



World Alliance for Citizen Participation

e-CIVICUS

e-CIVICUS World Assembly Reflection

A Free Weekly Electronic Newsletter Promoting Civic Existence, Expression & Engagement

Please send contributions, comments and questions to editor@civicus.org.

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CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation

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ABOUT e-CIVICUS

The CIVICUS weekly electronic publication is keeping tens of thousands of people informed of the developments taking place in civil society, the factors that are affecting them and the impact they are having on creating an informed and knowledgeable civil society.

e-CIVICUS WELCOMES CONTRIBUTIONS OF CIVIL SOCIETY NEWS

e-CIVICUS offers a useful channel through which you and your organisation can share your news, publicise your events and articulate the issues you face. Please send us

FROM THE DESK OF CIVICUS' SECRETARY GENERAL

Send your comments and contributions to editor@civicus.org.



Civil Society Must Stand Up. Together and Now!

By Ingrid Srinath, CIVICUS Secretary General

Dear friends and colleagues,

As 1% of the world's people stand up to take action against poverty this week, hope is fast waning that their voices will make any difference to world leaders whose attention is focused entirely on stemming the erosion of financial assets. The risk that the current crisis in financial markets will permit leaders of every stripe to bale out from their long overdue and meagre commitments to the world's poor, and to the planet itself, looms very large. Civil society and the people whose voices we seek to amplify are being presented with yet another fait accompli. Resign yourselves, we are being told in no uncertain terms, to cutbacks in development assistance, to postponements in poverty reduction programmes and to delays in progress on climate justice. Content yourselves to competing for such scraps as may be offered. The 'bottom billion,' whose numbers swell each day, are once again falling off the map. To read more on this week's column, [click here](#).



If leaders cannot lead, let the people lead!

By Irfan Mufti, Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) Campaign Manager

In just one day from now the world will again celebrate International Day for the Eradication of Poverty - launched in 1987 by ATD Fourth world and adopted by the UN in 1992. It's traditionally a day of engagement by the public to put pressure on decision makers and build momentum for further campaigning on global poverty and injustice. In the last 2 decades the world community, national governments and global institutions have done little to provide us with a reason to celebrate this day. This year again we do not have much to celebrate in terms of our progress towards the eradication of poverty. The situation is getting worse every day with new crises hitting poor people without any solutions. Food prices, fuel prices and now capital markets and banking crises have further dampened the hopes for any solutions to world poverty in the near future. We all believe that poverty is a man-made phenomenon and can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings. It is also reaffirmed that the world has enough resources and technology to end this suffering; what is lacking is the necessary political will to make this happen. For more information, [click here](#).



Why must we keep Standing Up?

By Nicholas Benequista, Research Communications Officer, Development Research Centre on Citizenship, Participation and Accountability

Tens of millions of citizens this week are uniting to "Stand Up and Take Action" against poverty and inequality as part of the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) and the UN Millennium Campaign. From 17-19 October, GCAP expects more than 67 million people around the world - one

your contributions no later than Tuesday for publication in the coming week to editor@civicus.org. All contributions must focus on civil society issues or have a civil society angle. To read the contribution guidelines, [click here](#).

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TELL A FRIEND

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percent of the world's population - to mobilise to remind government leaders around the world of their commitments to ending poverty by the year 2015 and to rejuvenate some of the enthusiasm generated before the end of the Make Poverty History Campaign in 2005. The movement serves to remind us that citizen action can play a critical role in confronting poverty and social injustice, but also underscores the fundamental challenge of citizen action: making changes that last. The Development Research Centre on Citizenship, Participation and Accountability has taken the opportunity of this massive global movement to look at past efforts by groups of citizens to make lasting change. For more information, [click here](#).



Robbing the poor to pay the rich

By Salil Shetty, Director, United Nations (UN) Millennium Campaign

Evidence suggests that unchecked levels of corruption would add \$50 billion to the cost of achieving the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) on water and sanitation. At a time when \$700 billion can be found overnight to bail out the richest bankers in the world and \$1 trillion can be spent on one single "war," when sovereign wealth funds in a few rich countries alone are at \$2.5 trillion and growing, it stretches credulity when we are told that the world can't find an extra \$18 billion a year to save the lives of millions of children and women and meet the basic needs of the majority of the world's population. The global movement in support of the MDGs is growing. This call for public accountability on the MDGs will be massively demonstrated from October 17-19, when millions of people around the world will "Stand Up and Take Action" to tell their leaders that they expect them to deliver on the concrete commitments made in 2000 and reiterated at the High Level Meeting at the United Nations this year. Last year, 43 million people stood up against poverty. This year, civil society wants to reach over 67 million people around the world. For more information, [click here](#).

CIVICUS Poll Question

This week's question:

Do you think civil society:

- a. Is doing all it can to put poverty at the centre of world leaders' attention,
- b. Has not adopted very effective approaches to highlight poverty,
- c. Simply does not have the power to change the world leaders' minds?

To answer the question, [click here](#).

Previous question:

In your view, what is the greatest obstacle to citizen participation?

- a. Entrenched political systems that are non-participatory.
- b. Lack of citizen information/education/organisation.
- c. Lack of citizen interest.

Results: a. - 36.7%, b. - 38.3%, c. - 25%

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Civil Society Watch Monthly Bulletin

The CIVICUS e-newsletter Civil Society Watch Monthly Bulletin is an action-oriented newsletter distributed to over 7,400 people around the world, featuring insightful interviews, updates on threats to civil society, and analyses of current situations. Read more at www.civicus.org.

CIVICUS blog

What do you think? Have your say on the CIVICUS Blog! CIVICUS seeks to amplify the voices and opinions of ordinary people and give expression to the enormous creative energy within civil society. Our recently launched blog gives you the opportunity to use your voice and engage with the rest of civil society. Have your say by visiting <http://civicus.civiblog.org>



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e-CIVICUS DIALOGUES



Global Financial Meltdown: The West and the Rest

By Yash Tandon, Executive Director, South Centre, Geneva

The debt-financed US-led global economy is crumbling. What lessons can the leaders of the South learn from the present meltdown of the Western capitalist system? There are six lessons that can be offered. The first lesson, surely, is that contrary to mainstream thinking the market does not have a self-corrective mechanism. In the present crisis the "market makers" are watching nervously from the sidelines as Congress and the politicians huddle together to see how to bail out the banks. The leaders of the South have been instructed in innumerable reports and policy recommendations by "experts" from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank and the World Trade Organisation (WTO) as well as Northern politicians that they should let their economies be ruled by the market. For more information, [click here](#).

A billion hungry people need rescue plan

Source: Wolfgang Kerler, Inter Press Service (IPS)

Relief for the world's hungry remains a distant prospect, with this year's "Global Hunger Index" (GHI) attesting that even before the ongoing food crisis, 33 countries had "alarming" or "extremely alarming" levels of hunger. India, home to the world's largest food insecure population, launched its own India State Hunger Index. "Although we found several success stories, there was no across-the-board success," Marion Aberle, a spokesperson for Welthungerhilfe (formerly known as German Agro-Action), told IPS about the recent GHI. She added that "it is simply a scandal that almost one billion people worldwide are still suffering from hunger." For more information, [click here](#).

Financial crisis threatens aid for world's poorest

By Joshua Mitnick, Correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

As concerns of a worldwide financial meltdown spurred wild gyrations in financial markets in recent weeks, developing nations have been spared worrying about home foreclosures or imploding retirement accounts. But the crisis is likely to be accompanied by cuts in foreign aid that will trigger jumps in poverty, unemployment and school dropout rates, according to humanitarian workers and economic analysts. Already in the Palestinian territories there is concern that donor money that finances 50 percent of the government budget, as well as development projects, may be in danger. "Donors might not be able to live up to their commitments over the next year," says Hanna Sinora, a co-president of the Israel Palestinian Center for Research and Information. "We are seeing the crisis spread ... and for us it could be worse, because our only resource is what we get in international aid. Everywhere people are dependent on international aid, they will feel the same pinch." For more information, [click here](#).

CIVIL SOCIETY NEWS

Extension of pre-charge detention in the UK rejected - A victory for civil liberties

CIVICUS welcomes the 13 October decision by the UK House of Lords to reject the proposal to extend the period of pre-charge detention from 28 to 42 days. "The decision of the Members of the House of Lords constitutes a significant victory in the protection of fundamental human rights, particularly at a time when many governments are seeking to justify the rollback of hard won personal liberties in the name of countering terror", said Ingrid Srinath, CIVICUS Secretary General. For more information, [click here](#).

Reminder: CIVICUS Nelson Mandela Graça Machel Innovation Awards

Source: CIVICUS World Assembly Team

Did you attend the 8th CIVICUS World Assembly in June 2008? Do you have any project ideas coming out of your experience on a Learning Exchange or networking session? If so, this is a reminder to all who attended to put together project proposals for a CIVICUS Nelson Mandela Graça Machel Innovation Award. The awards are given for innovative ideas emerging from organisations or groups of participants at the World Assembly. These awards are in the form of seed funding of up to US\$5,000 granted to outstanding project proposals born out of the CIVICUS World Assembly. For more information, [click here](#).

Harassment of NGOs threatens freedom of expression in Nicaragua

Source: Article 19

The Centre for Investigation and Communication (CINCO) in Nicaragua is the most recent victim of the Nicaraguan authorities' repeated attempts to curb the activities of non governmental organisations in the country, particularly those receiving international funding, on the grounds that they may threaten state sovereignty or because of their human rights activities or alleged political affiliation. These attempts were visible as far back as early 2007 when a criminal investigation was launched against nine prominent human rights defenders by the state, including CINCO and Oxfam. For more information, [click here](#).



Foreign rights defender of special services deported in Kyrgyzstan

Source: Voice of Freedom Central Asia

Ivar Dale, the Head of the Bishkek's Representative Office of the Norwegian Committee for Human Rights, was refused entry into Kyrgyzstan for the next 10 years. Reportedly, the office has already attracted the close attention of the special services officers. The incident took place on 11 October in the Bishkek's Airport, Manas, where Mr. Dale arrived from Moscow. When he was going through passport control, special services officers informed him that his visa had been cancelled due to the provision of unreliable personal data. For more information, [click here](#).

Recommendations for Peace-Making and Peace-Building: Women and Civil society

Source: Salzburg Global Seminar

The Salzburg Global Seminar, in collaboration with the Initiative for Inclusive Security, gathered more than 60 leading thinkers from policy, practice and research to identify actions to be taken by key stakeholders to enact inclusive peace-building processes on 7-12 September. The participants, from more than 30 countries, representing the United Nations (UN) system, additional multilateral institutions, non-governmental organisations, academia and the private sector met to identify critical gaps in policy and implementation related to the full and equal participation of women and civil society in peace processes and to articulate strategies to close those gaps. For more information, [click here](#).

Civil society leaders call for mass protests against Mugabe

By Lance Guma, SW Radio Africa Zimbabwe news

The Secretary General of the Progressive Teachers Union of Zimbabwe (PTUZ) Raymond Majongwe, and Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA) leader Jenni Williams, have both called for street protests against Mugabe's move to grab the key ministries. The state-owned Herald newspaper published a list of ministries allocated to ZANU PF and the MDC by Mugabe which were announced via government gazette last Saturday. Speaking at a public lecture organised by pressure group

Bulawayo Agenda, Majongwe urged, 'all members of civic society and Zimbabweans in general to get onto the streets, in all cities and towns, in a clear sign to Mugabe that we are not accepting this.' He described Mugabe's unilateral allocation of ministries as a betrayal of the power sharing accord signed last month, adding, 'We cannot continue to let Mugabe hold the country and us to ransom.' WOZA leader Williams echoed Majongwe's call saying, 'Mugabe should not be allowed to steal away our future. The deal, despite its shortcomings, is the only sustainable foundation to rebuild Zimbabwe.' For more information, [click here](#).

Trade unions focus on human rights to 2nd GFMD

By Maria Aleta O. Nieva, [abs-cbnNEWS.com](#)

Global unions are urging participants at the 2nd Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) to focus discussions on protecting and upholding the human rights of migrant workers. Annie Geron, vice president of Public Services International (PSI) said that global unions would want to relay this to governments attending the 2nd GFMD hosted by the Philippine government this October. Geron maintained that global unions do not believe that governments should use migration as a strategy for development. "We don't want migration to be used as a development strategy, and we would like the creation of decent work; for migration should be done out of choice and not necessity," she said. For more information, [click here](#).

Uzbekistan journalist sentenced for 10 years, says Human Rights Watch

Source: Human Rights Watch

With repression continuing in Uzbekistan, the European Union (EU) should not drop sanctions. Uzbek authorities should immediately and unconditionally release an independent journalist sentenced on October 10 on politically motivated charges, Human Rights Watch said. Solijon Abdurakhmanov, a journalist known for his critical reporting, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for selling drugs, an offense he did not commit. "Abdurakhmanov's conviction is an affront to human rights and free speech in Uzbekistan," said Igor Vorontsov, Uzbekistan researcher for Human Rights Watch. "He often criticised local authorities, including law enforcement. It is clear that he is being punished for his work. Once again, the Uzbek government is showing that it will not tolerate dissent." For more information, [click here](#).

Civil society groups to conduct Mindanao fact-finding mission in Philippines

Source: [GMA News.TV](#)

Various civil society organisations in Mindanao (CSO) will be conducting a one-week fact-finding mission in the region focusing on places affected by the ongoing armed conflict between the military and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. Organisers said the fact-finding mission would kick off on Monday in the provinces of Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao and North Cotabato. The fact-finding mission aims to achieve several objectives, such as verification of reports about human rights violations committed by the military and Moro rebels; identification of human rights violators; continuous monitoring and documentation of unfolding events brought about by the continuing armed conflict; expediting the filing of legal action at proper bodies; and lobbying for indemnification and reparation of victims of human rights abuses. For more information, [click here](#).

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS & GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION AGAINST POVERTY



Stand Up and Take Action: October 17-19 demanding the South African government puts poor first

Source: Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP)

As part of a massive coordinated global action against poverty on October 17th, the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, thousands of campaigners are expected to march to the Union Buildings in Pretoria to present specific demands to Kgalema Motlanthe's administration that will alleviate suffering in South Africa. They will be part of the Stand Up Action taking place worldwide over three days from October 17-19. Led by the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU),

the South African Council of Churches (SACC) and the South African NGO Coalition (SANGOCO), marchers will call on the South African government to play a driving role in building a global partnership for development, as part of the 8th Millennium Development Goal, and to ratify the UN Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. A high resolution video clip of Archbishop Desmond Tutu's message to the world on "Stand Up and Take Action Day", is available, [click here](#). It is also available on YouTube, [click here](#). For more information, [click here](#).

Be part of International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

17 October 2008, Globally

Source: United Nations news

Through resolution 47/196 adopted on 22 December 1992, the United Nations General Assembly declared 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty and invited all States to devote the Day to presenting and promoting - as appropriate in the national context - concrete activities with regard to the eradication of poverty and destitution. The resolution further invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations to assist States, at their request, in organising national activities for the observance of the Day. The October 17 campaign to make poverty history - a central moral challenge for today's age - presents an opportunity to acknowledge the effort and struggle of people living in poverty, a chance for them to make their concerns heard and a moment to recognise that the poor people of the world are the first ones to fight against poverty. In recognition of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the theme for this year's observance of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is "Human Rights and Dignity of People Living in Poverty". For more information, [click here](#).

Stand Up' mobilisations across India - (17-19 October)

Source: Wada Na Todo Abhiyan (www.wadanatodo.net)

Stand Up & Take Action mobilisations are being organised across the world between 17-19 October, 2008 as a co-ordinated effort to remind governments to keep their promise to meet and exceed the Millennium Development Goals. In India, Wada Na Todo partners are organising events across 10 states with the estimated participation of 4,000,000 (4 million) people across the network. For more details and to get involved, contact Leander Toppo (+27 11-46082371 or international at 74 / 9873983404. You can also e-mail at leander@wadanatodo.net.

Poverty Requiem performed at the UN

Source: Global Call to Action against Poverty/CIVICUS UN

United Nations, 16 October. The Poverty Requiem performed last night at the Church Center for the United Nations (NY) as pre-celebration of the UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty and Stand Up and Raise your Voice event on October 17. The performance was hosted by the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP), the International Movement ATD Fourth World, CIVICUS and other civil society groups. The Poverty Requiem, a vocal piece composed in the language of world music is made up of five movements elaborating on the different ways in which poverty impacts people: the suffering, the anger, the mourning, the humour and the hope. Composer/conductor, Peter Maissan, wrote the music and GCAP's co-chair, Sylvia Borren, wrote the lyrics. For more information on the Poverty Requiem, [click here](#) or e-mail Sylvia Borren at borren4@xs4all.nl.



South Africa facing a human emergency

Archbishop Njongo Ndungane, President & Founder of African Monitor

"The State of the Nation is not just how the economy is doing, or how strong the Rand is. The State of the Nation is about how well the people of South Africa are doing. Are they able to live with dignity, able to feed their children, able to meet their basic needs, able to access employment, education, health-care? According to the views expressed during the poverty hearings, the State of the Nation is dire. Communities are crippled by poverty. It is a state of emergency. I have come to this conclusion after testimonies given by people during the 10th Anniversary National Poverty Hearings held in 9 provinces in South Africa. South Africa must act now. Most of the policy provisions to cater for the poor are enshrined in the constitution, and reflected in various policies. It is time for action. It is no time for semantics, who is right and who is wrong. It is time for action that will address

the needs of the people of South Africa." For more information, [click here](#).

Crisis both a distraction and an opportunity for Stand Up and Take Action in U.S.

By Wolfgang Kerler, Inter Press Service (IPS)

Despite intense media focus on the U.S. presidential campaign and the ongoing economic turmoil, organisers of "Stand Up and Take Action" events this weekend are confident that hundreds of thousands of citizens in this country will not forget the world's poorest. "Now is the right time to highlight the link between global poverty and the economic crisis within the United States," Irfan Mufti, Campaign Manager of the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP), told IPS. Salil Shetty, Director of the U.N. Millennium Campaign, said in an interview with IPS that "in rich countries like the U.S., the demands of the people will be very much debt, trade and development assistance issues." He concedes that it would be difficult to shift attention away from the looming 4 November election. "But we are not pushing very hard, because we think the election is a good thing," Shetty added. For more information, [click here](#).

GET INVOLVED!



Join millions worldwide to Stand Up and Take Action against poverty and inequality, October 17-19

Stand Up is a global mobilisation to end poverty and inequality and for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Stand Up and Take Action 2008 will be taking place during October 17-19, less than one day away! Last year, 43.7 million people around the world took part in the biggest global mobilisation to end poverty and inequality and for the Millennium Development Goals. It wouldn't have been a success without your support and participation. This year, at a time of global financial crises and food shortages, more than ever society needs to ACT together in order to send a strong message to world leaders to keep their promises to end poverty and inequality. Your actions count to mobilise 1% of the population - that's over 67 million people around the world. Today, CIVICUS is asking you to Stand Up and Take Action once again. What can you do? To take part in the campaign, [click here](#).

Find an event near you

Take a look at the Stand Up and Take Action map, [click here](#).

Spread the word about Stand Up and Take Action

Download the Stand Up and Take Action e-card, [click here](#).

Organise your own event

It's not too late to host an event. Take a look at the event toolkit, [click here](#).

Join the Decent Work campaign, essential in the fight to end poverty

Source: Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP)

The National coalitions of the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) supported trade unions around the globe on World Day for Decent Work on 7 October, linking the issue of poor working conditions and poverty. The Decent Work campaign calls for an end to the exploitation of workers, particularly women and children. This includes eliminating discrimination based on race, gender and disability. Activities began with a gathering of young trade unionists in Fiji, followed by rallies, demonstrations, educational, cultural and media events in more than 500 cities, towns and villages across the planet, ending as the eastern-most activity of the day came to a close in Alaska. GCAP Palestine hosted a conference for teachers' unions and a workshop for workers with disabilities. GCAP Argentina was involved in raising awareness through a roundtable and presenting a new policy document on the decent work agenda within the framework of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which GCAP is supporting in its 60th Anniversary year. The issue of Decent Work was the focus of a conference in New York last month attended by GCAP Co Chair Sylvia Borren.

For more information, [click here](#).



Join the Every Human Has Rights campaign

Source: Every Human Has Rights

In the 60th year of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, The Elders are joined by CIVICUS, the Global call to Action against Poverty (GCAP), many organisations around the world, to launch the Every Human Has Rights campaign. 2008 is the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It's time for a global conversation about human rights and the values that unite us as one human family. But it can also be a time when each of us chooses to take human rights into our daily lives, by joining a powerful people network to protect the rights of your fellow global villagers and encourage others to do the same in your communities, workplaces and schools. Sign your personal Declaration, [click here](#).

ACCOUNTABILITY

AccountAbility announces the Global launch of leading Sustainability Assurance Standard

Source: AccountAbility, www.accountability21.net

AccountAbility, the non-profit research institute, has announced the publication of the new edition of its world leading sustainability assurance standard AA1000AS (2008) that will look to reform independent assurance for corporate sustainability reporting and help to rebuild confidence in transparent and effective business practice. The standard provides the requirements for conducting independent assurance on the nature and extent of an organisation's understanding of and response to its non-financial, sustainability issues and on the quality of its publicly disclosed information on its sustainability performance. "Over 4500 experts from around the world have been engaged during the development of this standard," says Alan Knight, Head of Standards at AccountAbility, "the result is a significant revision of the 2003 edition and a standard that clearly signals the closing gap between financial reporting and assurance and non-financial reporting and assurance." For more information, [click here](#).

CIVIL SOCIETY ACTIVISM AND GLOBAL INSTITUTIONS

Civil society lauded at the third IBSA summit in India

Source: Independent Online

South Africa's President Kgalema Motlanthe on 15 October lauded the role of civil society forums in international relations. Speaking during the third India, Brazil and South Africa summit in New Delhi, India, he said it was indisputable that without an understanding and appreciation of each other's peoples, cultures, business environment and common issues as developing countries, efforts by the three IBSA governments to advance their collective global agenda would always be incomplete. "It is imperative that we, as leaders, be cognisant that civil society's views and contributions can enrich the quality of our engagements as IBSA," he said. "This agreement sets the framework for advancing the cause of women's equality, empowerment and development," he added. For more information, [click here](#).

Climate experts warn Arab states: Change or suffer

By Andrew Wander, The Daily Star

Arab states must find a common position on tackling climate change or face "catastrophic" consequences, a gathering of global warming experts in Beirut was told this week. Delegates were gathered for a two-day workshop aimed at preparing Arab countries to engage in negotiations on the International Climate treaty that will supersede the Kyoto protocol in 2012. The protocol, which 192 countries have signed, is widely considered inadequate to prevent the process of climate change and scientists are lobbying for tougher measures to be taken to prevent further damage to the planet. For

more information, [click here](#).

Developing nations blast West for failed aid promises

By Lesley Wroughton, Reuters

Developing countries said last Friday that they could fall victim to the global credit crunch that began in the West and blasted industrial nations for not living up to promises of aid. The Group of 24, which brings together developing and large emerging countries from Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, said the world economy faced its most difficult situation in years. "Developed countries have the means to deal with the problem, but we who are developing countries, or emerging countries, could collapse under the weight of such a crisis," G24 chairman Jean-Claude Masangu Mulongo, governor of the central bank of the Democratic Republic of Congo, told reporters. "Our banking systems could really come crashing down." They also called on the International Monetary Fund to monitor the policies of Western economies more closely. For more information, [click here](#).

CAPACITY BUILDING

Toolkit: Turning Rhetoric into Action

Building effective partnerships to combat poverty and exclusion

Source: International Movement ATD Fourth World

This toolkit serves as a background document for the round-table dialogue 'Turning rhetoric into action: building effective partnerships to combat extreme poverty and exclusion', taking place in New York on October 17, 2008. The toolkit highlights the role of participation in enabling access of all people to fundamental rights and describes the conditions necessary in order to do this well. The main purpose of the participation toolkit is to offer guidance to all those who wish to reach out to people living in extreme poverty and under social exclusion - governments, international bodies, local and regional NGOs, community leaders and institutions. Recognising that people experiencing poverty possess knowledge on the barriers that keep them from lifting themselves out of poverty, this toolkit lays out ways to provide meaningful opportunities for those living in poverty to be listened to and involved in projects aimed at improving their condition. It is intended to be a practical guide on how to enable the participation of very poor people in decision-making processes affecting their lives. For more information, [click here](#).

PROFILES



DONOR: The Barrow Cadbury Trust

Since the Barrow Cadbury Trust was founded in 1920, they have supported local voluntary and community organisations working at the coal face of social justice issues. They aim to bridge the divide between local communities and policymakers who can make a difference. In areas where there are political blockages, the Trust works with think tanks, campaigning organisations and the media to shift the terms of debate or reframe the issues. Working in this way, they strive towards realising their core values: a just, more equitable society, free from discrimination and based on the principals of social justice for all. The Barrow Cadbury Trust was founded in the West Midlands and much of their early work was carried out in and around Birmingham, UK. Today the Trust supports many organisations working nationally within the UK and abroad. However, most of the groups funded are located in the West Midlands. The Barrow Cadbury Trust makes grants to individuals and organisations working within three programme areas: Young Adults in the Criminal Justice System, Inclusive Communities and Global Exchange. For more information, [click here](#).



MEMBER: Child Concern Initiatives Organisation (CCIO)

CCIO was established in January 2000 as a community-based organisation operating in Bundibugyo district, Uganda. The organisation contributes to the well being and strength of vulnerable children and women through peace building, advocacy, psychosocial services and promotion of income generating activities. CCIO programmes are based on the following objectives: advocacy for child rights, promotion of girl child education, improvement of psychosocial/community care of HIV/AIDS orphans and vulnerable children, creation of awareness of the HIV/AIDS scourge, peace and conflict management and establishment of income generating activities. CCIO mainly works in the sectors of child welfare, women's empowerment, youth skills development, environmental protection and food security. For more information, contact the Executive Director, Rev Geoffrey Kyomuhendo at kyogof@yahoo.co.uk.

BOOKS, REPORTS & RESOURCES

Achieving the Millennium Development Goals

Edited by Mark McGillivray, *Studies in Development Economics and Policy*

This book is a timely reminder that good governance and additional development finance are the necessary starting points for a reinvigorated and updated focus on achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The findings suggest that the world's poorest - that rapidly growing segment continually moving in and out of already overflowing slum communities and low income settlements - should now become the principal beneficiaries of international aid. In ensuring a fairer and more equitable distribution, there seems to be support for the international community to deliver on the MDG sanitation target, as this will reduce child and maternal mortality rates and have other positive spillover effects on health and wellbeing and on other MDGs in support of our common future. For more information, [click here](#).

World's first global fund for fundraisers is launched

Source: Simon Collings, Chief Executive of the Resource Alliance

Simon Collings explains how the new Fundraisers Fund will help support, train and develop fundraisers in the Global South. There has always been a need for training and developing fundraisers in the developing world, and now the Resource Alliance has set up a fund to help support this, says Simon Collings. There are 10,500 people who receive the Global Connections newsletter - fundraisers from a wide range of charities, from household name charities in the United Kingdom to tiny community-based organisations in countries as diverse as Malaysia, Kenya and Brazil. For more information, [click here](#).

Bridging the gap: The role of monitoring and evaluation in evidence-based policy making

Source: UNICEF, the World Bank and the International Development Evaluation Association

This publication offers a number of strong contributions from senior officers in institutions dealing with evidence-based policy making. These institutions are national and local governments, UNICEF, the World Bank and the International Development Evaluation Association. It tries to bring together the vision and lessons learned from different stakeholders on the strategic role of monitoring and evaluation in evidence-based policy making. These stakeholders are policy-makers, in their role of users of evidence, and researchers and evaluators, in their role of suppliers of evidence. For more information, [click here](#).

Measuring the cost of aid volatility

By Homi Kharas, Forum on the Future of Aid

Flows of official development assistance (ODA) to recipient countries have been highly volatile and this reduces their value. At macro level, empirical evidence suggests that volatile ODA can negatively impact growth through several channels. At the micro level, volatility can affect fiscal planning and the level and composition of investment. This working paper develops a simple financial metric that policy makers can use to estimate (and reduce) the cost of aid volatility. Unlike other estimates, the

measure does not depend on parameter estimates from cross-country regressions, or on country-specific model simulations. For more information, [click here](#).

CONFERENCES & EVENTS

Second Annual Corporate Responsibility Reporting Summit

25-26 November, London, UK

In the race to become the greenest and most sustainable, Ethical Corporation urges that corporate responsibility reporting is no longer optional. The focus is now on how you report and to whom - as shown by stakeholders' ever increasing demand for sustainability reports to be both qualitative and readable. However, this type of reporting is only a few decades old and still in the making. So, the question is: how do you deliver effective (and accurate) corporate responsibility (CR) reports and successfully communicate them to all your stakeholders? This year's summit has been mainly designed to help you address this very question, with the insight of CR reporting best practices. For more information, [click here](#).

New Paradigms, New Solutions - International Congress on Addictions

29-31 October 2008, Mexico City

Centers for Juvenile Integration is arranging an International Congress on Addictions. The purpose of this Congress is to promote the divulgation of the addiction research and related fields studies, and enable the collective interchange of knowledge and experiences among peers, public and private entities' representatives and community-based and civil society organisations (CSOs), at both national and international levels. For more information, [click here](#).

Meeting to develop CEDAW project document

4-5 November 2008, Johannesburg, South Africa

Source: Pambazuka News

The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) Southern Africa Regional Office is planning a consultation meeting to develop a CEDAW project document. Although the focus will be on CEDAW, consideration will be given to incorporating activities regarding the Women's Protocol and the SADC Protocol. Countries to be covered are Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Lesotho, Malawi, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. For more information, [click here](#).

The Responsibility to Protect: Ending Mass Atrocity Crimes Once and for All

28 October 2008, Woodrow Wilson Center

The Project on Leadership and Building State Capacity and the United Nations Association of the National Capitol Area are proud to present "The Responsibility to Protect: Ending Mass Atrocity Crimes Once and for All". This panel discussion will feature Gareth Evans, President of International Crisis Group and author of a new book with the same title, (Brookings Institution Press, 2008). Join the event to launch this book, [click here](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

JusticeMakers People's Choice Awards

Deadline for Rating: 11 November 2008

In partnership with International Bridges to Justice and the 2008 JusticeMakers Competition, civil society is invited to participate in the JusticeMakers People's Choice Awards. 55 innovators from around the world have detailed concrete project ideas for curbing torture and legal abuse on a local level. Whether it's the public exhibition of incidents of abuse to encourage pro-bono legal support, or a text message service to aid in the provision of counsel, the ideas are contemporary, cost-effective

and critical. Know someone with an expertise in criminal justice? Are they passionate? Entrepreneurial? The rating starts on 21 October and ends on 11 November 2008. Nominate them to be a JusticeMaker, and give them a shot at \$5,000 to promote justice in their community, [click here](#).

The 2009 CARSO Awards in Health, Nutrition and Environment

Application Deadline: 16 January 2009

The Carso Awards, an initiative of the Carso Health Institute, aim at promoting the development of human capital in Latin America and the Caribbean and strengthening the formation of leaders that can push forward the research and innovation agenda in the region within the health and nutrition fields. The first award on research honours those individuals who, after devoting their professional lives to research in the fields of health, nutrition or the environment, have irrefutably contributed to the development of the health sciences and have promoted leadership of the Latin American region in these areas. The second award on technological innovation is aimed at acknowledging front-line people or institutions whose promotion of innovative applications in communications technology has contributed to bringing health and its benefits closer to the population of Latin America. The third award on outstanding institution pays tribute to those programmes of non-profit organisations whose contribution within the Latin American Region, whether academic or in the field, represents new and better health, nutrition and environmental alternatives for the population in the region. For more information, [click here](#).

Funds for K-12 Science Projects

Application Deadline: 21 January 2009

The Toyota TAPESTRY Grants for Science Teachers programme, administered by the National Science Teachers Association, recognises K-12 science teachers throughout the United States for innovative projects that enhance science education in their schools and/or school districts. The grant categories are: Physical Science Application, Environmental Science Education, and Integrating Literacy and Science. Fifty large grants of up to \$10,000 and a minimum of twenty mini-grants of up to \$2,500 will be awarded in 2009. All applicants must have at least two years of science teaching experience in a K-12 school, not including the current school year. For more information, [click here](#).

WORKSHOPS & COURSES

International Human Rights Training

14 June- 3 July 2009, Montreal, Canada

Application deadline: 21 November 2008

The International Human Rights Training Program (IH RTP) is at the heart of Equitas' activities. Since 1980, this annual three week training session brings together approximately 120 participants from over 60 countries. The IH RTP provides a unique opportunity for human rights workers to deepen their understanding of human rights and of the essential role of human rights education in effecting change. As recognised by the United Nations: "There is a growing consensus that education in and for human rights is essential and can contribute to both the reduction of human rights violations and the building of free and peaceful societies. Human rights education is also increasingly recognised as an effective strategy to prevent human rights abuses." For more information, [click here](#).

Reporting Skills & Professional Writing

8-12 December 2008, Thailand

Reports are an essential project management tool. Effective reporting helps to compare the reality in the field with the plan, aids management thinking and increases transparency. The Education, Language and Development Training Programmes (ELD) five-day course enhances participants' ability to set evaluation goals, gather and analyse data and plan and write field and evaluation reports in concise, clear language. It is equally suitable for both field staff and project management. The training uses a range of methods, including presentation, group discussion, problem-solving tasks, case studies and practical exercises. There is a strong focus on the real challenges facing

of planning and analysis, an accelerated learning technique. For more information, [click here](#).

CALL FOR PAPERS, SUBMISSIONS, SURVEYS & NOMINATIONS

Call for applications for the 30th Annual International Human Rights Training Programme

Application Deadline: 21 November 2008

The goal of the International Human Rights Training Programme (IH RTP) is to strengthen the capacity of human rights organisations to undertake educational efforts aimed at building a global culture of human rights. The IH RTP aims at enabling participant organisations to undertake more effective human rights education activities. To this end, the Programme places a strong emphasis on the transfer of learning and on follow-up activities. Participants will be asked to develop an individual plan for putting their learning into action as part of the training. The IH RTP is an intermediate-level programme that focuses on international human rights standards, current human rights issues and human rights education strategies. The exploration of human rights principles and instruments, ongoing critical reflection and inquiry and extensive sharing of experiences allow participants to strengthen their capacity to engage in effective human rights education. For more information, [click here](#).

Call for applications: Human Rights Justice Group - Distance Learning Certificate Course on Grant Proposal Writing

Application Deadline: 6 November 2008

The Justice Group is accepting applications for their distance education course on Proposal Writing from 10th November - 10th December 2008. The course provides an understanding of and practice in proposal writing for non-profits, foundations and government agencies. The online proposal writing courses will show participants how to write a proposal that gets funded. This distance education course will teach participants to prepare grant proposals effectively and find the best funding sources for projects and nonprofits. Participants will leave this course with new skills and the ability to apply those skills to the needs of their own organisations and communities. For more information, [click here](#).

APPOINTMENTS

CURRENT JOBS

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow

Application Deadline: 8 December 2008

Center for Global Development (CGD)

Location: Washington, DC., USA

For more information, [click here](#).

Country Director

Application Deadline: 27 October 2008

ActionAid International

Location: Port-au-Prince, Haiti

For more information, [click here](#).

CONTACT e-CIVICUS

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