



World Alliance for Citizen Participation

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

e-CIVICUS

e-CIVICUS World Assembly Reflection

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

28 November 2008

ISSUE No. 417

PUBLISHER

CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Devendra Tak
Ingrid Srinath

MANAGING EDITOR

Eric Muragana

EDITORS

Nastasya Tay
Katsuji Imata

OCCASIONAL

CONTRIBUTORS

Anupama Selvam
Carol Baloyi
Cherukuri Indira Dasgupta
Elizabeth Robson
Henri Valot
Natalia Kyrptopoulou
Margaret Fish
Karena Cronin
Tanzilya Salimjanova
Loveness Jambaya
Patrice Barrat
Vicente García-Delgado

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.



CIVICUS at the Civil Society Forum in Doha

By Ingrid Srinath, CIVICUS Secretary General

Dear friends and colleagues,

From here in Doha, at the Civil Society Forum preparing for the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development, I've spent the past few hours watching in horror as my hometown, Mumbai, comes under attack yet again. The chilling scenes from Mumbai serve as another reminder of the many crises, large and small, that are at risk of falling off the radar as the world's leaders focus on the global financial crisis. As policy-makers focus on banks and stock markets, the average people around the world continue to grapple with threats to lives, livelihoods, freedom and democracy. Do our world leaders really care about what matters most to the global citizens? *To read this week's column, [click here](#).*



9th World Assembly at Montréal to address global challenges

By Margaret Fish, CIVICUS World Assembly Manager

The CIVICUS team has begun the process of planning the programme for the next World Assembly to be held in Montreal, Canada from 29 - 31 August 2009. As we face a world confronted with serious and urgent challenges such as the food crisis, fuel crisis, financial crises, poverty and climate change, it is evident that time to address these challenges is running out. In order to find concrete and sustainable solutions, it is more important than ever that we talk to each other and find common ground. The overall theme of the CIVICUS World Assembly is 'Acting Together for a Just World'. Under this theme, the next World Assembly will explore 'building bridges' between civil society itself as well as across sectors. *For details, [click here](#).*



Looking at AWID International Forum and the 16 Days of Activism

By Karena Cronin and Anupama Selvam, CIVICUS Co-Chairs of the Gender Equality Team

The strength of civil society lies in the power of its movements. This is not a new or revolutionary idea, but it is precisely this idea -- the power of movements -- that was the theme of the Association of Women's Rights in Development's (AWID) 11th International Forum. As the 16 Days of Activism against Violence Against Women begins this week, it is particularly important that we stop and remember that the right to security of persons -- specifically to the freedom from violence -- is a prerequisite for the equality, human development and peace, which we are all working towards. *For details, [click here](#).*

your contributions by Monday 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](#).

REPRODUCTION OF e-CIVICUS
The content of this newsletter can be translated into another language and reproduced in other publications, as long as due acknowledgment is made to CIVICUS.

e-CIVICUS DISCLAIMER

Although CIVICUS makes all reasonable efforts to obtain prima-facie reliable content for e-CIVICUS, CIVICUS cannot guarantee the accuracy of the reports, views or opinions of third-party content providers, nor does CIVICUS necessarily endorse the views reflected therein.

CONTACT US

P.O. Box 933
Southdale, 2135
South Africa
Tel: +27 11 833 5959 Fax: +27 11 833 7997

1112 16th Street NW,
Suite 540
Washington D.C.
20036 USA
Tel: +202 331-8518
Fax: +202 331-8774

Websites:

www.civicus.org
www.civicusassembly.org

To subscribe or unsubscribe: email: subscriptions@civicus.org

TELL A FRIEND

Would you like to share this newsletter with a friend? Please forward their e-mail address to subscriptions@civicus.org

Support CIVICUS

To make an on-line donation [click here](#).

Join CIVICUS

Join or renew your CIVICUS Membership on-line now [click here](#).



Civil Society Watch Monthly Bulletin

Civil Society Watch Monthly Bulletin

The CIVICUS e-newsletter Civil



STOP PRESS: Mumbai attacks - Time for civil society to stand up!

By Devendra Tak, CIVICUS Communications and Media Manager, and editor-in-chief of e-CIVICUS

'India Under Siege' scream newspaper headlines in Johannesburg as I wind my way to work on my 14th day in Johannesburg. Fourteen years' of living in Mumbai and my heart cringes - and I find my eyes welling up -- when I witness the terrifying scenes on global television news channels. My family and friends -- many of them living in Mumbai -- were justifiably worried about my shifting to South Africa from India this month. But now it's apparent that India is far from being a safe country to live in. 'The time has come for civilians to be trained to combat violence' is one of the hundreds of messages from TV viewers carried on the ticker of an Indian news channel. Citizen interviews, in Bollywood style, with media and film moguls and other celebrities have them calling for civil society to take action. *For details, [click here](#).*

CIVICUS Poll Question

This week's question:

Do you think the 16 Days of Activism has made an impact in addressing Gender-Based Violence?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Don't know

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

Previous question:

Do you think the current financial crisis and its impact on the poor is the most pressing issue civil society should be focusing on?

- a. Yes
- b. Yes, but not to the exclusion of other equally critical issues
- c. No
- d. Don't know

Results: a. - 37.9%, b. - 48.5%, c. - 9.1%, d. - 4.5%

JOIN US - BECOME A CONTRIBUTING FRIEND OF e-CIVICUS

e-CIVICUS keeps tens of thousands of people and organisations informed of the many developments taking place in civil society around the world. As a subscriber you know the value e-CIVICUS can bring to your work.

Do you have a friend who works for a more just world? Would you like to share this e-newsletter with them? Why don't you suggest they register for a free subscription?

They can send an e-mail to subscriptions@civicus.org or fill out the subscription form [here](#). Alternatively, please forward their e-mail addresses to us and we'll contact them on your behalf. Please send your contributions by Monday every week to editor@civicus.org. Your contributions assist us to broaden the scope of reporting civil society news and cover the ever-expanding world of e-CIVICUS. All contributions must be focused on civil society issues or have a civil society angle.

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

CIVICUS blog

Our recently launched blog gives you the opportunity to use your voice and engage with the rest of civil society. Please visit <http://civicus.civiblog.org>



LAST CALL: Vacant Office Space is available at CIVICUS House

Size - 198m² without partitioning. The space has recently been re-vamped and includes 24-hour manned security. Please contact Ms. Estelle Baker on +27 11 833 5959 or e-mail at Estelle.baker@civicus.org.

e-CIVICUS DIALOGUES



Civil society's role in reconstruction in Zimbabwe: Opportunities and Imperatives

By Mandeep S. Tiwana, CIVICUS Civil Society Watch Programme Officer

As the negotiations for power sharing and reconstruction continue to be hammered out by various political groups in Zimbabwe, civil society's role in construction and reconstruction of vital democratic institutions in the country cannot be discounted. Some key areas for civil society involvement in the country are: ensuring participation of women in the peace and rebuilding process; security and criminal justice sector reform; establishment of national institutions for accountability and human rights protection; and setting the agenda for legislative and electoral reform. *For details, [click here](#).*

Could Hemingway Be Right?

By Cherukuri Indira Dasgupta, Director, Peoples Institute for Development and Training (PIDT)

What is an intelligent funder? Discussion at the Intelligent Funding Track from 2006, the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) and CIVICUS has jointly been hosting the "Intelligent Funding Track" (IFT) at the CIVICUS World Assembly. In Glasgow this year, the topic for discussion was: what is an intelligent funder and how we can disseminate innovations and new approaches to funding, which are more cost-effective, downwardly-accountable and user-friendly? The two IFT fellows recently wrote a paper on this subject. *To read these papers, [click here](#).*

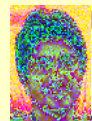
16 Days of No Violence - Time to taking stock of progress

By Loveness Jambaya Nyakujarah, Gender Links

During this year's Sixteen Days of No Violence Against Women and Children, Southern Africa has quite a bit to celebrate, though with some caution -- as there is still much work to do to address the high levels of gender violence in the region. This year's campaign comes just over three months after regional Heads of State signed the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Gender and Development, which included six (out of a total twenty-three) targets specifically addressing gender-based violence. There are a number of positive moves by countries in the right direction, yet there is still far to go. For example, Botswana, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa and Zimbabwe (or about half the SADC countries) have domestic violence laws. Yet, only five countries (Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe) have sexual offences legislation in place. *For details, [click here](#).*

[Read more...](#)

CIVIL SOCIETY NEWS



Financial Crisis: The poor must have their say...

By Patrice Barrat, Executive Director, Bridge Initiative International

Is the financial crisis too serious a matter for the poor to be consulted? From the ways things are being done to find solutions, it seems that the rich feel they are the only ones concerned. From the World Economic Forum that just brought together 700 experts in Dubai for a summit coolly entitled "Post-crisis", to the G8 Summit extended to G20 that has just been held in Washington,

everything is unfolding as if the rich were the only ones entitled to have their say. Up to the very last moment, the clearly stated qualification criteria for a seat at this table, was either to be a global economic power or a newly rich player (India, Brazil, China etc...). At some point in the future, within a defined structure -- probably the said "United" Nations -- poor countries, or simply the poor, will merely be requested to endorse the decisions taken by rich countries in a time of crisis, or to pick up the remaining crumbs. *For details, [click here](#).*



Trade Unions say no to violence against women

Source: International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)

On the occasion of the United Nations (UN) International Day on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, ITUC affiliates in several countries, including Ghana, Sierra Leone, Congo, Japan, Columbia and Great Britain, are organising activities to mobilise against the trivialisation and impunity of the violence that affect women and girls around the world. Violence against women and girls is often defined as the most socially tolerated of human rights violations, and many women workers, and girls trapped in child labour, experience violence at work. "Violence against women at work is often linked to broader abuse of workers' rights and gender discrimination in general. Action related to the workplace must be part of overall government action to tackle discrimination and violence against women, including bringing to justice the perpetrators," said ITUC General Secretary Guy Ryder. *For details, [click here](#).*

United Arab Emirates calls for women's participation in the protection of peace & security

Source: Emirates News Agency-WAM

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has called on the international community to help boost a balanced women's participation in all efforts being made in the making and protection of national peace, security and stability in their communities and regions, as well as in the decision making process, mediation, reconciliation, administration of humanitarian operations, disarmament and reconstruction efforts. "Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000), which was issued eight years ago, represented an international acknowledgement of the important and equal role to be played by women in peacekeeping operations, prevention of conflicts and maintenance of international peace and security. *For details, [click here](#).*

Ankara provokes controversy by censoring the internet in Turkey

By Yigal Schleifer, Source: Eurasianet

The growing number of websites being banned by Turkey's courts and government is giving rise to concerns about Internet censorship. It is also stoking criticism of Ankara's already troubled record on freedom of speech. Some 850 websites have already been blocked in the country this year, the most recent being Blogger, a popular blog-hosting site owned by Google, which was recently blocked by court order because of illegal material found on a few blogs. Access to the popular video sharing site YouTube has been blocked since May, after amateurish clips mocking Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, modern Turkey's founder, were posted on the site. And recently a court allowed for the websites of Oxford evolutionist Richard Dawkins and one of Turkey's largest newspapers to be banned after an Islamic creationist group complained about them. *For details, [click here](#).*

Tongue over the burning fire on 16 Days of Activism in Pakistan

By Leena Aaayan, Blue Veins

While women rights organisations around the world are celebrating 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence, women organisations in Pakistan especially in North West Frontier Province (NWFP) of Pakistan are struggling to cope with unique challenges & the most difficult situations they have ever faced. It is an open secret that right-wing elements in Pakistan, particularly the religious ones, see NGOs as foreign-funded and inspired therefore un-Islamic in motivation. Attacks on non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and aid workers by anti-government forces & anti-development forces, have risen sharply where clerics are instigating people against the national and international NGOs & their programmes. *For details, [click here](#).*

Kazakh government prepares to impose elements of democracy

By Bruce Pannier, Source: Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty

Two ingredients usually found in a democracy are a parliament with representatives from more than one political party and an unfettered, independent media. The Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) upholds such democratic ideals and calls on its members to ensure they are respected. But the country slated to take over the OSCE's rotating chairmanship in 2010, Kazakhstan, lacks those two basic ingredients. To make up for this shortfall, the government is taking steps to impose elements of parliamentary pluralism and free media. The governments of Central Asia all claim they are on the path of democracy, but citizens of those countries -- with Kyrgyzstan being somewhat of an exception -- do not have much, if any, say in how their country is run or who runs it. *For details, [click here](#).*

Open letter to Denmark: Minister for Development, Ms. Ulla Tørnæs on the situation in Swaziland

Source: Kathrine Toftkær Larney, Chairwoman, Africa Contact

Africa Contact is writing to you because the latest developments in Swaziland give reason to worry for the future of the country's democracy movement. The recent arrests and an undeclared martial law come on the heels of months of social unrest, strikes, demonstrations and pro-democracy protests against the monarchy. International observers objected that Swaziland's parliamentary elections last month did not follow the guidelines for democratic elections laid down by the African Union and the South African Development Community. Political parties were forbidden to run for office, and large parts of both parliament and government were not elected, but appointed personally by the king. *For details, [click here](#).*

[Read more...](#)

GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION AGAINST POVERTY (GCAP) AND UN MILLENNIUM CAMOPAIGN (UNMC)

Creating new financial and trade architecture is best opportunity to end poverty, says GCAP

Source: Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP)

Members of the Global call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) from every continent will represent the voices of millions of people at next week's Financing for Development (FFD) meetings in Doha , Qatar during 29 - 02 December. The alliance urges every government attending Doha to reform the global economic system, building on the recent G20 in Washington, in more democratic forums so the people affected by poverty have a full and equal say. A new financial architecture must deal with global imbalances, the need for government regulation and interventions for each developing country. GCAP will be represented in Doha by; members of the Feminist Taskforce, Arab Region, Africa, Asia, Europe coalitions members and Co-chairs Sylvia Borren and Adelaide Sosseh. Read below what GCAP Co-Chairs are saying about civil society perspectives on Doha meetings:



"With the ink barely dry on the Washington G20 declaration, we can see no reason why the Doha conference cannot deliver much more. If there is no scaling down on the initial ambitions, both women and other organisations need to be included in development planning. The long-term solution to the financial crisis requires much more than reestablishing rich country economies and bailing out banks," said Kumi Naidoo, Co-Chair of GCAP and CIVICUS Honorary President.



"We come from Africa, Latin America and Asia with solutions for a new financial and trade architecture that could provide for the poor and often voiceless people in the world," said Adelaide Sosseh, GCAP Co-Chair from Gambia. "We have taken this position to Accra in September and the high-level event on the MDGs in New York so now the political will to implement needs to be demonstrated in Doha."

For details, [click here](#).

Doha meetings on Financing for Development

Eveline Herkens, the founder of the U.N. Millennium Campaign

While the media confront us daily with yet more alarming news from financial markets, few people are aware of the international meeting taking place at the end of this month in Doha, not on the moribund Doha Trade Round, but on Financing for Development -- another likely victim of the present crisis, with grave repercussions on global poverty and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals? This Doha conference will assess progress on the Consensus agreed at the Monterrey conference in 2002, which, for the first time, contained commitments by both developed and developing countries on all aspects of funding for development: developing countries' own resources, trade, aid and investment. Monterrey was unique because it was attended not just by development ministers like myself, but by heads of state, as well as their finance and trade ministers, the World Bank, the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the United Nations (UN). For details, [click here](#).

[Read more...](#)

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs)

UN Forum to ensure adequate funds to meet MDGs despite crisis

Source: UN News Centre

Representatives of governments, business and civil society are set to meet this weekend in Doha, Qatar, at a United Nations conference focusing on ensuring sufficient financing to meet key development goals amid mounting concern about the impact of the current global economic slowdown on poor nations. The four-day meeting, starting on 29 November, is a follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD) that took place in 2002 in Monterrey, Mexico, which resulted in the adoption of a landmark partnership agreement for global development. Known as the Monterrey Consensus, the agreement covered a number of topics, including domestic resource mobilisation, foreign direct investment (FDI), trade, official development assistance (ODA), debt relief and systemic issues. For details, [click here](#).

Is Bangladesh on track to meet the MDGs by 2015?

Source: The Guardian

Possible to achieve MDGs if changes are made to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. Targets include halving the number of people living on less than one dollar a day and achieving full and productive employment. A very likely to be achieved goal is the MDG 2 which focusses on achieving universal primary education. The MDG 3 will be achieved to promote gender equality and empower women. Targets include education at all levels, in waged employment outside agriculture, and in the number of seats held in government. For details, [click here](#).

[Read more...](#)

GET INVOLVED!

Sign-on letter urging IMF Managing Director to attend Doha FFD Review

Source: United Nations Non-governmental Liaison service (UN-NGLS)

While initially scheduled to attend the Doha Financing for Development Review in Doha, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Mr. Dominique Strauss-Kahn has hinted he is no longer planning to attend. This is very unfortunate and difficult to explain, especially given the extraordinary influence that has been given to the IMF in the drafting process (in fact, the IMF is on

states are supposed to formally make drafting suggestions and even though its intervention, with such representation regime, means an unfair advantage for some large developed countries in the negotiation. By withdrawing representation at the highest level, the gesture would send a political signal that seeks to undermine the strength of the UN process as it enters into critical matters of reform. *For details, [click here](#).*

Publish What You Fund - The Global Campaign for Aid Transparency

Publish What You Fund (PWYF) Campaign

This campaign is a new initiative to promote transparency of international aid. It is formed by civil society groups from around the world, including organisations working on aid effectiveness and groups working on access to government information. These organisations believe that for aid to be effective, accountable and participatory it must be transparent: information must be available to recipient governments, affected communities, and other stakeholders as well as the general public. The campaign has brought together leading NGOs and NGO coalitions to draft a first set of principles. These principles have had one round of consultation (between July and August 2008) and were presented at the Accra High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Ghana, 2-4 September 2008). There is now a further round of consultation (closing 30 November) and the final PWYF Principles will be published in December 2008. *For details, [click here](#).*

[Read more...](#)

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

Bridging the information gap in philanthropy

Source: www.KeystoneAccountability.org

A new study from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation in collaboration with McKinsey&Co is looking at the enduring question of how to strengthen the informational base upon which funders make their social investment decisions. Keystone is joining the effort to answer the questions of "How can we help donors make smart philanthropic decisions?" and "How can we ensure that the strongest, most effective nonprofits get the resources they need?" and invites all interested civil society organisations to take part in the debate. *For details, [click here](#).*

[Read more...](#)

CIVIL SOCIETY ACTIVISM AND GLOBAL INSTITUTIONS

Focus on financial crisis, as civil societies gather for two-day debate in Doha

Source: DNG Doha NGO Group on Financing for Development

"Is the United States a 'failed state'? Its financial mismanagement has triggered a world-wide crisis. Thus, Social Watch coordinator Roberto Bissio challenged some 300 civil society delegates, who meet at the Ramada Plaza Hotel. The Civil Society Forum leading to the Financing for Development Review Conference is addressing the international crises that threaten our climate, development and social justice, developing recommendations for change to carry into the official Conference. The Draft Declaration to be considered by the Forum states: "the world is consumed by an urgent triple crisis of energy, food and finance that not only threatens the realisation of the MDGs, but also the stability of the world's economies". *For details, [click here](#).*



Why the Ecuadorian Proposal may be a better response to Financial Crisis than the G20 Declaration?

By Yash Tandon, Executive Director, South Centre

On 15 November 2008, at the invitation of President George W. Bush, a group of 20 countries

(G20) -- selected by the President -- met at the White House, and following three-and-half hours of discussion, issued a Declaration on "*Financial Markets and the World Economy*". There was very little new or inspiring about the Declaration. The G20 leaders made "a commitment to free market principles, including the rule of law, respect for private property, open trade and investment, competitive markets, and efficient, effectively regulated financial systems." In barely camouflaged ideological assumptions that are both historically and logically flawed, the Declaration lacks empirical correspondence to the reality on the ground and theoretical depth, urged Yash Tandon. *For details, [click here](#).*

[Read more...](#)

CLIMATE JUSTICE

Join the Global Day of Action on Climate Change

Source: [Global Climate Campaign](#)

The Global Climate Campaign is the collective name given to all the organisations, groups and individuals around the world who come together for the Global Day of Action on climate change. The Global Day of Action on climate has occurred every year since 2005 at the time of the annual United Nations Talks on climate change (the COP or "Conference of Parties" to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change or UNFCCC). This year on 6 December, midway through the UNFCCC Climate Talks (COP 14/MOP 4), in Poznan, Poland, people from all around the world have come together on the same day to demand urgent action on climate, and climate justice, from the governments of the world meeting at the annual climate talks. The 'Call to Action' for these demonstrations and related events demand that world leaders take the urgent and resolute action that is needed to prevent the catastrophic destabilisation of global climate. *For details, [click here](#).*

The World Bank and Climate Change sign-on

Source: [Friends of the Earth](#)

As the world prepares for the UN Climate Change Conference beginning on 1 December in Poznan, Poland, civil society organisations are sending a clear, loud message opposing any role for the World Bank in an international climate regime. The organisations include the Friends of the Earth International, Jubilee South Asia Pacific Movement on Debt and Development, Jubilee USA Network, Oil Change International, Sustainable Energy and Environment Network. The World Bank is already positioning itself to control climate financing. The deadline for sign-ons is 5 December. Please send organisational endorsements to statements@foe.org. The plan is to release the sign-on statement during the second week of the climate talks to maximize press coverage. *For details, [click here](#).*

Financing the Global Climate Change Response: Suggestions for a Climate Change Fund (CCF)

Source: [South Centre Analytical Note](#)

This South Centre Analytical Note stresses that the provision of financing to developing countries to implement the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is required of developed countries under the Convention. But such financing has not yet been provided. This Analytical Note suggests that the COP directly operate the Convention's financial mechanism by setting up a Climate Change Fund (CCF) that would fully respond to the requirements of the Convention as part of the global community's response to climate change. *For details, [click here](#).*

[Read more...](#)

PROFILES



DONOR: The Freudenberg Foundation

The Freudenberg Foundation was established in Germany in 1984 by members of the Freudenberg family. The Foundation focuses on the following programme areas: Firstly, the Foundation promotes the integration of migrants as well as cultural minorities, particularly in the face of the hostility and discrimination with which immigrants may be confronted. Secondly, the Foundation is involved in helping young people from socially disadvantaged families when they run into difficulties at school and fail to obtain job qualifications. Thirdly, the Foundation supports the promotion of democratic culture as a fundamental prerequisite for peaceful coexistence in society. Fourthly, it supports occupational reintegration programmes for people with mental illnesses and projects aiming to increase public awareness of their specific problems. *For details, [click here](#).*

MEMBER: Asociacion Civil Estudios y Proyectos (EyP)

Founded in 1991, Estudios y Proyectos (EyP) partakes in sustainable development and the improvement of living standards by promoting organizational capacity building, skills enhancement in individuals, and social capital development, while preserving the cultural identity of communities. EyP believes an effective development strategy has to balance the development of human capital, social capital, economic capital and nature capital, while turning economic growth objectives compatible with social and civic objectives. EyP works to generate actions that strengthen citizen's abilities and institution's capacities to take part in public life. *For details, [click here](#).*

[Read more on the previous member profiles...](#)

BOOKS, REPORTS & RESOURCES

Celebrating the 2008 United Nations Human Rights Prize

10 December 2008, UN Headquarters, New York

The United Nations Prize in the Field of Human Rights is an honorary award given to individuals and organizations in recognition of outstanding achievement in human rights. The Prize was established by the General Assembly in 1966 and was awarded for the first time on 10 December 1968, the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Prize is an opportunity not only to give public recognition to the achievements of the recipients themselves, but also to send a clear message to human rights defenders the world over that the international community is grateful for, and supports, their tireless efforts to promote all human rights for all. The 2008 Prize will be awarded at an event at UN Headquarters in New York on 10 December, as part of the annual commemoration of Human Rights Day. *For details, [click here](#).*

2008 Report Card on Child and Family Poverty

Source: Campaign 2000

Campaign 2000 has released the 2008 Report Card on Child and Family Poverty, revealing that 19 years after the 1989 all-party resolution of the House of Commons, shows the nation's child poverty rate is almost what it was in 1989 when Parliament unanimously resolved to end child poverty by the year 2000. An October 2008 Environics poll shows an overwhelming majority (92 per cent) of Canadians say that if nations like the UK and Sweden can make significant progress on reducing poverty, then Canada can too. Eighty-six per cent say governments should take concrete action, reducing poverty by 25 per cent in five years. *For details, [click here](#).*

Publication: Good Governance Practices for the Protection of Human Rights

Source: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

This publication aims to help fill the gap between human rights standards and principles, on the one

innovative efforts from around the world to design and carry out governance reforms and protect human rights, this publication attempts to show how governance can be reformed to contribute to the protection of human rights. The hope is also that, in so doing, this publication will inspire reformers, including Governments, human rights activists, development practitioners, national human rights commissions and national civil society organizations. For details in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#).

[Read more...](#)

CONFERENCES & EVENTS



A roundtable side-event: International Conference on Financing for Development

1 December 2008, Dukhan Room, Sheraton Hotel, Doha

This interactive session, moderated by Realizing Rights President Mary Robinson (former Irish President and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights), will provoke a lively discussion among senior government officials and representatives of international civil society organisations, trade unions and the private sector on how to reorient the financial system towards the needs of the real economy and the objective of decent job creation. If you are registered to attend the Conference and wish to attend the roundtable, please confirm your participation to hamish.jenkins@unctad.org or by phone in Doha at +974-459-8326. For programme details, [click here](#).

15th Annual International Sustainable Development Research Conference

5-8 July 2009, Utrecht, Netherlands

The International Sustainable Development Research Society (ISDRS) is pleased to announce its 15th annual conference. The conference takes place in Utrecht, Netherlands, from July 5 - 8, 2009. The conference is hosted by the Copernicus Institute for Sustainable Development and Innovation. The conference theme is "Taking up the Global Challenge: Analysing the implementation of innovations and governance for sustainable development". With this theme, the Conference will focus on the scientific analysis of the key factors explaining successes (and failure) in the many practices of implementation of innovations and governance for sustainable development, both in the North and the South, and in the West and the East. For details, [click here](#).

[Read more...](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

World Press Freedom Prize 2009

Application Deadline: 15 January 2009

UNESCO invites Member States and regional and international organizations, professional and non-governmental organizations working in the field of journalism and freedom of expression to nominate candidates for the UNESCO World Press Freedom Prize. The purpose of the Prize, supported by the Guillermo Cano Foundation, the Nicholas B. Ottaway Foundation and JP/Politiken Newspapers LTD, is to honour a person, organisation or institution that has made a notable contribution to the defence and/or promotion of press freedom anywhere in the world, especially if this involved risk. For details, [click here](#).

[Read more...](#)

WORKSHOPS & COURSES

Distance-learning course: Human Rights Advocacy

4 February - 14 April 2009, Distance learning course

This Human Rights Education Association (HREA) distance learning course provides human rights activists with a range of proven human rights advocacy methods and critical concepts as a means for them to reflect on and deepen their own work. The course will look at the theoretical foundations and critical issues of human rights advocacy, elements of advocacy planning, and strategies for action. In this course, participants should deepen their knowledge about advocacy and its relationship to: Politics and Democracy; Citizenship and Rights; Power, Empowerment and Citizen Education and Action. The course is intended for staff members of human rights/social justice organisations. Application deadline is 15 December 2008. *For details, [click here](#).*

[Read more...](#)

CALL FOR PAPERS, SUBMISSIONS, SURVEYS & NOMINATIONS

Call for Papers: Gender, Sexuality and Law

Application Deadline: 18 January 2009

The Canadian Law and Society Association invite papers and panel proposals from scholars working in the area of gender, sexuality and law. This stream is not thematically restricted and the Association encourages a broad and multi-disciplinary engagement with gender, sexuality and law. In addition, they specifically invite papers, panels and roundtables on the following two themes: "The Political Economy of sexuality and gender in legal scholarship". *For details, [click here](#).*

[Read more...](#)

APPOINTMENTS

This week, new civil society job openings have been added to the CIVICUS website. Please [click here](#).

Should you wish to publish a **New Vacancy**, please click on [Add job](#). Please add an expiry date for applications.

JOBS OF THE WEEK

Project Manager

Application Deadline: 5 December 2008

Keystone

Location: London, UK

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

Chief Executive Director

Application Deadline: 15 December 2008

Forum International de Montréal (FIM)

Location: Montréal, Québec, Canada

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

CONTACT e-CIVICUS

e-CIVICUS is a free weekly online publication keeping tens of thousands of people, organisations and programmes informed of the many developments and factors that affect civil society and their impact on creating a more just world.

We value your comments and suggestions. Please send these to the Editorial Team at editor@civicus.org.

Unsubscribe: To unsubscribe from e-CIVICUS, get a password reminder, or change your subscription options by entering your subscription email address: [Click here](#).