



ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING



NEWSLETTER OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING NETWORK FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

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Letter from the Editor

Sustainability: 10 years after Rio

In only six months, ten years will have passed since the historic United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio 92). In September 2002 a Summit Conference on Sustainable Development will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa (Rio+10) where attainments achieved since 1992 will be evaluated, as well as future challenges to arrive at a sustainable, equitable and democratic development.

In preparation for the Johannesburg Summit, a series of consultations have been held with the governments of the four principal sub-regions (Mexico and the Caribbean, Central America, the Andean region and the South Cone). This process brought about the Rio+10 Preliminary Meeting followed last October, by the Thirteenth Meeting of the Ministers of the Environment that took place in Rio de Janeiro. In similar fashion, consultation meetings were held in the most important world regions, with eminent persons coming from academic circles, former governments, indigenous people and non-governmental organizations. In the present issue of *Environmental Training* we offer our readers the Report referring to the Latin America and Caribbean consultation meeting, held in Bridgetown, Barbados in June of this year (page 7). Finally, the government of the State of Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil, is convening a Forum on the Challenges of Planetary Sustainability which will meet in Porto Alegre on January 28-30, 2002, prior to the Second World Social Forum. This forum aspires to promote reflection, proposals and mobilization in civil society circles, as well as in sub-national and local governments, in connection with evaluation of multilateral agreements established in Rio 92 in the context of the international situation of the last decade. Furthermore, the sustainable development agenda will be discussed with relation to the more pressing social topics of our times, such as ethics, debt, hunger, poverty, trade, environmental quality, bio-security, the role of the State and citizen participation.

As a continuation of the process begun after the World Conference on Education for All held in Jomtien, Thailand, in 1990 and the World Forum on Education of Dakar, Senegal in April 2000, our region has generated a fruitful synergy of actors, by means of the Latin American Pronouncement which links within its network, a whole conglomerate of institutions and individuals in defense of public education. The World Forum on Education, held on October 24-27, issued the *Porto Alegre Charter for Universal Education* in which the right to free public education of good quality is demanded for all races, religions and cultures of the Earth; an education directed

toward values of freedom, liberty and justice and respect to differences; an education oriented to form human beings opposed to violence and exclusion, in favor of peace and democracy and committed to the search for popular and sustainable alternatives.

The Forum of Ministers of the Environment itself took the unprecedented decision of initiating a process of reflection, by means of consultation and debate forums, on the ethical principles which should orientate and set standards of thought, policies, practices and actions aimed at environmental protection and the management of sustainable development.

Among the most outstanding activities for next year, the first joint meeting of Ministers of Health and the Environment will be held in Ottawa, Canada, in March 2002. This assembly will permit an advance in public policies, relating environmental quality with health and the quality of life as fundamental principles of sustainable development.

During the second semester of this year and continuing with the editorial programme, the Environmental Training Network published two new books: one titled *Comercio, Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable*, and the other *Salud Ambiental Básica*, as well as three new education and training manuals (see publications section, page 15).

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ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL NETWORKS OF THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING NETWORK FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

ARGENTINA

Study and Training Journey on Urban Management of Sustainable Development, London – Barcelona

This course will be totally carried out in Spanish on September 2-20, 2002. This course will constitute a productive laboratory for critical and comparative reflection of innovative experiences on the subject of urban management. The project is sponsored by academic institutions of Argentina, Chile and Uruguay, which offer training courses co-ordinated with the programme at their respective sites. **For further information:**

Adriana Allen
Development Planning Unit
University College
London 9 Endsleigh Gardens
London WC1H 0ED, United Kingdom
Tel. (44 20) 7388 7581
Fax: (44 20) 7387 4541
a.allen@ucl.ac.uk
www.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/envidx.htm
Ana Olszewski
Centro de Investigaciones
Ambientales – FAUD
Universidad Nacional de Mar del Plata
Funes 3350, C.P. 7600
Tel/Fax: (54 23) 475 3946
olszews@mdp.edu.ar

Training Project on Agro-forestry for Peasant Women

The Andean Institute of Studies and Human Promotion (ICEPH) and the Canadian Fund are developing this project for women in Rio Negro, Argentina. The object is to improve life conditions of participating women and their families, by means of training and agro-forestry production. The aim is to motivate a different conception on environmental restoration and preservation, based on environmental agro-forestry and diversification aimed at self-sufficiency. **For further information:**

iceph@bariloche.com.ar

COLOMBIA

Courses on Applied Geomatics to the Biophysical Diagnosis aimed at the Ordination of Hydrologic Basins and Specialization on Geographic Information Systems

The Geographic Institute Agustin Codazzi (IGAC) of Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia, with support from IDB, offers short courses and specialization on geographic information systems. Programmes have been designed for government and private professionals whose main activity is cartography. The courses are offered on a regular basis twice a year, with different requirements and schedules. They invite whoever is interested to visit their website to access more specific information about their services. **For further information:**

IGAC
Carrera 30 No. 48-51
Santa Fé de Bogotá
Tel. (57 1) 368-0948
Fax: (57 1) 368-0950 y 368-0957
maestria@igac.gov.co
ciaf@igac.gov.co
www.igac.gov.co

COSTA RICA

International Workshop-Course on Economic Valorization of Natural Capital. Practical applications

This course is organized by the Tourism University (UTUR) and will be given at the Villas Zurqui Hotel, in San Jose, Costa Rica, on February 18-23, 2002. It is intended to persuade economic analysts to include in their reports as factors playing a part in the feasibility of sustainable economies, biodiversity and environmental costs and benefits. Moreover, the workshop-course proposes a specific methodology to achieve this goal. **For further information:**

Tel. (506) 248-0447 y 248-0293
Fax: (506) 248-0447
fallas_jorge@costarricense.com
www.fundena.org

Course on Ecological Principles for Sustainable Development in Latin America 2002

The Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS) is offering this course that will be carried out on April 6-20, 2002. Its objective is to furnish participants with the relevant tools for responsible decision making, with regard to the management of the environment and natural resources in Latin America and the Caribbean, by means of the appropriation of ecological principles linked to the concept of sustainability. It also considers the evaluation of the environmental impact assessment, as well as the valorization and environmental services and costs regarding definition of environmental policies. **For further information:**

OTS
Apartado Postal 676-2050
San Pedro Montes de Oca
Costa Rica
Tel. (506) 240 66 96
Fax: (506) 240 67 83
academic@ots.ac.cr
edamb@ots.ac.cr
<http://www.ots.ac.cr/es/education/ots-13.shtml>

Intensive Field Course on Agroecology 2002-07

This postgraduate field course, is given in Spanish by the Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS) and the University of Costa Rica. This intensive six-week course covers 14 hours of daily activities, planned for the seven days of the week. It includes eight hours of field studies every day carried out throughout the rural areas of Costa Rica. The last day for enrolling is January 30, 2002. In addition, the OTS offers a variety of other courses all year around for which more detailed information can be accessed through its website. **For further information :**

OTS
Apartado Postal 676-2050
San Pedro Montes de Oca
Costa Rica
Tel. (506) 240 66 96. Fax: 240 67 83
academic@ots.ac.cr
edamb@ots.ac.cr
www.ots.ac.cr/es/education/ots-13.shtml

CUBA

Third International Convention on Higher Education "Universidad 2002: La Universidad en el Nuevo Milenio"

The Ministry of Higher Education and Universities of Cuba are organizing this event to be held at the *Palacio de Convenciones* in Havana, on February 4-8, 2002. Among the objectives of this meeting is to promote reflection on the mission and role of universities in general and within the Latin American context in particular. Additionally, there will be ten workshops, conferences and parallel meetings. **For further information:**

Secretaría Ejecutiva de la Convención
Dr. Silvio Montalvo Martínez
Ing. Raúl Nariño Rodríguez
Oficina de Eventos Universitarios
Ministerio de Educación Superior
Calle 23, 565, esq. a F, El Vedado
La Habana, Cuba, 10400
Telefax: (53 7) 552359. Fax 553477
ofieven@reduniv.edu.cu
dct@reduniv.edu.cu

First International Workshop on Food Education Toward Sustainability

The workshop will be held in Havana, Cuba, on May 8-11, 2002 aimed at discussing topics such as: the ecological kitchen, the organic agriculture, culinary traditions, nutritional education, the new technologies for sustainability, in addition to conferences, posters, visits to ecological farms, community projects, beaches and museums. **For further information:**

Ing. Madelaine Vázquez Gálvez
Lic. Dayma Rodríguez Mirabal.
Jardín Botánico Nacional
Carretera del Rocío, Km. 3.5
Calabazar, C.P. 19230
Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba
Tel. (5-37) 549-170 y 549-159
Fax: (5-37) 544-184
hajb@ceiai.ifn.cu

Fourth International Meeting of Economists: Globalization and Development Problems

This conference is to be held in Havana, Cuba, on February 11-15, 2002 and is being organized by the Economists Association of Latin America and the Caribbean (AEALC) and the National Association of Economists and Accountants of Cuba (ANEC). The event will gather economists and social scientists to discuss economic

globalization and sustainable development and to reflect on their alternatives following different lines of thought. Representatives from the United Nations and well known personalities recipients of the Nobel Prize on Economy will be in attendance. **For further information:**

Lic. Alcides Pérez Pérez, ANEC
Calle 22 No. 901, Esq. A 9ª
Playa Miramar
Cuidad de la Habana, Cuba. CP. 11300
Tel. (537) 293-303 y 292-084
Fax: (53 7) 223-456
anec@info.get.tur.cu
www.eleconomista.cubaweb.cu

Biotour 2002. Third International Event on Biodiversity and Tourism

The Corporation for Nature's Tourism Development of the San Cristóbal National Park, convenes this meeting together with other scientific, cultural and tourist organizations from Cuba, Spain, Argentina, Mexico and others. The meeting intends to promote the exchange of experiences among participants, professionals and students whose work revolves around ecological or sustainable tourism. It will take place in Holguin, Cuba, on October 26-30, 2002. **For further information:**

Ing. Cosme Casals Corella
Apartado Postal: 246
Holguin Cuba
C.P. 80100
Fax: (53-24) 30-926
delsstt@mares.solmelia.cma.net
Dir_ger@luna.solmelia.cma.net
Dir_ger@mares.solmelia.cma.net

First International Workshop-Course: Eco-tourism and Management of Natural Resources, Systems Analysis and Simulation 1

Sponsored by the International Society of Ecological Models, the Fishing Research Center and the Consultants for Tourist Analysis of Cuba (QUEM), the workshop will take place on April 8-12, 2002. It aims at introducing professionals from the tourist sector to system analysis and simulation to be used in eco-tourism, planning and predictions on processes regarding management of natural resources. **For further information:**

QUEM
Mabel Arbesú Abreu
(Organizadora)
inforser@cic.cha.cyt.cu
Gustavo Arencibia Carballo
gustavo@cip.fishnavy.inf.cu

First Symposium on Environmental Education

The Instituto Pedagógico Superior Blas Roca Calderio Granma together with the Centro de Estudios para la Educación Ambiental (CEEAA) of Cuba are organizing this symposium, to be held on November 22-24, 2002. The objective is to bring about the exchange of knowledge and promote cooperation among the institutions in charge of strengthening environmental education. **For further information:**

CEEAA, Carretera Blanquizar, Km. 1,
87510, Manzanillo
Granma, Cuba
Tel. (53 23) 54014 (Ext. 32)
cee@isp.granma.inf.cu

Fourth Ibero-American Symposium on Research and Environmental Education: Environmental Education, a Future Challenge

The symposium will be hosted by the Central Institute of Pedagogical Sciences (ICCP) in Havana, Cuba, from January 28 through February 1, 2002. Experts on environmental education from Latin America and the Caribbean, will be in attendance presenting their work and discussing their papers, turning the meeting into a forum where there will be abundant exchange of bibliography and research, consultancy and development of research projects, applications for doctorates and masters degrees, as well as collaboration agreements on environmental education. **For further information:**

ICCP
Calle: 17 esq. 0, Vedado
10400, Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba
Tel. (537) 32-5861
Fax: (537) 33-5652
iccp@iccp.rimed.cu
rey@iccp.rimed.cu

International Meeting for Institutions and Organizations Dedicated to the Promotion of Sustainable Agriculture

The meeting will take place at the University of Cienfuegos (UCF) on February 12-15, 2002. Activities include workshops on agroecology, urban agriculture and sustainable agrarian management. The main objective is the exchange of experiences among representatives of institutions and organizations working to promote the sustainability of the agrarian sector, in order to know about a variety of methods develop-

ed under different social and economic conditions aimed at reaching the goal of food security and corresponding contribution to sustainable human development. **For further information:**

UCF
Alejandro R. Socorro Castro
Telfax: (53) 432 22912
Fax: (53) 432 22762
agropec@ucfinfo.ucf.edu.cu
arsocorro@yahoo.com
www.geocities.com/agronat2002/

ECUADOR

First Ibero-American Congress on Ecological Economy and Environmental Management: Development, Environment and Equity

The First Ibero-American Congress on Ecological Economy and Environmental Management, intends to create a plural forum for the discussion of conceptual and methodological fundamentals for the analysis of the relationship among development, environment and equity. One of the basic objectives of this congress is the creation of the Ibero-American Society of Ecological Economy that pursues the consolidation of ties among research groups in the region and among the national economic ecology societies already existing. Topics to be discussed will be: globalization, marketing and the environment, evaluation and environmental policies, inequity and the environment, agroecology and agro-economy, sustainable local development, debt and the environment, urban ecology, general aspects of sustainability (biodiversity, climatic change, etc.), alternative technologies and development philosophy. The event will take place in November 2002 in Quito, Ecuador. **For further information:**

Fander Falconi
ffander@flacso.org.ec

MEXICO

Seventh International Congress on Environmental Science

This meeting is being organized by the Faculty of Chemical Science and Engineering of the Autonomous University of Baja California, sponsored by the National Academy of Environmental Science (ANCA). It is programmed to take place on April 23-26, 2002, in Tijuana, Baja California. The deadline to register works is January 18. **For further information:**

UABC
Calzada Tecnológico 14418
Mesa de Otay, C.P. 22390
Tijuana, B.C
Tel: (52-664) 682-1033, Ext: 5800 al 04
Fax: (52-664) 682-2790
raudelramos@sia.mx | uabc.mx
raramos@cima.tij.uabc.mx

Local Public Management and Environment Certificate

The Ibero-American University (UIA) in Mexico is organizing this course that intends for participants to identify the most important environmental problems and opportunities, as well as governance aspects at the regional, metropolitan and local levels present in Mexico. **For further information:**

Dr. Cesar Nava
(Coordinator)
Universidad Iberoamericana
Prol. Paseo de la Reforma No. 880
Edificio G, P.B
Lomas de Santa Fe
México, D. F. 01210
Tel. (52 55) 5267-4248. Fax 5267-4224
informes.deu@uia.mx

Third International Congress on Urbanism and the Environment

The Faculty of Urban and Regional Planning of the Autonomous University of the State of Mexico; the National Association of Institutions for Teaching

Planning, Urbanism and Territorial Ordinance (ANPUD); the Latin American Association of Urbanism and Planning Schools (ALEUP); and the Mexican Association of Science for Regional Development (AMECIDER), are convening this event that will be held in Toluca, on May 22-24, 2002. The objectives are to discuss and analyze new challenges in city planning and the environment facing the Twentieth First Century; to promote reflection on socio-territorial problems and policies of cities and metropolis and to encourage the analysis of their present conditions and demands with respect to sustainability. **For further information:**

Mtro. Pablo Vinageras Barros
palberto@mail.uaemex.mx
Mtro. Jorge Tapia Quevedo
jtq@coatepec.uaemex.mx
Lic. Beatriz Rodríguez Labajos
labajos@coatepec.uaemex.mx

PANAMA

First International Course on Integral Management of Coastal Zones

The Latin American Institute of Marine Science and the Environment (ILCMA) with support from the Rain Forest Water Center in Latin America and the Caribbean (CATHALAC) and the United Nations Environmental Programme, is organizing this course to be held in Ciudad del Saber, Panama, on April 22-26, 2002. The topics contained in the programme are: a) Globalization and harbor development, a framework for analysis; b) The port/harbor sector and integral management of coastal zones: structural elements; c) Expansion of port areas and the integral management of coastal zones: a methodology; and c) Politics and strategies for expansion and port development within the context of integral management of coastal zones. **For further information:**

ILCMA
5430 sw 92 Avenue
Miami, FL, 33165, EUA
Tel. (305) 361-4448 / 668-8186
ilcma@hotmail.com



ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE THE REGION

ENGLAND

University of Bradford

The Development and Project Planning Centre offers the following courses: Projects and Management Development as well as Human Resources Development and Management, from January 14 through April 5, 2002; Essential Skills in Project Planning and Management, from January 14 through February 22, 2002; Planning and Management of Development Projects: a Multisectorial Approach, from May 13 through June 21, 2002; and Environmental Management and Sustainable Development, from January 7 through March 29, 2002. **For further information:**

Development & Project Planning Centre
University of Bradford
West Yorkshire, England BD7 1DP
Tel. (01274) 235-280, (44-1274) 235-280
p.e.fell@bradford.ac.uk
www.brad.ac.uk/acad/dppc/pdt.html

FRANCE

Seventh Biannual Conference of the International Society for Ecological Economics

The International Society for Economics Ecology (ISEE) in collaboration with the European Society for Ecological Economics (ESEE), the Centre d'Economie et d'Ethique pour l'Environnement et le Développement (CEEED), the Institut de Recherche sur le Développement (IRD) and the regional societies of the ISEE, is organizing this seventh conference to be held in Sousse-Tunisia, France, on March 6-9, 2002. **For further information:**

<http://193.51.42.100/eee/ISEEtunisia2002.html>

UNITED STATES

RARE Center for Tropical Conservation

The RARE Center for Tropical Conservation, in collaboration with the Durrell Institute of Tropical Conservation of the University of Kent in Canterbury (UKC) United Kingdom, offers the Diploma in Conservation Education "Promoting Protection Through Pride, Training Community Educators for Tomorrow Generating Results for Today. This 14-month course combines rigorous studies on ecology, conservation education and social promotion in the school room with practical implementation of a complete campaign in the student's own country. **For further information:**

RARE Center for Tropical Conservation
1840 Wilson Blvd, Suite 402
Arlington, V.A., 22201, EUA
Tel. (703) 522 5070
Fax: +001 (703) 522-5027
rare@rarecenter.org
www.rarecenter.org

SYSTEM OF POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

ARGENTINA

Masters in Environmental Management of Urban Development

The Faculty of Architecture, Urbanism and Design (FAUD) of the National University of Cordoba, Argentina, offers this postgraduate course that has been credited by the National Commission for College Evaluation and Accreditation of Argentina (CONEAU). The main objective of the masters is the management and research of environmental urban issues and the implementation of projects for the improvement and organization of urban settlements. **For further information:**

FAUD
Av. Vélez Sarfield No.264
Tel. (54) 351-433-209. Fax: 351-433-2092
mgadu@fau.unc.edu.ar

COLOMBIA

Masters in Environmental Studies

The area for Environmental Urban Studies of the National University of Colombia, Manizales campus, through the Institute

for Environmental Studies (IDEA) offers this master course for professionals of all disciplines who are interested to expand their knowledge regarding the environment and urban development. **For further information:**

IDEA
Universidad de Colombia
Sede Manizales, Edificio de Postgrado
Tel. (576) 88-10000, ext. 123, 124 y 177
Fax: (576) 88-63182
idea@nevado.manizales.unal.edu.co
posadmon@nevado.manizales.unal.edu.co

COSTA RICA

Masters of the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE)

Some of the master courses offered by CATIE are: Integral management of hydrographic basins, Management of diversified forest production systems, Ecological agriculture, Tropical agroforestry, Management and conservation of tropical forests and their biodiversity, and specialties on Conservation of biodiver-

sity and Environmental socio-economy. Classes and evaluation of candidates begins in January every year. **For further information:**

M. Sc. Emilio Mora Guzmán
Escuela de Posgrado, CATIE
Código Postal 7170. Turrialba, Costa Rica
Tel.: (506) 556-016. Fax: 556-0914
emora@catie.ac.cr
posgrado@catie.ac.cr
www.catie.ac.cr

Masters in Marine and Coastal Science

This postgraduate course of the National University of Costa Rica (UNA) is taught at the facilities of the Marine Biology station in Ciudad Punturas. It has been designed to formulate and put into practice integral approaches that permit coastal communities to make the best use of marine and coastal resources focussing in a criteria of sustainability. **For further information:**

Apartado Postal 86-300
Heredia, Costa Rica
Tel: 277-3660 to 67. Fax: 261-0031
procimac@una.ac.cr
www.una.ac.cr/biol/maestría/

CHILE

Masters in Economy of Natural Resources of the Environment

This programme, designed by the Faculty of Economic and Administrative Sciences (FCEA) of the University of Concepción in Chile, has been taught since 1994 to meet the need for giving more attention to environmental problems. The deadline for applying is January 15 and September 15 each year. There are scholarships available from the John D. & Catherine MacArthur Foundation, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, IDB, OEA and others. **For further information:**

Felipe Vásquez Lavín
FCEA
Casilla 1987, Correo 3
Concepción, Chile
Tel. 41-204-200. Fax: 41-254-591
mernyma@ude.cl

ECUADOR

Masters in Energy and Environment

The Latin American Organization of Energy (OLADE) and the University of Calgary, Canada, are offering this international postgraduate programme. The course is held at OLADE's headquarters in Quito and the degree is offered by the University of Calgary. Also participating are the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Alberta Energy Company (AEC) and the Committee for the Administration of Training Resources (CAREC) from Perú. There is the possibility of obtaining partial scholarships for Latin American candidates. **For further information:**

Organización Latinoamericana de Energía
Tel.: (593 2) 293-531. Fax: 595-674
maestria@olade.org.ec
www.olade.org.ec/

MEXICO

Masters in Social Science

The academic facilities of the Latin American Faculty of Social Science (FLACSO) is opening the promotion of this course for the period 2002-2004, which forms part of the postgraduate excellence register of the National Council of Science and Technology of Mexico. Some of the research areas are: Culture and identities, Reform of the State, Regimes of our time, Democracy, Models of political change,

Citizenship transformation, Social, urban and rural processes, and Demographic, environmental, work and health dynamics.

For further information:

FLACSO
Camino al Ajusco No. 377, Km. 1.5
Col. Héroes de Padierna
Delegación Tlalpan, C.P. 14200. México, D.F.
Tel. 5631-7246, 5631-7016 y 5631-7737,
Ext. 135 y 210.
Fax: 5631-6609
msociale@flacso.edu.mx
http://flacso.flacso.edu.mx

Doctorate in Ecology and Management of Natural Resources

The Institute of Ecology (INECOL) of Mexico, is offering this doctorate with the objective of training professionals for dealing with environmental problems and management of resources within the context of development, meeting as well the increasing demand for research in this area. The graduates may serve in the public sector or private institutions and participate as teachers or spreading the ecological knowledge. **For further information:**

INECOL
Antigua Carretera a Coatepec, Km. 2.5, No. 351
Congregación, El Haya, 91070
Jalapa, Veracruz. Apartado Postal 63
Tel. (52 228) 842-1800
Fax: (52 228) 42-1800 Ext. 1003/4879
chapulin@ecologia.edu.mx
www.ecologia.edu.mx

Masters in International Organisms, Specialization in Management of International Institutions

The University of the Americas (UDLA) is offering a course in international environment law that includes training in economics and administration, which are essential for heading international institutions. Participants have the option of orienting their thesis work toward an environmental vocation of international scope. The ideal professions for developing this masters are: Law, International relations, Sociology, Political science, Administration, Accounting, Economy and Trade. **For further information:**

UDLA
Roberto Eherman
(Coordinador)
División de Ciencias y Humanidades
Tel (52 55) 5209-9882.
Fax: 5511-6040
ehrman@servidor.udla.mx

Specialization in Management and Analysis of Environmental Policies

This specialization course, organized by the National Institute of Public Administration (INAP) and the National Institute of Ecology (INE), is directed to professionals from the public, private and social sectors who are in charge of supervising, controlling, evaluating, designing, formulating and implementing measures aimed at the conservation of the environment and at the protection of the ecological balance. Its main objective is to understand nature and its environmental problems that have a negative impact on human development, in order to act by formulating, implementing, evaluating and controlling the best-suited policies to revert those tendencies. **For further information:**

INAP
Carretera Libre México - Toluca No. 2151,
Km. 14.5, Col Palo Alto
Delegación Cuajimalpa, 05110, México, D.F.
Tel. (52 55) 570-46-33. Fax: 570-05-32
investinap@infosel.net.mx
inapgesamb@yahoo.com.mx

PERU

Masters in Social Science, Specialization in Environmental Management and Development

The Andean College of the Andean Regional Studies Center "Bartolome de las Casas", is issuing an invitation to participate in its Masters Programme of Social Science in the area of Environmental management and development, for which the degree is granted by the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO). The programme intends to contribute to the development of regional capabilities for formulating and executing policies and projects for managing natural resources native of the Andean and Amazonian macro regions. It also pretends to enable an evaluation of the environmental impact caused by economic activities and take into account the organization of a space for better valuing and preserving the environment. Registration is open until February 16, 2002. **For further information:**

CBC, Av. Tullumaya No. 465
Apartado Postal: 477
Cuzco Perú
Tel.: (51-84) 233-472.
Fax: 241-319
cris@apu.cbc.org.pe
s.academ@apu.cbc.org.pe
www.cbc.org.pe

2002 WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT OF THE REGIONAL ROUNDTABLE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN Barbados, 18-20 June 2001

I. Background

1. At its Millennium Session in 2000, the United Nations General Assembly agreed to undertake a ten-year review of progress in the implementation of the outcomes of the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) or Rio Earth Summit. This review will take place at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in South Africa in 2002 – the Johannesburg Summit. However, an important challenge is to ensure that the outcome of the Summit is not limited to a review but leads to new visions, commitments, partnerships and plans for practical implementation to make sustainable development a greater reality at all levels.

2. As a unique and major feature of the preparations for the Summit, it was agreed that the main issues for the Summit would arise from participatory national and regional assessments and discussions drawing from all segments of society and regions of the world.

3. The global inter-governmental process, which will involve three preparatory meetings to be held in the first half of 2002, will benefit from Regional Inter-governmental Preparatory meetings (“prepcoms”) to be held in all regions in the second half of 2001. In order to support this process and to take advantage of the views of experts, the United Nations is convening independent Regional Roundtables of eminent persons and leaders of civil society in the five regions of the world.

4. The Latin America and the Caribbean Eminent Persons Regional Roundtable was held in Barbados from 18 to 20 June 2001. This report attempts to capture the key concerns expressed and proposals for action made by the participants. The participants attended in their personal capacities and provided their perspectives on major accomplishments and major lessons learned since Rio in 1992, on the major constraints to sustainable development, on new challenges and opportunities for the future, and on strengthening the institutional frameworks for sustainable development, both within Latin America and the Caribbean and globally.

5. The report is intended to help in the preparatory process leading up to the Summit with new ideas, based on the participants’ practical experience and interest in sustainable development, to develop a platform which outlines key policy issues, priorities and follow up actions for the region as well as at the global level.

II. The major challenges and opportunities for sustainable development in the Latin America and the Caribbean region

6. The Latin America and the Caribbean region is one of the most diverse regions in the world, both in terms of ethnicity, cultures and biodiversity. The region has the highest level of biodiversity in the world, however these global resources are under serious pressure. Each year 6 million hectares of tropical forest are lost. Coastal and marine ecosystems, including

coral reefs in the Caribbean are under threat from tourism and pollution. Climate change is likely to be the most serious of all threats to the natural environment of the region. Demographic trends have led to the growth of large urban areas. The region has two of the largest mega-cities in the world, Mexico City and Sao Paulo.

7. Along with the exploitation of natural resources there has been long term destruction and exploitation of the original inhabitants of Latin America and the Caribbean. Since European landing in the Hemisphere in 1492, indigenous people have been continuously marginalised and impoverished.

8. The overriding and burning issues for the region, however are the high levels of poverty and income inequality between the developed and developing countries and within countries of the region. From 1990 to 1999, absolute poverty in the region increased from 200 million to 225 million people. The ratio of the highest 20 per cent of household incomes to the lowest 20 per cent is twenty fold, making the region the world leader in income inequality.

9. The increasing impacts of globalisation that have occurred since Rio have brought benefits to some countries in the region but there is widespread concern about the costs that have arisen. In many cases globalisation has meant a widening and deepening of the exploitation of renewable and non-renewable natural resources, often in a non-sustainable way. This developmental pattern has introduced new pressures on the environment and on particular population groups that are not being adequately addressed. In particular, mining and oil activities have often caused the destruction or degradation of valuable ecosystems that have not taken properly into account the rights indigenous people. The net long term impact of globalisation in the region as a whole will be adverse unless managed within a framework of sustainable development. There is a need for the region to make a transition from a resource intensive economy to an industrial and service-based economy with a higher value added content and economy that expands employment opportunities.

10. Since Rio, there has been a deepening of the understanding of sustainable development, with a particular emphasis on the social, cultural and economic aspects. Nevertheless, the high expectations of Rio have not been realised, either globally or within the region. This is primarily because effective operationalisation of sustainable development has been limited.

11. In this context therefore, the Roundtable reaffirmed the critical and fundamental importance of sustainable development not only for the region and the world, but for the future of humanity. There is no other way but sustainable development; economic development, social development and environment protection must be undertaken in a mutually reinforcing way. The Johannesburg Summit must be a rallying cry to re-

invigorate the vision of sustainable development and lead to more determined efforts globally, regionally, nationally and locally for its achievement. Sustainable development must become a central tenet of international and government policy and of the behaviour of the private sector, civil society and individuals.

12. The achievement of sustainable development in the region needs cohesive, coherent and long term national and regional policies that are aimed at fostering a higher quality of life in all of its aspects and at increasing opportunities, as well as providing for human rights, freedom for individuals and communities as well as for societies at large.

13. National strategies and policies that support sustainable development need to be internally consistent from a technical viewpoint, with sufficient political consensus to be maintained over time on the basis of concrete results and full inclusion of all members of society. The strategies and policies may vary over time, due to political changes and shifts in emphasis, to be expected in a democratic society, but the consensus on fundamentals needs to be strong enough to make development over time sustainable. The necessary national and regional policies require a supportive and conducive international environment.

14. Within the region, sustainable development must involve sufficient and more equitably shared economic growth; social and human development; environmental protection and resource renewal; participatory and stable democratic governance; viable, effective and transparent institutions, and a cultural environment that respects moral and spiritual values as well as cultural cohesiveness and diversity. The achievement of sustainable development regionally and globally will require the absence of war and civil strife which in turn will require the enhancement of national, regional and global capacities to negotiate and reconcile differences.

15. In order to achieve sustainable development in the region, participants believed that the following priorities need to be addressed:

- Eradication of all forms of poverty;
- Robust and sustained economic growth;
- Conservation and sustainable utilisation of the region's wealth in biological diversity;
- Political and institutional reforms to deepen democracy and freedom, as a means of forging a better organised and empowered civil society, that vigorously advocates the improvement of the quality of life;
- Greater political will of governments and stronger administrative infrastructure to implement public policies of sustainable development; and
- Attainment, through international co-operation and solidarity as well as national and regional efforts, of mechanisms (for example international laws), technical and financial assistance to support the development of strategies for sustainable development.

These priorities could be pursued taking into account the considerations dealt with below.

Economic factors

Magnitude and quality of growth

16. Robust economic growth is fundamental for the region. However, the quality of growth has to improve significantly in order to ensure a sustainable long-term future addressing so-

cial equity, ecological sustainability and advances in human rights.

17. Employment has become more precarious since Rio. Redundancies and unemployment have increased and there has been unprecedented growth in the region's informal sector.

18. Gross domestic product (GDP) continues to be used as a measure of well being. Work is going on to develop new ways of measuring growth to reflect social and environmental costs. For example, many countries are already attempting to develop and apply green accounting and sustainability indices.

Globalisation and trade liberalisation

19. Although globalisation can bring benefits, it is resulting in uneven and inequitable consequences between and within countries. Its effects need to be properly evaluated and global arrangements should address ways and means of compensating for some of its unintended effects.

20. Notwithstanding the growth that has occurred in world trade, the continued existence of barriers in developed countries constitutes a brake on the export growth of developing countries.

21. It will be of great importance in the furtherance of sustainable development to address the linkages between trade, environment and core labour standards. These linkages should not be used as a protectionist tool. This Roundtable acknowledged the complexity of current negotiations regarding the relationship between trade and environmental agreements, but expressed its concern about continued resource degradation and human exposure to harmful substances under current trade regimes.

22. There is also a need for developed countries to increase and stabilise financial flows. In particular, it was noted that the region suffered directly and indirectly from externally generated economic and financial shocks.

Performance of macro- and micro-economies

23. There have been significant gains in macroeconomic stability, underpinned by increases in export earnings and growth in domestic savings and investment. This macroeconomic stability should be maintained. At the same time, microeconomic policy changes are still lagging. Bureaucratic inefficiencies persist and there is a disturbing incidence of corruption. The support for small and micro-enterprises should be increased. This includes institutional issues, such as protection and extension of property rights with special focus on women and indigenous peoples. Investment in both social and physical infrastructure remains insufficient.

Development and transfer of technology and management systems

24. Rapid development of information technology in recent years has brought renewed urgency in increasing the international competitiveness of the region. This could well lead to additional gaps between developed and developing countries. There is also a concern about creating technological illiteracy, causing a digital divide within countries. Training of both youth and adults and relevant education are urgently indicated.

25. The focus on technology should not just be on its development but also on recovering certain traditional

technologies in which this region has great experience. An example is the production of coffee through agro-forestry methods that have been passed from traditional methods to modern farmers which result in significantly greater yield than that produced with green revolution technologies.

26. Scientific research and development need to be increased, especially with respect to agricultural technology. National science and technology policies warrant further development. The tendency in recent years has been for this research to be carried out by large multinational corporations. Increased publicly-funded research is needed, particularly to address the needs of small- and medium-sized farmers. Similarly, ODA for research and development should be increased.

27. Clean technologies exist commercially, but their transfer to areas of greatest need should be accelerated. Participants reiterated the need for favourable access to, and transfer of, such technologies.

28. Eco-efficiency is one means to promote sustainable business practices. Although large companies may have the capacity to implement it themselves, there is a need to encourage and support the effort of small and micro-enterprises in this regard. It would also be desirable for eco-efficiency to be undertaken by governments, for example, in the area of social infrastructure, such as the health sector, including hospitals and sewerage system.

29. The development of environmental management systems as voluntary mechanisms is spreading with more than 500 such systems having been developed in Latin America since Rio.

Economic instruments

30. Economic instruments should include the creation of markets that ensure sustainability. Clear incentive mechanisms should be developed for activities that contribute to sustainable development.

Innovative financing and debt

31. Mobilising capital from nationals resident abroad can be an important source of financial resources for sustainable development. There are now some experiences of this possibility, examples being in India, the Philippines and Dominican Republic.

32. External debt levels and balances of payments have improved in some countries, but the situation in the region remains discouraging. Debt still constitutes a heavy burden on countries' in their pursuit of economic growth and sustainable development. The issue of debt relief, including possibilities for cancellation, deserves further consideration.

33. Some highly indebted countries in the region have successfully carried out debt swaps, thereby saving substantial sums in interest payments. These examples could be applied by other countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

34. It was noted that the World Business Council for Sustainable Development has developed indicators for international companies, quoted on major markets. A second stage will involve indicators for emerging markets. These should be available by the end of this year.

35. Participants noted that the 'Tobin tax' continues to be discussed and deserves further consideration.

36. The region is particularly vulnerable to increasingly frequent and often severe socio-environmental disasters, linked to the effects of climate change and global warming, such as hurricanes, floods and forest fires. This is illustrated by the high and recurrent incidence of hurricanes, earthquakes and storms in small countries in the Caribbean and the effects of "El Nino" and "La Nina" phenomena in many Latin American countries. Countries in the region that are heavily dependent on agriculture are particularly susceptible to plant and animal disease, the negative consequences of pesticide use, and genetic contamination of endemic species, indigenous cultures and biodiversity caused by the introduction of transgenic crops. Effective policies on biosafety are, thus, urgently required and there is a strong case for instituting insurance funds to cover losses from socio-environmental disasters.

Valuation of biological diversity and environmental services

37. Value should be placed on biodiversity and environmental services, particularly in territories where indigenous people live, respecting the evaluation by indigenous people themselves. There is also a need to respect and protect traditional knowledge with respect to the management of biological diversity and its use, including the use of natural medicine. The financial resources thus generated could contribute to promoting sustainable development and reducing poverty. These actions should involve effective participation by indigenous people.

Intra-regional co-operation

38. Sustainable development in the Caribbean, Central and Latin America depends on deepening inter-relationships among these three areas. It is important to stress that sustainable development for this region is dependent upon closer integration, regionalism and a working together rather than believing that each country can achieve sustainable development on its own.

Special circumstances of small states

39. The special circumstances of the small states remain an important consideration for the region. Smallness of territory, narrow resource base, limited scope for social planning; vulnerability to exogenous economic and environmental events, are among the impediments to their achieving sustainable development in the context of globalisation. For these reasons, the special needs and vulnerabilities of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) need to be recognised and addressed.

Sectoral issues

40. The participants noted the importance of properly assessing the interrelated impacts of major sectoral activities on each other in the context of sustainable development. Agriculture, mining, energy, tourism and transport were considered particularly important. Concern was expressed at continued soil degradation and loss of biodiversity caused by agriculture and mining activities. The importance of developing renewable energy sources and promoting their widespread use was also underscored.

41. The importance of promoting programmes for energy efficiency and incorporating these in the policies of major energy consuming sectors was highlighted. Participants also

underscored the contribution that increased use of renewable energy and sustainable use of traditional energy resources would make to meeting the growing need for energy services and to achieving sustainable development.

42. Tourism is a sector which in some countries dominates the whole economy, accounting in most Caribbean countries for the largest proportion of foreign exchange earnings and employment. The sector also employs high proportions of women and young people. Unless carefully developed, tourism has the potential to cause substantial social, cultural and environmental damage. New and helpful developments involve attention to community concerns about such issues as land use, direct benefits and consultation of local communities about development plans. The situation of indigenous people deserves special attention. Creating sustainable tourism for the region involves addressing, *inter alia*, the establishment of appropriate regulatory frameworks and enforcement of national and regional standards, creation of innovative financial instruments and human resource development.

Challenges

43. Gains in productivity and competitiveness are needed to increase growth rates and improve internal and external balances. The adoption of technologies and associated training should be stimulated. Transaction costs need to be reduced, especially those from bureaucratic procedures.

44. Encouragement and support should be given to the development of small and micro-enterprises. They should be endowed with flexibility to make them adaptable to change and new opportunities.

45. Land reform and democratisation of property are also urgent matters to be addressed.

Social factors, human development and cultural issues

46. Overriding priorities for the region are to overcome poverty, racism, social and cultural exclusion and marginalisation.

47. High rates of demographic growth continue to constitute a problem for the sustainable development of some countries in the region. These countries must make better efforts towards implementing appropriate demographic policies.

48. Participants felt there was currently insufficient focus on human development in the region. Half of the population is less than twenty years of age. This presents major challenges and opportunities. It will be critical for the region's future to channel sufficient resources to ensure adequate physical, nutritional and educational development of this generation, to shape talent and enhance career development. Participants stressed their concern at the low quality of education that was generally to be found in Latin America and the Caribbean in comparison with some other regions of the world. The investment in education of sufficient quality should have the highest priority in the allocation of public resources and there should be incentives to stimulate private investment in the sector. Life long learning should be a way of life. Inefficiencies in spending on educational investment need also to be addressed.

49. An understanding of sustainable development issues should be an important part of education and information programmes and an integral component of the curriculum at all stages of life, from early childhood to tertiary and adult

education. Educational programmes should incorporate values related to personal growth, social solidarity and respect for the natural environment, with special reference to indigenous people.

50. A holistic approach to educational reform should also include improvements to teacher training. Reform at the tertiary level is needed for the new training of teachers and increases in teachers' compensation should be introduced. Illiteracy must be eradicated; the lack of skills in information and communication technology also requires immediate attention.

51. There are concerns that people, especially young people, are being drawn by global commercial television towards unsustainable lifestyles. Mass media should be used instead as an educational tool for teaching about a sustainable and consistent lifestyle.

52. Programmes for sustainable development education need to incorporate the objective of having a more conscious and motivated society that would advocate the improvement of the quality of life throughout sustainability. It is important, in this respect, to strengthen existing regional programmes of environmental education, intensify international co-operation and maximise the opportunities offered by the telecommunication and information technologies revolution.

53. There must be full respect for human rights, and among them the freedom of association and other core labour standards. All people need access to such basic resources and services as energy, food, water, sanitation, the provision of healthcare and transportation. Each country needs to establish a social safety net for all as a basic human right.

54. The concept of mentor schemes, where mature business people partner young people to help them look for and create jobs, should be developed and extended across the region.

55. Participants recognised the important contribution that the indigenous peoples of the region make through concepts and strategies for sustainable development that are based on their culture of sustainability, environmental awareness, spirituality, and self-management of their resources. The level of recognition of indigenous rights and culture and their role in decision making is increasing, but further advances are urgently required. There is a continued need to recognise collective rights.

56. Diverse economic and social instruments are needed to address the particular gender issues in the region. For example, Central America and the Caribbean have the largest number of female-headed households in the world. High levels of domestic violence and health issues (such as HIV/AIDS and cancer) affect women disproportionately. A positive factor has been the significant percentage of women enrolled, and graduating, in higher education.

57. Corporate social responsibility is becoming increasingly important. Councils for Sustainable Development for business and trade unions have developed guidelines that help companies to incorporate social and environmental issues in their activities. These guidelines should be widely disseminated and businesses should be encouraged to adopt them. Growing education of consumers could help exert pressure on companies to abide by sustainable development principles.

58. In a region that is multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-lingual, there must be equity and equality of opportunity among all groups and in all areas, such as employment and access to

social services. It is important to retain high quality people in employment within the region, with particular emphasis on opportunities for women, indigenous people and other people who have been marginalised.

Natural resources and biodiversity

59. Latin America and the Caribbean is a region of vital importance for the global community in terms of natural resources. It is a region rich in mineral, water and marine and coastal resources. The region is the richest in biological resources on the planet with respect to its fauna, flora and micro-biota. It has a wide variety of ecosystems of particular importance: terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine, including coral reefs. In its territory are located the largest and richest natural forest ecosystems of the tropics. It is also the richest region in terms of genetic resources, some of them of global importance for food security and human health.

60. It is a region where important progress has been achieved in the declaration of part of its territory and territorial waters as nature reserves of different types. Since Rio, the region has made significant progress in ratifying and implementing the main multilateral environmental agreements.

61. Despite the increasing destruction and deterioration of natural resources, Latin America and the Caribbean have a very rich endowment of natural ecosystems in sharp contrast to most developed countries where the natural systems are deeply altered, their natural forest ecosystems are sparse and their marine resources have been depleted. Because of this situation, the region has a special responsibility to play a leading international role to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources for the well being and survival of the planet.

Challenges

62. Natural resources and environmental management measures have improved in most countries of the region. However, efforts to avoid environmental degradation and halt deforestation, soil degradation and loss of biodiversity need to be intensified.

63. Issues of global warming and climate change and their effects on sustainable development are of vital importance to countries in the region and should be tackled urgently.

64. The use of economic instruments appropriate to the region that promote greater environmental responsibility and accountability in the utilisation of natural resources should be encouraged.

65. There is a need for research in all aspects of natural resources, particularly with respect to agricultural resources for enhancing food security in the region. Sharing examples of good practices in natural resources utilisation should be central.

66. Indigenous peoples are historically linked to the stewardship of the genetic resources of plant and domesticated native animal species and to the preservation of traditional knowledge associated with the uses and properties of many species in their natural ecosystems. There is, therefore, a need to recognise that this knowledge is part of the scientific and technological patrimony of the countries in the region. Its wider use is of importance to the local and global community in the protection and sustainable utilisation of natural resources, and

also in the provision of other environmental services.

67. Strategies and policies for sustainable development of tourism, energy and marine resources and protection of coastal environment need to be strengthened.

68. The international community should support in all possible ways these priorities, with the goal of conserving resources that neither the region nor humanity can do without.

Governance, institutions and international co-operation

69. A fundamental requirement for achieving sustainable development in the region is the need for effective governance, adequate institutions and a supportive international environment. Governments must become more accountable for their performance in implementing sustainable development policies. On-going reform efforts are required to give greater rights to civil society through such policies as equitable access to justice and legislative action to support public participation.

70. In the period since Rio, major efforts have been made in the region to deepen and strengthen democratic, transparent and inclusive institutional arrangements. Paradoxically, these efforts have been paralleled by a weakening in the capacity of the state to deliver public goods and services. Governmental budget cuts have had a disproportionately adverse effect on the many new environmental agencies established in the region since Rio.

71. Continued efforts will be required to establish and strengthen democratic systems of governance, including improvements in participation of civil society, which meet the particular needs of the people and countries of the region. Efforts to increase democratisation should particularly be addressed by the elimination of all forms of racism.

72. There has been a shift in emphasis away from state productive activity towards enhancing public goods, increasing social and human development, improving security and justice, and securing more stable institutions.

73. Trafficking in narcotics, corruption, youth unemployment, child labour, crime and drug dependency are increasingly worrying phenomena in Latin America and the Caribbean, as they are in other parts of the world. It is generally believed that only through equitable economic growth and increased democratisation will these problems become more controllable. However, strengthening open and transparent systems of justice and increased capacity of related agencies could assist in reversing these trends.

74. One of the adverse effects of globalisation for the region is the increased opportunity for expansion of international trade in narcotics, which has a significant effect on some countries' efforts to achieve sustainable development. It poses one of the major threats to society and the natural environment in the region. Both the demand and supply sides of this informal sector need to be tackled, both by countries in the region and by the developed countries that account for much of the consumer market. Governments should intensify efforts to combat the consumption of illicit drugs that are particularly harmful to youth at the national and international levels.

75. The establishment and strengthening of property rights systems and arrangements for the protection of indigenous and traditional land rights and knowledge, including through

legislative mechanisms, will contribute significantly to economic development and a more equitable society in the region.

76. Public sector capacity needs to be enhanced in various ways in many countries of the region. There has been a decline in the notion of civil service excellence in many government systems. Better training programmes and more attractive compensation packages and deliberate programmes to attract the best and brightest entrants with special attention to attracting under-represented groups such as women, people with disabilities and indigenous persons are required.

77. Public agencies will in many cases act more responsibly and effectively if, with appropriate safeguards, they can be granted greater autonomy and separation from the executive arm of government. The establishment of statutory authorities in several countries in recent years are illustrative of this.

78. Public sector reform will not support sustainable development unless there are also political and constitutional reforms. One of the critical constraints to sustainable development in the region is the absence of political will, understanding of, or interest in, making sustainable development a central policy of the state. Similarly, there is a lack of political will and government capacity in the implementation of agreed policies. Allied with the normal short-term electoral process, which results in a lack of consistent and coherent policy making and implementation, political constraints are a key impediment to sustainable development in the region.

79. More inclusive and full participation of civil society and the private sector in local and national decision making and policy formulation will increase political information on sustainable development issues, promote accountability and contribute to stability and continuity of policies on sustainable development through a wider consensus on priorities, strategy and policy.

80. Decentralisation of public decision making to the level where these decisions take effect can often promote sustainable development through greater understanding and ownership. Progress has been made in the region towards granting more autonomy and self-government to indigenous people and others, but more needs to be done in this regard.

81. A feature of sustainable development governance in Latin America and the Caribbean is that responsibility for promoting sustainable development rests primarily with Environment Ministers. Sustainable development should be a central thrust of government policy. Thus all Ministers should share responsibility for applying sustainable development policies in their countries, for implementing relevant aspects of the policies and for reporting on them.

82. As successful implementation of sustainable development requires participation of all major elements of civil society e.g. business, indigenous people, trade unions, religious bodies, women, small farmers, political parties and scientists, mechanisms to provide for their formal and effective involvement need to be established. A number of countries in the region have established national sustainable development councils. Other countries in the region should consider establishing these or similar representative bodies and/or other mechanisms, such as sectoral strategies and national mission statements of guiding principles and values, and implementing the resultant proposals for action.

International and regional co-operation

83. Capacity building and the reform of governance and public and private institutions in order to promote sustainable development in the region require a supportive international environment. The Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean and the Central American Alliance for Sustainable Development provide examples of co-ordinated approaches.

84. Many of the region's sustainable development priorities need to be addressed nationally. But an environment of coherent and consistent international co-operation, equity and regional actions, would make a very significant contribution to sustainable development in Latin American and the Caribbean.

85. The experience of international co-operation for development, as reflected in official development assistance, needs to be reviewed in light of the regrettable decline in the accepted international target for official development assistance in order to promote greater consistency with the goals of sustainable development.

86. The region should strengthen and speed up integration schemes to better link the small market economies to the larger ones in the hemisphere, as well as among themselves. The capacity and effectiveness of a number of sub-regional arrangements to support sustainable development are in many cases very limited. Regional institutions often have difficulty in implementing agreed actions. The capacity of regional bodies should be enhanced.

87. Special problems such as corruption, trafficking in narcotics and international crime, will only be effectively addressed within the context of international co-operation. International agreements and programs to eliminate narcotics trafficking require strong support from the international community. There was also a call for the reduction of military expenses and international disarmament.

88. Concerns were expressed that developed countries had failed to deliver on their Agenda 21 commitments and/or had applied an inappropriate redefinition of Agenda 21 principles. The Participants also called on all countries which had not already done so to ratify the Rio Conference conventions as part of the agreed international sustainable development legal regime.

III. Challenges for Johannesburg

89. One of the main challenges is the need for significant changes in policies and behaviour, and the urgency of effecting them. It is imperative that the Johannesburg Summit re-energises the vision of sustainable development at all levels of government and society. It should reaffirm its confidence in practical, concrete partnerships between public sector, private sector and civil society. Heads of State and Governments must also reaffirm their commitment to the principles of good governance

90. As previously mentioned, the term 'sustainable development' needs to return to its original significance: that economic development, social development and environmental protection are mutually reinforcing components. The Summit must result in better understanding and acceptance by individuals, civil society, business and governments of the multi-faceted character of the concept, which should include

consideration of cultural and spirituality issues. It should recognise the common and differentiated responsibilities of all governments and social partners.

91. The Summit should underline the reality that the issues at stake relate basically to the security of life for human beings.

92. The Summit should result in agreement on strategies, policies and measures designed to address rigorously poverty reduction and equity. Economic growth should be seen as a means towards that end, not as the end in itself.

93. The process should strengthen the regional approach. The coral reef initiative in the Caribbean area could serve as an example of the partnerships between countries that need to be taken to address issues of common concern.

94. The outcome of the Johannesburg Summit should include a vision for sustainable development that encompasses universal human rights.

95. Sustainable development should move from rhetoric to operative reality. Well-designed and time-bound commitments are needed to take the agenda forward, with strong mechanisms of accountability, so that achievements against the commitments made are readily identifiable. There must be focussed goals with tangible, quantifiable action.

96. Issues related to sustainable development that have reached a new dimension of gravity since Rio, and that should therefore be addressed at the Summit, include HIV/AIDS, depletion of the ozone layer, climate change, biosafety and ethnic conflicts. Those attending the Summit should be invited to consider how new inter-ethnic and inter-cultural relations could be constructed.

97. The Summit process needs to be transparent. Business and civil society will continue to be key actors with governments in taking forward the sustainable development agenda and it is crucial that they should be able to speak at Johannesburg.

98. It will be important for young people to be involved in a meaningful way. Young people of diverse cultures and backgrounds should be represented in each of the major groups and delegations. They have a critical role because of their

unique situation and perspective. They should be given the opportunity to influence current decision-makers, whose actions will directly impact on them. The new generation should join the recommitment for Agenda 21.

99. Participants recognised the need to harmonise international trade arrangements with sustainable development and to make them mutually supportive. A vibrant agriculture sector is critical to the attainment of sustainable development. At the present time, the region's agricultural trade is being negatively affected by barriers and distortions that affect its ability to compete with agricultural products in other parts of the world. These concerns should be urgently addressed in the World Trade Organisation agreement on agriculture.

100. There is a need to reform and democratise international financial institutions. A new vision of financing for sustainable development should emerge from the Summit process. Financing for sustainable development remains inadequate and the development banks should pay greater attention to addressing this inadequacy in all sectors and at all levels. The global financial architecture needs to be reformed, involving issues such as the role of international financial institutions, the mobilisation of financial resources for sustainable development and financing for mitigating natural disasters.

101. The world's leaders should be charged to reiterate their commitment to sustainable development and to a global culture of justice, which addresses *inter alia* the principles of social justice, the right to development and prior informed consent.

102. Sustainable tourism deserves a special place on the agenda, given its crucial importance to developing economies, especially small island states.

103. A Village of Hope was established in Barbados at the 1994 global conference of Small Island Developing States, which offered exhibition capacity for the display and dissemination of best practice. Participants supported the idea that a Village of Hope should be established for South Africa in 2002 to provide an opportunity to share good practice and role models, thereby reinforcing and encouraging people working for sustainable development at all levels.

CHALLENGES FROM PLANETARY SUSTAINABILITY PREPARATORY FORUM FOR THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – RIO + 10

This preparatory event for the World Summit on Sustainable Development – Rio + 10, has been programmed for January 28-30, 2002, in Porto Alegre, Brazil. It is being organized by the State Ministry of the Environment (SEMA) of the Rio Grande do Sul state and its objective is for representatives from social movements, NGO, universities, unions, international cooperation organisms, political parties and local and national authorities to debate about the challenges presented by the implementation of a sustainable development agenda for the planet. In addition, new multilateral agreements regarding climatic change and biodiversity, as well as emerging topics like international trade and its environmental impact, ethical limits of science, the viability of cities and the relationship between the environment and poverty, will be evaluated. **For further information:**

SEMA
Rua Carlos Chagas No. 55
9º andar, Sala 911
CEP 90030-020
Porto Alegre, RS
Brasil

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Emater/RS

Emater is an enterprise of rural extension associated to the government of the Rio Grande do Sul state. It groups more than 2000 members and it is widely known locally due to the more than 400 representatives from an equal number of municipalities. To promote sustainable rural development based on agro-ecological principles and through participative educational processes that include the strengthening of family agriculture and its organizations, was defined in 1999 as its main objective. In addition to a Technical Social Training Programme, Emater offers in collaboration with the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, a specialization course on Rural Development and Family Agriculture. It is also developing a specialization semi-presencial course by way of the Internet with the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. Recently (November 26-28, 2001) Emater together with the local government of Rio Grande do Sul and other organizations, organized the Second International Seminar on Agro-ecology. Recommendations resulting from this meeting with the participation of various international experts, can be found in the Agro-ecological Charter 2001 (below). **For further information:**

www.emater.tche.br

Development, Ecology and Environment Institute (IDEMA)

This is a private Peruvian civil organization

that is operating since 1993. Through its activities it pursues the assistance, promotion and development of communities with an ecological perspective at national level. The IDEMA is a multi-disciplinary group of professionals with a long trajectory and horizontally coordinated, young persons related to public, private, academic, scientific, cultural and environmental institutions. **For further information:**

IDEMA
Calle Jirón Juan Zapata No. 795
Urb. El Bosque, Ciudad de Trujillo
Departamento de la Libertad- Perú
idemaperu@LatinMail.com
Imontesm@mixmail.com

Claes Ch. Olrog Institute

It is an association that groups the Argentinean park rangers nationally, promoting training through a formally constituted syllabus, which is incorporated in the Environmental Training Network for Latin America and the Caribbean and taught by the National University of Tucuman and the Administration of national Parks of Argentina. The syllabus is called Technical College degree in Administration of Protected Areas. It is also organizing the Latin American Congress of Park Rangers. **For further information:**

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Ibero-American Society of Ecological Economy (SIBEE)

The creation of the Ibero-American Society of Ecological Economy intends to establish the basis for a close academic collaboration among work groups from Ibero-America, related to the environment in general and ecological economy in particular. Its objectives are:

1. To facilitate diffusion and a better knowledge of analyzing methodologies and instruments belonging to ecological economy and environmental management.
2. To spread the knowledge of the most important environmental problems faced by the region, as well as exemplified experiences developed until now by researching Ibero-American groups.
3. To create a permanent network for regional and international communication on ecological economy matters with a pluralist and multidisciplinary vocation.
4. To promote discussion of conceptual and methodological frameworks for analysis and evaluation of environmental and development problems, including global aspects, faced by Ibero-America.
5. To promote multidisciplinary cooperation and research of subjects related to the environment that have priority in the region.
6. To organize periodical publications and conferences where the above mentioned topics are addressed from multiple perspectives and disciplines.

For further information:

Fander Falconi
ffander@flacso.org.ec

AGRO-ECOLOGICAL CHARTER 2001

The 2320 participants at the Second International Seminar on Agro-ecology, assembled in Porto Alegre on 26-28 November 2001, recommend:

1. That diversity of local environmental knowledge and traditional practices be respected, taken into account and incorporated through participative processes in the construction of an environmental rationality and based on the principles of sustainable development.
2. That international trade agreements and treaties emphasize local markets and have as central reference the economic, social and cultural importance of family agriculture in the consolidation of sustainable rural development, founded on capacity for self-management and joint management of rural communities.
3. That the trade system guarantees and stimulates ecological forms of production and consumption, both popular and supportive at local and regional level.
4. That international policies are subordinated to socio-environmental and economic sustainability, with due consideration to sovereignty and food safety of the population.
5. That a moratorium on cultivation and consumption of genetically modified organisms (GMO) be implemented, to avoid the control of

the food systems by multinational corporations.

6. That a series of public policies centred on family agriculture and agro-ecological transition processes with the participation of farmers and their organizations be implemented.
 7. That land tenure is subordinated to social justice, to the needs and cultures of the people, to the elimination of hunger and poverty, and to economic and social development of the workers.
 8. That research, teaching and extension institutions, together with NGO, universities and farmers' organizations, incorporate, validate and democratise knowledge on agro-ecology within their spheres of action.
 9. That ethical principles may prevail, while taking into account social equity and public interest of environmental goods and not be subordinated to the logic of economic valuation of nature and social exclusion.
- That all those who support this Charter be responsible for the development, implementation and multiplication of initiatives to create conditions for rural development, which will be socially, economically and environmentally sustainable.

NEW EDITORIAL RELEASES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING NETWORK

The UNEP Editorial Programme of the Environmental Training Network for Latin American and Caribbean, is focused on building, systematizing and spreading knowledge, methods and techniques for environmental management. Such methods and techniques will serve as basic materials for environmental education and as instruments to support the sustainable development policies of the region at different government levels, as well as to train different social sectors, at professional level and of citizen action and community development programmes. In order to examine the full list of our publications, please consult our Catalogue at: www.rolac.unep.mx/educamb/esp/Publicaciones/publicaciones.htm

BASIC TEXTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Salud Ambiental Básica

Annalee Yassi, Tord Kjellstrom, Theo deKok and Tee Guidotti, Basic Text Series for Environmental Education, number 7, WHO, UNEP/ROLAC, UNESCO, Council of European Universities Rectors, Mexico, 2001.

The text on Basic Environmental Health, written by Dr. Annalee Yassi and collaborators, was written in English in 1998 as a WHO document. In parallel fashion, a group of researchers of the Cuban National Institute of Hygiene, Epidemiology and Microbiology (INHEM) produced the Spanish version of this work. The book is structured into 12 chapters and thanks to its integral and interdisciplinary yet basic, focus, it can benefit persons with engineering, natural and social sciences experience, in addition to epidemiologists, nurses, physicians and other health professionals.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING MANUALS

Nuestras Comunidades

Denise Soares Moraes, UNEP/ROLAC, 2nd edition, number 5, Mexico, 2001, 48 pages.

Los Montes de la Sierra de Santa Marta

Denise Soares and Julieta Montelongo, UNEP/ROLAC, 1st edition, number 6, Mexico, 2001, 58 pages.

Nuestras Milpas

Denise Soares and Julieta Montelongo, UNEP/ROLAC, 1st edition, number 7, Mexico, 2001, 56 pages.

The Environmental Training Network presents a series of three manuals *Our Communities*, *The Mountains of the Santa Marta Sierra* and *Our Maize Fields*, the result of community work carried out with the Santa Marta Sierra children in the *Los Tuxtlas* Biosphere Reserve, in the Mexican state of Veracruz. These manuals will serve as support for the Natural Science subject in the primary education cycle, defining the elements of human communities in the *Los Tuxtlas* rain forest, their interaction with natural mediums and the problems that arise as a result of this interaction, in order that children will understand it and will be committed with the use and appreciation of their natural resources

LATIN AMERICAN ENVIRONMENTAL THOUGHT

¿Qué es ambientalismo?

Julio Carrizosa Umaña, UNEP/ROLAC, National University of Colombia, Colombian Reality Study Centre, 1st edition, number 1, Bogotá, 2001, 134 pages.

La Modernidad Insustentable

Hector Leis, UNEP/ROLAC, Nordan Community, 1st edition, number 2, Montevideo, 2001, 224 pages.

The series *Latin American Thought* is a response to an old dream of intellectuals, academicians and activists of environmentalism, that, going beyond the purpose of disseminating knowledge on the environment of this region of the world, involves a challenge: that of producing environmental thought from its own perspective, which derives from the cultural, ecological and political context where environmental processes occur, where these are thought and carried out. The collection will be open to all currents of environmental thought, both critical and propitious; it is a pentagram for the drafting of a musical score in which its harmonies, the polyphony of the multiple voices of environmentalism, this being sustained by the counterpoint of diverse ideas even though they be dissonant and antagonic.

ENVIRONMENTAL FORUMS AND DEBATES

Justicia Ambiental. Construcción y Defensa de los Nuevos Derechos Ambientales, Culturales y Colectivos en América Latina

Enrique Leff (coordinator), UNEP/ROLAC, Centre for Interdisciplinary Investigations in Sciences and Humanities/National University of Mexico, number 1, Mexico 2001, 276 pages.

Comercio, Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable: Perspectivas de América Latina y el Caribe

Enrique Leff and Mindahi Bastida (coordinators), UNEP/ROLAC, Centre for Interdisciplinary Investigations in Sciences and Humanities/National University of Mexico, number 2, Mexico 2001, 450 pages.

During the last decade, UNEP began the organization of forums on environmental policy, gathering the ones responsible of environmental administrations in Latin America together with representatives of regional and international organisms, experts from the academic world and non-governmental organizations. The purpose was to debate on actual subjects related to globalization processes, urban environmental management, biodiversity, environmental management and the social appropriation of nature. These two books are the first of a series that will devote to bring together works and debates from diverse forums held in the region.

OUT OF SERIES

Saber Ambiental, Sustentabilidade, Racionalidade, Complexidade, Poder

Enrique Leff. Editora Vozes and UNEP/ROLAC, 2001, 343 p. For further information: Editora Vozes, Rua Frei Luis No. 100, CEP 25689-900, Petrópolis, Rio de Janeiro. www.vozes.com.br

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The logotype of *Environmental Training* combines two prehispanic Mexican seals and a character from the post-Conquest Codex Mendoza.

The logotype embodies a meaning of communication and environment, based on the following symbols: the flower seal signifies vegetation and crops and is related to water as shown by the presence of wavy lines. The bird is associated with life in the air and finally, the character with the glyphs represents the communication of thought, traditions and teaching.



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