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Implementation Conference

Stakeholder action
for our common future



FOOD SECURITY



FRESHWATER

Johannesburg
August 24th – 26th, 2002

HEALTH



Initial report

27 August 2002

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	2
Overview	3
Freshwater	5
Sustainable Energy	9
Food Security	11
Health	14
Political Context and UN Process Implications	17
Follow-Up and contact details	18

Acknowledgements

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We also thank **Conference Africa** - Leora Berger and her excellent team - for their organisational and logistical support here in Johannesburg. Thanks also to the **Indaba Hotel** for providing a perfect venue and magnificent support.

Our most heartfelt gratitude goes to the Implementation Conference Team. It includes a large number of **volunteers** from around the world, some of them stepping in at the last minute, some of them raising their own funds to come to Johannesburg and work with us. It also includes **facilitators and knowledge management and media experts** who chose to work with us at much reduced rates and under serious time constraints.

All team members worked with enormous creativity, energy, and commitment to make this process and event a success. We are truly humbled by the opportunity to work with them.

Implementation Conference: Stakeholder Action for Our Common Future

held in Johannesburg, South Africa, 24-26 August
at the Indaba Hotel and the IUCN Environment Centre, Sandton
www.earthsummit2002.org/ic

Purpose

To inspire stakeholders to create collectively, clear, measurable on-going action to deliver the Sustainable Development Agreements

Desired Outcome

Concrete, agreed and owned collaborative actions plans aimed at implementing the Sustainable Development Agreements in four specific areas

Initial Report, 27th August 2002

This report summarises the individual Action Plans (partnership initiatives) that were finalised at the Implementation Conference (IC). The event itself was a stepping-stone in a long-term process that started in the summer of 2001, and will continue and spread out after the gathering in Johannesburg.

After three days of intense activity, stakeholders have reached agreement on twenty-six new action plans, programmes and partnerships aimed at delivering sustainable development. The **Implementation Conference: Stakeholder Action for Our Common Future** (IC) has been acting as a hot house for developing new, collaborative action. Some four hundred stakeholders from over 50 different countries have been working in 25 working groups, supported by 25 facilitators from around the globe, to finalise their action plans. Fourteen draft Type 2 agreements have already been submitted and final agreements will be submitted within the coming days. Many other groups are considering the submission of type 2 initiatives.

The new partnerships are about action, not about lobbying governments. Impacting policy-making is not the primary concern of the participants who gathered at the IC. They met to agree action to implement existing (and emerging) policy agreements. However, it is hoped that the stakeholders' actions and what we learn from them will indeed feed into policy making in the future.

The new partnerships fall within one of four broad issues of Food Security, Energy, Health and Freshwater. The IC is the culmination of the first phase of Stakeholder Action for Our Common Future, which commenced twelve months ago and is aimed at contributing to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Agreements through collaborative stakeholder action.

At the opening IC plenary, Nitin Desai, Secretary General of the World Summit, John Turner, Head of the US Delegation and Gopalong Sekobe of the South African Health Department indicated their support for partnership development. Delegates were interested to learn about the discussions on follow-up mechanisms for type 2 outcomes, which Nitin Desai reported on. We heard intriguing remarks from John Turner about funding that needs to be made available for supporting partnership programmes, while Gopalong Sekobe pointed out the need for close linkage and complementarity between type 1 and type 2 agreements.

At the closing session on August 26, Prof Kader Asmal, Minister of Education, in the South African Government, Juoni Backman, Minister for the Environment in Finland, Achim Steiner, Executive Director of IUCN, and Dan Nielsen, Ambassador for the Danish Presidency of the European Union were amongst those who received the outcomes of the Conference and related them to the wider Summit agenda.

After addressing the IC participants over lunch on Monday, 26th August, Prof Dominic Fobih, Minister of Environment, Science and Technology, Ghana, invited Stakeholder Forum to organise an Implementation Conference in Ghana, in order to develop collaborative stakeholders action for Africa. Building on the networks among stakeholders and professional facilitators, we will endeavour to help facilitate an IC process in Ghana in 2003, working closely with local and regional partners.

For any questions about this report please contact the Project Coordinators:

Minu Hemmati, Mobile phone in SA 082 858 4010; email minush@aol.com;
thereafter Tel +44 20 7089 4309

Robert Whitfield, Mobile phone in SA 082 858 1567, email rwhitfield@earthsummit2002.org;
thereafter Tel +44 20 7089 4319

Freshwater

Issue Coordinator: Jasmin Enayati

Mobile in Jo'burg 082 858 1568; email: jenayati@earthsummit2002.org

Over 100 representatives of NGOs, business, trade unions, farmers, academia, women, youth, international agencies, governments, and others met at the IUCN Environment Centre and the Indaba Hotel to work in seven different groups. They addressed draft action plans that had been prepared in extensive consultations among stakeholders since autumn 2001. The process built on the networks and agreed priorities that have come out of the Second World Water Forum (The Hague, 2000) and the International Conference on Freshwater (Bonn, December 2001).

Multi-stakeholder Review of Global Water / Sanitation Supply Strategies

Vision

To carry out a multi-stakeholder review of water/sanitation supply strategies provided by all sectors (private, public, community based organisations and others); and to provide improved information and data to enable improved decision-making in choice of supply strategies for water service delivery.

Outcomes

- Core team to be established to take forward a review
- Interim 'Secretariat' identified to 'manage' a review (International Water Association)
- Action Plan created to put a review in place
- Other stakeholders identified to be included
- Other 'Review' initiatives identified as potential sources from which to collate data
- Workshop participants agreed to promote the review and purpose of the review to other interested stakeholders at the WSSD to encourage increased multi-stakeholder participation/consultation
- Scope of the review could include:
 - Governance
 - Finance
 - Best Practice / Principles
 - Capacity-building

Partners: Stakeholder Forum to facilitate the review process until a champion is identified and in place. Potential partners include: International Water Association, WaterAid, Severn Trent, Ondeo Suez.

Training and capacity-building on gender mainstreaming in Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM)

Vision

1. To launch and develop commitment to the multi-stakeholder Gender and Water Alliance (GWA) gender mainstreaming project for the promotion of access to and control of water resources.
2. To build capacity of GWA members and their partners in mainstreaming gender within IWRM.

Outcomes

- A committed multi-stakeholder team for the implementation phase of the gender mainstreaming project
- An enlarged group of stakeholders who will provide information and input
- Training modules on knowledge and skills in gender mainstreaming developed by core group
- “Global trainers” trained and able to design and deliver regional training of trainers
- Regional trainers trained and able to design / deliver tailored courses for various stakeholders
- Tailor courses designed and delivered to GWA members and other stakeholders
- Training packages produced and disseminated in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese

Partners: Grassroots organisations, NGOs, Youth, universities, resource centres, local government and government representatives (to come: business).

Local Government Freshwater Capacity Building in Asia Pacific

ICLEI is leading a campaign, initiated in June 2000, to improve the management of freshwater resources through local government. The aim of this Action Plan is to strengthen and build the capacity for freshwater management in the Asia Pacific Region by building on and learning from the campaign work so far.

Outcome:

- Proposal for an Asia Pacific Initiative: ICLEI preparing a simple guide on “things that should be done” in launching a campaign at the local level; linked to public awareness and education components of the campaign;
- ICLEI can make use of existing decision support tools and checklists and can package these for local authorities. UNEP-IETC (International Environmental Technology Centre) can provide support through introductory guides, sourcebooks, train-the-trainer kits, EST-Performance Assessment etc.;
- Marketing the Asia-Pacific Initiative: work with cities in Asia Pacific already familiar with the ICLEI process (i.e. Cities for Climate Protection Campaign);
- Use Mekong River Commission as a possible point of entry;
- Build on complimentary initiatives and issues (eg Australian Victorian Women’s Trust on gender issues);
- Create linkages to local governments and related institutions, Youth Water Action Team, UNEP/IETC Cities as Sustainable Ecosystems (CASE) Initiative, the Melbourne Principles, IWA’s water utility efficiency initiative.

Global Rainwater Harvesting Partnership

The group, representative of all continents, met to discuss a proposed initiative to establish a global collective. The proposal aimed to specifically focus on:

- Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting using community buildings; and,
- Surface Rainwater Harvesting for groundwater recharge.

While the group saw merit in the proposal, it reached the conclusion that it would be more appropriate to establish a broader initiative. Certain individual members of the group gave their support to the original proposal that will be discussed at other events, eg the Habitat International Coalition and at the WaterDome.

Agreement to establish the Global Rainwater Harvesting Partnership with the following objectives:

- To focus on all aspects of Rainwater Harvesting;
- To promote Rainwater Harvesting;

- To raise the issue on the sustainable development agenda;
- To exchange ideas and experience;
- To influence policy at the international, national and local levels;
- To provide a vehicle for creating partnerships; and,
- To promote a globally representative approach, allowing regional and other variety.

Facilitators and seed funding have been identified. The Partnership would be incorporated in Australia. The facilitators will prepare a proposal on matters related to the structure of the Partnership and conduct a process of seeking consensus on it among the proposed participants. Practical aspects to be debated via Internet with view to agreement and implementation by end 2002. Activities and budget to be finalised within two months of incorporation.

Water Wise Programme – Promoting Social Solutions for the Wise Use of Water

The 'social' aspects of water services are as important as the technical, financial & legal aspects. Comprehensive, positive behaviour change programmes have to be in place to complement the many technically oriented projects. The aim of this Action Plan is to build capacity for improved community relations, social marketing and education programmes and to maximize the synergy of all stakeholders working together to achieve this aim.

Outputs

- A set of longer-term programmes in the Gauteng province in South Africa addressing the value of water and its sustainable use – some collective, some municipal
- Established a range of "best practice" principles for appropriate action (common principles for a specific local area)

Points of Action

- Joint Water Wise Advocacy through the Rand Water sponsored 'Communications Forum'
- Municipality-led Education programme
- International "Train-the-Trainer" mentorship programme for municipal educators
- Develop a local knowledge management hub, probably a website hosted by Rand Water and or DWAF
- Fund-raising programme – national and international sources

Eradication of Diarrhoeal Disease in the Limpopo Basin through Health Related Catchment Development

Vision

To develop and implement health related interventions to eradicate diarrhoeal disease for the entire Limpopo river basin (South Africa, Mozambique, Botswana, Zimbabwe) to such an extent that the reduced levels should be at least those of developed world incidence.

First phase: inter-country action to identify quaternary catchment. Set up participatory fora and identify target catchments through a process of situation analyses.

Second phase: implemented in the study catchment to include development of knowledge bases. Development of a baseline database and identification of action oriented groups.

Partners for the Action Plan: SADC Water Sector, Department of Water and Health in each country at primary catchment level; NAWISA, WHO, ADDCAG and academic institutions at regional level.

Partners in second phase include 20 NGOs at primary level (lead organisations: South Africa: Group for Environmental Monitoring; Zimbabwe: ZERO; Mozambique: Livingino; Botswana: Kalahari Conservation Society).

Strengthening Public Water Systems

Vision

To develop tools – political, social and economic/financial – that will be used around the world to strengthen public water systems. To raise awareness, especially in the national and global institutions, that public water operators must systematically and significantly be assisted, motivated and pressured to deliver quality services.

Outcome

A number of key guiding principles and a framework for intervention: To develop good quality, efficient and accountable public water systems. The group felt that they could not be specific about actionable points because they do not have the institutional and financial mechanisms to effect the actions. Public Sector International will assume the role of the champion and facilitator to realise and action the issues raised for interventions.

Update: The group held further meetings after the IC and agreed steps of joint action. For further information, please contact Jasmin Enayati (jenayati@earthsummit2002.org).

Sustainable Energy

Issue Coordinator: Irene Gerlach

Mobile in Jo'burg 082 858 0936; igerlach@earthsummit2002.org

Over fifty participants from various organisations from around the world actively participated in the working groups on action plans for sustainable energy. At this point, participants are still working on pulling their individual group reports and programmes of action together. Below, you find an outline of the programmes of collaborative action to which the groups agreed.

Oil Community Network (formerly Angola/Shetland Exchange)

Goal

This workshop aims to establish a network linking communities affected by fossil fuel extraction. The overall objective is to enable those communities to gain tangible and sustainable, social, economic and environmental benefits from engagement with the oil industry.

This initiative reflects the often negative impact of the oil industry on local communities. A recent comparative study of petro-states, has concluded that "natural resource endowment has not been positively correlated with economic development and social progress" (Bergeson and Haughland, 2000). However, there are certain notable exceptions to this principle, eg. Shetland.

Outputs

The proposed network of local communities and supporting organisations will:

- forge bilateral and multilateral linkages between communities affected by the oil industry;
- identify best practice and lessons learnt through sharing experience;
- develop appropriate funding mechanisms to promote the programme goal; and
- undertake joint action between network partners to achieve the programme focus.

Planned Programme of Activity for the 2003

- Establish a network management and programme secretariat;
- Undertake an initial pilot exchange between Shetland, Nigeria and Angola;
- Commission two research studies into specific impacts of the oil industry on the communities they affect;
- Provide support for community-based awareness raising/sensitisation exercises.

Partners: The invited partners are Development Workshops (Angola), Environmental Rights Action (Nigeria), Gemio ABC (Angola), Shetland Islands Council, the Unst Partnership (Shetland), and Stakeholder Forum (lead partner).

Assessing Best Practice

Goal

To establish criteria to be used in the assessment of best practice of sustainable energy projects.

Agreed Plan of Action

Apart from an extensive agreed criteria being established, the group also agreed on three projects that focus on tools and frameworks for assessing best practice. These were:

- The development of models for assessing best practice;
- The development of a database and tool for disseminating information about best practice; and
- The implementation of best practice models.

Biomass Energy

Goal

To explore methods of sustainable use of biomass energy and to reduce indoor air pollution.

Agreed Plan of Action

A programme for Sustainable Biomass Energy Management in three pilot countries in East and Southern Africa. The purpose of this is to widen access to more sustainable energy options for households and small businesses by:

- Commercialisation and scaling up of improved technologies for households and SMEs;
- Lobbying and influencing policy;
- Capacity building, research and information services; and
- Strengthening sustainable biomass energy supply

In support of this there will also be:

- Creation of a comprehensive database on biomass best practice/lessons learnt; and
- Sub-regional Symposiums on Sustainable Energy Management.

Partners: National Governments, SADC and NGOs including ENERGIA;ITDG; GTZ-ProBEC; SPARKNET; HEDON.

Solar Best Practice

Goal

To compare and contrast different solar programmes and find conducive ways of strengthening, broadening, scaling up or replicating as appropriate.

Agreed Action Plans

There were two agreed project proposals that developed from the group of stakeholders.

1. A Global Solar Cooker Programme

To promote use of solar cooking on a global scale, through networks of local and regional actors.

Outputs

- Build local capacity to provide the local services
- Stimulate local markets to create a demand
- Promote networking and knowledge exchange
- Mobilise communities
- Facilitate affordability of products through mechanisms such as micro-financing.

2. The scaling up and replication of the Barefoot Solar Electrification Programme in India

Eco-Village

Goal

The aim is to strengthen the capacity of the African eco-villages to reduce poverty and environmental degradation

Plan of Action

- Strengthening the strategic alliance work and on ground implementation; and
- Developing plans for technology and knowledge transfer.

Outputs

- Implementation plans to develop the Eco-Earth Alliance;
- Generate support and promote GEN Senegal; and
- GEN Senegal to develop useful implementation plans for project focused groundwork.

Food Security

Issue Coordinator: Claire Rhodes

Mobile in Jo'burg 082 370 6451; email crhodes@earthsummit2002.org

95 participants representing various stakeholders such as farmers, business, NGOs, media, women, and others gathered in six groups to work on draft action plans that had been prepared and championed by participants before the IC, and to identify additional areas of collaborative action.

Capacity Building for Agricultural Media Professionals (AMPs)

Vision

To empower AMPs in developing countries to utilise a full spectrum of resources so resource poor farmers can fully contribute to national, regional and global food security

Type 2 Partnership Proposal: Main Objectives

- Training opportunities: Enable AMPs to maximise professional skills, especially through training workshops and education.
- Professional support: Help AMPs meet high industry standards through professional journalism-related organisations
- Standards and Ethics: Establish, implement and sustain high standards of agricultural journalism
- Guidance: promote guidance on access to financial and material resources

Proposed Outputs

A Global Task Force of Committed AMPs mandated to adopting an action plan with

- Assigned responsibilities
- Targets and time frames
- A Code of Conduct
- A defined strategy for resource acquisition

Proposed Partners include: Médiateurs, Baobab Magazine, Kanyanya Integrated Farming Project, The Agriculturalist magazine, Farmers' Monthly Magazine, in addition to freelance agricultural journalists.

Multi-stakeholder Network for Local Enterprise

A **Local Enterprise** is an enterprise started with a local initiative, is need-based, preferably using local raw materials, skills and appropriate technology, is locally owned and managed, selling to local and / or other markets within a fair trading system.

Vision

A multi-stakeholder network for Local Enterprise Development to facilitate linkages between stakeholders that will lead to the success of local enterprise initiatives.

Type 2 Partnership Proposal: Main Objectives

To create an independent, not-for profit network, with accompanying guiding principles, to exchange information, mutual support and lessons learnt

- That will evolve into an actual, physical exchange network
- That is centralised enough to provide a single, cohesive resource, yet
- Decentralised enough to provide cultural relevance

- That can act in an advisory capacity for companies wishing to address corporate social responsibility

Proposed Outcomes

- A network, with accompanying guiding principles;
- Phase 1: A steering committee for the network (already established); and
- Information dissemination resources: websites, local information centres and newsletters.
- A research, development and monitoring programme - to ensure support matches needs.

Proposed partners include: Open University, Capetown Municipality, Sexto Sol, Micro-Finance Centre, Enterplan, Oxfam India, Africa Now, South Africa Local Government, Unilever.

Secure and Equitable Access to Land Partnership Programme

Vision

Secure and Equitable Access to Land driving sustainable development in a manner that ensures:

- Socio- economic development
- Food Security
- Ecologically sound natural resource management

Type 2 Partnership Proposal: Main Objectives

To enable secure and equitable access to land through:

- The empowerment of women
- Strengthening civil society and government capacity
- Sharing, learning and implementing best practice experiences

Proposed outcomes

Two integrated partnership strategies:

- Strengthening civil society through knowledge dispersal and project replication.
- Sharing best practice experiences through effective communication and appropriate strategies.

Firm commitment to developing one or both partnership strategies from: South African National Land Committee / Nkuzi, Envalert, Didibahni, Donet, Huxley Research Centre (US), SBLC, Zero, GEO, Tralso, Acode, Campfire, NPA and UWTMP.

Expansion of AgLe@rn

Vision

To build capacity for sustainable agriculture, through the provision of appropriate agricultural information via the web-based educational programme **agLe@rn**.

Goals

To expand agLe@rn in order to

- Broaden module content
- Engage more partners
- Encompass wider geographic outreach, especially within Africa

Proposed outputs

(beyond those already proposed in the partnership's original Type 2 submission)

- An impact monitoring and evaluation action plan
- Wider availability of scholarships funds
- Ascertain further commitment to partnerships

Existing partners: APRTC, CropLife and World View International

Further expressions of interest from: E-Chopal ICT Initiative, Unilever, IFAP

Eco Agriculture

Vision

To raise the profile of Ecoagriculture, defined as 'sustainable agriculture and associated natural resource management that embraces and simultaneously enhances productivity, rural livelihoods, ecosystem services and biodiversity'

Type 2 partnership submission: main objectives

To promote Ecoagriculture by catalysing

- Research and land use innovation with farmers and conservationists
- Capacity Building
- Education and public awareness raising
- The development of enabling policies
- Resource mobilisation

Proposed outputs

- An international conference in 2003 to promote Ecoagriculture
- A supporting secretariat (Future Harvest)
- Support for selected 'On the Ground' projects and efforts
- Ensure connectivity between ground level initiatives and the international conference
- An educational and outreach component for useful information dissemination

Workshop participants committed to supporting the coalition include:

Forest Trends, IUCN, Future Harvest, IWMI, James Cook University, Bionet International, IFAP, ICRAF, IPGRI, US Natural Resource Conservation Service, Carolina Population Centre, CIAT and the International Environment Forum.

Smallholder Irrigation Promotion in Semi-arid Areas

Vision

To promote small-holder irrigation in semi-arid areas, initially based on low pressure drip irrigation and treadle pumps.

Draft Type 2 partnership: Main Objectives

To promote small-holder irrigation in semi-arid areas in order to attain:

- Increased food security at house hold, local and national levels
- Increased capacity for adaptive research and extension
- Increased and diversified incomes for resource poor farmers

Proposed outcomes

- A inter-disciplinary steering committee by Dec. 2002
- Concrete project proposal for donor consideration by June 2003 (Specific chapters and actions involved already identified)

Partner organisations: IFAP, Kenyan National Farmers Union, Kenya Agriculture Research Institute, Noragric, Wageningen University, Winrock International, AgriSA, ISNAR, CARE-Kenya, Kenyan Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Health

Issue Coordinator: Gordon Baker

Mobile in Jo'burg 082 858 1569; email gbaker@earthsummit2002.org

Huge strides were taken by over 75 participants working in six parallel, focused groups: each establishing an agreed context and vision before sharing experience and identifying practical deliverable outcomes. Each group identified specific action programmes with commitments for participation and timetables for implementation. Several groups developed more than one action plan to be pursued by all or several of the organisations present. Stakeholder Forum is in discussion with each group to identify needs and garner (and provide) support. One key requirement is the engagement of further participants in most of the programmes – please let us know of your interest!

“Drop the Malaria Tax” Campaign

Vision

Reduce the numbers of deaths due to malaria in sub-Saharan Africa through removal of tariffs on malaria control products; and building resources to increase supply of and access to insecticide-treated bed nets.

Outcomes

- Target five countries in year one: Burkina-Faso, Malawi, Guinea Bissau, Eritrea and South Africa. Targets identified through a pragmatic assessment of ability to target/ influence stakeholder and government representatives. Target five more (tbc) in year two.
- Numerous agreed steps of campaign (and information gathering) to catalyse political will;
 - Creation of partnerships with stakeholders and governments;
 - Measurement of impact on vulnerable groups (esp. children, poor and young women).

Partners: Massive Effort Advocacy Campaign; Roll Back Malaria; World Health Organisation; World Vision; Stakeholder Forum.

HIV and AIDS in the World of Work

Vision

Create an African Forum of civil society stakeholders for the sharing of best practice on tackling HIV/AIDS in the workplace.

Outputs

- Adaptation of the International Labour Organisation's Code of Practice (on HIV/AIDS and the World of Work) for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises.
- Development of network/ programme to include sharing of best practice, and new recognition awards ceremony for outstanding programmes: Stakeholder Conference planned for Oct 2003.
- University of Ghana offered to act as Secretariat.

Partners: City of Cape Town; Corporate sector; Department of Health of South Africa; Global Reporting Initiative; Massive Effort Campaign; SAfAIDS, UNDP, UNICEF; UNAIDS; University of Ghana.

Nutrition

A. The Indaba Declaration on Food, Nutrition, Health and Sustainable Development

Vision

Food systems, and therefore diet, are fundamental determinants of human health and welfare, and integral to sustaining the natural world.

Outputs

- Creation of an agreed text of the nutritional causes of poor health and desired responses;
- This Declaration to be disseminated widely at WSSD; and
- Commitments to be extended, and made integral to the WHO's nutrition strategy (as introduced in the Joint WHO/FAO expert consultation paper on diet, nutrition and the prevention of chronic diseases. To include commitments to action in international advocacy.

Partners: WHO, UK National Heart Forum, other signatories tbc

B. Child Nutrition

Vision

Improving nutritional status and well being in stunted children through physical activity.

Outcomes

Type 2 partnership proposed for collaborative research based intervention into physical activity, nutritional status and health of children, which, if successful, will impact on government policy on physical activity in schools.

Partners: South African universities (Orange Free State, Potchefstroom, Western Cape, Pretoria); University of Malawi; South African Nutrition Society; UK National Heart Forum; Sweetspot-Wellness Infonet (South African NGO); US National Institute of Health; S.A. Medical Research Council; Association of Country Women of the World; Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment; and HelpAge.

Migration of Health Workers

Vision

Concerned that migration has resulted in maldistribution of health resources, increasing unmet health needs globally;

Concerned that rights of individuals (migrant workers and communities served) may not be adequately protected; the group

Seeks to achieve a sustained collaboration to improve the performance of health delivery systems for vulnerable, poor, underserved and disadvantaged populations, particularly in developing countries. This will be achieved through creative solutions as well as systematic, concerted actions to enhance the potential benefits of health worker flows."

Outputs

Nine specific deliverable action plans have been identified; which include participants' active engagement of groups not represented at this initiating event. Agreed central ongoing network management and development responsibility of the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Partners: WHO, IOM, Rockefeller Foundation, Commonwealth Secretariat, DENOSA, SA government, Thai Ministry of Public Health

Partnerships for Health Research

Vision

Strengthening Partnerships in Health Research for Sustainable Development

Outcomes

- 1) To promote a Code of Conduct (including guidelines) for partnerships in health research; and to identify best practice in research partnership implementation (eg. Swiss / Tanzanian programme);
- 2) To increase human and material resources in health research (eg from Global Fund).
- 3) Proposed seminar (Ghana, March 2003) to include further participant organisations, progress to date and develop further partnerships.

Partners: African Environment and Human Development Agency; Ghanaian government; Human Science Research Council; Ifakara Health Research and Development; Medicines for Malaria Venture; National Research Foundation, pharmaceutical companies; Swiss Commission for Research Partnership.

Media for Development

Vision

"We believe it is necessary to leverage our networks to engage with public and private broadcasters, governments, educators and corporations, to deliver sustainable development messages."

Points of Action

- 1) To agree desired outcomes in engagement of public and private broadcasters;
- 2) To monitor content in community media on issues of sustainable development;
- 3) To undertake a baseline study on the role and relationship between media and sustainable development (with immediate need for project coordinator + funding); and
- 4) To present findings and set up stakeholder meeting at AMARC 8 Conference in Nov 2002.

Outcomes

Form a **Media for Sustainable Development Forum** to:

- Develop content and curricula;
- Develop training toolkits for sustainable development;
- Promote use of the media to disseminate sustainable development information;
- Gain private sector support;
- Increase awareness of communication as a human right
- Ensure right to community media included in all broadcasting legislation.

Partners: AMARC; APC; FEMNET; MISA; Oneworld.net Africa; Open Society of Southern Africa; PANOS Institute of Southern Africa; South African Broadcasting Corporation; Stakeholder Forum Vatican Project.

Political Context and UN Process Implications

The Implementation Conference is part of a wider political movement – a movement towards stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development. One of the secondary goals of holding it here and now was to make this movement visible to sustainable development policy-makers.

It is a movement of citizens and organisations who are determined to take action towards sustainable development within their sphere of control and reach.

There are a number of key reasons for the apparent lack of implementation since Rio, primarily the lack of political will of many powerful countries, the lack of courage for change, and the lack of financial resources available for sustainable development. However, in many cases, the holistic view and understanding of sustainable development by stakeholders has hampered them taking immediate action. Once we engage in seeing the full picture and listing all players and organisations who need to change to bring about sustainable development, we can be overwhelmed by the complexity and scope of change necessary – and go blind about what we can indeed do ourselves.

While much can be achieved by individuals and individual organisations changing course, in many areas activities undertaken in partnership can be even more effective and larger in scope.

It is also a movement of people experimenting with processes and mechanisms that enable them to effectively work and learn together. Partnerships are not new and there is ample experience at local, national, regional and international levels with working in partnership. The Earth Summit 2002 process is bringing this movement to the fore, and we need to harness its energy, creativity and courage. The Implementation Conference was held in Johannesburg in close proximity to the Summit, in order to deliver a powerful message to governments and international agencies on how partnerships can be built effectively among practitioners who take the lead from the sustainable development agreements and work out their contributions.

This is a movement that deserves recognition and trust. It seems that in many cases, governments and the UN system still treat stakeholders as entertaining guests at negotiations - or is it jesters at court?

Yet sustainable development is about each and everybody contributing and changing. It is about opening spaces and creating opportunities for people and organisations of all kinds. It is about governments and agencies learning to steer, guide and support citizens activities, trusting their engagement and seriousness, rather than continuing to control the status quo and shying away from change. It is about creating the right processes that move us **from words to action**. Since we have reached many of the necessary agreements at and since Rio, sustainable development is about **ACTION NOW**.

There is real need to learn to dialogue openly and constructively, and the UN can provide very useful opportunities for such dialogue. However, we need to differentiate between dialogue as a precursor to action, and dialogue as a substitute for action.

And there is much more need to come together to agree action. The Implementation Conference experimented with creating a space that would enable and empower stakeholders to do exactly that.

Looking ahead to the future of the CSD and the mechanisms that might be provided to follow-up on the type 2 partnership initiatives for Earth Summit 2002, governments will need to listen to those organisations that have engaged in partnerships for the Summit. What kind of monitoring mechanisms and reporting opportunities will be useful for them? Will they be invited to attend the CSD sessions in New York, and which meeting formats will enable them to exchange their experiences, learn from each other, promote their practices, engage in further activities and enlist additional partners?

It is hoped that readers of this report will be active in promoting constructive answers to these questions.

Follow-Up to the Implementation Conference

There are several strands of follow-up activities.

An immediate focus is to feed outcomes of the Implementation Conference into Earth Summit 2002: There will be a presentation on Saturday, **August 31st, 11.30 – 12am, in Exhibition Room 1 in the Sandton Convention Centre.**

Working with the partners of many of the agreed action plans, we will provide information not only about the planned activities but also about the IC process and mechanisms that helped to create them, in preparation and at the event itself.

Throughout the preparatory process, the IC Team has fed information into the official preparatory process, via forwarding the issue papers as they developed through several revisions, holding side events at PrepComs, etc.

During the Summit and afterwards, Stakeholder Forum and many of the IC participants and partners will aim to feed their experiences and recommendations into the discussions on follow-up mechanisms to the Type 2 Summit Outcomes.

Follow-up activities over the coming weeks and months will focus on helping lift many of the initiatives off the ground. Some groups have asked Stakeholder Forum to join them as a partner, or even act as the leading partner or Secretariat for the partnership. While we are awaiting formal decisions from our Executive Committee and Board, we have every intention in joining in the collaborative stakeholder action.

Some groups have asked for Stakeholder Forum's support in terms of developing proposals and fund raising strategies, which we are happy to provide.

Stakeholder Forum's future work will include a diverse programme of activities on multi-stakeholder processes and capacity-building. We will aim to develop a knowledge hub on multi-stakeholder processes and partnerships, which will include further research activities, networking, learning exchanges, effective use of knowledge management tools, developing policy recommendations, and promoting effective mechanisms of stakeholder participation and collaboration. Our engagement in partnerships, including concrete projects on the ground in the developing and developed world, will be a key component of these activities, and we are excited about the opportunities that have been offered to us by those who participated in the Implementation Conference process and event.

CONTACT: Stakeholder Forum for Our Common Future

7 Holyrood Street, London SE1 2EL, UK

Tel + 44 20 7089 4300

Fax +44 20 7089 4310

Email info@earthsummit2002.org

Web www.earthsummit2002.org and www.stakeholderforum.org

Implementation Conference website www.earthsummit2002.org/ic

Project Coordinators

Minu Hemmati & Robert Whitfield

Stakeholder Forum for Our Common Future (formerly UNED Forum) is a unique multi-stakeholder non-governmental organisation - a network and forum on sustainable development, which has promoted outcomes from the first Earth Summit in 1992 and is now working towards a successful World Summit on Sustainable Development 2002.

