

Directory of International Donor and Development Organizations

3rd Compilation

(June 2007)



Commission on Science and Technology for
Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS)

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PREFACE

Development aid and expertise have assumed special significance for the countries of the South vis-a-vis their resource constraints and lack of capacity to plan, develop and implement projects and programmes. The role of donor and development agencies thus becomes pivotal as they help the developing and the under-developed world overcome their obstacles to socio-economic progress. The recent past indicates that such international agencies not only provided financial support but also a wide range of technical and administrative facilities with regard to the afore-mentioned limitations of the developing countries.

Keeping in view the scope of work and the role of these organizations, Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS), took an initiative in the year 2002 and compiled a list of some major donor and development organizations. These organizations remained quite active in pursuit of their objectives in the relatively poor countries. This effort by COMSATS remained very successful as the Commission received encouraging feedback from those who made use of this compilation.

The organizations included in this Directory have their focus on diverse areas, such as poverty alleviation; science and technology; health; population; and industrial and agricultural development. The organizations have been listed & presented in alphabetical order in the directory. The profiles of the organizations have been arranged in terms of their work /operation, the long term organizational objectives, and the programs and projects currently being undertaken by them.

The second updated compilation of this Directory was published in the year 2004, whereas this third edition has been completed in June 2007 in view of its demand and utilization by various stakeholders, including governmental bodies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academic institutions, scientific and technical organizations, as well as international donor and development agencies.

COMSATS is presently working on the possibility of adding further donor and development organizations in the Directory. The same is expected to be done in the next edition.

Special acknowledgments are due to Mr. Imran Chaudhry, Ms. Sadia N. Swati, Ms. Nageena Safdar and Mr. Irfan Hayee for compiling and editing this third edition of the Directory.

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Introduction

ActionAid is an international anti-poverty agency whose aim is to fight poverty worldwide. Formed in 1972, for over 35 years it has been growing and expanding, helping over 13 million of the world's poorest and most disadvantaged people in 42 countries worldwide.

In all of its country programmes ActionAid works with local partners to make the most of their knowledge and experience.

In December 2003, a new head office was established in Johannesburg, South Africa, and began the process of making all the country programmes equal partners with an equal say on how to operate.

ActionAid works with local partners to fight poverty and injustice worldwide, helping to fight for and gain the rights to food, shelter, work, education, healthcare and a voice in the decisions that affect lives of the poor people.

ActionAid's partners range from small community support groups to national alliances and international networks seeking education for all, trade justice and action against HIV/AIDS. It works with these national and international campaign networks highlights, the issues that affect poor people and influences the way governments and international institutions think.

It does not impose solutions, but works with communities over many years to strengthen their own efforts to throw off poverty. It constantly seeks new solutions and tries to make the greatest impact with its resources. It makes the most of its skills and abilities by working at many levels - local, national, regional and international.

Vision

A world without poverty and injustice in which every person enjoys his/her right to a life with dignity.

Mission

To work with poor and excluded people to eradicate poverty and injustice.

AFRICAN CAPACITY-BUILDING FOUNDATION

Executive Secretary

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Introduction

The African Capacity-Building Foundation (ACBF), based in Harare, Zimbabwe, is an independent, capacity-building institution established in November 1991 through the collaborative efforts of three multilateral institutions: the African Development Bank, the World Bank, and United Nations Development Programme; African Governments; and bilateral donors. Its current membership comprises the three principal multilateral donors, 15 African countries (Botswana, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe) and 10 non-African bilateral donors (namely Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States).

Objectives

The main objectives are to:

- Provide an integrated framework for a holistic approach to capacity-building in Africa;
- Build a partnership between African governments and their development partners, which allows for effective coordination of interventions in capacity-building and the strengthening of Africa's ownership, leadership and responsibility in the capacity-building process;
- Build a partnership at the national level among all stakeholders, to facilitate an inclusive and participatory approach to capacity-building and national development; and
- Provide a forum for discussing issues and processes, sharing experiences, ideas and best practices related to capacity-building, as well as mobilizing higher levels of consciousness and resources for capacity-building in Africa.

Role

The role of ACBF is to:

- build and strengthen sustainable indigenous capacity for macroeconomic policy-analysis and development throughout sub-Saharan Africa;
- improve, through co-financing and other networking arrangements, the channeling of donor-support for capacity-building in the area of the Foundation's mandate;
- contribute to programs for the reversal of brain drain from the continent and encourage retention, as well as, intensive utilization of existing capacity;
- build capacity in key areas of public-sector, with emphasis on interface between the public-sector, on the one hand, and the private sector and civil society on the other;
- provide support for regional initiatives in the area of research and training; and
- establish systematic links between economic research and training institutions and governments to foster greater understanding and communications between such entities.

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Introduction

The African Development Foundation (ADF) is the principal agency of the U. S. government, supporting community-based, self-help initiatives that alleviate poverty and promote sustainable development in Africa. Established by Congress in 1980, it became operational in 1984. Over the last twenty years, ADF has funded over 1500 community-based projects in African countries. The Foundation has its headquarters in Washington, D.C., with a staff of about thirty members. It currently has active programs in fifteen sub-Saharan countries: Benin, Botswana, Cape Verde, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Namibia, Nigeria, Niger, Senegal, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. ADF's Country Liaison Offices have been staffed by 2 African development-professionals from the host country

Vision and Mission

ADF has a unique purpose and plays a unique role within the U.S. government's foreign-assistance community. It makes important contributions to advancing US. Government's foreign-aid policy-objectives, but it is fundamentally different in mission and methodologies from other agencies. The Foundation is the only agency working directly with community-based groups, to help them diagnose and solve their own problems. Vibrant micro and small enterprises are surely needed to fuel and sustain Africa's economic growth and provide employment for a burgeoning population. Similarly, prudent use and preservation of Africa's rich but fragile natural resources is imperative. Basic democratic values and local institutions of civil society also must be strengthened. ADF has a long track-record in these areas, with significant results. There is no other U.S. agency that undertakes what ADF does. It is not about government programs; it is not focused primarily on policies. These facts are important, but other agencies are responsible for such matters. Rather, people are at the center of ADF's efforts.

Since its inception, the Foundation has been an innovator and a pioneer of participatory development-methodologies in Africa in the use of tools and techniques that strengthen local capacity and foster ownership of development and empowerment. All ADF-funded activities are locally conceived and implemented and small grants are awarded directly to grassroots African groups, entrepreneurs and researchers. ADF's unique participatory approach fosters self-help and self-reliance. The Foundation does not work through government ministries or departments. ADF works directly at the "grassroots" -- interacting with ,and supporting, community associations, cooperatives, micro-entrepreneurs and small enterprises, and other types of social or economic-interest groups. ADF offers a helping hand, not a handout.

ADF's philosophy and operations are in sharp contrast with virtually all bilateral and multilateral donor agencies. While others in the development community wrestle with how to promote meaningful participation and ownership, ADF has been effectively doing it for fifteen years in all of its programs. Thus, the Foundation has valuable experience to offer for other agencies and PVOs. The Foundation has a strong record of performance, providing high-impact assistance at a low cost. ADF has many success-stories -- projects that are helping alleviate poverty and promote economic and social development, and creative methodologies and models that are being replicated by others, to increase the impact and sustainability of development-investments. Moreover, ADF management has aggressively cut operating costs to less than 20 percent of total funding. Following a four-month review in 1998, the U.S. General Accounting Office gave ADF high marks for its program and administrative management.

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Introduction

The Aga Khan Foundation is a non-denominational, international development agency established in 1967 by His Highness the Aga Khan. Its mission is to develop and promote creative solutions to problems that impede social development, primarily in Asia and East Africa. Created as a private, non-profit foundation under Swiss law, it has branches and independent affiliates in 12 countries. With a small staff, a host of cooperating agencies and thousands of volunteers, the Foundation reaches out to vulnerable populations on four continents, irrespective of their race, religion, political persuasion or gender. In 1999, it funded 120 projects in 13 countries and spent \$88.9 million

The Foundation focuses on a small number of specific development problems by forming intellectual and financial partnerships with organisations sharing its objectives. Most grants by the Foundation are made to grassroot organizations, testing innovative approaches in the field.

In implementing its programs in the developing world, the Foundation collaborates with national governments, as well as with international and non-governmental organizations. These include WHO; UNICEF; WFP; the European Union (EU); the World Bank; the Rockefeller and Ford Foundations; and the governments of the United States, Canada, India, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland and the U.K. [<http://www.genevabriefingbook.com/chapters/akf.html>]

Geographic Focus

The Foundation's geographical spread currently encompasses activities in Bangladesh, Canada, India, Kenya, Mozambique, Pakistan, Portugal, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Uganda, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

Within these countries, the Foundation chooses certain regions for particular focus. Criteria include special needs in poor environments, as well as the presence of capable implementing organizations. It normally intervenes where it has a strong volunteer base, to ensure knowledgeable and culturally sensitive management of its local affairs.

Focus Areas

Aga Khan Foundation concentrates on selected issues in health, education, rural development and the enhancement of non-governmental organizations. It is highly selective in its programme choices. The principal criterion is the potential for bringing lasting benefit to project-participants. AKF measures its success by what its grantees achieve and the importance of what they have learned for projects elsewhere. It is equally committed to bringing valuable lessons to the attention of policymakers and others whose decisions affect the lives of the poor. The Foundation shares what it learns with the public, raising awareness of important issues facing disadvantaged sectors of the international community.

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Introduction

The AFD Group is the main instrument for the deployment of French official development-assistance. It operates in over 60 countries in Africa, the Mediterranean, the Pacific, Asia, the Caribbean, the Indian Ocean, and in the French Overseas Departments and Territories.

Since its establishment in 1941, the AFD has worked to combat poverty through promotion of economic and social progress and creation of employment. Acting on its own account, it provides financial facilities in support of productive projects, both public and private, in a wide range of sectors: agriculture, water-engineering, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, tourism, telecommunications, urban infrastructures, health and education infrastructures, and financial systems. It also administers specific funding on behalf of the French government.

A subsidiary of AFD, Proparco, specializes in financing and developing the private sector, by working either directly with companies or through local financial institutions. In overseas France, the AFD and its subsidiaries invest in enterprises (financial restructuring, loans), lend support to local governments and are actively involved in implementation of social housing policy.

CEFEB, another Group-member, provides initial and further training for senior personnel in economics, finance and banking.

Acting on account of the French State, the AFD provides the secretariat for the French Global Environment Facility (FGEF) and contributes resources to the IMF's Poverty-Reduction and Growth Facility. It administers certain official financial assistance on behalf of various ministries.

All funded projects are first subjected to technical and financial appraisal, in accordance with internationally agreed rules, such as those on protection of the environment. The impact and

effectiveness of projects and programmes carried out are assessed in retrospective evaluations. Information on all fundings granted by the Group is published regularly.

The Group maintains forty-four local offices and agencies, which keep it in direct contact with its partners. The General Manager of the AFD is also the General Manager of the two banks of issue for Overseas France: the Institut d'émission des départements d'outre-mer and the Institut d'émission d'outre-mer.

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Introduction

ADB is a multilateral development financial institution, dedicated to reducing poverty in Asia and the Pacific. Established in 1966, the bank is now owned by 67 members, mostly belonging to the region with headquarters situated in Manila.

The bank has 19 other offices around the world:

- 19 resident missions in Asia.
- A regional mission for the Pacific in Vanuatu
- A country office in the Philippines
- Representative offices for Europe in Frankfurt, for Japan in Tokyo, and for North America, in Washington DC
- A special Liaison Office in East Timor
- The manpower embodies about 2,000 employees taken from nearly 50 countries.

Function

ADB's overarching goal is to reduce poverty in Asia and the Pacific region. It helps improve the quality of life by providing loans and technical assistance for a broad range of developmental activities. It promotes and facilitates investment of public and private capital for development.

Nature of Work of the ADB

ADB is a non-profit, multilateral development-finance institution that engages mostly in public-sector lending for development purposes in its developing member-countries. ADB's clients are its member governments, which are also its shareholders.

Focal Areas

The bank focuses on poverty-reduction through emphasizing:

- Promotion of pro-poor and sustainable economic growth
- Social development
- Good governance
- Protection of environment
- Promotion of gender and development
- Private-sector development

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Introduction

AusAID, the Australian Agency for International Development, is responsible for the management of the official Australian government's overseas aid program. AusAID is an administratively autonomous agency, within the Foreign Affairs and Trade Portfolio. AusAID reports directly to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, on all aspects of aid policy and operations.

The head office of AusAID has been located in Canberra, having representatives in about 25 Australian diplomatic missions overseas.

Global Programs

- Commonwealth Organizations
- Human Rights
- International Health Programs
- International Environment Programs
- International Seminar-Support Scheme
- Multilateral Development Banks
- United Nations Development Program

The term 'multilateral aid' is used to refer to developmental assistance delivered by organisations with a global reach, for example the World Bank or the United Nations Development Program. It can also refer to agencies with a regional mandate, such as the Asian Development Bank or the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

Multilateral agencies obtain funding from a variety of sources, including contributions from donor-countries like Australia. Multilateral agencies play a valuable role in Australia's aid-program, as they complement strong bilateral relationships that Australia has built with developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region. The role of multilateral agencies has particular importance due to the growing number of trans-national humanitarian and development issues, such as HIV/AIDS, refugee-flows and global- environment problems. The response to the East Asian financial crisis illustrates how international organisations can marshal necessary resources and coordinate large-scale responses that address the economic and social effects of such crises.

Multilateral organisations can complement Australia's bilateral aid, as they:

- can extend the reach of Australia's aid program to undertake projects on a scale that would not be possible for donors such as Australia;
- have a capacity and standing to help coordinate donor-efforts, in support of particular countries. For example, East Timor has a neutrality which allows greater scope for dialogue with recipient countries;
- have, in some cases, a clear mandate to address global or regional problems in areas that require the concerted efforts of the international community, such as the environment and health; and
- can help set the global development agenda.

Australia and other donors have a strong interest in ensuring multilateral agencies that are relevant, effective and efficient. Multilateral agencies have responded to donor-pressure and embarked on a considerable reform-agenda to enhance their impact in humanitarian and developmental programs. Australia will continue to engage the UN system on the reform program, particularly as it relates to improvements in the field.

Increasing efforts to ensure effectiveness and quality, in the delivery of the Australian government's aid program, led AusAID to develop a Multilateral Assessment Framework (MAF). The MAF includes annual assessments of multilateral agencies (using the MAF annual assessment-schedule) and less frequent in-depth reviews of selected organizations. It assesses agencies' relevance (both in terms of Australia's aid- objectives, and consistency between agencies' aims and activities), their efficiency, and their effectiveness.

BRITISH ATMOSPHERIC DATA CENTRE

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Introduction

The British Atmospheric Data Centre (BADC) is the designated data-center of the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) for the Atmospheric Sciences. It is based within the Space Science and Technology Department, at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (RAL) in Oxfordshire, part of the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils (CLRC).

The role of the BADC is to assist UK atmospheric researchers to locate, access and interpret atmospheric data and to ensure the long-term integrity of atmospheric-data produced by NERC projects. The BADC has substantial data-holdings of its own and also provides information and links to data held by other data-centres. The data held at the BADC are of two types:

- Datasets produced by NERC-funded projects; these datasets are of high priority since the BADC may be the only long-term archive of the data.
- Third-party datasets that are required by a large section of the UK atmospheric research community and are most efficiently made available through one location.

All BADC data are available on-line through a World-Wide Web interface (<http://www.badc.rl.ac.uk/>) or via an ftp service. Software is provided to assist in the manipulation of the data and extensive information is provided on the data-collection procedures, formats, data quality, contact names and references to journal papers. Other specialist services include the development of value-added data-products, such as averaged and gridded data and the generation of video-sequencing of data for viewing large datasets.

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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Introduction

CIDA supports sustainable development in developing countries in order to reduce poverty and to contribute to a more secure, equitable and prosperous world. Development is a complex, long-term process that involves all of the world's people, governments and organizations at all levels. Working with partners in the private and public sectors in Canada and in developing countries, and with international organizations and agencies, CIDA supports foreign aid projects in more than 100 of the poorest countries of the world. The objective is to work with developing countries and countries in transition to develop the tools to eventually meet their own needs.

Programme Priorities

Canada's Official Development Assistance (ODA) program concentrates resources on the following six priorities.

Basic human needs: to support efforts to provide primary health care, basic education, family planning, nutrition, water and sanitation, and shelter. Canada will continue to respond to emergencies with humanitarian assistance.

Over the next five years, CIDA will strengthen its programming in four areas of social development: health and nutrition, basic education, HIV/AIDS, and child protection.

Gender Equality: to support the achievement of equality between women and men to ensure sustainable development.

Infrastructure services: to help developing countries to deliver environmentally sound infrastructure services, with an emphasis on poorer groups and on capacity building.

Human rights, democracy, and good governance: to increase respect for human rights, including children's rights; to promote democracy and better governance; and to strengthen both civil society and the security of the individual.

Private sector development: to promote sustained and equitable economic growth by supporting private sector development in developing countries.

Environment: to help developing countries to protect their environment and to contribute to addressing global and regional environmental issues

COMMISSION FOR RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

President
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Introduction

The Swiss Commission for Research Partnership with Developing Countries (Kommission für ForschungsPartnerschaften mit Entwicklungsländern), KFPE, is a Commission of the Council of the Swiss Scientific Academies (CASS). KFPE membership consists of members and delegates of associated institutions. The Commission has a secretariat in Bern.

KFPE's overall aim is to contribute to sustainable development at the global level, through research partnerships. At present, the associate members include about 60 Swiss institutions, active in scientific research and its promotion.

Activities

Its activities are based on the following premises:

- Research is an integral part of development. It can be used as a tool to help solve urgent problems, from the international to the local level.
- Above all, basic research-capacity needs to be developed and firmly anchored in economically disadvantaged countries.
- This can be accomplished through long-term development-oriented research partnerships.

Tasks and Responsibilities

The Commission focuses on persuading the Swiss scientific community and Swiss authorities, of

the importance of building up and consolidating research-capacities in developing countries and of contributing actively in meeting this challenge. It also attempts at building bridges between North and South, and between research scientists and people working in development.

COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTH

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Introduction

The Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) is an international organization, aiming at socio-economic uplift of the Third World, through useful applications of science and technology. Established in October 1994, COMSATS currently represents 21 developing countries across three continents.

The idea of the joint commission of countries in the South originally came from Prof. Dr. Abdus Salam, the Noble Laureate, in acknowledgement of the increasingly widening gap of knowledge and technology between the North and the South. It was realized that sustainable socio-economic development in the South could not be achieved without building and sustaining indigenous capacities in science and technology and that the strengthening of South-South and North-South collaboration and exchange of resources was imperative for generation and sustenance of such capacities. Professor Salam's enthusiasm and personal approach motivated a number of political leaders/ heads of state of developing nations in the South to join forces with COMSATS.

The foundation conference of COMSATS that was held at Islamabad, on 4th & 5th October, 1994, attracted representation from thirty-six countries. The participants included twenty two Ministers, members of the diplomatic community of Islamabad and representatives of international organizations like UNESCO, UNIDO, UNEP, and the World Bank. The conference decided that the Headquarters / Secretariat of the Commission would be based permanently at Islamabad, Pakistan, and the Head of State of Pakistan would act as the first Chairperson of the forum. It was agreed that the host-government, Pakistan, would provide for the operational and

administrative expenses of the Secretariat, while the development programmes of the Commission would be supported and financed through a Technical Assistance Fund, formed of membership contributions, income from services, and international grants/project-funds.

The designated Focal Points (relevant state-bodies/ministries/R & D institutions) in the member states, Centres of Excellence and the diplomatic community serve as the official channels for coordinating the activities of COMSATS.

Mission and Objectives

The Mission of COMSATS entails bringing about sustainable socio-economic development in the South, through building capacities in, and making judicious use of, science and technology applications, by instituting South-South and North-South collaborations and exchange. As extracted from the International Agreement of the Commission, the Mission of COMSATS has been translated into the following Objectives:

- To sensitize the countries in the South to the centrality of science and technology in the development process, to the adequate allocation of resources for research and development and to the integration of science and technology in the national and regional development plans;
- To support the establishment of a Network of International Science and Technology Centres for Sustainable Development in the South;
- To support other major initiatives, designed to promote indigenous capacity in science and technology for science-led sustainable development, and to help mobilize long-term financial support from international donor-agencies and from Governments / Institutions in the North and the South, to supplement the financing of international scientific projects in the South;
- To provide leadership and support for major North-South and South-South cooperative schemes in education, training and research, such as the proposal to set up programmes of scholarships for research at Centres of Excellence in the South;
- To support the relevant programmes and initiatives of major scientific organizations working for the development and promotion of science and technology in the South.

THE DONOR COMMITTEE FOR ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Coordinator

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Introduction

The Donor Committee for Enterprise Development was established in October 1979, at a meeting in Berlin, convened on the invitation of the World Bank. Participants were representatives of bilateral and multilateral donor-organizations from around the world that were engaged in programs of assistance in the development of small-scale enterprises in developing countries. The participants agreed that supporting small enterprises of development was a rapidly growing area of interest of all development-assistance organizations and that closer contact, as regards programs and projects, would help harmonize thinking and prevent confusion arising from different approaches.

Functions

The functions of the Chair and the Secretariat are at present carried out by the Rural and Micro-Finance/Small-Enterprise Thematic Group and the Small-Enterprise Development Unit of the World-Bank Group. A number of the members support the activities of the Committee, through a Trust Fund managed by the World Bank. Other members provide direct support, for example by sponsoring speakers and participants at Committee-sponsored conferences. One or more member-agencies usually take the lead in organizing these conferences, supported by a Working Group of several interested members to guide the program and selection of papers.

Objectives

The Committee's objective is to promote small enterprises in developing countries, by:

- Exchanging information on the programs of participating agencies in the field of small-

- enterprise development;
- Sharing experiences and lessons learned in the implementation of projects;
- Coordinating efforts and establishing common guidelines in these fields.

CONFERENCE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CONSULTATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

Executive Officer

Mr. Werner H. Schleiffer

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Introduction

The Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations is an independent, international, not-for-profit membership-association of nongovernmental organizations that facilitates the participation of NGOs in United Nations debates and decisions. CONGO is most active in the major UN centers of New York, Geneva, and Vienna, but extends its work to all regions of the world. CONGO is also in consultative relationship with United Nations.

Objectives

Since its founding in 1948, CONGO has worked to ensure that NGO voices are heard throughout the international arena. CONGO's role in mobilizing NGOs to form the first worldwide NGO forum on human rights in 1968, its role in conceiving forms of NGO participation in UN world-conferences and its advocacy on behalf of NGOs at UN Headquarters, highlight CONGO's major objectives:

- To ensure that NGOs are present when governments discuss issues of global concern, at the United Nations, and to facilitate NGO discussions on such issues;
- To provide, through special and ad hoc NGO Committees, fora for discussion of substantive matters by its members and members of the UN Secretariat, UN delegations, and other experts.

Membership

CONGO's membership comprises national, regional and international nongovernmental organizations, in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). CONGO associate membership is open to NGOs associated with the United Nations system, but not holding consultative status. Members represent a vital range of interests, including human rights, gender, peace and disarmament, social justice, governance, environment and

COUNCIL FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

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Introduction

CEE is a national charity, founded in 1968, governed by its members, comprising 80 national organisations with a shared belief in the value of education for sustainable development. CEE's mission is to ensure that the principles of sustainable development are at the heart of educational policy and practice. CEE works towards shared goals, in partnership with its members and others wishing to support its aims:

- To influence and develop (the relevant) public policy;
- To enhance the quality of professional practice;
- To increase the effectiveness of the education for sustainable development movement.

Activities

- It runs a number of strategy groups, seminars, workshops and an annual conference, to bring members and others together to address issues of common interest.
- It is represented on many governmental panels and advisory groups, including the Sustainable Development Education Panel.
- It provides regular newsletters and information, including CEEemail, sent to all schools in England once a term, 'UP DATE', quarterly newsletter on policy and initiatives and 'EARTHlines', quarterly newsletter for youth workers.

DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Secretary of State for Int'l Development

Hilary Benn

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Introduction

The Department for International Development (DFID) is the government department of UK responsible for promoting development and the reduction of poverty. The government, first elected in 1997, has increased its commitment to development by strengthening the department and increasing its budget.

The central focus of the Government's policy, set out in the 1997 White Paper on International Development, is a commitment to the internationally agreed target to halve the proportion of people living in extreme poverty by 2015, together with the associated targets including basic health-care provision and universal access to primary education by the same date. The second White Paper on International Development, published in December 2000, reaffirmed this commitment, while focusing specifically on how to manage the process of globalisation to benefit poor people.

DFID seeks to work in partnership with governments committed to the international targets, and seeks to work with business, civil society and the research community to this end. It also works with multilateral institutions, including the World Bank, agencies of United Nations and the European Community.

The bulk of its assistance is concentrated on the poorest countries in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. DFID is also contributing to poverty-elimination and sustainable development in middle-income countries in Latin America, the Caribbean and elsewhere. DFID is also helping the transition-countries situated in Central and Eastern Europe to try to ensure that the process of change brings benefits to all people and particularly to the poorest.

As well as its headquarters in London and East Kilbride, DFID has offices in many developing countries; in others, DFID works through staff based in British embassies and high commissions.

The Millennium Development Goals, to which DFID is committed, are:

- To halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger and, by the same date, to halve the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water.
- To ensure that, by the same date, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that boys and girls will have equal access to all levels of education.
- By the same date, to have reduced maternal mortality by three quarters, and under-five child mortality by two thirds, of their current rates.
- To have, by then, halted, and begun to reverse, the spread of HIV/AIDS, the scourge of malaria and other major diseases that afflict humanity.
- To provide special assistance to children orphaned by HIV/AIDS.
- By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers, as proposed in the “Cities Without Slums” initiative.

DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR TECHNISCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

Director General
Dr. Peter Ammon

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Introduction

GTZ is a government-owned corporation for international cooperation with world-wide operations. It was formed in 1975 and works primarily under commissions from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), for which it supports developmental projects throughout the world in almost 130 countries.

The motives and goals stipulated by the BMZ for German development-policy form the basis for the GTZ's work. "Sustainable development" is a decisive element in this: the aim is to improve living conditions for people today, without endangering the basis for life for future generations.

Under a General Agreement, the BMZ has commissioned GTZ to implement so-called Technical Cooperation (TC), and this responsibility is reflected in the organization's name. The term "technical cooperation" has largely replaced the term "development aid" in professional usage. The GTZ's work involves not only communicating technical knowledge but also organizational, economic and management knowledge, as well as supporting the creation of enabling environments on the level of policy formulation, institutional arrangements and political conditions.

Besides the BMZ, GTZ also works for other German Federal Ministries. Several projects are directly commissioned by partner countries. Also very important are commissions placed by international organizations, such as the World Bank, the European Union or the United Nations.

In almost 130 countries of Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Eastern European countries in transition and the New Independent States (NIS), GTZ employs some 9,300 staff; around 8,200 of these are national personnel in partner countries. GTZ maintains its own offices in 67 countries.

DEUTSCHER AKADEMISCHER AUSTAUSCH DIENST

President

Prof. Dr. Theodor Berchem

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Introduction

The activities of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) – today one of the world's largest and most respected intermediary organizations in its field – illustrate the terms of reference within which academic exchange and international cooperation in science and art progress, as part of the essential creative forces of the modern world. Their development is determined by individuals and their study and research projects, by the scientific community and by the expectations and views of society, as well as by what is technically possible, coupled with economic interests and political goals.

Goals and Roles of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

1. Support and advancement of the young international academic elite for the purpose of gaining future leaders and executives in science and culture, business and politics, as partners and friends of Germany.

The DAAD supports the specialist and personal qualification of the young international academic elite at Germany's higher education and research institutions, by awarding scholarships and grants which are largely funded from the resources of the German Foreign Ministry and the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development. Target groups include students, practical interns, student trainees, doctoral candidates, academics and scientists, who are chosen from the large number of applicants by the DAAD's independent selection committees. The DAAD maintains contacts with its scholarship holders, over and beyond the concrete support awarded in Germany, and thereby creates a network of leaders and executives well disposed towards Germany.

2. Support and advancement of the young German academic elite, in order to give them cosmopolitan qualifications as future leaders and executives in science and culture, business and politics, in the spirit of international and intercultural experience.

The DAAD supports the specialist and personal qualification of outstanding German students, graduates and young, up-and-coming academics and scientists, who are chosen from a large number of applicants by the DAAD's independent selection committees. The DAAD enables them to complete study and research stays at the very best higher education institutions around the world. To this end, the DAAD awards scholarships and grants, which are mainly funded from resources of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

3. Support and advancement of academic and scientific progress in developing countries and in the transforming countries of Central and Eastern Europe, as a means of supporting their economic and democratic reform process.

Higher education institutions play a key role in these countries in advancing the economic progress and democratic development of state and society. This is why the DAAD, largely funded by resources made available by the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, supports the establishment of higher education structures which are efficient and which will, in the long run, become self sufficient.

These activities focus on the continuing education and training of young faculty by awarding scholarships and grants in Germany and "sur place" (in the countries themselves) as well as by developing partnerships with German higher education institutions. The programmes also target academically-trained experts and executives working outside the higher education sector. Here, too, the establishment of lasting networks, in cooperation with the scholarship holders, constitutes part of the success of the programmes. Over and above this, stays at German higher-education institutions by these students, academics and scientists advance the understanding in Germany for the developing countries and the need for development-policy cooperation.

4. Support and advancement of German studies and the German language (including literature, area and regional studies) at selected foreign universities, as a means of strengthening German as an important cultural language and lingua franca and of promoting the interest in, knowledge of and affinity for Germany and its cultural heritage.

With funds provided by the German Foreign Ministry, the DAAD supports and advances the German language, area and regional studies, as well as the appropriate training of teachers (in their capacity as multipliers) at foreign higher education institutions by establishing lectureships (currently more than 500 in number around the world), awarding scholarships and grants, arranging special events and bringing out relevant publications.

Additionally, the DAAD is involved in building up the education and training of young experts on Germany, which the German Studies Centres set up at selected leading foreign universities carry out. At home, too, the subject of German as a Foreign Language (Deutsch als Fremdsprache - DaF) is an important issue for the DAAD, on account of the significance of

German language skills for the admission of international students to Germany's higher-education institutions. This includes, inter alia, the development of a worldwide language test, as well as support for study-integrated German-language courses for foreigners.

5. Support and advancement of the internationality and appeal of Germany's higher education institutions, so that Germany remains or again becomes one of the foremost addresses for young, up-and-coming academics and scientists from around the world.

The DAAD supports the improvement and introduction of high-quality, internationally-competitive study and research opportunities for qualified international students, graduates, academics and scientists who, for their part, will contribute to the outstanding quality of teaching and research here in Germany. Likewise, the DAAD calls for and supports the introduction of inviting and hospitable framework conditions (legislation on the status of aliens, guidance and counseling, and very much more).

ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT ACTION IN THE THIRD WORLD

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Introduction

Environment and Development Action in the Third World (ENDA) is an international non-profit organisation based in Dakar, Senegal. Founded in 1972, ENDA is an association of autonomous entities co-ordinated by an Executive Secretariat. ENDA collaborates with grassroot-level groups in search of alternative development models on the basis of the experience, expectations and objectives of marginalised people. In general, ENDA works to enhance the visibility and value, in practice as well as theory, of the knowledge and tools that exist in local development efforts. This consists of identifying and supporting community development initiatives - especially in terms of local organisations.

ENDA's worldwide representation includes:

- Twenty-four teams at the Dakar headquarters, each working on development and environment themes;
- Twenty-one poles in Southern countries: fourteen in Africa, five in South America, two in Asia;
- A European delegation;
- Japanese representation to follow soon.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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Introduction

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations was founded in 1945 with a mandate to raise levels of nutrition and standards of living, to improve agricultural productivity and to better the condition of rural populations.

Today, FAO is the largest specialized agency in the United Nations System and the lead agency for agriculture, forestry, fisheries and rural development. An intergovernmental organization, FAO has 183 member-countries plus one member organization, the European Community.

Since its inception, FAO has worked to alleviate poverty and hunger by promoting agricultural development, improved nutrition and the pursuit of food-security, defined as the access of all people at all times to the food they need for an active and healthy life. Food production has increased at an unprecedented rate since FAO was founded in 1945, outpacing the doubling of the world's population over the same period. Since the early 1960s, the proportion of hungry people in the developing world has been reduced from more than 50 percent to less than 20 percent. Despite these gains, however, more than 790 million people in the developing world, more than the total population of North America and Western Europe combined, still go hungry.

A specific priority of the Organization is encouraging sustainable agriculture and rural development under a long-term strategy for increasing food-production and food-security while conserving and managing natural resources. The aim is to meet the needs of both present and future generations by promoting development that does not degrade the environment and is technically appropriate, economically viable and socially acceptable.

FORD FOUNDATION

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Introduction

The Ford Foundation is a resource for innovative people and institutions worldwide. Their goals are to:

- Strengthen democratic values;
- Reduce poverty and injustice;
- Promote international cooperation; and
- Advance human achievement.

A fundamental challenge facing every society is to create political, economic and social systems that promote peace, human welfare and the sustainability of the environment, on which life depends. Ford Foundation believes that the best way to meet this challenge is to encourage initiatives by those living and working closest to where problems are located; to promote collaboration among the nonprofit, government and business sectors and to ensure participation by men and women from diverse communities and at all levels of society. In our experience, such activities help build common understanding, enhance excellence, enable people to improve their lives and reinforce their commitment to society.

The Ford Foundation is one source of support for these activities. It works mainly by making grants or loans that build knowledge and strengthen organizations and networks. Since their financial resources are modest in comparison to societal needs, they focus on a limited number of problem-areas and program-strategies within their broad goals.

Founded in 1936, the Foundation operated as a local philanthropy in the state of Michigan until 1950, when it expanded to become a national and international foundation. Since its inception, it has been an independent, nonprofit, and non-governmental organization. It has provided slightly

more than \$12 billion in grants and loans. These funds derive from an investment portfolio that began with gifts and bequests of Ford Motor Company stock by Henry and Edsel Ford. The Foundation no longer owns Ford Motor Company stock, and its diversified portfolio is managed to provide a perpetual source of support for the Foundation's programs and operations.

The Trustees of the Foundation set policy and delegate authority to the president and senior staff for the Foundation's grant-making and operations. Program officers in the United States, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Latin America and Russia explore opportunities to pursue the Foundation's goals, formulate strategies and recommend proposals for funding.

FOUNDATION FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAINING

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Introduction

The Foundation for International Training (FIT), established in 1976, is a capacity-building organisation that works to develop the institutional frameworks, organisational capabilities and skills required to realise social and economic development. By building new skills and enhancing existing ones, FIT's programs develop social capital to achieve positive social change and lasting economic development. FIT and its partners share responsibility for project planning and design, resource allocation, organisation and implementation. FIT is governed by a Board of leading internationalists. FIT run programs that aim to build capacities of local training institutions, service organizations, and NGOs to deliver skill-development and training.

Since its inception, FIT has completed more than 500 projects in over 60 countries in Africa, Asia, Middle east, the Caribbean, financed by the Asian development Bank, Canadian International Development Agency, the World Bank, the United Nations agencies and the governments of the developing countries.

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITY

CEO and Chairperson

Barbut, Monique

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Introduction

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) was established to forge international cooperation and finance actions, to address four critical threats to the global environment: loss of biodiversity, climate change, degradation of international waters, and ozone depletion. Related work to stem the pervasive problem of land degradation is also eligible for GEF funding.

The GEF can succeed in its global environmental mission, only as part of a worldwide movement toward sustainable development. GEF brings together 177 member governments, leading development-institutions, the scientific community, and a wide spectrum of private sector and non-governmental organizations, on behalf of common global environmental agenda.

Focal Areas

The GEF funds projects that are in four focal areas: biodiversity, climate change, international waters, and ozone. Projects to address land degradation, as it relates to the four focal areas, are also eligible for funding.

In addition to the general descriptions here, some specialized materials are available that focus on single focal areas, such as biodiversity. A wide spectrum of efforts to conserve, and sustainably use, Earth's biological diversity makes up nearly half of all GEF projects. As the financial mechanism for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), GEF receives guidance from the Conference of Parties (or COP) on policy, strategy, program priorities, and eligibility criteria

related to the use of resources for purposes of the Convention. Projects generally deal with one or more of four critical types of ecosystem and the human communities found there: 1) arid and semi-arid zones; 2) coastal, marine, and freshwater resources; 3) forests; and 4) mountains.

INSTITUT DE RECHERCHE POUR LE DEVELOPPMENT

The President

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Introduction

The Institute for Research and Product Development is an Institute with an academic training, which has a strong inclination towards research and an ongoing product-development activity. What is, however, not immediately obvious from the name is that IRD is a private R&D company, tied to AIMIL Ltd., which in turn is a marketing firm with a small manufacturing base.

IRD additionally provides R&D services for firms wishing to upgrade their manufacturing technology to competitive international standards. IRD has a strong belief in developing indigenous technologies, as opposed to simply importing solutions.

IRD is a firm which represents a synergy between the best Indian tradition of academics, manufacturing and marketing. It believes that its profits represent not just a set of numbers but rather a set of values, both technological and human.

Programmes

Since its inception in May, 1998, IRD has had close educational ties with some of the best Science and Technology institutes of the country. These institutes have sent some of their brightest students for their formal training programme, during their final year, to IRD. During their training programme, the students pursue projects that are intellectually stimulating and at the same time beneficial to the organisation. During the course of their stay, the students benefit immensely from the technical knowledge they gain, by working with some of the best brains in the country and also by interacting with fellow students.

INTER-ACADEMY COUNCIL

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Introduction

It is a body set up by the world's science academies to support informed decision-making, through sound scientific advice on issues ranging from genetically modified organisms to climate change.

IAC is client-driven and works on a project-by-project basis. It has developed mechanisms and procedures to guarantee the scientific quality of its reports, the policy-relevance of its recommendations and the absence of regional or national bias.

INTER-ACADEMY PANEL ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

IAP Co-Chairs

- (i) Prof. Chen Zhu (Chinese Academy of Sciences)
- (ii) Prof. Howard Alper (RSC: The Academies of Arts, Humanities and Sciences of Canada)

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Introduction

The Inter-Academy Panel on International Issues (IAP) is an informal network of the world's 90 science academies, working to provide advice and input to governments and international organizations and to inform public opinion on scientific aspects of issues of concern internationally. Through bilateral, regional, and worldwide collaboration, the IAP helps build the capacity of academies to address major challenges faced, individually or collectively, by the nations of the world.

IAP activities include working groups, reports, collaborative research, workshops and conferences. IAP seeks to ensure that its work complements and does not duplicate, conflict with or compete with the work of organizations such as the International Council for Science (ICSU) and the Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Sciences (CAETS). IAP and CAETS co-sponsored a 1996 Habitat-II Forum of Academies, in Istanbul. ICSU is an ex-officio member of the IAP Executive Committee.

A generous grant from the Italian government covers the operational expenses of the IAP secretariat in Trieste. The grant also allows some funding for activities of IAP programmes. Nevertheless, IAP operates on a volunteer-basis with in-kind support from member academies. Each academy covers its own costs, as much as possible.

Academies volunteering for a core organizational role or leading an IAP project are responsible

for raising funds to carry out that particular activity. Core and project support may be sought from international organizations, national governments, foundations and private sources. IAP has received funds for its activities from the French Academy of Sciences, the US National Academy of Sciences and the Academy of Sciences for the Developing Countries (TWAS).

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

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Introduction

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) serves as the world's foremost inter-governmental forum for scientific and technical co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear technology. Established as an autonomous organization under the United Nations in 1957, the IAEA represents the culmination of international efforts to make a reality of US President Eisenhower's proposal in his 'Atoms for Peace' speech before the UN General Assembly in 1953. He envisioned the creation of an international body to control and develop the use of atomic energy. Today, the Agency's broad spectrum of services, programmes, and activities is based on the needs of its 137 Member States.

Programs

- Safeguards & Physical Protection
- Nuclear Safety
- Nuclear Energy
- Technical Cooperation
- Nuclear Sciences and Applications

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH IN THE DRY AREAS

Chairperson

Dr Guido Gryseels

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Introduction

Established in 1977, the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), is one of the 16 centers strategically located all over the world and supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). With its main research station and offices based in Aleppo, Syria, ICARDA works through a network of partnerships with national, regional and international institutions, universities, non-governmental organizations and ministries in the developing world; and with advanced research institutes in industrialized countries.

Mission

ICARDA's mission is to improve the welfare of people and alleviate poverty, through research and training, in dry areas of the developing world by increasing the production, productivity and nutritional quality of food, while preserving and enhancing the natural resource base. ICARDA is committed to the advancement of agricultural research; free exchange of germplasm and information for research; protection of intellectual property rights, including indigenous knowledge of farmers; human resource development; the sustainable use of natural resources; and poverty alleviation, particularly among women and children.

ICARDA pursues this mission in partnerships (i) with national agricultural research systems in developing countries, and (ii) with advanced research institutes in industrialized countries. While most of ICARDA's collaborative activities with its partners are formalized as written agreements, some joint research is also carried out informally, based on the center's personal contacts with colleagues in various institutions.

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR SCIENCE AND HIGH TECHNOLOGY

Managing Director

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Introduction

ICS was established in 1988 as an idea of Nobel Laureate Abdus Salam in Trieste, Italy. The aim was to create a centre addressing the issues in the field of chemistry, the environment and high technologies & new materials.

Mission Statement

The International Centre for Science and High Technology (ICS) operates under the aegis of UNIDO, to promote sustainable industrial development through transfer of know-how and technology. Target beneficiaries are developing countries and those with transition-economy. ICS operates in close collaboration with UNIDO, in line with its strategies encouraging competitive economy, sound environment, and productive employment. ICS works through UNIDO's global network that brings together industries, governments, organizations, agencies and financial institutions. ICS is active in the sectors of chemistry, environment, high technology & new materials, as well as technology management. ICS pursues its goals through development of human resources and institutional capacity-building of target beneficiaries and partners projects, in particular regional projects with upstream solutions. ICS also prepares and submits project-proposals for international donor funding. Project activities are supported by a wide range of training programmes.

Mandate and Goals

The ICS mandate is to advance the industrial competitiveness and investment-climate in developing countries and emerging economies. Main beneficiaries are national and regional

institutes engaged in R&D, small and medium-sized industries operating in the sector of high technology, and policy makers.

Each year, ICS is involved in around 10-ongoing projects and organizes over 50 training events; these include courses with hands-on experience workshops, seminars, and roundtables/ Forums.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE

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Introduction

ICSU is a non-governmental organization founded in 1931 to bring together natural scientists in international scientific endeavour. It comprises 98 multi-disciplinary National Scientific Members (scientific research councils or science academies) and 26 international, single-discipline Scientific Unions to provide a wide spectrum of scientific expertise, enabling members to address major international, interdisciplinary issues, which none could handle alone. ICSU also has 28 Scientific Associates.

The Council seeks to break the barriers of specialization by initiating and coordinating major international interdisciplinary programmes and by creating inter-disciplinary bodies, which undertake activities and research programmes of interest to several members. A number of bodies set up within ICSU also address matters of common concern to all scientists, such as capacity-building in science, environment and development and the free conduct of science.

The Council acts as a focus for the exchange of ideas and information and the development of standards. Hundreds of congresses, symposia and other scientific meetings are organized each year around the world, and a wide range of newsletters, handbooks and journals are published.

The principal source of ICSU's finances is the contributions it receives from its Members. Other sources of income are the framework contracts from UNESCO and grants and contracts from UN bodies, foundations and agencies, which are used to support the scientific activities of the ICSU Unions and interdisciplinary bodies. The total budget of the whole ICSU family amounts to over 15 million US dollars a year. One of ICSU's greatest strengths, however, is the time contributed freely by the thousands of scientists committed to the objectives of the Council.

ICSU has 8 policy and advisory committees namely:

- i) Scientific Planning and Review
- ii) Governance
- iii) Finance and Fund-raising
- iv) Freedom in the Conduct of Science
- v) Responsibility and Ethics in Science
- vi) Dissemination of Scientific information
- vii) Science and Technology in Developing Countries, and
- viii) Environment

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Executive Secretary
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Introduction

The International Council for Scientific and Technical Information (ICSTI), established in 1984, offers a unique forum for interaction between organizations that create, disseminate and use scientific and technical information. ICSTI seeks to reduce or eliminate barriers to effective transfer of information, by:

- Promoting the value of scientific and technical information to the world's economic, research, scholarly, and social progress.
- Enhancing access to, and delivery of, information to business, academia, government, and the public.
- Forging better relations among the different communities involved in transfer of information from generator to disseminator and finally to user.

Mission

Provide leadership in promoting the recognition of the value of scientific and technical information to the world's economic, research, scholarly and social progress. Enhance access to, and delivery of, information for all constituencies in business, industry, academia, government and public, through the exchange of information and the sharing of experience among international peers and be a forum for interaction among all participants in information flow.

INTERNATIONAL CROPS RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR THE SEMI-ARID TROPICS

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Introduction

The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) is a non-profit, apolitical, international organization for science-based agricultural development. Established in 1972, it is a Future Harvest Center of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). It is one of 16 centers and is supported by more than 50 governments, foundations, and development banks. ICRISAT has approximately 900 staff and an annual budget of about US\$ 24 million.

Vision

ICRISAT's new vision to 2010 is: *Improved well-being of the poor of the semi-arid tropics, through agricultural research for impact.*

Mission

ICRISAT's new mission is to help the poor of the semi-arid tropics (SAT), through science with a human face and partnership-based research, and to increase agricultural productivity and food-security, reduce poverty, and protect the environment in SAT production-systems.

Mandate

- To enhance the livelihoods of the poor in semi-arid farming systems, through integrated genetic and natural-resource management strategies.
- ICRISAT will make major food-crops more productive, nutritious, and affordable to the poor; diversify utilization-options for staple food crops; develop tools and techniques to manage risk

and sustainably utilize the natural-resource base of semi-arid tropics systems; develop options to diversify income-generation; and strengthen delivery-systems to key clients.

- Partnership-based research for impact, gender-sensitivity, capacity-building and enhanced knowledge and technology-flows are integral to this mandate.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE

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Introduction

The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is a public corporation created in 1970 to help developing countries find long-term solutions to the social, economic, and environmental problems they face. To ensure that the Centre's programs continue to respond to the needs of the developing world, a 21-member, International Board of Governors oversees its operations.

Mandate

To initiate, encourage, support, and conduct research into the problems of the developing regions of the world and into the means for applying and adapting scientific, technical, and other knowledge to the economic and social advancement of those regions.

Objectives

To assist scientists in developing countries to identify sustainable long-term practical solutions to pressing developmental problems, and:

- To mobilize and strengthen the research capacity of developing countries, particularly capacity for policies and technologies that promote healthier and more prosperous societies, food security, biodiversity, and access to information.
- To develop links among researchers of the developing country and provide them access to the results of research around the globe, in particular through developing and strengthening the electronic networking capacity of institutions in developing countries that receive IDRC funding.
- To ensure that the products from the activities it supports are used by communities in the

developing world, and existing research capacity is used effectively to solve developmental problems.

- To achieve these objectives, IDRC funds the work of scientists working in universities, private enterprise, government, and nonprofit organizations in developing countries and provides some support to regional research networks and institutions in the Third World.

This support is designed to build a corps of researchers in each country and to help develop the networks of people and institutions that can undertake effective research and use the results of research to effect change. The support is directed towards developing an indigenous research-capacity to sustain policies and technologies needed by developing countries to build healthier, more equitable and more prosperous societies.

INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE

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Introduction

IFS is an international NGO founded in 1972. Funding comes from governmental and non-governmental sources, as well as national and international organizations. The annual budget is approximately USD 5 million. IFS has 135 Member organizations in 86 countries, of which three-quarters are in developing countries and one-quarter in industrial countries. IFS has an international Board of Trustees; the Secretariat is located in Stockholm, Sweden.

IFS provides support to developing country scientists to conduct, in developing countries, relevant and high-quality research on the management, use, and conservation of biological resources and their environment. IFS believes that the interests of both science and development are best served by promoting and nurturing the research efforts of young science graduates, who are at the beginning of their research careers.

Mandate

The IFS Mandate: the IFS shall contribute to the strengthening of capacity in developing countries to conduct relevant and high-quality research on the management, use, and conservation of biological resources and their environment.

IFS to all support young scientists from developing countries who have the potential for becoming the future research leaders and can lead scientists in their nations.

The criteria for eligibility for IFS support stipulate that the scientist must be young and at the beginning of his or her research career and be from a developing country, where the research must take place.

The support provided by IFS is primarily in the form of an IFS Research Grant, which amounts to USD 12,000 and may be renewed twice. It is intended for the purchase of the basic tools needed to conduct a research project: equipment, expendable supplies, and literature. The IFS Scientific Programme is organized into six Research Areas.

The IFS has three Awards for its grantees:

- The IFS/DANIDA Award
- The IFS Silver Jubilee Award and
- The Sven Brohult Award.

The IFS grantees to date are more than 3000 in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

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Introduction

IFAD, a specialized agency of the United Nations, was established as an international financial institution in 1977. The establishment is one of the major outcomes of the 1974 World Food Conference.

In this context, IFAD was created to mobilize resources, on concessional terms, for programmes that alleviate rural poverty and improve nutrition. Unlike other international financial institutions, which have a broad range of objectives, the Fund has a very specific mandate: to combat hunger and rural poverty in developing countries. In fulfilling its mandate, IFAD's core values are (i) Client satisfaction, (ii) Commitment to excellence, (iii) Valuing innovation, (iv) Creating and sharing knowledge, (v) Working with others, and (vi) Pursuing leadership for ending rural poverty. Its main objective is to provide direct funding and mobilize additional resources for programmes, specifically designed to promote the economic advancement of the rural poor, mainly by improving the productivity of on and off farm activities. Since its establishment, IFAD has financed 633 projects, in 115 countries and independent territories, to which it has committed USD 7.7 billion in loans and USD 35.4 million in grants.

Action Plan

IFAD's core business calls for alleviation of rural poverty through agricultural and rural development, supported by loans and grants. IFAD has four major roles based on its comparative advantage:

- As an innovator in the development of effective instruments for eradication of rural poverty

as well as relevant models and know-how at the grass roots level, IFAD seeks new ways to address the constraints faced by its beneficiaries in a diversity of local contexts. In doing so, it consolidates, refines and enhances its *'intellectual capital'*.

- As a knowledge-organization, IFAD builds on its role as an innovator, through a process of mutual learning and lesson sharing with other stakeholders active in the field.
- As a catalyst, IFAD extends its outreach through strategic partnerships that build on cross-fertilization of ideas and approaches. In doing so, IFAD takes into account the programmes and efforts of other donors and facilitates the replication and scaling up of national and local initiatives, as well as influencing policy and practices in favour of the poor.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Introduction

Established in 1990, IISD is a Canadian-based not-for-profit organization with a diverse team of more than 150 people located in more than 30 countries. Through the dynamic portfolio of projects, IISD partners with more than 200 organizations throughout the world.

The International Institute for Sustainable Development promotes the transition toward a sustainable future. It seeks to demonstrate how human ingenuity can be applied to improve the well-being of the environment, economy and society.

IISD meets this challenge by advancing policy-recommendations on international trade and investment, economic policy, climate change, measurement and indicators, and natural resource management, to make development sustainable. By using Internet communications, we cover and report on international negotiations and broker knowledge gained through collaborative projects with global partners, resulting in more rigorous research, capacity-building in developing countries and a better dialogue between North and South.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE

Director General

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The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) is an Africa-based international research-for-development organization, established in 1967, and governed by a board of trustees. Its vision is to be one of Africa's leading research partners in finding solutions for hunger and poverty. It has more than 100 international scientists based in various IITA stations across Africa. This network of scientists is dedicated to the development of technologies that reduce producer and consumer risk, increase local production, and generate wealth. It is supported primarily by the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR, www.cgiar.org).

Mission

IITA's mission is to enhance food security and improve livelihoods in Africa through research-for-development. About 500 million people in sub-Saharan Africa are employed in agriculture. The influence of agriculture on the natural resource base has a profound effect on ensuring environmental sustainability. The successful development of new agricultural opportunities within Africa will also have a direct influence on several MDGs.

Partnerships

IITA works with partners within Africa and beyond to reduce producer and consumer risk, enhance crop quality and productivity, and to generate wealth from agriculture, thus to "nourish Africa". Its current portfolio of comprehensive projects addresses several key issues which

contribute to the CGIAR mission. IITA's research-for-development approach produces high quality international public goods (IPGs) that serve millions of producers and consumers in Africa.

INTERNATIONAL WATER AND SANITATION CENTRE

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Introduction

IRC is an independent, non-profit organization, supported by and linked with the Netherlands Government, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council.

IRC facilitates the sharing, promotion and use of knowledge, so that governments, professionals and organizations can better support poor men, women and children in developing countries to obtain water and sanitation-services they use and maintain. IRC is not a funding agency. It provides information and knowledge-support on water, sanitation and related environmental and hygiene issues to partners in selected developing countries.

IRC meets these challenges through re-focussing on two core areas of activities:

- To provide improved access to and promote the use of knowledge among sector institutions and other stakeholders. This is achieved through strengthening IRC's knowledge-base, actions to make the base easily accessible to a wide range of stakeholders, the synthesis of knowledge on key issues, the dissemination of materials and the promotion of better knowledge-use in developing countries.
- To build the capacity of resource-centres for the WSS sector in developing countries. A strategy to incrementally increase the number of resource centres is to be implemented, along with the activities through which their capacities will be strengthened.

ISLAMIC WORLD ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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Introduction

Scientific institutions have always had a major role in promoting science and technology and thus influencing the general state of development of all societies. In response to the need for an international organisation that can undertake such a task, the Islamic Academy of Sciences (IAS) came into being as an independent, non-political, non-governmental and non-profit organisation of distinguished scientists and technologists. It is dedicated to promote all aspects of science and technology in the Islamic World for the benefit of mankind. The establishment of the Islamic Academy of Sciences (IAS) was proposed by the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Co-operation (COMSTECH), and approved by the Fourth Islamic Summit, held in Casablanca in 1984. Upon the invitation of Jordan, the Founding Conference of the Academy was held in Amman (Jordan) in October 1986, under the patronage of HRH Prince Al-Hassan, who kindly accepted the patronship of the Academy, together with H.E. the President of Pakistan. Operating from its Amman Secretariat, the Academy endeavours to continue the work it had started in 1986, that is, assisting the decision-makers and scientists and technologists of the Islamic Nations and helping them achieve an advanced level of development for their countries.

Programmes

Since its inception in 1986, the Academy has been implementing programmes that address serious contemporary issues facing the Islamic World, with the aim of formulating remedial policies that can be adopted by developing countries in their quest to achieve their developmental objectives. Operating on a year-to-year basis, the Academy has organised several international conferences, published a series of Conference Proceedings, Newsletters and some publicity literature, and has also established a quality Journal, which is of an international standard.

Moreover, the Academy has established numerous contacts with national and international non-governmental organizations, as well as governments throughout the world. The underlying objective of the programme of the Islamic Academy of Sciences is to establish a framework for the development of science and technology in the Islamic World. The programme, by facilitating interaction among scientists, and promoting exchange of views and ideas on science and technology, in particular, can catalyse the overall process of socio-economic development in Islamic countries.

The programme also aims to highlight the correlation between knowledge, science and technology, on the one hand, and Islamic Values, on the other. Through research in this field, the programme will help invigorate the establishment of a better environment for scientific research for the benefit of the Muslim nations in particular, and developing nations in general.

ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK

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Introduction

The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) was established by the first conference of Finance Ministers of member countries of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), convened in 1973 (1393H). Its purpose is to foster economic development and social progress in member countries and Muslim communities worldwide, based on the principles of shari'ah (i.e. Islamic jurisprudence). The bank commenced its activities officially on 20 October 1975 (15 Shawwal 1395H).

Objectives

In line with its overall objectives of fostering economic development and social progress, the bank finances productive projects and programs, in both public and private sectors, in the OIC member countries. It invests in economic and social infrastructure projects; provides technical assistance to member countries and assists in the promotion of foreign trade, especially capital goods. The bank also assists Muslim communities in non-member countries and undertakes shari'ah-based research-studies in Islamic economics and banking, through special funds established for this purpose.

IDB finances development projects in member countries through a number of compatible modes in Islamic law (shari'ah), such as Loan, Leasing, Instalment Sale, Istisna'a, Equity Participation and Lines of Financing. Besides, its trade financing schemes, such as Import Trade Financing Operations (ITFO); Export Financing Scheme (EFS); Islamic Banks' Portfolio (IBP); and Unit Investment Fund (UIF), to promote trade among member countries.

Membership

The present membership of the bank consists of 56 countries. The basic condition for membership is that the prospective member country should be a member of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), pay its contribution to the capital of the Bank and be willing to accept the bank's terms and conditions.

ISLAMIC EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

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Introduction

The Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization -ISESCO- was set up upon the adoption of its Statute by the Eleventh Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers' meeting in Islamabad, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, in May 1980. This decision crowned the efforts made by the Organization of the Islamic Conference to establish an international organization specialized in the fields of education, science and culture. The Third Islamic Summit Conference, held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah and Taef, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, decided, in January 1981, to set up this Islamic Organization - ISESCO. The Founding Conference of ISESCO was then held in Fez, Kingdom of Morocco, in May 1982.

Objectives

The objectives of this Islamic Organization are to:

- Strengthen and promote cooperation among Member States and consolidate it in the fields of education, science, culture and communication;
- Develop applied sciences and use advanced technology within the framework of the lofty and perennial Islamic values and ideals;
- Consolidate understanding among Muslim people and contribute to the achievement of world peace and security through various means, particularly through education, science, culture and communication;
- Consolidate complementarity and achieve coordination among the specialized institutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the fields of education, science, culture and communication and among the Member States of the Islamic Organization (ISESCO), in

order to consolidate Islamic solidarity;

- Make Islamic culture the basis of educational curricula at all levels and stages;
- Consolidate Islamic culture, protect the independence of Islamic thought against cultural invasion and distortion factors and safeguard the features and distinct characteristics of the Islamic civilization;
- Safeguard the Islamic identity of Muslims in non-Islamic countries.

JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY

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Introduction

JICA is responsible for the technical cooperation aspect of Japan's ODA programs. Technical Cooperation is aimed at the transfer of technology and knowledge that can serve the socio-economic development of developing countries. JICA carries out a variety of programs to support the nation-building of developing countries, through such technical cooperation.

JICA has about 1,300 staff members, working both in Japan and at its overseas offices. JICA that was established in 1974 as a 'Special Public Institution' of the government has now become an independent administrative institution since October 1, 2003, as a result of Japan's reform plan.

Programs include

1. Technical Cooperation:
 - Training in Japan
 - Dispatch of Experts
 - Provision of Equipment
 - Project-type Technical Cooperation
 - Development Study
2. Dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV)
3. Training and Recruitment of Qualified Personnel for Technical Cooperation
4. Survey and Administration of Grant Aid Programs
5. Development Investment and Financing
6. Support for Japanese Emigrants
7. Disaster Relief

THE JOHN D. AND CATHERINE T. MacARTHUR FOUNDATION (MacArthur Foundation)

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Introduction

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation is a private, independent grantmaking institution, dedicated to helping groups and individuals foster lasting improvement in the human condition. The Foundation seeks the development of healthy individuals and effective communities; peace within and among nations; responsible choices about human reproduction; and a global ecosystem capable of supporting healthy human societies. The Foundation pursues this mission by supporting research; policy-development; dissemination; education; and training and practice.

The Foundation makes grants through two major integrated programs, Human and Community Development and Global Security and Sustainability. The Program on Human and Community Development supports national research and policy work and, in Chicago and Palm Beach County, Florida, direct local efforts. The Program on Global Security and Sustainability focuses on international peace and security, ecosystems conservation and policy, population, and on cross-cutting themes that include human rights, international justice, and new arrangements of governance to address the consequences of globalization.

The Foundation's two special programs are the General Program, which undertakes special initiatives and supports projects that promote excellence and diversity in the media, and the MacArthur Fellows Program, which awards fellowships to exceptionally creative individuals, regardless of field of endeavor. Applications are not accepted for the MacArthur Fellows Program.

Several assumptions underlie the policies of the Foundation: that the most important efforts to improve the human condition are those that seek systematic and sustainable change; that human progress requires reducing inequities in the distribution of power and resources; that the healthy, educated, creative individual is an essential instrument of constructive change; and that the Foundation's effectiveness depends, in part, on its capacity to learn from others about the problems confronting global society.

The Foundation seeks to create and sustain itself as an institution that is diverse throughout all levels of professional responsibility and with respect to many criteria of difference, including gender, race, ethnicity, nationality, belief, sexual orientation, physical ability, educational background and professional experience. In forming relationships with other organizations and persons as grantees, advisors, partners, and vendors, the Foundation seeks those that are committed to incorporating a variety of perspectives into their work. Such active involvement of a wide diversity of people and viewpoints is consistent with the Foundation's belief in the importance of pluralism. It is also essential to the Foundation's fulfillment of its mission.

NATURAL RESOURCES INSTITUTE

Director

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Introduction

NRI is a specialist institute of the University of Greenwich, providing ISO accredited training, research, consultancy and advisory services to underpin sustainable development. The majority of their activities focus on the harnessing of natural and human capital for the benefit of developing countries, though much of their expertise has proved to be of growing relevance to the industrialised nations of the North.

Partnerships are integral to NRI's operation, encompassing the full range of stakeholders in international development, from donors to community-based organisations. Virtually all of NRI's work is undertaken through contract-funding, much of it secured in open competition. NRI plays an important role, in relation to capacity-building in developing countries, institutions, through its activities in subcontracting research and consultancy to its partners overseas.

A particular strength of NRI lies in the diversity of its activities, allowing the Institute to use its multidisciplinary skills across a wide spectrum of developmental issues. Of particular significance is the close interaction between the social and natural sciences that promotes relevance and maximizes the potential for uptake. Grant funding from the Higher Education Funding Council, derived from the Institutes' success in the Research Assessment Exercise, supports strategic research that underpins more adaptive contract-research and sustains intellectual capital that contributes to consultancy, training and teaching.

NETHERLANDS ORGANIZATION FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Director General

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Introduction

‘NUFFIC’ stands for Netherlands Organization For International Cooperation In Higher Education. Without international cooperation, the educational community cannot effectively help to increase intercultural understanding or improve the quality of life in all countries. This is why NUFFIC supports the higher education institutions' efforts in these directions, especially where developing countries are concerned.

NUFFIC's main areas of activity are: development cooperation, internationalization, the fostering of transparency and mutual recognition for purposes of international mobility and the positioning of Dutch higher education on emerging markets. Its core business is programme-management, the management of networks, consultancy, credential evaluation and communication.

"Linking knowledge worldwide" is the motto of NUFFIC in the new millenium. In very few words, it says what NUFFIC stands for and what can and should be expected of it. NUFFIC strives to bring people and knowledge together; and to bring together people who possess knowledge. Doing so always results in significant added value. With the motto "Linking knowledge worldwide", NUFFIC is expressing its core-value as an organization that feels strong bonds with the Netherlands and especially with its higher education sector.

NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

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Introduction

The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) is a directorate under the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. NORAD's purpose is to assist developing countries in their efforts to achieve lasting improvements in political, economic and social conditions, for the entire population, within the limits imposed by the natural resource base.

Objectives

The main aim and goal of Norwegian development cooperation is to contribute towards lasting improvements in the economic, social and political conditions under which people live in developing countries, with special emphasis on assistance which benefits the poorest sectors of the community. However, this does not mean that Norwegian development funds are transferred to the target-group direct. Partners in cooperation and beneficiaries of development cooperation are first and foremost the central government and local authorities, civil society, and the business-sector. These are responsible for the administration of Norwegian Development Funds and, thus, responsibility for development in their own country rests with them. In cooperation with its partners, NORAD works for development, which benefits the poorest members of society.

OIC STANDING COMMITTEE FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION

Coordinator General

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Introduction

The third Islamic Summit Conference, held at Makkah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in January 1981, decided to establish a standing committee for scientific and technological cooperation (COMSTECH). The President of Pakistan, upon request by the Islamic Conference, agreed to Chair COMSTECH. The committee was mandated to undertake follow-up action and implementation of the resolutions of the Islamic Conference, to study all possible means of strengthening cooperation among Member States and to draw up programs and submit proposals designed to increase the capability of the Muslims countries in the fields of science and technology.

The Members

The COMSTECH has a membership of fifty-six states, which constitute The General Assembly - the main decision making body of COMSTECH. The member countries include: Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Brunei Darussalam, Bahrain, Benin, Burkina Faso, Comoros, Cameroon, Chad, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea Bissau, Gabon, Gambia, Iran, Iraq, Indonesia, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Malaysia, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Surinam, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Mozambique, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan. States with observer status are Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ghana, Central African Republic and Togo.

Objectives

Promotion of cooperation and coordination in areas of science and technology among the Muslim countries, with a view to achieve collective strength in science and technology for solving problems faced by the Muslim countries:

- Building up the indigenous capability of Muslims countries in the field of science and technology through cooperation and mutual assistance;
- Creation of an effective institutional structure for planning research and development and monitoring of science and technology activities, particularly in high-technology areas, at regional and Ummah levels;
- Assessment of the human and material resources of Muslim countries and determination of Science and Technology needs and requirements of the Ummah.

Working Mechanism

COMSTECH works in collaboration and cooperation with Member States of the OIC. It maintains working relations with all the major Scientific and Technological Institutions in the Muslims world. It has cooperative arrangements with other Scientific and Technological Organizations of the OIC system and relevant international institutions, such as United Nations' Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Islamic Scientific, Educational and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), Islamic Academy of Sciences (IAS), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), Global Environment Facility (GEF), Third-World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) International Foundation for Sciences, COMSATS and United Nation's Development Program (UNDP). COMSTECH has also established six inter-Islamic Networks on Water-resource Development and Management, Oceanography, Space Sciences, Genetic Engineering, Tropical Medicine and Renewable Energy Resources.

COMSTECH Programme

1. *COMSTECH Spare Parts Programme*

Under this programme, COMSTECH provides the needed spare parts for out-of-order scientific equipment. Researchers are required to submit requests for spare parts on a prescribed application-form, along with the invoice, and properly justify their requests. Under this Spare Parts Programme, COMSTECH can provide grants of upto US\$500/-per request. Many institutions have received spare parts so far, and more are being processed.

2. *COMSTECH Literature Search Service*

COMSTECH announced the launching of a computerized scientific literature-search service to address this problem. Searches will be carried out from international databases, on the basis of keywords for the years 1993-98 in the following three fields:

- a. Agriculture, Biology and Environmental Sciences.
- b. Life Sciences.
- c. Physical, Chemical and Earth Sciences.

The databases cover several thousands scientific journals, which are abstracted internationally.

3. *COMSTECH Visiting Scientists Programme*

The aim of the programme is to facilitate and promote collaborative research programmes between scientists in the OIC region. Financial support is given only for travel-costs to those scientists who have done outstanding work in their respective fields and who want to do research in an OIC institution prepared to host his/her activities. Outstanding younger scientists, who want to gain post-doctoral experiences at the Centers of Excellence in OIC members' states, are also eligible for assistance under this programme.

4. *COMSTECH Awards*

COMSTECH awards prizes to individual scientists from OIC member-states who have made outstanding contributions in their respective fields. The aim is to recognize and support excellence in scientific research by individuals from member states. Four Awards are given in the fields of Chemistry, Physics, Biology, and Mathematics. Each Award consists of a prize of US\$ 5,000, as well as a shield. The awards are presented on a special occasion, normally coinciding with the COMSTECH General Assembly Meeting. Candidates must be nationals of OIC member states. Two awards in the fields of Mathematics and Physics have been announced in 1999.

5. *COMSTECH Research Grants for young Scientists*

COMSTECH, along with the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and International Foundation for Science (IFS), provides research grants to young scientists in various fields of science and technology. The maximum quantum of support varies from US \$12,000 per project, annually, for joint projects with IFS, to US\$ 15,000, annually, for joint projects with IDB. The projects being extendable up to four years. The aim of the programme is to provide financial assistance to promising young scientists in member states.

6. *COMSTECH Technician Training Programme*

This programme involves provision of airfares for travel of technicians for a training visit to a suitable Centre abroad. The living expenses are expected to be met by the Centre nominating the technician for training. The programme also supports training workshops on the maintenance and repair of sophisticated scientific equipment.

OPEC FUND FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Director General

Mr. Suleiman Jasir Al-Herbish

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Introduction

The OPEC Fund for International Development (the Fund) is a multilateral development finance institution. It was established in January 1976, by the member countries of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), following a decision taken in March 1975 by the Sovereigns and Heads of State of OPEC, meeting in Algiers.

The Aims

- To promote cooperation between OPEC member countries and other developing countries, as an expression of South-South solidarity;
- To particularly help the poorer, low-income countries in pursuit of their social and economic advancement.

The Means

- By extending concessionary financial assistance in the form of loans for development projects and programs and for support in balance of payments;
- By providing grants in support of technical assistance, food aid, research and similar activities, and humanitarian emergency relief;
- By contributing to the resources of other development institutions whose work benefits the developing countries;
- By serving OPEC member countries as an agent in the international financial arena, whenever collective action is deemed appropriate;
- By participating in the financing of private-sector activities in developing countries.

- **The Resources**

The Fund's resources consist of voluntary contributions made by OPEC member countries, and loan repayments, as well as the accumulated income derived from the Fund's investment and loans.

The Beneficiaries

All developing countries, with the exception of OPEC member countries, are in principle eligible for Fund assistance. The least developed countries, however, are accorded higher priority and have consequently attracted the greater share of the Fund's resources. So far, 110 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East and Europe have benefited from the Fund's financial assistance. The Fund has also cooperated, over the years, with a myriad of multilateral, bilateral, national, non-governmental and other organizations worldwide, joining resources and efforts to assist developing countries.

ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Secretary-General

Mr. Angel Gurría

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Introduction

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development is called a think-tank, monitoring agency, rich man's club, an unacademic university. It has elements of all, but none of these characterisations captures the essence of the OECD.

The OECD groups its 30 member-countries in an organisation that, most importantly, provides governments with a setting in which to discuss, develop and perfect economic and social policy. They compare experiences, seek answers to common problems and work to co-ordinate domestic and international policies that increasingly, in today's globalised world, must form a web of even practice across nations. Their exchanges may lead to agreements to act in a formal way, for example, by establishing legally binding codes for free flow of capital and services, agreements to crack down on bribery or to end subsidies for shipbuilding. But more often, their discussion makes for better-informed work, within their own governments on the spectrum of public policy and clarifies the impact of national policies on the international community. And it offers a chance to reflect and exchange perspectives with other countries similar to their own.

Exchanges between OECD governments flow from information and analysis provided by a Secretariat in Paris. Parts of the OECD Secretariat collect data, monitor trends, analyse and forecast economic developments, while others research social changes or evolving patterns in trade, environment, agriculture, technology, taxation and more. This work, in areas that mirror the policy-making structures in ministries of governments, is done in close consultation with policy makers who will use the analysis and it underpins discussion by member countries when they meet in specialised committees of the OECD.

RAND CORPORATION

President

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Introduction

RAND Corporation helps to improve policy and decision-making through research and analysis. This is done in many ways. Sometimes, new knowledge is developed to inform decision-makers without suggesting any specific course of action. Often they go further by spelling out the range of available options and by analyzing their relative advantages and disadvantages. In all cases, the public interest is served by widely disseminating their research findings.

RAND (a contraction of the term research and development) is the first organization to be called a "think tank". It earned this distinction, soon after it was created in 1946, by its original client, the U.S. Air Force (then the Army Air Forces). Some of their early work involved aircraft, rockets, and satellites.

Today, RAND's work is exceptionally diverse. It now assists all branches of the U.S. military community and applies the expertise to social and international issues as well.

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

President

Mr. Judith Rodin

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Introduction

The Rockefeller Foundation is a knowledge-based, global foundation with a commitment to enrich and sustain the lives and livelihoods of poor and excluded people throughout the world.

In order to maximize its resources and leverage the Foundation's strengths, grantmaking is organized around four thematic lines of work: Creativity & Culture, Food-Security, Health-Equity and Working Communities. A cross-theme of Global Inclusion supports, promotes and supplements the work of these themes.

In addition, the Foundation supports a number of programs that are developing or are in transition; among them, the Africa Regional Program, Communication for Social Change, Public/Private Partnerships and Global Philanthropy.

SOUTH CENTRE

Executive Director

Mr. Yash Tandon

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Introduction

The South Centre came formally into being, as an intergovernmental body of developing countries, on 31 July 1995, when the Intergovernmental Agreement to establish the Centre came into force.

Currently, 46 countries are members of the South Centre. The Centre, however, works for the benefit of the South as a whole, making efforts to ensure that all developing countries and interested groups and persons have access to its publications and to the results of its work, irrespective of membership.

All countries signing and ratifying the Agreement appoint a representative to the Council of Representatives, which meets at least once every three years and whose function is to provide guidance on the Centre's work and activities, as well as to elect the nine-member Board and approve the appointment of the Centre's Chairperson. The first session of the Council of Representatives was held in September 1995.

Objectives

- To promote South solidarity, South consciousness and mutual knowledge and understanding among the countries and peoples of the South;
- To promote various types of South-South cooperation and action, South-South links, networking and information-exchange;
- To contribute to South-wide collaboration, in promoting common interests and co-ordinated participation by developing countries in international forums dealing with South-South and North-South matters, as well as with other global concerns;
- To foster convergent views and approaches among countries of the South, with respect to

global economic, political and strategic issues related to evolving concepts of development, sovereignty and security;

- To contribute to better mutual understanding and co-operation between the South and the North, on the basis of equity and justice for all and, to this end, to the democratization and strengthening of the United Nations and its family of organizations.

Broadly, the Centre works to assist in developing points of view of the South on major policy issues and to generate ideas and action-oriented proposals for consideration by the collectivity of South governments, institutions of South-South co-operation, inter-governmental organizations of the South, and non-governmental organizations and the community at large.

In order to meet its objectives, and within the limits of its capacity and mandate, the Centre also aims to respond to requests for policy advice, and for technical and other support from collective entities of the South, such as the Group of 77 and the Non-Aligned Movement.

These functions are carried out by means of policy-oriented research and analysis and by publishing and disseminating, as widely as possible, the results of its work.

Activities

The Centre has prepared a number of policy papers and studies, mostly in response to requests from the Group of 77 and the Non-Aligned Movement. The topics that have been worked on include: foreign direct investment, the reform of the United Nations, resource transfers and financial flows, the challenges presented by the WTO agenda, the implementation of the UNCED Agenda 21, and science and technology. The Centre studies various aspects of globalization as they affect the South.

SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY

Acting Director General
Mr. Göran Holmqvist

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Introduction

SIDA is the Swedish government agency dealing with bilateral international development-cooperation and the major part of the cooperation with Central and Eastern Europe. Sweden participates in this co-operation, in this global assumption of responsibility. Development co-operation mobilizes Swedish society and contributes to an internationalization of the country. SIDA's task is to create conditions conducive to change and to promote social, economic and environmentally oriented sustainable development. Peace and security are key prerequisites for development. The prevention of conflicts and catastrophes is an important part of SIDA's efforts.

Vision/Organizational Philosophy

SIDA believes there are choices, which they, in the rich countries, can and must make. It believes that we would live in a better world, together, if everyone had a reasonably acceptable standard of living.

SIDA believes that a world of this type would be safer for both this generation and the future generations. They believe that cooperation is necessary to solve the major common problems we will face in the future. SIDA believes that cooperation is also necessary to make it possible for the poor countries to work together fully with the rich countries.

SIDA has been established to be part of this cooperation to assume part of a global responsibility. The aim is to make investments now to reduce poverty, protect the environment, solve conflicts, in order to lay the foundations for a better future for everybody.

SIDA makes many choices in its work. SIDA's operations extend over many areas. To make it

easier to obtain an overall view and to adopt an overall approach, as well as to choose appropriate methods and objectives, SIDA has worked together to formulate a number of points of departure and basic standpoints since its establishment.

SWISS AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION

Director-General

Mr. Walter Fust

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Introduction

SDC is organized and funded by the Swiss government and operates by financing programs, both directly and in partnership with other agencies, to countries around the world. The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) is part of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. SDC employs a staff of 500 people to carry out its activities in Switzerland and abroad.

Stated Goals

The primary philosophy of SDC is to fight poverty through participatory programs, creating sustainable improvements in lives of people, by involving them in the process. Its main intentions are to improve access to education and basic health-care, to promote environmental health, to encourage economic and governmental autonomy and to improve equity in labor.

Areas of Work

Primarily concentrated on 16 countries in Africa, Latin America, Eastern Europe, Middle East, and Asia, its areas of work are:

1. Foreign policy
2. Development policy
3. Education
4. Flora, Fauna, Agriculture
5. History
6. Society
7. Trade

8. Industry, Engineering
9. Communications
10. Domestic Politics
11. Culture, Religion, Languages
12. Medicine, health, psychology
13. Nature, Environment
14. Law
15. Traffic
16. Economy

Methods

SDC provides services through direct operations, by supporting the programs of multilateral organizations, and by co-financing and making financial contributions to the programs of both Swiss and international private assistance-agencies.

SWISS RESOURCE CENTRE AND CONSULTANCIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Managing Director

Juerg Christen

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Introduction

Swiss Centre for Development Cooperation in Technology and Management (SKAT) is a leading Swiss consultancy firm, working internationally in the areas of water and sanitation, architecture and building, transport infrastructure, and urban development.

Since 1978, SKAT, as a consultancy organisation and a sectoral documentation centre, has collected relevant information on appropriate technologies, documented lessons learned and disseminated them. In partnership with institutions and individuals in developing countries, SKAT shares learning-processes designed to build awareness, knowledge and capacities. SKAT seeks to provide balanced contributions to technical cooperation and to initiate sustainable-development processes, which empower target-groups to achieve self-reliance.

THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES FOR THE DEVELOPING WORLD

Executive Director

Prof. Dr. M.H.A. Hassan

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Introduction

The Third-World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) is an autonomous international organization, founded in Trieste - Italy, in 1983, by a distinguished group of scientists from the South, under the leadership of the late Nobel laureate, Abdus Salam of Pakistan. It was officially launched by the then Secretary General of the United Nations in 1985.

The membership of TWAS consists of more than 714 Fellows and 130 Associate Fellows, who are drawn from the most distinguished scientists. Fellows are elected from citizens of the South; Associate Fellows are elected from citizens of the North who either were born in the South or have made significant contributions to the advancement of science in the South. At present, since 1986, TWAS has supported scientific research in more than 100 countries of the South through various programmes.

A Council, elected by members every three years, is responsible for supervising all the affairs of the Academy. A small secretariat headed by an Executive Director, assists the Council in the administration and coordination of the programmes (contacts). The secretariat is located in the premises of The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste, Italy.

In 1991, UNESCO assumed responsibility for administering TWAS funds and staff, based on an agreement signed by TWAS and UNESCO. In addition to its strong links with UNESCO and the ICTP, the Academy has maintained a close relationship with other international bodies, with which it shares common objectives, mainly the International Council for Science (ICSU), the International Foundation for Science (IFS) and the International Science Programme (ISP).

Objectives

- To recognize, support and promote excellence in scientific research in the South;
- To provide promising scientists in the South with research facilities necessary for the advancement of their work;
- To facilitate contacts between individual scientists and institutions in the South;
- To encourage South-North cooperation between individuals and centres of scholarship;
- To encourage scientific research on major Third-World problems.

TWAS represents the best of science in the developing world and its principal aim is to promote scientific capacity and excellence for sustainable development in the South.

THIRD WORLD NETWORK OF SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATIONS

Secretary General

Prof. Dr. M.H.A. Hassan

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Introduction

The Third World Network of Scientific Organizations (TWNSO) is a non-governmental organization founded in 1988, at the initiative of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS), by ministers of science and technology and higher education and heads of science academies and research councils in developing countries, to promote science-based sustainable economic development in the South. In 1990, TWNSO acquired consultative status with UNESCO.

At present, TWNSO has 149 members, including 38 ministries of science and technology and higher education, 48 science academies, 38 research councils and 25 other organizations in 77 countries in the South. In addition, it has 9 associate members in 4 countries of the North.

Objectives are to:

- Encourage Third World governments to promote scientific enterprise through self-reliance, adequate allocation of resources and other support;
- Promote integration of S&T into national development plans in the South;
- Further the South's contributions to, and involvement in, global scientific and environmental projects most likely to have a strong impact upon the economic and social development of the Third World;
- Promote collaborative programmes between scientific institutions and organizations of the South, in areas of critical importance to development;
- Further relations between scientific institutions and organizations in the South and their counterparts in the North, through bilateral links and exchange programmes; and

- Encourage, recognize and reward S&T innovations of substantial benefit to the South's economic and social development.

Activities

- Grants for Joint Research Projects
- Promoting Best Practices for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity of Global Significance in Arid and Semi-Arid Zones
- Promoting Best Practices for Sustainable Use of Medicinal and Indigenous Food-Plants in Developing Countries
- Promoting Best Practices for Conservation, Management and Sustainable Use of Water-Resources in the South

Awards and Prizes

- Awards in Applied Sciences
- The Celso Furtado Prize

Publications

- Profiles of Science Ministries, Academies and Research Councils in the South
- Profiles of Institutions for Scientific Exchange and Training in the South
- Successful Experiences in Science and Technology in the South

THIRD WORLD ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE

President

Prof. Lydia P. Makhubu

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Introduction

The Third World Organization for Women in Science (TWOWS) is an independent, non-profit and non-governmental body, based at the offices of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS) in Trieste, Italy.

The idea of setting up a Third-World organization for women in science was first discussed at the "Conference on the Role of Women in the Development of Science and Technology in the Third World", which was convened by TWAS and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), in Trieste from 3 to 7 October 1988. The participants of the conference including 218 leading women scientists from 63 developing countries recommended that a study group be set up to explore the possibility of creating the organization. The group was subsequently formed and, at its meeting in Trieste from 20 to 22 March 1989, it decided to establish the Third-World Organization for Women in Science and to adopt a constitution for the organization.

TWOWS is the first international forum to unite eminent women scientists from the South with the objective of strengthening their role in the development process and promoting their representation in scientific and technological leadership.

Full Membership is open to women scientists and scientific institutions in the South. Currently there are 2,120 full individual and 29 full institutional members in 87 developing countries. Associate Membership comprises institutions and individuals (male and female) from both the North and the South, not responding to the criteria for full membership but committed to the objectives of the Organization. At present, 329 individuals and 57 institutions in 52 countries in the South and 27 countries in the North are associate members. In addition, Candidate Membership is

open to young women from the South who have not yet earned their first degree in science and technology.

Objectives

- To strengthen research efforts and training opportunities for young women scientists working and living in Third-World countries
- To survey and analyse the status and prospects of women in science and technology in the Third World
- To promote the recognition of the scientific and technological achievements of women
- To improve the access to educational and training opportunities for women in science and technology
- To increase the scientific productivity and efficiency of women-scientists in the Third World
- To promote collaboration and communication among women-scientists and technologists in the Third World and with the international scientific community, as a whole
- To promote their participation in the decision-making processes, both at national and international levels
- To encourage other international organizations to increase their activities concerned with promoting the role of women in science and technology in the Third World

Activities

With modest funds received from several sources, TWOWS has developed a number of activities to fulfil some of the objectives outlined:

- Postgraduate Training Fellowships for Women Scientists in Sub-Saharan Africa and Least Developed Countries (LDC) at Centres of Excellence in the South
- Inventory of Women Scientists and Organizations
- Directory of TWOWS Full Members
- Women Leaders in the South
- Newsletter

In addition, it has prepared competitive project-documents, which have been submitted to a number of donors for support.

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Secretary General

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Introduction

Established in 1964 as a permanent intergovernmental body, UNCTAD is the principal organ of the United Nations General Assembly dealing with trade, investment and development issues.

Main Goals

Maximize the trade, investment and development opportunities of developing countries and assist them in their efforts to integrate into the world-economy on an equitable basis.

UNCTAD also undertakes research, policy analysis and data collection, in order to provide substantive inputs for expert discussion. It also provides technical assistance tailored to the needs of the developing countries.

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

**Director, Executive Board
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Rekha Thapa**

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Mission

UNDP's mission is to empower people and organizations to achieve Sustainable Human Development in the Asia and Pacific region. It strives to be service-oriented development partners that provide and mobilize knowledge, ideas, management-skills, information technology, human and financial resources for the solution of development problems. They draw, in particular, upon the region's rich traditional values, human resources and development experience. Operating on the basis of annual work-plans, agreed between Country Offices and Regional Bureau for Asia and Pacific (RBAP) New York (two-way compacts), shared values and clear standards of managerial and individual responsibility, UNDP is committed to measurable results.

UNDP is engaged in a process of continuing self-evaluation and reform, aimed at improving its own efficiency and effectiveness and at assisting the United Nations system in becoming a stronger force for the benefit of the people and the countries in the region. On the ground in 166 countries (2004), UNDP uses its global network to help the UN System and its partners to raise awareness and track progress, while it connects countries to the knowledge and resources needed to achieve its goals.

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

Director General

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Introduction

UNESCO's constitution was adopted by the London Conference in November 1945, and entered into effect on the 4th of November 1946, when 20 states had deposited instruments of acceptance.

The main objective of UNESCO is to contribute to peace and security in the world by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science, culture and communication. It aims to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms, which are affirmed for the people of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion, by the Charter of the United Nations.

Functions

To fulfill its mandate, UNESCO performs five principal functions :

- *Prospective Studies : what forms of education, science, culture and communication for tomorrow's world?*
- *The advancement, transfer and sharing of knowledge : relying primarily on research, training and teaching activities.*
- *Standard-setting action : the preparation and adoption of international instruments and statutory recommendations.*
- *Expertise : provided to Member States for their development-policies and projects in the form of "technical co-operation".*
- Exchange of specialized information.

Activities*Fellowships, Study grants*

UNESCO offers fellowship or study grant that should be submitted to the National Commission for UNESCO of the candidate's country.

Funding of projects

Support can only be given to projects presented to UNESCO by one of its Member States and included in the approved programme and budget.

Internships

The UNESCO Secretariat at Headquarters accepts a limited number of national officials, researchers and university students at the graduate level as individual interns, to work in areas directly related to the Organization's fields of interest, for periods between one to three months.

Besides the afore-mentioned activities, UNESCO is actively pursuing Millennium Development Goals, especially those focusing on: halving the proportion of extremely poor people by 2015; achieving universal primary education in all countries by 2015; and eliminating gender disparity in primary and secondary education.

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

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Introduction

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is built on a heritage of service to the environment. UNEP's uniqueness lies in its advocacy of environmental concerns within the international system. In this, it makes a particular effort to nurture partnerships with other UN bodies, possessing complementary skills and delivery capabilities and enhancing the participation of civil society: the private sector, scientific community, NGOs, youth, women, and sports organizations, in the achievement of sustainable development.

Today, the challenge before UNEP is to implement an environmental agenda that is integrated strategically with the goals of economic development and social well-being - an agenda for sustainable development.

UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Director-General

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Tel: (+43-1) 26026-0**Fax:** (+43-1) 2692669**Email:** unido@unido.org**Website:** www.unido.org**Introduction**

The United Nations has committed itself to help developing countries and those in transition to accelerate their development, while meeting social and environmental challenges. A family of UN agencies and institutions is working together to achieve this. One of them is a specialist in industrial affairs. That agency is UNIDO.

UNIDO, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, has been working with governments, business associations and individual companies, to solve industrial problems and equip them to help themselves, for more than 30 years. With the march of globalization, UNIDO has never been needed more. At present, UNIDO has 172 member states.

UNIDO focusses on industrial development and serves as a global forum on its social, economic and technological consequences. It's specialists understand why there are few easy answers to the many industrial problems of the developing world:

- Policy-makers need sound advice on good industrial practices and control - the basis of good governance to help build international confidence.
- All developing countries need to build new industries, and quickly, to broaden their economic base and to revitalize existing industries.
- Manufacturing is especially important. It can make good use of natural raw materials that would be otherwise wasted; it adds value and generates real wealth; it creates profits for reinvestment and tax-revenues to help pay for social advance.
- Industry needs reliable, affordable, efficient and clean energy.
- Manufacturers need reliable statistical information and the latest know-how to compete

better, especially in international markets. Achieving difficult international quality-standards may require highly specialized help.

- New investment partners are needed to exploit opportunities. It is difficult to attract international investors and to provide support for domestic investors.
- People not only need jobs, but high-quality industrial jobs that will enable them to learn new, adaptable skills, earn more money and compete better in a stable, vigorous labour-market.
- Harvests are wasted because produce cannot be stored or processed. Growers and producers need industrial partners to help them minimize waste, and to store, distribute, and export more. Specialists are needed to advise on modern food technology and training.
- Tighter international standards impose new demands on production processes, especially in food technology and in pollution-control. In some cases, better regulation of simple weights and measures may be needed to break through international sales barriers.
- Rapidly changing information-technology, particularly when used in industrial processes, is passing by some countries with lasting consequences.
- Small enterprises need better guidance on access to funds, especially manufacturers, who must finance slower cash-flow than service providers. Women entrepreneurs often face unfair disadvantages and discrimination. Young entrepreneurs struggle for credit and credibility.
- Global demands for a cleaner environment pose technical problems requiring specialist help. Old industries must adapt. New industries can learn from the mistakes of the past.

Core Functions and Services

As a global forum, UNIDO generates and disseminates knowledge relating to industrial matters and provides a platform for the various actors, decision-makers in the public and private sectors, civil society organizations and the policy making community in general-to enhance cooperation, establish dialogue and develop partnerships, in order to address the challenges ahead.

As a technical cooperation agency, UNIDO designs and implements programmes to support the industrial development-efforts of its clients. It also offers tailor-made specialized support for programme-development. The two core-functions are both complementary and mutually supportive. On the one hand, experience gained in the technical cooperation work of UNIDO can be shared with policy makers; on the other, the Organization's analytical work shows where technical cooperation will have the greatest impact by helping to define priorities.

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

Rector

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Introduction

In 1969, following a proposal by the then Secretary General, U.Thant, the United Nations recommended that a new type of university be established to promote international scholarly cooperation; undertake problem-oriented, multi-disciplinary research on urgent global concerns; and strengthen research and training capacities in developing countries.

Objectives

The mission of the UNU is to contribute, through research and capacity-building, to efforts to resolve the pressing global problems that are the concern of the United Nations, its People and member states. The UNU aims to fulfil its mission by performing four key roles that are based on the mandate given to the University by its Charter: to be an international community of scholars; to form a bridge between the United Nations and the international academic community; to serve as a think-tank for the United Nations system; and to contribute to capacity-building, particularly in developing countries. To help increase the research and training capacities, the UNU's current activities are grouped in two main areas: environment and sustainable development, and peace and governance. In the present homepage, research projects are classified and described under these two areas.

The University consists of the UNU Centre in Tokyo, several Research and Training Centres and Programmes (RTC/Ps), and a network of associated and cooperating institutions and scholars. The University Centre in Tokyo is the central programming and coordinating body of the University, designated to assist the Rector, chief academic and administrative officer of the University, in the direction, organization and administration of the overall programme. RTC/Ps are created by the UNU in various parts of the world to focus on specific problems, and links are forged with existing universities, national research centres, and other organizations located mainly in developing countries. All these elements interact in a networking manner.

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Introduction

The U.S. Agency for International Development is headquartered in Washington, D.C., and has field offices in many of the countries where it has programs. USAID is headed by an Administrator and Deputy Administrator, both appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.

U.S. foreign assistance has always had the two-fold purpose of furthering America's foreign-policy interests in expanding democracy and free markets, while improving the lives of the citizens of the developing world. Spending less than one-half of 1 percent of the federal budget, USAID works around the world to achieve these goals. It provides assistance in 4 regions of the world: Sub-Saharan Africa; Asia and the Near East; Latin America and the Caribbean; and Europe and Eurasia.

THE WORLD BANK

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Introduction

Founded in 1944, the World Bank Group consists of five closely associated institutions. The mission is to fight poverty for lasting results and to help people help themselves and their environment by providing resources, sharing knowledge, building capacity, and forging partnerships in the public and private sectors.

The World Bank Group is owned by 184 member countries who are represented by a Board of Governors and a Washington-based Board of Directors. Member countries are shareholders who carry ultimate decision-making power in the World Bank. The Bank operates in about 110 country-offices and counts over nearly 10,000 employees.

The World Bank Group is the world's largest source of development assistance. It works in more than 100 developing economies, with the primary focus of helping the poorest people and the poorest countries. For all its clients the Bank emphasizes the need for:

- Investing in people, particularly through basic health and education
- Focusing on social development, inclusion, governance, and institution-building as key elements of poverty reduction
- Strengthening the ability of the governments to deliver quality-services, efficiently and transparently
- Protecting the environment
- Supporting and encouraging private business development; Promoting reforms to create a stable macroeconomic environment, conducive to investment and long-term planning.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

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Introduction

The World Health Organization, the UN's specialized agency for health, was established on 7 April 1948. WHO's objective, as set out in its Constitution, is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. Health is defined in WHO's Constitution as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

WHO is governed by 193 Member States through the World Health Assembly. The Health Assembly is composed of representatives from WHO's Member States. The main tasks of the World Health Assembly are to approve the WHO programme and the budget for the following biennium and to decide major policy questions.

Objectives

Following are listed among its responsibilities—to:

- Assist governments, upon request, in strengthening health services;
- Establish and maintain such administrative and technical services as may be required, including epidemiological and statistical services;
- Provide information, counsel, and assistance in the field of health;
- Stimulate the eradication of epidemic, endemic, and other diseases;
- Promote improved nutrition, housing, sanitation, working conditions, and other aspects of environmental hygiene;
- Promote cooperation among scientific and professional groups which contribute to the enhancement of health;
- Propose international conventions and agreements on health matters;
- Promote and conduct research in the field of health;
- Develop international standards for food, biological and pharmaceutical products;
- Assist in developing an informed public-opinion among all peoples on matters of health.

ACRONYMS

ACBF	African Capacity Building Foundation
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADF	African Development Foundation
AFD	Agence Francaise De Developpment
AKF	Aga Khan Foundation
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
BADC	British Atmospheric Data Centre
CDASED	Committee of Donor Agencies for Small Enterprise Development
CEE	Council for Environmental Education
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
COMSATS	Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South
COMSTECH	OIC Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation
CONGO	Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations
DAAD	Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst
DFID	Department for International Development
ENDA	Environmental Development Action in the Third World
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FIT	Foundation for International Training
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GTZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft Fur Technische Zusammenarbeit
IAC	Inter-Academy Council
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAP	Inter-Academy Panel on International Issues
IAS	Islamic Academy of Sciences
ICARDA	International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas
ICS	International Centre for Science and High Technology
ICSTI	International Council for Scientific and Technical Information
ICRISAT	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
ICSU	International Council for Science
IDB	Islamic Development Bank
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development

IFS	International Foundation for Science
IISD	International Institute for Sustainable Development
IITA	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
IRC	International Water and Sanitation Centre
IRD	Institut De Recherche Pour Le Developpment
ISESCO	Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KFPE	Commission for Research Partnership with Developing Countries
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
NRI	Natural Resources Institute
NUFFIC	Netherlands Organization for International Cooperation in Higher Education
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OPEC FUND	OPEC Fund for International Development
RAND	RAND Corporation
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SKAT	Swiss Centre for Development Cooperation in Technology and Management
TWAS	The Academy of Sciences for the Developing World
TWNSO	Third-World Network of Scientific Organizations
TWOWS	Third-World Organization for Women in Science
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNU	United Nations University
USAID	US Agency for International Development
WB	The World Bank
WHO	World Health Organization

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