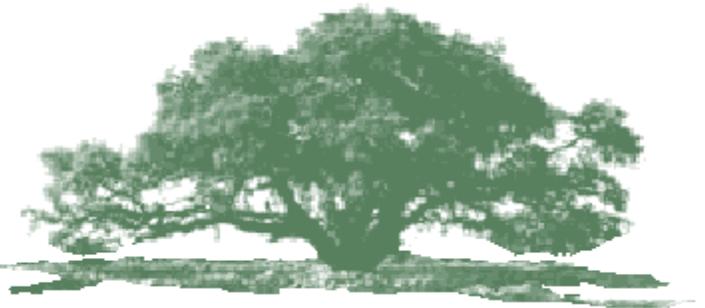
- E-mail is preferred. Place your abstract (plain text only) in the body of the e-mail message. Do not send attachments.
- In the subject line, write **primary author's last name-03 abstract**. (Example: McDonald-03 abstract)
- You may submit more than one abstract; however, include only one abstract per e-mail.

#### Reply

IAIA HQ and/or the Program Committee will contact you regarding acceptance. Please allow up to four weeks.

## Conference

*The preliminary program is under construction and will soon be posted on the website! Watch the mail for your hard copy.*



IAIA'03: 14—20 June 2003

# ■ ■ ■ Professional News

## **Integrated Assessment of Trade Liberalization and Trade-Related Policies, UNEP Country Projects, Round II**

UNEP has worked closely with national institutions in Argentina, China, Ecuador, Nigeria, Senegal and Tanzania, to identify environmental, social and economic effects of trade liberalization from 1999 to 2001. The country projects undertaken focussed on: fisheries sector in Argentina; cotton sector in China; banana sector in Ecuador; cocoa and rubber sector in Nigeria; fisheries sector in Senegal; and forestry sector in Tanzania. The studies provided data and analysis, at the national level, on actual interactions and linkages between trade, environment and development policies and objectives. The findings of the country projects have recently been published in separate volumes, and a comprehensive synthesis of the results under the title "Integrated Assessment of Trade Liberalization and Trade-Related Policies, UNEP Country Projects, Round II" are now available from the Economics and Trade Branch (ETB)/ UNEP or can be downloaded at: [www.unep.ch/etu/](http://www.unep.ch/etu/). • For further information, contact Hussein Abaza • UNEP • [Hussein.Abaza@unep.ch](mailto:Hussein.Abaza@unep.ch) or [ETB@unep.ch](mailto:ETB@unep.ch)

## **IDB – Inter American Development Bank Progresses on SEA**

The Inter American Development Bank (IDB) is exploring the use of Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) as a tool to prepare plans and programmes in Latin American and Caribbean countries, under the guidance of its Committee on Environment and Social Impact (CESI) of the Sustainable Development Department. Within this context, the CESI will be initiating in 2003 a process to develop SEA procedures for use in the region. This process involves reviewing past experience with SEA in the region, assessing needs, designing training sessions and adopting good practice guidelines. A first seminar was held on October 30th, 2002, with Professor Maria Rosário Partidário, from the New University of Lisbon in Portugal, and former IAIA president, to address concepts and models of SEA and conduct a first discussion on the needs for SEA within the IDB. Further information can be obtained from Mr. Joseph Milewski or Dr. Virginia Alzina, SDS/Environment Unit, IDB, Washington, D.C. • Maria Rosário Partidário • DCEA/FCT-UNL / New University of Lisbon • [mp@fct.unl.pt](mailto:mp@fct.unl.pt)

## **Resources on the Web**

Redefining Progress' Sustainability Program has released its latest "Ecological Footprint of Nations" report that outlines the ecological impact of 146 of the world's nations. The issue brief shows to what extent a nation can support its resource consumption with its available ecological capacity, illustrates the degree to which a nation could reproduce its consumption at a global level, and outlines the significant improvements and refinements made to the Ecological Footprint accounts since last year's report. The report can be accessed at <http://www.pacinst.org/wildlife.html>. [Http://www.greenbiz.com/news/news\\_third.cfm?NewsID=23196](http://www.greenbiz.com/news/news_third.cfm?NewsID=23196)

## **New Environmental Screening Form for Tourism Sector in Egypt**

The Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) and the Tourist Development Authority (TDA) have issued a new screening form "B" for individual hotels and resorts within a tourism center.

Previously an individual hotel or resort owner was mandated to submit a full fledged EIA. The TDA also had to produce a full fledged EIA for tourism centers where each center includes many hotels and resorts. Experience within EEAA and TDA had shown that this old procedure required huge human resources and gave proponents a reason not to comply with the EIA regulations stipulated by Law 4/94 for the environment. Under the new arrangements, an individual hotel or resort with a tourism center can submit a screening form instead of a full fledged EIA provided that the tourism center had an accepted full fledged EIA. This concept is currently being applied in other development sectors in Egypt in order to encourage proponents to comply with the EIA regulations.

The screening form is provided as a pro-active tool that encourages the adoption of an integrated EIA approach in tourism centers. For more information: Mr. Ahmed Hassan ([ahassan1@rssti.com](mailto:ahassan1@rssti.com)) or Dr. Ahmed Abul-Azm ([ecma@access.com.eg](mailto:ecma@access.com.eg)). • Ahmed Abul-Azm • Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency • [ecma@access.com.eg](mailto:ecma@access.com.eg)

## **EU: Sixth Framework Program**

The Commission of the European Union launched its Sixth Framework Program 2002-2006 with a request to the European scientific community to submit expressions of interests (EoI) to nine main research priorities. In the IAIA context the most interesting one is "Sustainable development, global change and ecosystems" with its subprograms "sustainable energy systems," "sustainable surface transport" and "global change and ecosystems." More than 13,000 elaborated EoIs can be seen as a proof for the great acceptance of this essential instrument of R&D EU policy in order to create the "European Research Area" and to get the worldwide research top position by 2010. You can find all EoIs via [http://eoi.cordis.lu/search\\_form.cfm](http://eoi.cordis.lu/search_form.cfm), including an analysis of those EoIs. The first calls, being prepared through that EoI procedure, are announced for late December 2002. • Ralf Aschemann • Austrian Institute for the Development of Environmental Assessment (An|dea) • [office@anidea.at](mailto:office@anidea.at)

## European Commission to Launch Impact Assessment Tool to Improve Policy Development

The European Commission has adopted an impact assessment tool as part of a set of initiatives intended to modernise European legislation. It believes this will aid more coherent implementation of the European Strategy for Sustainable Development. The principles of the new impact assessment process are set out in a Communication published in May 2002 (available from [http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/cnc/2002/com2002\\_0276en01.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/cnc/2002/com2002_0276en01.pdf)). Impact assessments, looking at social, economic and environmental impacts, will be carried out for all major Commission initiatives. The process will be introduced gradually. In a 2003 "pilot" phase around 40 Commission proposals from a range of sectors will have impact assessments. The process will be two stage. An initial preliminary assessment will be carried out and used to determine whether an extended impact assessment is needed for a particular initiative. An extended assessment will enable more in-depth analysis of potential impacts and wider consultation. The results of both stages are to be published. The Commission stresses that impact assessments will be used as an aid to decision-making, not a substitute for political judgement. Technical guidelines will be published shortly and should be available from [http://europa.eu.int/comm/governance/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/governance/index_en.htm). • Helen Byron • Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) • [helen.byron@rspb.org.uk](mailto:helen.byron@rspb.org.uk)

## Review of Victorian EIA Procedures (Australia)

In November 2000, the Victorian government announced a review of the state's EA procedures under the Environment Effects Act 1978 to help deliver better-balanced environmental, social and economic outcomes, as well as more transparent and accountable processes. The specific aims of the Review were to:

- Review current procedures under the Act for EA of projects
- Develop improved procedures for EA of projects that may have significant environmental impacts
- Evaluate the need for, and appropriate scope and form of, environment assessments of strategic proposals - including for land use, development, resource management, or the application of new technologies - that may have significant environmental impacts or implications.

An Issues and Options Paper prepared by an internal taskforce advised by a Stakeholder Reference Group comprising diverse stakeholder organisations and community representatives canvassed a broad range of topics for reform. About 70 people and groups responded during the public comment period. The Minister for Planning then appointed a four person independent Advisory Committee to hear submissions from these people and groups, seek information from other agencies and organisations as it saw fit and then to provide recommendations in respect to reforming the EIA process. The Advisory Committee will be presenting its recommendations in early December. Copies of discussion papers and supporting documentation is available for review at <http://www.doi.vic.gov.au/planning> (follow EA link). • Dr. Bronwyn Ridgway • BPR Consulting Party Limited • [bpr@optusnet.com.au](mailto:bpr@optusnet.com.au)

## Comprehensive EIA Training and Capacity Building Programme Launched for Works Departments in Hong Kong

In July 2002, the Environmental Protection Department of the Hong Kong SAR Government launched a comprehensive EIA Training and Capacity Building Programme for government works departments. This programme aims to enable government engineers to better understand the statutory EIA process and to achieve better environmental outcomes.

The programme consists of a series of tailor-made, practical EIA training courses to suit the needs of different works departments, a help-desk on EIA support services, a tailor-made training manual based on practical experiences, and on-line help through a Cyber EIA Help Bench. About 600 government engineers at various ranks are expected to participate in the programme from July 2002 to March 2003. The first major seminar was held on 13 November 2002 with more than 180 participants. Eight tailor-made two-day workshops have been scheduled.

The programme materials are placed on the web ([http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/eia/eiao\\_support/index.html](http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/eia/eiao_support/index.html)), and the cyber EIA Help Bench (<http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/eia/hb/content/index.htm>), which was launched in January 2002, provides on-line, one-stop cyber help for users. It contains all essential statutory documents, 8 sets of guidance notes, 5 sets of assessment guidelines and 6 sets of environmental good practices arising from EIA. • Elvis Au • Hong Kong Environmental Protection Department • [elvis\\_au@epd.gov.hk](mailto:elvis_au@epd.gov.hk)

## Publications

"Disaster Risk Management in South-East Asia" is now available. This report reviews the situation on natural and man-made disasters in five South-East Asian countries. It includes statistics and distributions of natural disasters, analysis of major industrial accidents - causes and consequences, and detailed examples of high-risk sectors such as ammonia, chlorine and oil and gas activities. 250 pages including 25 detailed maps and more than 60 tables, charts and flowcharts. For further information, e-mail [dali@atlascope.com](mailto:dali@atlascope.com).

## **Guidelines for Assessing the Impact of Genetic Modified Organisms**

The debate on the impacts of genetic modified organisms (GMOs) goes on in Brazil. Whereas commercial planting is still on hold due to a court decision (see IAIA Newsletter January 2002), the National Council on the Environment approved guidelines for preparing environmental impact statements: Conama Resolution no. 305, 12 June 2002 ([www.mma.gov.br](http://www.mma.gov.br)). This resolution establishes the need to obtain an environmental license prior to research activities, as well as any "release to the environment of any GMO." Licensing will be under the jurisdiction of the federal government and proponents will need to prepare an environmental impact statement, or any other environmental study, as directed by the federal environmental agency Ibama.

The debate will certainly remain vivid, as a new federal government takes office on 1 January. During the presidential campaign, the winning party documents called for a strategic environmental assessment of GMOs, and supported the preparation of environmental impact statements for commercial crops. The new Minister of the Environment is a senator who presented a Bill to the Congress, calling for a moratorium on any GMO commercial crop, while research activities would be allowed after obtaining a specific license. On the other hand, the new Minister of Agriculture declared himself favourable to GMO crops, a similar situation to that seen in the former government, which showed a dispute between both ministers on this subject. • Luis Enrique Sánchez • University of São Paulo • [lsanchez@usp.br](mailto:lsanchez@usp.br)

## **Trade Impact Assessment Gathers Momentum**

The European Commission's programme of sustainability impact assessments of international trade took another step forward in December 2002, with the publication of the mid-term reports on a series of studies of the impacts of the current round of WTO trade negotiations. The SIA studies are being undertaken by a consortium led by the Institute for Development Policy and Management (IDPM) at the University of Manchester.

The reports have been widely disseminated for international consultation and may be downloaded from <http://idpm.man.ac.uk/sia-trade>. They include an initial overview SIA of the entire negotiation agenda agreed at the 2001 WTO Ministerial Conference in Doha, and a number of sectoral studies of individual trade measures. These cover market access for pharmaceuticals, non-ferrous metals, textiles and clothing, environmental services and competition policy. Further sectoral studies will be initiated on completion of the overview study's screening exercise. Comments received at this mid-term stage will inform the final stages of the current set of studies, which are due for completion in March 2003. • Colin Kirkpatrick • IDPM • [CHK@man.ac.uk](mailto:CHK@man.ac.uk)

## **Integrating Indigenous Knowledge in Project Planning and Implementation**

The traditional knowledge systems and practices that Indigenous Peoples hold has tremendous value for efforts related to sustainable development, medical research, governance and civil society. Indigenous cultures have always demonstrated a willingness to share their knowledge, but only if this is done in a respectful way. The International Labour Organization, the World Bank, Kivu Nature Inc and Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) have developed a handbook designed to assist governments, industry, nongovernment organizations and Indigenous groups to work better with each other when traditional knowledge is central to the development objective. The guidelines are not meant to be prescriptive; rather they should be seen as a template from which various stakeholders can develop their own collaborative partnerships. The guidelines can be found at [http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cida\\_ind.nsf/9c9c207b0db5a8c68525651c005db5a5/57ed1d990f2ac9be85256b21004b12de?OpenDocument](http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cida_ind.nsf/9c9c207b0db5a8c68525651c005db5a5/57ed1d990f2ac9be85256b21004b12de?OpenDocument). • Peter Croal • CIDA • [Peter\\_Croal@acdi-cida.gc.ca](mailto:Peter_Croal@acdi-cida.gc.ca)

## **Sustainability Assessment in Western Australia**

The Government of Western Australia is currently developing a sustainability strategy for the state. They are working towards establishing a sustainability assessment process which will build upon the existing EIA process. It is intended to provide for sustainability assessment of projects, plans, policies and programs as well as legislation, Cabinet submissions, corporate plans and proposed government agreements. Further information including a pdf version of the draft strategy is available at <http://www.sustainability.dpc.wa.gov.au/docs/Strategy.htm>.

A series of background papers on various aspects of sustainability assessment can be found at <http://www.sustainability.dpc.wa.gov.au/docs/backgroundpapers.htm>. • Angus Morrison-Saunders • Murdoch University • [angus@essun1.murdoch.edu.au](mailto:angus@essun1.murdoch.edu.au)

## Human Impact Assessment

In the context of efforts towards “balanced development,” there is increasing recognition of the importance of forecasting or assessing the consequences of policies, projects and programs on the social well-being and health of people. “Human Impact Assessment (HuIA)” is a way of assessing ex ante the potential effects of decisions, both intended and unintended.

Human Impact Assessment is a further elaboration of the traditional Social, Health and Environmental Impact Assessment approaches. In a wide and multidimensional manner, it focuses on the consequences of a current or proposed action for individuals, organisations and social macro-systems.

Many countries, including Finland, are actively developing impact assessment methodology and building capacity for its implementation. The work being developed and carried out in some of these countries helps in identifying relevant issues for the further development of the Finnish HuIA. Further information is available at: [www.stakes.fi/sva/huia](http://www.stakes.fi/sva/huia). • Tapani Kauppinen • STAKES (The National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health), Helsinki - Finland • [tapani.kauppinen@stakes.fi](mailto:tapani.kauppinen@stakes.fi)

## Draft Guidance on Environmental Assessments under Directive 2001/42/EC

On 24 October 2002 the UK Office of the Deputy Prime Minister released a consultation draft guidance ‘on environmental assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment’ (as laid out in the European ‘SEA Directive’). The draft guidance focuses on how the Directive should be applied to local authority development plans, regional planning guidance, local development frameworks and regional spatial strategies in England. It should help authorities to familiarise themselves with SEA before formal requirements become effective on 21 July 2004. The draft Guidance can be accessed at [www.planning.odpm.gov.uk/consult/sea](http://www.planning.odpm.gov.uk/consult/sea). • Thomas B. Fischer • University of Liverpool • [fischer@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:fischer@liverpool.ac.uk)

## Mark Your Calendar

### ■ Impact Assessment Without Borders: Workshop on Transboundary Impacts.

5-6 February 2003. Holiday Inn Select Hotel, Montreal, Canada. Hosted by the Ontario Association for Impact Assessment (OIA) and l'Association québécoise pour l'évaluation d'impacts (AQÉI), together with several federal and provincial government partners (Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, Environment Canada, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, International Joint Commission and Environnement Québec).

The workshop program will provide participants with a sound overview of existing mechanisms for dealing with transboundary impacts, explore a number of case studies related to assessment of transboundary impacts, and discuss issues associated with the assessment and mitigation of transboundary health effects of air pollution from thermal power stations. Simultaneous translation of all sessions will be provided

courtesy of the Government of Canada.

This is one of the first workshops ever held on the important topic of assessment of transboundary impacts, and interest in the subject within the environmental assessment community is very high. There will be room for only 130 participants, and you are advised to register early to avoid disappointment. For information: <http://www.oaia.on.ca> and at <http://www.cam.org/~aqei/> or e-mail [mondorf@aqei.qc.ca](mailto:mondorf@aqei.qc.ca).

■ **Improving the Quality of Life through Environmental Impact Assessment: A 10-Day Executive Development Program for Decision Makers, Managers and Environmental Professionals.** 26 May - 6 June 2003. McGill University, Montreal, Canada. For information: [www.mcgill.ca/macdonald-conted](http://www.mcgill.ca/macdonald-conted) • Drs. Mark Curtis and Husain Sadar • Department of Natural Resource Sciences, Macdonald Campus, McGill University • [eia2003@nrs.mcgill.ca](mailto:eia2003@nrs.mcgill.ca).

### ■ Putting the SEA Directive into Practice: Reactions to the Draft English Guidance. Training Workshop.

16 January 2003. School of Planning and Landscape, University of Manchester. For information: James D. Walmsley ([james.d.walmsley@man.ac.uk](mailto:james.d.walmsley@man.ac.uk)).

### ■ Keeping in Touch: Momtaz on Sabbatical

Dr. Salim Momtaz will be on sabbatical from December 2002 to June 2003. Momtaz will be conducting his fieldwork December 2002 in Bangladesh and writing a book on EIA during this time. From January to May 2003, he will be based at the Centre for Australian and New Zealand Studies, School of Foreign Services, Georgetown University, Washington, DC, teaching and researching environmental impact assessment. Momtaz can be reached until June 2003 at [Salim.Momtaz@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:Salim.Momtaz@newcastle.edu.au).

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IAIA Calendar  
Subject to change - watch for updates

## JANUARY 2003

- 1 ..... Newsletter
- 31 ..... IAIA'03 Early Bird registration ends

## MARCH 2003

- 1 ..... Abstract deadline for IAIA'03 papers and posters
- 1 ..... '03-'04 committee assignments completed
- 15 ..... Newsletter deadline
- 15 ..... IAIA'03 regular registration ends

## APRIL 2003

- 1 ..... Newsletter mailed
- 1 ..... Last date authors may register and pay in full to be included in final program
- 15 ..... Training course instructors to finalize agreements
- 15 ..... Annual Affiliate, Committee, Liaison, Branch, Task Force, and Project reports due

## MAY 2003

- 1 ..... Deadline for raffle, delegate pack inserts
- 1 ..... Action items for Board and AGM due
- 15 ..... Board and AGM agendas set

❁ Welcome! ❁

### New IAIA Members 16 September - 15 December

**Individual members:** Udaya Raj Kandel, Nepal; Graham Wood, England-UK; Jun Bi, China; Dean Kerwick-Chrisp, England-UK; David Lyon, England-UK; Adriana E. Lafleur, Canada; Elizabeth Vlok, Australia; Seth Appiah-Opoku, USA; Yolande Wright, England-UK; Kathryn Outerbridge Roulet, Canada; Luc-Marie Constant Gnacadja, Benin; Owen Kinahan, South Africa; Donne Murray, South Africa; Sabrina Genter, USA; Claire Peters, Scotland-UK; Ali Albayrak, Turkey; Jean-Denis M. Kramkimel, France; Jenny Heap, Switzerland; Hans Brouwer, The Netherlands; Gordon Mitchell, England-UK; Joshua Moore, Australia; Eoin Loughlin, Ireland; Rebecca Pong, England-UK; Daryl McCartney, Canada; Susan Wilkins, Canada; Robert Gale, Canada; Ronald Regis Duterte, Philippines; Victor Ohioze Imevbore, Nigeria; Eromosele Itama, Nigeria; Olumide Omisore, Nigeria; Augustine Olajire Alao, Nigeria; Elijah Ige Ohimain, Nigeria; Ibrahim Adesina Salau, Nigeria; Edmundo Ducoing Chao, Mexico; Juan Jose Rodriguez Sanchez, Spain; Thomas Stsubbs, Canada; Brenda L. Parke, Canada; John Gurr, England-UK.

**Corporate member:** Environmental Resources Managers Ltd., Nigeria



IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO  
CLIMB TWO TREES AT  
ONCE JUST BECAUSE  
ONE HAS TWO  
FEET.

### New on the 'net

- Health Impact Assessment Key Citations
- Ramsar MoU
- Convention on Biological Diversity MoC
- Updated links and Learning Exchange members

### Free advertising...

... almost! Did you know that IAIA members are entitled to free or discounted advertising in the IAIA newsletter?

#### Camera-ready commercial advertisement (member rate)

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- Quarter page: US\$25 each issue / \$90 per year
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### IAIA Newsletter

**Next issue:** April 2003

**Submission deadline:** 15 March 2003

**Professional practice articles** should be a maximum of 150 words. Send submissions or questions to professional practice news co-editors Angus Morrison-Saunders ([angus@essun1.murdoch.edu.au](mailto:angus@essun1.murdoch.edu.au)) and Roger Creasey ([roger.creasey@shell.ca](mailto:roger.creasey@shell.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](mailto:jen@iaia.org)) or mail/fax to IAIA Headquarters. Suggestions and comments are always welcome.

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