

Issue 4

January 2002

**Institutional Dimensions of
Global Environment Change
(IDGEC)**

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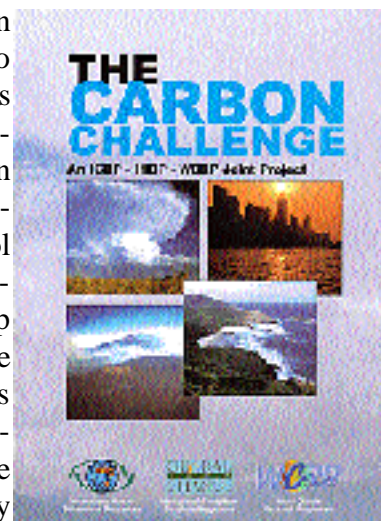
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The International Carbon Cycle Project: An Exercise in Global Collaboration and Coordinated Research

IDGEC's Project Leader Oran Young co-chairs ICCP SSC

The International Carbon Cycle Project (ICCP) has developed over the past two years through a collaborative process involving the International Geosphere/Biosphere Programme (IGBP), the International Human Dimensions Programme (IHDP), and the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP). Over 150 carbon cycle researchers from 26 countries around the world have been involved in the process of producing the ICCP prospectus. This prospectus, formally unveiled in Amsterdam in July 2001, can be viewed and downloaded at the IDGEC website: www.dartmouth.edu/~idgrec/publications/index.html

The ICCP is built on a 'framework' that "provides an integrated perspective across disciplines as well as national boundaries. The approach is to accept humans and their activities as an integral part of the carbon cycle, and to focus on the human-environment system as a single, highly linked and interactive system that drives the dynamics of the carbon cycle. The goal is to understand the underlying mechanisms and feedbacks that control the carbon cycle, explain the current patterns of sources and sinks, and develop plausible trajectories of the behavior of the carbon cycle into the future. The project's target is to provide societies with significantly enhanced scientific knowledge of the global carbon cycle on which to base policy debate and action." (The Carbon Challenge, 2001).



The Project revolves around three scientific themes and questions:

- **Patterns and Variability:** *What are the geographical and temporal patterns of carbon sources and sinks?*

- **Processes, Controls and Interactions:** *What are the control and feedback mechanisms both anthropogenic and non-anthropogenic - that determine the dynamics of the carbon cycle on scales of years to millennia?*
- **Carbon Futures:** *What are the likely dynamics of the global carbon cycle into the future?*

The ICCP process is now moving into a new phase under the guidance of its newly created Scientific Steering Committee (SSC). Co-chaired by three individuals representing the three international science programs, Dr. Oran Young (IHDP and Chair of the IDGEC SSC), Dr Mike Raupach (IGBP), and Dr. Robert Dickinson (WCRP). The 15 SSC members, representing a mix of terrestrial system ecologists, physical scientists working on atmospheric and marine systems, and social scientists concerned with the human dimensions of the carbon cycle, met for the first time in December 2001 San Francisco. The goal of this initial meeting was to transform the broad themes and questions outlined in the ICCP prospectus into a focused program of research.

A major achievement of the San Francisco meeting was the development of a set of core or flagship activities for the ICCP. In the end, the group laid out four thematic activities:

- **Improving Understanding of Space-Time Patterns in the Contemporary Carbon Cycle**—an effort to improve our understanding of patterns and variability by focusing on regional sinks and sources,
- **Carbon Cycle Consequences of Regional Development Pathways** – a study of variability in human-induced changes in the carbon cycle,
- **Emergent Properties of the Coupled human/Carbon/Climate System** – a program of modeling aimed at identifying instabilities, thresholds, and surprises in coupled human/natural systems,
- **Carbon 21: Evolution of Carbon Sources and Sinks in the 21st Century** – an assessment of



Members of the ICCP SSC at work in December 2001 in San Francisco, CA

carbon futures incorporating human responses as well as anthropogenic drivers

A document outlining a plan of coordinated research on the global carbon cycle is scheduled for publication in May 2002. It will include an implementation plan for the project's flagship activities. An internationally distributed network of project offices will be created to carry out and coordinate the work of the ICCP. It is envisioned that ICCP offices will open during 2002 in Australia, Japan, the United States and possibly in Europe.

The ICCP SSC realizes the importance of devising a mechanism to interact with multiple stakeholders that includes not only the research community but also funding agencies, assessment and policy communities, and national and regional carbon programs, and of coordinating interactions between the research community and those engaged in long-term carbon observations. To this end, the committee approved the creation of a single Scientific Advisory Committee whose function will be to provide input from a variety of stakeholders to the ICCP and the Integrated Global Carbon Observations (IGCO) program.

Reference:

The Carbon Challenge: An IGBP-IHDP-WCRP Joint Project," Stockholm: International Geosphere Biosphere Programme, June 2001, 4.

Upcoming Events

4-6 February, 2002

Workshop on Sustainable Science: knowledge, technology and institutions for sustainable transitions in Asia.

Chiang Mai, Thailand

Contact: Louis lebel:

llebel@loxinfo.co.th

web: <http://www.icsea.org/ssi/ssiwork.htm>

25-27 February, 2002

Institutional Response to Global Change: The consequences of interplay between international regimes and local institutions for the forests of Southeast Asia

Chiang Mai, Thailand

Contact: psuparb@wu.ac.th

Saturday March 23, 2002

IDGEC endorsed workshop at the International Studies Association 2002 Annual Meeting,

New Orleans, Louisiana.

For more information see the article on page 8 in this issue of IDGEC News or check the ISA website: <http://www.isanet.org>

Workshop on Institutions, Knowledge and Environmental Politics.

The interrelations between institutions and knowledge have enormous consequences for Earth's ecosystems. Institutional design influences not only physical sustainability, but also the kinds of beliefs people accept about their world. At the same time, institutional changes and changes in knowledge seem inextricably bound up with issues of power. Institutional changes affect "who gets what," and "who knows what," both of which have direct consequences for equity and sustainability.

THINK's workshop will consist of panel presentations followed by development of a coordinated plan for future work. The discussion will be divided into two panels: conceptual and empirical. The first panel will bring together two distinct approaches to institutions and knowledge: the co-production model and action theory. The second panel will introduce three case studies. The cases will explore institutional issues related to (a) intellectual property rights and access to genetic material; (b) institutions to enhance local community knowledge and participation in India; (c) the science of climate change.

The goals of the workshop will be (1) to promote engagement and cross-fertilization among the leading theoretical approaches to institutions and knowledge; (2) to stimulate discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of each in light of evidence from case studies; and (3) to develop an edited book manuscript, for submission to a major press or as a special issue of a peer-reviewed journal.

March 30, 2002

Wildlife Law Conference

Washington, DC.

For more information:

:<http://eelink.net/~asilwildlife/programs2.shtml>

May 12-16, 2002

Asia-Pacific Marine Science & Technology

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

For more details, click:

<http://biology.um.edu.my/apcmst/>

13-18 May 2002

Sessions of The International Tropical Timber Council and Associate Sessions of its Committees: The 32nd session will take place in Bali, Indonesia.

The 33rd session will be held from 4-9 November 2002 in Yokohama, Japan.

For more information contact:

tel: +81-45-223-1110; e-mail: itto@itto.or.jp; Internet:

<http://www.itto.or.jp>

29-31 May, 2002

IDGEC-Performance of Exclusive Economic Zones (PEEZ) Workshop

Bogor, Indonesia

1-3 June 2002

IDGEC Scientific Steering Committee Meeting IV

Bogor, Indonesia

Participation is open to invited guests

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

6-8 October, 2001

2001 Open Meeting of the Human dimensions of Global Environmental Change Research Community.

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Information about the previous meetings can be found on

<http://www.iges.or.jp/openH/reporte.htm>.

8 October 2001

Workshop on The Convention on Biological Diversity and International Environmental Governance, the Royal Institute of International Affairs (RIIA)

London, UK.

NGOs, government representatives and other participants met to discuss the CBD in light of the ongoing negotiations on international environmental governance. The workshop was organized by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, RIIA and the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. More information on this meeting is available by e-mailing Joy Hyvarinen at: joy.hyvarinen@rspb.org.uk

Upcoming events — continued on page 4

Upcoming events — continued from page 3

May 20-22, 2002

**Remote Sensing For Marine And Coastal Environments
Miami, FL.**

For more information:

http://www.erim-int.com/CONF/7th_marine/7thmarine.html

3-14 June, 2002

**IHDP and START Third bi-annual International Human
Dimensions Worksp for Young Developing Country Scien-
tists. On urbanization.**

Bonn, Germany

Contact Maarit Thiem at thiem.ihdp@uni-bonn.de

web: <http://www.ihdp.org>

August 12-15, 2002

2002 Stockholm Water Symposium

Stockholm, Sweden

CALL FOR PAPERS DEADLINE: February 1, 2002

More information is available at:

<http://www.siwi.org/sws2002/sws2002.html>

Source: PFP SeaSpan. Pew Fellows Program in Marine Conser-
vation. www.pewmarine.org.

August 19-22, 2002

**Conference on Fisheries in the Global Economy, Wellington,
New Zealand.**

Organized by the International Institute of Fisheries Economics
and Trade (IIFET). For more information contact: IIFET 2002
Organizer; tel: 64-4-389-3487; fax: 64-4-389-3457; email:
bruce.shallard@xtra.co.nz

2-11 September, 2002

**World Summit on Sustainable Development:Johannesburg,
South Africa**

For more information contact: Andrey Vasilyev, DESA,
New York

tel: +1-212-963-5949; e-mail: vasilyev@un.org

www.johannesburgsummit.org

BOOKS/PUBLICATIONS

**Illegal Trade in Ozone Depleting Substances: Is There a
Hole in the Montreal Protocol?** (UNEP 2001). This new
publication aims to raise awareness about illegal trade in
ozone-depleting substances (ODS), as well as stimulate
action to combat trafficking. Government, academic and
NGO experts from developed and developing nations
explore the complexities of illegal trade in ODS and offer
recommendations for ending this problem.

The publication is available online:

<http://www.uneptie.org/ozonaction/library/oan/main.html>

IIFET 2000 Proceedings The proceedings of the tenth
biennial conference of the International Institute of Fish-
eries Economics & Trade (IIFET) are now available on
CD. This interdisciplinary conference addressed a wide
variety of topics from many perspectives--economic,
social, regulatory, marketing, historical, and medical,
among others. for more information:

<http://osu.orst.edu/dept/IIFET/html/publications.html>

Sustainable for Whom?: A new study released at the
end of October by The Taiga Rescue Network and the
Boreal Footprint Project argues that legislative reform
must accompany market-based certification in order to

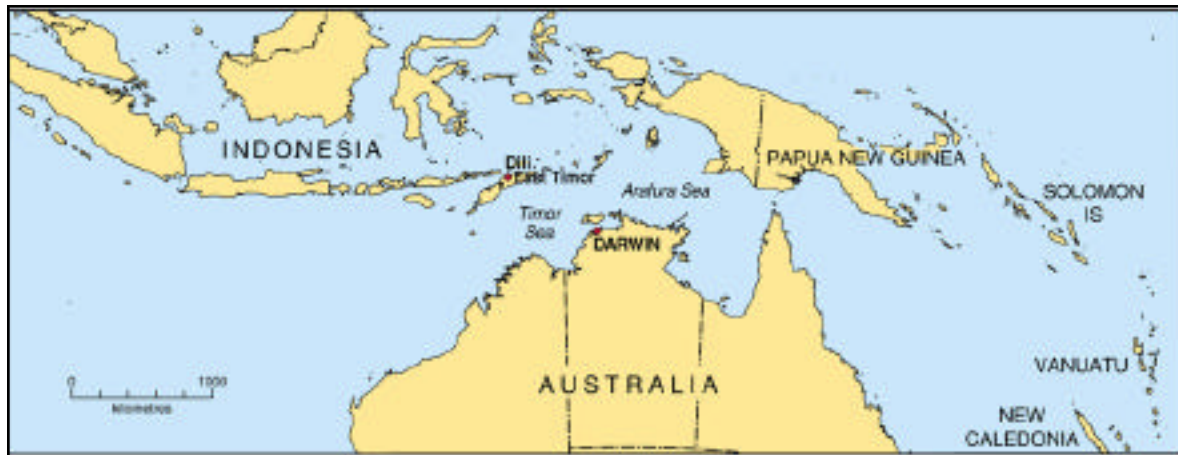
promote community sustainability in the boreal zone. The
study traces the experiences of four communities in Swe-
den and Canada which have experience with forest man-
agement certification through the Forest Stewardship
Council.

Certification is one of the latest tools advocated by envi-
ronmentalists and industry alike as a way to reward com-
panies and communities who are managing their forests in
an environmentally and socially sustainable way. The FSC
brand of certification in particular has received enthusias-
tic support from environmental non-governmental organi-
zations as international forest policy initiatives, voluntary
agreements and permissive legislative environments have
failed to produce progressive, measurable change in the
forest industry.

However, the social sustainability of forest certification
--such as the power and potential of Indigenous Peoples
and other local communities to use certification as a
means of social development-- especially in the boreal
region, have until now received less attention than envi-
ronmental aspects in the ongoing debate. The report **Sus-
tainable for Whom?** is available in PDF format at:

<http://www.taigarecue.org/publications/reports.shtml>

The Arafura/Timor Seas Initiative: Non-state Actors and International Environmental Institutions



The Arafura and Timor Seas are contiguous, divided in name only by custom and historical ‘accident’. By any biophysical criteria, the seas are unusual. Assessed as being at the global maximum for marine biodiversity, they still remain relatively under-researched. The seas are thought to be a non-organic carbon sink, yet they are known to contain extensive deposits of the fossil fuels, notably liquid natural gas (LNG).

When UNEP inaugurated its Regional Seas program, encouraging the sustainable use of the world’s ocean resources, the Arafura and Timor Seas ‘fell between a gap’. The diverse political and institutional characteristics of the littoral states and the lack of existing fora may have caused this omission.

Bounded by Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Australia, and newly independent East Timor, the use of the Seas’ resources was left to each nation’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) policy, and to bilateral regimes. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indonesia and Australia acknowledges the historical reality of traditional Indonesian fishing rights in Australia’s EEZ.

Catalysts for a Regional Sustainable Seas Initiative

Several factors have prompted interest in an Arafura Timor Seas Initiative (ATSI), a multilateral effort aimed at the sustainable use of the seas. The first is the over-exploitation of fisheries in Southeast and

East Asia, causing food security concerns and EEZ delineation disputes. The Arafura Timor Seas are rich breeding grounds, including habitats for the highly valued Southern Blue-fin Tuna.

A second is the need to revise existing EEZ boundaries and informal uses of the seas to accommodate newly independent East Timor. The circumstances surrounding the attaining of East Timor’s independence strained relations between the littoral states, strains recently exacerbated by Australia’s unilateral refusal to allow ‘boat people’ to land.

Despite the divisiveness of recent events and the diversity of the littoral states, there is a growing awareness of shared dilemmas where the wise use and governance of the Arafura Timor Seas is concerned. Indonesia has made the restoration of its fisheries a national priority, marine tenure claims by traditional and indigenous groups are being increasingly acknowledged by the littoral states and the legal and illegal actions of deep water fishing nations are an ongoing cause for concern.

The immediate catalyst however, is the advent of the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002. ATSI is envisaged as a forum for the sustainable use of the Arafura Timor Seas resources, which may become a non-binding Regional Seas regime.

However it evolves, it is intended to be a sub regional contribution to the sustainable use of living and non-living marine resources and to the ‘Science of Sustainability’. Research for the purposes of fish

Arafura/Timor — continued on page 11

The 2001 Berlin Conference on the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change “Global Environmental Change and the Nation State”

On 7-8 December 2001, the Environmental Policy and Global Change Working Group of the German Political Science Association organized its first “Berlin Conference on the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change”. The event is envisaged to develop into a regular series of IHDP-related “Berlin Conferences” bringing together social scientists from a broad international spectrum of disciplines, approaches and backgrounds. The 2001 Berlin Conference addressed the theme “Global Environmental Change and the Nation State”. Keynote addresses were delivered by Klaus Töpfer, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and Jürgen Trittin, the German Federal Minister of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety.

The meeting brought together a large number of researchers from different perspectives on global change and the nation state, including students of international relations and international law, environmental sociologists and economists, as well as experts on national environmental policy and comparative politics. Altogether 166 researchers from 28 countries participated in the event. In addition to the keynote speakers, plenary presentations were given by Martin Jänicke, Director of the Environmental Policy Research Unit of the Free University of Berlin; Carlo C. Jaeger, Head of the Social Systems Department of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research and Member of the IHDP Scientific Committee; Sheila Jasanoff, Professor at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University; Ronald B. Mitchell, Associate Professor at Oregon University and Visiting Associate Professor at Stanford University; Peter H. Sand, Lecturer at the University of Munich and Member of the IDGEC Scientific Steering Committee; Arild Underdal, Professor at the University of Oslo and Chair of the IHDP Scientific Committee; and Frank Biermann, Chair of the Environmental Policy and Global Change Working Group of the German Political Science Association and Project Leader “Global Governance” at the Potsdam



Opening of the 2001 Berlin Conference in the Harnack House Berlin Dahlem

Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK).

A number of panels focused on theoretical approaches and methods to assess the ‘effectiveness’ of international environmental regimes vis-à-vis nation states. Other panels examined the horizontal diffusion of environmental policies and technologies, with many presenters arguing that the role of pioneering nation states remains central and that international institutions are epiphenomenal in many cases. Many papers addressed this issue directly through detailed case studies on specific national environmental policies, comparing the respective ‘vertical influence’ of international institutions with the ‘horizontal influence’ of transnational diffusion processes. Country studies included industrialized countries, countries with economies in transition, and many developing countries. Some participants also offered cross-regional comparisons. The discussions revealed the need to better focus on the processes by which nation states cause or influence the diffusion of innovative environmental policies around the world, and on the specific avenues through which international institutions play a role.

A number of panels addressed other issues with

Berlin — continued on page 7

crucial relevance for the understanding of the relationship of global environmental change and the nation state, including: the role of non-state actors, such as environmental activists groups or business coalitions; transnational diffusion of policies through subnational actors, such as the International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives; the influence of world markets and economic globalization—including trade liberalization—on national environmental policies; and issues of regional integration, especially in Europe.

The 2001 Berlin Conference was held with the endorsement of IDGEC and organized in close cooperation with the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research and the Environmental Policy Research Unit of the Free University of Berlin, with support of the Heinrich Böll Foundation and the German Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Energy. Additional support was provided by the German Association for the United Nations (Berlin-Brandenburg Chapter); the Federation of German Scientists (VDW); the Canadian Embassy in Berlin; Adelphi Research, Berlin; and the Student Working Group on International Environmental Policy of the Free University of Berlin.

The 2001 Berlin Conference marked a successful start of a series of annual Berlin Conferences on the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change. The full Proceedings of the 2001 Berlin conference will soon appear at www.environmental-policy.de as a report published by the Global Governance Project of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research; a smaller edited volume on global environmental change and the nation state is planned. Additional information on the 2001 Berlin Conference has also been made available on this web site, including the full program with all abstracts, the complete list of participants, and most papers in downloadable format. Details of the 2002 Berlin Conference, which will take place in December 2002, will be posted at the same site in early 2002. For any suggestions or comments, please contact Frank Biermann at biermann@pik-potsdam.de.

Frank Biermann and Klaus Dingwerth

The Theme on Institutions and Knowledge (THINK!) to explore "Knowledge and Social Order: Pathways of Influence" at ISA Workshop

Across social science disciplines, scholars now recognize the importance of knowledge (or beliefs) to explain patterns of international and global governance. For example, Peter Haas (1990, 1992, 1997, 1998) found that epistemic communities [groups of experts that share principled beliefs, causal beliefs, truth tests to establish the validity of beliefs, and a policy program] can improve the likelihood of successful cooperation, particularly for issue-areas characterized by uncertainty. Judith Goldstein (1993) and Goldstein and Keohane (1993) argue that ideas, embedded in institutions, shape policy outcomes. Karen Litfin (1994) argued that shifts in discursive practices shape political action, including the successful conclusion of the 1987 Montreal Protocol and subsequent amendments. Literature on environmental governance, however, does not explain how beliefs, discourses, or ideas are generated and taken up by political actors in the first place. As Sheila Jasanoff (1997: 232) has written, "...Missing...are convincingly elaborated accounts of the processes by which locally contingent or contested knowledge wins the assent of wider communities and is taken up into political decisions."

THINK's workshop addresses this gap, with new conceptual and empirical work. Participants represent distinct, yet potentially complementary, analytical approaches to institutions and knowledge. These include the coproduction model (Miller 2002, forthcoming; Jasanoff (1995) and action theory (Tuomela 1995, 2000).

The desire for engagement among these approaches is often frustrated by conceptual differences. Most fundamentally, in what way should the analyst frame questions, and what consequences do alternative framings entail? A focus on causal questions opens a path to analysis of institutional performance and design. It is necessary to demonstrate whether institution A causes, or gives rise to,

THINK! — continued on page 8

knowledge-system B. Only then can the analyst consider questions of performance. What do sustainable practices look like? Does knowledge-system B promote sustainable practices? If not, can A be redesigned to promote sustainability?

On the other hand, posing causal questions presupposes answers to a number of constitutive ones. What if A is not an institution per se, but a coupled knowledge-order? What practical consequences flow from framing questions in constitutive terms, e.g., how such entities form, how they acquire agency or identity, who benefits from their activities? What relations of power are bound up with any given social order?

Other conceptual issues to be explored relate to how we understand institutions. Under what conditions is it useful to consider group, as opposed to individual, beliefs, intention, and agency? How can analysis of epistemic practices (e.g., offering reasons for actions, arguing) be brought into contact with utilitarian approaches to rationality (e.g., maximization, cost/benefit analysis)? The purpose of this critical engagement will be to foster conceptual development across the different conceptual approaches, and to build on areas of complementarity.

Virginia Walsh (Rutgers University) will present insights drawing from the work of Raimo Tuomela (2000, 1995), and the framework of action. She will argue that social groups create roles, like sovereign and scientist, and attach rights and rules to them. Agents use institutional roles, and attached rights and rules, as a framing device or lens when they produce knowledge. Knowledge produced, in turn, is the raw material from which agents form background knowledge and group beliefs. Action theory provides tools with which to analyze the formation of beliefs, intentions and goals (“interests”) by social groups such as states or research organizations. It allows for clearer analysis of the pathways through which institutions shape beliefs and political action.

Clark Miller (University of Wisconsin) will present the coproduction approach, arguing that the construction of an a priori distinction between knowledge and

order encounters problematic theoretical and empirical objections. Drawing from the field of science and technology studies (STS), he argues that knowledge and order are tightly-linked variables that people coproduce over time.

Case studies will help to ground the theoretical discussion, and will facilitate the development of specific hypotheses. The empirical papers bring together a number of problem-clusters related to institutions and knowledge. There is tremendous scope for exploitation and/or conflict connected with commercial demand for genetic resources, many of which reside in the “mega-diverse” marine areas of the western and south Pacific. Many questions might be asked, among them: How will alternative institutional arrangements [e.g., the private intellectual property regime of WTO/TRIPS, sovereign rights embedded in the 1982 Law of the Sea, and protection for “indigenous” knowledge in the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity] affect who has the right to “know” about genetic resources, including their medicinal properties? How can local knowledge be institutionalized, and taken up to inform environmental regulation at a national and/or global scale? Can institutions be developed to foster communication among scientists who are modeling the likely effects of climate change, and the potentially vulnerable communities who will need it?

Merrilyn Wasson (Australia National University) elaborates a pathway through which intellectual property rights shape and constrain the generation of new knowledge and technologies. A core insight is that genes do not become a resource until knowledge enables their extraction. Therefore, institutions assigning intellectual property rights to those who develop extraction technologies tend to reinforce inequities in the global system, despite exhortations for equitable benefit sharing.

Judicial systems constitute another such pathway of influence. Kelley Alley (Auburn University) will explore aspects of India’s judicial system through which petitioners bring pressure on industries, municipalities, government departments and regulatory

agencies to effectively manage environmental resources and treat industrial and human waste byproducts. These public interest environmental cases are, in effect, forcing a more public dialogue between institutions (the Ministry of Environment and Forests, the Pollution Control Boards, Water and Sewerage Agencies, and municipalities), industrial agents, petitioners, lawyers and nongovernmental environmental organizations.

A third possible pathway of reciprocal influence is the boundary organization, or an institute that spans arenas of science and politics. Shardul Agrawala and Kenneth Broad (International Research Institute for Climate Prediction), will present their organization's mission to engage in climate research and modeling at the seasonal-to-interannual time scale and to provide the results of this research in a useful way to farmers, fishermen, public health officials, and others capable of making the best of the predicted climate conditions.

Professor Raimo Tuomela (University of Helsinki) will serve as discussant. Prof. Tuomela's has published numerous articles and books examining the philosophical and social bases of knowledge. His latest work, forthcoming from Cambridge University Press, is a philosophical study of social institutions.

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IDGEC SSC III convenes at Dartmouth College in July 2001

Eleven members of IDGEC's SSC along with three of IDGEC's Research Fellows met for three days at the project's international project offices located at Dartmouth College in Hanover New Hampshire in July 2001. Productive discussions and presentations were accompanied by a leisurely dinner at the Wolcott, Vermont home of Project Leader Oran Young. A complete summary of the meeting is available on the IDGEC website www.dartmouth.edu/~idgcec.



From left to right: Michael Kane (USA), Russell Reichelt (Australia), Alf Håkon Hoel (Norway) and Elena Andreeva (Russia) chat before dinner at the Wolcott, VT, home of Oran Young.



From left to right: Virginia Walsh and Suparb Pas-ong.



From left to right: Oran Young and Leslie King.

Notice of Availability:

Institutional Dimensions of Global Environmental Change Biennial Report Spring 1999-Spring 2001

We are pleased to announce the publication of the first biennial report of the project "Institutional Dimensions of Global Environmental Change" (IDGEC). The report summarizes the achievements of the project in the two years since the publication of the IDGEC Science Plan. To obtain a copy of the report, please make a request to the IDGEC IPO.

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website: <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~idgcec>

ecology, fish farming, commercialisation of bio-safe biotechnology arising from the genetic resources of the marine biodiversity and ecologically benign extraction of LNG are all on the agenda.

Origins: ATSI and the trend for non-State actors to engage in the creation of international institutions

The involvement of non-state actors in the monitoring and implementation of national and international environmental regimes is well documented. Less familiar is the role of non-state actors in the design and formation of environmental institutions. Of this phenomenon, the Chief of the UN Treaty Section observed, “*All indications seem to suggest that the role of non-State entities will continue to expand, in many cases with the blessing of the States.*”

ATSI is part of this trend. Due to meet in late January 2002 to set a multilateral agenda, its origins were a Joint Indonesian Australian Marine Biotechnology and Marine Rehabilitation Consortium, comprised mainly of scientific organisations with the purpose of becoming a commercial venture. The transformation into a sustainable marine institutional initiative began when the Indonesian leader of the consortium, Dr. Ir Rokhmin Dahuri, became the Minister for Marine Affairs and Fisheries.

Dr. Dahuri is a Marine Scientist of international repute, who represents the trend for post Suharto era reformasi Presidents to appoint experts, rather than politicians, to the Executive branch. Prior to becoming Minister, Dr. Dahuri had responsibility for managing Indonesia’s Coasts and the 17,000 Small Islands and for legal matters pertaining to its EEZ. His policies for the use of Indonesia’s encompassing marine environment include a partial re-introduction of traditional marine tenure as a means of slowing habitat destruction. A crackdown on companies, which sell the Indonesian flag to vessels from the deep water fishing nations, has been endorsed by Indonesia’s media.

His Australian counterpart is the Deputy Chair of the project on the Institutional Dimensions of Global Environmental Change (IDGEC) and the Director of the Center for Reef Research, Dr. Russell Reichelt. Dr. Reichelt, a designer of Australia’s Oceans Policy, heads the Australian side of the marine consortium,

comprised of the Center for Reef Research, the Australian Institute for Marine Science and the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies of the Australian National University.

State Interest in ATSI

When ATSI meets, what began as a bilateral scientific consortium will begin to evolve into a multilateral initiative, involving the Governments of the Republic of Indonesia through its Ministry for Marine Affairs and Fisheries and of Australia through the Department of the Environment and the National Oceans Office.

It is expected that the Governments of East Timor and PNG will also be represented, at the Executive level. For East Timor, the timing of the meeting coincides with the drafting its Constitution, by an interim Ministry selected after the election of the first national Parliament.

In addition to representatives of the littoral States, the Government of the Northern Territory of Australia, with its capital in Darwin has a stake and an interest in the governance of the Arafura and Timor Seas.

Indigenous Representation in ATSI - a variation on the theme of nonstate actors in International Institutions

What will also distinguish ATSI will be the presence of representatives of indigenous coastal communities. International regimes, including the Law of the Sea Convention, urge States to take account of indigenous interests. Taking account of traditional tenure is now a theme of EEZ governance in all the littoral states. A recent High Court case in Australia acknowledged the existence of Native Title to Sea: exclusive to the low water mark and non-exclusive thereafter, to accommodate the Law of the Sea Convention. The effect of that ruling is that 85% of the coastline of Australia’s Northern Territory is now under indigenous title.

ATSI therefore will be initiated at a time when pre-colonial marine tenure is being reasserted. Trade between Indonesian maritime wanderers, and Australia’s northern indigenous population long predated colonial incursions.

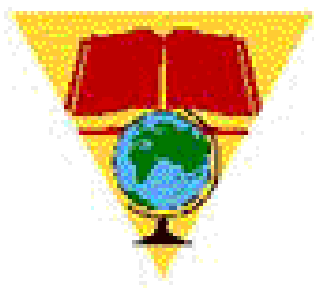
NEW IDGEC INITIATIVES ON THE DRAWING BOARD

IDGEC Moves to Catalyze International Network of Researchers

The International Project Office of IDGEC is moving forward with a new initiative to energize and facilitate the expansion of the group of over 470 individual researchers and practitioners from 55 different countries who make up the IDGEC Network. The IDGEC Network Initiative is still in the development phase and we are seeking input from Network members on how we can make the relationship between IDGEC and the Network more productive for all.

We have developed some ideas on how to achieve these aims. Please let us know what you think of these and send us your own ideas:

1. Have competitive calls for papers for our flagship workshops. Some number (one, two or more) of papers could be selected on a competitive basis for presentation at the flagship workshops and include travel expenses for the presenter(s) selected.
2. Establish an IDGEC summer fellowship, sponsoring a summer fellow (pre or post doctoral) for a few weeks/months at the IPO.
3. Develop a summer short course on institutional dimensions of global environmental change. The short course could include various speakers and activities and perhaps conclude with a publishable manuscript of some sort. Participants could be selected on a competitive basis.
4. Develop a curriculum for a university course on the institutional dimensions of global environmental change that could be adopted and adapted at interested institutions.



IDGEC Considers Developing Policy Links Publication Series

At the last meeting of the IDGEC Scientific Steering Committee (SSC III), it was agreed that IDGEC needs make a conscious effort to contribute both to basic knowledge about the roles that social institutions play and to the development of policy relevant insights about the place of institutions in particular human/environment interactions. Additionally, the SSC expressed a desire to produce a series of tangible IDGEC products (e.g. research reports, edited volumes, etc.) in the next biennium. As a result of these items, the International Project Office of IDGEC is contemplating initiating a Policy Links Publications Series. This series would serve to relate or explicate one or more research findings on various topics within the general realm of the institutional dimensions of global environmental change to a broader audience that would include policy makers, non-social scientists and the educated/interested public. Again, we welcome any thoughts you have regarding this new initiative.

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Flagship News

The Political Economy of Forests (PEF)

PEF Researcher Convenes APN Funded Workshop



Dr. Suparb Pas-ong, IDGEC SSC member and co-author of the PEF Scoping Report, along with Dr. Louis Lebel, is convening a regional workshop on Institutional Interplay and Forest Governance in Southeast Asia. The meeting will take place in Chiang Mai in late February. This represents the final workshop in a multi-country collaborative research project funded by the Asia Pacific Network for Global Change Research. The meeting aims to address a series of questions about the role that decentralization, economic globalization, and trade liberalization play in the institutional dynamics and interplay in the Southeast Asia region. This workshop will be followed by a workshop exploring resilience theory as it relates to institutions and politics. Topics under consideration will include cross-scale institutions, social and institutional learning, and qualitative approaches to assessing resilience. It is envisioned that these discussions will form the basis of a book on resilience theory.

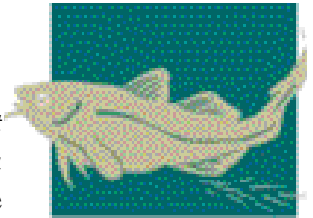
Dartmouth Students Research Boreal Forest Management

The Dickey Center for International Understanding has funded several undergraduate student researchers at Dartmouth College, where the International Project Office is located, to initiate a preliminary investigation on the political economy of boreal forests. Katie Greenwood and Alan Cheng have begun an examination of the status of forest governance in the circumpolar north. Katie initiated the study in March 2001, developing an annotated ENDNOTE bibliography. A bibliographic summary is available on the IDGEC website www.dartmouth.edu/~idgec. Alan drafted a report entitled, "Governance of Boreal Forests: Institutions and Actors" in December 2001. The report examines the status, uses and threats that boreal forests face as well as local, national and international management initiatives, primarily in Sweden,

Finland, Canada and Russia. The report will be made available when it is completed.

Performance of Exclusive Economic Zones (PEEZ)

Planning Begins for Next PEEZ Workshop in Indonesia



Plans are being drawn up for the second PEEZ Workshop, slated to be held in the last week of May 2002 in Bogor Indonesia. Given the meeting's setting in Southeast Asia, it is expected that there will be a focus on regional issues in addition to a comparative focus on the relationship among institutional complexes and large marine ecosystems in the Bering, Arafura-Timor and Barents seas. Other issues that may be explored at this meeting might encompass the use of marine biodiversity for genetically based biotechnology, aquaculture along with genetically enhanced coastal aquaculture, the ownership of fish farming and mangrove rehabilitation, coastal community ownership of coastal marine biodiversity, issues regarding traditional marine tenure, and the interactions between coastal community tenure and the provisions of national legislation and international regimes.

Carbon Management Research Activity (CMRA)

CMRA Researcher Appointed to ICCP SSC



Dr. Yoshiki Yamagata, IDGEC SSC member and co-author of the CMRA Scoping Report, has been appointed to the Scientific Steering Committee of the International Carbon Cycle Project (ICCP). Dr. Yamagata of the National Institute of Environmental Studies in Japan, joins Dr. Oran Young, Chair of the ICCP SSC, on this committee as the group moves forward with implementing the goals laid out in the ICCP prospectus. It is envisioned that one of the project offices for this initiative will be located in Japan and headed by Dr. Yamagata. For more information on the ICCP initiative see the article on page 1 of this issue.

ATSI's Future as an International Environmental Institution

As State and non-state actors meet to set an agenda, ATSI will be en route to becoming an established forum. The design of ATSI as a multilateral institution is not clear. It may evolve into a non-binding Regional Seas regime. If it flourishes because of a desire to maintain the living resources of a rich marine environment, it will be another indication that combining the interests of State, non-state actors and indigenous representatives may be a model for multilateral environmental regimes.

Reference:

Kohona, P B ' The Role of Non-State Entities in the Making and Implementation of International Norms' The Journal of World Investment, September 2001

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Vacancy Announcement: Executive Director of the International Human Dimensions Programme

The International Council for Science (ICSU) and the International Social Science Council (ISSC) invite applications for the position of Executive Director of the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (IHDP).

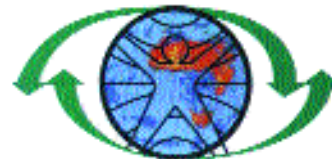
The Executive Director facilitates the expeditious and orderly development, implementation and evaluation of the IHDP Programme. A detailed listing of the requirements for the position of the Executive Director is available on the IHDP web-site (www.ihdp.org).

The successful candidate will have a distinguished international research reputation in a relevant social science discipline and strong contacts to the global environmental change research community.

The Executive Director, will be appointed by ICSU and ISSC for a 3-year period, renewable. The

IHDP Secretariat is located in Bonn, Germany. The position will be filled by 1 April 2002, or as soon as possible thereafter. The salary is competitive and will take due account of the experience and qualifications of the candidate.

Letters of application with a curriculum vitae and the names of three referees should be received no later than 15 January 2002 by the IHDP Secretariat, Attn. Search Committee, Walter-Flex-Str. 3, D-53113 Bonn, Germany, Fax +49 228 73 9054, e-mail: ihdp@uni-bonn.de. Interviews for the post will be scheduled in February 2002.



IHDP
International Human Dimensions Programme
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