

UNESCO/**Keizo Obuchi**



Research Fellowships Programme
in **2001**: Results Achieved


“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, then Prime Minister of Japan

Preface

Keizo Obuchi, former Prime Minister of Japan, had a firm belief in the power of people to build the next era. He always told me that in every country, the key to success is to consolidate the capacity-building of the nation's human resources, especially by investing resources in the younger generation since the future will be borne by them. I shared and continue to share this belief with him. To commemorate and honour his spirit, since the year 2001, 20 fellowships a year have been awarded to deserving candidates from developing countries and countries in transition under this project, generously funded by the Government of Japan, which I entitled the "UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Programme". The aim of these fellowships is to support innovative and imaginative post-graduate research in areas of development to which former Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi was so committed: Environment; Intercultural Dialogue; Information and Communication Technologies; and Peaceful Conflict Resolution.

Keizo Obuchi was a vibrant leader, embodying virtues appreciated by people all over the world: honesty, modesty and integrity. For over thirty-six years, he worked in the political arena as a dedicated, determined and effective statesman. During that period, he honed his legendary skills as a good listener and tireless consensus-builder, promoting peace and a brighter future for all humankind. As a human being, he was thoughtful, unassuming and humble as well as an affectionate and beloved husband and father. I had the great honour of knowing him personally for a long time – actually, for forty years since our days together in junior high school. Our friendship was unswerving and my admiration of him never ceased to grow. Since his untimely death on 14 May 2000, that friendship and admiration remain unchanged.

This brochure attempts to provide an overview of the results achieved by the young researchers who were awarded fellowships under the programme during the 2001 cycle of awards in his name. It is offered to the Obuchi family in fond memory and admiration of a fine leader and good friend, and as a token of appreciation for Keizo Obuchi's remarkable contribution to peace and development.



Koïchiro Matsuura
Director-General, UNESCO
14 May 2003



Koichiro MATSUURA
Director-General of UNESCO
Keizo OBUCHI
then Prime Minister of Japan
May 2000



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.

Keizo OBUCHI
then Prime Minister

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 four 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;

Information and Communication Technologies;

Intercultural Dialogue;
and,

Peaceful Conflict Resolution.

Who is eligible?

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

The National Commission for UNESCO of the invited developing Member State must endorse all candidatures submitted for consideration (applications from individuals cannot be entertained).

Candidates under this Programme must be **post-graduate researchers**, already holding either a M.A., M.Sc. or Ph.D. degree (or equivalent) 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 their own country under the auspices of an academic supervisor in a host institution.

Who selects the beneficiaries and what do they receive?

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 candidature and its pertinence to the UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Programme.

Each selected beneficiary is awarded US \$7,500 to cover the costs of undertaking research study abroad.

“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 143rd Session
of the Japanese DIET, TOKYO,
7 August 1998]

What are the results of this programme?

To date, the UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships have 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 shared with those concerned upon return home.
- **Fostering** friendship, international understanding and peace among the beneficiaries and the host country.

The purpose of this leaflet is to provide a brief overview of the results of the research undertaken by the first 20 fellowship beneficiaries selected for the 2001 Cycle:

Who are they?

What and where did they do their research?

What did they achieve?



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



The First Twenty UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellows-2001

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“Protecting the environment... has to be seen as part of the much wider context of sustainable development. This vital agenda is not confined to environmental protection but also includes respect for human rights and democratic principles, international collaboration to overcome poverty, the promotion of justice and equity, and respect for cultural and biological diversity.”

Koïchiro Matsuura
Director-General

[on the occasion of the inauguration of the Global Development Village at the 20th World Scout Jamboree, HADYAO CHONBURY, Thailand, 29 December 2002]

“The orientation of ... society towards mass production, mass consumption and mass waste is imposing a major burden on the 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]

“This fellowship enabled me to learn about the best management practices in linking environment with tourism in protected areas.”

“Thank you for awarding me the generous UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi research fellowship. Water is scarce in the region and the results of the research will help engineers in developing countries to better manage industrial wastewater.”

“The educational materials that will be prepared thanks to this fellowship will get the results of scientific research back into the hands of local people at a grass-roots level.”

“I am very grateful to UNESCO and the Japanese Government as I have had the opportunity to develop my scientific and personal abilities, skills and capacities for independent judgement, critical thinking and ethical reasoning.”

What the fellows say

Fellow

Vilmantė VYŠNIAUSKAITĖ

Beneficiary country

Lithuania

Country of study

Sweden

**Born on 20 January 1975
in VILNIUS, Lithuania**

Last degree obtained

Vilnius University:
M.Sc. Degree
in Environmental
Research (1998-2000).

**Scholarly work
and Publications**

*Investigations of Biological
Phosphorus Removal from
Wastewater:*
Master's Thesis 2000.

*Nitrogen Removal from
Municipal Wastewater:*
Report for the Fourth
Conference of Lithuanian
Junior Scientists,
24 February 2001.

Contact

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Place of Research

University of Kalmar,
Department of Technology,
KALMAR, Sweden

Research undertaken

from September 2001
to April 2002

Summary of Research
carried out with the
UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi
Fellowship on:

Biological Nitrogen Removal from Wastewater and Leachate

Together with a team of young researchers, I have investigated the removal of different contaminants, especially COD, BOD and ammonia-nitrogen ($\text{NH}_3\text{-N}$), from wastewater and leachate at the University of Kalmar in the Kingdom of Sweden.

During the last decade, many laboratories, pilot and full-scale experiments have investigated the optimal low-tech purification methods for the treatment of numerous types of wastewaters. Constructed wetland is a low-tech treatment system, which usually contains multiple treatment possibilities. Frequently, some kind of soil treatment system is included as one treatment stage. Engineered wetland systems for purification of wastewater and leachate are not yet widely spread in Lithuania. The possibility to use peat as filter media for treatment of leachate from Aardlapalu landfill (Tartu County, Estonia) has been studied. The leachate was transported into the laboratory, aerated and percolated through two different types of peat filters. The concentration of nitrogen compounds, COD and BOD was measured in the leachate before and after treatment. Hydrological consequences and chemical changes in the peat were investigated. The low-tech leachate treatment method, such as constructed wetland treatment system, has been chosen for purification of leachate from Aardlapalu landfill. Peat land, surrounding the landfill, could be a natural low-cost final polishing step for leachate treatment.

The aim of this study was to clarify if locally available peat can be used as medium for treatment of the leachate from the Aardlapalu landfill in undisturbed peat filter body (FB1). In addition, another type (with higher organic content) of peat has been tested in loose peat filter (FB2) as filter media, the pathways of the leachate transport in the filter body has

been investigated as well as change in the peat composition during experiment. Two filter bodies (FB) with size of 1m^3 have been constructed for the experiment. During the experiment, it was established that aerobic treatment may be insufficient due to improper BOD:N:P ratio. Better reduction of total and ammonia-nitrogen was achieved by filtrating leachate through undisturbed peat filter body (FB1) rather than through loose peat filter (FB2). Effluent from FB1 contained higher concentration of nitrate than effluent from FB2. The pH of the leachate decreased significantly during the filtration process by FB2. The flow rate of leachate in filters was faster in FB2 than FB1. The analyses of moisture content in FB-s indicate that distribution of leachate has been more homogeneous in FB2 than FB1, and faster flow rate on peat filter has not caused creation of the channels in FB2. Comparison of the composition of the peat initially and after conduction of study shows that the compositions of both types of peat in filters have changed during the experiment.

Generally, the purification of leachate by peat filters depends on several factors, such as initial composition of peat (content of organic matter, decomposition rate, concentration of Ca, Mg, value of pH etc) and characteristics of peat filter (such as density, moisture content etc). There are inherent difficulties in comparing adsorption studies on organic materials like peat and soil due mainly to their heterogeneity and varying physical and chemical properties. Therefore, additional investigations have to be carried out in order to understand the purification mechanisms.

Vilmantė VYŠNIAUSKAITĖ, 19 September 2002

Fellow

Sidi OULD SALEM

Beneficiary country

Mauritania

Country of study

Germany**Scholarly work and Publications**

Electro-optic coefficients in H⁺ ions implanted LiNbO₃ planar waveguides: Nucl. Instr. and methods in Phys. Research B147, 1999, pages 393-398; A. Boudrioua, S.Ould Salem, P. Moretti, R.Kremer, J.C. Loulergue.

RBS Study of Defect Profiles in Proton Implanted LiNbO₃: Radiation Effects and Defects in Solids, vol.136, 1995, pp.103-106, S.Ould Salem, B. Canut, P. Moretti, J. Meddeb, S.M.M.Ramos, P. Thevenard.

Damage Induced in LiNbO₃ Single Crystals by GeV Gadolinium Ions: Nucl. Instr. And methods in Phys. Research, 1991.

Latent Track Formation in LiNbO₃ Single Crystals Irradiated by GeV Uranium: Radiation Effect and Defects in Solids, vol. 136, 1995, pp.279-282.



Born on 10 December 1963
in F'DERICK, Mauritania

Last degree obtained

Lyon I University (France):
Ph.D. thesis in Science
of Materials (1990-1995).

Contact

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Place of Research

University of Stuttgart
*Institut für Computer-
anwendungen, (ICA1)*
*Physik mit Höchstleistungs-
rechnern, STUTTGART,*
Germany

Research undertaken

from October 2001
to February 2002

Summary of Research
carried out with the
UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi
Fellowship on:

The Dynamic of the Sand under the Action of the Wind (Simulation of the Movement of Dunes)

It is well known that one third of the earth's surface is covered by inhospitable regions which are characterised by poor vegetation, shortage of water and hot temperatures during the days. These regions like the Arabian Rub al Khali, the Indian Thar, the famous Sahara, have always attracted many people from all fields of interest. But despite their beautiful landscape and extreme environment, deserts raise many questions. Most of those questions address the evolution of the land-forms due to some processes on the surface. These processes are caused by the agitating air, which is itself perturbed by the topography of the dunes.

The dynamics of sand dunes can be explained by several macroscopic phenomena such as erosion, deposition, and transport of sand. On a microscopic scale, there are interactions between grains and air, grains and bed, and different modes of transport such as saltation, reptation and suspension. A wide variety of dune shapes can be found in deserts, on the sea-bottom, and even on Mars and have been fitted into numerous classifications by geoscientists. The shapes depend mainly on the amount of available sand and on the change in the direction of the wind over the year. If the wind blows steadily from the same direction throughout the year and there is not enough sand to cover the entire area, dunes shaped in a crescent, called barchans, develop. Indeed, in this first work, we have learned more about the physical model of sand dunes, the previous studies, dealing with measurements and computer modelling, existing in a large number of papers.

Our numerical calculations have been performed in order to check the reproducibility, coherence and stability of the continuum model. On the other hand, we showed that the numerical simulation could be very useful for the understanding of some striking aspects of sand dune dynamics. For instance, that the shape differences observed in nature between small and large dunes and between regions with strong and weak winds are indeed a consequence of different ratios of dune size to saturation length. But the treatment of the sand dune question needs much experimental work in order to obtain sufficient measurement data in every region or area to be studied. In fact, the sand dune dynamics depends on several parameters such as the sand (nature, size), the wind field (direction and strength), and the geological environment and conditions. In future, we hope to improve this dune code, taking into account, for instance, the presence of vegetation on the dunes or obstacles in front of the dunes.

Sidi OULD SALEM, 29 January 2002

Fellow **Farida ZAIDA**Beneficiary country **Morocco**Country of study **France**

**Born on 14 February 1976
in NADOR, Morocco**

Last degree obtained

*Faculté des Sciences et
Techniques de Settat, Maroc :
Diplôme d'Etudes Supérieures
Approfondies (DESA) en
« Bases méthodologiques
de la gestion, de l'analyse
et du traitement de l'état
de l'environnement »
(June 2000).*

Scholarly work and Publications

*Dosage du plomb dans le lait
maternel humain et dans les
cheveux de nourrissons par
spectrométrie d'absorption
atomique électrothermique
(SAAE) : Les Premières
rencontres sur les Déficiets
Nutritionnels et l'Industrie
Agroalimentaire, Faculté des
Sciences Dhar Mehraz, Fès,
Maroc, mars 2001, Lekouch
N., Zaida F., Sedki A.,
Berguier M., Nejmeddine A.*

Contact

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Place of Research

Laboratoire d'explorations
fonctionnelles "A",
Hôpital Côte de Nacre,
CAEN, France

Research undertaken

from 18 December 2001
to June 2002

Summary of Research
carried out with the
UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi
Fellowship on:

The Impact of Trace Elements on the Environment and on Human Health (ecotoxicology):

Bioavailability of Trace Elements for Infants in Morocco

The work was carried out at the Digestive and Nutritional Physiology Laboratory of the University Hospital Centre of Caen in France, and was part of the programme of the UNESCO Trace Element Satellite Centre in Marrakesh, established by UNESCO at the University of Marrakesh, which is a branch of the Trace Element Institute for UNESCO, Lyon. The Centre deals with the problems that trace elements can cause for the environment and for public health.

Thanks to the UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi fellowship, I was able to acquire several techniques for the study, analysis and processing of trace elements such as lead, iodine, iron, zinc and selenium which pose public health problems, with particular reference to the infant population of the Marrakesh region in Morocco. The main studies carried out during the internship are as follows:

Detection of lead in the biological markers, which appears as a heavy metal in the trace state. It is a chemical pollutant which causes contamination problems in the above-mentioned region and doses may be found in samples of women's breast milk and in their infants' hair by means of atomic absorption spectroscopy and by other measuring techniques such as ICP (inductive coupled plasma) (plasma torch), a highly sophisticated technique. We have been able to prove the presence of this dangerous metal in the biological indicators of the exposed populations in the region.

Detection of iron, zinc, iodine and selenium, which are elements essential for cellular metabolic reaction. They are indispensable at certain specific doses, but become toxic when there is either a too high or too low quantity. Depending on the degree of concentration,

these elements cause either deficiency or toxicity. In Morocco, infants are the most sensitive to this kind of deficiency, owing to their physical vulnerability and immaturity. The trace elements were measured in the same biological markers (breast milk and hair) and with the same equipment as for lead, apart from iodine, which was measured by an ionometer. This enabled us to screen cases of deficiency in this population of breast-feeding mothers and infants.

Furthermore, and given that food can be contaminated by or deficient in trace elements and/or influenced by dietary practice, studies of the bioavailability of iron, zinc and calcium in vitro and in vivo in babies' food and their impact on infant health have been carried out so as to explain the deficiencies observed in nursing infants. The studies will subsequently be published in scientific journals.

In order to enhance this work, an isotopic study was carried out by labelling a complex peptide with radioactive iron to study its effect on the improvement of the status of iron in the organism to remedy iron deficiency and reduce the number of cases of anaemia observed in nursing infants in the region.

In addition, this internship has enabled me to gather a highly informative library in the field of my thesis, concerning health, the environment and trace elements, and to forge friendships and professional relationships with the laboratory staff who have done a great deal to help me carry out my work under favourable conditions. In order to make the most of the results of the internship, I hope to take part in national and international congresses to present part of my findings, and to publish the remainder in international journals.

Translated from French by UNESCO

Farida ZAIDA, 1 October 2002

Fellow

Matilde SOMARRIBA CHANG

Beneficiary country

Nicaragua

Country of study

Chile**Scholarly work and Publications**

Soil, Erosion and Conservation as Affected by Land use and Land Tenure, El Pital Watershed, Nicaragua: Technical Bulletin Number 99-3. Soil Management CRSP, Texas A and M University, USA, 1999, Somarriba, M.T. Thurow and A. Thurow.



Diagnostic of Research in Sustainable Agriculture in Hillsides (ASEL) in Nicaragua Developed by UNA for 1990-1998 (National Agrarian University, Managua, Nicaragua), 2000, Muñoz, R. and M. Somarriba.

Evaluation of the Possible Climatic Change over Potential Yield on Corn Crop (Zea Mays L.) in the Pacific Region from Nicaragua: Thesis for B.Sc. in Agronomy, National Agrarian University, Managua, Nicaragua, 2000, Palma, S. and M. Somarriba.

Born on 5 August 1961 in MANAGUA, Nicaragua

Last degree obtained

Texas A and M University, U.S.A.: M.Sc. Degree in Rangeland Ecology and Management (1995-1997).

Contact

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Place of Research

Centro EULA-CHILE, Centro Universitario Internacional Europa Latinoamérica de Investigación y Formación en Ciencias Ambientales, CONCEPCION, Chile

Research undertaken

from November 2001 to March 2002

Summary of Research carried out with the UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Fellowship on:

Potential Environmental Impacts of Tourism Activities in Protected Areas: A View from Nicaragua

The General Directorate for Environmental Quality in the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA) considers it necessary to do an environmental impact assessment of activities within given environmentally sensitive areas to determine consequent direct or indirect effects of these activities on the ecological, economical, social and cultural aspects in which the projects are developed.

The State of Environment Nicaraguan Report from 2001 indicates that the main threats of tourism on biodiversity are the lack of territorial ordinance policies, lack of follow-up and control measurements from tourism projects, and inefficient management of residual waters.

Because of all the potential negative impacts of tourism on the environment, it is proposed that eco-tourism be the exclusive form of tourism operation to be developed in a protected area. Modalities such as Adventure Tourism, Educational – Scientific Tourism, or Rural Tourism associated with buffer zones, are other options for the development of highly-valued natural areas.

Eco-tourism should not be viewed as a panacea, but as an alternative for land use and management of protected areas, particularly in a country like Nicaragua. The appropriate use of natural resources that are in near pristine quality must take into account the funds needed to develop, maintain, and administer tourism services that minimize negative environmental impacts.

An analysis of eco-tourism activities and its impacts should not be concentrated only on the protected areas, but an action plan should also involve local communities in close proximity to the protected areas. In this way, tourism services such as housing, lodging, restaurants, and other forms of recreation, could be developed outside the protected areas with a

master plan in mind. In this way the protected areas could be used exclusively for eco-tourism activities. This scheme would bring economic benefits and incentives to the local communities, which in many cases are in economically depressed zones of the country. Unfortunately, these zones are particularly rich in natural resources and populated with local inhabitants that are very hospitable.

There is a lack of compatibility between protected area management categories applied in Nicaragua and the land use they undergo. The consequences of this incompatibility bring incoherence in applying environmental law and fundamentals for best land management practices. Therefore, it is necessary to revise the system of protected areas categories functioning in Nicaragua. For instance, in the case of the “Strict Nature Reserve/Wilderness Area (I)” category, it is not clear which of the objectives of management apply to the statement “to preserve habitats, ecosystem and species in as undisturbed a state as possible”. This would definitely not allow for eco-tourism activities. On the other hand, the Managed Resource Protected Area is managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems. It is primarily for the benefit of local communities. This category does not exist in the Nicaraguan Regulation but may have some applicability. This would allow for the kind of land uses included in various eco-tourism activities. Consequently, it would permit an appropriate management of the area according to the established best management practices, as well as give economic benefits to local populations, in particular, and to Nicaraguan society in general.

Matilde SOMARRIBA CHANG, 6 November 2002

Fellow

Amal HUDHUD

Beneficiary territory

Palestinian Authority

Countries of study

Tunisia and United Kingdom

**Born on 1 September 1968
in NABLUS,
Palestinian Territories**

Last degree obtained

International Institute for Infrastructural, Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering (IHE), Delft, (Netherlands): M.Sc. Degree in Science – Sanitary Engineer (1994-1996).

Scholarly work and Publications

An Assessment on Ground Water Quality and Reserve Osmosis Desalination Plant in Palestine: Master's Thesis, International Institute for Infrastructural, Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering, IHE DELFT, The Netherlands, 1996.

Rainwater Harvesting in Palestine: B.Sc. Thesis, 1993.

Contact

amalhudhud@excite.com

Place of Research

- Tunis International Centre for Environmental Technology, Tunisia.
- Loughborough University, Water, Engineering and Development Centre, U.K.

Research undertaken

from October 2001 to July 2002

Summary of Research carried out with the UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Fellowship on:

Management of Appropriate Olive Mill Wastewater Treatment in Palestine

The manufacture of olive oil produces large amounts of a dark-colored juice. This olive mill wastewater (OMW) consists of a mixture of water from the olives, machinery cooling waters, fruits washing and remainder of fruit. This waste causes large-scale environmental problems in the Mediterranean area. Toxic effects are derived from the natural composition of some of their constituents i.e., its extremely high organic load (COD concentration reach up to 200 kg/m³) and the presence of the phenolic compounds which are present at high concentration (8 kg/m³ as total phenol) and responsible for OMW black color.

The phenolic compounds contained in OMW can be divided into two groups, the first group contains simple phenolic compounds and the second group contains dark polymers, which result from the polymerization and auto-oxidation of the simple phenolic compound. While simple phenolic compounds are highly toxic but biodegradable, the polyphenolic compounds present little toxicity and are not easily biodegradable.

In Palestine, the olive mills discharge their waste directly into the groundwater. More than ninety percent of the olives grown in Palestine are processed in the West Bank, in 256 mills. The amount of OMW released from all olive mills in the West Bank can reach up to an estimated volume of about 1000 m³ per day.

During the last two decades, intensive research and development activities have been undertaken in order to identify environmentally sound solutions for olive mill wastewater treatment and disposal. In recent years, detailed studies have been carried out in Tunisia and Morocco.

The aim of the proposed research is to identify practical techniques to reduce the environmental damage caused by wastewater from the olive industry through managing the olive mill wastewater (OMW) pollution.

In order to achieve the research's aim, it is necessary to understand and categorize OMW. Specific objectives are therefore: 1) to understand OMW characteristics and oxidation behaviour for fully effective biological treatment to be possible; and 2) to investigate current treatment and disposal practices for OMW.

In order to achieve the above aims and objectives, a lot of activities were carried out, including literature research and review, site assessment and experimental work which took place in Tunisia (Tunis International Center for Environmental Technology).

The purpose of the experimental work is to determine the factors which affect the oxydation and the polymerization of the phenolic compound found in OMW and to understand the behaviour of OMW in relation with its storage, making the management for OMW disposal and treatment easy.

The preliminary results of this research show that oxygen is the main variable which affects the oxydation of OMW during the storage time using Factorial Design at Two Level. The relationship between the color change (blackened) of olive mill wastewater and the oxydation and subsequent polymerization of the phenolic compound present OMW was clarified using HPLC test (as the color of OMW blackened when the phenolic compounds was oxydized and polymerized). It was also observed that the complex phenolic compound found on oxydized OMW was toxic on the methanisation process during the anaerobic digestion. Moreover, lactic bacteria was able to decolorize the oxydized OMW.

Amal HUDHUD, 22 October 2002

Fellow

Khamis Mohammed EL-MAHALLAWI

Beneficiary territory

Palestinian Authority

Place of study

Gaza Strip

Born on 27 October 1966
in GAZA,
Palestinian Territories.

Last degree obtained

International Institute for
Infrastructural, Hydraulic
and Environmental
Engineering (IHE), Delft,
(Netherlands): M.Sc. Degree
in Water and Environmental
Resources Management
(1999).

**Scholarly work
and Publications**

*Assessment and Improvement
of Water Quality in the Gaza
Strip: Palestinian Hydrology
Group journal.*

*Nitrogen Sources and Sinks in
the Gaza Strip: M.Sc. Thesis,
March 2001.*

Contact

el_ma98@hotmail.com

Place of Research

Palestinian Hydrology Group
(PHG)
GAZA CITY
Palestinian Territories

Research undertaken

October 2001 to June 2002

Summary of Research
carried out with the
UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi
Fellowship on:

Nitrogen Sources and Sinks in the Gaza Strip

There are many anthropogenic activities and agricultural practices that pose a great probability of nitrate pollution of groundwater in the Gaza Governorates. The concentration of nitrate reach a level up to 600 mg/l, with typical values ranging from 100 mg/l to 200 mg/l, all these values exceed the WHO standard for drinking water (45 mg/l). Knowledge of the nitrogen sources, losses, and immobilized nitrogen within the area is critical to understanding the problem and identifying potential solutions.

This study defines and determines all possible nitrogen sources (i.e., sewer systems discharge, leakage from sewer system, the areas not served by sewers system, solid waste, agricultural areas, leakage from distribution networks, Israeli settlements, and precipitation) and the dominant losses and immobilized nitrogen in the area. Agricultural nitrogen sources additions, which include imported nitrogen (such as inorganic fertilizer, manure, and atmospheric deposition) fixed nitrogen, irrigation water, and all possible losses, were calculated. The dominant nitrogen losses which include crop harvests, losses to the atmosphere through volatilization of manure and organic fertilizer, plant uptake, and denitrification, were also estimated. The nitrogen balance was calculated based on the difference between nitrogen additions and losses.

Agriculture and wastewater from urban activity are the major contributors to the nitrogen load in the study area. Inorganic fertilizer and manure are considered to be the dominant sources of nitrogen associated with agriculture. The added nitrogen load from solid waste leachate, drinking water networks leakage and precipitation is considered minor, compared with other sources such as wastewater and agricultural areas.

According to the N-balance calculation, there are high pollution risks in nitrogen in most of the areas in the Gaza Strip.

Fertilization management is essential to stop the degradation of ground water quality in the Gaza Strip, where intensive agriculture and livestock farming produces serious risks of nitrogen pollution. Increase in sewer system networks coverage and wastewater treatment with suitable treatment facilities is an important factor to control the nitrate pollution. Implementation of an action plan with all the necessary instruments is highly recommended to prevent groundwater pollution and the possibility of the nitrogen transport to the aquifer.

Khamis Mohammed EL-MAHALLAWI, 12 December 2002

Fellow

Nick ARAHO

Beneficiary country

Papua New Guinea

Country of study

United States of America

Born on 27 March 1962
in KOKODA,
Papua New Guinea

Last degree obtained

University of Sydney
(Australia): Master of
Philosophy in Archaeology
(1997).

**Scholarly work
and Publications**

*The People of Lake
Kutubui and Kikori: Changing
Meaning of Daily Life:*
Papua New Guinea National
Museum, Port Moresby,
1993, Mark Busse and Susan
Turner.

*Late Quaternary Inland Sea
and Early Pottery in Papua
New Guinea: Archaeology
in Oceania 24, 1989,
pages 106-109, J. Chapell,
G. Francis, P. Swadling and
B. Ivuyo.*

*Settlements Associated with
the Inland Sepik-Ramu Sea.*
Indo Pacific Prehistory
Association Bulletin 11,
1991, pages 92-112, Pamela
Swadling and Baiva Ivuyo.

Contact

naraho38@hotmail.com

Place of Research

University of California
at Berkeley, Department
of Anthropology,
CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.

Research undertaken

Research undertaken from
February to May 2002

Summary of Research
carried out with the
UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi
Fellowship on:

Study of the Mussau Archaeological Collection at Berkeley

The research was aimed at selecting, studying, and publishing a selection of the most suitable archaeological materials intended for teaching Papua New Guineans the importance of preserving cultural heritage sites. At the same time, the research was also intended to demonstrate the importance of human co-existence with the environment, as shown in archaeological records, for the preservation of natural resources in Papua New Guinea.

The research was also aimed to study the Mussau archaeological collection now located at the Anthropology Department of the University of California, Berkeley, in the United States of America. A selection of suitable materials will be included in a publication of a simple, easy-to-read booklet for distribution in schools, one that can be easily understood at the grass-roots level.

In so doing, the cultural heritage information will be disseminated to a wider audience. The reason for this is that it provides a means for the dissemination of cultural heritage information at a level suitable enough for a wider audience. It is hoped that this kind of public awareness can lead to the preservation of cultural heritage sites and encourage/promote local environmental planning.

The material will be used to teach people about the importance of maintaining a balance between exploitation and preservation of their natural habitats for future sustainability of the marine (such as shellfish, turtle, etc.) and terrestrial resources (such as wood and plants).

One of the results of archaeological work in adjacent areas has been the active management of the natural environment, the evidence of which is reflected in archaeological records. These results can contribute to discussions on the future planning and management of the marine and terrestrial environment upon which ordinary Papua New Guineans depend.

In Mussau, the archaeological record underscores the importance of peoples' co-existence with the natural environment for thousands of years.

It is therefore important that the lessons of the past be presented in a form that is easily accessible not only to environmental managers but also to those at the grass roots, community, and high school level.

Nick ARAHO, 10 June 2003

“We now talk of ‘info rich’ and ‘info poor’... While the digital divide manifests itself in unequal access to information, knowledge and their technological applications, its roots are to be found in cultural and educational as well as socio-economic disparities...”

It is necessary to build up a large movement to humanize globalization, based on solidarity, on the spirit of caring for and sharing with others [as this] is inseparable from the building of knowledge societies.”

Koïchiro Matsuura
Director-General

[address to the World Forum of UNESCO Chairs, UNESCO PARIS, 13 November 2002]

“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, 28 February 2000]

“I wish to express my sincere gratitude to UNESCO and the Japanese Government for giving me the fellowship in the framework of the UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowship Programme as this has made a dream come true: that of becoming a researcher in the Science of Education and especially in the field of new technologies.”

What the fellow says

Fellow **Arouna OUEDRAOGO**

Beneficiary country **Burkina Faso**

Country of study **France**



Born on 14 May 1967
in BOBO-DIOULASSO,
Burkina Faso

Last degree obtained

Institute of
Telecommunications of
ORAN, Algeria: Engineer in
Telecommunications
(1991-1995).

Scholarly work and publications:

Thesis on "*Les systèmes
informatiques distribués
appliqués au téléenseignement.
Cas spécifique de la mise en
œuvre d'un projet pilote de
télé-enseignement au Burkina
Faso*", to be completed in
2003.

Contact

n_ankhbayar@yahoo.com
arounao@yahoo.fr

Place of Research

University Paris IX Dauphine
PARIS, France

Research undertaken

from November 2001
to August 2002

Summary of Research
carried out with the
UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi
Fellowship on:

The Architecture of the Distribution of Information Technology Systems:

Tele-teaching Applications: case study of the implementation of a distance learning project in Burkina Faso

Just about everywhere in Sub-Saharan Africa, universities, and higher education in general, are facing various kinds of difficulties. They include the exponential growth in student numbers over the years, cramped and inadequate lecture auditoriums, lack of documentation, shortage of teachers for certain subjects, insufficient resources to cope with all these demands, and so on.

The consequences of this situation include a drop in the quality of education, inability to provide mass training and difficult learning conditions.

The future of higher education will thus be endangered if nothing is done to overcome these problems.

The emergence of the new information and communication technologies, and above all their use as a teaching medium, is perceived, rightly or wrongly, as a "miracle solution" to the problems of providing university access for the greatest number of students and improving the quality of training in universities and institutes. Today, moreover, there are many distance learning programmes on offer worldwide from universities or specialized bodies which give satisfactory results. Would it be right to think, however, that the new information and communication technologies will provide definitive solutions to the problems described above?

Do these solutions replace or supplement existing facilities?

And how can they be used to best possible advantage? How does one go about implementing a distance learning project in a difficult economic context, that is, how can technologies and platforms be selected which take into account the teaching methods used and financial constraints whilst pursuing the objectives of improving the quality of teaching, learning conditions and independent learning and, at the same time, providing education for the greatest number?

The technologies in use that we have selected are videoconferencing, digital video, teamwork and the virtual office.

A platform for open and distance learning is a software package that provides assistance in the conduct of distance learning. This type of software includes the tools required by the three main users (teachers, students, administrators) of a range of equipment intended for the remote consultation of educational content, the individualization of learning and distance tutoring.

After an inventory and comparative study of a wide range of platforms, we were able to highlight a very strong correlation between cost, technology and education methodology.

Translated from French by UNESCO

Arouna OUEDRAOGO, 2 January 2003

Information and Communication Technologies

Fellow

Anasthasie OBONO MBA

Beneficiary country

Gabon

Country of study

France

Born on 3 May 1961
in BITAM, Gabon

Last degree obtained

Université Libre de
BRUXELLES, Belgium:
*Diplôme d'Etudes Spécialisées :
Informatique Appliquée aux
Sciences de l'Éducation
(D.E.S.I.A.S.E.) (1996-1998).*

Scholarly work and publications:

*L'Utilisation de l'outil
informatique par les
enseignants de l'École Normale
Supérieure du Gabon, 2001
(pour les journées pédagogiques
internationales du Sénégal).*

Contact

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Place of Research

Institut National
de Recherche Pédagogique
de PARIS (INRP),
Département Technologies
Nouvelles et Éducation
(TECNE), PARIS, France

Research undertaken

from October 2001
to March 2002

Summary of Research
carried out with the
UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi
Fellowship on:

New Exclusion Challenges or New Opportunities for Secondary Education Systems in Sub-Saharan African Countries: the Case of Senegal and Gabon

With a view to solving the many problems confronting Senegal and Gabon, and more particularly those relating to the education system and national shortcomings in teacher training, the Gabonese and Senegalese authorities have committed themselves over the past three years to implement the recommendations of the Dakar Forum on Education for All (April 2000) by introducing wide-ranging reforms which take account of the importance of the new technologies and the role they will have to play in their education systems. Major government decisions have accordingly been taken in both countries to provide schools with access to the information highway and, thus, enable the various actors in the schools to take responsibility for ICTs.

Faced with the prevailing ideas about these technologies, which are more often speculative than scientifically grounded, the present work sets out to analyse the various models of "introduction policies" for ICTs in the education systems of these countries and to make an intellectual contribution which might lend support to the general tendencies, decisions and choices required in this field. The study also draws attention to gaps in the literature. It is a contribution to the creation of a permanent data bank covering the main aspects of the integration of the new information and communication technologies in the Gabonese and Senegalese education systems.

We have divided our work into three major parts:

The first sets out its theoretical and methodological framework;

The second is an overview of ICT-related topics in the countries concerned;

The third is concerned with the national approaches and strategies set up by the administrative authorities to promote ICTs.

Translated from French by UNESCO

Anasthasie OBONO MBA, 2 May 2002

Information and Communication Technologies

Fellow **Nyamjav DAVAGDORJ**

Beneficiary country **Mongolia**

Country of study **China**



Born on 8 December 1963
in ULAANBAATAR, Mongolia

Last degree obtained

Mongolian Technical University: Master's Degree in Financial Management (1997-1999).

Scholarly work and publications:

Internet-borderless Environment: Daily Newspaper Ardyn Erkh, 15 September 1997.

Information should have a sense: Daily Newspaper Ardyn Erkh, 10 February 1999.

Contact

d_nyamjav@yahoo.com

Place of Research

Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications, BEIJING, China

Research undertaken

from September 2001 to April 2002

Summary of Research carried out with the UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Fellowship on:

Integrating Multimedia Technology into Training Systems

The multimedia technology is the use or presentation of data in two or more forms. The combination of audio and video in television was probably the first multimedia application but it was the advent of the personal computer, with its capacity to manipulate data from different sources and offer this directly to the consumer or subscriber, that has sparked the current interest.

With the newer generation of higher-speed CD-ROMs and faster processors entering the market every day, multimedia technology remains an active and exciting field.

An emerging technology in interactive multimedia is effective human/machine interaction. Stereo vision, talker verification, speech synthesis, tactile interaction, and integration of multiple sensor modalities are active research areas to expand the present capabilities for human/machine interaction.

A potentially huge application of multimedia technology is in the inexpensive delivery of education materials developed by integrating multimedia data to geographically-distant students. This approach is the key to distance learning and training employees. Several of the technology solutions for audiovisual teleconferencing carry over to the application of distance learning.

Multimedia database systems are a new generation of database systems that will provide a unified and interactive framework for users to request and integrate information stored in a variety of media via high-speed networks. Multimedia Authoring Systems (MAS) are high-level systems providing unified environments for creating multimedia applications. MAS let researchers build their multimedia systems with great ease and, in addition, they increase the probability of the resulting systems.

Nyamjav DAVAGDORJ, 3 February 2002

“The quest for dialogue among civilizations must always be based on universally shared values while also safeguarding the diversity of individuals and cultures. The promotion of dialogue must, first and foremost, be aimed at benefiting the immediate and pressing needs of disadvantaged and excluded groups or geographical regions. Solidly anchored in democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms, dialogue is the key because only through genuine dialogue can lasting relations of understanding, reconciliation and peace be achieved.”

Koïchiro Matsuura
Director-General

[address on receiving the International Prize of St Andrew for promoting dialogue among civilizations, UNESCO, PARIS, 3 July 2002]

“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.”

Keizo Obuchi
then Prime Minister

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

“I intend to disseminate information acquired through this UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowship through lectures and discussion at the academic level.”

“The special merit of this fellowship was, in fact, the opportunity afforded to discover a cultural universe and a civilization totally different from the one in which I grew up. These nine months have, in a way, been a period of gestation for my personal and spiritual growth. I will always keep vivid memories of the person who I must thank for this beautiful gesture of encountering other cultures: former Prime Minister of Japan, the great man of culture, Keizo Obuchi.”

What the fellows say

Fellow

Jelena DRCA

Beneficiary country

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Country of study

Austria

Born on 13 January 1971
in ZAGREB, Croatia

Last degree obtained

Karl-Franzens University,
GRAZ, Austria: Master's
Degree in Linguistics and
Communication (1998).

**Scholarly work
and Publications**

*A linguistic omnibus: Looking
for Universal Language:*
Master's Thesis 1998.

Contact

jelena.drca@blic.net

Place of Research

Karl-Franzens University
GRAZ, Austria

Research undertaken

from October 2001
to July 2002

Summary of Research
carried out with the
UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi
Fellowship on:

Looking for Universal Language: Verbal versus Visual

The definition of culture as “the institutionally or informally organized social production and reproduction of sense, meaning and consciousness”¹ emphasizes the institutionalized and social character of culture, as opposed to the widely held belief that culture is a result of individual inspirations and imagination. Today, cultures of the world are threatened by the emergence of a globalizing hyper culture, the final cultural mutation of the post-capitalistic, post-modern society, resulting solely from the profitability goals, influenced solely by the market rules, in which a small number of large media conglomerates set in motion a homogenisation of culture. There are two major factors that threaten cultural pluralism today: treating cultural information as an economic commodity, and with the rise of technology, the resulting surrender of culture to technology.

Knowledge of French, Russian, English, German, and Serbo-Croat has allowed me to consult and compare primary sources on national cultural policies these languages cover. The comparative analysis includes the issues of legislation and funding in the field of culture as well as cultural transmission through mass media, and the related issue of the impact of globalization.

Furthermore, I attempt to map out the characteristics of the global hyper culture, in relation to their origin, as well as the mechanisms that perpetuate its emergence. First, I attempt to determine to what extent the global hyper culture is a product of the international conglomerates. Secondly, the focus is moved towards mechanisms within the cultural production based on the commercial premises, such as co-opting cultural symbols in order to further the interests of commerce, as a result draining symbols of any serious connotation.

Further distinction between verbal and visual cultural language is made: an analysis of verbal language, a simplified meta-language of brands and pop cultural slogans, resulting from excessive media consumption, completely deprived of any connection to reality. The visual media and their greater accessibility in the emergence of a global culture, when compared to verbal language, are also discussed. Finally, the last part is a discussion about strategies that might enable us to influence these processes, ranging from the proposals for the need to move beyond the idea of the French *exception culturelle*, which implies closing doors and exclusion, toward a need for the valid and recognized existence of cultural pluralism, to the techno subcultures concerned with inventing ways for by-passing the globally imposed culture of mass production and mass media to one of customized knowledge.

Jelena DRCA, 2 September 2002

1- O'SULLIVAN, T., Hartley J., Saunders D., and J.Fiskie [1983], Key Concepts in Communication. London

Fellow

Kubat MOLDOBAEV

Beneficiary country

Kyrgyzstan

Country of study

Russian Federation

Born on 23 March 1970
in BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan

Last degree obtained

Saint Petersburg State
University: Post- graduate
courses in the Department
of Philosophy
(1992-1995).

**Scholarly work
and Publications**

*Introduction to Politology of
Security: Course of lectures
for universities, Bishkek,
2000.*

*Introduction to Conflictology:
The course of lectures/text
book in Kyrgyz language for
universities, Bishkek, 1999.*

*The Ethnic-Social Memory.
Saint Petersburg: Thesis of
Dissertation, 1995.*

*Interethnic conflicts and
Ethnic Memory/ "Central Asia
and Culture of Peace"
Journal, Bishkek, 1997, N1b.*

*The Central Asian Region
Looks for a New Paradigm
for Development (Conception
of the Issyk-Kul Forum-97)/
"Central Asia and Culture
of Peace" Journal, Bishkek,
1997, N2-3.*

Contact

kubat@freenet.kg

Place of Research

Institute of Ethnology
and Anthropology,
Department of Central
Studies, MOSCOW,
Russian Federation

Research undertaken

from October 2001
to March 2002

Summary of Research
carried out with the
UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi
Fellowship on:

Kyrgyz-Russian Intercultural Dialogue

The history of relations between Kyrgyzstan and Russia covers a relatively short period of time — approximately 250 years — from the 18th century until present day. The major historical events - the establishment of the first Embassy; the beginning of trade between Russia and Kyrgyzstan; the integration into the Russian Empire; the collapse of the Empire; the establishment of Soviet Power and its collapse; and finally, the gaining of independence — may be divided into three main stages: pre-Soviet, Soviet and post-Soviet.

The UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowship programme gave me a unique opportunity to undertake research on the Kyrgyz-Russian intercultural dialogue. Social and cultural analysis of Kyrgyz-Russian relations led to better comprehension of the basis and machinery of Kyrgyz and Russian cultures' interaction. The various aspects of Kyrgyz-Russian intercultural dialogue, which are vitally important for forming the climate of tolerance, civil concord and understanding between ethnic groups, were researched. Special attention was given to the process of interdependence and mutual enrichment of Kyrgyz and Russian cultures. Based on the research completed, the history and the perspectives of Kyrgyz-Russian intercultural relations were analysed.

My participation in the programme was very useful and effective for developing my research.

Thanks to the fellowship in Moscow, I arranged close research partnership between my University and the "Central Asia and Culture of Peace", a scientific-educational Journal in Bishkek of which I am Executive Editor at present and the forthcoming issue of which will be devoted to the theme of dialogue between cultures and civilizations.

The results of the research will be a basis for pilot lectures on "Kyrgyz-Russian Intercultural Dialogue", which is supposed to be taught at the Bishkek Academy of Finance and Economics and the Kyrgyz-Russian Slavic University.

I am very grateful to the UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Programme for this opportunity to conduct my research.

Kubat MOLDOBAEV, 20 March 2002

Fellow

Andrés DEL CASTILLO SÁNCHEZ

Beneficiary country

Mexico

Countries of study

Portugal and Timor - Leste

**Born on 12 September
1965 in MEXICO, Mexico**

Last degree obtained

Universidad Nacional
Autónoma de México:
Ph. D. Degree (2000).

**Scholarly work
and Publications**

*Entre Portugal e Indonesia:
El surgimiento del
Nacionalismo en Timor Este:*
Revista Española del Pacífico
N° 11, Spanish Association
for Studies on the Pacific
(AEEP), Madrid, 2000.

*1999, Timor Loro sae: Año
Cero: Anuario Asia-Pacífico
2000, El Colegio de México,
México, 2000.*

The Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste started its independent life on 20 May 2001, becoming the newest country in the world.

This research focuses on the construction of the East Timorese national identity, studying the interactions between the local population and the foreign influences, mainly Portuguese.

After intensive historical analysis based on original documents, interviews *in situ*, and personal experience in the territory, I reached the conclusion that the Portuguese culture only touched a particular community, a few people of higher social status and not the majority of East Timorese.

This research analyzed the national identity of the East Timorese society, trying to understand the dynamics of the interaction that prevailed between the Portuguese and the East Timorese for a long time.

This process is very different from other cases in the region, where nationalism has been constructed on traditional local cultures and has tried to distance itself from the influence of former colonial powers. This situation calls for the need for a better understanding of East Timorese identity as an Ibero-Asiatic culture.

Andrés DEL CASTILLO, 22 October 2002

Contact

casatimor@hotmail.com
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Place of Research

- Universidade Nova de Lisboa
Faculdade de Ciências Sociais
e Humanas, LISBON, Portugal;
- and Field Work in DILI,
Timor-Leste

Research undertaken

from January
to October 2002

Enhancing Understanding of the Experience of Intercultural Dialogue as a Basis for the Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts

Fellow **Elena NEGRU**Beneficiary country **Republic of Moldova**Country of study **Romania**

**Born on 18 December 1965
in Volovita, SOROCA,
Republic of Moldova**

Last degree obtained

Institute of History from
the Moldovan Academy
of Science: Ph.D. Degree
in History (June 2000).

Scholarly work and Publications

*Building " Soviet Moldovian
Culture " in the Autonomous
Soviet Socialist Republic of
Moldavia (ASSRM): Destin
românesc, Chisinau-Bucharest,
2000. Nr.3.*

*Foundation of the Autonomous
Soviet Socialist Republic of
Moldavia and the Setting of
Ethno-cultural Policy
Priorities: Destin românesc,
Chisinau-Bucharest, 2000.
Nr.4.*

Contact

arnautl@yahoo.com

Place of Research

Institutul de istorie
Nicolae Iorga BUCHAREST,
Romania

Research undertaken

from November 2001
to May 2002

In the light of research carried out in libraries and university and scientific centres in Bucharest, Cluj and Iasi, and following interviews with many eminent individuals, I have reached the conclusion that during the 1990s an institutional system capable of protecting the specific cultural and linguistic values of the various ethnic groups did truly materialize in Romania. It was the application of recommendations and principles developed by high-profile European bodies that set the conditions for the peaceful cohabitation of these ethnic groups, based on tolerance and respect for difference. While other countries in the Balkans have witnessed an explosion in inter-ethnic violence, Romania has managed to maintain political stability by developing peaceful solutions to the problems that emerged, including dialogue and reasonable compromise.

After 1989, Romania had to contend for more than five years with separatist tendencies on the part of the Hungarians living in the region of Transylvania, an ethnic minority making up 7.1% of Romania's population.

The co-option of the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania (UDMR) into the Government in the autumn of 1996 had a positive effect on inter-ethnic dialogue. By obtaining two ministerial portfolios and ten positions as Undersecretary of State, and winning 36 seats in Parliament, the Union has been able to influence policy in respect of minorities.

In 1997, the Department for the Protection of Ethnic Minorities was founded, headed by a Minister of State reporting to the Prime Minister. The Department coordinates Government policy in the field of minorities.

Changes to the Education Law enacted in 1997 allow the right to study in the language of ethnic minorities in all types of schools. The 1997 law on local public administration enshrines the right to use one's mother tongue in local Government in areas where the minority population accounts for 20% of the population.

Seen through the prism of the political evolution of the Republic of Moldova, the Romanian model of inter-ethnic cohabitation and dialogue is a positive experience.

Translated from French by UNESCO

Elena NEGRU, 12 June 2002

Fellow

Alexandru BOUREANU

Beneficiary country

Romania

Country of study

Switzerland



Born on 13 June 1975
in MANGALIA, Romania

Last degree obtained

Université Nationale
d'Art Théâtral et
Cinématographique,
BUCAREST, Romania:
Master's Degree in
Philosophy (Theory and
Theatre Esthetics-2001).

Scholarly work and Publications

Several Articles as Theatre
Critic in the Magazine
"Scena", Bucarest
(2000 – 2001).

Contact

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alexboureanu@hotmail.com

Place of Research

Conservatory of Lausanne
LAUSANNE,
Switzerland

Research undertaken

from September 2001
to June 2002

Summary of Research
carried out with the
UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi
Fellowship on:

The Sociology of Culture/Theatre: Art and Culture as Vehicles for Business Advertising

It is today possible to speak of a process of globalization of the contemporary cultural and artistic phenomenon, regardless of the geographical area chosen as a study sample.

Many notions or concepts of the present-day *European market economy* exist in some "cosy little nest", in desperate attempts by specialists in support of creators of beauty that have necessitated espousing new European trends, a new formula for selling on the market, on a "supply-and-demand" basis, "cultural products and performance art".

Employment agencies, as instruments of *EUROpeanisation*, have set themselves up as the social parents of stage designers, directors and actors, making them the strangest offers of work.

Those who, thanks to their talent or academic work, achieve professional recognition by obtaining a diploma make all sorts of artistic compromises, such as street theatre, on various occasions, which may be more or less cultural but are certainly profitable for the economic agent. It is, of course, difficult to accept artists in their former Bohemian aura of people predestined to a life lived according to the theoretical demands of their art! But every artist, and anyone who is at the same time a wise person, will prefer to work in an environment where there are no professional compromises to be made, and where it is possible to develop and explore their gifts for observation, feelings and motivation and where one can constantly seek out new tools specific to their art!

So, without addressing the issue of stars and the star system, the *creator working in the sphere of aesthetics* has today become the equal of us all, an ordinary citizen in the crowd. Is this alarming and serious, or is it to be expected and obvious? Our society, in its new, forever evolving form, has undone the myths of former civilizations by creating new

functions for them, establishing "wage slips" and norms for hours of creation, even devising computers capable of measuring artists' talent or their performance ...

We can also deplore the vicious misappropriation of the talent of artists who no longer use their soul, their "guts" which might give rise to "the work of the self" – but who devote themselves to money, the "contemporary God". They are, thus, considered to belong to the company management, with the role of business animator serving as a propaganda element to raise the awareness of clients who are targeted, forced to take part in the *consumer society*. In fact, all economic agents now make use, directly or indirectly, of that human resource, the artist, whether in advertising, design, the media or in other areas. The new life of the artist is therefore that of a civil servant dealing in consumer goods that belong to us all and that, in most cases, remain an object of civil hilarity.

Channelling the energies of art and culture into the mixer of the exchange economy causes serious harm to the aesthetic and axiological quality of the culture of peoples, forfeiting a large part of what economists refer to as *factors of production*, which can never be combined with art. The performing arts will always function according to their already hallowed principles. They will still be needing a large budget and the notion of profit in this case rules out all reference to "money"! Any attempt to move away from the principles of art and any substitution in the creative process will lead to a debasement of the "gross end-product".

Translated from French by UNESCO

Alexandru BOUREANU, 26 June 2002

Fellow

Farruh INOGAMOV

Beneficiary country

Uzbekistan

Countries of study

Germany and Russian Federation



Born on 2 January 1979
in TASHKENT, Uzbekistan

Last degree obtained

Tashkent State Institute of
Oriental Studies: Master's
Degree in Oriental Studies
(June 2001).

Scholarly work and Publications

Philosophy of Islam:
Research 1997.

*New Era in Interreligious
Dialogue:* Journal
"Public Opinion" N°4, 2000.

*The Innovative Ideas of
Djadids:* Journal "Yosh Kuch",
1999.

Contact

farruhkhan@yahoo.com

Place of Research

- Humbolt University, BERLIN,
Germany.
- Institute of Oriental Studies
of the Russian Academy of
Sciences, Saint Petersburg
Branch, SAINT PETERSBURG,
Russian Federation

Research undertaken

from January to April 2002

The Uzbek national theatre was established in the first decade of the 20th century through the influence of Turkish culture and intellectuals known as the *Djadid*. The latter understood that theatre could be used as an important tool promoting ideas and progress.

The coming of Russian, Azerbaijani, and Tatar theatres influenced Uzbek national theatre that had formed in ancient times, 2000 years ago, and effected great changes both in form and content. Under the pressure of social-historical processes, ancient theatre became a basis of European theatre and disappeared in Central Asia. *Maskarabozs* (clownery) and *kizikchis* (comics) took its place.

In general, during the first decade of the last century, there had been great interest in theatre issues. Much work was accomplished on this issue, and, beginning from the Tsar government's official newspaper "*Turkiston viloyati*" (Turkistan region) to other newspapers like "*Sadoyi Turkiston*" (The Voice of Turkistan), "*Sadoyi Farghona*" (The Voice of Ferghana), and "*Oyina*", articles promoting and also criticizing theatre issues were published. For example, in "*Oyina*", dated 1913 #8, there was an article "*Ovropoda teatru*" (Theatre in Europe) in which full information about Western theatres, their quantity and other interesting facts about them was described. Knowing that such countries like Great Britain, Italy, Spain, France, Germany held a great number of plays and knowing about the invention of cinematography, the newspapers and journals published news related to these matters. Such articles made local intellectuals join theatre movements and encouraged people to enjoy theatre.

Farruh INOGAMOV, 10 June 2002

“A key concern for UNESCO is the promotion of quality education to prevent violence, to strengthen a climate of tolerance and security, and to foster the development of values of peace, tolerance, and mutual understanding as well as capacities for the non-violent resolution of conflicts.”

Koïchiro Matsuura
Director-General

[at the opening of the Inter-Agency Meeting on “Promoting Peace and Security through Education and Science: Elements for a UN Strategy against Terrorism”, PARIS, 26 February 2003]

“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]

“This research will serve as a case study which can be used to contribute to the solution of internal and international conflicts in a peaceful way”.

“I dedicate my research to the spirit of Mr Keizo Obuchi, the former Japanese Prime Minister, for his commitment to development issues and belief in people building the next era”

What the fellows say

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Fellow **Narin SOUK**

Beneficiary country **Cambodia**

Country of study **Australia**



**Born on 7 October 1968
in PHNOM PENH, Cambodia**

Last degree obtained

Kazan State University
(Russian Federation):
Master's Degree in
Sociology (1988-1993).

Scholarly work and Publications

*Process of Democracy in
Cambodia: Sociology
Department, Royal
University of Phnom Penh
(RUPP), 1996.*

*Sociology of the Economy of
Rice: Stock, Exchange,
Shortage, Borrowing. Case
Study in Kandal Province:
Sociology Department,
Royal University of Phnom
Penh (RUPP), 2000.*

Contact

socrupp@forum.org.kh

Place of Research

University of Sydney,
Centre for Peace
and Conflict Studies,
SYDNEY, Australia

Research undertaken

from February to July 2002

Summary of Research
carried out with the
UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi
Fellowship on:

Perspectives on a Culture of Peace: A Way of Building it in Cambodia

Peace is one of the most important factors that people need in this world. An absence of peace brings only misery, under-development, loss of lives and other forms of destruction.

Peace-building should start with each individual. If each individual upholds a peaceful mind, each family lives peacefully. If each family lives peacefully, a community or a country will have a peaceful atmosphere.

A democratic system and respect for human rights are seen as the most important factors that help to create and maintain peace within a community or a country.

Poverty, social injustice and illiteracy are obstacles, which prevent peace-building, especially a culture of peace.

Solidarity, tolerance and co-operation are essential in the process of building a culture of peace, especially for people who live in war-torn countries.

These are the factors that are necessary in order to build a culture of peace:

- Human rights respect must be guaranteed to all people.
- Democratic political system should be strengthened among nations.
- Social justice should be pursued as much as possible in a society.
- All conflicts must be solved through mutual understanding and the rule of law.
- Poverty and illiteracy should be abolished.
- Co-operation is essential between persons as well as among nations.
- Schools must introduce non-violent attitudes in resolving problems in order that pupils can learn from a very young age to deal with conflict peacefully.
- People must actively participate in political and public affairs and other non-violent protests that can bring peace and stability.

These agents are important in creating a culture of peace:

- Individual level.
- Family members, especially parents to their children.
- Educational institutions.
- State authorities.
- Religious institutions.
- Development agencies and non-governmental organizations.

The research in Australia has enabled me to gain better insight and understanding of the factors necessary to a culture of peace.

Souk NARIN, 21 August 2002

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Fellow

Freddy KALENGA BAFWAFWA

Beneficiary country

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Country of study

Congo


Born on 23 August 1972
in KINSHASA, Democratic
Republic of the Congo

Last degree obtained

University of Lubumbashi,
Democratic Republic of the
Congo: Post-graduate studies
in Economics and Social
Sciences (1995-2000).

Scholarly work and Publications

*Les contribuables et le contrôle
fiscal en Droit-Positif
Congolais* : Thesis 2000.

Place of Research

University Marien Ngouabi
Department of Law
BRAZZAVILLE,
Congo

Research undertaken

from October 2001
to April 2002

Summary of Research
carried out with the
UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi
Fellowship on:

The Resolution of Conflict: The Example of the Region of the Great Lakes in Africa

Having studied International Law,
I am continuing to work in research focused
on the resolution of conflicts through respect
for International Law and Human Rights
especially in the region of the Great Lakes in
Africa. My study, mainly carried out in the
Congo, will contribute towards better
knowledge of needs not only on the
theoretical aspects but also on the analytical
aspects of defence and human security.
It is necessary that cultural aspects be taken
into consideration so that Africans will
themselves be in a position to identify
peaceful resolutions to conflicts on their
continent. This kind of research is of utmost
importance to South/South cooperation for
sustainable development.

Sincere thanks go to the Japanese
Government for their generous contribution
as without this grant the research would have
not been undertaken.

Freddy KALENGA BAFWAFWA, 5 March 2003

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Fellow

Atzimba LUNA BECERRIL

Beneficiary country

Mexico

Country of study

Singapore



Born on 26 March 1973
in MEXICO, Mexico

Last degree obtained

El Colegio de México,
Mexico (Mexico):
Master's Degree in Asian
and African Studies,
speciality in Southeast Asian
Studies (1997-2000).

Scholarly work and Publications

*Vietnam: El Anuario Asia
Pacífico 2000. El Colegio
de México, 2000.*

Contact

alunabe@yahoo.com

Place of Research

Institute for Southeast
Asian Studies
(ISEAS) SINGAPORE
Singapore

Research undertaken

from March
to September 2002

Summary of Research
carried out with the
UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi
Fellowship on:

Towards the Construction of a Peaceful and Lasting Solution to Conflict

Ethnic and/or religious conflicts have always
existed in all the regions of the world.

The research undertaken focused on the
Asian region to identify methods that can be
applied to other regions. The sustained
economical growth in Asia has helped to
make these conflicts less evident.

When stability and growth are disrupted by
adverse economic and political situations, the
ancient conflicts immediately re-emerge.
Peaceful solutions to the conflicts are
necessary to foster the process of
reconciliation thereby ensuring sustainable
development.

One obstacle to peace is poverty and the
existing wealth distribution in a
country/region. Respectful recognition of
cultural differences existing between several
ethnic groups within a country is a pre-
condition for peaceful coexistence.

The research undertaken was devoted to
identifying successful and practical conflict
resolution methods in the Asian region and to
studying the ways and means of adapting
these methods to conflicts in the Latin
American region.

The research was based on the study of
documentation, consultation with experts and
specialists and first-hand interviews with
those having lived in conflict and seeking
peaceful conflict resolution. It has been
determined that the constructive participation
of the international community to intervene
with all parties of a conflict is a first step to
stopping war and unnecessary loss of life.

Atzimba LUNA BECERRIL , 2 November 2002

Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Fellow

Timur DADABAEV

Beneficiary country

Uzbekistan

Country of study

Japan

Scholarly work and Publications

Central Asian Regional Integration in International Perspectives: Ph.D. Dissertation, Ritsumeikan University, 2001.

Democratization and Respect for Human Rights in the Era of Globalization: The UNU/IC Working Paper, June 2000.

Multilateral Diplomacy in Conflict Resolution: The Case of Central Asia: The UNU/IC Working Paper, June 2000.

Born on 8 April 1975 in TASHKENT, Uzbekistan

Last degree obtained

University of Ritsumeikan, Kyoto, (Japan): Ph.D. in International Relations (1998-2001).

Place of Research

Ritsumeikan University, Graduate School of International Relations KYOTO, Japan

Research undertaken

from September 2001 to April 2002

Contact

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Summary of Research carried out with the UNESCO / Keizo Obuchi Fellowship on:

Intercultural Dialogue as an Integral Part of Peaceful Resolution Strategy in Multiethnic Societies: The Case of Central Asia

There has been a shift in the nature of conflicts from simple bipolar ideological divisions to a more complex web of inter-ethnic, intercultural and identity conflicts, intolerance and discrimination. In view of this challenge there is an urgent need for a new multidisciplinary peaceful conflict resolution framework.

This project attempted to prove that intercultural dialogue is an indispensable, integral tenet of the new peaceful conflict resolution/prevention strategy in multiethnic societies. In this regard, the project analyzed intercultural dialogue in the context of Central Asia (CA) – typical example of a region in a transitional stage, under the threat of interethnic, identity and resource conflicts.

Origins of potential conflicts in the Central Asia that this project has dealt with include:

- Multiple identities of Central Asia states and peoples combined with economic underdevelopment;
- Geographical position of these states at the crossroads of different cultures and religions (Islam, Buddhism and Christianity), and the rise of Islamic radicalism and intolerance in recent years, exemplified by the brutality and intolerance of the Afghan movement of the Taliban, etc.;
- Close interconnection between regional environmental and security problems: water, as a source of conflict and competition among states for natural resources, etc.; and
- Present unresolved territorial and border disputes among Central Asia states.

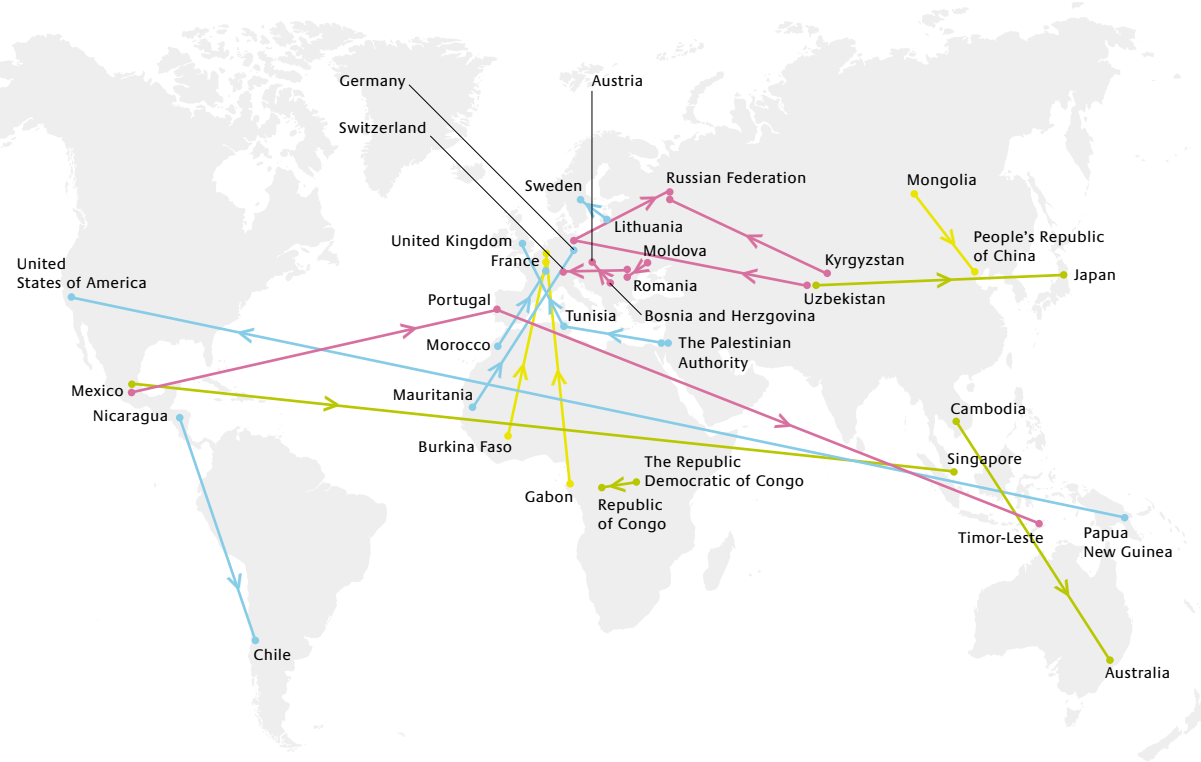
The message of this project is very clear. In the first part, the project suggested that it is more efficient to invest developing capacities of Central Asia states to avoid the initial outbreak of tensions and conflicts through promoting intercultural dialogue in and among Central Asia (diverse ethnic, religious

or cultural) communities, than to deal with those conflicts once they arise. Therefore, peace and tolerance education in Central Asia states through inter-cultural dialogue offers them a mechanism to handle ethnic, cultural and religious differences in their societies through peaceful means rather than through armed dispute settlement. Following this logic, the project suggested that lasting peace cannot be achieved/maintained just through unilateral (e.g. military, political) solutions to CA dilemmas, but should be accompanied or led through, often underestimated, means of civil society education, strengthening democratic institutions and cultural pluralism.

The second part analysed conflicts in Afghanistan and Tajikistan, from which it is obvious that Central Asia (ethnic/cultural) communities often wrongfully view their interests as contradicting one another. Their thinking is often along the lines of a zero-sum game, assuming that when one side wins, the other must lose. Therefore, in Afghan and to a lesser extent in Tajik context, the success of a certain ethnic group or cultural community is often thought of as damaging the prospects of other communities. In this regard, this project proved that the better economically developed and structurally sound each of the separate ethnic/cultural communities is, the stronger the prospects for overall economic development and stability become. In other words, the interests of various groups can be both consistent and compatible. The prosperity of each group strongly depends on the achievements of its neighboring communities and each can benefit from the success of its neighbours.

Timur DADABAEV, 7 May 2002

The UNESCO–Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Programme 2001. Where did the fellows go?



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

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