



Globalization and Governance:

The next phase of the ongoing L20 project “Mobilizing the G8 Summit” has secured \$750,000 for 2 years of future development, to focus on four global challenges – climate change and energy security, global infectious diseases, internationalization of the nuclear fuel cycle, and official development assistance. Peter Heap’s book exploiting the papers, proceedings and insights generated at the various L20 events, co-published by Springer and IDRC, has recently gone to press.

Technology and International Development Recent Developments:

1 million dollars in funding from CIDA has been received for a six year project entitled Southern Oceans Education and Development, in partnership with the Eduardo Mondlane University in Brazil. The goal is to support Mozambique’s national environmental and poverty reduction priorities for coastal communities through the establishment of coastal management and sustainable resource development programs. An additional project, “Coastal Community Development in Bahia and Pernambuco” which will take place in Brazil has been approved by CIDA for 1.7 million dollars of funding over 3 years. The project is presently awaiting Ministerial approval.

IICRD Recent Developments:

Child Rights in Juvenile Justice: - the Russian Federation: Suzanne Williams and Dr. Natasha Blanchet-Cohen have returned from Moscow after training journalists, psychology students, and front-line workers to incorporate children's rights into services to youth at risk.

MCFD Transformation Task Team: Dr. Philip Cook, Vanessa Currie, and Bill White have been consulting with communities in the northeast region of BC around ways in which they can actively engage in influencing the government services they receive. The focus groups and consultations have included working closely with youth, Elders, and care providers to provide training and develop services that build on existing cultural strengths to meet the needs of children and families.

Law Foundation: Suzanne Williams, with support from other IICRD staff - Cheryl Heykoop, Bill White, and Dr. Natasha Blanchet-Cohen, conducted a 2-day education program called “Children’s Participation in Family Justice Processes: Hear the Child”, a training for lawyers and other key family justice stakeholders through the Continuing Legal Education Society of BC. The course provided an opportunity to learn about meaningful child participation, the current state of the law, and options to effectively support and implement child participation in one's daily practice in BC.

Canadian/Iraq Marshlands Initiative (CIMI):

The Canadian/Iraq Marshlands Initiative is a collaborative programme led by the University of Victoria. Partners are the University of Waterloo, the Fraser Basin Council in Vancouver and various Iraqi institutions, including universities, governorate councils and the national Ministries of Water and Environment. The goal of the project is to help strengthen the social, environmental, economic and institutional bases of southern Iraq to facilitate further restoration and development of the region. The project has received funding of 2.5 million dollars over 5 years.

Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium (PCIC):

A 4-year Research Plan was presented to funding organizations at BC Hydro and the BC Ministry of Environment. Several projects to analyze and explain potential climate impacts to communities were recently completed for the Columbia Basin Trust, on Atlin, Whitehorse, BC Biodiversity, and Metro Vancouver. A hydrologist from the BC River Forecast Center has been seconded to PCIC for collaboration on hydrologic modeling of BC watersheds, an analysis of storm surge on the BC coast was completed for one station, and will be extended to other sites in the Vancouver area. The PCIC website has been updated to include maps of historical climate variability and future climate projections with interpretation aimed at a layperson audience. A symposium was held to bring together experts from economics, forestry, entomology, climate, statistics, and modeling to determine the state of the science with respect to climate change and forest pests. A summary of the symposium has been published and results will inform an ongoing PCIC project investigating impacts of climate change on forest pest outbreaks.

IWRP:

Kate McDonald, our newest addition to the team, is coordinating the 4th annual Lived Rights Lecture Series. This year is particularly significant because this event, scheduled for Jan 30, 2008, will also be part of Canada's World official launch and we are extremely honored to have Shauna Sylvester as our guest.