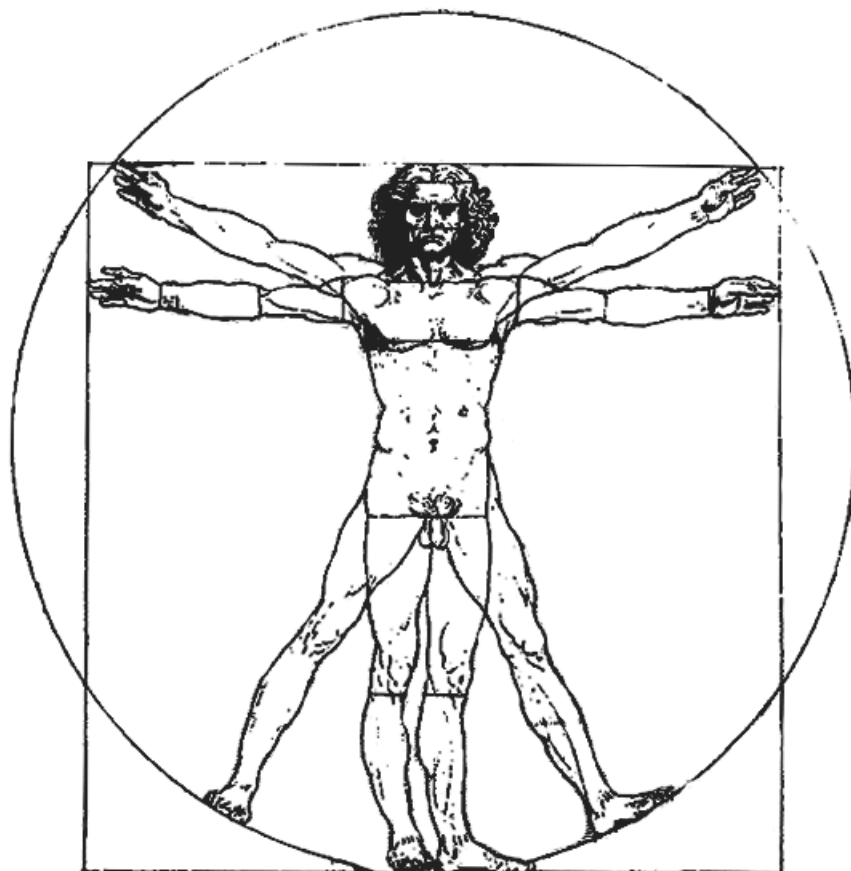


european capacity building initiative



ecbi

ANNUAL REPORT  
2005/06

# ECBI Annual Report 2005/06

## ABOUT THE ECBI

A key limitation of the global climate change negotiations is the lack of a level playing field between many delegations, particularly North-South, and South-South. Other major obstacles are mutual misunderstanding and a lack of trust, above all between industrialised and developing countries.

The European Capacity Building Initiative (ECBI) aims to reduce and overcome these limitations and obstacles through a number of capacity- and trust- building activities, subsumed under three complementary integrated Programmes:

- *Oxford Fellowship Programme*, a primarily trust-building programme with an informal (senior level) exchange of institutional and procedural knowledge;
- *Workshop Programme*, to enhance negotiating skills; and
- *Policy Analysis Programme*, to enhance analytic capacity.

The core of the ECBI is focused on collaborations with European and developing countries from Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia - including the regional leaders South Africa and India - and the Group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs). Outside these core regions, there is also participation from Brazil and China, as

well as from OECD non-Annex B 'Advanced Developing Countries' (ADCs), such as Mexico and Turkey.

## Oxford Fellowship Programme

At the heart of the ECBI is an Oxford-based Fellowship Programme, mainly for leading climate negotiators from the participating developing countries. Its primary purpose is to build trust and exchange procedural and institutional knowledge both among the Fellows ('South-South trust building'), and between them and their European colleagues ('North-South trust building').

The North-South element of this trust-building effort is carried out through *Country Visits* to some of the participating European Partner agencies and an *Oxford Seminar* in the Oxford home of the Fellowships. Both activities bring together developing country Fellows and their European counterparts in a structured framework that helps to establish working relationships outside the often guarded context of the official negotiations. They enable the Fellows to find out how climate change issues are managed by European governments, and provide an opportunity to exchange views in an informal and non-confrontational setting. They also enable the European partners to discover

and better understand the situation of their developing country colleagues - one of the reasons why the ECBI is not just a capacity-building initiative *by* Europeans, but also *for* Europeans.

South-South relations and trust building - often of at least equal importance in supporting the international negotiations - are carried out during the *Fellowship Colloquium* in Oxford, where the Fellows have the chance to exchange views and experiences among themselves in 'closed session'. In light of the considerable existing negotiating capacities of the regional developing country leaders (Brazil, China, India, South Africa), they are primarily involved in the trust-building activities of the Oxford Fellowship Programme.

To maintain the momentum of these trust-building activities, the Fellowship Programme, funding permitting, also envisages an annual one-day *Bonn Seminar* during the intersessional Subsidiary Bodies meetings in Bonn/Germany.

Concerning logistical support, the Fellowship Programme includes a certain number of *Senior Bursaries* to help Fellows and (potential) Fellowship candidates to attend these meetings of the Subsidiary Bodies.

The activities of the Fellowship Programme also include maintenance of the ECBI website ([www.EuroCapacity.org](http://www.EuroCapacity.org)), with a special 'members only' electronic network (*ECBI-net*) to assure the sustained long-term

nature of the relations established both with their European counterparts and between the Fellows themselves.

## Workshop Programme

Country coalitions can be as much in need of enhancing negotiating capacity as individual countries, especially with respect to effectively functioning as a group. This is particularly true for Least Developed Countries (LDCs), which will only be able to make their voice heard by harnessing the considerable potential for synergies between them. For this purpose – and generally to help improve the articulation and representation of developing country positions in the climate negotiating fora - the Workshop Programme organises annual regional and pre-COP negotiation capacity-building workshops.

The main purpose of the *pre-COP Workshops* is to support selected (junior) negotiators from LDCs in gaining a better understanding of the issues discussed at the COPs, and to build their negotiating skills through role-playing and practice sessions. While not intended to prepare negotiating positions – the prerogative of the countries themselves – the pre-COP workshops aim to help build the skills and capacities to negotiate more effectively. Over time, it is expected that the Workshops will assist LDC negotiators in building expertise over and beyond issues specific to LDCs, enabling them to divide negotiating tasks among the group, rather than all of them following the same negotiating track.

To enhance the negotiating capacity of the LDC Group further, the Workshop Programme has some *Junior Bursaries* available to enable a number (typically 6 to 8) of junior LDC officials to participate not only in the pre-COP Workshops, but for the duration of the COPs.

Other than these (LDC-only) pre-COP workshops, the Workshop Programme carries out a number of annual *Regional Workshops* that are *not* restricted to LDCs. At present, the regions covered are South/East Africa, West Africa (Francophone), and South/South-East Asia. Participants are junior officials from UNFCCC delegations and mainstream economics/development ministries of the countries in the region. The overall aim of Regional Workshops is threefold:

- To discuss upcoming negotiation issues of regional importance, with a view to facilitating negotiation positions for the subsequent UNFCCC Sessions.
- To introduce the participants from the mainstream ministries to the climate change problem, with particular focus on its regional aspects.
- To facilitate networking, especially between the climate change negotiators and their mainstream colleagues.

In order to achieve the desired sustained effect of its activities, the Workshop Programme carries out post-workshop mentoring and networking of participants, as part of ECBI-net.

## Policy Analysis Programme

The ECBI's Policy Analysis Programme is to support and enhance analytic capacity in a number of participating developing countries mainly through training by, and collaboration with domestic and European experts. The qualitative and quantitative analysis of burdens and benefits associated with climate change policies, of climate change impacts, and of adaptation strategies is not only a prerequisite of informed decision making; it is also essential in articulating, explaining, and advocating a country's position in the negotiations. And the same holds true for formulation of common positions within country coalitions.

One of the main obstacles to building lasting analytic capacity is the financial plight of many research institutions in developing countries. They are often over-stretched even without addressing climate change, which in many instances is indeed not perceived to be a top analytic priority. This bottleneck in building lasting in-country analytic capacity manifests itself both in the inability to hire analysts and in a lack of access to analytic tools.

The ECBI accordingly plans to provide the funds and the framework for ECBI *Policy Analysts* at its developing country member institutes and at other collaborating developing country research and policy analysis institutions. The Policy Analysts at member institutes will carry out the function of Country Project Managers. As such they will receive (part of) their salary from the

ECBI. The other collaborating Policy Analysts will typically not receive salary contributions, but the ECBI will cover project related training, travel expenses and the cost of project specific software or data needs. While it is expected that the ECBI Analysts will spend some time working with their colleagues at the European ECBI institutions, most of the work is to be undertaken in their home institutions.

## Management

The day-to-day running of the ECBI is carried out by the Director with support from the Programme Heads of the three ECBI *Lead Member Institutions*: Oxford Climate Policy (OCP); the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED); and the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI). The Director and Programme Heads collectively form the *Executive Committee*.

Strategic guidance and quality control are provided from outside the ECBI Membership by the participating government Partners, primarily through designated *Country Coordinators*. The Annual General Meeting – to be held in parallel with the intersessional UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies meetings – is open to all the participating government Partners and is the main quality control instrument for the ECBI.

Strategic guidance on the content of the Initiative is given by a *Steering Committee*, presently co-chaired by Mr Mama Konaté (Mali) and Ambassador Bo Kjellén (Sweden).

It is envisaged that the Initiative become a *long-term* instrument for the *sustained* building of developing country negotiation capacity.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE



**Bo Kjellén**

**T**he Nobel prize laureate P. Crutzen and his colleague E. Stoermer have minted the expression “the anthropocene era” to characterize our present time. Humans are now influencing the whole earth system for the first time in history. Climate change is one aspect - but not the only - of this new situation. At the same time, new means of information and communications are transforming the world economy, shaping broad networks, influencing social patterns, creating the phenomenon of globalization. We are being integrated at the planetary level.

But at the same time, the growing divide between rich and poor is a continuing and disturbing feature of our world. This is a fact within countries, but also between countries and regions. The differences of resources between South and North continues to influence multilateral cooperation in many different ways; but the picture is more nuanced today than traditional UN structures can recognize. Many practitioners of the New Diplomacy for sustainable development would agree that more frequent contacts between representatives of G77 and the developed countries would be in the interest of all.

However, North-South cooperation is hampered by a lack of trust, and a lack of negotiating resources in many developing countries. It is this void that the European Capacity Building Initiative aims at closing, through its different programmes. Of course, our resources for capacity- and trust-building are limited, but we provide a structure and a method with considerable potential. This report presents an overall picture of our first months of activities, a period of rather intense activity. But beyond the facts is also a sense of direction, not only creating venues for talks or expert advice, but also real meetings of minds in a different setting than the negotiating rooms.

As the climate negotiations are now moving into a crucial phase, preparing for the longer term regime beyond 2012, this may prove to be of real significance. The negotiators come from poor countries and rich countries, and they all have their briefs and instructions; but with a growing group of people who know and trust each other, and who feel more secure in mastering the substance of the issues, the prospects for negotiating fair and realistic agreements will improve. Our initial experience of ECBI gives reason for optimism.



### **Mama Konaté**

**J**e crois que ECBI a fait du chemin depuis son lancement ici à Bonn en marge de SB-22 tel qu'en atteste son rapport annuel 2005. Les activités menées ont contribué, à n'en pas douter, à améliorer les performances du Groupe des PMA aux négociations de la COP 11 à Montréal.

Je pense personnellement que certaines des suggestions du rapport notamment concernant une plus grande présence des négociateurs européens au cours du Colloque d'Oxford et éventuellement des

visites à leurs homologues du Sud, contribueraient sans aucun doute à améliorer le climat de confiance des négociations.

En conclusion, je pense que l'espoir est permis qu'avec ECBI à travers ses trois programmes les pays du Sud parviendront à jouer pleinement leur rôle et que les négociations pourront se dérouler dans une atmosphère de plus en plus confiante et apaisée.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT



**Benito Müller**



**Saleemul Huq**



**Thomas E. Downing**

In its first year since having been officially launched on 23 May 2005 during the 22nd Meeting of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies in Bonn, the European Capacity Building Initiative saw a first round of Oxford Fellowships under its Fellowship Programme, as well as a number of workshops organised by its Workshop Programme and the initiation of two projects carried out under the aegis of its Policy Analysis Programme. It also saw the addition of certain new activities not envisaged in the original concept.

In a first instance we were able to raise the funding for a very simple but effective scheme to enhance the capacity of LDC delegations to communicate with one each other and with their EU colleagues during the negotiating session, by providing a number of courtesy mobile phones. The scheme was introduced as a trial at COP11 in Montreal, and, given its success will also be used at SB24 in May 2006, with the aim of (funding permitting) making it a regular fixture during the COP and SB sessions.

Another event which was conceived after the launch of the initiative was a 'Bonn Seminar' to be held during the Bonn SB meetings.

Given the success of the 'Oxford Seminar' held during the 2005 Fellowships in September 2005, it was felt that that it might be helpful to hold a negotiation-specific counterpart during the intersessional meeting of the Subsidiary Bodies. Funding has been secured to hold the first of these Bonn Seminars on 21 May 2006. It is hoped that if this proves to be a success, this will turn out to be an annual event.

### Oxford Fellowship Programme

The pilot round of the annual ECBI Oxford Fellowships was held from 18 to 30 September at Magdalen College, Oxford/UK. Eleven Fellowships were taken up by leading negotiators from nine developing countries: Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso,

China, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan, Turkey, and South Africa. During a number of 'Country Visits,' the Francophone Fellows visited a number of agencies of the French government, while the rest of the Fellows met with representatives of the UK Presidency (including a visit to No. 10 Downing Street), and - in the course of a visit to Stockholm - with officials of the



Swedish government and with members of the Swedish climate change research community. The time in Oxford was divided between, a 'Fellowship Colloquium' - where the Fellows had time to discuss topics chosen by themselves with a number of experts - and a two-day 'Oxford Seminar', where they met counterparts from the European Commission, Denmark, France, Germany, Portugal, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

Given the feed-back from the Fellows, the second round of Fellowships is planned slightly earlier to be held at Trinity College/Oxford from 23 August to 2 September.

## Workshop Programme

During 2005 three Workshop were held under the ECBI Workshop Programme:

1. Regional Workshop for Eastern and Southern Africa in Kenya from 18 to 21 October
2. Regional Workshop for south and Southeast Asia in Bangladesh from 29 to 31 October
3. Pre-COP 11 LDC Workshop in Montreal, Canada on 25 and 26 November

The two regional workshops were the first time that ECBI had held such regional workshops (the idea for the regional workshops had been proposed by participants attending previous pre-COP11 LDC Workshops in Buenos Aires in December 2004). Each regional workshop had two participants from each country, one the UNFCCC Focal Point (the usual Climate Change negotiator) and the other was another government official from a mainstream government ministry (e.g. Finance or Planning). In the case of the South and Southeast Asia regional workshop a third civil society participant from each country was also included. The objectives of each regional workshop was to provide an opportunity for the countries in each regional to understand the issues that were due to be discussed in the upcoming COP and to develop a common understanding of the important issues for the region. In addition to focusing on the upcoming climate change negotiations at the

COP another objective of the regional workshops was to enhance the level of understanding of climate change issues amongst some key individuals in mainstream ministries in each country (as well as civil society in the case of the Asia region). Both regional workshops were well attended and resulted in good discussions and feedback (see ecbi website for Workshop Reports).

The pre-COP11 LDC Workshop in Montreal was the third such annual workshop held and was by far the most well-attended (over 30 LDC negotiators participated). The discussions were very lively and there was much appreciation of the opportunities for role-playing to raise the negotiating skills of the LDC negotiators. For the second year running ecbi was also able to support the attendance of 7 Junior LDC Negotiators who not only were able to attend the two-day, pre-COP11 LDC Workshop but also stayed for the full COP and were able to assist their respective national delegations as well as the LDC Group during the negotiations. The feedback from the participants after the workshop and after the COP has been excellent (see ecbi website for Workshop Report).

Based on the excellent feedback received to both the regional as well as pre-COP LDC Workshops we plan to continue both regional as well as pre-COP LDC workshops for 2006. In addition to the two Regional Workshops (held in English) we will also be adding a third Regional Workshop (in French) mainly for Francophone countries in West Africa (based on strong feedback and desire from all the Francophone LDC countries, most of whom are located in West Africa). Thus the schedule for regional and pre-COP12 workshops in 2006 is as follows:

1. Regional Workshop in South and Southeast Asia to be held in Bangladesh from 7 to 10 August
2. Regional Workshop for Eastern and southern Africa to be held in Kenya from 25 to 27 September
3. Regional Workshop for West (Francophone) Africa to be held in Mali in October (dates to be fixed)
4. Pre-COP12 LDC Workshop to be held in Kenya on 3 and 4 November

Based on feedback and identification of issues of importance to the countries, this year's regional workshops will also include some preliminary outputs from two ecbi Policy Analysis activities undertaken (namely on CDM in Africa and NAPAs).

## Policy Analysis Programme

The ECBI Policy Analysis Programme has thus far not received the originally envisaged core funding. This is partly due to the initial focus on building technical modelling capacity in Advanced Developing Countries, for which fundraising has proved to be difficult, as they generally are not a priority for development funding. Yet such technical capacity, even in less developed countries, will require significant investment, over a longer time period and involve additional institutes and centres of excellence in the participating countries.

However, there has been progress: to identify priorities for policy analysis; to mobilise relatively modest funds for the partnership; and to explore and develop closer links with larger research projects (such as the EC ADAM project just getting under way in 2006).

The aim of the Policy Analysis Programme remains to support and enhance analytic capacity in a number of participating developing countries, mainly through training by, and collaboration with domestic and European experts. The purpose is to support the ability of developing countries in negotiations, both for mitigation and

adaptation. The qualitative and quantitative analysis of burdens and benefits associated with climate change policies, of the relative vulnerability to climate change impacts, and of urgent and effective adaptation strategies is not only a prerequisite of informed decision making; it is also essential in articulating, explaining and advocating a country's position in the negotiations. And the same holds true for formulation of common positions within country coalitions.

In late 2005, coordination of the Policy Analysis Programme was taken up by the Stockholm Environment Institute. Two small projects resulting from feed-back from Fellows and participants of the Workshop Programme have to date been funded through the ECBI and are under way:

- *Learning lessons from the NAPAs* led by SEI Oxford:
- *Southeast Asia: Lessons learned from CDM experience in the region*, led by the Hamburgisches WeltWirtschaftsinstitut (HWWI)

Other projects remain priorities:

- Experience with CDM in Africa and LDCs
- Mainstreaming adaptation to climate change into development
- Technical Capacity Building for quantitative economic questions, particularly for Advanced Developing Countries such as Mexico

## ACTIVITIES IN 2005/06

### The 2005 Oxford Fellowships



The pilot round of the annual ECBI Oxford Fellowships was held from 18 – 30 September 2005 at Magdalen College, Oxford, UK. Eleven Fellowships were taken up by lead negotiators from nine developing countries: Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan, Turkey, and South Africa. During the Country Visits, the Francophone Fellows visited a number of agencies of the French government, while the rest of the Fellows met with representatives of the UK Presidency (including a visit to No. 10 Downing Street), and - in the course of a visit to Stockholm - with officials of the Swedish government and with members of the Swedish climate change research community.

The time in Oxford was divided between, a 'Fellowship Colloquium' - where the Fellows had time to discuss topics chosen by themselves with a number of experts - and a two-day 'Oxford Seminar', where they met counterparts from the European

Commission, Denmark, France, Germany, Portugal, Sweden, and the UK.

#### Selected Discussion Highlights

*The Fellowship Colloquium.* The topics chosen by the Fellows for discussions during the four-day Fellowship Colloquium were post-2012 mitigation issues; problems with the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and solutions; mainstreaming; climate impact adaptation and response; and the larger picture.

*Post-2012.* The question of US participation loomed large in the discussion, a *sine qua non* for any 'meaningful participation' by developing countries on strongly felt grounds of equity. A lack of domestic public awareness of climate change, the need for sustainable economic growth, as well as the hugely disproportionate per capita emissions were also cited as obstacles to the acceptability of imposing emission reduction commitments or burdens. However, there was a general recognition that climate change will, and indeed already is affecting everyone ('we are all in the same boat'). And therefore there was consensus that the emissions of all major Parties had to be addressed, and a general willingness to cooperate in achieving this, provided that the burden is shared in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

*Clean Development Mechanism.* The CDM was recognised as a potentially very important instrument in this context of addressing developing country emissions. But it was also felt that it still had considerable flaws, ranging from the lack of methodologies for certain key activities such as coal mining, the administrative bottlenecks, to the fact that the market-based distribution of projects is almost inevitably inequitable from a sustainable development point of view.

*Mainstreaming.* Prior to the Fellowships, the Fellows were asked to put together a brief on climate change decision-making and mainstreaming efforts in their countries. These briefs informed the discussion of the issue during the Fellowship Colloquium, where particular importance was given to creating a coordinating unit for climate change policies in a mainstream ministry or even the office of the head of government. A strong objection to the whole notion of 'mainstreaming' was raised when it is simply used as a way of imposing "conditionalities in disguise."

*Climate impact adaptation and response.* Following expert presentations, the state of the art in climate as well as impact and vulnerability science was discussed. This was followed by a discussion about adaptation funding, as well as the role of climate impact response measures in a post-2012 regime. It was emphasised that the post-2012 discussions should not be limited to mitigation issues, but should address the question of how to address adaptation and

unavoided climate impacts in a more systematic manner.

*The 'Larger Picture'.* The final morning of the Fellowship Colloquium was dedicated to a discussion of broader issues, namely the workings of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its synergies with the other Rio conventions, and the issue of equity. Equity was one of the most strongly felt issue to be discussed, both during the Colloquium as well as during the social discussions outside it. Two issues proved to be of particular interest. On the one hand the nature of the principle of 'common but differentiated responsibilities', as regards to sharing both mitigation and adaptation/impacts burdens, and the issue of per capita entitlements for assigned amounts.

*Oxford Seminar.* Apart from presentations on the working of the G77 and China and the EU, the discussion during the Oxford Seminar focussed on two themes – the role of technology in engaging developing countries, and the nature of OECD Overseas Development Assistance (ODA), its relationship to climate change funding, to



foreign direct investment, as well as to domestic investment.

Key points raised in these discussions included:

- the design of a framework for technology transfer taking into consideration the difficult and often contentious issues of intellectual property rights and expectations of return on investment when aiming to remove “barriers” for technology transfer.
- The need for innovative solutions to the problem of integrating adaptation measures into domestic planning as well as to the problem of involving the *private sector* in providing the ‘new and additional’ funds needed for adaptation activities, given the limitations on ODA, let alone the climate change funds.

### Country visits

*France.* The country visit to France proved to be a very useful part of the Fellowship Programme, particularly for the building of capacity and direct contacts with the main actors of the climate change process in France. The visiting Fellows got to know the consultation process set up in France to establish a country position. The country visit also gave the Fellows the opportunity to gather much more detailed information on funding facilities and procedures in France.

*Sweden.* After an introduction to Sweden’s climate policy, the theme of the discussion with the Swedish government partners was trust-building under the UNFCCC. It was recognised that there is still need for a great

deal of trust-building between Europe and non-Annex I parties. One measure suggested was that it might be useful to invite G77 and China ‘observers’ to some of the EU coordination meetings. The Fellowship also felt that it would help avoid an unnecessary erosion of trust if informal communications between contact groups would be conducted through the chairs, so as to avoid the perception of trying to undermine the working of the groups, particularly those of G77+China, which due to their heterogeneity often have difficulties to reach a consensus as it stands. A visit to the Swedish Environment Institute (SEI) was used to discuss the use of economic instruments in climate change policy making, and its Director invited the Fellows to suggest research topics for the SEI to pursue.

*United Kingdom.* One of the key points of the visit to meet the partners from the UK government/EU Presidency was no doubt the clarification that the EU’s post-2012 aim of ‘deepening and broadening participation’ is aimed only at the Annex I non-Parties of the Kyoto Protocol, and not at developing country Parties. During the visit to the Prime



Minister's Office, the point was raised that – in the spirit of trust building – it might be desirable if there could be at least some representation of the poorest and most vulnerable countries present in the continuation of the Gleneagles Process.

### Way Forward

Although the most difficult to obtain – particularly at the level of expertise aimed at in the Fellowships – genuine trust building requires a certain investment of time, and it was acknowledged that for serious engagement, the duration of the Fellowships could not be substantially shortened. If anything, the Fellows expressed the wish that in future, one might be able to extend the time spend with their European colleagues, so as to enable them to be properly included in the trust-building exercise.

To facilitate this, it was suggested that the time of the Fellowships be moved to slightly earlier in the year, and that an effort be made to convince some of the European partners to participate slightly longer than one to two days, say by attending as

Supernumerary Fellows. To facilitate the interaction of the Fellows beyond the duration of the Fellowships, a number of web-based activities have been created, such as e-mail lists, and a download library, to be managed by Fellows and participants interactively. Moreover, it is envisaged to hold a counterpart to the Oxford Seminar during the intersessional meetings of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies in Bonn/Germany.

### List of 2005 Fellows

Mohammad Reazuddin (Bangladesh), Mamadou Honadia (Burkina Faso), Sun Guoshun (China), Mama Konate (Mali), Manuel Estrada (Mexico), Julia Martinez\* (Mexico), Saher Bano Walajahi (Pakistan), Mustafa Sahin\* (Turkey), Haroldo Machado (Brazil), Abdul Hamid\* (Pakistan), Muriel Dube\* (South Africa).

\* Supernumerary Fellow



## Workshop Programme

### Regional Workshop for Eastern and Southern Africa



A three-day workshop aimed at building trust among leaders and experienced government negotiators in east Africa was organised in Nanyuki, Kenya from 19– 21 October 2005. 25 participants from 11 countries of Eastern and Southern Africa participated in workshop. There were two participants from each country, one the Climate Change Focal Point and the other a representative from a development/mainstream ministry.

The local organisation was done by the Nairobi based Africa Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS) on behalf of ECBI. Resource Persons included Dr. Saleemul Huq, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), UK; Dr. Benito Müller, Oxford Climate Policy (OCP), UK; Mr. Victor Orindi, ACTS, Kenya; Mr. Richard Muyungi, Government of Tanzania and Ms. Emily Massawa, Government of Kenya.

The discussions included a briefing on the history and evolution of the climate change debate and policy making at the international level, through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its annual conference of parties (COPs). It also focused specifically on the upcoming eleventh session of the Conference of Parties (COP11) that took place in Montreal, Canada in December 2005. Mr. Richard Muyungi, former Chair of the Least Developed Countries (LDC) group in the UNFCCC gave a history of the group and Ms. Emily Massawa, Chair of the Africa Group described the functioning of the Group's activities in the COPs.

Each of the country representatives gave short presentations on their respective country situation with regard to climate change issues and how they are dealt with institutionally. Detailed discussion followed on how to carry forward work on climate change in future in the countries and region. All the participants were asked to provide written feedback on the workshop. Based on the feedback and discussions the following were some of the issues that were brought up by the participants:

- Need to focus on the clean development mechanism (CDM) and its performance in Africa.

- Need to assess the lessons learned through the national adaptation programmes of action.
- (NAPA) process in the LDCs. Need to find ways to mainstream or integrate climate change issues into national and sectoral policy and practice in the countries.
- Suggestion to include some European climate change negotiators for an exchange of views in future workshops.

Participants emphasised the need for African countries to be more pro-active and promote regional dialogue to break deadlocks that have characterized negotiations in the past. They highlighted the need to quantify Africa's ability to adapt and listed available expertise that could be channelled towards proactive adaptation initiatives, such as Early Warning Networks by meteorological departments, which can be created with limited funds.

Lack of information and awareness was listed as one of the main reasons why Africa has not featured prominently in many climate change initiatives, including CDM. Due to limited capacity, decisions at the global level are sometimes made with only one representative from Africa present, and

information does not flow to all involved parties. The capacity of neutral institutions in the region needs to be strengthened to carry out awareness raising activities, without distortion of information to serve business interests.

Participants felt that greater involvement of the private sector was required to promote CDM in Africa. However, further capacity building for the private sector is required, along with efforts for greater involvement.

As an input to the meeting, participants prepared 'country reports' (*see box: Country reports*) summarising the state of affairs in each country.

The meeting ended with participants identifying key areas to focus further discussions under the aegis of the ECBI, including:

- CDM experiences in Africa;
- promotion of biofuels;
- further research and analysis on adaptation; and
- the option of seeking adaptation funding from the private sector.



## Box. Country reports from Eastern and Southern Africa

*Extracts from the country reports prepared by participants for the Workshop*

- In *Malawi*, the first national action plan for adaptation (NAPA), under preparation for COP-11, focuses on improving community resilience, reforestation and rain-fed agriculture.
- A designated national authority (DNA) for CDM has been set up in *Tanzania* although capacity of individuals and institution needs strengthening. The first NAPA is under preparation. Climate change issues are dealt with by the Vice President's office.
- In *Uganda*, a DNA has been set up. Awareness raising on climate issues is urgently needed, along with stronger collaboration between finance and meteorological departments.
- In *Yemen*, the first NAPA was to be completed by December 2005, and a DNA is still to be set up.
- In *Zambia*, the first NAPA will be completed in early 2006. A DNA is to be established. Awareness building activities will also begin in early 2006. A climate committee is planned, to avoid duplication of efforts between the Environment Department and the Disasters Unit within the Office of the President.
- In *Sudan*, work on the NAPA is underway and will be completed by early 2006.
- In *Botswana*, the meteorological department is taking the lead on a climate change committee, with representatives from other sectors, including water, finance and the private sector. The committee meets after every 3 months. A DNA is not yet established due to lack of capacity. Public awareness is being carried out with farmers and other stakeholders in the field.
- In *Lesotho*, climate issues are dealt with by the Department of Meteorology under the Ministry of Natural Resources. Work is underway on the NAPA and a DNA is yet to be set up.
- In *Ethiopia*, the Meteorological Department prepared the initial national communication. Preparation of the NAPA was delayed due to delay in flow of resources from UNDP. A council of ministers decided that all climate change issues be handled by the Environmental Protection Agency partnered by the Meteorological Department.

## Regional Workshop for South and South East Asia

A two-day ECBI workshop was held on 30 and 31 October 2005 in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in collaboration with the Bangladesh Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF), the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS), IIED, the British High Commission in Dhaka, and the UK Department for International Development (DFID). As chair of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) group in the climate change negotiations, Bangladesh was well placed to influence the international negotiations in the eleventh Conference of Parties (COP-11) in Montreal, Canada in December 2005.

About 70 government and civil society representatives from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Maldives, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam attended the workshop. In addition, 200 local participants including ministers, government officials, and civil society and private sector representatives attended the inaugural and closing sessions.

The workshop was divided into sessions on science, development and climate change; the climate change negotiations; country presentations; and prioritisation of issues.

The session on science, development and climate change started with a presentation by Professor Sir Gordon Conway from DFID, covering aspects of prediction and

forecasting of weather patterns and extreme climatic events, and emphasising the need for participatory vulnerability mapping and a framework of resilience that includes reforms at the institutional, physical, environmental, agricultural and livelihood level. Dr. Benito Müller's presentation on the history of the UNFCCC negotiations and issues beyond 2012 highlighted the need to look at the bigger picture. Christine Pirenne from the Directorate-General for International Cooperation (DGIS), Netherlands, emphasised the need to integrate climate change issues in development planning, and the need for further research to design suitable adaptation strategies.

In the session on the climate negotiations, M.J. Mace from FIELD, UK, presented the major Issues for COP11/MOP1, including technology transfer, scientific and socio-economic aspects, and the special climate change fund. Andy Deacon from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), UK, presented on key negotiation issues in the post-Kyoto regime, and the status of scientific research on impact and vulnerability to climate change. He said the EU had decided against pressing for developing country commitments in the second commitment period.

Mohammad Reazuddin from the Bangladesh Ministry of Environment and Forests summarised forthcoming negotiation issues

for LDCs. He said LDCs were marginalized in the global negotiations because of lack of awareness, coordination, institutional memory and continuity, and lack of capacity. Dr. A. Atiq Rahman, BCAS, presented on equity issues.

Each participating country representative presented informal reports in the following session, where a number of common concerns emerged, including lack of

institutional capacity, lack of risk assessment and prediction capabilities, and lack of adequate support from the development partners in combating adverse impacts of climate change (*see Box: Country reports*).

During the session on prioritisation of issues, the need for LDCs to exert influence as a group and share experiences was emphasised, along with advance preparation.

## Box. Country Reports from South and South East Asia

*Extracts from the country reports prepared by participants for the 2005 ECBI Regional Workshop*

The representative from *Bhutan* highlighted lack of information and limited capacity as key constraints. Capacity building, meteorological information and infrastructure, better coordination, training in vulnerability assessment and strengthening of relevant institutions were identified as priority areas.

*Sri Lanka* highlighted vulnerability assessment, adaptation and mitigation measures as priority areas.

In *India*, efforts are underway to implement necessary institutional arrangements and reforms needed for its environmental and socio-economic well-being.

*Bangladesh* has established a National Climate Change Steering Committee. The NAPA has already been completed. Priority areas include capacity building in both the government and private sector, strengthening of the knowledge base and data collection, awareness raising, advocacy and coordination between relevant institutions and adaptation measures at the stakeholder level.

The main constrain faced by *Pakistan* is the lack of adequate monitoring systems for the prediction of extreme events. Given its low institutional and financial capacity, efforts are concentrated on reducing vulnerability to climatic events.

*Maldives* has developed an Integrated Climate Change Strategy to deal with both adaptation and mitigation issues. The country aims to integrate climate change issues into national development and sectoral plans, increase awareness and establish monitoring systems, identify and implement feasible adaptation measures, and minimise greenhouse gas emissions.

In *Laos*, mitigation and adaptation activities have already been identified, along with assessment of technological needs. Key obstacles include lack of data and expertise.

The Ministry of Environment in *Cambodia* has created a Cambodian Climate Change Office to network with relevant national and international institutions has established. Major constraints include financial limitation, climate change expertise and research, low technical capacity, lack of cooperation between relevant organizations and limited public awareness.

*Vietnam* has already established policies and laws regarding climate change and greenhouse gas reduction.

In *Nepal*, institutional strengthening, implementation of the recommendations of the National Communication, climate change awareness programs and capacity building are key requirements.

## The Policy Analysis Programme

Under its core version, the Policy Analysis Programme will carry out a number of different project strands or 'modules', each requested by the developing country participants, either in the Fellowships or the activities of the Workshop Programme. Funding permitting, the initial array of planned Core Policy Analysis Projects are listed below.

### *Experience with CDM in Africa and LDCs.*

The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), a project-based mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol, allows developing countries to carry out mitigation activities and projects whose Carbon Emission Reduction (CERs) can then be traded to earn foreign exchange in the developing countries. The CDM has been a relative success in supporting mitigation projects in a number of developing countries. However, so far only a small number of developing countries (mainly in Latin America and Asia) have benefited from such projects. The poorer ones (for instance, in Africa and the LDCs) have not yet been able to benefit from the CDM. The project will gather experience on CDM promotion in Africa and LDCs and develop recommendations to enhance the opportunities for poorer developing countries to benefit from the CDM.

*Lessons from the NAPAs.* Around 40 LDCs are in the process of preparing their

respective National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) using a standard methodology. These are expected to be completed and submitted over the next year or so. This project aims to learn from the NAPA process by involving key people from different LDCs who were involved in preparing their respective country's NAPAs. The lessons will be useful for planning the next round of funding for the LDC Fund.

*Mainstreaming adaptation to climate change into development.* There is an ongoing debate on whether or not – and if so how much – to 'mainstream' adaptation to climate change into development in developing countries. This project will attempt to clarify the different ways in which adaptation may be 'mainstreamed' and how these activities may be funded.

These Core Projects will be carried out with ECBI member institutions in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. Subsequent topics will again be decided in a participatory manner with developing country partners. Additional (country-by-country) modules could be added as and when funding is secured.

The full version of the Policy Analysis Programme will, in addition, contain a *Technical Capacity Building Project* where quantitative economic questions – particularly those concerning Advanced Developing Countries – are addressed in technical collaboration with the relevant ECBI experts, developing country member

institutions and Policy Analysts. Economic modelling capacity in the participating developing countries is built up through the joint development of country specific models and scenarios that will be owned by the involved developing country institutions. The policy makers and negotiators of these

countries – and, particularly, their past and present ECBI Fellows – will guide this technical capacity-building process by formulating the questions and issues that are relevant to the developing country partners in the climate change negotiations and decision making.

## COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK

### On the 2005 Fellowships

Following a request for information regarding North-South trust building activities from the floor at the high-level panel of the Development and Adaptation Days during the recent Montreal Climate Change Conference, Mr Bubu Pateh Jallow (lead negotiator of The Gambia), told the participants about the ECBI in general, and the Oxford Fellowships, in particular. He conveyed the praise of his fellow negotiators

who had participated in the 2005 Fellowships and his personal assessment that the ECBI activities had led to closer North-South relations during the Montreal negotiations. He also suggested that it might be useful in this context if the European negotiators would find the time to visit their developing country colleagues to get a proper picture of the constraints they find themselves in.

### On the workshops

- ...informative and ...enriching.
  - Provided an opportunity to re-consider approaches to addressing issues such as vulnerability, adaptation responses and mitigation.
  - ...included representatives from different backgrounds .... This is important in sharing experiences on how to integrate climate change
  - issues within government planning processes.
  - Participants from finance/planning ministries who previously didn't clearly understand the linkage between climate change and economic planning in the past found it extra useful. The workshop
- made it clear how economic development and planning is and will be influenced by climate change.
  - ...gave an indication of Africa's high vulnerability and the importance of having an African position...
  - ...timely and very informative...shedding light on issues at hand during COP11/MOP1
  - ...participants can now look for ways through which Africa can contribute to the process as partners rather than create mistrust

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