

UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi



Research Fellowships Programme
in **2003**: Results Achieved
2004

"I believe that the foundations of education consist in fostering the life force, a cooperative and helping spirit and a heart which respects our natural environment" Keizo Obuchi, former Prime Minister of Japan

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Preface

One of the events that has saddened me the most in the last four years was the death of Mr Keizo Obuchi, former Prime Minister of Japan. It is to him, above all, that I owe my election to the post of Director-General of UNESCO. His death, six months after I took office at UNESCO, was naturally a great loss to Japan, but to me, it represented the irremediable loss of unconditional support and of an excellent adviser.

I had hoped to go to Japan upon my election to pay an early visit to Prime Minister Obuchi to thank him personally. Unfortunately, taken up by my new duties, I could not leave Paris in the following months.

In preparation for the Okinawa Summit in July 2000, the decision was taken to hold a Conference of G8 Ministers of Education on 1 and 2 April 2000 in Tokyo, and I was invited to attend. I seized the opportunity to spend a few days in Tokyo. The day after my arrival, I met Mr Obuchi at a meeting organized by *Ushi no kai*, which brought together persons born in 1937, the lunar calendar year of the ox. On 30 March, in my capacity as Director-General of UNESCO, I paid a visit to Mr Obuchi at his official residence and, on that occasion, we had a long discussion.

On 31 March, in the evening, Prime Minister Obuchi held a ceremony in my honour, to which all those who had supported my candidature for the post of Director-General of UNESCO were invited.

Mr Obuchi was in good spirits that evening and his speech reflected the great joy that he felt at my election to the post.

On the morning of 1 April, at the end of the meeting of the Conference of G8 Ministers of Education at which he had given the opening address, Prime Minister Obuchi shook my hand and said “I have to deal with so many problems right now” (he was, I believe, referring to domestic politics), “but I shall try to hold my ground. You too, you have some difficult tasks in hand, but keep on working hard”. That was our last conversation.

During those four days when I had seen Mr Obuchi daily, I had never imagined that he would fall ill on the evening of the last day. I had indeed noticed that he seemed somewhat tired, but I had attributed that to his all-absorbing prime ministerial duties. I therefore found it hard to believe the announcement during the television news on the evening of 2 April that Mr Obuchi had been hospitalized on the previous day.


The following day, owing to appointments that I could not postpone, I was obliged to return to Paris. I left Japan with a heavy heart. My wife, who had gone to Japan with me, was to meet Mrs Obuchi that day. I therefore asked her to take that opportunity to enquire after Mr Obuchi’s health, albeit fearing that they could not meet on account of the circumstances. My wife later confirmed that she had not seen Mrs Obuchi, who had remained constantly at her husband’s side.

I hoped fervently that the Prime Minister would recover, but he drew his last breath on 14 May.

Every summer, when I return to Japan, I visit Mrs Obuchi in Ohji and there, at the Buddhist altar, I inform the late Mr Obuchi of what is happening at UNESCO. I often think that, if he were still alive, Mr Obuchi would be happy to see how I have discharged my weighty responsibilities and he would be proud of the high esteem in which his protégé is held in international public opinion. I can think of no better preface to this book than an account of the last moments that I have had the privilege of sharing with Mr Obuchi.



Koïchiro Matsuura
Director-General, UNESCO
7 September 2006

A black and white photograph of two men, Koichiro Matsuura and Keizo Obuchi, standing side-by-side. They are both wearing dark suits, light-colored shirts, and patterned ties. Matsuura, on the left, is wearing glasses and has his hands clasped in front of him. Obuchi, on the right, is also wearing glasses and has his hands clasped. The background features a wall with a floral pattern and a framed picture on the right.

Koichiro Matsuura
Director-General of UNESCO
Keizo Obuchi
then Prime Minister of Japan
2000





Keizo Obuchi
then Prime Minister

Who was Keizo Obuchi and why this programme?

Mr Keizo Obuchi, former Prime Minister of Japan, was born on 25 June 1937 in Nakanojo, Japan and sadly passed away on 14 May 2000 at the age of 62. The son of a politician, he resolved to become a politician himself. Soft-spoken and charismatic, he was known as a man of modesty and integrity. He built a reputation as an exemplary official and was a particularly adept negotiator. A member of Japan's Diet (Parliament) for over thirty years, he served as Japan's Foreign Minister in 1997 until he was elected Prime Minister in July 1998. Mr Obuchi was known in the international arena for his commitment to development issues and his resolve to put Japan at the forefront of countries involved in consolidating the efforts of the international community to further progress in the social and economic development of humankind.

The Government of Japan has committed itself to cooperating with UNESCO in enhancing capacity-building of human resources in developing countries. It is in that framework, under a Funds-in-Trust Project and the UNESCO Co-Sponsored Fellowships Programme, that the Government of Japan has, since 2001, generously financed 20 research fellowships each year for a period of eight years, in memory of the late Mr Keizo Obuchi. With a view to keeping alive and honouring the spirit of former Prime Minister Obuchi and his belief in "people building the next era", these fellowships are awarded to deserving candidates from developing countries, especially the least developed countries (LDCs), who were eager to undertake research on one or more of the topics. The aim of the fellowships is to support innovative and imaginative post-graduate research in the areas of development to which former Prime Minister Obuchi was committed and which coincide with areas of particular interest to UNESCO, namely:

- **Environment**
- **Intercultural Dialogue**
- **Information and Communication Technologies**
- **Peaceful Conflict Resolution**

Who is eligible?

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- The respective National Commission for UNESCO of the invited developing Member State must endorse any candidature submitted for consideration (applications from individuals cannot be entertained).
- Candidates under this Programme must be **post-graduate researchers**, already holding either a M.A. or M.Sc. and wishing to pursue research work outside their own country (preferably in their own region), with a view to enhancing knowledge in one of the four specific fields listed earlier.
- Candidates must be no more than 40 years of age.
- Candidates must be persons of high intellectual promise who may be expected to make significant contributions to their country upon their return.
- The selected fellow must carry out the research studies outside of their own country under the auspices of an academic supervisor in a host institution.

Who selects the beneficiaries?

Selection Committees made of experts in the four areas listed above make recommendations for the final decision of the Director-General of UNESCO. Applications are judged on the basis of the merit of each application and its pertinence to the UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Programme.

What did they receive and what they will receive?

For the 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004 cycles, each selected beneficiary was awarded US \$7,500 to cover the costs of undertaking research study abroad. Due to the success of the programme, the Japanese authorities have decided to increase the maximum amount of the fellowship, which will be determined according to the duration and place of research (between US \$6,000 and US \$10,000). The maximum amount may not exceed **US \$10,000**.

What are the expected results of this programme?

To date, the UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Programme has contributed to:

- Strengthening UNESCO's capacity-building activities.
- Upgrading of knowledge of state-of-the-art developments.
- Facilitating the transfer and sharing of knowledge, the exchange of information, and technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC).
- Supporting innovation, research and information in a number of fields of the Organization's competence.
- Promoting the forging of links and contacts.
- Ensuring a "multiplier effect" as knowledge acquired abroad is brought home.
- Fostering friendship, international understanding and peace among the beneficiaries and in the host countries.

Why this booklet?

The purpose of this booklet is to provide a brief overview of the results of the research undertaken by the 20 fellowship beneficiaries selected for the 2003 and 2004 cycles:

Who are they?

What research did they do?

What did they achieve?

“To ensure that the new era brings a bright world rich in hope for ourselves and future generations, I am resolved to bring together the wisdom of the people to build the next era, based on the creed of hard hands and a soft heart.”

Keizo Obuchi
then Prime Minister [From Policy
Speech to the 143th Session
of the Japanese DIET Tokyo,
7 August 1998]



Keizo Obuchi
then Prime Minister
testing a land mine-detection device
in Cambodia, one of the most mine
infested countries in the world.
11 January 2000



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106



108

The Twenty UNESCO /Keizo Obuchi Research Fellows 2003

20	Environnement		
22	Bulgaria	Nikolay Nikolaev Valchev	Hindcasting of Wind Waves in the Black Sea
24	Chile	María Isabel du Monceau de Bergendal	The Political Ecology of Indigenous Movements and Tree Plantations in Chile
26	India	Shalini Akella	Quantificatiion of Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter (CDOM) Absorbance Bleaching
28	Jordan	Qasem Saleh Alnewashi	Environmental Policy Options for Environmental Protection and Sustainable development in Jordan
30	Myanmar	Ohn Mar Ohn	Sea turtle Research and Conservation in Japan
32	Palestinian Authority	Taysir Salim Abu Hujair	Strategic Environmental Assessment of Water Sector in Gaza Strip
34	Palestinian Authority	Mohammed Sadi Eila	Integrated Approach for Sustainable Use of Water, Land and Biodiversity in Palestine
36	Sudan	Igbal Salah Mohammed Ali	The Application of Remote Sensing Techniques and Numerical Models Management of the River Nile Ecosystem
38	Togo	Lalle Yendouka Lare	Water and safety interactions
40	Ukraine	Halyna Hudz	The Risk-based Approach in the Concept of the Verification Times Underlying the Kyoto Protocol
62	Intercultural Dialogue		
64	Burkina Faso	Mr Noël SANOU	Semiotic analysis of the mask as a symbol of identity and a mark of historicity among the Bobo
66	Estonia	Aune Valk	The Concept of identity, Separation of Cultures, Dialogue among Cultures, Identity Issues in Relation to Ethnic Attitudes
68	Mexico	Reyna Elizabeth Peña Velasco	Contemporary Construction of Islam and Western Images
70	Peru	Luisa Magaly Davalos Robles	Cultural Risk faces Challenges of Globalization: Collective identities and the Other in Andean countries
84	Information and Communication Technologies		
86	Cuba	Mayra Marta Mena Mugica	Identify and analyse access to information in the public sector as it pertains to e-governance and the preservation of digital records
88	Sri Lanka	Wanigasekera Arachchige Dona Nayana Darshani Wijayasundara	A Comparative Study on the Role of University Libraries in Providing Electronic Library Services
90	Venezuela	Angela Adriana Valdivieso López	The Right to Information in Venezuela in the Framework of Globalization
102	Peaceful Conflict Resolution		
104	Cameroon	Saibou Issa	Peaceful Coexistence in Cameroon
106	Kyrgyzstan	Mikhail Vladimirovich Ivanov	The Problem of New Security Challenges and Possibility of Conflict Resolution and Prevention in the Central Asia region
108	Pakistan	Sadia Nasir Butt	The Rise of Extremism in South Asia: a Comparative Analysis



The Twenty UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellows 2004

42 Environnement			
44	Bolivia	Carlos Alberto Ruiz Garvia	Forest production potential and ecosystem quality of forest margins recovered from agriculture
46	Cameroon	Chrétien Ngouanet	Tropical Mountain Land Use and Environmental Degradation: Case of the West Cameroon Highlands
48	Côte d'Ivoire	Kouadio Michel Yao	<i>The Impact of land use on soil organic carbon and nitrogen dynamics in the Tene Tropical Forest</i>
50	Indonesia	Putri Chairani Eyanoe	Management of Fresh Water Resources
52	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Virany Sengtianth	Wastewater management and buildings in Vientiane capital city
54	Nigeria	Taiye Remi Fasola	Rapid propagation of some endangered Nigerian medicinal plants by means of tissue culture
56	Palestinian Authority	Mohammed Ibrahim Abu Daya	Monitoring and assessment of coastal water quality remote sensing and conventional measurements along the coast of the Gaza Strip
58	Turkey	Azime Tezer Kemer	A research proposal for a potential Urban-MAB Site(s) in Istanbul
72 Intercultural Dialogue			
74	Chad	Abdrahman Togou	Dialogue among civilizations, cultures, religions and spiritual traditions: words and deeds of the ancient Toubou
76	lithuanie	Dainora Pociute Abukeviciene	The Literary Heterogeneity of Spiritual Movements in Early Modern Lithuania
78	Poland	Marzena Dorota Godzinska	Rituals of Alevi and Bektashi Religious Minorities – The Religious in a Sunni Majority Environment in Secular Turkey
80	Slovakia	Jaroslava Panakova- Bagdasarova	<i>Ethnocultural Diversity and Beyond: Life Strategies and Discourse</i>
92 Information and Communication Technologies			
94	Chile	Juan Domingo Velásquez Silva	The Knowledge Discovery in Databases (KDD) process and its application in the development of intelligent websites
96	Dominican Republic	Melissa Yamilka Pérez Figueroa	The Promotion of Electronic Commerce within the Framework of International Trade Relations in Latin America and the Caribbean
98	Tunisia	Olfa Dridi	Design and realization of an automatic metadata generator from text corpora
110 Peaceful Conflict Resolution			
112	Jordan	Ibrahim Mashhour Al-Jazy	Peaceful Settlement of Disputes
114	Kyrgyzstan	Alnura Akeeneva	Regional Conflict Prevention in Post-Soviet Central Asia
116	Mexico	María del Rayo Ventura Navarrete	Truth and Reconciliation Commission and its links with democratic transition in South Africa
118	Pakistan	Maria Kiani	Applying Comparative Models of Peaceful Conflict Resolution to the Kashmir Dispute
120	Peru	Ana Mayella Gutiérrez Rodríguez	The justice of the peace in Peru: a peaceful means of conflict resolution

“... to understand and conserve natural resources like water, it is necessary to understand the human cultures that shape and interact with natural systems... The nexus between culture and nature is the avenue for understanding resilience, creativity and adaptability in both social and ecological systems. In this perspective, sustainable water use and, hence, a sustainable future depend on the harmonious relationship between water and culture. Consequently, it is vital that water management and governance take cultural traditions, indigenous practices and societal values into serious account.”

Koichiro Matsuura
Director-General

[On the occasion of the World Water Day,
Mexico City, Mexico, 22 March 2006]

“ The orientation of... society towards mass production, mass consumption and mass waste is imposing a major burden of global environment. There is an urgent need to realign the ways of... society and create a 'recycling society' underpinned by the recycling of materials across all levels of socio-economic activity, namely production, distribution, consumption and disposal.”

Keizo Obuchi
then Prime Minister

[From Policy Speech to the 147th
Session of the Japanese DIET
Tokyo, 28 January 2000]

2003

- Nikolay Nikolaev Valchev
- María Isabel du Monceau de Bergendal
- Shalini Akella
- Qasem Saleh Alnewashi
- Ohn Mar Ohn
- Taysir Salim Abu Hujair
- Mohammed Sadi Eila
- Igbal Salah Mohammed Ali
- Lalle Yendoukoa Lare
- Halyna Hudz

2004

- Carlos Alberto Ruiz Garvia
- Chrétien Ngouanet
- Kouadio Michel Yao
- Putri Chairani Eyanoer
- Virany Sengtianthr
- Taiye Remi Fasola
- Mohammed Ibrahim Abu Daya
- Azime Tezer Kemer

Fellows under the 2003 cycle

Fellows under the 2004 cycle



Nikolay Nikolaev Valchev undertaking his research at the Unit of Marine Technology and Engineering, IST in Lisbon, Portugal



Maria Isabel du Monceau de Bergendal
University of British Columbia, Canada



Shalini Akella
University of New Castle, School of Marine Science and Technology, United Kingdom



Qasem Saleh Alnewashi
Countries of study: Sweden and Germany



Ohn Mar Ohn
Country of study: Japan



Taysir Salim Abu Hujair
Université des Sciences et Technologies de Lille, France



Mohammed Sadi Eila
Université des Sciences et Technologies de Lille, France



Igbal Salah Mohammed Ali
Institute of Water Resources and Management, Faculty of Civil Engineering and Geodesy, Hanover, Germany



Lalle Yendoukoa Lare
Country of study: Burkina Faso



Halyna Hudz
The Academy of Computer Sciences and Management Belsko Biala, Poland

Environment/What the fellows say

“Through the expertise and experience I gained, I managed to obtain a Ph.D. in 2005 and I have been subsequently promoted to do postgraduate research.”
Nikolay Nikolaev Valchev

“The UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi fellowship has helped me to work extensively and gain an ocean of knowledge on the key priority area of ‘Environment with special reference to Water Resources and Related Ecosystems’. My study on ‘Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter Cycling’ has given me a broader insight into understanding of the environment and management aspects of aquatic ecosystems and global environmental change.”
Shalini Akella

“The UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowship encouragingly confirmed the value of the research I had proposed. It has enabled me to learn from overseas experts in this important field of environmental policies and will enable me to keep providing improved services for the people in my local community. It allowed me to do research that would otherwise not have been possible”
Qasem Saleh Alnewashi

“I would like to extend my gratitude to Dr. Akihisa Iwata for his invaluable supervision and accepting me at the Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University. My deepest obligation is next extended to UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Fellowships Programme. I express my great appreciation to Dr. Naoki Kamezaki and Dr. Yoshimasa Matsuzawa, Director and Chief research of Sea Turtle Association of Japan for their unending energy and efforts throughout the study period. I wish to express my deepest gratitude to all the staff of Sea Turtle Association for their support in this research in the Muroto (Kuchi Prefecture), Yakushima Island (Kagoshima Prefecture) and Minabe (Wakayama Prefecture). I am also obliged to Dr. Kazuo Ando and Dr. Nobuhiro Ohnishi for their invaluable suggestions and help provided throughout my research program”.
Ohn Mar Ohn

“The fellowship in general built my capacity in bridging between science and practice. I learnt a significant rational approach –Understand (First) and Explore (Second) – so that my decisions will be more based on an objective scientific basis. I also learnt of three major approaches to be considered in my job: the integrated approach, precautionary (proactive rather than reactive) approach, and the ecosystem approach. I also learnt how to mainstream environmental, institutional and socio-economic considerations into management that seeks to achieve sustainable development.”
Taysir Abu Hujair

“UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi programme provided me with a new dimension of thinking, scientific research methodologies, and opportunities to interact with French culture. It greatly helped in developing integrated approaches that are needed to manage our natural resources with a view to sustainable development.”
Mohammed Sadi Eila

“I would like to express my ineptness to the UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowship which allowed me to do a research in ‘The Application of Remote Sensing Techniques and Numerical Models Management of The River Nile Basin’.”
Igbal Salah Mohammed Ali

“Owing to the research I conducted in Burkina Faso, I have acquired new research and teaching skills, thanks to the UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Fellowship.”
Lalle Yendouka Lare

“The process of conducting this extensive study with support and supervision of the Academy of Computer Sciences and Management (Bielsko Biala, Poland) allowed me to analyze and study a wide variety of associated literature, learn new risk-based approaches, establish close professional relations, and develop fruitful cooperation with the Academy of Computer Sciences and Management (Bielsko Biala, Poland).”
Halyna Hudz

“I was extremely honoured to receive the UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi fellowship. This award was very important to my ability to conduct independent research in a controversial field, which demonstrated to me UNESCO’s global scope and openness to new challenges. Winning this award brought into me a new enthusiasm and energy for my work that allowed me to widen my view of the research possibilities in interdisciplinary studies, and most importantly, it has given me the time to think critically about the intersection of social science and environmental issues. Thanks to UNESCO’s support I was able to learn from the experience of other countries facing similar issues while creating new networks with indigenous communities at home and abroad”.
Maria Isabel du Monceau de Bergendal

Fellow

Nikolay Nikolaev Valchev

Beneficiary country

Bulgaria

Country of study

Portugal



Born on 6 October 1972
in Varna, Bulgaria

Last degree obtained

Naval Academy, Varna,
Bulgaria: Master's Degrees in
Oceanography and Ecology
and Environmental Protection
(October 1997)

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*Wave regime in open sea in
front of the Bulgarian coast on
the basis of hindcast data.*

In: Proc. 4th Int. Conf.
on Marine Industry
"MARIND'2002",
pp. 325-330, Varna, Bulgaria,
2002, N. Valchev, Z. Cherneva.

*Wave characteristics in open
sea in front of the Bulgarian
coast.* In: Second Int. Conf.

"Oceanography of the Eastern
Mediterranean and the Black
Sea", pp.196-200, Ankara,
Turkey, 2003, N. Valchev,
Z. Cherneva, C.G. Soares.

*Transformation of wind wave
spectrum parameters according
to the Black Sea International
Experiments.* In: Second Int.
Conf. "Oceanography of the
Eastern Mediterranean and
the Black Sea", pp. 201-205,
Ankara, Turkey, 2003,
I. Davidan, Z. Belberov,
D. Aubrey, I. Lavrenov,
Z. Cherneva, E. Trifonova,
N. Valchev.

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Place of research

Unit of Marine Technology
and Engineering,
Instituto Superior Técnico
Lisbon, Portugal

Research undertaken

from October 2003
to April 2004

Hindcasting of Wind Waves in the Black Sea: set-up and validation of a third-generation wave model

Sea state is an important element of the combined atmosphere-ocean system and its variability on different time scales should be studied, predicted and validated. Wind waves are one of the important phenomena that determine the sea state. Wind waves also have a significant impact on many human activities, such as navigation, offshore and coastal engineering, marine tourism, and marine ecosystem management. Modelling wind waves has therefore become increasingly important over the past 50 years.

The present study involves the setting-up and application of the WAM cycle 4 wave model for the Black Sea, and its validation against buoy measurements. The research report begins with a description of the geographical characteristics of the basin and its main climatic features. Then, WAMc4, the model set-up, and available wind data are briefly presented. Discussion of the results follows and, finally, the conclusions from this wind wave modelling study are summarized.

The WAM model is a third-generation wave-model, which solves the wave transport equation explicitly without any assumptions with regard to the wave spectrum shape. The model is applied on the Black Sea grid, which extends from 27.0°E to 42.0°E and from 41.0°N to 47.0°N. The available atmospheric information comes from the REMO model, with a wind field resolution of 0.25°. The wave model grid resolution is 0.5°. The deep water version is applied and propagation is spherical. Seven months, from 9 July 1996 to 6 February 1997, were chosen for the simulation.

The months were divided into three periods corresponding to the summer, autumn and winter seasons, and validated against the Gelendzhik buoy data set. The discussion on wave parameters time series agreement is accompanied by maps representing simulation of the basin-wide wave fields. Error statistics are also presented to assist in understanding the problem.

WAMc4 underestimates H_s in most cases. The bias and scatter index of wave-direction results are reasonable. As for the peak and mean period, the statistics calculated indicate the lowest rate of underestimation. Generally, agreement between model output and measured data is good and the quality of the simulations increases as more severe and persistent events take place. These realistic numeric results can be noted both within certain time series and moving towards seasons with higher storm density. Poor model performance is noted when WAMc4 simulates events with low wind energy input, especially swell or combined wind-sea and swell. Simulations for combined wind-sea and swell show even poorer performance if swell and wind-sea wave directions differ significantly. In most cases, WAMc4 delays in representation of peaks with 3 to 6 hours. However, WAM performance is very good to excellent when wind-sea with high energy input is simulated in the presence of favourable fetch conditions. This can be observed in the case of waves propagating from the southwest-west related to the transition of Mediterranean depressions. In fact, most of the simulated events with largest H_s refer to storms occurring during similar meteorological situations. WAMc4 also underestimates wave parameters in cases of rapid and frequent changes of wind direction that take place during periods of adjustment of wave patterns between storms.

Such performance of a model with proven quality and wide application in many basins worldwide could be attributed solely to the limited quality of wind fields simulated for the study region with the regional atmospheric model. Further investigation and analysis using other third generation wave models driven with different available information for wind forcing is needed in order to solve the problem. Results obtained are particularly relevant for coastal studies.

Fellow

María Isabel du Monceau de Bergendal

Beneficiary country

Chile

Country of study

Canada



Scholarly work and publications

*Caso Proyecto Costanera:
El Comportamiento del SEIA
ante una comunidad que se
toma la participación en
serio*, Revista Ambiente y
Desarrollo Vol.XIV N°3,
Chile, Septiembre 1998.

*Evaluación social y
participación ciudadana en el
proceso de evaluación de
impacto ambiental*, Revista
Ambiente y Desarrollo Vol.
XIV N°1, Chile, Marzo 1998.

*Diagnóstico Sociocultural de
la comunidad de Punta de
Choros*, Universidad de la
Serena, Chile, 1995.

**Born on 18 March 1969,
Santiago de Chile, Chile**

Last degree obtained

University of Sussex,
Brighton, United Kingdom:
Master of Arts in
Environment, Development
and Policy (October 1996).

Contact

maydumonceau@hotmail.com

Place of research

University of British
Columbia, Vancouver,
Canada

Research undertaken

from 1 January
to 31 August 2004

The Political Ecology of Indigenous Movements and Tree Plantations in Chile: the role of the political strategies of the Mapuche communities in shaping their natural and social livelihoods

This research is concerned with analysing how different social groups, in particular indigenous communities, in the temperate southern region of Chile, secure their identity and livelihood under different conditions, and how these processes are related to natural resource management and environmental change. The rapid expansion of monoculture tree plantations in Chile has given rise to conflicting interests between the Mapuche people and the forest industry, the latter enjoying active support from government policies. Despite efforts made since democracy was reinstated in 1990, successive governments have made little progress in respecting and promoting the rights of indigenous peoples. The basic policy of the government has instead been an ill-defined land restitution program and monetary compensation, which are used to reduce conflict, coupled with the application of heavy-handed police and legal actions against Mapuche individuals and organizations that actively oppose the occupation of their ancestral lands by large farm and forest owners.

From a political ecology perspective, I analyse how indigenous communities use different political strategies to accommodate to, resist and/or negotiate within the changing political-economic processes and how, in turn, these responses shape natural resource use and consequently the local environment. I begin with the assumption that environmental and social impacts associated with landscape transformations are not only shaped by structural changes brought about by economic and political forces but simultaneously contested in political, cultural and symbolic ways. As a result, emerging forms of political agency have expected and unexpected consequences that give rise to new processes of environmental change at the local level. I conducted my case study research paying

particular attention to the political strategies used by the Mapuche movement in Chile in the VIII and IX regional districts. The largest rural and poorest Mapuche populations are concentrated in these regions, which comprise the largest tree planted area supporting the forest industry.

The results from my fieldwork show that both the resistance strategies used by indigenous communities and the consequent responses from the government are relatively unplanned. Both the Mapuche movement and the government become entangled in the political confusion and power struggle of conflicting political agendas which causes unexpected consequences for policy development and for the communities. Employing Foucault's notion of governmentality, I argue that, while the Mapuche have widely contested the state's neoliberal policies, they have nevertheless been drawn into a new set of governing strategies that are fundamentally neoliberal in character. These strategies have led to a reconfiguration of their relationship with the state, NGOs, and foreign aid donors. Operating at both formal and informal levels of social and political interaction, this new government mentality employs coercive and co-optive measures to cultivate Mapuche participation in the neoliberal modernization project, while continuing to neglect the longstanding relations of inequality and injustice that underlie conflicts over land and resources. The state's land policies have more the character of assistance than of restitution and, accordingly, do not integrate other issues, such as constitutional recognition of indigenous peoples, effective participation in land use plans, access to natural resources, and the protection of cultural rights, including the right to pursue development goals that are culturally appropriate.

María Isabel du Monceau de Bergendal, 31 October 2004

Fellows

Shalini Akella

Beneficiary country

India

Country of study

United Kingdom



**Born on 05 May 1974,
New Delhi, India**

Last degree obtained

Anna University, Chennai,
India: Ph.D. (August 2002)

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*Methane cycling in a Natural
Brackish Water Lake: a case
study on Publicat Lake,
South India. Ph.D. thesis,
India, August 2002.*

*Quantification of CDOM
and FDOM photobleaching
rates in UK coastal waters.
Geophysical Physical
Research Abstracts, Vol.8,
00593, Akella and G. Uher,
2006.*

Contact

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Place of research

University of New Castle,
School of Marine Science
and Technology
New Castle upon Tyne
United Kingdom

Research undertaken

from 12 January
to 11 May 2004

Quantification of Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter (CDOM) Absorbance Bleaching

Dissolved organic matter (DOM) is the most abundant form of organic matter in the ocean and one of the largest reactive carbon reservoirs on the earth. The optical properties of DOM are dominated by a complex mixture of chromophores and fluorophores.

Significantly, chromophoric DOM (CDOM) often dominates light attenuation of UV and shortwave-visible wavelengths, affecting photosynthesis and surface water photochemistry. Furthermore, CDOM spectral characteristics are useful indicators of DOM composition and source and are therefore relevant to studies of aquatic DOM cycling. In surface waters, CDOM spectral characteristics are altered through photo-degradation, a dominant sink of surface water DOM. Further studies are required to better characterize photo-degradation and to resolve the relative impacts of photochemistry, coastal sources, and estuarine mixing on the composition of coastal CDOM.

In this study, spectral characterization of coastal CDOM was carried out together with controlled laboratory studies of its photo-degradation. Spectral characterization of CDOM absorbance and fluorophoric determination of FDOM was carried out in riverine, estuarine and marine samples collected from the Tyne River, Estuary and adjacent North Sea, in northeast England. Estuarine samples were collected approximately every 2 km along the estuary. The samples were immediately filtered in the laboratory using in-line pressure filtration through the 0.7 μm TCLP glass fibre filter and 0.45+0.2 μm pore size filter cartridges. CDOM absorbance and fluorescence excitation-emission matrices were measured using a double beam UV-visible (λ -range: 190-900 nm) spectrophotometer and a spectrofluorometer.

A comparative study of photobleaching rates was carried out in river and seawater samples. Irradiation experiments were carried out using the quartz irradiation flasks filled with the sample filtrate and mounted in a merry-

go-round type solar stimulator. At regular time intervals, the flask was removed from the solar stimulator and sampled for CDOM spectrophotometry and FDOM spectrofluorometry. Sequential analysis of subsamples provided time series of CDOM photo-degradation. The estuarine transect samples showed a decrease in CDOM absorbance at 350 nm (a_{350}) with increasing salinity with values ranging from a minimum of 1.2 m^{-1} in the marine end-member (Cullercoats) to 24 m^{-1} in the riverine end-member (Wylam). The spectral slope in the irradiation experiments (marine/riverine) increased exponentially with light exposure time over the 290-350 nm wavelength. S increased during irradiation when the spectral slope S was calculated over the wavelength range below 350 nm. The increase in S is proportional to absorbance loss, suggesting that S may be used as an indicator of prior CDOM photo-degradation. a_{350} in river water after 96 hrs of irradiation was observed to be 17.50 m^{-1} with an absorbance loss of about 41%. In sea water, initial absorbance was about 20 fold lower (0.82 m^{-1}) and absorbance loss after 96 h was about 33%. FDOM intensity, corrected for absorbance at 340 nm, normalized to Raman intensity and corrected for inner filter effect, was found to decrease with increasing salinity, and showed small but significant deviations from conservative mixing.

Quantification of CDOM absorbance bleaching is essential not only for the predictive understanding of CDOM cycling of natural waters but also for broader environmental issues related to important roles of aquatic CDOM such as the global carbon cycle, the UV-B protection of aquatic life, transport of organic pollutants and trace metals and the photochemical self-cleansing capacity of surface waters. The outcome of the present study is highly relevant to both the environmental and management aspects of aquatic ecosystems and global change.

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Countries of study **Sweden and Germany**



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University of Hamburg,
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Scholarly work and publications

*Environmental Education in
Developing countries*, Jordan
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of Elementary School
Students in Jordan and its
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Level, Sex and Achievement
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Science Knowledge*, Review
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Research undertaken

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Environmental Policy Options for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development in Jordan

The central concern of the research was to study how environmental policy measures can lead to the establishment of economic incentives in the transport sector to support sustainable development in Jordan.

The research investigated the efficiency of environmental policy: conventional regulatory instruments under command and control (CAC) including emission standards and technological standards, and market-based instruments (MBIs) such as the pollution levy system and emission trading system.

The main hypothesis on which the research was based was that CAC regulations are inefficient, while MBIs are efficient regulatory instruments.

During the past 25 years, the dramatic increase in Jordan's urban population, combined with an absence of urban planning and an inefficient transportation system, has caused problems of decreased air quality and traffic congestion in urban environments. Traffic congestion further complicates matters since it not only imposes high costs in terms of lost time and high stress, but also increases emissions by decreasing the speed of travel.

The study examined a set of policies aimed at discouraging the use of private transportation during peak hours, both directly and indirectly, by increasing the attractiveness of the only available substitute, the bus. Regulation of the urban transport system, intended to reduce congestion and pollution, requires a combination of policies. On the one hand, regulating private transportation requires a number of policies that can, more or less, mimic the properties of the first-best solution. On the other hand, public transportation is often regulated in terms of fees, routes, number of departures and other characteristics. The study sheds light on the most important features that the system needs to have if it is to attract travellers away from private transportation.

Decision-makers need to know which of these characteristics is most relevant to travellers.

This is particularly important if there is a wish to shift travellers from private to public transportation, and if there is a need to provide travellers with an acceptable alternative mode, as a way to increase acceptance of environmental regulations.

Replacing private with public transportation is expected to have two further effects:

(i) a reduction in congestion levels, which has an unequivocal direct effect on emissions, and (ii) if the new passengers can be accommodated by the existing number of bus journeys, then passengers per bus trip will increase, and emissions per passenger will be lowered. For the particular case of Amman, buses run during peak hours with, on the average, approximately full loads, so a marginal mode switch is not expected to raise the number of bus journeys required to cope with the increase in demand.

Finally, the estimates of the willingness to pay for reduced travel time show that potentially large benefits can be obtained from a program aimed at reducing congestion, especially in Amman.

Qasem Saleh Alnewashi, 27 May 2004

Fellow **Ohn Mar Ohn**

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**Scholarly work
and publications**

*Differential cellular uptake
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viper venom in the kidneys,
liver and stomach before and
after antivenom adminis-
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Yangon, Myanmar, Master
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thesis, March 2002.*

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estuarine crocodile
Crocodylus porosus
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Research undertaken

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Sea Turtle Research and Conservation in Japan

During the study period (April to June 2004), field trips organized by the Sea Turtle Association of Japan were conducted at the following three study sites in Japan: Muroto (Kochi Prefecture), Yakushima Island (Kagoshima Prefecture) and Minabe (Wakayama Prefecture).

In Muroto, 34 loggerhead turtles that were accidentally caught in fishing nets were released after measuring and tagging with the Takaoka fishermen's cooperative. There were, in total, 21 female, 11 male and 2 juvenile turtles.

Night patrols were conducted on Inakahama Beach (1.2 km in length), Maehama Beach (1.6 km in length) and Yotsusahama Beach (0.2 km in length) of Yakushima Island and Mianbe-Senri Beach (1.3 km in length). New turtle tracks and nest sites were searched and measured and tags were attached to the nesting turtles. For nests below high tide, the transplantation of eggs to safe areas was carried out.

The total number of landing females was 20 in April and 638 in May on Inakahama Beach; 17 in April and 695 in May on Maehama Beach; 1 in April and 118 in May on Yotsusahama Beach; and 1 in April and 28 in May on Minabe-Senri Beach.

With very rare exceptions, the nests are deposited at night. The general nesting process consists of "emerging from the surf, ascending the beach, excavating the body pit, digging the egg chamber, oviposition, filling in the egg chamber, filling the body pit (camouflaging), and returning to the sea".

If undisturbed, the female leaves the water and crawls up the beach to a point well above high tide. She prepares the nest site before digging the egg chamber to varying depths. The surface debris is removed by either simultaneous or alternating sweeps of the

front flippers. The depth of the body pit is related to the dryness of the surface sand and the size of the turtle. There, using her rear flippers, she digs an egg chamber.

During oviposition the rear flippers are extended outwards on the sand behind the turtle so that the opening to the nest is not covered by the flippers, but is covered by the posterior margin of the carapace. The outer edges of the flippers may curl as eggs are released.

The eggs are laid singly or in groups of two or three, sometimes four. The female then fills the hole with about 100 or more golfball-sized eggs, and then gently covers the eggs with sand using her rear flippers and spreads sand over a wide area with her front flippers to hide the exact location of the chamber. This behaviour was once interpreted to be camouflaging the nest. She then leaves the nest site and re-enters the water.

The time required to complete the nesting process is approximately one to two hours. In Japan, the nesting season of the loggerhead turtle is from the end of April to August. Sporadic nesting sometimes continues through the end of August and early September. The peak nesting period is June on Yakushima Island and July on Minabe-Senri Beach.

Ohn Mar Ohn, September 2004

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Scholarly work and publications

*Coastal and Marine
Environmental Protection
Plan*, Environmental Quality
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Research undertaken

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Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Water Sector in the Gaza Strip

Water resources in the Gaza Strip are scarce and vulnerable to the fast-growing demands of the population and of the economic sectors, including agriculture, industry, commerce and tourism. Over-exploitation of the coastal aquifer has led to falling groundwater levels and decreased water quality due to sea water intrusion. Furthermore, groundwater quality is made worse through infiltration of sewage, polluted surface water, solid waste leachates, hazardous waste, pesticides, and organic and chemical fertilizers.

Achieving sustainable water resources in the Gaza Strip is a complex challenge requiring the application of a new effective tool that provides a sound and holistic framework for planning and strategic decision-making.

In recent years, the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) has been increasingly used to assess the environmental consequences of water resources policies, plans and programmes. SEA facilitates the translation of sustainability concepts into water policy and serves as an “early warning system” for anticipating and managing cumulative and large-scale effects, including climate change. The scope of the SEA is pluralist, diversified, multidisciplinary, and intersectoral.

In the context of the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the water sector in the Gaza Strip, possible indicators are selected using DPSIR as well as established frameworks. DPSIR is based on a chain of linkage defining cause and effect relationships between the socio-economic driving forces (D), pollution pressures from point and non-point sources caused by human activities (P), state of the water quality (S), impact on public health and ecosystems (I) and management responses of the water administration (R).

Standard statistical models are proposed to identify effective indicators for water sector management and geographical areas under water stress. In addition, multi-criteria techniques are proposed to compare and select appropriate actions with the aim of restoring the coastal aquifer as part of nature conservation and bridging the present and future water supply-demand gap.

The suggested measures include: (1) policy and legal instruments for water pollution control; (2) regulatory tools for controlling and auditing people’s use of water including metering, billing and revenue collection; (3) monitoring networks and information management systems; (4) purely technical actions including reuse of treated wastewater, storm water harvesting in urban and rural areas, seawater desalination, brackish water desalination, rehabilitation of water networks, regional water conveyance, water chemical treatment, clean-up and remediation of water hotspots; and (5) socio-economic measures including pricing, access to water services and awareness of the rational use of water.

Early indications demonstrate that no single measure will be able to solve the water problem in the Gaza Strip. Rather, optimal combinations of these measures are needed to ensure water availability, sustainability and security.

Taysir Salim Abu Hujair, 17 July 2004

Fellow

Mohammed Sadi Eila

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**Scholarly work
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*The First National Report on
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*Coastal and Marine
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Plan 2001*. Palestinian
Authority, 2001.

*Land-based pollution sources
2001*, Palestinian Authority,
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Integrated Approach for Sustainable Use of Water, Land and Biodiversity in Palestine

Natural resources in Palestine suffer from the negative consequences of destruction, urbanization, lack of environmental education, and inadequate enforcement of planning standards and environmental laws. Consequently, the research presents an integrated approach aimed at sustainable use of land, water and biodiversity.

The Driving force-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (DPSIR) cause-effect framework has been employed in order to integrate all indicators that contribute to natural resources and environmental management.

The DPSIR framework is based on a chain of linkages defining cause and effect relationships between the driving forces within society (D), the pressures on natural resources caused by human activities directly affecting the environment (P), the state of the natural resources (S), the impact on the environment and ecosystems (I) and responses of the society to solve the problems (S).

Multi-criteria analysis has also been used to identify the most important priorities among the alternative targets. Thus, the aim is to reverse the degradation of natural resources by integrating social, economic, environmental and institutional sustainability concepts into natural resource management, with an emphasis on integrated, preventive and ecosystem approaches. The following key issues have been developed to ensure successful implementation of the proposed integrated approach: integration of sustainable development institutions and instruments at the policy planning and management levels, providing an effective legal framework and making effective use

of economic and environmental instruments. This integrated approach is a continuous interaction between the human system on the one hand and natural resources on the other. Accordingly, a balance will be established between society's demand for resources and restoration nature conservation.

This approach ensures that the environmental consequences of policies, plans and programmes are identified and assessed during their preparation and before their adoption. It also facilitates the translation of sustainability concepts into decision-making, addresses the cumulative and large-scale effects at the early stage and stresses the importance of integrating the whole system into a sustainability framework.

Keywords: Integrated approach, Sustainability, Natural resources, Environment, Palestine

Mohammed Sadi Eila, 10 June 2004

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**Scholarly work
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*Application and Modification
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Research undertaken

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The Application of Remote Sensing Techniques and Numerical Models Management of the River Nile Ecosystem

Today, the water sector is one of the important sectors drawing the attention of experts worldwide. It is a fact that freshwater resources are limited and this fact leads directly to the importance of good and effective management of existing water resources in order to ensure the desired sustainable development.

The aim of this research is to deal with one of the main water resources in my country, the Blue Nile, the most changeable tributary of the Nile River. Management of the Blue Nile Basin must take into account the high seasonality of the river flow, high sediment load and reducing capacities of existing reservoirs. The Blue Nile Basin and Atbara rivers, originating from the Ethiopian highland, are the main sources of the Nile floods. Absence of timely information on rainfall over the Ethiopian highland, and of a reliable monitoring and forecasting system, makes Sudan vulnerable to devastating floods.

While losses cannot be avoided when major floods occur, they can be reduced if sufficient lead-time or warning time is available to inform authorities and individuals about the event and the action to be taken in advance.

Lead time can be extended by considering rainfall over the Blue Nile Basin (an area of 176,000 km²) using estimated rainfall data provided by the TAMSAT CCD/Rainfall estimation method, which uses the thermal Infra-Red (TIR) channel on the METEOSAT Satellite.

The rainfall runoff model TOPMODEL (Beven and Kirkby, 1979) has been chosen for this study to simulate the process of water movement through the catchments. TOPMODEL is a versatile hydrological model at catchments scale based on a simple topographic description and runoff mechanisms including both saturation excess and infiltration excess runoff. Two different approaches of TOPMODEL (lumped and Distributes) have been tested as has the Autoregressive model.

The study concludes that the lumped representation is better than the distributed owing mainly to the large size of the catchment and the coarse resolution of the input data.

It is clear that this ongoing research needs to continue in the future in order to complete the development of the flood warning system, which can be used by the Sudanese authorities to forecast and manage the floods of the Blue Nile River.

Any development in this system will ensure maximum prevention of the devastating damage that floods can cause in Sudan. Therefore, when I return home, I will use the knowledge I gained from my research in all future work.

Igbal Salah Mohammed Ali, 15 July 2004

Fellow **Lalle Yendoukoa Lare**

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Scholarly work and publications

*L'aménagement des bas-fonds
dans l'extrême Nord-Ouest
du Togo (Région des
Savanes); in Journal de la
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l'Université de Lomé, Tome
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Lomé en volailles et caprins
à partir de la Région des
Savanes; in Annales de
l'Université de Lomé, Série
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Research undertaken

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Water and safety interactions

South-west Burkina Faso, the setting for this study, has significant atmospheric, surface and groundwater resources. Rainfall is quite high (1,200 mm), the hydrographical network is relatively dense and the geological structure favourable to the formation of permanent and temporary water tables fed by percolating water.

These water resources are used for various purposes by a population composed of several socio-cultural groups, including the Lobi. Water interactions are numerous and varied but may be determined on three levels, natural, human and cultural.

On the natural level, water, in particular rainwater, has a major impact on other natural resources, notably the soil and vegetation. There is considerable soil erosion caused by water. Gullies grow by as much as 15 metres a year and have an average depth of 2.5 metres. When the width of a gully reaches 2 metres, it is estimated that 20 to 30 m² of arable land has been degraded, with 40 to 75 m³ of soil being lost per ravine.

On the human level, the water problem arises in terms of supply, conservation and use for socio-economic purposes. Difficulties in supplying drinking water and in sanitation give rise to several diseases caused by parasites (malaria, bilharziosis, filariasis and amebiasis), bacteria (typhoid fever and leptospirosis) and viruses (such as measles and hepatitis).

However, the health or medical aspects of water cannot be isolated from other uses of water, such as agriculture, since they are often in competition with water requirements for food and health. Shallow wells, sunk to supply market-gardening areas in the off season, are often used as sources of water for people and animals in the dry season.

Lastly, on the cultural level, the origin and use of water raise philosophical and sociological issues that often reduce the efficiency of water resource management. There are therefore many water-related issues, and they are social, economic, sanitary, cultural and political in nature.

Water is a basic, finite and much-coveted resource that should be used and conserved better. More rational water management may be envisaged under a participatory and integrated approach that incorporates the value of endogenous knowledge and of all the conditions that improve life in rural areas.

“Water is life” is more than a mere slogan because the future of humanity will depend on its conservation.

Lalle Yendoukoa Lare, 19 August 2004

Fellow

Halyna Hudz

Beneficiary territory

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Country of study

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Scholarly work and publications

Numerical Methods and Software for Problems of Mathematical Modelling of Basic Chemical Elements Cycle in the Biosphere, Ph.D. thesis, SSR Institute of Information Infrastructure, Lviv, Ukraine, November 2001.

Verification Times Underlying the Kyoto Protocol: Consideration of Risk/Interim Report, International Institute for Applied System Analysis, Vienna, 2002, 34 p. (in English).

Peculiarities of programming for high-effective parallel computers /Proc. of the 7th International Conference on Automatic Control. "Automatics-2000", Vol.6, pp.156-161 (in Lviv, Ukraine, 2000) (in Ukrainian).



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The Risk-based Approach in the Concept of the Verification Times Underlying the Kyoto Protocol

This research deals with the issue of uncertainty, verification, and risk management under the Kyoto Protocol, which is being studied at IIASA by the Forestry (FOR) Project in collaboration with the Risk, Modeling and Society (RMS) Project. This work is a continuation of research started by the author under the guidance of Y. Ermoliev and M. Jonas, funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (Young Scientists Summer Program). Previous results were presented at the Workshop *Greenhouse Gas Accounting: Uncertainty – Risk – Verification* that was held at IIASA on 13-14 May 2002 as well as at the First International Conference on Inductive Modeling Methods held in Lviv, Ukraine on 20-25 May 2003. In June and August 2004, the author continued this research work at the Academy of Computer Sciences and Management (Bielsko-Biala, Poland), under the guidance of F.Marecki, within the framework of the UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Programme.

In Chapter 1 of this paper different components of the climate system and also some of the climate models are considered. In Chapter 2 natural greenhouse gases effects as an impact on the climate system are introduced. In Chapter 3 the typical mathematical models of the carbon cycle are described. The need and relevance of considering the Verification Times Concept (VTC) for assessment of greenhouse gases uncertainties and the main aspects of known approaches in general are introduced in Chapter 4. The changes in global net carbon emissions— here, atmospheric CO₂ and CO₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion, cement production and gas flaring— in terms of their uncertainties are analysed, and the methodology for the probabilistic estimation and projection of VTs, based on the probabilistic description of uncertainties, are

developed. The probabilistic VTC were applied on the global scale. The results of this work are presented and discussed in Chapter 5. This paper proposes a probabilistic (risk-based) approach to address verification of changes in global net carbon emissions— here, the change in atmospheric CO₂ and CO₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion, cement production and gas flaring—under the Kyoto Protocol. A methodology is developed for assessing these net emission changes, which are characterized by uncertainty distributions, in terms of their verification times. The verification time is the time until a net emission signal begins to outstrip its underlying uncertainty. For a number of reasons, namely (1) data availability, (2) consistency in accounting net carbon fluxes, and (3) spatio-temporal conditions, which correspond to the current level of sophistication that is used in the approach, it is applied to the global scale. However, the temporal verification conditions of the approach correspond to those on sub-global scales, in accordance with the Protocol.

Three conclusions emerge from this study:

- 1- characterizing changes in global net carbon emissions by equal-sided (symmetric) uncertainties, as practiced by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, leaves valuable information unutilized;
- 2- the comparison of probabilistically determined verification times where signal of carbon changes was described linearly and by the second order polynomial shows that they are different and depends largely on the polynomial coefficient;
- 3- the comparison of probabilistically and deterministically determined verification times shows that they differ— the probabilistic verification time tends to be greater (more conservative) than the deterministic verification time.



Carlos Alberto Ruiz Garvia
Geo-referencing forest plots with GPS



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Mohammed Ibrahim Abu Daya
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Azime Tezer Kemer
Picture taken at the Omerli Watershed

Environment / What the fellows say

“The UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi fellowship Program allows me not only to focus on my postgraduate research studies at the Goettingen University, but also to explore areas of leadership and opportunities to contribute to environmental issues, such as climate change and renewable energy initiatives. I am extremely grateful for all the support that the fellowship Program provides to me.”
Carlos Alberto Ruiz garvia

“New space technologies (Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems) are today invaluable tools for environmental information management.”
Chrétien Ngouanet

“The UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowship enabled me to develop my personality and give me recognition in my socio-professional environment.”
Kouadio Michel Yao

“The research funded by UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi has undoubtedly helped me go far in my career, as after I had finished it I was appointed to be a health consultant of an international organization (InWEnt - Internationale Weiterbildung und Entwicklung gGMBH-) to run several projects for tsunami rehabilitation and reconstruction in Aceh, Indonesia. I was also involved in a local unit, EPI-Treat Unit, which served on teaching, research, advocacy and training using an epidemiological approach. A number of national health surveys were conducted by the unit under my supervision.”
Putri Chairani Eyanoeer

“I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the research support from the UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Programme-2004, as I have increased my knowledge in the field of environment; disseminated information about the Research Fellowships Programme to our staff, university, and line agencies; improved my work; and had opportunities to present my research and share experience with international participants in the 23rd Conference of the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations in Vientiane, Lao PDR.”
Virany Sengtianthr

“Plant resources are important and crucial for health and development of any country. The main objective of the research I undertook under the UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Fellowship programme was to study the tissue culture methods of four endangered species of medicinal plants in Nigeria. I have acquired scientific knowledge in mass propagation of some endangered Nigerian medicinal plants by means of tissue culture.”
Taiye Remi Fasola

“I have benefited a lot from this fellowship program, where I have improved my scientific knowledge and understanding, and strengthened my capacity to operate at a senior level.”
Mohammed Ibrahim Abu Daya

“From this experience I am more aware of the importance of the ecological point of view in urban sustainability and in urban planning.”
Azime Tezer Kemer

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**Scholarly work
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*Land use analysis and
forest-base mitigation option
for climate change in the
lowlands of Bolivia.*

Paper submitted and
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conference: Applied Forest
Ecological Experiments,
Davos, Switzerland
(5-7 August 2003). Ruiz, C.,
Kleinn C. & Olschewski, R.

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secondary forest and fallow
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from 4 January
to 4 July 2005

Forest production potential and ecosystem quality of forest margins recovered from agriculture and grazing tools for land-use decisions for poverty alleviation in semiarid Bolivia

Forest fallow plays a vital role in the maintenance of land quality and is also important for the community. The total benefits of ecosystem services provided by forest fallows and the potential for forest production have not been evaluated, largely because forest productivity under secondary land cover has rarely been measured with an eye to marketable products.

In this project, we explored options for improved land-use management in secondary forest. We measured nutrient budgets in soils and vegetation and used tree-ring analysis to predict tree productivity in fallow vegetation corresponding to different succession states. Trials were established to identify limiting factor in soils.

Overall fertility may be lower in young secondary forest. Unlike the other indices of fertility, K levels were significantly higher in young forest, which may indicate translocation functions of plants when K becomes a limiting factor. This result is consistent with more rapid turnover of organic matter or greater amounts of material cycling through the forest floor litter layer.

Tree species of young secondary forest showed a higher mean annual diameter increment than those from old secondary forest. Tree ring analysis for core-samples of *Cordia dodecandra* and *Piscidia piscipula* showed a positive relation with the annual rainfall and total precipitation in the rainy period.

In *Piscidia piscipula* the mean ring-widths vary by 0.8 mm per year.

Fellow

Chrétien Ngouanet

Beneficiary country

Cameroon

Country of study

Gabon

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Last degree obtained

Université de Dschang,
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(11 April 2001).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*Emergence des organisations
paysannes dans une zone
rurale en mutation:
dynamiques et ambiguïtés.
Cas des Hautes terres de
l'Ouest – Cameroun.*

Master's Thesis, Université
de Dschang, Cameroon,
11 April 2001.

*Marginalisation de la
caféiculture dans la politique
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Cameroun: Le cas du
groupement Bangang dans
le Département des
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Ngouanet C..

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2003 à Magha.*
Rapport scientifique.
MINREST/INC/DRG. 65 P.
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Ngouanet C., Tiafack O.

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Place of research

Ecole Nationale des Eaux et
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Fondamentales
Libreville, Gabon

Research undertaken

from 5 December 2004
to 4 June 2005

Tropical Mountain Land Use and Environmental Degradation: Case of the West Cameroon Highlands

Central Africa has the second largest expanse of forestland in the world (2.1 million km²). Escalating population growth in this area since the 1970s has subjected these natural resources to increasing pressure, thus giving rise to efforts to seek a new approach to manage them.

The Ecole Nationale des Eaux et Forêts (ENEF) in Libreville, Gabon, is a longstanding subregional institution established in the years before independence. It accepts students from various French-speaking countries (Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Senegal and Togo) and aims to provide them with training adapted to the subregion's needs, chiefly the sound and sustainable management of forest, wildlife, fishery and aquaculture resources. Since 2000, ENEF, in association with the Association pour le Développement de l'Information Environnementale (ADIE) and Omar Bongo University, has been offering specialized courses leading to a diploma (DESS) in methods and techniques of environmental information management. It is within this framework that I conducted my research under the 2004 UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Fellowship Programme on the theme of Tropical Mountain Land Use and Environmental Degradation: Case of the West Cameroon Highlands.

Based on topographic and geological maps, aerial photographs taken in 1964 and 1983, and Landsat (1978, 1988 and 2003), ERS (1996) and RADARSAT (2003) images, we produced an overall assessment of environmental trends in the West Cameroon highlands. A digital terrain model combined with an analysis of multitemporal, multisensor images enabled us to ascertain that in that zone an average of 18% of woodlands a year have been lost to settlement and farming activities. It is important to note that some 20%

of the forest-cover change occurs in steeply sloping parts (more than 30%).

The environmental impacts have been quick to emerge. Over the past three decades, in both rural and urban sections, this zone has been the scene of many disastrous mass earth movements: rock falls, cave-ins, landslides, mudflows and flooding. These disasters have, in many cases, caused considerable damage, with the loss of human life and destruction of homes, crops and various infrastructures and facilities. The peripheral areas - steep mountain slopes and the great cuesta formed by the plateaux, recently established as the granary of Central Africa (owing to the new Customs Code of the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa, which exempts foodstuffs from customs duties) - represent a new field of research of interest to politicians, development agents and researchers alike.

New space technologies combined with geographic information systems are extremely effective tools for environmental research, but this new approach needs complementing by research on the ground. So our study must be supplemented by fieldwork carried out within the framework of the environmental and ecological studies programme run by the Institut National de Cartographie in Cameroon.

Chrétien Ngouanet, 9 March 2006
Translated from French by UNESCO

Fellow **Kouadio Michel Yao**

Beneficiary country **Côte d'Ivoire**

Country of study **France**



Scholarly work and publications

Mise en place de Plantations agro forestières dans la zone tampon de la Réserve de Lamto (Aheremou, Côte d'Ivoire). Rapport d'activités 15p. 2003. Tondoh J.E. et K M Yao.

Born on 2 August 1968
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Last degree obtained

Université d'Abobo-Adjamé, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire: D.E.A. (Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies) in Environmental Sciences and Management (13 December 2001).

Evaluation des impacts de la plantation d'ananas sur les paramètres des ressources en eau. (Aheremou, Côte d'Ivoire), 2002. Yao K.M et Savane I. (unpublished)

Evaluation des impacts de la plantation d'ananas sur les paramètres du sol. (Aheremou, Côte d'Ivoire), 2001. Yao K.M et Konaté S. (unpublished).

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Place of research

Laboratoire d'Ecologie de l'Ecole Normale Supérieure de l'Université Paris VI
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Research undertaken

from 14 September
to 13 December 2004

The Impact of land use on soil organic carbon and nitrogen dynamics in the Tene Tropical Forest (Oume, Centre-West of Côte d'Ivoire)

The tropical forests that contain more than half of global species diversity are subject to increasing human pressure, leading to the replacement of natural vegetation by crops. The impact of this land-use conversion on belowground carbon and nitrogen contents within the Tene tropical forest has not been examined extensively in the past.

In response to this situation, assessment and monitoring of the biological diversity and soil quality of the remaining tropical forest patches are needed to determine sustainable land use, conservation and management. A soil assessment programme was accordingly funded by the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Belowground Biodiversity Project in the rain tropical forests of seven countries, including Côte d'Ivoire.

In Côte d'Ivoire, the study was carried out in the semi-deciduous forest zone of Oumé (Centre-West of Côte d'Ivoire).

The aim of our study was to compare the effects of land-use systems on the soil organic carbon and nitrogen dynamics of the topsoil (0-10 cm) and to evaluate factors governing soil organic carbon and nitrogen across the landscape. We addressed the question of how the soil organic matter reacts to conversion from natural forest to croplands within the Tene semi-deciduous forest. Thus, Tene protected natural semi-deciduous forest and tree plantations, semi-permanent mixed food crops, perennial agricultural fields (cocoa), and fallow fields were sampled.

Results showed that organic carbon (OC) decreased significantly from natural forest to cropland ($p=0.007$). The average values ranged from 2.58% in natural forest, 1.99% in mixed tree plantation, 1.69% in *Tectona grandis* plantation, to 1.48% in *Theobroma cacao* plantation and 1.29% in mixed crops food system. Significant low soil pH was noted in *Theobroma cacao* plantation (5.98), mixed tree plantation (6.7) and mixed crops-food system (6.9), compared to the soils of natural forest (7.2) and *Tectona grandis* plantation (7.26), with $p<0.0001$. Total soil N (0.0012), soil organic carbon (0.007) and soil C:N ratios (0.013) were significantly influenced by land-use systems.

Higher mineralizable C and N levels were observed in natural forest, mixed tree and *Tectona grandis* plantation, with significant differences between pooled land-use systems (CMIN, $p=0.0084$; NMIN, $p<0.0001$).

Clay content was positively correlated to a significant extent with soil carbon and nitrogen contents in the topsoil at 10 cm, and areas of higher clay content therefore contained elevated carbon and nitrogen levels ($r^2=0.637$; $p<0.0001$). Although, a common attribute to many agricultural systems, bulk densities were not significantly altered by land-use changes.

Keywords: soil quality, land uses, tropical natural forest, *Tectona grandis*, *Theobroma cacao*, mixed crop food systems, organic carbon, total nitrogen.

Kouadio Michel Yao, 17 February 2005

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Beneficiary country **Indonesia**

Country of study **Thailand**



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Last degree obtained

College of Public Health,
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M.S Epidemiology (Public
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**Scholarly work
and publications**

*Factors associated with
occupational injury in
plywood industries in
Medan city: Indonesian
Journal of Public Health.*
Indonesia, 2000.

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Place of research

Mahidol University
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Research undertaken

from 6 September 2004
to 5 February 2005

Management of Fresh Water Resources: The role of water quality, quantity and its allocation in sustaining human health

In many parts of the world, freshwater ecosystems are already degraded as the result of a range of human activities, including water extraction, pollution and physical alteration. At the same time, the demand for freshwater has more than doubled since the start of the century and the yearly per capita potential availability of renewable freshwater has been declining steadily. Meanwhile, the proportion of available but polluted water has continuously increased, mostly because of changes in the modes of industrial and agricultural production and increasing urbanization. Domestic water supply is one of the fundamental requirements for human life. Inadequate water supply leads to the spread of disease, and it is well known that life itself cannot be sustained beyond a few days without it. Almost all developing countries, such as Indonesia, are experiencing scarcity of water resources, and recourse to important stocks, desalinization and the use of non-renewable water resources is deemed necessary. Population growth, economic development and financial and technical constraints further exacerbate this situation.

A study was carried out in Nakhon Prathom, Thailand, to assess the quality, quantity and allocation of fresh water resources and their relation to human health. Results showed that water quality in various water resources, including surface water, ground and sea water, have deteriorated, particularly in crowded communities and areas of developmental activity, due to contamination by toxic substance from a range of human activities.

In 2004 the Tha Chin river, which is one of the main water resources, was identified as the dirtiest river basin in Thailand (class 5). In particular, the physical and biological characteristics of the water resources have been changed in terms of the loss of DO, the presence of BOD and a high total of coliform bacteria. The results also showed that the health status of the people was associated with the availability of clean fresh water (pipe water): the highest incidence of waterborne disease was found in districts that relied mainly for their daily water consumption on underground, river or canal water. In term of quantity, the Provincial Waterworks Company, which serves as water supplier, produced enough water for the whole population of Nakhon Prathom, However, due to the inadequate infrastructure including a limited and poor piping system, water availability is a problem in Nakhon Prathom, as in most of the country. The Thai Government has today adopted a new concept known as Thailand Integrated Water Resource Management, which is a holistic approach to problem solving, and has also formulated recommendations based on priorities.

Putri Chairani Eyanoe, 28 April 2005

Fellow

Virany Sengtianth

Beneficiary country

Lao People's Democratic Republic

Country of study

Thailand



**Born on 30 October 1966
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Last degree obtained

Kasetsart University,
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of Science in Human
Settlement Planning
Geography (29 June 1999).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*Changes of land use in
municipal area of Vientiane
1983 and 1991: Thesis,*
Kasetsart University,
Bangkok, Thailand, 1999.

*Map of urban core area
in Vientiane municipality
using GIS for the urban
environmental database:*

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Technology and
Environment Agency
publishes, Lao PDR, 2002.

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in urban area of Vientiane
capital city using GIS:
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water and environment
sanitation, Proceedings of the
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Development Centre
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Research undertaken

from 10 October 2004
to 9 April 2005

Wastewater management and buildings in Vientiane capital city using Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Vientiane is the Capital City of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), recently upgraded from Vientiane Municipality to Vientiane Capital City. The population of Vientiane is 639,326 and more than eighty percent of the population now lives in the urban area. The increase in rural-urban migration and industrial sector growth will result in the rise of solid wastes, given the lack of an adequate drainage system, sanitation network and effective monitoring by national government agencies and local communities. The wastewater in the urban area of Vientiane Capital City currently stagnates in open roadside drains. The ground water has also been contaminated by on-site sanitation systems, such as septic tanks. In addition, there is a lack of data-sharing information, especially database generation using geographic information systems (GIS). The purpose of the research programme is to investigate wastewater management in households and buildings; to provide for wastewater collection with analysis systems and sampling stations using GIS; and to establish a GIS database system for monitoring and for disseminating wastewater management knowledge to stakeholders and increasing public awareness.

The research methodology involved: the exploitation of spatial and attribute data in combination with field interviews conducted with 100 villages on household wastewater management; and the overview of environment law and regulation. The geographic information system generated a wastewater database with spatial and attribute data, such as routes, buildings, villages with population distribution, sampling stations, wastewater quality monitoring data, etc.

The analysis techniques consisted of database generation and map visualization. Map overlay techniques were used to study the main sources of wastewater, wastewater distribution

boundaries, verified selection and thematic mapping analysis by GIS software. Vientiane Capital City has no sewerage system, and most households use septic tank facilities. There are two type of toilet in Vientiane, namely the cistern-flush latrine linked to septic tank, and the pour-flush latrine with septic tank. About sixty percent of these urban households release wastewater into public drainage channels. About ninety-three percent of wastewater from the kitchen, bathroom, and washing are discharged without treatment. There has been little control or regulation of private facilities and no standard technology control. In addition, the infiltration of bacteria into the soil and groundwater will continue to affect human health and the environment. In order to correct this trend, the Government of Lao PDR has shown signs of renewed interest in the sector by assigning responsibilities and by planning for the provision of sewerage disposal facilities and the improvement of urban sanitation.

The research study provides an input for environmental reporting and decision-making on urban planning and monitoring. Its findings on the current state of household wastewater management and on-site sewage disposal practices in the urban area of Vientiane capital city are conducive to the improvement of wastewater management. The GIS database of wastewater management in the urban area of Vientiane capital city can also be used as a tool in environmental workshops and in future monitoring.

Virany Sengtianthr, 21 June 2005

Fellow

Taiye Remi Fasola

Beneficiary country

Nigeria

Country of study

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Last degree obtained

University of Ibadan, Faculty
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PhD in Botany
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**Scholarly work
and publications**

*Back extractivism and uses
of some medicinal plants:*
Nigerian journal of Botany,
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Fasola, T.R and A. Egunyomi.

*Indigenous Uses of some
Medicinal plants from
Dambatta and Azare areas of
Northern Nigeria: Journal of
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*The contribution of women
herb sellers to health care
delivery in Ibadan, Nigeria:*
The Nigerian Field 67:59:66;
Nigeria, 2002.

*Screening Nigerian Plants for
their Medicinal Importance:
Journal of Science Research.
Vol.6 (1) 51-57, Nigeria,
2000.*

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Place of research

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Department of Botany
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Research undertaken

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to 4 May 2005

Rapid propagation of some endangered Nigerian medicinal plants by means of tissue culture

Among the various media tested, MS (Murashige and Skoog, 1962) proved to be the most suitable for the *in vitro* multiplication of *Tetrapleura tetraptera*. Of the various different combination and concentration of growth regulators used, maximum callusing was obtained on MS supplemented with 2,4 D (2.0 mg/l) and kinetin (0.5mg/l).

The highest shoot multiplication initiation was observed from the hypo-cotyledon on MS medium fortified with 2.0mg/l BAP and 0.5mg/l kinetin with additives of 50mg/l ascorbic acid and 25mg/l each of adenine, arginine and citric acid.

The seeds of *T. tetraptera* had the highest germination (70%) *in vitro* within 2 weeks when treated with 60% H₂SO₄ for 30 minutes. Fresh seeds of *Garcinia cola* germinated *ex vitro* in 10 weeks with no growth *in vitro* even from the juvenile explants.

Both the multiple shoots induction (Figs 8 & 9) and embryoid-like structure of *T. tetraptera* have great potential for multiplication and in terms of further work. There was no growth observed in *Rauwolfia vomitoria* and *Xylopi aethiopica*.

Taiye Remi Fasola, 24 May 2005



- Fig.1: Callus initiation on MS medium + 2.0 mg/l of 2, 4-D.
- Fig.2: Globular embryoid-like structures developed from callus cultures on MS medium + 2.0 mg/l of 2,4-D + 0.5 mg/l of Kinetin.
- Fig.3: Globose structure differentiated from callus cultures.
- Fig.4: Close up view of regenerating callus cultures.
- Fig.5: Mass of unorganized cells.
- Fig.6: Plantlet regeneration.
- Fig.7: Germination of seed of *Tetrapleura tetraptera* on hormone-free MS medium
- Fig.8: Multiple shoots induction from cotyledonary node on MS medium with 2.0mg/l BAP
- Fig.9: Differentiation of shoots from hypocotyl of *T. tetraptera* on MS containing 2.0 mg/l BAP and 0.5 mg/l Kinetin
- Fig.10: *Tetrapleura tetraptera* seedling raised *in vivo*
- Fig.11: *Garcinia cola* Seedling

Fellow **Mohammed Ibrahim Abu Daya**

Beneficiary country **Palestinian Authority**

Country of study **United Kingdom**



Born on 23 November 1973
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Last degree obtained

International Institute for
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Earth Sciences, ITC,
Enschede, Netherlands:
Master of Coastal Studies
(6 September 2001).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*Analysis of multitemporal
satellite imagery for total
suspended sediments in
Coastal waters of Golfoito and
Golfo Dulce, Costa Rica:*
M.Sc Thesis;
ITC-Netherlands, 2001.

*Coastal Zone of Gaza Strip,
Palestinian National
Authority: Ministry of
Environmental Affairs,
General Directorate of
Natural Resources
Protection, Hassanen,
M. & Abu Daya, M., 2000.*

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Place of research

University Marine Biological
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United Kingdom

Research undertaken

from 2 January
to 1 October 2005

Monitoring and assessment of coastal water quality remote sensing and conventional measurements along the coast of the Gaza Strip

This study analysed monthly physico-chemical and faecal indicator data collected from five marine monitoring stations along the Gaza Strip coastal water located on the south-eastern Mediterranean Sea. Sampling was carried over a seven-month period in 2005 to assess the seawater quality.

The results of this study have shown spatial and temporal variations in seawater quality along the Gaza Strip shoreline. The observed variations in physico-chemical parameters (pH, water temperature, salinity, turbidity and dissolved oxygen) and biological parameters (faecal coliform and faecal enterococci) were very clearly linked to problems such as raw sewage discharge and storm water runoff.

Variance analysis of the results has shown that the stations close to the raw sewage discharge have very high faecal coliform and faecal enterococci levels compared with the stations free from pollution. The data indicates high microbiological contamination of seawater above internationally accepted limits, especially at stations close to sewage outlets.

The influence of sewage and storm water runoff on the salinity, turbidity and dissolved oxygen were very clear and varied significantly in the stations close to the outlets.

This study shows that the stations close to the raw sewage discharge have very high faecal coliform and faecal enterococci levels compared with the free pollution stations. The data indicates a high microbiological contamination of seawater above internationally accepted limits, especially in stations situated on sewage outfalls. (FC) and (FE) reach an average of 4000 and 3000 respectively, which violates EU standards for bathing water (Mandatory=2000/100 ml, Guideline<100/100ml).

The first 8 years of SeaWiFS ocean colour data (September 1997-December 2004) provide the first synoptic quantification of seasonal and inter-annual phytoplankton chlorophyll variability in the South Levantine Basin. Climatological monthly averages show spatial patterns associated with the annual cycle.

The proverbial blue colour of the Mediterranean in general, and the South Levantine Basin specifically, reflects some of the most extreme oligotrophic waters in the world. The Sea-surface Sea-viewing Wide Field-of-view Sensor (SeaWiFS) satellite data show the relatively clear, pigment-poor, surface water of the Basin with a generally increasing oligotrophy towards the pelagic offshore water. This is apparent even from space.

The chlorophyll concentrations were extremely low with the exception of waters at the boundary of the Nile Delta plume. However, chlorophyll concentrations are relatively higher near the coastline and decline toward the deeper water. Furthermore, the higher chlorophyll content near the coastal areas is caused by heavy loads of anthropogenic distributes pollutants. Concentrations are elevated throughout the year and vary seasonally, with a maximum bloom superimposed in winter and autumn and a minimum in summer and spring. In the transitional seasons of spring and autumn, chlorophyll concentrations are inverted from the winter peak to the summer minimum, and visa versa.

Mohammed Ibrahim Abudaya, 12 January 2006

Fellow

Azime Tezer Kemer

Beneficiary country

Turkey

Country of study

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Last degree obtained

Istanbul Technical University
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PhD in Urban Planning
(23 July 1997).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*Istanbul Project, Istanbul
Historic Peninsula
Conservation Study,*
UNESCO-WHC, ITU, with
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M., Helvacioğlu, I. and
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Conservation,* ITU Faculty of
Architecture, Cenkler Press,
ISBN:975-561-191-6, with
Zeren Gulersoy, N. and Genli
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Place of research

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Research undertaken

from 1 November 2004
to 30 April 2005

A research proposal for a potential Urban-MAB Site(s) in Istanbul: Urban Biosphere Reserves (BRs) as an instrument for sustainable development

The emergence of environmental degradation and its life-threatening impacts in many domains make global commitments a necessity. The Millennium Development Goals, the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Sustainable Cities Program, the Local Agenda 21, the Convention on Combating Desertification, the Convention on Wetlands, the World Heritage Convention and many other global programmes oblige governments to adopt meaningful measures in pursuit of sustainability. Whatever the indicators of sustainable development chosen, biodiversity - according to the Water, Energy, Health Agricultural Production and Biodiversity Initiative - is the basis for sustainable development. According to United Nations forecasts, population and its concentration in urban areas will continue to increase at escalating rates in the 21st century. Mega-cities in the developing world will attract in their hinterlands much of this urbanizing trend (UN-HABITAT, 2003). There is an urgent need for immediate collaboration among natural scientists, planners, economists and social scientists to work towards more sustainable practices for urban development.

While the Statutory Framework of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves (BRs) establishes no definite distinction with regard to type (urban, non-urban, rural, countryside, etc.), size, locality and the extent of human involvement, the majority of BRs are tenuously related to urban areas. The applicability of the BR concept to urban areas has been discussed in UNESCO forums, conferences and workshops. While there is currently no formally designated "Urban Biosphere Reserves" in the world, there are some examples of cities and metropolitan areas such as Canberra, Cape Town, Istanbul and Rome where the applicability of UNESCO's MAB

Programme to urban areas has been studied. Today, the fundamental challenges faced by BRs are leading to the creation of new sites to improve the world's coverage of protected areas, including the addition of an "urban" dimension to foster sustainable development. The present research aims to assess the discussion process and the criteria adduced before going on to evaluate the possibility of applying this approach to the case of Istanbul.

Comprehensive assessments in the MAB Urban Group reports point to the compatibility of "Urban BRs" with the Statutory Framework and the Seville Strategy. Other global programmes, including those relating to sustainable development, healthy cities, urban resilience and world heritage, can make a valuable contribution to the process of assessing Urban BRs. However, this process has to be instructive and clear in its goals. Furthermore, the conservation function of Urban BRs can be broadened in terms of degraded ecosystems and habitats to improve biodiversity conservation. In other words, the major goal of BRs "to protect unique habitats and ecosystems" can be expanded to include Urban BRs - seen as ecosystems degraded or at risk of degradation - for urban biodiversity enhancement and more sustainable practices. Today, one of the most important global commitments on environment and sustainable development is to provide better training programmes at all levels. UNESCO's *Education for All* and *Education for Sustainable Development* programmes have to clarify resource channels and ensure improved partnerships among global and national knowledge networking initiatives. Finally, "planning discipline" has to play a critical role in this process to advance a dialogue on the sustainable use of urban biodiversity.

Azime Tezer Kemer, 16 August 2005

“... dialogue, founded on mutual respect and understanding, and on knowledge and respect, constitutes the best way to overcome ignorance and promote peace, tolerance and the dialogue among civilizations, cultures, peoples and religions.”

“I believe that we should make the 21st century a human-centered century... In order to build such a future, that is to say such a ‘tomorrow’, the most important thing is for the intellectuals to gather by crossing national borders and sharing their confidence in the future based on common aspirations emerging from their intellectual dialogue.”

Koïchiro Matsuura
Director-General

[Following the Executive Board’s adoption, at its 174th Session, of the Decision regarding the respect for freedom of expression and respect for religious beliefs UNESCO, Paris, 13 April 2006]

Keizo Obuchi
then Prime Minister

[From Opening Remarks at a meeting on “Intellectual Dialogue on Building Asia’s Tomorrow” Tokyo, 2 December 1998]

Intercultural Dialogue

2003

- Noël Sanou
- Aune Valk
- Reyna Elizabeth Peña Velasco
- Luisa Magaly Davalos Robles

2004

- Abdrahman Togou
- Dainora Pociūtė Abukevičienė
- Marzena Dorota Godzińska
- Jaroslava Panakova-Bagdasarova

Fellows under the 2003 cycle

Fellows under the 2004 cycle



Noël Sanou
Countries of study: Canada and France



Aune Valk
Countries of study: United States of America
and United Kingdom



Reyna Elisabeth Peña Velasco (▲ France)
Countries of study: France and Egypt



Reyna Elisabeth Peña Velasco (▲ Egypt)
Countries of study: France and Egypt



Luisa Magaly Dávalos Robles
at the UNESCO's Library, Paris France

Intercultural Dialogue

“Thanks to the award of the 2003 UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Fellowship, I have begun working on a unique doctoral thesis at the Faculty of Languages, Letters and Arts of the University of Ouagadougou. This is following an internship at the Musée de l’Homme (Paris) and a documentary research residency at Laval University (Quebec City).”
Noël Sanou

“Altogether, the period of studies and research was an enormously enriching and inspiring experience for my career in cross-cultural psychology.”
Aune Valk

“The UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowship gave me the opportunity to meet significant groups of scholars from many countries, not only French and Egyptian. It was like an echo of the whole planet thinking about the dialogue between cultures. The UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowship has

allowed me to achieve a deep confidence in human ability to shape a new future and develop new wisdom, beyond the seeming differences between Islam and the West.”
Reyna Elisabeth Peña Velasco

“My research into intercultural dialogue has taught me a lot about the values shared by all cultures and my belief that conflicts can be resolved by peaceful means is now stronger than ever. After completing the research, I wanted to travel to find out about other peoples and cultures in their environments and thus learn even more about them.”
Luisa Magaly Dávalos Robles

Fellow

Noël Sanou

Beneficiary country

Burkina Faso

Countries of study

Canada and France



**Born on 24 December 1971
in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire**

Last degree obtained

Université de Ouagadougou,
Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso:
DEA Linguistique (Nov.1999).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*Le masque comme symbole
de cohésion sociale et d'unité
politique chez les Bobo:*

*étude du cas du village de
Borodougou, Master's thesis,
Université de Ouagadougou,
Département de lettres
modernes, Ouagadougou,
Burkina Faso, 250p.,
1995-1996.*

*Les chansons de masques en
pays bobo; figures pour un
ethno-féminisme, DEA thesis,
Département de linguistique,
173p, 1998-1999. Université
de Ouagadougou.*

*Du masque comme symbole
identitaire et marque
d'historicité en pays Bobo.
Enjeux et perspectives d'une
herméneutique interdiscipli-
naire à base sémiotique, in
Actes du colloque Jeunes
chercheurs francophones,
Université Laval, December
2004 (to be published in
2005).*

Contact

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Place of research

- Musée de l'Homme,
Laboratoire d'Ethnologie,
Paris, France.
- Université de Laval,
Faculté des Lettres,

Département des
littératures, Laval, Canada.

Research undertaken

from 24 September 2003
to 23 March 2004

Semiotic analysis of the mask as a symbol of identity and a mark of historicity among the Bobo: study of a society described as segmentary

Ethnoanthropology is said to be an offshoot of colonization. The suggestion here is that this methodological model will contribute for a very long time to knowledge about how humanity has evolved towards the Promethean form in the West, of which other cultures and societies are but earlier stages or counter-models. From this materialist point of view, a people's cultural level is proportional to its level of technical progress.

It was in this context that societies, such as that of the Bobo which stretches from western Burkina Faso to Mali, have been described as palaeonegritic on account of their customs, which are largely unknown to those who seek to understand them from the outside, and their level of relative technical and material development. The mask, material proof of such a technical and cultural stage, is considered to be an archaic form of human expression – a stable, religious and mystical object.

The significance of the mask object has changed constantly in keeping with contexts of renewal in the field of anthropology and has gradually incorporated considerations of dynamics and change. The analysis has not, however, broken with the holistic view and the underlying ideological strategies of evolutionism. In fact, it could be said that masks, ritually alive and attractive, represent a message whose meaning must be grasped not only at a given moment but also as the gradual settling of meaning in context.

The mask thus constitutes a field of semiotics that must no longer be confined to "mythography" which always identifies the mask and any related studies by reference to a stylistic "setting" regardless of its textual functions.

This realization of the distinctive character of African art in terms of its aesthetic and ideological status in general and that of the mask in particular has led to the drafting of a thesis under the defining title of "Bobo masks as symbols of identity and marks of historicity: ritualization, textualization and pragmatics".

Thus entitled, this research unpretentiously examines the contexts in which the models habitually used to analyse Africa and its civilizations are formulated. The fact remains that, owing to their polyphony and polymorphy, masks are "total art" in which various systems of expression come together to form a total language that should alert the analyst to the tradition of assimilating it to be merely a religious relic that was effective before the dawn of prehistory.

Such a paradigm change is thrown into sharp relief, in particular, in societies whose political tradition and everyday expression rule out the establishment of a gallery of human figures embodying the onward march of history in, moreover, an oral setting: from this epistemological standpoint, Bobo society is a segmentary, mask society. Therefore the question, for some, is whether the mask is capable of changing an analytical and referential "postmodernity" as a mark of historicity and symbol of identity, a geometric locus of convergence of several statements.

Noël Sanou, 23 May 2006
Translated from French by UNESCO

fellow **Aune Valk**

Beneficiary country **Estonia**

Countries of study **United States of America and United Kingdom**

Scholarly work and publications



Eesti ja eestlased võrdlevas perspektiivis: kultuuridevahelisi uurimusi 20. sajandi lõpust, (Estonia and Estonians in a comparative perspective) (pp. 1-270) Tartu: Tartu Ülikooli Kirjastus. Edition 2002.

Ethnic attitudes in relation to ethnic pride and ethnic differentiation, Journal of Social Psychology, 5, 583-603; 2001. Valk, A., Karu, K.

Ethnic identity, ethnic preferences, self-esteem and esteem-toward-others among Estonian and Russian adolescents. Journal of Adolescent Research 6, 637-651; 2000.

Born on 22 March 1972,
Tallinn, Estonia

Last degree obtained

University of Tartu, Tartu,
Estonia: Ph.D. in Psychology
(20 June 2001).

Contact

aunevalk@ut.ee

Place of research

- Clark University,
School of Psychology,
Massachusetts, USA
- University of Sussex,
School of Social Sciences,
Brighton, United Kingdom

Research undertaken

from 5 January
to 4 May 2004

The Concept of Identity, Separation of Cultures, Dialogue among Cultures, Identity Issues in Relation to Ethnic Attitudes

With the support of the UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowship I conducted post-doctoral studies and research on the concept of identity, and identity issues in relation to ethnic attitudes.

Recent decades have witnessed both extensive research, complaints about crisis, over-usage and clichéing (Brubaker and Cooper, 2000) as well as trials to preserve the reputation of (social/collective) identity (e.g. Ashmore, Deaux and Mc Laughli-Volpe, 2004; Sedikides, Brewer, 2001). Research in collective identity has concentrated mainly on experimental studies in specific areas of identity (Prentice, 2001) rather than identity per se, while theoretical answers to the critics have tried to make sense of the multilevel, multidimensional identity. In one of the papers written during my studies (*Mapping identity: multidimensional analysis of boundaries and structure of collective identity*), I attempt to follow this line of theoretical thinking. In addition, I try to analyse borderline and taboo areas of identity-research. Therefore, besides the results from mainstream experimental research and studies on arbitrary, chosen, voluntarily constructed identities, I also included research on more deeply-rooted and ascribed identities. The following five topics can be classified as borderline or taboo topics:

- (1) To what extent is identity a voluntary conscious choice with as its main aim heightened self-esteem, and to what extent everyday lived reality?
- (2) To what extent should otherness be included in identity?
- (3) Whether and how behaviours are related to identity,
- (4) How collective (relational, interdependent) are the identities usually called collective (ethnic, national, gender, etc.)?
- (5) Is self-esteem the main aim of collective identity related phenomena?

The second paper (*Different identity for different people: Personality traits, age and ethno-cultural background in relation to ethnic identity*) written during the fellowship period analyses the role of personality traits in forming two dimensions of ethnic identity – ethnic pride and belonging (EP) and ethnic differentiation (ED). The study included two ethno-cultural groups (Estonians and Russians living in Estonia). The analyses demonstrated that personality traits help considerably to explain ethnic identity strength and orientation, the most important characteristics being Agreeableness (A), Conscientiousness (C) and Openness (O) that support strong EP and low ED. Personality traits also help to explain the different roles and meanings that ethnic identity has for different ethno-cultural groups. For majority groups, ethnic identity serves more collectivistic functions (being related to low O and Extraversion and high C and A) and for minority groups more individualistic functions (being related to high O and low C). The third paper (*Ethnic identity in sociocultural context: acculturation of local people in Estonia*) addresses questions of identity change among people with different life experiences and from different historical cultural backgrounds. Within-group differences proved to be more important than intergroup variations. The factor most often referred to – immigration and acculturation experience – may play a moderate role in identity change as compared to differences in age, experienced historical events, and educational orientation.

Aune Valk, 17 June 2004

Fellow

Reyna Elizabeth Peña Velasco

Beneficiary country

Mexico

Countries of study

France and Egypt



Born on 20 November 1971,
Mexico D.F., Mexico

Last degree obtained

El Colegio de Mexico,
Centro de Estudios de Asia y
África, Mexico: Maestría en
Estudios de Asia y África,
especialidad Medio Oriente
(2000).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*Islam y Occidente:
Encuentros y Desencuentros
en las últimas dos décadas,*
Centro de Investigaciones y
Estudios Superiores en
Antropología Social
(CIESAS), Mexico, September
2002.

*Imágenes de mujeres:
musulmanas y occidentales,
un reflejo del otro,* Instituto
Nacional de Antropología e
Historia (INAH), Mexico,
January - March 2000.

Contact

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Place of research

- École Pratique des Hautes Études (EPHE), Sorbonne Paris, France.
- The American University in Cairo, Cairo University,

Ain Shams University,
Al Azhar University, Centre
Al Ahram, Centre Ibn
Khalidun, CEDEJ, Egypt.

Research undertaken

from 28 Oct. 03 to 27 July 04

Contemporary Construction of Islamic and Western Images

This research is part of the process of reflection on contemporary relations between Islam and the West and on the different ways of thinking about this relationship. It is an attempt to comprehend Islam and the West within a broader context of international processes, studies of *Others'* cultures and the dialogue among civilizations.

Interest in the Islam/West dichotomy has gathered impetus after the events of 11 September 2001. Far from using "conflict of interest" to explain the differences between the two sides, the aim is to show the predominant interpretations and the main characteristics of this relationship, which have led to misunderstandings and misinterpretations: analysis and evaluation of different societies based on similar criteria, simplification of realities, stereotypes and prejudices.

It is essential to recognize the power of images or collective perceptions as they take their references from accumulated experience, reducing or denying the complexity of Islam and the West as ideal types or formal representations of reality. The process of forming the *image* is influenced by the media and still retains elements from the past.

Some key questions are open for debate.
What is Islam? What is the West?
What is at the origin of the polemics between Arab Muslim societies and western civilization? What are the contemporary images of Islam and the West?
Can we consider modernization and westernization as synonymous?
What is the influence of the media and international events on collective perceptions?

To establish the border between the imaginary and real aspects of historical and cultural visions that have traditionally been employed to answer such questions, it is essential to distinguish between Islam as a religion and civilization and it is possible to identify the strongest symbols of contemporary images of Islam and the West and to put them into three closely related dimensions: religious, cultural and political.

It is my hope that this research will lead to better understanding of Islamic and Western cultures and the recognition of the *Other* as a partner in diversity and that it will allow a real reflection about ourselves.

Reyna Elizabeth Peña Velasco, 7 September 2004

Fellow **Luisa Magaly Dávalos Robles**

Beneficiary country **Peru**

Country of study **France**



Born on 25 November 1969,
Cusco, Peru

Last degree obtained

Université Paris VIII, Paris,
France: DEA Sciences
politiques (1996).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*Le principe de souveraineté
et la question de l'Intégration
Politique européenne,*
Master's thesis, Paris,
France, 1995.
*Au delà de l'Etat-Nation:
Eléments de réflexion
théorique,* DEA thesis,
Paris, France 1996.

Contact

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Place of research

Centre National des recherches
scientifiques (CNRS),
Laboratoire Information,
Communication et Enjeux
Scientifiques, Paris, France.

Research undertaken

from 1 September 2003
to 31 May 2004.

Intercultural Dialogue

“The UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Fellowship has given me the pleasurable opportunity to discover the cultural values of the Toubou people of Chad, in particular those values which praise dialogue and sharing.”

Abdraham Togou

“The UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi has strongly influenced my new study on Italian-Lithuanian relations during the Early Reformation period.”

Dainora Pociūtė

Abukevičienė

“The UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi fellowship helped me study how migration provides an insight into the cultural mosaic of the contemporary world, helping to develop my career as an anthropologist.”

Jaroslava Panakova-Bagdasarova

“This fellowship gave me the possibility to better my expertise in the field of Turkish studies, and consequently I have been offered a permanent position at the Institute of Oriental Studies at Warsaw University.”

Marzena Dorota

Godzińska

Fellow **Abdrahman Togou**

Beneficiary country **Chad**

Country of study **Niger**



Born in 1965
in Fada Bet, Chad

Last degree obtained

Université d'Orléans,
Orléans, France;
D.E.A. "Littératures
nationales et comparées"
(26 October 1999).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*L'Allemagne dans la
correspondance de George
Sand (1870-1871)*. D.E.A.
Thesis, Université d'Orléans,
France, 26 October 1999.

Research undertaken on the
Tubou heritage.

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Place of research

Centre d'études
linguistiques et historiques
par tradition orale de
l'Union africaine, CELHTO
Niamey, Niger

Research undertaken

from 20 September 2004
to 19 January 2005

Dialogue among civilizations, cultures, religions and spiritual traditions: words and deeds of the ancient Toubou

The Toubou initially formed a warrior society governed by the *oguza*, the ancient warriors who defended the country against external invasion in the pre-colonial era. This was the time of *nogusé*, or the heroic spirit.

Later, when France conquered the country, thereby eliminating external threats, a new era of peace and security dawned. The population was then able to circulate freely within the country, to trade or to hold celebrations. This was the period of the *halagana* or elegant young people. Travelling in caravans, mounted on lavishly adorned camels and carrying behind them young girls ululating, the *halagana* went from place to place dancing and enjoying themselves.

Following their example, the *oga* (single women) led a similar lifestyle. They had their own private residences where guests were received freely. Young people from all horizons visited the *oga's* homes hoping to gain fame by their generosity and eloquent speech. This was the time of halagan or “elegant facts”.

Today, *oguza*, *halagana* and *oga* belong to a bygone age. However, the “words and deeds” recalling the history of these characters continue to be part of the oral tradition, in the form of songs and stories that we were able to gather, transcribe and translate in the context of our research.

Abdrahman Togou, 19 April 2005
Translated from French by UNESCO

Fellow **Dainora Pociūtė Abukevičienė**Beneficiary country **Lithuania**Country of study **Italy**

Born on 20 May 1967
in Šilutė, Lithuania

Last degree obtained

University of Vilnius,
Vilnius, Lithuania:
Doctor in Sciences
of Humanities
(17 December 1993).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*The protestant hymns of
16-17th centuries: The Grand
Duchy of Lithuania and East
Prussia: PhD Thesis,
University of Vilnius,
Lithuania, December 17,
1993.*

*Das litauische
protestantische Kirchenlied
des 16-17. Jahrhunderts:
Annaberger Annalen, Nr.4,
1996.*

*Melancholija Lietuvoje
Didžiojoje Kunigaikštystėje:
Metai, nr.5-6, 2003.*

*Ženklas vietoj kūno.
Eucharistijos sakramento
apibrėžimas ankstyvuosiuose
Lietuvos reformatų
katekizmuose:
Komparatyvistika ir kultūros
sąvokų – Comparative
Literatures and Cultural
Awareness, Vilnius, 2004.
(Summary: The Sign instead
of the Body. The Definition
of the Eucharist in the Early
Reformed Catechisms in
Lithuania, 2004)*

*Abraomas Kulvietis Italijoje
ir Lietuvoje: Darbai ir
Dienos – Acta et
comentationes Universitatis
Vytauti Magni 44,
2005(Summary: Abraomas
Kulvietis in Italy and
Lithuania, 2005).*

Contact

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Place of research

Università degli Studi di Pisa
Dipartimento di Linguistica
"Tristano Bolelli"
Pisa, Italy

Research undertaken

from 1 September 2004
to 31 January 2005

The Literary Heterogeneity of Spiritual Movements in Early Modern Lithuania

The Grand Duchy of Lithuania experienced two successive waves of confessional transformation in the sixteenth century: first, the (incomplete) process of Lutheran Protestantization; second, the (more far-reaching) process of Reformed Protestantization embodying various radical and “heretical” movements. Although the Reformation is perceived in Lithuania as an event of national significance, the study of its rich heritage of religious and confessional traditions is lacking. Lithuania in the 16th century possessed a very diverse religious life. In the second half of the 16th century, notwithstanding the official Catholic *status quo*, it became the European centre of the culture of multicultural religious dialogue.

The Lithuanian aristocrats, foremost among them Mikalojus Radvilas the Black, afforded hospitality to some of the most “advanced” religious thinkers in Europe, particularly Antitrinitarians. A Greek orthodox monastery, a Catholic church, a Karaite synagogue, a Reformed church and a Tartar mosque stood side by side in some Lithuanian cities. That is why the ferment of heterodox ideas in sixteenth-century Lithuania was unique and created religious phenomena such as Ebionite-Josephite Christology, mingling Judaistic and Christian ideas. The great examples of this Jewish-Unitarian interaction were the leader of the Karaites in Lithuania, Isaak of Troki, and the leader of the Lithuanian Brethren, Unitarian Szymon Budny.

In 1542 the Roman Inquisition was reconstituted in order to repress heresy, and it gave rise in the second half of the 16th century to a continuous Western religious emigration to Eastern Europe, including the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Radical Italian exiles settled in various parts of Eastern Europe following banishment from the main Reformed centres in Switzerland (Geneva, Basel, Strasbourg, Zurich). They included Anabaptists, spiritualists, apocalypticists, mystics, prophets, “Epicureans”, libertines, Unitarians and others. The Reformed as well as the Catholic orthodoxy was unfavourable to further doctrinal development. The Lithuanians Peter Gonesius, Szymon Budny and Isaak of Troki, together with the Italian exiles B. Ochino, G. Biandrata, V. Gentile, F. Negri, L. Sozzini, F. Sozzini and F. Stancaro were able to agree on a variety of issues and on a common universalistic orientation predicated upon Jesus’ humanity and his superiority as a moral teacher. The “Italian” factor in the Lithuanian history of liberal thinking was **one of the key elements in the rich and abundant literary production** in the different national languages (Lithuanian, Polish and Old Slavonic) of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, which provided one of the most striking European examples of confessional coexistence in the early modern period.

Dainora Pociūtė Abukevičienė, 28 February 2005

Fellow **Marzena Dorota Godzińska**

Beneficiary country **Poland**

Country of study **Turkey**



Born on 18 July 1964
in Warsaw, Poland

Last degree obtained

The Warsaw University,
Faculty of History, Warsaw,
Poland: Doctor of
Philosophy in Humanities,
Major: Ethnology
(12 June 2002).

Scholarly work and publications

*The Felt-Maker's Workshop
between High Politics and
Great Religion*, L.Mróż,
Sokolewicz (eds.), *Between
Tradition and
Postmodernity*; IUAES
(Florencja-5-7 lipca 2003),
pp.261-269 Warsaw 2003.

*Dogmaty, filary
I codzienność (Dogmas,
Fillers and Everyday Life)*,
Opcja na prawo, czerwiec
2003, nr. 7/18, pp.26-30,
2003.

*A Few Minutes From the
Year With Felt - Short
Relation from Research
in West ad Central Anatolia:*
ECHOES, The Journal of
the International Feltmakers
Association, 8-9, Summer
1997.

*Turecja muzułmańska a
laicka (Laic and Muslim
Turkey)*, in: *Bliski Wschód
(Świat islamu – tradycje,
społeczeństwa, polityka, The
World of Islam – Traditions,
Societies, Politisc)*, nr 2,
pp. 66-80, 2005.

Contact

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Place of research

Gazi University,
Center for Culture and
Research of Haci Bektas Veli,
Ankara, Turkey

Research undertaken

from 6 January
to 5 July 2005

Rituals of Alevi and Bektashi Religious Minorities – The Religious in a Sunni Majority Environment in Secular Turkey

The research project concerned problems of communication and cultural dialogue of Alevi and Bektashi groups with their Sunni neighbourhood as well as with the local authorities. It focused on Alevi and Bektashi religious rituals as the most distinctive feature of both groups and the necessary foundation for the building of mutual acceptance. The project was carried out in Turkey, in Alevi and Bektashi groups as well as in the Sunni neighbourhood, mainly in the village of Hacibektaş (Nevşehir), a popular religious centre. The comparative field study was conducted among Ankara Alevi and Bektashi groups, and in Afyon, Eskişehir, Kütahya, Düzce, Kayseri, Istanbul and Urfa. However closely related the theology and philosophy of Alevis and Bektashis may be, the ceremonies to mark the year cycle cannot be treated as a ritual cycle typical of both groups - especially in the case of some Bektashi born and brought up in other traditions. In Alevi groups, theological differences are deeper than the differences typical of a heterogeneous group. Yet, in spite of this, Alevis are a single group in terms of their consciousness. The ceremonial year cycle may be seen as a criterion in this regard. The calendar of Alevi rituals is broadly speaking common to all Alevi groups. Probably in the past it was completely identical. In the course of certain celebrations, regional differences may be observed. However, the most significant difference is the intensity of the different celebrations.

Throughout the year, both Alevi and Sunni celebrate Ramazan Bayramı, Kurban Bayramı, Aşure Günü, and Nevruz, but usually in different ways and never together. There is no community of celebration. Such a community is neither explored nor popularized by the media, education systems or research programmes. In fact, it does not exist outside of the calendar. The only community recognized as such is the group of Turks – Sunni, of course. In Turkey, each and every inhabitant of the State is held to be Turkish and Sunni. If Alevis are not Sunni, how then can they be Turks? Since such a notion is inconceivable to many Turks, there is only one possible answer: since Alevis are Turks, they are also Sunnis. If this were not the case, they would become a danger for the Turkish nation and State. Consequently, research on Alevi religious rituals is potentially problematic both for the stability and security of the State and for the Turkish national psyche. To sum up, a large-scale education programme is needed to build bridges of communication between those belonging or not belonging to the Islamic world - Alevis, the Turkish Sunni majority and the authorities, who usually perceive social reality through Sunni lenses. Future educational projects and campaigns should not concentrate solely on Alevi culture and religious rituals, but rather on folk culture and rituals in Turkey seen as a part of contemporary Turkish culture.

Marzena Dorota Godzińska, 7 September 2005

Fellow

Jaroslava Panakova-Bagdasarova

Beneficiary country

Slovakia

Country of study

Russian Federation



**Born on 31 March 1980
in Martin, Slovakia**

Last degree obtained

St. Petersburg State University, Faculty of Sociology, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation: Master of Arts A in Social Anthropology (June 2004).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

'Others' in the city: the problem of inclusion. (The case of Chukchi students in St. Petersburg). Master's Thesis, St. Petersburg University, 2004.

The city as gesture (St. Petersburg). Dominoforum N° 16, p.18, 2003.

The drift of identities in the foreign cultural environment. In Siberia. The problems of Siberian identity. Edited by Boronoev A.O., St. Petersburg, 2003.

Contact

haliganda@gmail.com

Place of research

St. Petersburg University
Faculty of Sociology
St. Petersburg, Russian Federation

Research undertaken

from 1 September 2004
to 30 April 2005

Ethnocultural Diversity and Beyond: Life Strategies and Discourse

Anthropological practice confirms Clifford Geertz's statement that 'things become what people make out of them'. As far as cultural diversity is concerned, the prominence of the topic could be related as much to fostered ethnocultural contacts in recent decades as to the public discourse - rich in "scientific" terms - surrounding it. My particular interest relates to the transformation of people's life strategies and discourse that (presumably) takes place during such tense life situations as migration. My study covers a community of indigenous people (in particular Eskimo, Chukchi, Nenets students and teachers) in the city of St. Petersburg. The marginality in this case is dual: it involves both ethnocultural and rural/urban differences. The following paragraphs present several conclusions drawn from the research.

The range of inclusion of migrants into the receiving society is conditional. So is the scope of tolerance. The basic rules and vector of inclusion are determined by the receiving society, and not by the character of intercultural contact (the second aspect is rather a result of the first). The rhetoric of tolerance does not imply an intercultural dialogue. It serves rather as a pledge pre-defining the sphere within which the receiving society finds it acceptable to interact with the migrants.

The first encounter with the receiving society is bound up with a fostered ethnic discourse. Migrants from indigenous communities (Russian Far North and East) practice a discourse of stigma and present themselves as stigmatized. In this phase, they identify themselves with the abstract global community, mankind. In the next period, these migrants experience heightened ethnic self-consciousness. There are two prevailing factors in such ethnization: the study of native

ethnology (at the Faculty of Indigenous Peoples of the North) and a self-preserving mechanism triggered by contact with the receiving (culturally very heterogeneous) society. At this stage, both panaboriginal identification (identification with all indigenous peoples of Russia) and regional/ethnic identification are present. On the other hand, a demotic mode of discourse is characteristic of long-term, well-adapted migrants who have made their choice in favour of status.

The keyword in the study of migration and cultural diversity is not so much ethnicity as status. The daily practices of migrants are not only pragmatically motivated but also correspond to available social position. Acquisition of the life practices of the receiving society may be regarded as an aspiration for a higher status. Within the community of indigenous youth, both status inconsistency and gender asymmetry may be observed.

In conclusion, it is noteworthy that inclusion of migrants into the receiving society is always fragmentary. Its scope and character depend on the effort that each migrant is ready to make to cope with his or her own "otherness". Inclusion into a new cultural space implies the apprehension of new frames of meaning and a different basis for social legitimization. It is in this very sphere where both sides meet and share what is common to them rather than what sets them apart.

Jaroslava Panakova-Bagdasarova, 7 July 2005

“UNESCO has advocated that the information society should be viewed from a social and human perspective, not just in terms of technology and connectivity. “...” To capture this vision of empowerment, UNESCO elaborated the concept of “knowledge societies”. This concept rests on four key principles: freedom of expression; universal access to information and knowledge; respect for cultural and linguistic diversity; and quality education for all. These principles show that the digital divide is not merely technological in character, but rather expresses and compounds more fundamental human and social inequities. In other words: in order to realize the potential of ICTs we need to address broader issues of development.”

Koïchiro Matsuura
Director-General

[on the occasion of the opening session of the Panel of the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)
UNESCO, 6 November 2006]

“One of the significant changes in the human environment in recent history is the information technology (IT) revolution and the process of globalisation in which IT plays a pivotal role. The so-called ‘digital divide’... is creating disparity among developed and developing countries, and disparities within our own society... I would like to engage in frank and unreserved discussion... on this wave of information technology that will bring great changes”.

Keizo Obuchi
then Prime Minister

[Statement at the Discussion Group on the Kyushu-Okinawa Summit, Tokyo, Japan, 28 February 2000]

Information & Communication Technologies

2003

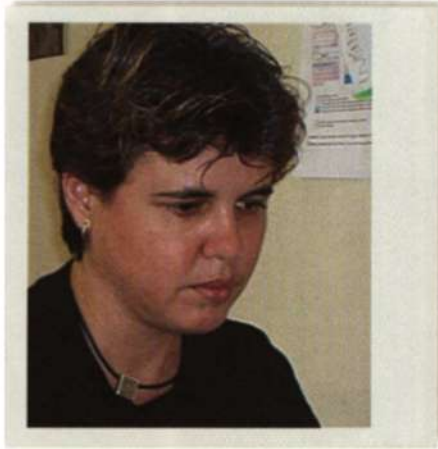
- Mayra Marta Mena Mugica
- Wanigasekera Arachchige
Dona Nayana Darshani
Wijayasundara
- Angela Adriana Valdivieso
López

2004

- Juan Domingo Velásquez
Silva
- Melissa Yamilka Pérez
Figueroa
- Olfa Dridi

Fellows under the 2003 cycle

Fellows under the 2004 cycle



Mayra Marta Mena Mugica
Biblioteca de la Facultad de Traducción y Documentación
en la Universidad de Salamanca



Angela Adriana Valdivieso López
Universidad Arcis, Santiago de Chile, Chile



**Wanigasekera Arachchige Dona Nayana Darshani
Wijayasundara**
University of Malaysia, Faculty of Computer Science
and Technology

“The UNESCO /Keizo Obuchi Fellowship afforded me access to remarkable amounts of information on the theme of electronic records management, from a large variety of viewpoints. This enabled me to develop a personal approach.”

**Mayra Marta Mena
Mugica**

“The UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowship programme helped me to expand my horizon in my work and also to interact with people from a different culture, which was really exciting”

**Wanigasekera
Arachchige Dona Nayana
Darshani Wijayasundara**

“The UNESCO /Keizo Obuchi fellowship has allowed me to share experiences with renowned professionals. This has increased my knowledge and developed my investigation research and doctoral studies, allowing me to cooperate with my country and contribute to its international relationships.”

**Angela Adriana
Valdivieso López**

Information & Communication Technologies

Fellow **Mayra Marta Mena Mugica**

Beneficiary country **Cuba**

Countries of study **Italy and Spain**

Last degree obtained

Universidad de la Habana,
Facultad de Comunicación,
Havana, Cuba: M.Sc:
Maestría en Bibliotecología
y Ciencia de la Información
(24 July 2002).

Scholarly work and publications

*Gestión Documental y
Organización de Archivos*,
Editorial Félix Varela,
La Habana, 2005.

*Análisis de los modelos
teóricos de gestión de los
documentos electrónicos: ciclo
de vida y continuum*. Archivo
& administração, Revista de
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autonómica española en
Cuba, 1898 Catálogo de la
documentación de la Cámara
de Representantes del
Parlamento Insular y de la
Presidencia del Consejo de
Secretarios*, 111p., Ediciones
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Salamanca, 1994. Mayra
Marta Mena Mugica y
Severiano Hernández
Vicente.

*Sistemas de información,
principios y aplicaciones*.
Editorial Félix Varela.
La Habana, 2004.



Born on 23 February 1966,
Havana, Cuba

Contact

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Place of research

- “Consiglio Nazionale delle
Ricerche, Istituto di Teoria e
Tecnica dell’Informazione
Giuridica” Florence, Italy

- “Universidad de Salamanca,
Facultad de Traducción,
Servicio de Archivos y
Bibliotecas” Salamanca, Spain

Research undertaken

from 25 February
to 24 June 2004

Identify and analyse access to information in the public sector as it pertains to e-governance and the preservation of digital records

Documentation from public administrations is increasingly generated by means of the Information and Communication Technologies, which has boosted the design and implementation of public services in electronic systems. While this process has done much to make more information available, it has also led to substantial difficulties where treatment, access and preservation are concerned.

The electronic environments in which the bulk of archive documents are generated have obliged records managers and archivists, including those participating in government activities, to consider new solutions for continuing to guarantee the maintenance of their authenticity and reliability, and for formulating public policies for the long-term preservation of documents and hence for their conservation as part of the documentary heritage of the countries in question.

Research projects regarding the management of electronic documents and preservation of the digital environment have been launched from very different spheres. These efforts have involved international organizations such as the International Council on Archives, the national archives of various countries (the United States National Archives and Records Administration [NARA], the National Archives of Australia, the National Archives of the United Kingdom, and Library and Archives Canada), the European Commission, as a substantial demonstration of State public support, and especially the academic sphere of the Universities of Pittsburgh in the United States, British Columbia in Canada, and Monash in Australia.

Research attention under these projects was basically focused on delimiting the concept of electronic archive document; determining the types of electronic systems that generated them; the joint formulation of functional requirements for the management of archive documents, meeting the legal and administrative needs of every kind enabling institutions to make use of them in the design and implementation of electronic information systems for the generation, use and maintenance of integral, authentic and reliable electronic documents archives, with respect for the various administrative, legal and archival traditions of the individual countries.

Together with these purposes the projects have emphasized the fact that action by archivists and records managers at the stage of generating documents and identifying documentary types is essential, given that the design of any records management system without standardized procedures and document control and security mechanisms detracts from its reliability and authenticity, thereby nullifying its testimonial and probative value both from the legal and administrative viewpoints and from the historical angle.

The most substantial bibliographical production regarding these themes is to be found, basically, in articles published throughout the 1990s; the most representative reviews are union publications of professional associations of archivists and records managers, such as *Archivaria*, *The American Archivist*, *Archivum*, *Comma*, *Journal of the American Society for Information Science* and *The American Archivist*.

Mayra Marta Mena Mugica, 29 September 2004

Information & Communication Technologies

Fellow	Wanigasekera Arachchige Dona Nayana Darshani Wijayasundara
Beneficiary country	Sri Lanka
Country of study	Malaysia



**Born on 18 April 1967,
Kandy, Sri Lanka**

Last degree obtained

University of Colombo,
Colombo, Sri Lanka:
Masters of Library and
Information Science
(1 February 2000).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*The Extent and the
Feasibility of Utilizing
Information Technology in
Academic and Special
Libraries in Sri Lanka; a
Comparative Study,*
Master's thesis, University
of Colombo, Colombo,
Sri Lanka 1997.

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Chemical Engineer,*
Chemuniquie, Vol.2, N°1,
1994.

*How we did it – university
biogas project,* Chemuniquie,
Vol.01, N°1, 1993.

Contact

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Place of research

University of Malaya, Faculty
of Computer Science and
Information Technology
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Research undertaken

from 1 October 2003
to 31 March 2004

A Comparative Study on the Role of University Libraries in Providing Electronic Library Services to Facilitate Teaching and Learning in Sri Lanka and Malaysia

The objectives of this research study were to compare the existing electronic library services, in Sri Lanka and Malaysian university libraries, that facilitate teaching and learning, and to make suggestions to adopt and adapt those services that are not currently available. The survey was conducted in late 2003 and early 2004. Apart from the main objective, the secondary aim of this study was to make recommendations to adopt and adapt electronic library services that are not currently available. This initial objective was achieved by examining data on the viewpoints of academics and librarians. The availability and use of electronic library services, the influences of academic field and experience and the perceived importance of digital libraries, were taken into consideration in order to support the main objective.

There is a very close fit between electronic library services and the newly encouraging university mode 'student-centered teaching/learning process'. Academic libraries must take the initiative of creating an environment that makes the best use of the new technologies available for teaching and learning purposes in universities. To embrace modern technology and provide electronic library services, libraries need new delivery methods and new skills to deliver services. The data was collected through a survey carried out in eight universities, four in Sri Lanka and another four in Malaysia. The primary survey instruments were two questionnaires; one to get the views of academic staff and the other to examine the views of librarians.

There are currently, in 2004, thirteen public universities in Sri Lanka. The majority of university libraries in Sri Lanka are still providing services in a traditional manner. A few of them are in the transition stage of moving from traditional to automated libraries. Despite the current situation, there

are many services that could be added or improved, both quantitatively and qualitatively.

When we consider the university library situation in Malaysia in 1995, only the library systems of University Malaya, University Utara Malaysia and University Technology Malaysia were based on open-system standards which made connectivity easy and enabled them to integrate all their workstations into a LAN (Abdullah, 1995). The positive result was the provision of many Internet access points to their clients. In 2004, the researcher found that many libraries in Malaysia have their OPAC on the Internet, including University Science Malaysia (USM) and University Tun Abdul Rasak (UNITAR).

The results revealed that the use of electronic library services among academic staff in both countries was high, though Malaysia showed higher figures than Sri Lanka. The most frequently used electronic library services were browsing the catalogue, accessing electronic databases and e-journals. The barriers to providing electronic library services in Sri Lanka and Malaysia as ranked were lack of funding, insufficient infrastructure, lack of expertise, constantly changing technology and managerial/administrative problems. Suggestions are made on the basis of the research findings. Further studies may be done at other universities, collecting the views of university students as well.

Wanigasekera Arachchige Dona Nayana Darshani Wijayasundara,
21 June 2004

Information & Communication Technologies

Fellow **Angela Adriana Valdivieso López**

Beneficiary country **Venezuela**

Country of study **Chile**



**Born on 21 August 1975
in Caracas, Venezuela**

Last degree obtained

Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Instituto de Comunicación Institucional y Empresarial (I.C.I.E.), Madrid, Spain: M.A., "Master en Comunicación Corporativa y publicitaria" (January 2001).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

Plan de Comunicaciones para una Comunidad más Limpia, Master's thesis, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Instituto de Comunicación Institucional y Empresarial (I.C.I.E.), Madrid, Spain, 2001.

Efectividad y Eficacia de los Planes de Relaciones Públicas en Venezuela Licenciatura thesis, Universidad Católica Andrés Bello, Caracas, Venezuela, 7 December 1998.

Contact

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Place of research

Universidad Arcis
Programa Doctorado en el
Estudio de las Sociedades
Latinoamericanas
Santiago de Chile, Chile

Research undertaken

from 17 September 2003
to 17 May 2004

The Right to Information in Venezuela in the Framework of Globalization

One of the most important and well-known facts recently observed in Latin America is the influence that the mass media have on people's perception about what is happening in reality, and the correct relationship among the facts. Indeed, information is a very powerful weapon with an enormous strategic potential that can manipulate public opinion. In recent years, information in Venezuela has been manipulated by political and economic interests, both from government and opposition sides. This has resulted in obstruction of the people's right to accurate information.

In Latin America, freedom of the press and the right to information have constantly been threatened by factors such as half truths, manipulation of public statements, unbalanced selection of sources, and a steady tendency to present the news from a terrifying perspective. Talking about freedom of the press and freedom of speech also means talking about the right to information, a universal right of people. This right involves the ability to seek, receive and diffuse information, opinions and ideas. In other words, the ability to express one's own thoughts that imply value judgements, attitudes vis-à-vis reality, or taking sides with regard to a fact, either orally or in writing, in print, artistically or by any other procedure. This right covers not only the search for and diffusion of information, but also the reception of opinions and ideas by any kind of media.

The mass media are the fundamental instruments for the validation and functioning of the democratic system. Access to information and the media must be participative, universal, inclusive and democratic. Hence the need for a system that guarantees a free flow of information, that

must also be constant, reliable and plural. A system that provides to citizens enough elements of judgement to allow them to form their own opinions, being conscious of their participation in the public process.

The formation of public opinion and its degree of alignment depend on the massive presence of the media, and the amount of information available. Saturation inhibits the ability to gain awareness and the speed of the information does not allow it to be processed. This might result in imposing consumption patterns and collective behaviours characteristic of other realities that are not applicable to the national circumstances of a particular country.

Information and communication should guide the democratic process and popular participation. Communications professionals should contribute to strengthening peace, the self-determination of countries, easing of international tensions, mutual understanding among people, and the combat for equality among people, with no distinction with regard to race, origin, opinion, language, religion or nationality.

In order for a Latin American country to become part of the new social and economic changes and of a society based on information and knowledge, it should be guaranteed pluralism, cultural diversity and universal access to information, the mass media and information and communication technologies.

Angela Adriana Valdivieso López, 19 July 2004



Juan Domingo Velásquez Silva
Country of study: United Kingdom



Melissa Yamilka Pérez Figueroa
Country of study: Madrid, Spain



Oifa Dridi
Country of study: Paris, France

**“It gave me the opportunity to work in an advanced scientific team in the prestigious location of Oxford University.”
Juan Domingo Velásquez
Silva**

“I am especially grateful to the UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowship Programme to have provided me the opportunity to participate and contribute to research activities in regard to issues of pressing global importance for development. This research has allowed me develop initiatives in a broad dimension, by using a methodology for advanced research to promote materials and proposals that could help my country and

**the Latin-American region, as well as allowing me to present results to the international community. I am extremely grateful to my host institution in Spain and, in particular, to my academic supervisor who offered her valuable insights, expertise and time.”
Melissa Yamilka Pérez
Figueroa**

**“The fellowship gave me the opportunity to discover other countries and allowed me to undertake my research studies.”
Olfa Dridi**

Information & Communication Technologies

Fellow **Juan Domingo Velásquez Silva**

Beneficiary country **Chile**

Country of study **United Kingdom**



**Born on 2 September 1971
in Santiago de Chile, Chile**

Last degree obtained

Universidad de Chile,
Santiago, Chile: Magíster
en Ciencias de la Ingeniería
"Mención Industrial"
(30 April 2002).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*A new similarity measure to
understand visitor behavior
in a Web site, IEICE TRANS.*

On Information and Sys.
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Yasuda, T. Auki and R. Weber

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algorithms, Publications of
the Astronomical Society of
Pacifi, V.107, p.1119, 1995,
F. Valdes, L.E. Campusano,
J. Verlasquez and PB Stetson
Focas.*

Contact

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Place of research

Oxford University
Computing Laboratory
Oxford, United Kingdom

Research undertaken

from 3 January
to 2 May 2005

The Knowledge Discovery in Databases (KDD) process and its application in the development of intelligent websites

One of the most important phenomena at the end of the twentieth century has been the development that has revolutionized communications - the World Wide Web or simply the Web. Its impact on society has been so great that some have compared it to the invention of the wheel or the discovery of fire. The Web has today become a mass communication network of worldwide scope.

Companies responded to the rise of the Web in several ways, most frequently through the creation of corporate websites comparable to *virtual business* cards. The next step in the development of corporate websites was their integration with internal company systems, such as sales. From this point on, new business models appeared in the digital market and the design and construction of website solutions became a complex task.

For many companies and/or institutions, it is no longer sufficient to have a website and high-quality products or services. The difference between success and failure for an e-business can be the potential of the relevant website to attract and retain visitors. This potential is determined by the content of the site, its design, and technical considerations, including the time taken to load the pages.

To stay competitive, a company needs an up-to-date website, which should offer the information sought by visitors in a readily accessible way. This should be achieved in the most efficient way possible, ideally online and automatically. However, the reality is in many cases very different insofar as the structure of the website does not help the visitor to find the desired information, even though the data is contained within it.

The intelligent website is a new generation of portals capable of improving its own structure and content on the basis of an analysis of visitor behaviour. This is a difficult undertaking due to the lack of data needed to characterize the behaviour of website visitors. Web log files are important data sources in this regard. However, depending on the website traffic, these files may consist of millions of registers, each containing a great deal of irrelevant information, so that analysis of it becomes a complex task.

In this research, the "Knowledge Discovery in Databases" (KDD) process is used to extract unknown patterns from the web data. The process starts with the selection of data sources, in this case web logs and website pages. The next step is the cleaning and pre-processing stage. The third step is the transformation of data into information. From the information originating in web data, a visitor behaviour model was developed and used in the creation of a similarity measure. This measure was applied in web-mining clustering algorithms to extract significant patterns from web data. These patterns were checked by a business expert, who provided opinions based on personal experience. This procedure enabled improvements to be made in the different stages of the process.

Finally a framework to acquire and maintain the knowledge extracted from web data was created and used for making online (navigation) and offline (web site changes) recommendations.

Juan Domingo Velásquez Silva, 9 May 2005

Information & Communication Technologies

Fellow

Melissa Yamilka Pérez Figueroa

Beneficiary country

Dominican Republic

Country of study

Spain



**Born on 19 January 1972
in Santo Domingo,
Dominican Republic**

Last degree obtained

Universidad Complutense
de Madrid, Madrid, Spain:
PhD in International Law
(19 May 2003).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*Dinámicas de la nueva
dimensión globalizada del
régimen comercial
multilateral: reconocimiento
de nuevos sectores y
participación de partes no
estatales en el sistema de la
OMC.* Revista Electrónica
de Estudios Internacionales
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*Integración de derechos
privados en el sistema de
solución de diferencias de la
Organización Mundial del
Comercio* en Revista de la
Facultad de Derecho de la
Universidad Complutense
de Madrid, Vol. 97, Spain,
2002.

*La OMC y los principios
democráticos* en Gaceta
Judicial, año 2002, del 15
de Mayo al 15 de Junio,
Santo Domingo, Dominican
Republic, 2002.

Contact

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Place of research

Universidad Complutense
de Madrid, Dep. de Derecho
Internacional Público y
Derecho Internacional
Privado. Facultad de Derecho,
Madrid, Spain.

Research undertaken

from 1 October 2004
to 31 March 2005

The Promotion of Electronic Commerce within the Framework of International Trade Relations in Latin America and the Caribbean

New methods of exchange and transaction have transformed the way in which many financial and business services are provided, including accounting, computing and advertising. Considering that electronic commerce plays an important role in transforming large sections of the economy, it is necessary to highlight how world trade is likely to be affected - with particular regard to the legal framework - by the major innovations in the business world and international trade resulting from e-commerce. The main focus of this research is electronic commerce and its potential contribution to the development process in the Latin American and Caribbean countries. We examine whether the regulations governing electronic commerce under regional agreements implemented in these countries are compatible with the international trade regime of the World Trade Organization (WTO). Essentially, the study has a twofold focus. In the first place, we evaluate e-commerce from a legal and economic perspective and its links with traditional commerce and the International trade system. Secondly, the research focuses on current economic negotiations concerning the regional integration process in Latin America. Addressing this central and important subject, we analyse the type of commitments involved and whether the regional agreements could help to stimulate and develop e-commerce within a suitable legal and institutional framework. Our research falls into four sections. The first provides some background and context to the subject of e-commerce: its main characteristics regarding trade and the role that these electronic transactions can play in economic development. In the second section we examine the international trade rules of the World Trade Organization and the issues relating to global e-commerce: in particular, certain policy regulations concerning market access for basic electronic transactions and trade facilitation and liberalization rules relating to electronic services.

The third section of the research deals with the content of e-commerce under existing regional agreement models in Latin America and the Caribbean - for example, the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA). We assess whether the general regulations for pursuing integration, such as expanded market access and the elimination of trade barriers, contribute to the e-commerce growth of these countries. The final part of the study attempts to assess the governance of e-commerce. This section addresses the question of the efforts of national governments and the effect of the regulatory system with regard to increasing its effectiveness. In other words, do existing regulations provide conditions for the development of electronic commerce in terms of infrastructure and access, and what is the corresponding role of the telecommunication and information technology sectors? Our conclusions and recommendations highlight the fact that many firms in Latin American countries use some types of e-commerce applications, but that their primary uses need to be improved and consolidated by policy rules relating to international trade. This will have the effect of increasing and expanding integration between those countries, with very important implications for the policy framework. Our arguments underline the urgency of changing trade policy priorities for e-commerce, with the aim of helping firms to gain more equitable access to global markets.

Melissa Yamilka Pérez Figueroa, 23 June 2005

Information & Communication Technologies

Fellow **Olfa Dridi**

Beneficiary country **Tunisia**

Country of study **France**



Born on 7 August 1978
in Tunis, Tunisia

Last degree obtained

Ecole Nationale des Sciences de l'Informatique (ENSI), La Manouba, Tunisia: D.E.A. d'Informatique, Option Génies Documentiel et Logiciel (23 October 2003).

Scholarly work and publications

Vers un nouveau paradigme: le web sémantique. Pendant les journées scientifiques 2003, organisées par l'Ecole de l'Aviation de Borj el Amri, Tunis, 2003.

Contact

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Place of research

Commissariat à l'énergie atomique, Département des Technologies des Systèmes Intelligents, Fontenay-aux-Roses, Paris, France

Research undertaken

from 18 October 2004 to 17 January 2005

Design and realization of an automatic metadata generator from text corpora and a semantic document analyser

The subject of my thesis is “the design and realization of an automatic metadata generator from text corpora and a semantic document analyser based on ontologies”. I am interested in the process of information search in text corpora, which has been the focus of attention for a long while, despite the fact that few operational solutions have been found to date. Although its flaws and limitations have long been known, the most widespread search method is still based on keywords.

This technique presents significant constraints for any search, such as the fact that:

- users must browse through a list of answers to select the appropriate answer;
- users risk being provided with irrelevant answers;
- users may find it difficult to choose the keywords that are most representative of their request.

In the face of these problems, the need to submit a query using natural language rather than keywords has become crucial. This need has highlighted the importance of the processing of semantics and of question-answer systems. With the advent of the Semantic Web, the use of knowledge models has expanded gradually through the suggestion to tag documents using an ontology and by considering keywords no longer as terms, but as concept identifiers. This ideal mode of operation has been applied only in very limited cases.

During my stay in France, from 18 October 2004 to 17 January 2005 (funded by UNESCO), I conducted extensive bibliographic research on methods for building ontologies from a text corpus, after which I proposed a conceptual model.

With a view to building domain ontology, our work was based on natural language processing tools developed in the LIC2M laboratory of the French Atomic Energy Commission (CEA). The first step proposed is to syntactically analyse the corpus in order to extract the terms that are recognized and those that are not recognized by the analyser. The second step is to specify the grammatical category of terms that are not recognized by the analyser. The third step is to determine the relevant concepts in the list of all the terms extracted by the analyser. These terms will be used to build the ontology.

In line with this model, I began by preparing the text corpus since the corpus-building task is both essential and delicate. Indeed, on the one hand, the corpus is the essential source of information for achieving this task and, on the other hand, it will remain the documentation element of the constructed ontology. Then, I analysed this corpus with a syntax analyser. The result of this stage is a list containing the words recognized by the analyser and those not recognized by the analyser. The category of the non-recognized words must then be determined by an Internet search.

Olfa Dridi, 15 March 2005
Translated from French by UNESCO

“Peaceful conflict resolution approaches should be taught at all levels of the formal education system, using conflicts that may arise in school, be it among pupils or between teachers and pupils, as concrete examples and starting points for learning; likewise, sensitization to peaceful conflict resolution should be pursued through non-formal approaches”

Koïchiro Matsuura
Director-General

[Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the programme adopted by the General Conference (175 EX/INF.13, Paris, 27 September 2006)]

“In my travels I was most impressed at the way people were courageously pursuing their dreams despite suffering from war, poverty and illness, and I was made very much aware of the need for peoples to join hands, across borders to create a more secure and more comfortable world”

Keizo Obuchi
then Foreign Minister

[From a Statement on Japan and East Asia: Outlook for the New Millennium, Singapore, 4 May 1998]

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

2003

- Saibou Issa
- Mikhail Vladimirovich
Ivanov
- Sadia Nasir Butt

2004

- Ibrahim Mashhour Al-Jazy
- Ainura Akeeneva
- María del Rayo Ventura
Navarrete
- Maria Kiani
- Ana Mayella Gutiérrez
Rodríguez

Fellows under the 2003 cycle

Fellows under the 2004 cycle



Saibou Issa
University of Tromsø, Centre for Peace Studies, Norway



Mikhael Vladimirovich Ivanov
Carl Von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg
Oldenburg, Germany



Sadia Nasir Butt
University of Leipzig, Institute for Political Science
Leipzig, Germany

“I went to Tromsø with an idea, I came back to Ngaoundere having deepened and strengthened my intellectual base which boosted the quality of my lectures and writings on issues of conflict resolution and security”.

Saibou Issa

“This fellowship showed me how people of different cultures aspire to one common goal and take another step to achieve this goal – namely to make the world a safer and more just place”.

Mikhael Vladimirovich
Ivanov

“The Fellowship has added to my understanding of my discipline, extensively broadened my horizons, and helped refine my thought process”.

Sadia Nasir Butt

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Fellow **Saibou Issa**

Beneficiary country **Cameroon**

Country of study **Norway**

Last degree obtained

Université de Yaoundé I,
Yaoundé, Cameroon:
Doctorate/Ph.D.
(August 2001).

Scholarly work and publications

Conflits et problèmes de sécurité aux bords sud du Lac Tchad (XVI^e-XX^e siècle). Dimension historique, Yaoundé, Cameroon, Ph.D. thesis, 2001.

Sonngoobe, bandits justiciers au Nord-Cameroun sous l'administration française, Ngaoundéré Anthropos, Vol. VI, University of Ngaoundere-University of Tromsø, 2002.

Access to Lake Chad and Nigeria-Cameroon Border Conflict: a historical perspective, 2nd IWHA conference, Bergen, 2001.

Peace from Below: local diplomacy and traditional mechanisms of solving conflicts in Chad Basin region of West Central Africa. An introduction, Symposium on Non-Violence Research, Tromsø, November 2002.



Born in 1970 in Mindif, Cameroon

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Place of research

University of Tromsø
Centre for Peace Studies
Tromsø, Norway

Research undertaken

from 16 January
to 15 April 2004

Peaceful Coexistence in Cameroon

The UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowship gave me the opportunity to work at the Centre for Peace Studies (CPS) of the University of Tromsø in Norway, from January to April 2004. Benefiting from optimal work conditions, I dedicated myself first and foremost to the collection of data on peace theory, peace education and mechanisms of conflict resolution to be used for the **Peaceful coexistence in Cameroon** programme, a research project involving about twenty scholars from the University of Ngaoundere in Cameroon.

My stay was agreeable in terms of human relations, and fruitful with regard to both the research undertaken and the prospect of developing expertise in the Cameroonian university system on the issues of peace and security. During these three months, I wrote two chapters of a book, which constitutes part of my contribution to the project on peaceful coexistence in Cameroon. The lectures I attended and gave at the Centre for Peace Studies (CPS) and at the Department of History provided opportunities for mutually beneficial exchanges; I became familiar with the theoretical debate and improved my lecturing style in general and, in particular, my approach to and analysis of conflict and peace issues. Unlimited access to the new information and communication technologies and the Scandinavian university libraries system (BIBSYS) made it possible for me to draw up a specialized bibliography and to constitute a database of articles and other texts whose theoretical utility will be decisive for all the members of my research team and for master's and doctoral students, who are not always aware of the theoretical issues because they lack access to documentation. Reading specialized publications helped to improve the theoretical dimension of the research project and to integrate the aspect of peace education as one of the major orientations of the work to be undertaken.

Through my readings and discussions with colleagues, I realized the extent to which teaching and research on peace in Africa is poorly developed, and even lacking, in Central Africa. As a result, a Master's degree programme leading to a Ph.D. in peace and security was developed, in cooperation with my hosts and various peace scholars from different universities, and will be introduced at the University of Ngaoundere.

This programme, which is geared mainly towards Africa and takes a subregional approach, is designed to help Central Africa catch up in the area of peace and security. In preparation for the start of the program, efforts are being made to organize a conference on higher education for peace in Africa and a seminar for the teachers, researchers and resource persons who will be involved daily in this new field of competence. Similarly, constructive discussions held with my hosts laid the foundations for a partnership with the Centre for Peace Studies.

Finally, my stay at CPS was enriching from the standpoint of assimilating another academic tradition, refining my theoretical knowledge and establishing useful contacts for collaborative efforts. For my university, whose creed is promoting academic excellence, my work at CPS laid the foundations for a new academic and scientific framework.

Saibou Issa, June 2004

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Fellow **Mikhail Vladimirovich Ivanov**

Beneficiary country **Kyrgyzstan**

Country of study **Germany**



Born on 17 June 1980,
Kyrgyz Republic

Last degree obtained

Kyrgyz-Russian Slavic
University, Faculty of
International Relations,
Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic:
Specialist in International
Relations (11 June 2002).

Scholarly work and publications

*Kyrgyzstan 10 years of
independence Political
analyses*, pp. 13-15, Bishkek,
2002.

Psychology of modern
electorate, in collected
articles *Politics through the
prism of psychology*, pp.21-
23, Bishkek, 2002.

Contact

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Place of research

Carl Von Ossietzky
Universität Oldenburg
Oldenburg, Germany

Research undertaken

from 6 November 2003
to 5 May 2004

The Problem of New Security Challenges and Possibility of Conflict Resolution and Prevention in the Central Asian Region

The new era of international development is characterized by global changes and new trends, touching all areas of existence and development of the international community, which faces new transnational problems and threats. In the last decade, the Central Asian States have not only achieved sovereignty but have also been faced with some major problems – difficulties in achieving strategic objectives, maintenance of national independence and security and neutralization of emerging challenges and threats. During the early years of sovereignty, many of the challenges and threats to regional security did not materialize or were merely hypothetical; today the situation has changed radically. Today Central Asia faces real threats capable of undermining regional stability and creating new conflicts. Social and economic instability, lack of water and energy resources, and border disputes form the basis for new challenges and threats, such as religious extremism, drug trafficking, illegal migration flows, ecological problems and others. Such situations have a negative impact on regional cooperation and economic development.

The threat of new violent conflicts has induced Central Asian researchers to search actively for new peaceful means of crisis prevention and conflict resolution, and to implement them in the region. New technologies of peaceful dispute- and conflict-settlement take on special value under the current circumstances, becoming primary factors in the preservation and development of the region.

The research, carried out with the support of the UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Fellowship Programme, aims to provide a clear picture of how regional disputes and interstate conflicts depend on the new transnational security challenges that have emerged in the last decade, ironically coinciding with

creation of new independent states in Central Asia and creating more threats to their sustainable development and security, and what can be done in order to minimize the possibility of new violent conflicts.

In summary, the main efforts of providing regional sustainable development must be undertaken within the framework of regional cooperation organizations, together with international assistance. However, on the basis of broad international experience, the Central Asian republics must create new training programmes on conflict management, which should be offered at all levels, including to regional and local officials, community leaders and civil society organizations. Such programmes should focus on fostering skills in conflict analysis and collaborative problem-solving. Moreover, it appears that democratization and reconciliation processes within the Central Asian countries, the formation of pluralistic and democratic societies, as well as concerted efforts to curb the drug trade and organized crime, are important ingredients in any effort to build a comprehensive security framework in Central Asia. In this regard the most important role should be played by the European Union and international organizations. They can provide other countries with the necessary expertise in constructing democratic societies and successful national economies. Although the problems and conflicts affecting the region today are not going to disappear overnight, current research efforts and international initiatives represent a solid step towards prosperous and sustainable development in Central Asia.

Mikhail Vladimirovich Ivanov, 15 February 2005

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Fellow **Sadia Nasir Butt**

Beneficiary country **Pakistan**

Country of study **Germany**



Born on 5 July 1979,
Rawalpindi, Pakistan

Last degree obtained

Quaid-i-Azam University,
Islamabad, Pakistan: Master
of Science in International
Relations (January 2001).

Scholarly work and publications

*Towards Comprehensive
Security in South Asia*,
published in National
Development and Security,
Summer 2001.

*Relevance of Indus Water
Treaty in 21st Century*,
Pakistan Horizon, October
2002.

*Rise of Extremism in South
Asia*, Islamabad Policy
Research Institute,
Islamabad, 2004.

Contact

sadia_ir@yahoo.com

Place of research

University of Leipzig,
Institute for Political Science
Leipzig, Germany

Research undertaken

from 2 October 2003
to 1 February 2004

The Rise of Extremism in South Asia: a Comparative Analysis

The South Asian region currently faces a grave security threat due to increasing extremism and terrorist activities. The politics of violence and extremist trends in South Asia can be linked to the contradictions arising as a consequence of faulty national policies.

The nature and political economy of the state have been instrumental in creating the current crisis. The South Asian states tend to operate in the interests of a coalition of classes and ethnic groups, thereby influencing development policies and the distribution of resources. The pace, content and dynamics of the uneven development patterns in South Asia are among the predominant causes of violence in the region. Besides the failure of transition to modernity among these South Asian states, political culture has also led to ethnic solidarities and identification with religion and culture. Interference from external powers and from neighbouring and extra-regional elements (both governments and independent groups) has given a dangerous tilt to the existing volatile situation.

With the marked rise of extremism and increasing terrorist activities, particularly in the past decade, South Asia is among the regions in the world with the highest annual number of fatalities caused by terrorist violence. Ethnic, ideological and political conflicts pose a serious threat to stability and interstate relations. Each state faces multiple concerns ranging from fundamentalists to ethno-political violence, which are consolidating along with the worsening socio-economic conditions.

Terrorism and the rise of extremism has been occurring in South Asia for a variety of reasons, including perpetration by tyrannical and aggressive regimes and rebel groups, social injustice, ideological contradictions, religious beliefs and foreign interference. However, deteriorating socio-economic conditions, government policies and outside interference in all South Asian countries have been the

primary factors responsible for the rise of extremism in the region. Terrorism and its political consequences have directly and visibly affected interstate relations in South Asia and have also led to destabilization in the region.

Extremism is the common factor creating instability throughout the region. If they are willing to tackle their problems, the South Asian states will have to revise their policies of self-justification and redress the grievances of the general population. Socio-economic problems and human security issues need to be accorded the highest priority by governments, as these are the main cause of frustration among the masses and particularly among the educated and unemployed youth, who become easy recruits for radical organizations which involve them in their terrorist activities. In addition to individual state efforts to deal with extremism, a concerted regional effort is also required as the problem has an additional external dimension to it.

There is no shortcut to eradicating regional problems since they are the result of a consistent and gradual failure of the state to deal with the issue of public security and grievances, and also the failure of society to curb tendencies of extremism and intolerance. Without formulating a comprehensive approach to deal with the issue of terrorism at the state, society and regional level, the menace of radicalism cannot be eradicated.

Sadia Nasir Butt, 23 June 2004



Ibrahim Mashhour Al-Jazy
The picture was taken during my participation as a panelist in aljazeera Mobasher TV programme on Darfur at the Diplomatic Club in Doha, Qatar on 3 September 2006



Ainura Akeeneva
Country of research: USA



Maria del Rayo Ventura
Africa Institute of South Africa



Maria Kiani
Country of research: USA



Ana Mayella Cutiérrez Rodríguez
Vallée de la Colca, Peru

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

“The UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Fellowship opened a new window of opportunity for me to enhance my knowledge and reach a better understanding of how peaceful resolution of disputes is reached.”
Ibrahim Mashhour Al-Jazy

“I’m happy to have taken part in the UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Fellowships Programme, honouring the spirit of the former Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi and his belief in ‘people building the next era’.”
Ainura Akeeneva

“Visiting South Africa to do my research has been a priceless experience in my professional life.”
María del Rayo Ventura

“The UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Fellowship gave me the opportunity to undertake research studies at the Henry L. Stimson Center under the supervision of the Stimson Center’s Co-founder, Michael Krepon who provided an excellent platform to make an in-depth, neutral and broad-based study of the Kashmir Dispute.”
Maria Kiani

“The support of the 2004 UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowship Programme helped launch an original, in-depth study of the administration of justice in remote peasant communities in the Peruvian Andes. Justices of the peace as a way of resolving local conflicts by peaceful means: legal limitations, inconsistencies and practical legislative changes.”
Ana Mayella Gutiérrez Rodríguez

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Fellow

Ibrahim Mashhour Al-Jazy

Beneficiary country

Jordan

Country of study

United Kingdom



**Born on 15 January 1966
in Zarqa, Jordan**

Last degree obtained

School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, United Kingdom: PhD in International Law (30 April 2001).

Scholarly work and publications

The Role of Customary Law in the development of the Environmental Law, pp.167-176 found in *The Environment and Judiciaries of the Arab world*, (Proceedings of an Arab Chief Justices Regional Conference published by UNEP: 2004).

The Arab League and Human Rights Protection, pp.211-220 found in Eugene Cotran (ed.), *Democracy, the Rule of Law and Islam* (Kluwer Law International: 1999).

Contact

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Place of research

University of London
School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)
Centre of Islamic and Middle East Studies, London, U.K.

Research undertaken

from 1 September
to 15 October 2004
and
from 1 February
to 5 March 2005

Peaceful Settlement of Disputes

This research project focuses on the readiness of the “public” to accept the peaceful settlement of disputes. In this, the research fits into an established body of literature pertaining to the attitudes of individuals and communities in conflict-torn regions. In specific terms, it tries to investigate the readiness of Arab public opinion vis-à-vis the role of the United States of America (USA) in the Middle East. On the empirical side of the investigation, the study examined the acquired information from the Centre for Strategic Studies (CSS) - University of Jordan. CSS has for six years been conducting large-scale survey research in the region regarding the issue of “public readiness” in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, and Egypt. The latest of these projects “Arabs’ Perceptions of the West” offers a tremendous wealth of data, which is vital to my research. The correlation examined shows that there is a problem in the image of the USA as being politically biased toward Israel and thus it cannot be a reliable peace broker in the Middle East. This view is held by both the masses and elites (business persons, media journalists and university students alike) in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, and Egypt.

Since the Palestinian population in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is directly affected by the peace process and a peaceful settlement of the dispute has been underway for over 10 years now, the study opted for extra data sources on Palestinian public opinion towards the USA as a peace broker and towards Israel as a partner of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) in the peace process.

Another element in the public readiness dimension of the peaceful settlements of disputes relates to Israeli public opinion. The study has accessed reports of public opinion surveys in Israel and in this regard the Tel Aviv University-based Peace Index was very helpful in monitoring Israeli public opinion. The surveys of the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies likewise provide a very rich source of data.

Initially, this data was used and developed in the context of peaceful dispute settlements, including the dimension of public opinion readiness and the acceptance of peace brokers.

Ibrahim Mashhour Al-Jazy, 18 November 2006

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Fellow

Ainura Akeeneva

Beneficiary country

Kyrgyzstan

Country of study

United States of America



**Born on 28 February 1972
in Kara-Balta, Kyrgyzstan**

Last degree obtained

National Graduate Institute
for Policy Studies, Tokyo,
Japan: Master of Public
Policy (18 September 2002).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*WTO as an Instrument for
Trade Liberalization*, ISEAS,
1999.

*Public Investment Program
of the Kyrgyz Republic in the
Comprehensive Development
Framework*, GRIPS, 2002.

Contact

akineeva@hotmail.com

Place of research

The Strategy Group
Washington, United States
of America

Research undertaken

from 2 November 2004
to 1 April 2005

Regional Conflict Prevention in Post-Soviet Central Asia

The independent Central Asian republics are faced with an uncertain future regarding water. There is inherent conflict in the arbitrary political division of a unitary river basin. Each State at the local level within the basin has the right to use the waters that flow through its sovereign territory. Potential for conflict arises when one State's water use interferes with the plans or utilization of its neighboring, often downstream, States. The fundamental challenge for regional coordination of transboundary waters is that each State must conclude that inter-state cooperation over the shared resource provides a better option for the maintenance of state stability and security than individual unrestricted use of the waters.

As international experience shows, the lack of a clean freshwater supply leads to instability that can, in turn, create an environment more conducive to political or even military conflict. In water-stressed regions like Central Asia, the best way to avert conflict - and conserve the resource - is to agree to a sharing plan in advance. Water dispute amelioration is as important, and less costly, than conflict resolution. Early intervention is also beneficial to the process of conflict resolution.

The international community can play the role of the strong third-party in encouraging the parties to come together.

In this connection, it is worth bearing in mind that just as scarcity breeds conflict so it also embodies the potential for cooperation. Working together on water issues can help to build technical, political and cultural relationships between countries and people, thereby opening up the possibility of solving other kinds of mutual problems. With this in mind, it would not seem unreasonable to contend that water management could be less about averting conflict than about promoting peace. I believe that Central Asia might one day provide the world with a model of how a

devastated region comes back from the brink.

Moreover, working on water issues brings together many people who do not normally work together: international experts, university academics, local community leaders, young people, the media. "Water" enables different kinds of people to work together outside the formal governmental and diplomatic frameworks, thereby helping to build the kind of cross-border trust conducive to peacebuilding and conflict prevention.

In this regard, "peace games" can be seen as a practical instrument of peacebuilding through problem simulation and solving. Peace games - by enabling all the different kinds of people to come together in a "laboratory" to simulate the complicated problems of water - can help develop peaceful solutions to universally acknowledged water problems. Peace games are specially constructed to help map all the players in a potential conflict or the stakeholders in a durable peace. With these maps, the role-playing participants design for themselves a workable path to a long-term peace.

Ainura Akineeva, 20 April 2005

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Fellow **María del Rayo Ventura Navarrete**

Beneficiary country **Mexico**

Country of study **South Africa**



**Born on 7 February 1974
in Mexico D.F, Mexico**

Last degree obtained

El Colegio de México,
Mexico D.F, Mexico:
Master's Degree in
Asian and African studies,
speciality Africa,
9 December 2002.

**Scholarly work
and publications**

El fenómeno del trabajo migratorio africano en Sudáfrica en los noventa:
Master's Thesis, El Colegio de México, México,
9 December 2002.

El Papel de la ONU en el desmantelamiento del apartheid en Sudáfrica:
Bachelor's Thesis in International Relations,
La Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México,
Mexico, 27 August 1998.

Contact

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Place of research

Africa Institute of South Africa,
Pretoria, South Africa

Research undertaken

from 4 March
to 3 June 2005

Truth and Reconciliation Commission and its links with democratic transition in South Africa

The methodology employed in conducting fieldwork on the topic of *Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and its link with democratic transition in South Africa* involved three approaches: library research, searches for publications to be found in bookshops in South Africa, and interviews.

The library work was mainly conducted in libraries based in Pretoria, notably the library of the Africa Institute of South Africa, the University of South Africa (UNISA) and the University of Pretoria. My quest for South African publications led me to visit a number of bookshops across the country, notably in Pretoria and Cape Town. Useful books and references on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the historical background were acquired in this way.

The last, and probably the most rewarding, aspect of my fieldwork were the interviews conducted with different South African personalities familiar with human rights, the democratic transition and the TRC process. I had the chance to interview Helen Suzman, a former opposition parliamentarian and a pioneer of the White anti-Apartheid movement within the country; Dr Albie Sachs Judge of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, who took part in negotiations for the new constitution of the country; Professor Deborah Posel, who has written several books on the historical and sociological aspect of South Africa; and Dr Hugo Van der Merwe, who is a Project Manager and one of South Africa's specialists in the Transition and Reconciliation Unit at the Centre for the Study of Violence (CSVR). I would particularly like to extend my thanks to the Mexican embassy in Pretoria for facilitating and making possible these interviews.

My fieldwork has enabled me to come up with findings that will subsequently reinforce my thesis. Although the TRC has played a key role in uncovering the truth in a number of cases and in rewriting part of the official history of the country, it failed - probably due to various limitations, including its own mandate - to cover other issues that continue to plague South African society, notably community displacements. We should however acknowledge the role of the TRC in sowing the seeds of reconciliation and equality between races in the country, recognizing that the process is ongoing and will necessitate policy commitments as well as sustained efforts by society as a whole. This conclusion is the result of my presence on the ground and of having the opportunity to observe social interaction in the country. In this connection, I wish to express my gratitude to the Africa Institute of South Africa for allowing me to use their premises and resources as an operational base.

María del Rayo Ventura Navarrete, 25 July 2005

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Fellow

Maria Kiani

Beneficiary country

Pakistan

Country of study

United States of America



**Born on 14 November 1978
in Rawalpindi, Pakistan**

Last degree obtained

Quaid-i-Azam University,
Islamabad, Pakistan:
Master's Degree in History
(January 2002).

**Scholarly work
and publications**

*US Unilateralism versus
Post Cold war multilateralism*,
Institute of Strategic studies
Journal, Vol. XXII, N°3,
Islamabad, autumn. 2005.

*Changing Dimensions of
Peace keeping*
(to be published).

Contact

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Place of research

The Henry L. Stimson Center
Washington D.C.,
United States of America

Research undertaken

from 16 March
to 30 June 2005

Applying Comparative Models of Peaceful Conflict Resolution to the Kashmir Dispute

The focus of the study is to find innovative solutions for resolving the historically complex Kashmir conflict by comparing models of conflicts that have been peacefully resolved and applying the relevant techniques and modalities to identifying possible solutions to the Kashmir dispute.

The intractable Kashmir conflict, which spans a period of over fifty years, has resulted in three major and two mini-wars between India and Pakistan. A major portion of their respective budgets is allocated to defence and military spending to the detriment of domestic needs in both countries. Tensions have risen immediately after both countries tested nuclear weapons. Subsequently, a process of diplomatic normalization began, marked by confidence-building measures in the fields of trade, cultural exchanges and cross-border travel. Positive and negative aspects of the bilateral relationship add to the complexity and urgency of the challenge of resolving the Kashmir dispute. With the threat of nuclear war hanging over the sub-continent, the lives of one fourth of humanity are at stake.

With their attention fixed on Kashmir, both India and Pakistan are caught in a vicious cycle of underdevelopment and extreme poverty. For the stability and prosperity of the region and its future, it is imperative that energies are focused on finding possibilities for peace.

Three recent case studies of self-determination conflicts were considered: Northern Ireland, South Tyrol and East Timor. They are important landmarks in international history as they provide various useful mechanisms and experiences of peaceful conflict resolution. The comparative study helps to apply the lessons learnt from these conflicts to the Kashmir dispute, and develop a model or models of peaceful conflict resolution that would enable state and non-state actors involved in the dispute to transform and overcome the conflict amicably.

The concept of self-determination is highly contested and contentious. Since the end of the Cold War the international order has undergone major changes, and the concepts of security and self-determination have changed in consequence. For many, the line between self-determination and terrorism has become blurred, especially in the case of the Kashmir dispute.

The research aims to study this important phenomenon of terrorism and analyse any real or imaginary linkages to the conflicts of self-determination, with a focus on Kashmir.

The theoretical framework and tools of analysis were developed with the help of experienced experts at the Stimson Center. The case studies were compared and contrasted, similarities and applicability of mechanisms to the Kashmir dispute outlined and explored. This fellowship was undertaken at the Henry L. Stimson Center in Washington, DC, under the supervision of the Stimson Center's co-founder, Michael Krepon.

Maria Kiani, 27 November 2006

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Fellow

Ana Mayella Gutiérrez Rodriguez

Beneficiary country

Peru

Country of study

France



Born on 13 November 1966
in Lima, Peru

Last degree obtained

Ecole des Hautes Etudes
en Sciences Sociales
(EHESS): Diplôme d'Etudes
Approfondies D.E.A.,
spécialité : La personne en
droit (9 September 2003).

Scholarly work and publications

*La Justice de paix dans
l'administration judiciaire
péruvienne dans la vallée
de la Colca* : D.E.A. en
Études politiques Thesis,
EHESS-Paris I, 2000.

*Entre lynchage et peine
ou la justice au village dans les
hauteurs de la vallée de la
Colca (Caylloma, Arequipa -
Pérou)* : D.E.A. en Droit,
Thesis, EHESS-Paris I, 2002.

Contact

ma.gu@libertysurf.fr

Place of research

- Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS) Paris I, France
- Field Research Studies The Colca Valley (Caylloma, Arequipa) Arequipa, Peru

Research undertaken

from 1 September 2004
to 31 May 2005

The justice of the peace in Peru: a peaceful means of conflict resolution. The case of the Colca Valley region (Caylloma, Arequipa, Peru)

My research focuses on the administration of justice in a region of the Southern Peruvian Andes: Colca Valley, in the province of Arequipa.

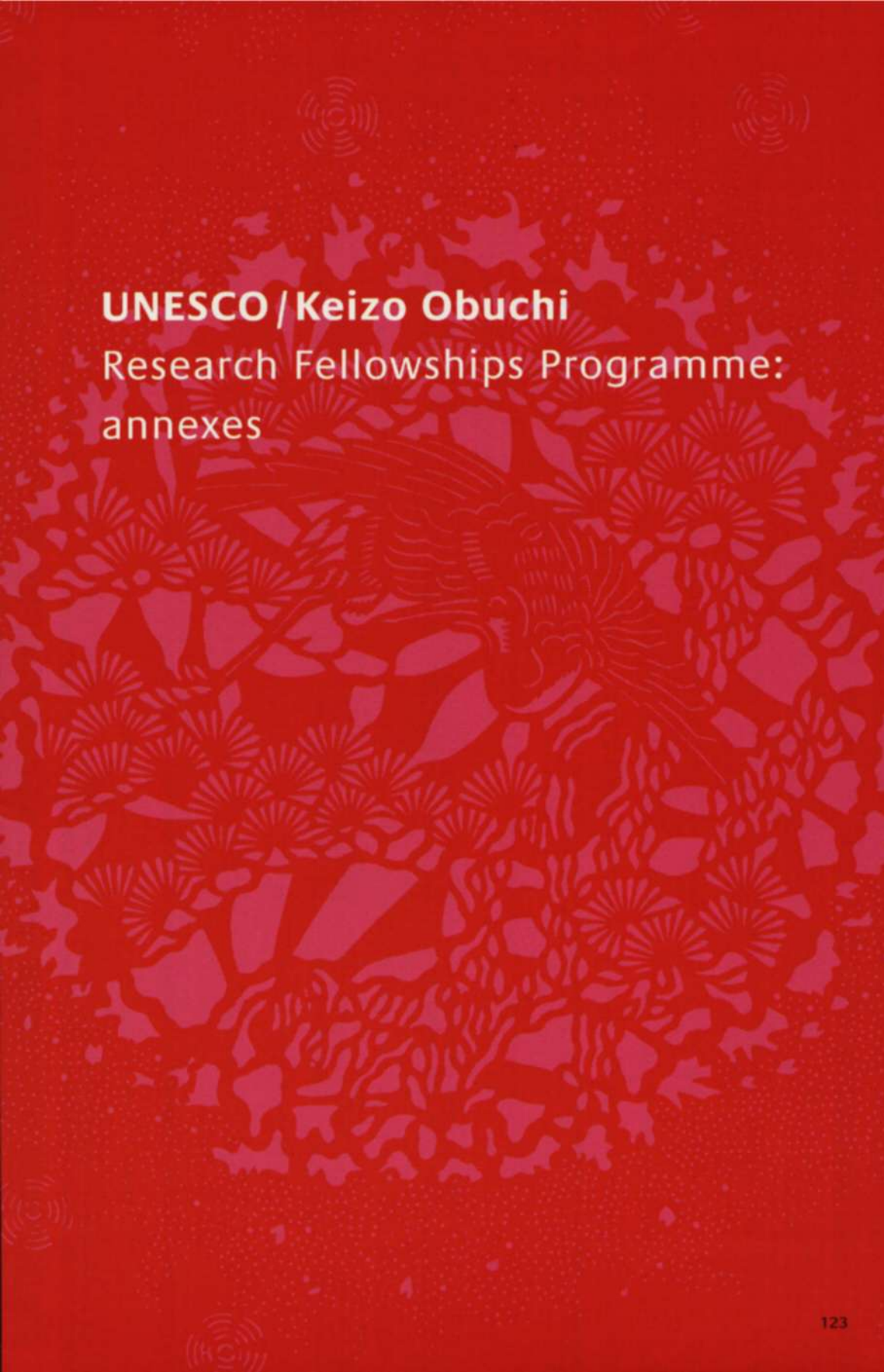
The legal system – and laws – of Peru testify to the gulf between social realities and how the institutions work. That gulf is glaring in rural society, where inefficient administration of justice often leads to defendants taking action that may be categorized as self-jurisdiction or self-defence, or resorting to extrajudicial procedures, extralegal and illegal actions, or even to lynchings and other such forms of social control. Yet the state has provided a court before which parties to a dispute can settle their differences peacefully: the court of arbitration. It is peaceful because it does not involve litigation through the judicial system. All the same, this court has taken on special importance in the Andes.

The competence of the justice of the peace, the first level of the judicial system, is limited to cases carrying with them a fine equal to no more than four times the legal minimum monthly salary (around €550). Otherwise, the justice of the peace must refer the case to the county court. Justices of the peace are local peasants, and those brought before them rely on their judgement and knowledge of customs. They act as mediators in a conciliation process, which is the ultimate purpose of their post as laid down by the law.

Most cases in the Andes are criminal cases. The fact that a justice of the peace cannot rule on criminal offences has many negative consequences for the administration of justice. It fosters a general atmosphere of impunity and irresponsibility. This gives us a starting point for analysing the breakdown of justice in these regions. Unequal access to justice means that it is perceived as something of a consumer good for the privileged, a public service for which one pays. So anyone wishing to take a case to court in Peru needs to be financially secure.

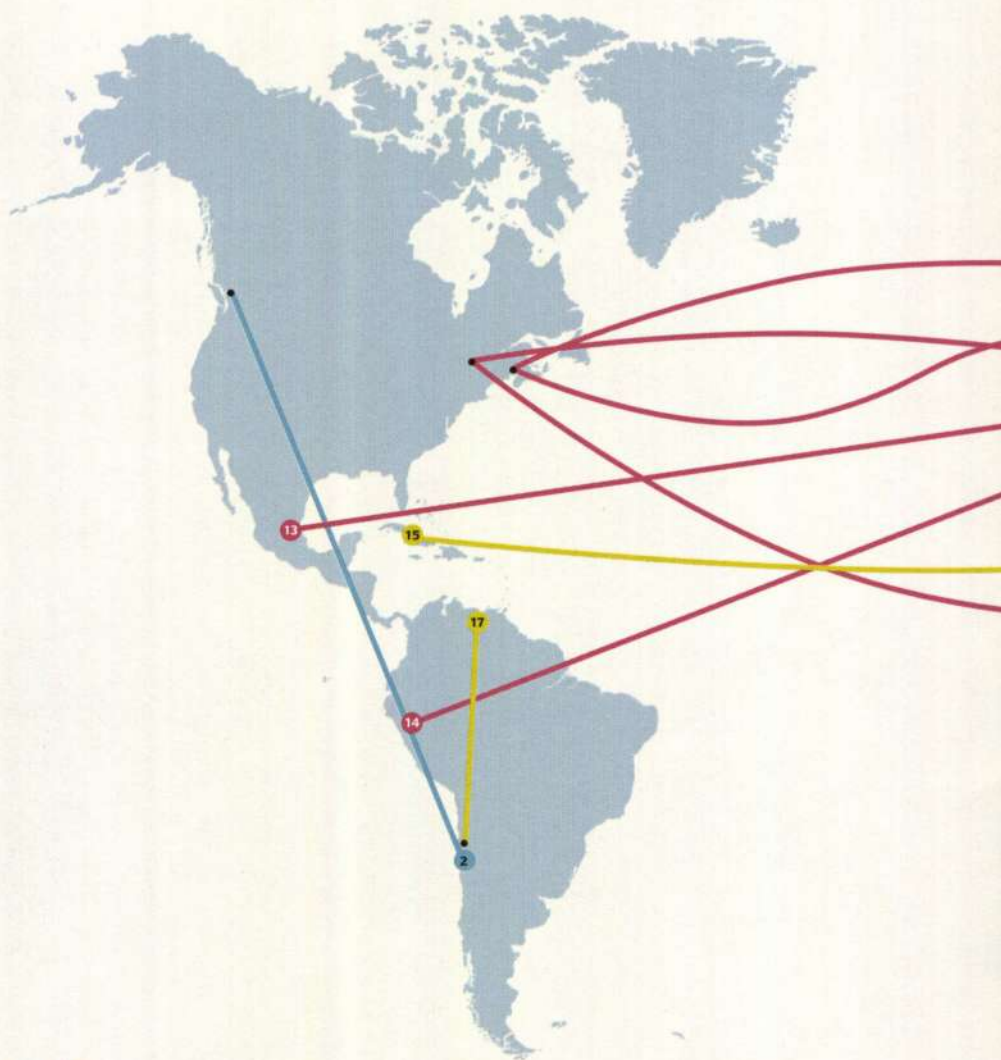
The government's lack of control over crime frequently leads to villagers taking the law into their own hands. They carry out a lynching in the belief that it is a public health measure, in keeping with an agreement with the authorities. They see it not as a crime, but as a means of addressing a problem in the community, which, moreover, sets an example which protects them against violence in the future. The provincial authorities are aware of these lynchings and other forms of punishment. Officials justify their inaction on the grounds that "these are highland cases... in remote communities where we have no access".

As a matter of fact, law enforcement through fines and social control arguably harks back to Andean practices that predate the establishment of a modern judicial system. Indeed, legal anthropology attests to the predominance of such forms of law enforcement in most non-European societies.



UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi
Research Fellowships Programme:
annexes

The UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Programme 2003 Where did the fellows go?



Environment

Fellows' country/territory

- 1 Bulgaria
- 2 Chile
- 3 India
- 4 Jordan
- 5 Myanmar
- 6 The Palestinian Authority
- 7 The Palestinian Authority
- 8 Sudan
- 9 Togo
- 10 Ukraine

Country/territory of study

- Portugal
- Canada
- United Kingdom
- Sweden and Germany
- Japan
- France
- France
- Germany
- Burkina Faso
- Poland

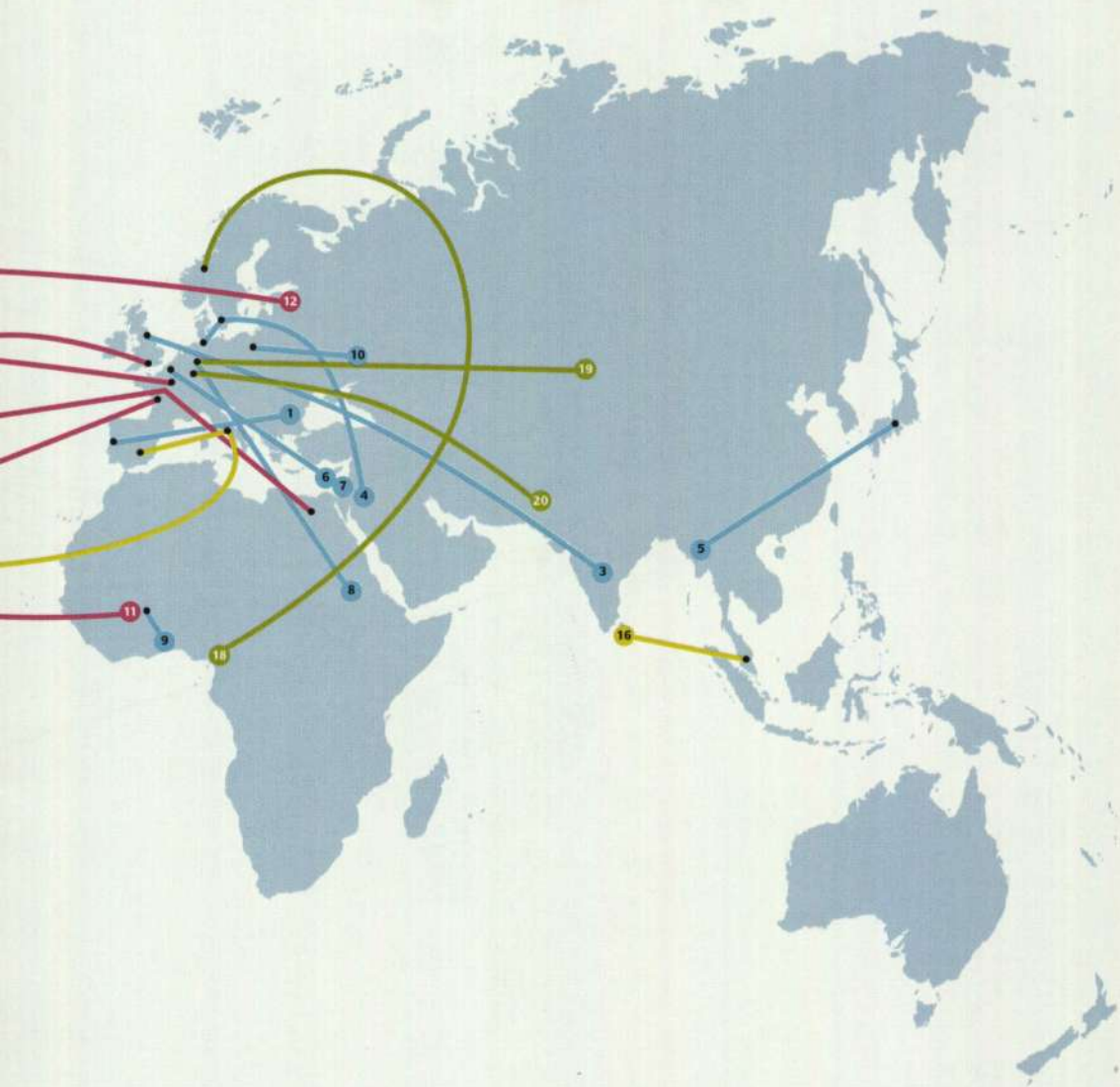
Intercultural Dialogue

Fellows' country/territory

- 11 Burkina Faso
- 12 Estonia
- 13 Mexico
- 14 Peru

Country/territory of study

- Canada and France
- United States of America and United Kingdom
- France and Egypt
- France



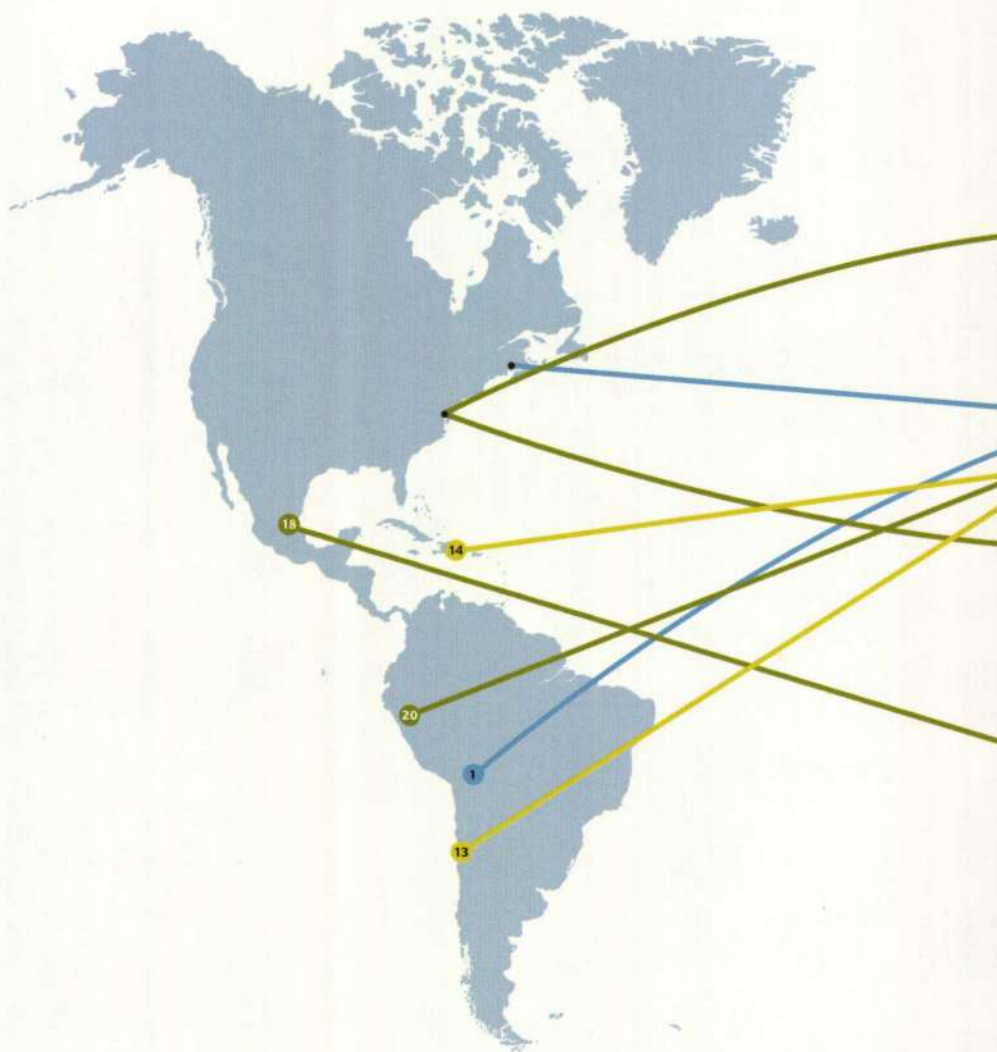
Information & Communication Technologies

- | Fellows' country/territory | Country/territory of study |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 15 Cuba | ● Italy and Spain |
| 16 Sri Lanka | ● Malaysia |
| 17 Venezuela | ● Chile |

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

- | Fellows' country/territory | Country/territory of study |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 18 Cameroon | ● Norway |
| 19 Kyrgystan | ● Germany |
| 20 Pakistan | ● Germany |

The UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Programme 2004 Where did the fellows go?



Environment

Fellows' country/territory

- 1 Bolivia
- 2 Cameroon
- 3 Côte d'Ivoire
- 4 Indonesia
- 5 Lao People's Democratic Rep.
- 6 Nigeria
- 7 The Palestinian Authority
- 8 Turkey

Country/territory of study

- Germany
- Gabon
- France
- Thailand
- Thailand
- India
- United Kingdom
- United States of America

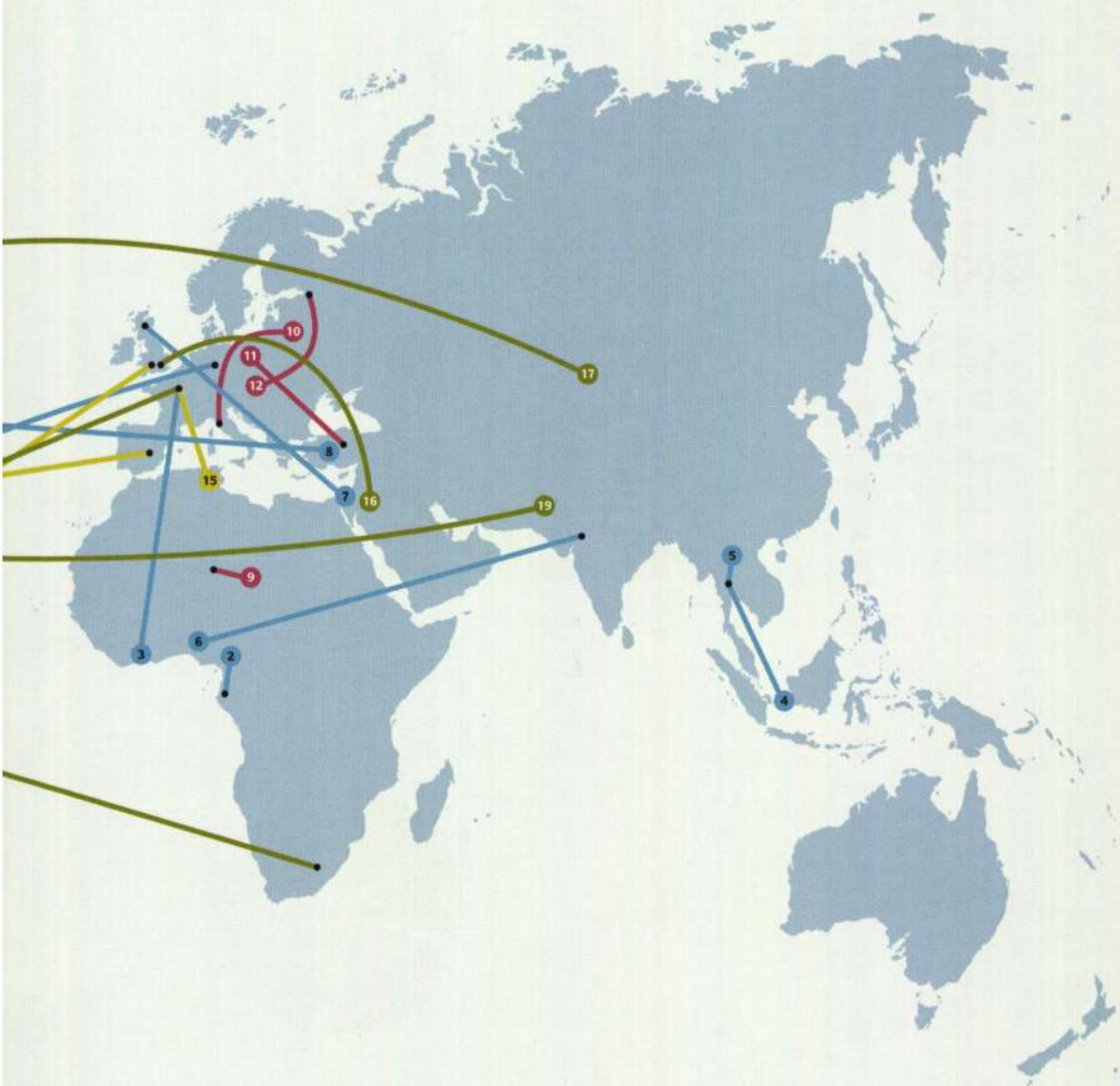
Intercultural Dialogue

Fellows' country/territory

- 9 Chad
- 10 Lithuania
- 11 Poland
- 12 Slovakia

Country/territory of study

- Niger
- Italy
- Turkey
- Russian Federation



Information & Communication Technologies

- | Fellows' country/territory | Country/territory of study |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 13 Chile | • United Kingdom |
| 14 Dominican Republic | • Spain |
| 15 Tunisia | • France |

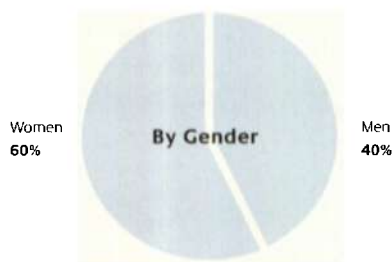
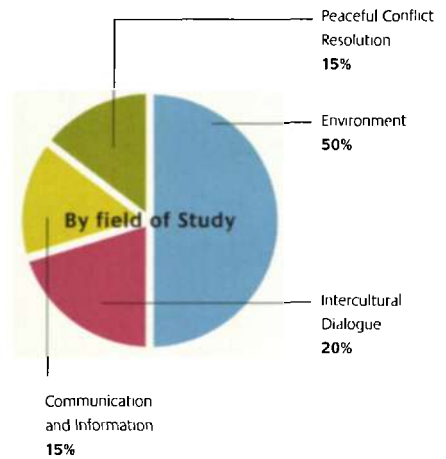
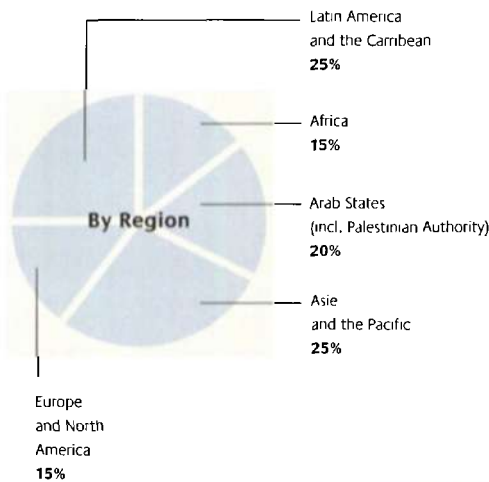
Peaceful Conflict Resolution

- | Fellows' country/territory | Country/territory of study |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 16 Jordan | • United Kingdom |
| 17 Kyrgyzstan | • United States of America |
| 18 Mexico | • South Africa |
| 19 Pakistan | • United States of America |
| 20 Peru | • France |

Selected candidates under the UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Programme

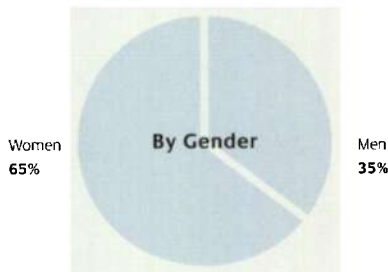
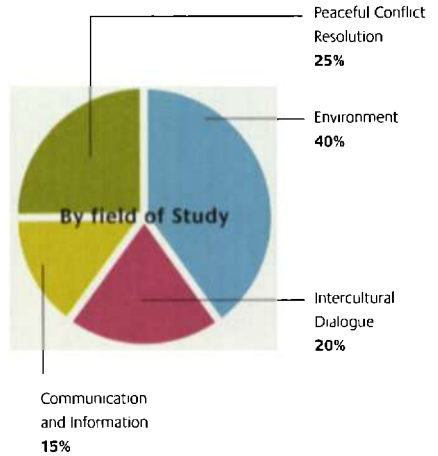
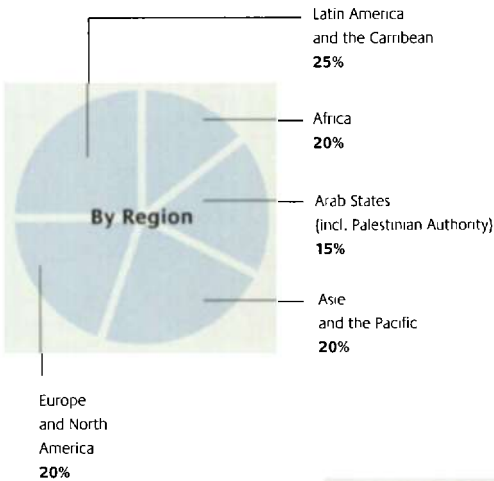
2003

	Environment	Intercultural Dialogue	Communication & Information	Peaceful Conflict Resolution	Men	Women	Total	\$ Value
Africa	1	1	-	1	3	-	3	22 500
Arab States (including Palestinian Authority)	4	-	-	-	3	1	4	30 000
Asia and Pacific	2	2	1	-	1	4	5	37 500
Europe and North America	2	-	-	1	1	2	3	22 500
Latin America and the Caribbean	1	-	2	2	-	5	5	37 500
Total	10	3	3	4	8	12	20	150 000



2004

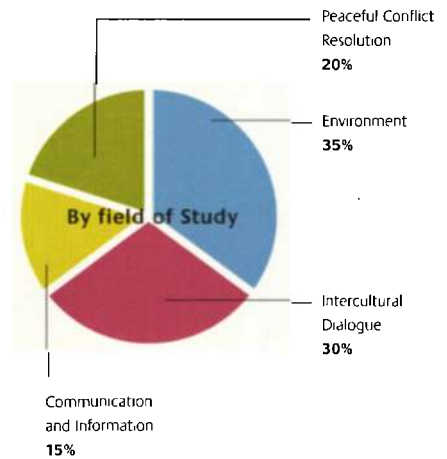
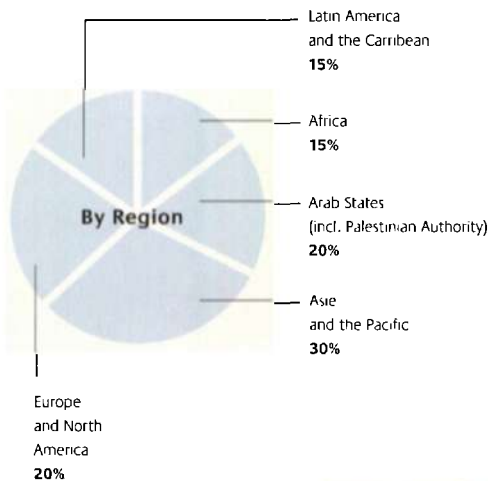
	Environment	Intercultural Dialogue	Communication & Information	Peaceful Conflict Resolution	Men	Women	Total	\$ Value
Africa	3	-	-	1	3	1	4	30 000
Arab States	1	1	1	-	2	1	3	22 500
Asia and Pacific	2	2	-	-	0	4	4	30 000
Europe and North America	1	-	-	3	-	4	4	30 000
Latin America and the Caribbean	1	2	2	-	2	3	5	37 500
Total	8	5	3	4	7	13	20	150 000



Selected candidates under the UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Programme

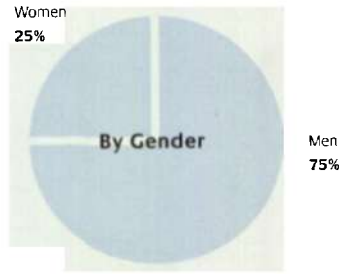
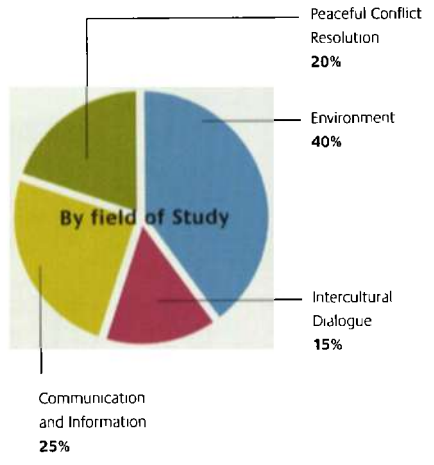
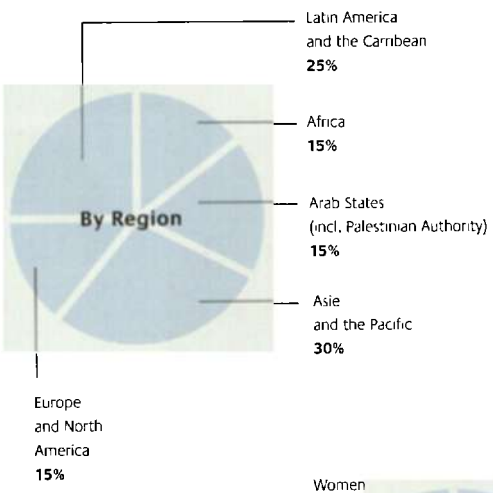
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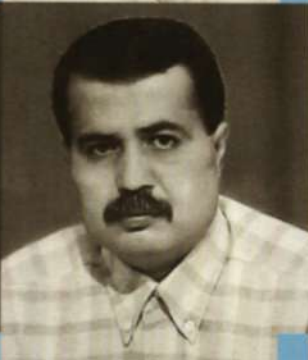
	Environment	Intercultural Dialogue	Communication & Information	Peaceful Conflict Resolution	Men	Women	Total	\$ Value
Africa	-	-	2	1	2	1	3	22 500
Arab States (including Palestinian Authority)	4	-	-	-	2	2	4	30 000
Asia and Pacific	1	2	1	2	5	1	6	45 000
Europe and North America	1	3	-	-	1	3	4	30 000
Latin America and the Caribbean	1	1	-	1	1	2	3	22 500
Total	7	6	3	4	11	9	20	150 000



2002

	Environment	Intercultural Dialogue	Communication & Information	Peaceful Conflict Resolution	Men	Women	Total	\$ Value
Africa	1	-	1	1	2	1	3	22 500
Arab States (including Palestinian Authority)	3	-	-	-	2	1	3	22 500
Asia and Pacific	3	1	-	2	5	1	6	45 000
Europe and North America	1	-	2	-	3	-	3	22 500
Latin America and the Caribbean	-	2	2	1	3	2	5	37 500
Total	8	3	5	4	15	5	20	150 000





The First Twenty UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellows-2001

Environment

Lithuania	Vilmantė Vyšniauskaitė	Biological Nitrogen Removal from Wastewater and Leachate.
Mauritania	Sidi Ould Salem	The Dynamic of the Sand under the Action of the Wind (Simulation of the Movement of Dunes).
Morocco	Farida Zaida	The Impact of Trace Elements on the Environment and on Human Health (ecotoxicology)
Nicaragua	Matilde Somarriba Chang	Potential Environmental Impacts of Tourism Activities in Protected Areas: A View from Nicaragua.
Palestinian Authority	Amal Hudhud	Management of Appropriate Olive Mill Wastewater Treatment in Palestine.
Palestinian Authority	Khamis Mohammed El-Mahallawi	Nitrogen Sources and Sinks in the Gaza Strip.
Papua New Guinea	Nick Araho	Study of the Mussau Archaeological Collection at Berkeley.

Intercultural Dialogue

Bosnia and Herzegovina	Jelena Drca	Looking for Universal Language: Verbal versus Visual.
Kyrgyzstan	Kubat Moldobaev	Kyrgyz-Russian Intercultural Dialogue.
Mexico	Andrés Del Castillo Sánchez	The Construction of the East Timorese National Identity, Intercultural Dialogue East Timor-Portugal.
Republic of Moldova	Elena Negru	Enhancing Understanding of the Experience of Intercultural Dialogue as a Basis for the Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts.
Romania	Alexandru Boureanu	The Sociology of Culture/Theatre: Art and Culture as Vehicles for Business Advertising.
Uzbekistan	Farruh Inogamov	The Djadids' Role in the Creation of Modern Theatres in Central Asia.

Information and Communication Technologies

Burkina Faso	Arouna Ouedraogo	The Architecture of the Distribution of Information Technology Systems: Tele-teaching Applications.
Gabon	Anasthasie Obono Mba	New Exclusion Challenges or New Opportunities for Education Systems in Sub-Saharan African Countries: the Case of Senegal and Gabon.
Mongolia	Nyamjav Davagdorj	Integrating Multimedia Technology into Training Systems.

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Cambodia	Narin Souk	Perspectives on a Culture of Peace: A Way of Building it in Cambodia.
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Freddy Kalenga Bafwafwa	The Resolution of Conflict in Africa: The Example of the Region of the Great Lakes (Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi).
Mexico	Atzimba Luna Becerril	Towards the Construction of a Peaceful and Lasting Solution to Conflict.
Uzbekistan	Timur Dadabaev	Intercultural Dialogue as an Integral Part of Peaceful Resolution Strategy in Multiethnic Societies: The Case of Central Asia.



The Twenty UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellows 2002

Environnement

Azerbaijan	Ismail Mukhtar Zeynalov	The impact of natural and human factors on climate change in Azerbaijan and the Caspian Sea.
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Ri Gwon Chol and Ri Ho Yong	Management and Rational Utilization of Water Resources and Establishment of Policies for Management, Utilization and Protection of Water Resources.
Egypt	Ahmed Moustafa Moussa	Environmental and Evaluation Monitoring for Lake Nasser.
Myanmar	Htun Ko	The Variation in the Drainage Basin Morphometry within Sittoung Valley.
Togo	Tchéngnon Abotchi	Demographic Pressure and Water Resource Management in the lower Ouémé Valley, Southern Benin.
Palestinian Authority	Mona Mohamad Hassan Mohsen	Assessment of Pesticides Usage in the Gaza Strip and Survey of the Residual Pesticides in the Groundwater.
Palestinian Authority	Khalid Ahmed Qahman	Three-dimensional Simulation of seawater intrusion in Heterogeneous Aquifer.

Intercultural Dialogue

Chile	Manuel Alejandro Bilboa Zepeda	The Concept of Intercultural Dialogue from the Perspective of Contemporary Anthropology and Clinical Psychopathology.
Colombia	Carlos Arturo Salamanca Villamizar	The architectural practice in the local contexts.
Republic of Korea	Seong-Yong Park	Study on New Approaches of Cultural Tourism for the Promotion of Inter-Cultural Dialogue.

Information and Communication Technologies

Croatia	Jakov Kitarović	Internet Communications Over Powerlines.
Ecuador	Janio Lincon Jadán Guerrero	New Information Retrieval Techniques and New Multimedia Systems Generation.
Kenya	Florence Nzisa Nzwilli Muinde	The role of open access Journal systems in research capacity development.
Russian Federation	Alexei Moroz	Development of Dynamic Web Publishing Technology.
Venezuela	Luz Marina Pérez	The contribution of Information and Communication Technologies to the development of education, science and culture.

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Bangladesh	A.H.M. Shamsul Muktadir	Conflict Management between Bangladesh and Pakistan.
Cuba	MaríaCarla Alzugaray Rodríguez	Establishing Community-Based Mediation Services in Cuba: Possibilities and Benefits
Kazakhstan	Venera Galyamova	The characteristics of the ethnic policy of the Government of the People's Republic of China.
Sierra Leone	Leslie Arthur Wilmot Shyllon	Religious Collaboration in Conflict Resolution: The Sierra Leone Experience