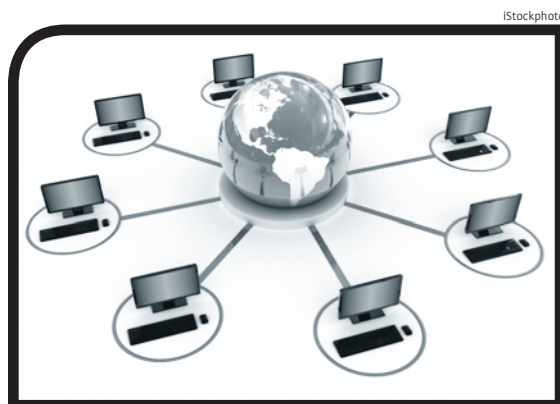


IISD at the Internet Governance Forum By Tony Vetter

INSTITUTE PROMOTES SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AS A MEETING THEME

The book *Internet Governance and Sustainable Development: Towards a Common Agenda* was released at the 2007 Internet Governance Forum (IGF) meeting in Rio as part of IISD's effort to address a systemic lack of interaction between the Internet governance and sustainable development communities. Sustainable development depends on global communications and knowledge exchange, therefore the Internet governance debate directly impacts on issues that could affect our ability to manage the social, environmental and economic factors of sustainable development.

The IGF is mandated to host policy discussion on issues of Internet governance such as the management of critical Internet resources, countering spam, multilingualism, cyber-security and capacity-building. With its informal, non-decision-making and interactive multi-stakeholder format, and with development as a cross-cutting theme, the IGF hosts a promising environment for bringing these two communities together. As a sign of progress, the IGF Chair observed at the Rio meeting that "one issue that seems to be really an emerging issue [...] is the interlinkages with sustainable development." However, as noted by IISD Advisor Maja Andjelkovic in her recent IGF Rio commentary, "as a result of a lack of commonality of direction, or perhaps as its reason, very few explicit linkages between Internet governance and sustainable development have been made at the IGF:"



"SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DEPENDS ON GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE," WRITES TONY VETTER.

With preparations now underway for the third IGF in December 2008 in Hyderabad, India, IISD has already submitted a proposal to the secretariat for sustainable development to be considered as a theme for the meeting. IISD is also planning on submitting workshop proposals to facilitate further rigorous and systematic analysis of the linkages between Internet governance and sustainable development, and encourage the harnessing of the power of the Internet to achieving the goals of sustainable development.

¹http://www.iisd.org/pdf/2008/com_internet_gov_forum.pdf

Tony Vetter is an IISD Project Officer.

"...the Internet governance debate directly impacts on issues that could affect our ability to manage the social, environmental and economic factors of sustainable development."

Capital Campaign

off to a Great Start By Rick Groom



THE CAMPAIGN SEEKS TO RAISE \$1.5 MILLION TO SUPPORT YOUTH INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS.

NEARLY A QUARTER OF YOUTH ALUMNI HAVE ALREADY CONTRIBUTED

IISD's *Bridging the Gap between Knowing and Doing Capital Campaign* got off to a great start in December 2007 and January 2008. Fundraising efforts were enhanced by a strong show of support from staff, associates, Board members and alumni

from IISD's Young Sustainable Development Professionals (YSDP) program.

To date, nearly CDN\$160,000 has been donated and pledged, with a number of IISD staff opting to make donations through payroll deduction.

"What matters is the strength of the support from staff, not the dollar value of individual donations and pledges,"

says Sue Barkman, IISD Director of Development and Community Relations. "It also sends a doubly positive message that our organization cares about the work it does and that we do, in fact, lead by example."

Approximately one in every four YSDP alumni have already given to the campaign, which aims to raise CDN\$5 million over the next two years; including CDN\$1.5 million for its youth internship program. So far, some 25 per cent of IISD's Board members have made pledges and contributions.

"Based on these and other healthy signs from the corporate community and foundations, we are developing case statements and proposals to market this campaign to the widest possible audience," says Barkman.

To contribute to the *Bridging the Gap between Knowing and Doing Capital Campaign*, and for more information, please visit <http://www.iisd.org/innovation>.

Rick Groom is IISD's Development Coordinator.

Upcoming and Recent Meeting Coverage on IISD Linkages

SELECTED MEETINGS

Sixteenth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-16)

<http://www.iisd.ca/csd/csd16/>

May 5-16, New York, USA

Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

<http://www.iisd.ca/biodiv/bs-copmop4/>

May 12-16, 2008, Bonn, Germany

Ninth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

<http://www.iisd.ca/biodiv/cop9/>

May 19-30, 2008, Bonn, Germany

28th Session of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Subsidiary Bodies and Related Meetings

<http://www.iisd.ca/climate/sb28/>

June 2-13, 2008, Bonn, Germany

To follow current and recent coverage of international meetings on the environment and development, visit IISD's Linkages Web site at <http://www.iisd.ca> or subscribe to the *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* at <http://www.iisd.ca/enbvol/enb-electronic.htm>

A Way Forward By Jenny Gleeson

IISD CONFERENCE EXAMINES CANADIAN AND INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON POST-2012 CLIMATE POLICY

Prior to the Montreal Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2005, IISD began looking at Canadian perspectives on post-2012 issues and exploring contributions to developing a future global climate change regime when the Kyoto Protocol expires.

IISD's recent conference, *A Way Forward: Canadian and International Perspectives on Post-2012 Climate Policy*, held in March 2008 in Ottawa, was the final activity of IISD's Post-2012 Dialogue Project. The process explored the four main areas identified for discussion under the dialogue on long-term cooperation action under the Convention which also form the main elements of the Bali Action Plan. In light of these four themes—mitigation; adaptation; technology; and investment and finance—IISD sought to assess key Canadian sensitivities, interests and concerns.

The conference was one of the first post-COP-13 symposiums to examine the implications of the Bali Action Plan. Over the two days, the conference brought together Canadian and international presenters, and was



JOHN BAIRD, CANADA'S MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT, CHATS WITH PARTICIPANTS.



JOHN DREXHAGE, DIRECTOR OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY, AND IISD PRESIDENT/CEO DAVID RUNNALLS WELCOME OVER 100 CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS.

attended by 115 participants. The conference highlighted the work of IISD, but also brought in perspectives from around the world, with presentations by: Harlan Watson, chief negotiator from the United States; Hironori Hamanaka, a former climate change negotiator for Japan; Henry Derwent, president of the International Emissions Trading Association, and a number of other leading experts from Canada and abroad.

In conjunction with the conference, IISD published the results of the dialogue process in *A Way Forward: Canadian perspectives on post-2012 climate policy* and an accompanying document describing a range of post-2012 policy scenarios. Conference speakers and discussions highlighted the need for long-term policy certainty and price signals within Canada as well as the need to address the current disconnect between Canada's domestic and international climate change policy.

Conference proceedings, presentations and documents—including the book, *A Way Forward*—are available at http://www.iisd.org/climate/kyoto/post_2012.asp.

Jenny Gleeson is an IISD Project Officer.

Media Forum in Egypt Focuses on Biofuels By Damon Vis-Dunbar

IISD'S GLOBAL SUBSIDIES INITIATIVE PROVIDES LEARNING OPPORTUNITY FOR JOURNALISTS

In April, the members of the Global Subsidies Initiative (GSI) team travelled to Alexandria, Egypt. The purpose of the trip was twofold. On the 17th the GSI team met with members of the High Level Advisory Group (HLAG), an international board that provides strategic advice to the project. The meeting was hosted by Dr. Ismail Serageldin, Director of the Library of Alexandria, which is not only a vast and modern library, but also runs an impressive array of research and communications activities. On the 18th and 19th, the GSI staged a Regional Media Forum at the Library, the third of a series of forums that bring journalists and experts together to analyze and discuss the links between subsidies and sustainable development.

Each of these forums, which are organized in partnership with the Inter Press Service news agency, takes as its starting point an issue that is particularly relevant to the region. In the case of Alexandria, it was the rising cost of food, a situation that has led to mass protests in Egypt and elsewhere. Journalists from across the Middle East heard from a variety of regional and international experts, including members of the HLAG, on the factors that were contributing to sky-rocketing food prices. One of the key



MIDDLE-EASTERN JOURNALISTS LEARN ABOUT BIOFUELS SUBSIDIES IN ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT.

factors is the expanding production and consumption of biofuels, spurred by subsidies and mandates in Europe and North America, which have been documented in the GSI's research. The Forum also allowed journalists to develop investigative story ideas on the links between subsidies and sustainable development, with the help of experts and senior journalists in the region.

Damon Vis-Dunbar is a Communications Officer with IISD's Global Subsidies Initiative.

IISD Associate wins Acclaim for New Book about Well-being

ANIELSKI EXPLORES THE MEANING OF GENUINE WEALTH

IISD Associate Mark Anielski has been awarded the 2008 bronze medal in the category of Economics by the Axiom Business Book Awards of Independent Publishers for his book, *The Economics of Happiness: Building Genuine Wealth* (see <http://www.genuinewealth.net/> to learn more about the publication).



MARK ANIELSKI

Anielski is an internationally noted expert in developing and reporting on sustainability from the community to the national level and beyond. His Genuine Wealth model and Genuine Progress Indicators, which are new tools to evaluate well-being, are featured in the book.

The Economics of Happiness shows:

- how economics, capitalism, accounting and banking, which dominate our consciousness, can be reoriented towards the pursuit of genuine happiness;
- how to rediscover the original meaning of the language of economics;
- how to measure the five capitals of Genuine Wealth: human, social, natural, built and financial;
- how nations, governments, communities and businesses are using the Genuine Wealth model to build a new economy of well-being; and
- how you and your family can apply the Genuine Wealth model in your lives.

Recent Publications



HOW INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES CAN SUPPORT EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: CURRENT USES AND TRENDS

http://www.iisd.org/pdf/2008/ict_education_sd_trends.pdf

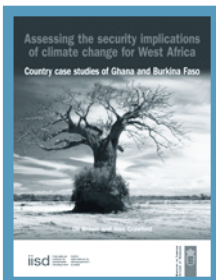
As part of IISD's involvement with Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth and the UNESCO Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, this paper presents a brief history, and identifies current uses and trends for deploying information and communications technologies (ICTs), primarily in the formal Kindergarten to Grade 12 education system, with a focus on the online environment. It considers three main questions: (1) Why do ICTs need to be considered as a critical tool in education for sustainable development (ESD)?; (2) What ICTs are currently being used by educators and learners?; and (3) What can we expect to see in the near future?



FURTHERING EU OBJECTIVES ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND CLEAN ENERGY: BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS WITH MAJOR DEVELOPING ECONOMIES

http://www.iisd.org/pdf/2008/eu_objectives_climate.pdf

The European Union has demonstrated resolve to remain at the forefront of global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but achieving the EU's goals in the areas of climate change and energy will depend significantly on what happens outside the EU, including in developing countries with major and growing economies. Foreign policy can help to promote and strengthen EU objectives on climate change and clean energy through progressive partnerships with developing countries. This report scopes out and analyzes potential for collaborative action in the foreign policy areas of finance and investment, development cooperation and trade. The focus is how the EU can more effectively strengthen partnerships with the major developing economies—China, India, Brazil, Mexico and South Africa—in supporting a global transformation to cleaner energy systems over the first half of this century.



ASSESSING THE SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF CLIMATE CHANGE FOR WEST AFRICA: COUNTRY CASE STUDIES OF GHANA AND BURKINA FASO

English: http://www.iisd.org/pdf/2008/security_implications_west_africa.pdf

French: http://www.iisd.org/pdf/2008/security_implications_west_africa_fr.pdf

Traditionally seen as an environmental and an energy issue, climate change is now also being cast as a threat to international peace and security. Africa, though the least responsible for greenhouse gas emissions, is seen as the continent most likely to suffer its worst consequences—a function of the continent's reliance on climate-dependent sectors (such as rain-fed agriculture) and its history of resource, ethnic and political conflict.

The security implications of climate change have become the subject of unprecedented international attention; in 2007 climate change was the focus of both a Security Council debate and the Nobel Peace Prize. There have been some attempts to construct scenarios of the ways in which warming temperatures might undermine security at a global scale. But the country-level security impacts of climate change have been lost in the political rhetoric. Local experts are rarely consulted.

This book is an effort to address this research gap. Drawing on field visits and consultations with local experts, it explores the extent to which climate change may undermine security in the West African countries of Ghana and Burkina Faso.

Recent Publications *continued*



BIOFUELS – AT WHAT COST? GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR ETHANOL AND BIODIESEL IN AUSTRALIA

http://www.iisd.org/pdf/2008/biofuels_subsidies_au.pdf

This report on government subsidies for biofuels in Australia by IISD's Global Subsidies Initiative (GSI) finds the Australian government spent A\$95 million on supporting biofuel production and consumption in 2006–07. The GSI analyzes government subsidies and the ways in which they could undermine efforts to put the world on a path toward sustainable development.



INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS, BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS: KEY ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

http://www.iisd.org/pdf/2008/iaa_business_human_rights.pdf

The paper was prepared for Prof. John Ruggie, UN Special Representative to the Secretary General for Business and Human Rights. It explores the full range of issues that arise between international investment agreements, business and human rights, focusing on the key duties of states to protect and promote human rights, and the responsibilities of business to respect human rights. Do investment agreements help or hurt the fulfillment of these roles?

The paper also takes a first look at the relationship of Host Government Agreements with international investment treaties in the human rights context. The paper concludes the existing investment treaty regime does nothing to either enhance the relationship between business and human rights, or to ensure investors fulfill their responsibility to respect human rights. Moreover, it can negatively impact the duty of host states to protect and promote human rights. However, the paper notes this need not be the case, and suggests specific approaches to enhancing this relationship, and to embed human rights values into the international investment law regime.

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The International Institute for Sustainable Development contributes to sustainable development by advancing policy recommendations on international trade and investment, economic policy, climate change, measurement and assessment, and sustainable natural resources management. Through the Internet, we report on international negotiations and share knowledge gained through collaborative projects with global partners, resulting in more rigorous research, capacity building in developing countries and better dialogue between North and South.

IISD's vision is better living for all—sustainably; its mission is to champion innovation, enabling societies to live sustainably. IISD is registered as a charitable organization in Canada and has 501(c)(3) status in the United States. IISD receives core operating support from the Government of Canada, provided through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and Environment Canada; and from the Province of Manitoba. The Institute receives project funding from numerous governments inside and outside Canada, United Nations agencies, foundations and the private sector.

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