

Fall 2003

Beahrs Environmental Leadership Program ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

*College of Natural Resources * University of California, Berkeley*

Welcome ELP Alumni 2003! To read about the 2003 group's summer experience, stay tuned to the blue boxes throughout the newsletter...

I have attended several environmental trainings for mid-career people over the last 10 years, but the Beahrs Environmental Leadership Program is by far the most comprehensive and integrated one, with outstanding students and lecturers. Actually, it goes beyond just environment to also address most of the burning sustainable development issues all over the world. I would recommend it to all people working in the field of development who want to have a global picture of the interactions that exist between the three pillars of SD and who really want to make a difference in their job, to go for it. Be careful, it will change you!

About Bamba, African Co-ordinator for RAMSAR Convention, Abidjan, Ivory Coast

Letter from Robin Marsh, Co-director Beahrs ELP

With this newsletter, we are “breaking in” a new team of Steering Committee Members (see list by Kyra), and newsletter editor – Susan Farquharson, working in team with Kyra, others and myself. Welcome and thanks! The efforts of you all make the Alumni Network dynamic and interesting, a forum for professional networking and making and keeping friends.

As usual, this article will bring you snippets of news and plans for the future. I will not waste your time lamenting our new governor (or hoping for the best), nor the state of geopolitics, nor the regressive environmental policies of the current US administration. You are well aware of these issues. With much hard work we may be able to achieve a US regime change in 2004. For those wondering about the terrible fires in Southern California – it is horrible and a reminder how we must learn to live with nature and not tempt it by building homes in dry, wooded areas prone to fire. Will people be humble and learn or simply rebuild on the same sites??

Classes of 2001 and 2002 may have heard that Dr. Norman Borlaug – “father of the Green Revolution” spent two days with the ELP last summer. It was a wonderful opportunity to interact with a leader driven by values acquired at an early age – witnessing hunger during the Great Depression. He talked about *Agriculture and the Environment: Bridging the Divide*, and shared the Norman Borlaug story. There was not nearly enough time to discuss the issues he brought up – the Green Revolution, biotechnology, costs and benefits of agricultural intensification for the environment, “saving land for nature”, the future of agriculture in Africa.... We are going to partly remedy the lack of time with a Cyberspace Discussion

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Letter from David Zilberman, Co-director Beahrs ELP

We should not give up on the WTO

For some, the failure of the Cancun summit and the perceived disintegration of the WTO seemed to be pro poor developments. I honestly doubt that this is the case. Actually, many aspects of free trade are very beneficial for the developing world. It is in the self-interest of developing countries to see trade negotiation move forward, and trade agreements implemented and enforced.

One of the major predictions of international trade theory is called “factor price equilibration”. It suggests that with trade, the relative prices of various output and inputs become closer throughout the world. In other words, as resources are mobile, wages in developing countries will increase while those in developed countries will decline. Indeed it is happening, no one can deny the rise of incomes and standards of living of many workers in China, India, and other Asian countries that are becoming major players in the international economy. Export markets are key for the development of these countries and important cheap products (food, and other materials) improve quality of life of poor and middle class people. Protection of domestic industry and monopolization of local markets have been harming the masses forever and provided extra power and sources of income to the ruling classes.



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with Dr. Borlaug in January 2004. Dr. Sara Scherr, director of Ecoagriculture Partners, has also agreed to participate. Mark your calendar for this discussion – week of January 5-9, 2004.



I have had the great pleasure of collaborating on two 2003 SGI projects, one a comparative research project in Vietnam and Philippines (see article), that took me to Asia this past August, the other a workshop in El Salvador on *Compensation for Environmental Services by Rural Communities* (October 2003). Ph.D. candidate Andy Lyons collaborated with alum Nhlanhla Silophe (2002), by participating in a workshop at the University of Natal where authors presented commissioned case studies on eco-enterprise development in Southern Africa (see article). You can also read about the adventures of the four Haas School of Business students who worked with alum Ade Cahyat (2001) to develop a business plan for rattan production, storage and manufacturing in Kalimantan, Indonesia (see article, <http://www.berkeley.edu/news/students/2003/borneo/3.shtml>).

A quick update on Satellite or Regional Centers. A proposal has been drafted by SEARCA senior staff to establish the *SEAMEO Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA)*, drawing on the discussions of the August 13 planning meeting at SEARCA, attended by 2001, 2002 and 2003 alumni (see article). The proposal will be circulated among all alumni from the region (including South China) for comment before beginning to seek funding. In August, David Zilberman had discussions with professors and alums from the University of Natal in South Africa on establishing a Regional ELP for Southern Africa, which would also strengthen the University's environmental sciences degree programs. In March 2004, David and I will travel to St. Petersburg State University in Russia to work with 2003 alums Stan and Svetlana on establishing a type of ELP for that re-

gion, as well as strengthened graduate level degree programs. These are preliminary efforts that we expect to "take off" in 2004 and 2005. We welcome your initiatives to establish ELPs in other regions around the world!

On the website you will now see that the brochure is up for the 2004 summer course (June 26 – July 18). **We very much need your help in recruiting excellent candidates for the course.** Please circulate an announcement widely in your respective regions – linked to the website and brochure. Try to identify a few potential candidates, suggesting that they apply and be in contact with us directly. Thanks!

From the brochure you will notice that there are a few changes in the curriculum, taking into consideration your suggestions over the last few years. We are introducing for the first time, "parallel sessions" for one week, combined with "cross-cutting sessions" for two weeks. This will allow more time to concentrate on particular subject matter topics, and brainstorm around participant issues/problems, as well as more time for workshops on leadership, conflict management, sustainability, and policy. Mathis Wagnackel of Ecological Footprint will have an extended role, to lay out the principles and limits associated with sharing one living planet, and the tools and solutions we can work with as we develop effective leadership skills. There will be one or two new case studies from developing countries, one for sure from Central America to be developed by Dr. Byron Miranda (Nicaragua) who has worked on rural development, poverty, leadership and social change in the Central American hillsides for over thirty years.

In 2005, we are planning to have some alumni events, as well as a summer course at Berkeley. The ELP Executive Committee has said it's too early in the Program NOT to have a Berkeley course, so we should try to do both! It would be a dream come true to get the Bellagio Villa (Rockefeller Foundation) at Lake Como, Italy, for a couple of alumni workshops for summer of 2005. I will put in an application very soon, drawing

on your interests and world geo-environmental politics for potential workshop themes. If we succeed in having the workshops approved, each and every alum will be eligible to attend, but it will involve an application and selection process, and commitment to help with written outputs.

Finally, I'd like to say how encouraged I am by the frequent communication and sharing via our Alumni Network. We are all overwhelmed with our "day jobs" and information overload, so it's not easy to get people to take time and stay connected. But it is terrifically rewarding, I think, to have friends and colleagues around the world, and we need to nurture these relationships.

I encourage you all to stay in contact and let us know about your challenges, accomplishments, personal and professional milestones, and your reunions with fellow ELPers. Seek each other out for information, co-authorship, participation on panels, expert advice.... This is happening already, and the potential is great. Also, don't forget to visit us in Berkeley whenever you get even close to California. Justin (2002) will visit in December. Who else is coming?

Be well and stay in touch! – Robin

"The best thing about the course is its use of a mixture of techniques, which is how adults learn best. There was classroom instruction and participatory discussion of the issues, panels, group work, exercises and field trips. The course has equipped me with the necessary tools to do – much better, whatever my future challenges will be. It has also provided me with the requisite sensitivity. I believe that the people who make the right decisions are not necessarily those with the right credentials, but those with the right concerns. And I've got the right concerns from this course."...

Kazim Niaz, Chief, Green Section, Provincial Planning & Development Dept., Pakistan

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The developed nations have to worry about trade as their relative advantage in many fields. It is eroding and their capacity to maintain very high-income levels could not be sustained in a truly competitive international economy. Asian and some Latin America countries are becoming prominent designers and producers of pharmaceuticals and software, lucrative fields where the U.S. and Europe supposedly have relative advantage.

Obviously, there are limits to free trade. I agree that limits should be imposed on speculative currency movements. Foreign investments are important and valuable, but the ability to transfer large volumes of funds among countries in a manner that is devastating to the financial system should be curtailed. We do not know how to regulate international financial transfers, but effective regulation would be very valuable.

The main weaknesses of the current international trade system are actually restrictions and taxation of trade. The agricultural policies in the ECU and U.S., which subsidize local farmers and constrain agricultural exports, are estimated to cost the developing nation more than 200 billion dollars annually in revenues. One of the main challenges of the WTO is to reduce and even eliminate these trade distortions in agriculture. The farm lobbies in the developed world are strong and introducing agricultural policy reforms will take dedication and political courage. Elimination or weakening of the WTO is not likely to lead to the reduction of barriers to agricultural trade.

Throughout history trade wars led to real wars and trade expansion has frequently (not always) been a major tool to improve human well-being. Barriers to trade have been removed significantly since WWII and exports to the developed world have been a crucial contributor to the growth of the Asian tigers and other developing nations. The U.S. has become the largest net importer in history, providing an immense market to products of the South. Obviously many trade issues have to be resolved. I hope that one day the spirit of free trade will be expanded to allow easier movement of people and even migration between nations. The WTO is far from perfect and is not likely to fulfill all expectations built around it. But the freeing of international trade it facilitates should be valued. Developing nations should aim to modify it, not destroy it.

My Best, David

Meeting at SEARCA: Southeast Asia and Oceania ELP Regional Center Nyhria Rogel, ELP '02

ELP Regional Centers are forming across the globe—just another way to keep us connected. Throughout Fall 2003 and Winter & Spring 2004, we will feature news from our developing centers.



The successful courses of the Beahrs ELP highlighted the potential benefits that could be gained from widening its reach and maximizing its impact. Satellite or regional centers have been seen as most effective for achieving

this end. These centers could focus on environmental concerns particular to a region and have the participants proactively seek solutions that would be most appropriate to their context.

Toward this end, SEAMEO Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) in the Philippines was tapped as a potential partner in Southeast Asia. The first concrete step towards the fruition of this idea was a whole-day meeting at SEARCA on 13 August 2003, where various aspects - curriculum and approaches, participants and their selection, organization, funding, among others - of such a center were discussed. Inputs were provided from Vietnam (Vi (alum 2001) and Son (alum 2003) of CRES, National University of Vietnam, Hanoi) through Robin Marsh who had visited projects there prior to flying to the Philippines, Indonesia through Suzanty Sitorus who flew all the way from Jakarta especially for the meeting, in addition

to the contribution of Filipino alumni Gil Saguiguit, Jr., Agnes Rola, Victoria Espaldon, Noel Verdote, Nyhria Rogel, and Dulce Elazegui. Robin, of course, provided invaluable insights based on the Berkeley experience. Nerlita Manalili, Jesus Fernandez, and Dina Magnaye, current SEARCA R&D Department Head, Training Department Head, and Consulting Services Project Development Specialist, respectively, added to the lively exchange of ideas.

One of the important points discussed was the expansion of the geographic coverage of the regional center from just Southeast Asia to include Oceania and southern China and shall be called the Southeast Asia and Oceania ELP Regional Center. The results of the meeting are being packaged into a proposal that will be sent out to alumni in the areas mentioned for additional input. So, watch out, guys, the first ELP Regional Center will soon be coming your way!



NEW POSITIONS FOR ELP ALUMS

Abou Bakari Bamba, ELP '03

The Ramsar Bureau is delighted to announce that, from a short-listed field of exceptional candidates, Mr Abou Bakari Bamba



from Côte d'Ivoire has been offered and has accepted the position of Regional Coordinator for Africa, succeeding Mr Anada Tiéga. Abou Bamba will enter the Convention's employment two weeks before the Ramsar Meeting of African Parliamentarians, to be held in Benin at the end of November 2003. He has already been working with Anada Tiéga on the preparations for this meeting, and during the first two weeks of his new position he will

work in Abidjan, then attend the meeting, and finally join the Bureau in Gland, most probably on 1st of December.

Kazim Niaz, ELP '03

During the Summer 2003 course, everyone asked me about the nature of my governmental position in Pakistan. I didn't have any answer to those questions then.

Though I don't know whether I have the answers now, I do have an assignment at present. On my return from that wonderful experience at Berkeley, I reported back to the government and was immediately posted to the Planning and Development Department in the Government of NWFP. The Planning and Development Department is divided into sections where each section is headed by a section Chief. I have been appointed Chief of the Green Sectors Section. The Green Sectors consist of irrigation, power, agriculture, forestry, and environment.



Keti Chachibaia, ELP '02



Though I have kept silent for almost a year, I read every single message coming from ELP people with great pleasure and attention. Finally, I've got my own news to share! I have moved to Bratislava, Slovak Republic to take up the position of Associate Regional Coordinator at the UNDP Regional Support Centre for Europe and NIS. I am here to work on a new programme of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) called National Capacity Self-

Assessment for Global Environmental Protection. This is a Capacity Development Initiative of UNDP in partnership with the GEF. I am quite fascinated with my new job and with the atmosphere both in the office and in town." My kindest regards...

Daniel Nyamai, ELP '01



My new appointment deals with the coordination of a regional network designed to promote and support agroforestry and tree crops research for development within 10 member countries of East & Central Africa. The member countries are: Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Madagascar and Sudan. The Trees on farms network (TOFNET) is an agroforestry network of a Sub-Regional organization called the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in East and Central Africa (ASARECA) with ICRAF – World Agroforestry Centre as the implementing agency.

Mari Linnapuomi, ELP '02

After two years in Rome, I returned to my Northern homeland last spring to start working for the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs. For the first 6 months, I was placed in the Department for External Economic Relations in the unit dealing with the EC common commercial policy and World Trade Organization (WTO) trade negotiations. Environment, unfortunately, doesn't figure very high on the WTO agenda at the moment; it is mainly the European Union that tries to pursue discussions on the relationship between trade and environment.



It will be interesting to see whether the EU will be ready to drop this issue in order to re-launch the Doha negotiation round after the failed WTO ministerial conference in Cancún this September.

Simon Thuo, ELP '01

I was recently appointed the Regional Coordinator of the Global Water Partnership (GWP) in Eastern Africa. GWP is an independent network open to national governments, research & non-profit organizations, NGOs, UN agencies, multilateral banks, private companies & other institutional stakeholders involved in water resources management. The GWP facilitates the exchange of knowledge & experience, & the practice of integrated water resources management. Maintaining the network, sharing information across the region, maintaining significant presence in the different countries, conducting workshops is likely to be quite challenging.

Removing Barriers for Renewable Energy Deployment in Middle East and North African Countries

Sami Kamel, ELP '02

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This year we've decided to organize newsletter submissions by topic. We are focusing on climate change in this issue. Perhaps because this situation is coming to a head (again?) just as a United Nations meeting on climate change is taking place in Milan and Russia is giving signs it will not sign Kyoto, some people are describing it as a "crisis." Here we hear from alums Sami Kamel, Patrick Karani & Phil Cowan on aspects of their work related to climate change and energy technologies. The Winter Issues will focus on the Urban Environment and Spring/Summer will profile work on Biodiversity, Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry. Looking forward to your submissions on these themes.



In a previous article, various barriers towards the commercial deployment of renewable energy technologies (RET) were presented. Through a current United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)-sponsored RET project, a group of common barriers were identified in three North African countries: Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia. This project aims to introduce various types of financing and non-financing mechanisms designed to target some of the barriers with the objective of reducing, if not removing, them. Two groups of barriers were identified. The first group is barriers that are beyond the control of the project; the second group is barriers that will be ameliorated through the project. Among the barriers that belong to the former group are the small size of RET firms in the target countries which hampers their ability to influence the policy making process. Another barrier is the lack of success stories in the area of RET investments which makes the banking sector reluctant to commit funds for this type of investments. For the latter group, the poor creditworthiness of the renewable energy companies makes them unable to tap into funds from commercial banks. High interest rates charged by banks on loans by renewable energy companies pose as impediment to viable investments by these companies in the renewable energy sector. Also, managers of these companies have limited – if any – business development skills which render them unable to design bankable projects or projects that are packaged in a way that is attractive to credit officers in commercial banks. When designing policies or strategies to address these barriers, UNEP was cautious not to attempt to adopt standard solutions or barrier removal approaches in all three countries. Local business and regulatory conditions in each country are vastly different requiring tailor made solutions. And this is what UNEP will opt for. Below I describe selected strategies in a more generic manner rather than detailing country-specific solutions.

The lack of business training among company managers will be ameliorated through extensive business development capacity building programs to be provided by local business strategy experts. It is intended that the capacity building efforts will be very hands-on in terms of the approach for improving business development skills among this target group. Contracted business development experts will actively participate with company managers in the preparation and design of actual renewable energy projects that will hopefully be financed by local commercial banks. Company managers will be given the opportunity to design their own projects while receiving technical and business support from local business development experts who are simultaneously in close contact with the local banks.

To address the high interest rate charged by banks on renewable energy projects – which are typically viewed as high risk, low return investments – we are planning an interest rate subsidy to be offered in cooperation with one or more local banks. UNEP will soon enter into a negotiation process with a group of banks in order to assess the banks' experience in administering similar interest rate subsidy programs typically offered by multi and bilateral development agencies. In this process, UNEP will also seek to identify banks with special experience in dealing with small and medium enterprises (10 to 100 employees) since the majority of renewable energy companies in the target countries are within this size. Small and medium businesses have certain business characteristics which are often only appreciated by banks with established experience in this sector. Finally, UNEP will also look for banks with experience in marketing similar energy (or perhaps environmental) technologies.

In the next and final essay, some lessons learned and policy recommendations for the deployment of renewable energy technologies.

At times there are points in your life that make you change. For me Berkeley is such a milestone. I am very inspired by you, your energy, your knowledge, your skills, your humor and your ideas!! You have taught me that questions can never be too many and that you can be small and do great things. I am now a different person thanks to you.

Katrin Lervik, UNDP, Tanzania

Constraints to Transfer of Renewable Energy Technologies to Africa

Patrick Karani, ELP '03

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This short piece articulates thoughts on the constraints to the transfer of Renewable Energy (RET) Technologies to Africa. RET have evolved as clean, non-polluting and highly flexible mechanisms and are promoted by numerous entities including Activities Implemented Jointly (AIJ) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), Joint Implementation (JI) and Emissions Trading (ET) under the Kyoto Protocol. Institutional and market constraints in Africa are inherent in inefficient organizational, administration and management structures as well as lack of market incentives. Lack of institutional and market-based incentive systems and technological capacities to re-organize institutions and promote market-based solutions limits the potential for the transfer of technologies. It is practically difficult to design, implement and manage RET projects in Africa without a provision for capacity building that will enable the application of modern technologies and techniques. Existing institutions need strengthening; human capacity must be developed; and new markets need to be promoted.

Effective operation of RET depends on economic instruments such as credits, offsets, taxes and property rights. These instruments are the preferred instruments with which to build projects and an international climate change regime. But without the necessary institutional support for the transfer and development of RET related technologies in Africa, projects are bound to experience practical technological difficulties. In this regard, the Bureau of Environmental Analysis (BEA) International organized partnership workshops on 21-26, June 2002, 26-27 September 2002 and 3-5 September 2003 with the objective of sensitizing the public and private sectors on the merits of RET as a potential additional resource to economic development and environmental management.

The Burkina Faso AIJ Biomass Sustainable Energy Management project, supported by the World Bank and Norway, and Renewable Energy Projects in Africa supported by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), are examples for how RET projects can contribute to the transfer of technologies required to meet rapidly increasing urban energy demand, support developmental goals and mitigate climate change. Capacity building – particularly in areas concerning information dissemination, training, strengthening local institutions and creation of public awareness on the availability of and access to renewable energy technologies – will eliminate institutional and market constraints. We recommend that African governments provide incentives to RET in order to attract investment, revise regulations on the process of technology transfer and implement strict rules governing intellectual property rights.

CO₂ Emission Calculator

Phil Cowan, ELP '02

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ELP Alumni might be interested in the work our organization (EBEX21®) has been doing re mitigation of greenhouse gas. EBEX21® works in partnership with organizations, raising awareness of the environmental impact of the greenhouse gas emissions from their activities, facilitating corporate and organizational change and generating investment opportunities in New Zealand's indigenous forests in support of the National Biodiversity and Climate Change strategies for the 21st Century. The site also contains a number of CO₂ emission calculators so that you can estimate your own contributions to global warming. You may look at your overseas trips in a different light after using the Tourist calculator!



EBEX21® is for:

- * Organizations, such as businesses, government departments, teaching institutions etc. who want find out about their greenhouse gas emissions and want to take control of these emissions;
- * Landowners and their representative bodies, across New Zealand, to raise awareness of the integrated economic opportunities emerging from the Kyoto Protocol and National Biodiversity Strategy through the restoration of indigenous forest on pastoral land and the consequential sequestration of carbon;
- * Local government, to enhance regional biodiversity and provide opportunities for local action on climate change both within local authorities and throughout the community Central government, to support the development of national and international policy responses that enable the economic opportunities of the Kyoto Protocol to benefit New Zealand's "clean & green" image, its businesses and landowners, and to create new market opportunities internationally.

Check out the web site—www.ebex21.co.nz- for further details and contacts.



Regional Page - Africa

Compiled by 2003 Steering Committee Member Patrick Karani (ELP 2003-that's him on the right!)



Regional Pages are compiled by the steering committee members and alums from the region. Content for each page is developed by regional members and might include information about the top two or three environmental issues in your region, actions (innovative or regressive) currently employed to address these issues, a sense of future directions for addressing these issues, important conferences, unique training opportunities, ETC! Great job to the African and European alums in this newsletter—looking forward to regional pages from the Americas and CIS/Russia in the winter issue.

Balanced gender participation of 20 women and 20 men at the UC Berkeley 2003 summer course on Environmental Leadership Program (ELP) was in itself a commitment to bridging the knowledge gap among professionals, institutions, countries and regions at all levels. Building upon the father of green revolution and 1970 Nobel Prize Peace Laureate Dr. Norman Bourlaug's thoughts on how to bridge the knowledge gap, ELP participants need to share information, participate in strategic seminars and be committed to transmission of useful knowledge. On 3-5 September 2003, Muthoni Ngotho of ELP3 (photo on right) participated in BEA International capacity building workshop in Nairobi. She brought to the workshop ELP skills and knowledge that was shared with 50 participants from 12 African countries. The outputs of this workshop can be found on the following links : <http://www.thirdworldmedia.com/bea/workshops.html> and <http://www.climatebusiness.net/Members.htm#top>.



Building up on the same thoughts and insights and expanding on the notions of capacity building through education and training, I participated in an intellectual meeting on Space Technology at Stellenbosch University on 2-3 October 2003. The meeting was organized by the University in conjunction with the Committee of Earth Observation on Satellites (CEOS) and implementation of the agenda of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). As you can tell from the nature of this meeting, the presentation required adequate preparation and intensive research. I was among the key speakers and interestingly the first one. The topic of my presentation "Bridging the Gap through Planning Effective Partnerships" where information, participation and commitment in transfer of space technology could promote sustainable development, touched the hearts of many participants. As you can see from the diagram below, Africa has a population of 700 million people with a majority estimated at 70% live in rural areas with no access to relevant information and communication infrastructure. It is estimated that only 2% of the global research on space technology is in progress in Africa. And most of this research is mainly in meteorology and some in remote sensing and communication as indicated in the second chart below.

The key drivers of sustainable development that include education, training, information and R&D receive less attention in Africa as the second chart shows. Effective management of Africa's natural resources and land use including oceans require updated satellite images obtainable through space technology. Local capacity development through education and training is critical to application of satellite data to policy making and contributing to sustainable development. Dr. Norman Bourlaug's commitment to capacity building in Mexico through education and training of Asian students that revolutionized agricultural technology in Asia in 1940s provide a good model that can be adopted by ELP and internalised by ELPers. I am integrating skills and knowledge obtained from ELP course in my institutional strategic tasks. ELP alumni networking seem to be working perfect. Olga and Lando of ELP3 and from United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) have managed to integrate me in their international programme activities and I will join a panel discussion of Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technical Advice (SBSTA) in Milan Italy on 26-29 November 2003. Peter Kuria ELP alumni currently based in Finland is tendering a regional East African Forestry project and integrating East African ELP Alumni as partners. This partnership initiative is innovative and enhancing capacity building in Africa through practical participation. What is challenging is how to maintain the momentum of the ELP alumni networks and minimize the brain drain. A World Bank Study (2001) shows that Africa loses about 75% of trained professionals as compared to 53% in Asia and 50% in Latin America. These estimates strongly suggest that Africa is not capitalizing on investment in education, training and capacity building. The brain drain represents absolute loss to the continent. ELP efforts could reverse this trend and supplement education, training and capacity building that could bridge the knowledge gap between Africa and the rest of the world.



The Berkeley memories are still in my mind as if everything happened yesterday. The ELP helped me to stand out (side) of my work for three weeks and look critically to where we are heading. Moreover the course equipped me with efficient tools to tackle some recurrent problems I have in my daily work. Thanks to you and all the organizers.

Zac Tchoundjeu, World Agroforestry Center, Cameroon

Regional Page—Europe

Compiled by 2003 Steering Committee Member Alison McKelvey Clayson (that's her tucked in the bottom corner)

TURNING UP THE HEAT

It's not clear that last summer's scorching heat wave in Europe was linked to climate change, but the experience has brought home to everyone just how serious the effects of global warming might be.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has concluded that the frequency and magnitude of many extreme climate events increase with a small temperature increase and will become greater at higher temperatures. The apparent increase in the frequency and magnitude of extreme weather events over the last half-century is consistent with this conclusion. If these projections are correct, we can expect the trend to continue, and worsen.

Though heat waves rarely get much attention, they claim more lives each year than floods, tornadoes and hurricanes combined. Heat waves are silent killers, mostly affecting the elderly, the very young, or the chronically ill. Across this continent, Some 35,000 lives were lost as a result, and the final tally is not yet known.

ELP fellow Anu Hassinen says that Finland suffered from serious drought. She reports a direct hit on her wallet because "the price of water is set by the common Nordic electricity exchange market and the scarcity of water hikes up the price. Also, cheaper hydro-power is replaced by fossil fuels – much worse for the climate!"

Mari Linnauomi, also from Finland, reports that because of rising temperatures the Gulf of Finland and other shallow water bodies have been covered with blue algae, a poisonous brew that turns water into a smelly mush that is dangerous to swim in. She notes that hot weather also contributes to alcohol consumption, "a traditional Finnish weakness, and hence, to all health and social problems associated with it." Of course, there is a positive side too, and she confesses having enjoyed the abnormal temperatures: "I cannot deny the pleasures of being able to sit out on a terrace late in the evening."

In France, at least 14,800 people died, more than 19 times the death toll from the SARS epidemic worldwide. Because the searing temperatures lasted several weeks, and coincided with the national holiday period, national medical and social services were unable to cope with the emergency. The country's sense of itself as a caring nation with sophisticated social safeguards in place was shocked to discover that in Paris, many older people had died alone and uncared for, while their families were away on vacation.

Other countries also suffered. Germany has reported that some 7000 people died from the heat. Spain and Italy each suffered heat related losses of nearly 4200 lives, while in Portugal the heat wave claimed at least 1300 lives and up to 1400 lives in the Netherlands. In London, which recorded its first triple-digit Fahrenheit temperature on 10 August, an estimated 900 died from the heat and another 2000 in the rest of the UK. Belgium recorded the highest temperature since the Royal Meteorological Society began keeping track in 1833.

Holland, which normally tries to keep water out and prevent flooding, found itself breaking tradition to keep water in. The shipping sector estimated it lost 10 to 20% of its business due to falling river levels, and drought-stricken farmers are working with the government to revamp the country's water management policy. It is ironic that dikes once built to prevent flooding are now used to trap scarce rainwater. Large farming areas have been designated as flood plains in the winter months that could compensate for water shortages in summer.

Heat waves take the greatest human toll in cities. In such "heat islands", where heat-absorbing dark roofs and pavements exceed the area covered by cooling vegetation, the temperatures can be as much as 10 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than the surrounding countryside. What can individuals do to seek relief? In Paris, the public invaded every park with a fountain or basin; people rushed to air-conditioned cinemas (until the climate-control systems burned out, which they nearly all did); and they walked about in wet tee-shirts. As for me, I slept in the bathtub, hand poised on the cold water faucet of the "telephone shower."

Paris, France
October 2003



Small Grants Initiative 2003—Update from the Philippines & Vietnam Tuong-Vi Pham, ELP '01

We are so excited to be watching the progress of this year's SGI Recipients (and looking forward to receiving this year's applications)! This month we are profiling projects in Vietnam & the Philippines, Indonesia and South Africa. In our Winter issue, we will profile the projects in El Salvador and India; in Spring/Summer we visit the projects in Madagascar and China.

Do Community-Based Resource Management Strategies Matter in a Globalized World? Comparative Study of Selected Upland Communities in the Philippines and Vietnam by Tuong-Vi Pham

We are carrying out research on a topic of wide concern – what are the impacts of globalization policies on small farmers and communities, on environmental quality, and on local community-based institutions? Can they participate, survive and thrive? Who are the winners and losers? Under what conditions can some farmers enjoy benefits from new market opportunities, while others find they cannot compete and lose out to cheap imports. In Vietnam we are looking at this broad theme by studying litchi fruit expansion for export to Southern China, while in Philippines we are studying banana expansion in northern Mindanao. This is a brief report on *the research process* to date in Vietnam.



The research in Vietnam started in early March of this year. A field trip had been made in Da Bac district of Hoa Binh province, as was mentioned in the original proposal. However, the farmers there no longer produce the products (ginger and baby cucumber) for export that had been referred to in the proposal, so we had to find a different research site that was suitable for our research purposes. We made a decision to look for research sites in Luc Ngan district of Bac Giang province (two hours north of Hanoi), where there is great expansion of litchi fruit production for export to southern China.

Communication (via telephone conference and email) between Robin, Vicky and Vi has been frequent in order to ensure the compatibility of our research sites in Vietnam and the Philippines, and to liaise closely with Robin regarding her expertise in research matters. After the first field trip in Luc Ngan district, the decision was made to select two villages, one the Nung ethnic minority community village, Khuon Nghieu, in Ho Dap Commune, and one the San Chi/Kinh "mixed" community village, Village 3, in Quy Son Commune.

The second field research trip was made in June. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with various district officials, and with elderly key informants and heads of "mass-organizations" in Ho Dap commune to gain a broad picture of the village life over its history and the changes in institutions. The household questionnaire was piloted with three male and female headed-families in Khuon Nghieu village. The third field research trip was in late July and early August. Semi-structured interviews were carried out with some members of the People's Committee, heads of "mass-organizations" and elderly in Quy Son Commune. Household interviews were conducted in both research sites.

I learned so much, and had wonderful fun working with both Vi and Vicky. It was especially poignant for me to be in Vietnam – my first time, to meet the people who were on the other side of the "American War", and to have open discussions and build bridges. We will be sharing our research results in later newsletters.

~Robin

Robin came over to Vietnam and joined with our research team in the field in early August. In the field, she contributed her knowledge to our research methods, helped to revise the survey instruments, and interviewed some village officials and villagers. After working in the field, we came back to the CRES office in Hanoi and completed writing an abstract based on this research in order to apply to present the full paper at the conference "The Commons in an Age of Global Transition: Challenges, Risks and Opportunities", which will be held in Mexico in August of 2004. We will be writing up a joint paper with Vicky Espaldon during winter and spring for publication and presentation.



I would like to end this piece by thanking Robin for her valuable contributions to our research project, and I especially appreciate her for rescuing me from being forced to drink too much alcohol. Without her in the villages, my liver may have been damaged by now! Robin's comment is that yes – given the tradition of drinking rice wine with every toast, and the other tradition of everyone in the room leading one if not two toasts, it was clear that water had to replace wine half-way through the evening (see picture).

Small Grants Initiative 2003—Update from Indonesia

Ade Cayhat, ELP '01

This summer, Ade Cayhat participated in a unique partnership with UC Berkeley business students. Read more about it below!

Borneo: Brokering a Better Deal for Rattan Farmers

Excerpted from the text at: <http://www.berkeley.edu/news/students/2003/borneo/3.shtml>

In East Kalimantan on the island of Borneo, Indonesia, there is a very ambitious group of farmers attempting to turn the traditional rattan (a type of bamboo) cultivation by which they make a living into a profitable and sustainable business. The group originally formed in 2002 as P3R, or the Rattan Farmers and Craft Makers Association, to help its members keep more of the value at the farmer's level and to avoid clear-cutting forests for rattan harvesting. The organization has received a commitment of support from the Consortium for Community-based Forest Management East Kalimantan (SHK-Kaltim), a non-governmental organization

committed to the environment.

P3R has clear goals, committed members, and a supporting organization with environmental expertise. Four Berkeley MBA students (Lindsay Daigle, David Hall, Matilde Kamiya and Toshi Okubo are pictured at right



with Ade) visited Kalimantan to consult with the fledgling business, help hone its business plan, devise an effective marketing strategy and ultimately help the group retain more earnings from its value chain. The details of the summer's work is profiled on the UC Berkeley's NewsCenter website (see above).

The International Business Development Consultation (IBD) is the "popular and successful MBA student-consulting program, now in its twelfth year. If you are interested in applying to the Haas program, contact Sebastian Teunissen or check out the web pages below to see if IBD is right for your research, company or organization.

Email(w): teunisse@haas.berkeley.edu
Title: Director of International Affairs, Haas School of Business
URL: www.haas.berkeley.edu/HaasGlobal/
Phone(w): 1.510.643.4999
Fax(w): 1.510.642.8228



"The most important benefit that I got from our partnership with Berkeley's Haas School of Business

was dramatic business plan sharpening. Before we started working with the UCB students, we already had a draft of business plan. However we soon found out our plan was still too general and unstructured and that all the ideas in our heads had not yet been placed on paper. Even in my mind, there were still many unclear gray areas.

The students helped us to explore our knowledge and ideas and criticized and challenged us to clarify all the gray areas. They often pointed out unclear ideas and forced us to re-think key concepts."

~Ade

...so it was just brilliant to be with such a diverse group, among whom were many who are testament to the value of sticking it out on the basis of your convictions and making things happen. I want to try and do more of that myself.

Mark Smith, Ecologist, CSIRO, Australia

Small Grants Initiative 2003—Update from South Africa

Nhlanhla Silophe, ELP '02

Edited version which has/will appear in the INR Eastern Cape Estuaries Newsletter.

South African Workshop Promotes Rural Businesses

by **Zilose Lyons** (*Zilose is a journalist originally from Zambia & is married to UCB SGI collaborator, Andy Lyons.*)

Rural communities across southern Africa are increasing their income and improving their quality of life through environmentally friendly small business enterprises.

This was the message at a workshop held recently in Pietermaritzburg by the Institute of Natural Resources (INR), in conjunction with the University of California, Berkeley in the USA. This workshop formed part of a collaborative research programme aimed at developing best practices for estuary-based enterprise development.



According to workshop organizer Nhlanhla Sihlope, the goal of the workshop was to identify best practices in rural enterprises. "INR has been involved in supporting rural businesses in many parts of South Africa; however, we observed that many enterprises fail after support from an external donor agency ends" said Sihlope. "We called the workshop in order to better understand the challenges rural enterprises face, and discuss lessons learned from a variety of case studies across southern Africa. In that way we can transfer the lessons to the estuaries context and ensure that those enterprises that we support have a good chance of success and are sustainable".

The participants included researchers and development practitioners, community leaders involved in enterprise operations, and private sector business people linked to these community-based operations. Case studies presented ranged from very small craft-based enterprises to large big-five game reserve scenarios (Madikwa and Makuleke) and covered Zambia, Zimbabwe and South African experiences.

One case study of particular interest was that presented by Phillip Ndovela of Amadiba Adventures. This community based organization received assistance from a non-governmental organization to set up and run an ecotourism company. In this case study, the strategic advantage of the community was a large scenic area along the Wild Coast. The community raises income from their pristine land by conducting horse and hiking trips for tourists from all over the world. Amadiba Adventures also partners a private sector operator, the Ufudu Flyfishing Experience, in the catch-and-release flyfishing business at Mtentu Estuary.

According to Ndovela, it took awhile for the business to get established, but by the third year they were making a profit. "We were frustrated at first because we were spending more money than we were making. However people stuck with the enterprise because they believed the business would eventually be good for the community. Gradually word spread among the tourist industry, and this year we are expecting to turn over about R 1 million."

Reducing poverty in rural areas is never easy, but the case studies presented at the Pietermaritzburg workshop suggest that rural businesses can raise income and be environmentally friendly at the same time. By building upon the existing skills and natural resources in rural areas, and providing training in business skills, community groups and their partners in government and the private sector can help establish businesses to create jobs in rural areas and make a stronger economy for all South Africans.

This is a belated, but heartfelt, thank you for everything you both did to make my Beahrs experience so memorable. Of course, I have some favorite memories: of Robin in her impeccable white trousers and rubber boots, mucking up a storm in Strawberry Creek, and David with his sly and wry ad hoc comments as our tour guide. And both of you so quick to bring discussions back on course and to capture the meaning in badly-worded questions and to incorporate the special interests and perspectives of each of us. I think you are wonderful, and I can't imagine the ELP program without you -- at least while it's still in its formative years. But that's true for Kyra and Leslie and Rick and Richard and Carolyn Beahrs -- each of you seems such an integral part of the whole. I'm still basking in the afterglow, feeling ready to go and all lit up, like the energizer bunny!. I think it will take some time before I can identify the individual ways that the ELP experience has inspired me.

Alison McKelvey Clayson, World Water Assessment Programme, UN, France

SUMMER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The course was very well organized, from logistics to the conduct of the training activities. The course content has a good blend of theories, experiences and realities in natural resource and environment management. The resource persons were very knowledgeable and experienced as well. I have never attended a training course that provided such a high level of dynamics. The group exercises done between lectures and the educational tours were very effective in achieving this. The alumni networking is also an admirable effort to sustain such dynamics.

Dulce Elazegui, Institute of Strategic Planning & Policy Studies, University of Philippines

Nobel Peace Prize winner...Dr. Norman Borlaug



On the invitation of Dick Beahrs, Dr. Norman Borlaug and his associate, Chris Dowsell came to UC Berkeley to spend two days speaking and interacting with participants in the ELP summer course. Dr. Borlaug is best known for developing high-yield, disease resistant wheat varieties that led to the “Green Revolution” in the 1960s and as 1970 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate for his scientific and advocacy work fighting world hunger.

Dr. Borlaug gave a stimulating talk to the ELP on the topic: *Agriculture and the Environment: Bridging the Divide*. Borlaug makes the case that the Green Revolution technologies that doubled and tripled grain yields during decades of rapid population growth resulted in huge gains for the environment. *“If you look at what’s happened in the application of improved science and technology to increase world cereal production in the last 50 years, this is the picture: Production was about 680 million tons of all the different grains worldwide in the year 1950. In the year 2000, it was about two billion tons, so it has roughly tripled. Had we tried to produce the year 2000 harvest with 1950s technology, we would have had to have cultivated more than another billion hectares of land of the same quality. Using technology saved land for Mother Nature, for forestry, for wildlife habitat, for biodiversity.”*

A short period of questions afterward highlighted some concerns of ELP alums: 1) the Green Revolution bypassed millions of rural poor, particularly the landless in South Asia and farmers throughout sub-Saharan Africa; 2) overuse of Green Revolution technologies – pesticides and fertilizers, have led to major water and land contamination problems; and 3) should developing countries bet on biotechnology for improving food security in the future or follow the “pre-cautionary principle”. **These and other questions will be explored in much greater depth during a Cyberspace Discussion with Dr. Norman Borlaug and Dr. Sara Scherr the week of January 5 – 9, 2004. Mark your calendar!**



I cherished the different lectures delivered, group activities with my colleagues which gave me an opportunity to implant them individually at the back of my mind. Above all, the greatest of events was when I was given an opportunity to sit at a panel with Dr. Borlaug when he delivered his presentation.

James Rubakisibo, Lutheran World Federation, Rwanda

ELP ALUMNI REUNIONS

Oceania

Amid expressions of profound envy by 'the Charlie's Angels', Mark was able to make the first Beahrs network visit to Asenaca in Fiji in September. Taking advantage of a babysitting assignment while Shona attended a WHO conference, Mark had two weeks of chasing children around swimming pools and exploring the coastline of Viti Levu. With four days in Suva at the end of the trip, Mark and Asenaca did manage to hold the inaugural meeting of the

Beahrs Pacific Forum. While only two of four members of the regional network were able to attend, a group of newly inducted associate members were on hand to make up the numbers, including the founding members of the Beahrs Under-6 Club – namely Struan (5), Finn (3) and Maisie (1). The agenda for the Under-6's predictably dominated proceedings, but Asenaca and Mark were permitted a few moments to explore ideas for facilitating new regional partnerships and future projects.

So – I'll probably get back for my second trip before the Charlie's Angels ever get there!

Mark, ELP '03



Nina & Kyra in Guatemala

Imagine a beautiful garden...blue wrought iron...colorful fabrics...and lots of ice cream!...do you know where you are? Nina's house in Guatemala! I had the pleasure of visiting Nina in Guatemala City on my way to southwestern Guatemala this August. It was really great to see her and not just because we spent the first weekend at the beach in Montericco having tiramisu at every meal. I learned much about the political situation and environmental issues in Guatemala (see Nina's update).

Through my pilot study on fuel use consumption in the town of San Lorenzo, I met a wonderful colleague of Nina's at UNDP. Both have been helpful in terms of helping me think about my research and I look forward to more discussions (and ice cream) in the future.

*~Kyra
Alum Network Coor.*

World Park Conference

Lisa Gaylord, ELP '01



There were three of the ELP Alumni from the 1st group that were at the

Congress!!! It was fun seeing each other again. The two other alumni from year one were Claudia who works for USAID in Guatemala and Tarik Ul-Islam from Bangladesh who works for UNDP (ELP '03). I wish I had known that Sara Scherr had taught in year 2. I went to two of her presentations - she is excellent!!! It was really a great professional and thought provoking time - like my time at Berkeley.

There is a lot of positive energy now in Madagascar as we move forward in support the Malagasy government with their commitment. I know that you would also like to know I was recently promoted as the Environment/Rural Development Strategic Objective Team Leader with an initial contract

UC Davis



I am adjunct associate in the Agricultural Experiment Station at the University of California, Davis. Under this appointment I am collaborating on a rice research project with the some faculty in the Department of Agronomy at UCD. My 5 week stay at UC Davis was personally enjoyable and professionally rewarding. While I was there I began a review paper on an assessment of the environmental impacts of the global use of nitrogen by crops. I and Usha (my wife) enjoyed the campus very much. It was our intention to visit Berkeley and meet with the ELP 3 class but due to another assignment I could not come. However, it was a very pleasant surprise to meet Robin, Leslie and the ELP 3 class at Davis! I will be back to UC Davis again in May 2004 for 5 weeks. ~ **JK Ladka, ELP '02**

of two year, renewable up to five years. To say the least, I was very pleased.

I am looking forward to seeing Catherine Corson (UCB PhD student) when she is here in November to work with Olga Ramaromanana. I still plan to be in Madagascar in November to work with Olga (see Lisa's alum update about Madagascar's role at the Congress).

Mutuso Dhiwayo, ELP '03
I attended the IUCN 5th World Parks Congress in September that was for the first time held in Africa. This is a congress,

which is held once after every ten years to review and take stock of laws and policies relating to the management of parks. This year's theme was "Benefits beyond boundaries". At stake was how people (communities living near parks) can become central in the management of parks if they are to continue to be relevant in the 21st century. One of the significant documents produced was the Durban Accord that provides recommendations on the way forward. This should be available on the congress's website. I was also able to meet an Elpalumni, Segendra (ELP '03) from Nepal. I visited Muthoni's (ELP '03) University too but she was not there.

Robin & Vi In Vietnam



ELP ALUM UPDATES

Phil Cowan, ELP '02

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For the last few months I've been busy on Invasive Alien Species (IAS) issues. First I attended a workshop to develop a coordinated initiative for management of IAS across the Pacific Islands nations, and more recently I was at another workshop developing a plan to prevent invasive ants (particularly red imported fire ants) spreading through the Pacific island nations. Fire ants have invaded most of the southern states of the US, and have recently made it to California - they recently established in Brisbane, Australia, and the Australian Government is spending A\$120 million to try to eradicate them. In early November I will be in the Netherlands for workshop on developing methods of controlling fertility of wild elephants and then in Vienna to meet with our research collaborators at the University - one of our major research project involved developing fertility control for an introduced marsupial pest in New Zealand. We currently spend about NZ\$90 million a year controlling this pest, the brushtail possum - there has to be a better way than the current mixture of poisoning and trapping!

Mutuso Dhiwayo, ELP '03

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This October my organization hosted a regional review workshop on Legislative Representation and the Environment. This is an African wide research initiative involving 10 countries from South, East and West Africa. Many Africans live in rural areas and are directly dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods. However, most legislators do not regard environmental issues as a priority because they don't win votes or they are not "sexy" as David would put it. The aim of this workshop is



to share research findings on the incentives and disincentives on legislative representation using the environment as a lens. We will have a chance to interact with legislators and to encourage them to take environmental issues from their constituencies more seriously in their representational roles. Ironically there is going to be a discussion on the California recall of Governor Davis and whether the recall is bad or good for democracy. It has been suggested in some of the research findings that those MPs who are not performing should be recalled in mid term.

Stephanie Hodge, ELP '02

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When Stephanie Hodge stepped up to the starting line at the Beirut International Marathon next month, there was more on her mind than running 26 miles. She'll also be concerned about her safety.



of the world's trouble spots without fear of attack.

For the first time in her nearly 10 years as an international civil servant, Hodge feels vulnerable.

"Before Aug. 19, we felt sheltered from the violence. Saying you worked for the UN was like an umbrella. That's all changed," Hodge, a St. Anthony native, said last week in a telephone interview from UN headquarters in New York, where she works as an environmental policy adviser with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

Since the August bombing of the United Nations' (UN) headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq, UN workers like Hodge no longer feel the same sense of security that enabled them to live and work in many

She is also an accomplished long-distance runner, finishing in the top 30 among elite females this year in both the Boston and New York marathons.

Despite the risks, Hodge won't be deterred from her work. In fact, she said the Baghdad bombing has helped reaffirm her belief in the role of the UN, an agency she says plays a vital role in the development and reconstruction of many countries around the world.

Nungky, ELP '03 (Siti Nurwati Hodijah)

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I graduated with a Master's degree in Anthropology on September 15, 2003! The title of my thesis was "Variation of Pulau Panggang Fisher community Scheme in Coastal Resources Catching."



After graduation, I hope to develop and strengthen maritime anthropology in Indonesia. That's why - besides my work as Program officer in Coastal Community Learning Studies - I am establishing, with my friend, a Center of Applied Anthropology Studies. My job is both developing the maritime anthropology department and acting as the institution team coordinator. Hopefully, my networks with the ELP alum and Berkeley will be helpful in this endeavor!

My plan for the future is to make my dream come true. My dream is to strengthen Indonesian coastal and marine community resources to increase development with little destruction and to help Indonesians become more aware of the need to conserve biodiversity. I want to do this because Indonesia has more beautiful waters than lands, but few people know about coastal and marine resources.

By the way, Indonesia is rainy season now. So if you plan to come to Indonesia, bring the umbrella. See you in Indonesia!

ELP ALUM UPDATES

Katrin Lervik, ELP '03

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I am busy with two major programs - "Integrating Environment into the Poverty Reduction Strategy Process" and the "Removing Barriers to the Transformation of the Rural Photovoltaics Market". Both programs are just taking off and restarting implementation - very exciting and challenging to manage.



On the personal side I will most probably go for a third year in UNDP Tanzania as a JPO, I guess that reflects that the I and my family really enjoy this wonderful place on the Indian ocean, the work and the social life. This means I am here all of 2004, so "Karibu Tanzania" if you happen to stop by!

Irene Makumbi, ELP '03

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Work continues in my organization (Uganda Wildlife Society) - the degradation of the forests and wetlands coupled with poor waste disposal and poor land use decisions in protected areas remain some of the challenges.

The forestry sector has been featured in our press following the seizure of illegal timber alleged to be owned by a high-ranking government official in the Ministry of Water, Lands and Environment. This seizure finally resulted in the dismissal of the Commissioner for Forestry.

The forestry sector is undergoing reform, we now have - in addition to a new Forestry Policy - a National Forestry and Tree Planting Act. The new law provides for the establishment of an autonomous institution called the National Forest Authority. I am preparing a policy brief on the impacts of the transition from the Forest Department to the National Forest Authority on the forest resources.

A second issue involves the proposed degazettement of a wildlife reserve -Pian Upe - located in eastern Uganda. The degazettement is aimed at providing a change in land use from wildlife to large-scale cotton farming. My colleague and I visited the local community leaders who reside adjacent to the reserve and sought their views on the proposed degazettement. It was observed that the leaders and community are not aware of the proposed development that will affect their access to the grazing and water sources. It is important to note that this is a pastoralist community thus the availability of grass and water are necessary for survival.

I am preparing policy briefs and will hold public debates to disseminate our findings and as an advocacy tool in the promotion of sustainable resource utilization.

Mireille Linares, ELP '03

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I've recently been looking at the principles of policymaking in the context of drought at the Rio Bravo Basin. Competition for water can affect relations

within and between nations; upstream and downstream interests; and agricultural and industrial sectors. As the result of a drought in the Rio Bravo basin that began in 1993 and continues to the present, the distribution of scarce water resources among competing users has escalated into an international and international conflict

for Mexico. Based on previous research and the incorporation of a policy analysis methodology, my work indicates that governmental policies must incorporate drought effects within irrigation planning initiatives. The analysis found that environmental policies have/can facilitate that development of both upstream and downstream water markets in response to water scarcity. My findings outline the challenges posed by "regulating" natural phenomena and offer a methodological guide for policy makers around the situation of the Rio Bravo basin. Its principal contribution is to identify useful principles of environmental policymaking in order to solve one of the most serious environmental problems facing this basin.

Justin Ram, ELP '02

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I was recently in Grenada, facilitating and teaching at an environmental economics workshop. This two-day workshop (30 September to 1st October 2003) was designed as an introduction to environmental economics for members of civic society, particularly Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Community Based Organisations (CBOs). Participants were mainly from the Windward and Leeward islands of the Caribbean.

As a facilitator, the most rewarding part of the workshop was the energetic discussion that followed the formal teaching. Participants shared their experiences of development, which too often resulted in governments and private sector interests going ahead with projects without consulting local people with respect to the impact on their lives and the surrounding environment.

More information on this and other SEDU workshops can be found at: www.csednet.org

ELP ALUM UPDATES

Sushil Saigal, ELP '03

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My major achievement since I returned from Berkeley was a new baby boy!!

Regarding other projects - I am involved in an interesting study of conflict over forest resources in Harda district in Central India, where I have been to twice since I returned back from Berkeley. Part of the area of the district is also getting submerged under the controversial Narmada dam project.



I am also working on a field study on livelihood impacts of participatory forestry in 3 states of India. In August, I presented a paper on company-farmer partnerships in the Indian forestry sector at a workshop organized by The Energy and Resource Institute, India.

Earlier this month, I participated as a technical committee member for screening applications for Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Fellowship Awards instituted by the National Foundation of India.

Nina Saalismaa, ELP '03

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Since August 2003 UNDP Guatemala is implementing a project on Policy Frameworks for Rural Energy Services and Access to Energy for the Poor. This project, funded through UNDPs

Thematic Trust Fund on Energy, works

both at national policy level (such as lobbying for the new law initiative on incentives for renewable energy) and at local level (pilot projects in the remote Quiche department, in continuation of an already closed GEF-funded renewable energy project in that area). The Global Village Energy Partnership (GVEP), a joint initiative of UNDP and World Bank Energy Sector Management Programme, was launched at the WSSD last year. The aim of GVEP is to reduce poverty and promote sustainable development through provision of modern energy services in partnership with the private sector. Guatemala is one of the 7 pilot countries of GVEP in Latin America. UNDP is assisting Guatemala is preparing and implementing a GVEP action plan, focusing on providing energy services in Franja Transversal del Norte, a remote region with high poverty rates, heavily affected during the armed conflict and excluded of education, health, infrastructure and energy services. This is a multi-stakeholder process, where different sectors such as health, education, agriculture, energy, economy and planning institutions are participating in an effort unprecedented in the divided society of Guatemala.

Directed at Climate Change, a regional GEF funded project on adaptation to climate change recently started implementation in Guatemala, focusing on two human systems, agriculture and water resources. The project is to be implemented in two priority regions of the country. If anyone is interested in

Jaap Rodenburg, ELP '02

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Jaap reports that since the course, he has become the editor and manager of Goede Waar magazine, a bimonthly about sustainable consumption and production. The magazine shows the "nice sides of



choosing socially, environmentally and animal-friendly products." It is published by Goede Waar & Co, a consumer's association (www.goedewaar.nl, in Dutch). He is also the editor-in-chief of *Niche*, another bimonthly, about biology and environmental education, published by the Netherlands Institute for Biology (www.nibi.nl). As if this weren't

Anu Maria Hassinen, ELP '01

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From Finland, Anu reports she is doing consultancy work and is fully occupied with a market survey to identify new business opportunities in the water sector

in Baltic countries, Russia and Central Asia. The study is being conducted by Green Net Finland, a network of Finnish public and private environmental organizations.

Accompanied by lots of exclamation points !!!!! is the news that 22 October was the first birthday of her daughter Rosalinda!!!!. Rosalinda's father, Peter, is another ELP Fellow.

Olga Pilifosova & Yolando Velasco, ELP '03

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From the Climate Change Convention Secretariat in Bonn comes word that Olga and Yolando recently had occasion to share their ELP experiences with colleagues, including the Executive Secretary and other senior staff, during a brown bag lunch. Between bites – participants learned that “the training course provided us the opportunity to acquire new tools and knowledge and broaden our under-

ELP ALUM UPDATES

(Continued from page 16)

standing of environmental issues which we need to enhance our effectiveness in supporting the intergovernmental process." There was lots of interest in the programme, although it seems the unusual number of attendees might also be due to the tiramisu. (Pretty fancy for a brown bag lunch!)

Two other ELP alums, Patrick Karani and Samir Safi, are participating in the pre-consultation sessions for the COP9 on scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of adaptation and mitigation. As Olga says, "This is proof that our network is working."

Olga has also been preparing a UNFCCC Expert Workshop on Local Coping Strategies and Technologies for Adaptation (New Delhi, 12-13 November) which is taking place concurrently with a number of other adaptation and technology-related events organized by the Government of India. The focus is on indigenous strategies. More information is available at: <http://www.itdclimatechange.com>



Didi (Cidrupa Sarkar), ELP '03

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I send some news about Ananda Dhiira. We made the swale and water catchment along the slope to catch the water in the raining season. We joined the Yuba river clean up on Sep 20th to clean up the river at Bridgeport. We



were contacted by the permaculture group in this area (Nevada City/Grass Valley, CA). They will be coming up and making the water tank in November. Our members have started a group called "SF Urban Alliance for Sustainability"(UAS. You can get more info at shawn@woodshanti.com, www.swirlspace.com/uas. I left for India on Oct 21 and will return this month (December).

Wishing you all the best...

Alexander Byelyakov, ELP '01

seminar2003@inbox.ru

My first great news...In October I went to the USA for a week! I was really happy to visit the country again, and I hope to stay in touch with my friends there. Organizers of an International Forum placed their confidence in me with selection of my paper 'Organic Farming Development in Ukraine' for a guest lecture at the University of Colorado in Boulder, Colorado. I accepted this offer with gratitude. This event taught me much about current environmental issues and the lessons learned will play an important role in my teaching of Environmental Studies.



My second not less important news...I published a new textbook! The first issue of my textbook "Environmental Problems in Mass Media" was published in 2001; it is accessible online at: <http://journalib.univ.kiev.ua> (please select "textbooks"). The second edition of the textbook outlines the

creation of an environmental story step by step including chapters on development of environmental journalism; advice for story preparation, use of terminology, statistical data, and cooperation with scientists; environmental information; methods of information search; shortcomings in interpretation of scientific information; ethical aspects of work with environmental information; environmental sources on the Internet; and environmental public relations and advertising.

We find that future journalists often find it challenging to access and understand environmental science. Some of the problems could be successfully solved through environmental education and inclusion in the decision-making process. Unfortunately, Ukrainian citizens still experience a lack of environmental information and access. Ukrainian law has been tardy in providing free access to environmental information. People don't often know the truth about existing environmental risks. According to the directory "Who's Who in Ukrainian Mass-Media," only 12 journalists in the Ukraine confirmed their interest in covering environmental issues. At the same time, sociologists from the Ukrainian branch of Socis Gallup International state that the majority of Ukrainians are interested in environmental problems. It is hard to believe that – in a country suffering from the Chernobyl tragedy as well as the Post-Soviet crisis – that journalists ignore such important topic as environmental coverage. The main reason for this ignorance may be the necessity to have special knowledge about the environment *and* the ability to use it in everyday journalistic practice. Ecologists and environmentalists also need to learn how to prepare and present environmental information to the public.

To facilitate the environmental learn-

ELP ALUM UPDATES

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ing process, I initiated and organized an Environmental Journalism Workshop (funded by the Civic Education Project and supported by IREX ProMedia in 2000). Participants in the workshop were working environmental journalists and university instructors of journalism; workshop content focused on strategies for impartial coverage of environmental problems in Ukrainian press as well as training of environmental journalists at the university level. Other meetings where progress has been made towards increasing public access to information include the 1998 4th Pan-European Conference of Environment Ministers Environment for Europe in Arrhus, Denmark, as well as the 2003 5th Ministerial Conference Environment for Europe in Kiev, Ukraine.

Thanks to the Beahrs Environmental Leadership Program for helping to provide some of the motivation for this book, and thanks to the support of the Civic Education Project, Ukrainian universities and libraries can order this book free of charge by e-mail: seminar2003@inbox.ru

Lisa Gaylord, ELP '01

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Thought you would all enjoy knowing about the recent commitment of the Government of Madagascar to triple the size of the areas under protected status at the World

Parks Congress. This Congress only takes place once every ten years.

I was honored to be able to be there for this significant moment for Madagascar - as you can see by the photo

(on the reunion page) of the USAID delegation with the President of Madagascar!! There have been many of us who have worked very hard to ensure the protection of Madagascar's unique biodiversity.

The Congress was also a wonderful opportunity to gather new ideas, share lessons learned and network among fellow colleagues working in the field of protected areas management. A very interesting and inspiring time for all.

I am now back in Madagascar working hard to support the Government in their commitment to this goal. All the best to all of you...

Summary In a major boost for conservation, Madagascar's President Marc Ravalomanana announced his government's commitment to more than triple the size of its network of areas under protection from 1.7 million to 6 million hectares over the next five years. The announcement was made at the 5th World Parks Congress in Durban, South Africa on September 16, 2003. This will be supported through a multi-donor effort under the third phase of the National Environment Action Plan.

Tamar Barabadze, ELP '01

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I'm working for USAID/ Caucasus/ Georgia Mission as a Project Development Specialist at the Office of Energy and Environment. This is my official title, but I'm wearing several hats.



First, I'm Environmental Specialist that provides inputs on all the activi-

ties of our office that may directly or indirectly affect the environment. Besides, I was recently designated to be Cognizant Technical Officer (CTO) for the Project "Water Management in the South Caucasus" that I described in one of our previous ELP Newsletters. Lastly, I serve as an Activity Manager for the Community Development Component of the Georgia Energy Security Initiative (GESI) that aims to provide better energy supply (through alternatives sources of energy) to communities outside major towns. It is a multidisciplinary and very interesting project; improved energy supply will not only lead to small businesses establishment and income generation resulting in better living conditions in the communities, but also facilitates reduction in deforestation (the forest is being cut for heating and cooking purposes, as well as to generate income). My involvement in the Community Development activity requires lots of travel in the region and it is a great experience for me to have an opportunity to work with rural population, share their concerns and try to find ways how to assist them. So, I learn a lot while working!

I would also like to mention that I'm extremely happy that our ELP Network is alive and every year more and more new members are joining it! I would like to wish you all to have Happy Holidays and the wonderful New Year of 2004! We, here in Georgia hope that the coming year will bring us the start of the new life full of peace and happiness! And may all our countries have a beautiful future!

Two Alums at Balaton Group Mtg!

This training opportunity that turned out very inspiring and useful for me (Keti Chachibaia) . I met Tamuna (our former wonderful newsletter editor!!) there and she was equally happy about it. The Balaton Group has launched a Fellowship to encourage young people to apply to join the BG network at their annual meeting. Email Robin for more details.

The Gang's All Here....Presenting Your 2003/04 Steering Committee Members

The role of the steering committee is work with *all alumni* to improve the Alumni Network; create regional pages featuring environmental news for the newsletter as well as the wider Berkeley community; and to provide feedback to the ELP support staff in Berkeley. Some suggestions for steering committee projects for this year were generated at the end of the summer course and include facilitating better sharing of substantive information, organizing timely web conferences (Norman Borlaug web conference coming up in January), and linking Berkeley students and professors with ELP alumni. Please let your committee member know what other ideas you have.

We are fortunate to again have a very energetic and capable group of folks on board. If you haven't been in contact with your steering committee member yet, find their email contact below. Looking forward to your input!

Region	Principles or Co-Principles	Associate
North Africa/Middle East	Ahmed Hassan, Kareem Shalaby	
Americas	Mireille Valencia	Edmundo Barrios
Europe	Alison Clayson	Olga Pilifosova, Yolando Velasco
Africa	Patrick Karani	Irene Makumbi
Oceania	Asenaca Ravuvu	Mark Smith
Russia & CIS	Eka Otarashvili	Natalia Belova
South Asia	Kazim Niaz	Sushil Saigal
Southeast Asia	Vo Thanh Son	Dulce Elazegui



Letter from the Editor

Dear ELP Colleagues,

It has been a wonderful experience to read your articles, review the summer programs and reminisce as I looked through the many pictures of our weeks together at Berkeley.

I have tried to include everyone's articles, thoughts or pictures in this newsletter. I hope you have enjoyed it and that it has brought back great memories for you as well as provided you with information and contacts.

I thank each of you who took the time to send articles, testimonials and pictures. I appreciate your support!

On behalf of the ELP Alumni I extend a warm appreciation and thank you to Kyra for her ongoing support in the development of this newsletter.

Thank you to my ELP 2003 colleagues for giving me the opportunity to develop this publication.

Wishing you all the very best ...Sue



Dear Everyone,

Just wanted to let you know what a continued pleasure it is to work and learn from you all! After my work in Guatemala this summer and many thought provoking discussions this fall semester, I've decided to focus my dissertation work on the environmental aspects—as well as some exposure assessment work—of my advisor's (Dr. Kirk Smith) large cookstove intervention project in southwestern Guatemala. I welcome any of your input into this project, as well as any tips for my upcoming two week trip to Thailand in January! Also, please let me help connect you with the hard-working graduate students here who would LOVE to be involved in many of your projects.

Best for the holidays!! ~Kyra