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United Nations Institute for Training and Research



Yale University

**Conference on Environmental
Governance and Democracy
Institutions, public participation and environmental
sustainability:
Bridging research and capacity development**

draft program

(5 May 2006)

New Haven, 10-11 May 2008

organized by:

Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy, a joint initiative of the
Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and Yale Law School
United Nations Institute for Training and Research

in partnership with

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
University of Cape Town
French Institute of Forestry, Agricultural and Environmental Engineering
World Resources Institute
Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

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Saturday, 10 May 2008

8:00 am Registration and breakfast

Session 1: Democracy and the environment: defining the linkages

Session 1 takes place in plenary in Luce Hall and sets the scene for the conference. Following welcome and introductory presentations, two panels will feature thought-stimulating remarks that raise key issues relevant to the conference and working group discussions in Sessions 2 and 3. About half of the allocated time for the two panels will be reserved for questions and open discussion. The session will be facilitated by James Gustave Speth, Sara Shallenberger Brown Professor in the Practice of Environmental Policy; Dean, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

9:00 am Welcome and introductory remarks

James Gustave Speth, Sara Shallenberger Brown Professor in the Practice of Environmental Policy; Dean, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

Carlos Lopes, Executive Director, UNITAR and United Nations Assistant Secretary-General

Dan Esty, Hillhouse Professor of Environmental Law and Policy; Director, Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy

Susan Rose-Ackerman, Henry R. Luce Professor of Law and Political Science, Yale Law School

Introduction to conference objectives and program

Achim Halpaap, Manager, UNITAR Environmental Governance Programme; Project Director, UNITAR-Yale Environment and Democracy Initiative

**9:45 am Understanding the democracy-environment interface:
Perspectives of academic scholars**

***Moderator:** Merle Sowman, Associate Professor, Department of Environmental and Geographical Science; Director, Environmental Evaluation Unit, University of Cape Town*

Rafael Reuveny, Professor of Public and Environmental Affairs, School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University

Ngeta Kabiri, Faculty Fellow, Government and Environmental Studies, Colby College

Laurent Mermet, Professor of Environmental Management, French Institute for Environmental Engineering, Water and Forests; Chair of the Scientific Board, French National Research Program "Concertation, Decision-making and the Environment"

Daniel J. Fiorino, Adjunct Faculty, School of Public Affairs, American University; Director, EPA Performance Incentives Division

11:15 am Coffee/Tea Break

**11:30 am Understanding the democracy-environment interface:
Perspectives of public officials and practitioners**

***Moderator:** Jake Werksman, Program Director, Institutions and Governance Program, World Resources Institute*

Jeremy Wates, Secretary, Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Blessing Manale, Chief Director, Planning, Coordination and Information Department of Environmental Affairs & Tourism, South Africa

Franz-Xavier Perrez, Head of Section Global Affairs, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland; Lecturer, International Environmental Law, School of Law, University of Bern

Henry MacDonald, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Suriname to the United Nations in New York

Elenita Dano, Associate, Third World Network, The Phillipines

1:00 pm Lunch break

Session 2: Public participation at different levels of environmental governance
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Session 2 mainly takes place in working groups/tracks which address public participation at different levels of environmental governance. Each working group features short introductory panel statements of 10 minutes through which selected scholars and practitioners will raise key issues that have emerged from their research and practical experience. The remaining time (about 90 minutes) will be dedicated to an open discussion on best stakeholder engagement practices, identifying knowledge gaps, and developing a set of research questions.

2:15 pm Introduction to the session and break-out groups (Plenary. Luce Hall)

2:30 pm **Parallel working groups**

Track 2.1: Public participation in international environmental governance

Moderator: *Marc Pallemerts, Professor of European Environmental Law, University of Amsterdam & Université Libre de Bruxelles; Senior Fellow & Head of the Environmental Governance Programme, Institute for European Environmental Policy, London/Brussels; former Chair of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention*

Public participation in international environmental governance: Introducing key issues

Eric Dannenmaier, Professor, School of Law, Indiana University

Enhancing efficiency and effectiveness in international environmental governance

Oswaldo Álvarez Pérez, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations, Geneva

Environmental governance on the high seas: a case study of emerging uses and environmental leadership

Tatjana Rosen, Consultant, IUCN – World Conservation Union

Evaluating public involvement in the law-making process of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)

Donald K. Anton, Senior Lecturer, Australian National University

Track 2.2: Public participation in national environmental governance

Moderator: *Susan Rose-Ackerman, Henry R. Luce Professor of Law and Political Science, Yale Law School*

National forest programmes: old wine in new skins? a critical discussion of the democratizing potential of NFPs in Bulgaria and Germany

Georg Winkel, Assistant Professor, Institute of Forest and Environmental Policy, University of Freiburg 1

Collaborative governance in agro-environmental policy: comparing Nordic and New Zealand practices

Guy Salmon, Executive Director, Ecologic Foundation, New Zealand 2

Public participation in environmental governance: reflections from the developing countries of Asia

Amando Tolentino, Executive Governor, International Council of Environmental Law (ICEL)

1 Co-author: *Metodi Sotirov, Ph.D. Candidate, Institute of Forest and Environmental Policy, University of Freiburg*

2 Co-authors: *Jörn Scherzer, Research Fellow and Hanna-Maria Bärlund, Research Assistant, Ecologic Foundation, New Zealand; Kim Zilliacus Senior Lecturer, Swedish School of Social Science, University of Helsinki, Finland*

The effects of the Aarhus Convention on public participation in environmental decision-making in Kazakhstan

Amy Forster, Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science Department, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Track 2.3: Public participation in sub-national/provincial environmental governance

Moderator: *Felix Dodds, Executive Director, Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future*

Citizen participation in environmental management

Debra Emmelman, Professor, Department of Sociology, South Connecticut State University³

“Mobilizing the Green Plan”: Lessons learned from a civil society political incidence initiative. Sustainable development and biodiversity conservation in the South Central Amazon of Ecuador

Sigrid Vascónez, Coordinator, FARO Group, Ecuador

Public participation and private interests: the cooperative development of a proactive energy policy

Alfred Marcus, Professor, Department of Strategic Management and Organization, Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota⁴

Interdependencies across levels of governance: or should it be “tackling governance through big bold policy ideas”?

Noela Eddington, Director, Department of Education and Training, Government of Queensland, Australia⁵

Track 2.4: Public participation in local environmental governance

Moderator: *Merle Sowman, Associate Professor, Department of Environmental and Geographical Science and Director, Environmental Evaluation Unit, University of Cape Town*

“Local content” policy in the Nigerian petroleum industry: “new” intervention, old socio-ecologic questions

Wilson Akpan, Senior Lecturer and Head of Department, Department of Sociology, University of Fort Hare

Community roundtables - a stakeholder dialogue strategy for sustainable development in China

Hua Wang, Senior Environmental Economist, Development Research Group, World Bank Institute

³ Co-authors: *Richard E. Schwartz, Senior Research Scholar, Yale Law School and Ernest I. White Professor Emeritus, Syracuse University; Jack Dickinson, Environmental Inspector, City of San Jose; Jenne Lea Hayden, Research Manager for Professor Schwartz*

⁴ Co-author: *Adam Fremeth, PhD Student, Strategic Management and Organization department at the University of Minnesota’s Carlson School of Management*

⁵ Co-author: *Ian Eddington, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Business, University of Southern Queensland*

Contamination, collaboration and remediation: national, state, local, and corporate environmental governance in the Superfund remediation efforts of Tacoma, Washington

Daniel Sherman, Assistant Professor, Department of Politics and Government, University of Puget Sound

Protected areas governance: testing the effectiveness of participation, social and ecological sustainability

Marc Hufty, Professor, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, University of Geneva 6

Track 2.5: Public participation in corporate environmental governance

Moderator: *Ben Cashore, Professor, Environmental Policy and Governance and Political Science; Director, Program on Forest Policy and Governance, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies*

The sequential patterning of tactics: institutional activism in the global sports apparel industry, 1988-2002

Frank den Hond, Associate Professor, Faculty of Social Sciences, Free University of Amsterdam 7

Better Corporate Governance of Political Lobbying

Robert Repetto, Professor in the Practice of Economics & Sustainable Development, School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, Yale University

Global Corporate Environmental Governance: A Post-Modernist Proposition

Harris Gleckman, Principal, Benchmark Environmental Consulting; Former Head of the Environmental Unit, UN Centre on Transnational Corporations

“Environmental dialogue for environmental responsibility” – a new model of public participation in environmental decision making processes in southern region of Israel

Carmit Lubanov, Coordinator of Environmental Justice Committee, The Environmental NGO's Union of Israel

5:00 pm End of working groups

6:00 pm Reception at Yale Law School

Presentation of 2008 WRI publication “Voice and Choice: Opening the Door to Environmental Democracy” @ 6:45 pm

7:00 pm Conference dinner at the Yale Law School

6 Co-authors: Sandra Gagnon, Patrick Bottazzi, Emili Utreras, Claire Galloni, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (GIIDS), University of Geneva; Gonzalo Oviedo, JoerElbers, IUCN; Catherine Aubertin, Florence Pinton, Geoffroy Filoche, IRD; Meriem Bouamrane, Matthieu Deldicque, UNESCO

7 Co-authors: Frank G.A. de Bakker and Patricia de Haan, Faculty of Social Sciences, Free University of Amsterdam.

Sunday, 11 May 2008

8:00 am Breakfast

8:45 am Presentation of Session 2 working group results (Plenary, Luce Hall)

Session 3: Cross-cutting themes of participatory environmental governance

Session 3 mainly takes place in working groups/tracks which address themes that cut across various levels of environmental governance addressed in Session 2. Each working group features short introductory panel statements through which selected scholars and practitioners raise key issues that have emerged from their research and practical experience. The remaining time (about 90 minutes) will be dedicated to an open discussion on best practices, identifying knowledge gaps, and developing a set of research questions.

9:30 am Introduction to session 3 and break-out groups (Plenary, Luce Hall)

9:45 am Parallel working groups

Track 3.1: Democratizing institutions

***Moderator:** Harry Blair, Associate Department Chair, Senior Research Scholar, Department of Political Science, Yale University*

Pathways to deliberative decision-making: environmental governance and democracy

Stuart White, Professor, Director, Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology, Sydney

Unwelcome guests: etiquette in public participation processes

Ralph Hallo, Manager, European Public Affairs, Econcert

Integrating a meaningful participatory approach into planning politics: the basin development plan program, Mekong River Commission

Suparek Janprasat, Sociologist, Basin Development Plan, Mekong River Commission

A deliberative poll on climate change

Vanessa Schweizer, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Engineering & Public Policy, Carnegie Mellon University 8

8 Co-authors: Robert Cavalier, Center for the Advancement of Applied Ethics and Political Philosophy, Shahzeen Attari, PhD Candidate, Tim Dawson, PhD Candidate, Carnegie Mellon University

Track 3.2: Democratizing knowledge generation

Moderator: *Peter M. Haas, Professor of Political Science, University of Massachusetts*

Democratizing knowledge generation: An introduction to key issues
Douglas Kysar, Professor, Yale Law School

The right to environmental information in the EU - an analysis of the implementation of the Aarhus Convention at the community level
Sofia de Abreu Ferreira, Ph.D. Candidate, Law Department, European University Institute

Will regional monitoring systems help in environmental governance? A case study on the WEMS model for monitoring enforcement of CITES Convention
Remi Chandran, Senior Researcher, Centre for Electronic Governance International Institute for Software Technology, United Nations University⁹

Inference, accountability and justice: the political dialogue between rational risk and environmental justice
Edwin Camp, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science, Yale University

Track 3.3 Public interest mobilization and capacity

Moderator: *Lalanath de Silva, Director, The Access Initiative, World Resources Institute*

What hampers public participation?
Olya Melen, Head of Legal Unit, Environment-People-Law; Winner of the 2006 Goldman Environmental Prize

Horn of Africa Regional Environment Centre: Towards bottom up research demand articulation
Araya Asfaw, Dean, Science Faculty, Addis Ababa University¹⁰

Access to environmental justice in Uganda
Kenneth Kakaru, Senior Advocate, High Court of Uganda; Executive Director, Green Watch

Discussant
JoAnn Carmin, Associate Professor of Environmental Policy and Planning, Department of Urban Studies and Planning, MIT

⁹ Co-authors: Ojo A, Senior Researcher, Estevez E, Senior Researcher, Janowski T, Senior Research Fellow, United Nations University-International Institute for Software Technology; S. Herath, Senior Academic Programme Officer, Environment and Sustainable Development Programme, United Nations University; O. Aginam, Academic Programme Officer, Peace and Governance Programme, United Nations University.

¹⁰ Co-authors: Satishkumar Belliethathan, Horn of Africa Regional Environment Centre Mekuria Argaw; Bart Jan van Beuzekom, DDAR-programme team and Jasmina van Driel, MetaMeta Management

Track 3.4: Access to justice

Moderator: *Stephen Stec, Head of Environmental Law Programme and Senior Legal Specialist, Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe, Hungary*

Promoting public participation in environmental decision-making through the South African courts: myth or reality?

Louis Kotzé, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, North West University

Courts, environment and public policies

Juan Martin Carballo, Faculty of Law and Social Sciences, National University of Córdoba

Institutions promoting sustainability in Greece

Vasiliki Karageorgou, Lawyer, Senior Investigator, Greek Ombudsman

Strengthening access to justice through environmental courts

Honorable Merideth Wright, Environmental Judge, Vermont Environmental Court

Track 3.5: Interdependencies across of levels of governance

Moderator: *Laurent Mermet, Professor of Environmental Management, AgroParisTech (ENGREF)*

Interdependencies across levels of governance: An introduction of key issues

Sonja Walti, Assistant Professor, School of Public Affairs, American University 11

New institutions for environmental governance in the Philippines: The Maasin watershed and Iloilo province

James Kho, Director, Center for Social Policy, School of Government, Ateneo de Manila University 12

Emergent Democratic Practices: Citizens and Technical Experts Reconstruct Freeway Politics

Patricia Cavanaugh, Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science Department, University of Minnesota

Evaluation and the environmental democracy of cities: Strategic

Environmental Assessment of urban plans in Italy

Alessandro Bonifazi, Ph.D. Candidate, Technical University of Bari 13

12:15 pm Lunch break

11 Co-author: *Kim Moloney, PhD Candidate, School of Public Affairs, American University*

12 Co-author: *Karin Gollin, Independent Consultant*

13 Co-authors: *Carmelo M. Torre, Senior Researcher, Technical University of Bari, Carlo Rega, Ph.D. Candidate, Technical University of Torino.*

1:30 pm **Presentation of session 3 group results (Plenary, Luce Hall)**

Session 4: Looking ahead: linking research and capacity development
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2:15 pm **Concluding discussion (Plenary, Luce Hall)**

Session 4 takes places in plenary and features an open discussion and interactive dialogue on how the results and recommendations generated through the conference can be carried forward. At the end of the session, representatives of the organizing partners will provide reflective comments on suggestions made by participants and a final perspective on the conference outcomes from the point of view of their respective organizations.

Presentation and discussion of main conference outcomes

Friends of the secretariat

Reflecting remarks of co-organizing institutions

Ben Cashore, Professor, Yale University

Carlos Lopes, Executive Director, UNITAR

3:30 pm **End of conference**

Informal reception