For more than a decade, development practitioners and communities in Fianarantsoa province, Madagascar have been involved in community-based projects that link family planning, health, and environment efforts. Over time, cross-sectoral projects have expanded and evolved in Fianarantsoa, making it one of the richest centers of such programming in Madagascar.

Three Phases of Cross-Sectoral Programs

The evolution of these cross-sectoral efforts over time can be grouped into three phases. The first phase of cross-sectoral efforts corresponded with the government of Madagascar’s adoption of a fifteen-year National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP). The early years of the NEAP focused on the implementation of integrated conservation and development projects (ICDPs) associated with Madagascar’s national parks, including Ranomafana National Park. The Ranomafana ICDP, initiated in 1991 by the United States Agency for International Development’s (USAID) mission in Madagascar, included economic and social development interventions in addition to biodiversity conservation activities. In 1995, USAID Madagascar’s health office added a family planning component to the project. Several individuals involved in the Ranomafana ICDP gained experience in developing strategies to implement community level interventions across sectors, and later formed Fianarantsoa-based NGOs.

The second phase mirrored the changing direction of the NEAP, in which interventions that previously focused on national parks and communities immediately adjacent to them moved to a broader scale, encompassing ecosystems and communities throughout the threatened central forest corridor in Fianarantsoa. In this phase, USAID partners and NGOs developed and implemented new models for cross-sectoral projects, including a community behavior-change model known as Champion Community. They began to organize among themselves to share information and resources, and in 2000 formed the Voahary Salama Association. Their efforts drew the attention of the international development community, and practitioners were successful in soliciting support from private foundations. Two major cross-sectoral projects, the Environment...
Controlling Health Risk

By David Zilberman, Co-Director ELP

There is growing research on health and the environment. This research aims to understand how environmental factors affect human health, and how to design policies to address problems such as water-borne diseases, spread of Avian Flu, food supply contamination, and respiratory diseases. It is useful to take a risk assessment approach and to concentrate on factors that increase risk to human health, where risk is defined as probability of disease or probability of mortality. Epidemiologists and toxicologists develop relationships that explain the factors contributing to health risk.

Generally, risk is the outcome of several processes. Risk factors may be originated as contaminants or toxins, then they move via transport processes, which are followed by processes of exposure where potential victims come in contact with the risk factors. Finally, there is a process of treatment where the potential victim is treated or not. Policy and human behavior can affect all these processes. The adoption of cleaner technology can reduce the generation of sources of risk. For example, better stoves reduce indoor air pollution by reducing emissions of particulate matter and carbon monoxide. In the case of water pollution, filters can slow both the transfer of, and exposure to toxins. Good medical treatment can interfere with, and reduce, the impact of exposure.

The risk assessment approach has been used to deal with various problems, from air pollution to spread of HIV, and to avian flu. We are working on the latter problem, and we realized that one of the most important challenges is to detect the outbreak of the disease and stop it from spreading.

The risk assessment approach has been used to identify how to spend NGO and government money to best address water-borne disease problems. We found that the best approach varied by location and infrastructure. In large urban centers, where there is an interconnected water supply, water treatment and filtering may be the cheapest solution. In other areas, the risk assessment may be the introduction of home water-chlorination programs (like Clorin), and

(Continued on page 13)
Like many other African countries, Tanzania faces high HIV/AIDS infections rates, hampering the society’s labor force. In recent research, infection rates are estimated at 7 percent of the Tanzanian population. It is further estimated that up to 50 percent of hospital beds are occupied by patients with AIDS-related illnesses, and that it has now become the leading cause of death among adults.

In the bid to address this situation, the Coastal Resource Center initiated the Population, Equity, AIDS, Conservation and Environment (PEACE) Project, which cuts across issues and disciplines, investigating the role that HIV/AIDS, population and gender plays in the current overexploitation of coastal resources in an area covering eight coastal villages of the Bagamoyo and Pangani Districts, Tanzania. The project’s goal was “to understand and mitigate the impacts of HIV/AIDS on biodiversity using integrated coastal management (ICM) processes and mainstreaming gender and demographic dimensions”.

To meet this goal, the project had three expected outcomes:

- Enhanced awareness and understanding of the impacts of HIV/AIDS on biodiversity conservation;
- Development and implementation of strategies for enhanced conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity that integrate HIV/AIDS, gender and demographic dimensions;
- Document and communicate lessons from experience and broader policy implications.

Together with our partners, the Population Reference Bureau (PRB), the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the districts of Pangani and Bagamoyo, local non-governmental organizations Uzima Kwa Sanaa (UZIKWASA) and the Tanzania Traditional Energy Development Organization (TaTEDO), the Saadani National Park (SANAPA), private sector representatives, and affiliates at the University of Dar es Salaam we undertook a number of activities during the two-year process. First we conducted a threats-assessment study to investigate the impacts of HIV/AIDS on biodiversity conservation and to understand how gender and migration may play a role. The assessment found that the direct impacts of HIV/AIDS on biodiversity are:

1. accelerated rate of extraction of natural resources;
2. decreased availability of labor within affected households;
3. decreased management capacity among conservation staff; and
4. loss of traditional knowledge and skills.

The project’s goal was “to understand and mitigate the impacts of HIV/AIDS on biodiversity using integrated coastal management (ICM) processes and mainstreaming gender and demographic dimensions”.

Based on the assessment, the project undertook a number of actions to communicate the findings and help mitigate the impacts of HIV/AIDS on biodiversity conservation. The implementation actions included: introducing less-labor intensive and environmentally friendly livelihoods, promoting wood lots and more fuel efficient wood stoves, conducting interactive and theater-based communications campaigns in the villages, educating local AIDS committee members, presenting the assessment findings at regional and international population, health, and environment conferences and workshops, and discussing how to address the issue of decreased management during the two-year process.
Seven years ago, in the year 2000, Save the Children’s project called People and Environment Co-existence Development or PESCO-Dev, was implemented in 12 coastal villages of four coastal towns of Northern Iloilo and Guimaras, Philippines. PESCO-Dev is an integrated population health and environment program supported by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. In 2004, this project was scaled up to reach 94 villages in three coastal provinces and 11 coastal municipalities.

The realization of the need to address the rapid growth of population and the depletion of marine resources in these coastal municipalities has established a partnership where multi-stakeholders in the community joined hands to push advocacy towards development. The PHE program was focused on empowering the people in managing their resources, population and health as they struggle against poverty.

Prior to the project, these communities had poor delivery of and access to basic health services, as evidenced by inadequate number of village health stations and their poor compliance to quality reproductive health services; there were inadequate supplies of family planning commodities and low numbers of family planning users due to lack of information and understanding. This resulted in a very high population growth rate (PGR) of 2.83 in Northern Iloilo and 2.77 in Guimaras province; both are higher than the national PGR of 2.36.

In most of the covered coastal communities, there was widespread over-fishing as well as destructive fishing practices. These communities had distrust of non-government organizations who were not able to show tangible results after years of operating in these areas. Leadership by ordinary community members in population, health and environment activities was also lacking.

As Mayor Banias of the town of Concepcion, a PHE program area, describes: “We embraced the program because it has a perfect fit in the local government’s search for a framework to address poverty, a framework that will help improve the lives of the people.”

The partnership established between Save the Children and local government units (LGUs) through PHE programming created positive policy environments at the grassroots, municipal and even at the level of the alliance of coastal municipalities. LGUs have reported meeting 80 – 90 % of their development goals and executive agenda through PHE programming. LGUs have also considered implementing PHE programs in their advocacy and commitment to ending poverty and its crippling effects to communities.

While the project has seen great success there were some problems encountered getting it off the ground. There was lack of appreciation by the communities about the status of their environment resources and how their resources interact with growing households and a growing community. Defining the link between population, health and environment during the early stage of the project was a challenge. Making this link...
Increasing policymakers’ awareness

Enhancing management of coastal and municipal fisheries to collapse. mined marine biodiversity and is causing destructive fishing practices, has under-

mand of the growing population for food high fertility and migration. Increasing de-

in other areas of the country due to both the hotspots are growing more rapidly than the shoreline (municipal waters). Average daily fish catch has decreased to a fifth of that in the post - World War II era; while population has increased eight fold (Table 1). Fish are smaller and of poorer quality which results in long excursions away from home and reliance on destructive fishing practices and gear (dynamite, cyanide, compressor, fine nets, super lights) to increase yields. The over-exploitation exacerbated by mangrove and coral reef destruction, have brought grinding poverty to many coastal communities and is creating a protein food security crisis (“Malthusian overfishing”) and increasing malnutrition rates.

Table 1. Inverse relationship between Population Growth and Fish Catch: Philippines: 1950-2000

Up to 45% of people living in Philippines hotspots are under age 15. The sheer number of people about to enter the reproductive age group has never been larger, and population momentum is expected to ac-

count for 65% of the future growth. Even if fertility plummeted today to two children per couple, the number of people would still soar because of the high population momentum. This has serious implications for environ-

mental integrity, social stability and susta-

ainability of development gains in the coastal zone.

The environment sector could play an in-

strumental role in slowing population mo-

mentum by encouraging youth to delay early marriage and childbearing, by edu-

cating leaders about population momentum and its implications for environ-

mental security, and by facilitating the development of community based and integrated conservation and health ser-

vices. PATH Foundation Philippines Inc. (PFPI) – charitable organization (501c3), is working with several environmental groups in the Philippines to demonstrate the feasibility of such an approach with support from the David and Lucile Pack-

ard Foundation and USAID’s Office of Population and Reproductive Health.

Putting it All Together

IPOPCORM’s overall strategy follows directly from a framework for sustainable coastal resource management jointly developed by the Philippines Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Department of Agriculture (DA). Based on current conditions and trends in coastal resources and aquatic food production, three critical results are put forward as essential for sustaining coastal resources to assure food security in the coming years; these require that:

• Fishing effort is reduced to sustainable levels,

• Illegal and destructive fishing prac-

ices are stopped, and

• Coastal habitats are protected and managed.

The framework specifies the various interventions that need to be undertaken to achieve these results, which are similar to most coastal conservation projects. The innovative element is a call for decreasing population pressure on the re-

source base in coastal communities as an element of reducing fishing effort to a sustainable level. The framework calls for
Madagascar Action Plan is the road map that helps Madagascar achieve the vision « Madagascar Naturellement » (Natural Madagascar). This vision recommends the integration of and the relationships between different sectors including infrastructure, education, health, agriculture and natural resources management. This integration is currently promoted at the operational unit level of the country, i.e. Commune, Madagascar’s equivalent of county or province.

All communes in Madagascar have their Communal Development Plan (CDP), a five year plan defining the commune vision. However, communes are struggling to make the CDP work, owing to a lack of capacity to prioritize actions and activities according to need. Consequently, communes have accepted any activity developed within their territory without any internal assessment to analyze if the activities are profitable for them or not. These types of assistance led to an “assisted mindset” that is counterproductive to community empowerment and development.

Within the zones where USAID intervenes communes approached the USAID Ecoregional Alliance for assistance in making their Communal Development Plan work. The Kaominina Mendrika approach has been suggested as a tool to assist the Mayor and communal staff in defining priority and “do-able” actions, according to needs assessment. The Kaominina Mendrika Approach consists of promoting interaction and integration of natural, human, and economic capital as well as local governance at the commune level. Four main topics were considered for the first year: Nature, Health, Wealth and Power. It has been proven that rural livelihood relies on human capital (Health) and natural resources (Nature); good management of these two elements could improve rural incomes (Wealth) by improving agricultural productivity. Above all, empowerment of producers’ associations, local communities and the communal staff constitute a key element to ensure the Power needed for implementation of all activities at the commune level.

In Madagascar, rural communities make up 75% of the population and have been declared by the President as the pillar of the country’s development. For that reason, the integration of “Nature, Health, Wealth and Power” represents the core of Madagascar’s sustainable. The rural community needs to be empowered and become the actors in their own development.

From the CDP, the commune and its community define “do-able” and achievable objectives, based on their priority needs, and they are committed to achieving these within an agreed timeframe that (Continued on next page)
ranges from 12 to 18 months. In Madagascar, integration of activities have already been promoted and implemented for a decade by technical assistance projects and programs. The change the Kaominina Mendrika approach brings is the empowerment of the rural community by developing them as pro-active leaders and decision makers in their own development, where without it they would remain just passive beneficiaries of activities conducted in their territory.

For the first year, the Kaominina approach was conducted within 90 communes, among which 11 communes promoted integrated activities, including the concepts of Nature-Health-Wealth and Power. This first year focused on adaptive management for both commune and technical assistance programs. There were struggles during the implementation phase; however some significant changes were noticed:

- Communes devoted time to understanding their CDP and were able to analyze the commune status,
- Communes conducted appreciative inquiry to assess priority activities needs,
- Communes were able to set up and run a “local management committee” to manage, plan and coordinate integrated programs within their commune.
- Communes and communities actively participated in the implementation of specific activities, and have demonstrated their commitment to achieve results within an agreed timeframe.
- Activities that depend on local and internal efforts achieved their goals, and even went beyond defined targets. For example, tree nursery plants grew 147%, fish-farming increased by 173%, and extension agents achieved 169% of their targets,
- Activities that require external assistance recorded some delay in achievement. Seedling production and tree planting grew at 9% - 15%.
- Participation by communities in health activities related to maternal healthcare, child vaccination and the fight against malaria achieved planned goals.

In one Commune, a local farmers’ group called “Federation Mendrika” was able to play the role of “interface” between local community and technical and financial partners to ensure monitoring of activity progress and play the role of technical assistance in some activities.

From the natural resources perspective, changes in attitude regarding self development are more encouraging than simply the figures, and we were very satisfied with the result from this first year attempt. To achieve this first cycle, the communes showed efficiency and capacity towards their self development. Most of the income generating activities were very appreciated by the commune and communities, and the achievement of those went beyond targets. Also, the communes, local federations and institutions are proud to be empowered and play the role of coach, coordinator and supervisor of integrated development activities.

What are the challenges? The first cycle was done, but a lot still needs to be achieved. The Kaominina Mendrika approach cannot be separated from the broader context of the economic and development challenges recommended by the Malagasy Government at Communal level. Therefore, this approach needs to be passed on to the Ministry of Decentralization that is taking the lead in the capacity building of communal staff through the Communal Support Center. We recognize that this first attempt does not result in a large change in landscape management, though we are convinced that “Self development of local Community” will led to change in landscape management as the result of a good stewardship of natural resources. The second cycle on Kaominina mendrika will tell us more about that!
How can development practitioners work effectively with local government executives whose decisionmaking authority threatens the content and direction of development projects? How can project managers best engage communities in health and environmental research that will inform project activities? What kinds of strategies can project staff use to promote population, health, and environment (PHE) interventions in a community where religious, cultural, and traditional beliefs may present barriers?

These questions, and more, are addressed in a new series of case studies produced by the Population Reference Bureau, in partnership with non-governmental organizations in the Philippines. Written by the project managers themselves, the case studies provide lessons learned from their experiences in managing integrated PHE projects.

As the wealth of experience in PHE programming grows, finding ways to share that experience with newcomers to the field can be incredibly valuable. From their vantage points on the “front lines,” PHE project managers can be superb resources in providing insights and lessons learned from their direct experience in designing, implementing, and evaluating PHE projects.

In one case study, From Roadblock to Champion, the example is given of how the story of how a development NGO won the support of a mayor who almost derailed an innovative project in her municipality that was working to incorporate reproductive health interventions into coastal resource management plans. The case-study author offers the following lessons learned from his experience:

- **Find opportunities for policymakers to individually process new development approaches:** The experience of direct exposure to a successful program can help politicians examine their perceptions and correct their misconceptions on their own. Policymakers are open to persuasion from peers. Having local executives learn about new programs in group settings, such as a joint visit for mayors, provides opportunities for them to share perceptions and ideas among their peers that can become significant factors in each other’s decision making.

- **Ideas from abroad can help open policymakers’ minds to innovative development approaches:** Visits to projects in other countries may provide more impact and acceptance among politicians in cases when local exposure might not.

- **Policy advocacy requires both changes in perceptions and formal implementation mechanisms:** Apart from the need to change the perceptions of individual local government executives, our partner NGO recognized that an implementation mechanism such as a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is essential for the development and implementation of community-based family plan-
The reference to integrative approaches brings into perspectives the meaning and application of the concept of integration as well as the desired outcomes at the implementation level. This raises the questions on what need to be integrated and how? Experiences vary with initiatives. The Msunduzi Local Agenda 21-LA 21 has been intervening for environmental issues to be integrated in initiatives in the Msunduzi municipal systems and area which are compounded by the ongoing socio-political and economic changes. Some of the social and economic initiatives such as construction of low-income housing and industries have deleterious effects on the natural resources and ecosystems. This results to the use of reactive measures to deal with the effects despite the provisions for proactive measures in the integrative approaches.

Some of the social and economic initiatives such as construction of low-income housing and industries have deleterious effects on the natural resources and ecosystems.

Other challenges relate to the inadequate understanding of environmental issues and commitment of resources from the decision-makers, some businesses and developers. The attitude, behaviour and involvement of people in both affluent and less resourced areas also constrain initiatives aimed at curbing menaces such as illegal dumping of solid waste. Constituents perceive environmental issues as the responsibility of the local government. These are some of the many challenges that the Msunduzi LA 21 has been facing for the past eight years despite the increased awareness on environmental issues and legislative obligations among the constituents.

Despite the challenges there are positive results and opportunities for actors in the LA 21 and other initiatives. The council has initiated an environmental branch and appointed an environmental officer for the municipal area. Environmental management is a key priority area in the new IDP and more funds have been allocated to environmental initiatives such Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises-SMMEs on refuse service. Partnerships are emerging but more needs to be done in the field. For instance a local community organisation-Sobantu Environmental Desk has been working together with Umgeni Water-a water agency to deal with pollution of a river in their area.

The lessons learnt in the process include the need for persistence and resources support for environmental issues as well as the confirmation that the right initiatives are indispensable. Existing enforcement mechanisms need to be complemented with an empowerment approach to tap into the knowledge, skills and networks of relations among constituents —otherwise opportunities to access information, and resources to achieve results through integrative ap-
By the year 2000 the population at the Chicamán side (the east side) of El Amay Mountain was 2,156, with many people living in the poorest of conditions. More than 60% of the population is between 5-19 years old, and the degradation of natural resources has increased considerably. The population closest to El Amay Mountain, the Uspantán municipality, is comprised of about 300 inhabitants, mostly from K’iché ethnic group, who live in an area with severe limitations. The soil has no agricultural capacity, and water supply is a big problem because there are no rivers in the heart of the mountain. In both places there are severe deficiencies in health services and there are many diseases, especially gastrointestinal and broncho-pulmonary. Starting in 2003 malnutrition among children has also become an increasing concern.

Meanwhile, the older Uspantán communities, who are more organized and have greater understanding of the forest area, suffered great hardship and loss during the civil war; for example the village of Chimel was destroyed and burned by the Guatemalan Army in the worst year of the civil war (1982). The destruction in this village and in other places nearby caused the loss of their traditional knowledge, which had been linked to the use of natural resources, as well as loss of traditional mechanisms to share this knowledge, loss of traditional ways to choose their authorities, and finally, loss of their identity as an indigenous group. Due to the complexity of the ethnic and historic processes which occurred in this region, the problems are difficult to understand and solutions are hard to find.

Communities as well as the natural environment are still struggling to recover from thirty years of war and destruction.
especially in Chicamán - is a severe threat to the forest in that zone. The current deforestation tendencies (403 hectares per year) show that it is necessary to take action to stop it, and to create an initiative to bring education to the communities on topics such as basic health, agricultural activities and forest management. It is necessary to promote sustainable development that ensures the conservation of the forest and an increase in the quality of life of the local inhabitants.

In 2003, the National Council of Protected Areas (Conap) supported an initiative to develop a technical study required by the Protected Areas Law to evaluate the socioeconomic and ecological conditions to identify the best mechanisms to promote the protection of this region. This study shows three important things:

1. There are nine communities in the Chicamán side and five in the Uspantán side, and the processes with which the communities function are completely different. On Chicamán side, the population has a lack of organization which has led to the near destruction of the forests; on the other hand the older Uspantán communities are better organized and have a greater consciousness about the importance of maintaining the forest for the long term as a way of life.

2. Currently, the Chicamán city government has no interest in continuing to support the protected area initiative because of political pressures. Activities focused on increasing awareness about the adoption of sustainable activities to promote the conservation of the forest have not been supported.

3. The way to try to find a solution for the degradation of natural resources is to integrate all the communities and organizations to promote an understanding toward building common ground to develop the region in a sustainable way.

By 2006, a big coalition of institutions such as Conap, InaB (National Forest Institute), Movimondo (and Italian NGO), the local communities and the city government of Uspantán reached collaboration agreements to offer better opportunities to the local people to manage their forest and increase their quality of life. The collaboration is focusing on the promotion of sustainable agriculture, improvement of local husbandry, soils conservation, identification and promotion of tourist sites, sustainable forest management and conservation, and the search of forest incentives to benefit the Chimel, San Pablo and La Gloria communities.

I would like to acknowledge Julio González, Elmir López, Vinicio Ramírez, Vincenzo Coccia, Furio Massolino, Fernando Castro, Carlos Gómez and the people of San Pedro La Esperanza, Laj Chimel and Chimel for their support and ideas to strengthen this process.

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Integrating HIV/AIDS (Continued from page 3) capacity with conservation staff. As a result:

- 86 persons (over 50% women) were engaged in new livelihoods
- 59 households were provided more fuel efficient stoves, saving 88.5 tons of fire wood per year.
- Over 5,000 individuals reached through community outreach that promotes HIV/AIDS prevention (Theater for Development)
- Five local organizations provided with technical assistance for HIV-related institutional capacity building
- 168 persons (over 50% women) provided extension training and formal class room training.

It is imperative to point out that integration of PHE can be a difficult endeavor if the linkages are not clearly understood. In the case of PEACE Project, at the beginning communities could not link resource use and management with prevalence of HIV/AIDS until an awareness campaign using Theater for Development was conducted. Designing of mitigation measures needs to focus in addressing pertinent issues that are priority to the community. During the planning process, the villages indicated that lack of livelihood opportunity was driving the community in unsustainable resource use and increasing vulnerability, and hence the project had to include provision and support of less labor-intensive livelihood activities such as paprika and milk-fish farming. Lastly, the design of channels for communicating messages needs to consider the local context. It was easy to draw the attention of villagers by using local dramas and theaters. Theater for Development proved to be an effective tool for engaging community in openly discussing HIV/AIDS and related issues.

Although PEACE Project ended in September 2006, it still exists, having now been merged into the Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership’s SUCCESS (Sustainable Coastal Communities and Ecosystems) Project. We will continue working by implementing all activities in the eight villages by scaling up activities and involving more stakeholders.
Anna Zucchetti’s organization, Grupo GEA, has been collaborating with other groups as part of The Green Valley Program for the sustainable development of the Lurín Valley surrounding Lima, Perú. The SGI project stems from the need to define the feasibility of applying economic instruments for the conservation of the Lurín Valley, in Metropolitan Lima, Perú, learning from experiences and instruments applied in other countries.

The project’s plan is to:

- Exchange information and share innovative experiences and solutions to conserving and managing agricultural lands within urban contexts.
- Examine economic instruments for conserving agricultural lands in the Lurín valley.
- Design a strategy and plan for carrying out the feasibility study.
- Promote a partnership between the GEA Group, the Municipality of Lima, the National Environmental Council (CONAM) and UC Berkeley to establish a process for the development of the feasibility study and an implementation strategy.

The assistance from David Zilberman has allowed for the application of the latest concepts in the field of Payment for Environmental Services (PES). The workshop and the seminar led to the strengthening of local and national capacities in PES, a new field of theoretical and applied research in Perú. As a result of this initiative, Grupo GEA has now been invited to participate in the PES expert group currently working within the National Institute for Natural Resources, within the Ministry of Agriculture. David’s visit, the expert workshop, and the seminar on PES also resulted in national media coverage for the issue and the organizations.

After the visit a plan for developing the second phase of the project was created. Three areas need to be studied further:

1. an updated overview of land use and property in the lower Lurín valley,
2. A census of agricultural producers and current agricultural practices,
3. a more detailed study of the willingness to pay for the direct beneficiaries of the valley’s environmental services.

The collaboration has been extremely fruitful, but a longer relationship would have assisted the team in Perú further. However much has been accomplished so far: thanks to the collaboration the group in Perú has been able to prioritize the next steps to fill in information gaps and further advance the design of the economic instrument necessary for land conservation. The goal is to use the knowledge and momentum gathered during the early part of the project and the workshops to continue work in the field.
The overall objective of the SGI project led by Ahmed Hassan (ELP ’03) is to develop ecotourism among small, medium, and micro enterprises in the Red Sea and Siwa areas of Egypt, enabling these small scale entrepreneurs to fully participate in the tourism industry currently dominated by large business. A key element in making this possible was to compile market and industry information as well as regional socio-economic and development data from potential ecotourism areas and stakeholders, in three regions: Siwa Oasis, the South Red Sea/Eastern Desert region, and South Sinai.

**IBD team members concluded that “too many tourists and a lack of overall structure decreases demand, and can frustrate visitors. As a result, there is an opportunity for savvy entrepreneurs to capitalize on the history of Egypt while steering away from the mass-market tourism and chaos.”**

A team of four graduate students from the International Business Development (IBD) Program at the Haas School of Business visited Egypt in May/June of 2006. The team visited prospective ecotourism sites to better understand their marketability and potential. The opportunity and constraints of the area became clearer after the site visits. IBD team members concluded that “too many tourists and a lack of overall structure decreases demand, and can frustrate visitors. As a result, there is an opportunity for savvy entrepreneurs to capitalize on the history of Egypt while steering away from the mass-market tourism and chaos.”

The Haas team conducted market research, reviewed competitive business models and strategies, analyzed which would prove most potentially sustainable and competitive and then developed appropriate entrepreneurship models and marketing plans for these enterprises. The results of the team’s work were communicated to the Egyptian Ministry of Tourism and the American Chamber of Commerce, among others. The project includes publication of an entrepreneurship manual, disseminating outputs on line, and initiating two pilot projects.

One of the projects that the team conceptualized is a luxury eco-lodge along Lake Nasser, overlooking the River Nile, and the birthplace of the ancient Pharaonic culture. The team argues that the pristine beauty of the area was relatively unknown to foreigners and many would be inclined to visit if a “luxury eco-lodge” would be available.

Ahmed has found the detailed business plan to meet his expectations, and comments, “It has been a pleasure working with the team, they have been cooperative, responsive, and worked very hard ... I hope this project provides momentum for future SGI and IBD projects to come to Egypt. I am glad to act as a catalyst or take part in future efforts, which I trust will be as rewarding and equally exciting.”

**Haas Team visit Egypt’s pyramids**

possibly subsidies to encourage their use. Pricing Clorin is tricky. For example, stores should sell the product at market prices (which are now quite reasonable for this product), but the poorest members of society should receive the product at subsidized or no cost by health workers. Distribution of products like Clorin is an emergency measure that provides an effective short-term solution. In the long term, a key component of growth policy is to upgrade water disposal and supply systems, in order to reduce water borne diseases and improve the well being of fish and water dependent plants.

Food safety is another application of the risk management approach. Food goes through several stages on its way from initial production to final consumption. Sometimes, the weakest link in the chain (e.g. unsanitary packaging facilities) may introduce contamination that puts the consumer at risk. Processes of urbanization and increased reliance on trade may actually increase the potential for food borne diseases, and the design of the effective performance standards and inspection systems is becoming a key challenge. The movie, Fast Food Nation, showed that even in the US, food safety is still far from perfect. With limited budgets, the challenge is to target the most vulnerable elements of the system, and even remove them if possible. Sometimes, simplifying the system by shortening the supply chain and developing effective local networks is most effective for prevention.

There are many sources of human health risks, and it a challenge for policymakers and researchers to control and reduce them. No one discipline or organization can do it alone. Combating risks requires interdisciplinary collaboration and interpersonal and international joint efforts to get tangible results. One of the major benefits of economic growth has been that it leads to reduced environmental health risks. Even then, risks evolve and reappear, and society needs to be ready to evaluate, and take action against, new sources of risk.
mental Health Project and Madagascar Green Healthy Communities, were undertaken in communities throughout the central forest corridor.

As the funding for the second phase drew to a close in 2005, the third phase has taken shape. This phase is marked by the end of private foundation support for integrated work, and the gradual embedding of cross-sectoral initiatives in comprehensive development programming. This shift is largely supported by USAID Madagascar in the implementation of its integrated strategic plan, which contains common goals for all its program areas, including its work in the health and natural resource management sectors. Building on the success of the integrated Champion Community model, USAID Madagascar led an extensive scale-up of these efforts from the community level to the commune level (equivalent to a county in the United States) in several communes in Fianarantsoa province. In implementing the Champion Commune approach, USAID Madagascar and its partners aim to link development interventions in the areas of natural resource management, public health, economic development, and good governance (a framework known as Nature, Health, Wealth and Power within the USAID system).

Persistent Challenges

Throughout all three phases, cross-sectoral approaches have adapted in response to the challenges and obstacles inherent in carrying out community-based development programming in remote areas. In interviews, practitioners noted the most common ongoing challenges they encounter when implementing cross-sectoral projects in the central forest corridor. These challenges include weak transportation and communication infrastructure, cultural isolation, a loss of momentum with the turnover of USAID and foundation funding cycles, the limited capacity of both government institutions and NGOs, and the difficulties inherent in measuring the success of integrated programs.

New Opportunities

The third phase of cross-sectoral programming in Fianarantsoa offers practitioners valuable opportunities to address ongoing challenges by capitalizing on the experience and lessons learned from the first two phases. New initiatives promoted by USAID, such as the province-wide Eco-regional Alliance, provide new venues for practitioners to think strategically and capitalize on the potential benefits that can arise from linking their activities. In addition, the government decentralization process now underway in Madagascar has catalyzed the creation of local development plans, providing an opening for cross-sectoral approaches like Champion Commune to become institutionalized at the local level.

Conclusion

How successful have partnerships been between the health and environment sectors in Fianarantsoa province? The outcomes have been shaped by a combination of persistent challenges and incremental but meaningful accomplishments, not unlike most development work initiated in the province over the past fifteen years. The experience of cross-sectoral projects in Fianarantsoa has shown that humans and the environment can benefit from efforts to link interventions in health and environment in rural areas. Evaluations of these projects have demonstrated progress in reaching new audiences, fostering greater community involvement, and promoting programmatic efficiency. One of the most compelling results of cross-sectoral project implementation in Fianarantsoa over the past fifteen years is the development of a community of dedicated practitioners who promote continued interventions in the rural central forest corridor in the province.

These practitioners are beginning to capitalize on a suite of new opportunities to expand cross-sectoral development programming in Fianarantsoa. Even greater benefits may be realized as practitioners branch into additional sectors, such as the water, sanitation, and hygiene sector, and bring in new actors. Documenting these experiences and sharing information on effective tools and approaches is critical as these efforts continue to evolve and strengthen. Madagascar, and Fianarantsoa province in particular, has the potential to continue to be a leader in advancing cross-sectoral approaches in support of sustainable human development.
work was as important as recognizing and understanding the link between population and environment.

The project recognizes the powerful dynamics that could possibly derail the project’s intended development agenda. In the Philippines, population issues can stir up some controversial perceptions, while environmental issues are usually highly politicized and highly contested. Partnering with the LGU is partly partnering with the political leaders. Thus, the project conducted political and institutional mapping that distinguished the political posturing of local leaders — and their track record and personal stance relevant to the project goal.

The project team was purposeful in appreciating the distinct strengths of the prospective partners who can propel the project to greater heights.

As a result of the integrated PHE programming, there was a marked reduction in maternal mortality deaths, increase in contraceptive prevalence rates, decrease in crude birth rates and improved nutritional status of children. LGUs constructed reproductive health counseling rooms, new health stations, declared marine protected areas and increased the mangrove reforestation initiatives, resulting in an increased fish catch from 1.8 kilos to 6 kilos a day for fisher-folk engaged in hook-and-line fishing.

As a result of integrated PHE programming, the local fish catch was increased from 1.8 kilos to 6 kilos a day for fisher-folk engaged in hook-and-line fishing.

PHE volunteers have improved the community support system at the village level and serve to mobilize local officials to support and sustain PHE efforts in the LGU structure. Save the Children was successful in facilitating increased dialogue between communities and municipal government on family planning and environment concerns, which encouraged more transparency, leading to more effective governance by LGUs. Likewise, the programming skills introduced through the integration of population health and environment has built the capacity of community members and leaders in identifying their strengths, issues and positive values, as well as their ability to analyze their situation, define solutions and formulate plans.

Thus, understanding the critical linkages and interrelationships between decreasing fish catch and increasing family size on the one hand and poverty and food security on the other has convinced many local chief executives in the Philippines about the power of integrating solutions with population, health and environment issues as an effective strategy in poverty alleviation and in improving the health and well being of people and communities.
These case studies were produced by PRB’s Population, Health, and Environment Program, with support from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Case Study</th>
<th>Synopsis</th>
<th>Key Issues</th>
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<tr>
<td>From Roadblock to Champion: PHE Advocacy and Local Government Executives</td>
<td>In many places around the world, local government executives (mayors, chiefs, and governors) have decisionmaking authority that could significantly impact the content and direction of development projects. This case study relates the story of how a development NGO won the support of a mayor who almost derailed an innovative project in her municipality that was working to incorporate reproductive health interventions into coastal resource management plans.</td>
<td>Advocacy strategies, role of local government executives, partnerships, coastal resource management, food security</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identifying Our Own Problems: Working with Communities for Participatory PHE Research</td>
<td>Determining the most important development challenges at the community level can be difficult, especially when they entail complex cause-and-effect relationships across different sectors. This case study relates the story of how a development NGO involved community members in identifying both critical development challenges and the relationships among those challenges in their community.</td>
<td>Participatory research/community engagement, volunteer recruitment and retention, cross-sectoral planning, adolescent reproductive health, agriculture, migration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building Partnerships with Local Government Units: PHE Programming in the Municipality of Concepcion</td>
<td>The sustainability of development programs is a major concern for many NGOs involved in program design and implementation. This case study tells how a development NGO established a successful partnership with local government to ensure that integrated PHE programming would be sustained and mainstreamed into local government activities.</td>
<td>Partnerships, engagement of local government, project sustainability, community outreach, poverty alleviation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enlisting Organizational Support for PHE: Perspectives from a Microfinance Institution</td>
<td>Enlisting organizational support for a new concept or innovative idea can be a daunting challenge. This case study relates the story of how a nonprofit microfinance institution evolved from being skeptical to cautiously optimistic about innovative approaches to social development and pro-poor lending—including integrating PHE concerns into its programs.</td>
<td>Organizational change, message formulation, mission drift, microfinance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fhaida’s Journey: Promoting Population, Health, and Environment Interventions in a Muslim Community</td>
<td>Development practitioners must often develop strategies to work within constraints posed by traditional and cultural beliefs that may affect the progress of community projects. This case study is a fictional story that synthesizes many of the challenges and obstacles two development NGOs faced in mobilizing women to address PHE issues. The story demonstrates specific strategies that were used to advocate change and that respected the religious values of a Muslim community in the Philippines.</td>
<td>Advocacy strategies, religious and cultural barriers, gender roles</td>
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IPOPCORM (continued from P. 5)

strengthening of family planning (FP) in these communities - not typically a part of environmental management programs. IPOPCORM responds to the program outlined by the DENR/DA framework, and specifically to the need to promote family planning practice.

**Target Groups & Communities**

To achieve these results, IPOPCORM targets three groups in critical coastal habitats: fisherfolk, youth and entrepreneurs. The project works to address the unmet needs of men and women in the coastal zone by providing them with information on human sexuality and reproductive health (RH) and by strengthening their capacity to implement community based and integrated family planning (FP) and CRM strategies including environmentally friendly enterprise development activities.

Another target group is adolescents (age 15-19) including out-of-school youth. The program seeks to educate them about the linkages between population, health and environment and encourage responsible sexuality and stewardship of the environment.

Finally, the program directs resources to small entrepreneurs in coastal municipalities, particularly drugstore owners and shopkeepers who have the potential to become social entrepreneurs through participation in social marketing activities that the project supports to increase availability of affordable reproductive health products in coastal areas.

Target communities are geographically remote and do not generally have electricity and television. There are also religious and cultural barriers to discussing and practicing family planning, as well as gender inequalities and “macho” attitudes about family planning responsibilities.

**Key Lessons Learned**

- Placing Reproductive Health and Family Planning (RH/FP) in a broader context that links family size to sound environmental management and ultimately food security helps people to recognize the importance of limiting family size by practicing contraception.
- While RH/FP contributes to the sustainability of CRM, CRM provides the enabling context for promotion and acceptance of FP that unidimensional approaches lack.
- The RH component also provides value added to environment and conservation efforts via greater female involvement in ICM activities and organizations and increased participation of adolescents of both sexes.
- The ICM component of the IPOPCORM brings three major advantages to family planning efforts: greater access to men, greater access to adolescent boys, and positive changes in the community perception of women and in women’s self-perception when they have access to and control of money and credit.
- IPOPCORM’s micro-credit and environmentally friendly enterprise development component encourages strong community involvement and is helping to reduce poverty and to balance gender inequalities in coastal communities.
- IPOPCORM demonstrates that integrated approaches reduce the resistance to FP by religious leaders and conservative followers because of the linkage with food security.

This is particularly important for the Philippines where resistance from the Church has undermined previous efforts to promote family planning.

- Strong working relationships with local government and health officials is essential for any project, and working with government in support of its development plans and objectives is a key element in establishing such relationships.
- There is no meaningful downside to integrated approaches like IPOPCORM’s; rather, both the environmental and RH components benefit from this strategy.

**Figure 1.** Map showing Philippine marine biodiversity conservation priority areas. The 14 “extremely high” priority areas for marine conservation include clusters with following numbers: 173, 174, 176, 178, 185, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 201, and 202 (Source: Ong, P.S., L.E. Afuang and R.G. Rosell-Ambal (eds.)
Sam Ubi, Nigeria, ELP ‘04
Below is a photo of me (at right) handing over 4 shotguns to the Permanent Secretary, Cross River State Forestry Commis- sion, Nigeria, West Africa. The shotguns were confiscated from poachers caught in Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary. The sanctuary is home to one of Africa’s most endangered apes, the Cross River gorilla, and other primates, including drill monkeys and chimpanzees. I oversee the day-to-day operations, and currently I am reviewing the state wildlife laws. This, when completed, will facilitate the prosecution process. Before now, enforcement of wildlife laws has been lacking, and hunting has been a major threat to the conservation of value species in the sanctuary.

Claudia Pastor, ELP ‘02
Currently, I am working in IRAQ for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). I am working as Program Analyst for a three-year multimillion dollar program that supports economic and social stability in Iraq to bring peace and stability to communities that have been affected by insurgent violence. I have been in Iraq since June 2005 (15 months already), and I am planning to leave by the end of January 2007. The experience has been very special and rich, not only in terms of working for a program focused on supporting Iraq’s people, but also in terms of having the opportunity to meet a lot of people from different countries that are here to join efforts. Being exposed to different problems dealing with culture, religion, ethnicity, politics, and socio-economics has, of course, made an impact on me as a person and as a professional. I can say that even though I am not working in issues related to natural resources and environment, the complexity and challenges have been an excellent learning experience for me so far and I am glad that I made the decision to be here.

Gladys Mutangadura, Zambia, ELP ‘04
I will be moving to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to my head office on promotion as from 1 November 2006. I am joining the Economic Commission for Africa - African Centre for Gender and Social Development (ACGS) Division and will be working in the Millennium Development Goals, Poverty Analysis and Monitoring Section. I am looking forward to the new challenge.

Ade Cahyat, Indonesia, ELP ‘01
After my resignation from my NGO, SHK Kaltim, I started my freelance consultant business. However, it was not so ‘free’ because most of my time from June 2003 to April 2006 was occupied by one CIFOR project named “Poverty and Decentralization”. I worked for this project as field facilitator for one district. This project aims to create a tool for local poverty monitoring which adapt the local situation. During my participation in this project, I produced 8 policy briefs (mainly in Indonesian) concerning several issues related to poverty monitoring, community-based monitoring, local government monitoring system, and national decentralization policy review. At the end of this year I will add another policy brief regarding poverty data utilization in local government regional planning and a series of manuals on poverty monitoring (both of them will be available in English).

Sushil Saigal, India, ELP ‘06
I have recently started my PhD at Cambridge on a Gates Cambridge Scholarship. I am based in the Geography Department and my research is focused on agroforestry systems in India.

Albina Ruiz Rios, Peru, ELP ‘05
In August, Albina was granted the honor of winning the “Premio Bravo de Negocios”, the Business Prize, from Latin Trade Magazine, in the Environmentalist category. The prize was awarded in recognition of her work in the development of microenterprises for the poor of Lima, Peru. She was one of nine prizewinners in all of Latin America selected by the trade journal’s readership of 350,000. ¡Felicitaciones, Albina!

(Continued on Page 18)
Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed that is the only thing that ever has. - Margaret Mead

(Continued from page 15)

Diah Raharjo, Indonesia, ELP ’01

is now at the TIFA Foundation in Bogor,

Marcelo Arantes, Brazil, ELP ’04

I have been working on project on Sustainable Tourism, we are calling it Creative Tourism, merging different activities on the territory where I live and work - Santa Teresa - the most charming neighbourhood in Rio de Janeiro. My tasks have been many, including interior design. Please visit our site: www.relaisolar.com. I am looking forward to your comments. Please, spread the news and send us some clients! I am the marketing leader at the moment.

I have developed a number of interface/complimentary activities. We have some young kids been trained to work as guides, capacity building on Sustainability, History of the district, Tourism, entrepreneurship, etc.. Local workshop in the favelas (squatters) to develop products like souvenirs, branding, associating professional designers and poor communities. A lot of things... I have been teaching the police as well. It’s been nice to inspire people (I made a presentation for 300 cadets the other day and remembered Palash a lot!)

Imran Ahmad, Pakistan,
(in Germany) ELP ’04

On the international climate change front: in 2006 I was an invited speaker and panelist at a Chatham House/IISD Conference on "Climate Change in a Post 2012 World" in London, an IDS/University of Sao Paulo event on future international climate policy in Sao Paulo, and workshop on Integrated Climate and Development in Paris. On the aid effectiveness front, I have been designated as the Pakistani National Coordinator for leading the 2006 survey on monitoring the Paris Declaration on Aid. This is very exciting in terms of generating baseline data on aid and engendering a dialogue process with development partners.

Patrick Karani, Kenya, ELP ’03

Today is the last day of negotiations in Nairobi on Climate Change Convention. As some African party members are happy with the preliminary outcomes in part because of the acceptance of establishment of the Adaptation Fund to assist poor and developing countries adapt to vagaries of weather and associated climate change damages, there is pressure partially from the UN Secretary General Koffi Anan opening remarks on Wednesday, that the US should do more to combat climate change and provide adequate support and leadership in implementing the climate change and Kyoto Protocol agenda. As favourite economic philosophical quote "If theory is divorced from reality, we shall have only dry borns left".

The Climate Change Negotiations have dragged on since 1992 with initiation of the Kyoto Protocol in 1997 and coming into force in February. Nothing much has been achieved due to lack of serious commitments, failure of the US to ratify the Protocol and marginalized input from poor and developing countries. Sir Nick Stern, former World Bank Chief Economist and current advisor to the UK Government, insists on equity and emphasizes that it does not take a stance on how it should be achieved, except for the fact that the strong role rich countries such as the US must play in driving forward future climate change mitigation. This is quite ambitious and promising with new changes in the US Senate and Congress with majority democrats back in the driving seat in addition to Al Gore’s recent movie, there is hope that the US will be back on track to provide guidance and leadership so much needed to drive the climate change and Kyoto Protocol agenda.

FUTURE ENVIRONMENTALISTS CORNER:
An Nguyen, Vietnam ELP ’04

It is very nice to get the update from the ELP alums both professionally and personally. Just a quick note to share with you that my little girl arrived quite earlier than the due date (on 7 July 06). So I am on maternity leave now and get a bit away from the work for a couple of months but I still check emails everyday and very pleased to get an update from all of you from time to time. Here is a picture of Thuy Anh:

Kristen Patterson, US, ELP ’06

Owen Redlund Patterson was born on 10/16/2006. Mom, Baby, and Dad are all doing well. At birth Owen weighted 8 lbs, 6 oz, and was 21 inches in length.
From the eMailbag: On Muhammad Yunus’ Nobel Peace Prize
Edited by Leslie Correll

On October 16, 2006 I sent this email out to the Alumni Network, and it yielded some very thoughtful responses…

Dear Alums,

I am imagining alums Rizwana, Aminul, Palash and Tarik in Bangladesh celebrating the Nobel Peace Prize awarded to their fellow countryman Muhammad Yunus for his efforts with the Grameen Bank. It is indeed reason to celebrate. Yunus is a great example of a leader who “thinks outside the box” and questions the way things have always been done, creatively inventing new and effective strategies that directly address daily realities of poverty and gender division.

It is wonderful that the prize for peace, not economics, has gone to Yunus. The Nobel committee made the important connection between poverty and stable societies when they said, “Lasting peace can not be achieved unless large population groups find ways in which to break out of poverty. Micro-credit is one such means. Development from below also serves to advance democracy and human rights.” Let’s hope this spotlight will help the world to realize the power and importance of sustainable community development on which so many of you are working so hard. Congratulations are in order! ~Leslie Correll

…this is indeed a joyful proud event for Bangladesh. The recognition of Prof Yunus can be considered as one of our nation’s best achievements since our independence in 1971. This would encourage and bring renewed spirit in the hearts of the poor people in their fight against poverty. Thank you all for being with us at this cheerful moment. ~Tarik Ul-Islam, ’03

…Giving micro-credit to poor families and business plays an important role in tackling the scourge of poverty, hunger and literacy around the world. Millions of people were capable of successfully fighting the challenge of poverty leading to sustainable livelihood through the Grameen concept. This award is recognition of the human face of economics for the grassroots which turns poverty into peace. Welcome to our ELP alums who join us in sharing our happiness. ~Aminul Islam, ’01

…Deserved recognition for a truly remarkable project. Poverty eradication and not simply reduction must be our goal. Yunus is showing us how small steps can help realize this. ~Justin Ram ’02

…Really, it is a tremendous achievement after the liberation of the country in 1971. The whole country is celebrating the event with a different moral spirit which, since my birth, I have never seen before. I was visiting the University of Chittagong from where I graduated and where Yunus started his landmark work around 3 decades ago with a very small amount of money from his own pocket. I saw the spirit of the people where the whole campus was in a festive mood and in the nearest village ZOBRxA where embryonic development started to take off.

Last year’s winner Mathai and this year Yunus really brought us the message that anyone who works for humanity - in whatever field - can bring peace to humankind. So I am really spirited with the news. It is just like the embryo which makes up a whole human being, his little pocket money has given birth to a colossal bank of the poor. He has proved that top-down approaches of development initiative in a country like ours result in zero unless we start it from the poor with vision and realization. His bottom-up approach again taught all of humankind a lesson that the poor can modify democracy as it should be. Now in Bangladesh we dream our people would become entrepreneurs; that has been echoed in Yunus’ speeches - that he was going to start SOCIAL-BUSINESS for improving the spirit of the social entrepreneurs so that charity work does not get frustrated again in the country or in the rest of the world. I hope the Grameen Bank could be a model for the whole globe, as shows how to improve wellbeing by changing the scale of humankind’s performance.

One thing is very noteworthy: here in Bangladesh during the last couple of weeks we have been engaged in political chaos, and we were afraid of more bloodshed anytime in the political arena. But this sudden good news astonishingly stopped the bloodshed and at least the stupid politicians are confused at such a situation. I hope this prize would bring real peace to the country.

There is a proverb “All change is not growth and all movement is not forward”. Dr. Yunus went forward first with small steps and now it is a movement of 6.6 million poor women in Bangladesh. And what he has changed in the behaviour of the woman should be regarded as revolutionary change. Let us be immersed in that spirit to change the fate of all the poor people of the world. ~Palash Momen ’04

…There is something which has always troubled my mind. I am in Forestry which is at the centre-stage of rural development and poverty alleviation in India. So I finally end up working a lot for poverty alleviation. It is extremely necessary to first bring the people out of the vicious circle of poverty. And we all have been doing that but we all stop there. I have seen most of the programmes bring these people out of abject poverty to a level where they have just enough to survive but they do not take off any further from here. That job is not being looked after by anybody. Can’t there be something which could take these people further? The point is that there are only two forces operating. One is what we call corporate level where the rich become richer and a huge wealth is created in few hands. The other is the one which brings some people out of the trap of poverty and starvation. This is a really, really big force and very praiseworthy indeed. But there is no third force which could take off these newly non-poor non-rich to riches or even somewhere remotely there. Can’t we have a slab of micro-credit between macro-credit and macro-credit? I am not talking on behalf of anybody. Can’t there be something which could take these people further?

Never doubt that a small group of anybody who works for humanity - can bring peace to humankind. ~Margaret Mead

Pradeep Kumar ’06
Robin Marsh from Rwanda (Continued from page 2)

our colleagues are in the north in Hanoi, or in Central Provinces. Vi Pham (’01) and I are in touch to link work on agroforestry in the south with our research some years ago on expansion of lichi fruit for export to China in the north.

In Indonesia, I’m happy to say I met with many ELP alums on various occasions, all of whom are doing important work in environment and capacity-building. I spent a full day with Nani Saptariani (’04) at her newly-founded NGO – Kampung Pending, in W. Java – that provides classes and workshops on environmental education, the gender perspective, biodiversity, water quality monitoring, and free primary school classes and nutrition and health/reproductive health meetings for local farmer children and mothers. It is a beautiful site – with an organic farm that is used to serve healthy and delicious meals. There is accommodation as well – so please be in touch with Nani if you are planning any event that might be located at Kampung Pending. You won’t be disappointed!

My long trip to Asia culminated with a fabulous reunion in Jakarta with 9 Indonesian alumni from all six years of the ELP organized by Suzanti Sitorus (’02). Also, Dia Raharjo (’01) joined in spirit (I had met her a few days before.) Burhan (’02) and Sulastri (’05) called us by phone. We broke the Ramadan fast together with a traditional Sundanese meal, and went around the table with introductions and making connections. Tetra (’03) announced new promotion as Forest Attaché in the Indonesian embassy in Japan. Erna Rosdiana (’02) from the Ministry of Forests and Dia Raharjo (’01), now with the TIFA Foundation (have worked to prepare a proposal for an Environmental Leadership Initiative for Indonesia that would adapt the ELP to local needs. ELP alums will serve as facilitators and trainers, with help from UC Berkeley in curriculum development, materials, some teaching and fundraising.

A small committee met on November 1 at Rudy Fajar’s (’06) office, and we are eager to hear the results of that discussion. There are already interested funders within Indonesia that we have approached. More on this as the “ELP Indonesia” develops, perhaps in coordination with other SE Asia alums.

I will leave most of my reporting from Africa to next newsletter. I do want to briefly report on the first Leadership for Ecoagriculture in East Africa course (November 12 – 18), held in beautiful but fast degrading Lake Naivasha. Ecoagriculture Partners (Sara Scherr), the World Agroforestry Center, and CSRD/UC Berkeley co-organized the course. Three ELP alums participated: Mohamed Bakarr (’06), resource person on agroforestry), Simon Thuo (’01), resource person on integrated water management and links with agriculture, and Aventino Kasangaki (’04).

Course participants were 13 Ugandans and 14 Kenyans working in the agricultural, forestry and biodiversity sectors across government, NGOs and private sectors. They are all “champions” of the ecoagricultural approach which promotes agricultural landscapes that are compatible with wild biodiversity, and also raise farmer incomes through sustainable production intensification, new product markets, and compensation or conservation of ecosystem services. Leadership and Collaborative Approaches to Multi-stakeholder Engagement – a module that I led, went very well and was much appreciated – a special thanks to Susan Carpenter for her inspiration on this.

There are several follow-up cross-sectoral ecoagriculture activities going on in the region, with WAF and Ecoagriculture Partners providing technical and financial support. All East Africans are welcome to partner with these initiatives – get in touch with me if you have interest. We will be offering the course again – improved with participant feedback, in another year, and will also be offering the course together with ICA/CATIE in Central America next fall. Stay tuned – if you would like to participate, or nominate colleagues to attend.

I am leaving now with James Rubakisibo to the countryside to plant trees in the Northeast of Rwanda on their National Tree Planting Day.

Warm Regards,

Indonesia Alumni Reunion

Back row, from left: Suzanty Sitorus (’02), Erna Rosdiana (’02), Johannes Izmi Ryan (’05), Robin Marsh, Tetra (’03), Rudy Fajar (’06), Vita Kusuma (’04), and Ade Cahyat (’01) In front: Nani Saptariani (’04) and Nungky Hodijah (’03).

Course participants were 13 Ugandans and 14 Kenyans working in the agricultural, forestry and biodiversity sectors across government, NGOs and private sectors. They are all “champions” of the ecoagricultural approach...
Dear Elpers,

I wish to sincerely thank all the 13 ELPers who squeezed their busy schedules to attend the Reunion in Nairobi. (Sunday, Nov. 19) I understand more would have like to participate but were tied up….. Special thanks go to Patrick Karani for the sponsoring sumptuous breakfast, Mohamed Bakarr for excellent and timely transport to and from Thika and Robin Marsh gracing the occasion and sponsoring the lunches at the Blue Posts Hotel. Thank you so very much for your support - you made this event really special. I will be writing later on the way-forward-suggestions made with the proposal for establishing a regional node for ELP training for Eastern and Southern Asia. Thanks and my appreciation to you all.

- Staline Kibet, ’06

Photo courtesy of Wanyoike (Wams) Wamiti, of course!
Left to right, top row: Mohamed Bakarr, Patrick Balla, Philip Kisoyan, Simon Thuo, Aventino Kasangaki, Emmanuel Mukanga (hiding!) Patrick Karani, Staline Kibet.
Left to right, front row: Wanyoike Wamiti, Festus Luboyera, Robin Marsh, Nemat Hajeebhoy, Peris Kariuki and guest Miia Toikka ( UNDP-UNEP )

CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS and other updates:
Alums: Please remember to contact us with your changes and updates.
Updates are made monthly to the ALL PARTICIPANTS LIST on the ELP website at http://cnr.berkeley.edu/beahrselp/All Participants List.pdf

REMINDER:
Deadline for receipt of Small Grants Initiative Proposals is December 31, 2006.

The brochure for the 2007 summer certificate course is now on our website at http://nature.berkeley.edu/BeahrsELP. New interviews with participants from the 2006 course have been added also. Check it out!