



ALTERNATIVE EVOLUTIONS:
WORKING GROUP ON
GOOD GOVERNANCE,
POVERTY REDUCTION AND
COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Initiation of the Working Group on Good Governance, Poverty Reduction
and Community Resilience

Report on the
Conference on Good Governance, Poverty Reduction
and Community Resilience with Special Session on
Tsunami Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction

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This report is to be quoted *without* prior consultation with the Working Group. The document is a report of an academic and practitioner Conference under the auspices of a group of people that are concern about unplanned development and disasters in wealthy and poor countries and does necessarily represent the views of the Working Group.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
CBO	Community based Organization
CFS	Centre for Family Services
CNO	Centre for National Operations
CSO	Civil Society
DDC	Disaster & Development Centre
DMIP	Disaster Management & Information Programme
EWS	Early Warning Systems
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services
GMF	Genetically Modified Food
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
GMSL	Green Movement of Sri Lanka
GOSL	Government of Sri Lanka
IDP	Internally Displaces Person
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
IFI	International Financial Institution
INGO	International Non Governmental Organization
ISACPA	Independent South Asian Commission on Poverty Alleviation
MONLAR	Movement for Land and Agricultural Reform
MST	Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SAPNA	South Asian Perspectives Network Association
TAFREN	Task Force for Rebuilding the Nation
TRIPS	Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UPOV	International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants
WHO	World Health Organisation
WTO	World Trade Organisation

FEW THOUGHTS.....

We are not surprised that the WTO Director General – Pascal Lamy (September, 2005) believe that trade opening and reducing trade barriers, has been, is and will remain, essential to promote growth and development, to improve standards of living and to tackle poverty reduction. Further more he thinks that the World Trade Organization remains the most efficient and most legitimate forum to open and regulate world trade. In the WTO web site (www.wto.org) the Director General also mention – “the [WTO is the] most efficient because it works at the service of all the participants and because of its modern system to solve trade disputes. The most legitimate, because it is the fairest system of all, as all the decisions are taken by all the members, large or small, strong or weak”. (Message from the Director-General, A world trade system for the benefit of all, 2005) Though Mr. Lamy is so confident and hopeful about the WTO and its action our experience has been a very different picture. Since the WTO was created in 1995 it has made over 100 judgements, all of which have been anti-worker, anti-environment, pro-maximum profit. Among these include demolition of a law pushed through by activists in Massachusetts, USA barring trade with human-rights abuser Burma, a resolution in favour of Chiquita banana that resulted in over 200,000 lost jobs in Latin America, and many more. Make no mistake, every worker (including their families and communities) in the world has been or will be impacted by the WTO.

Initiation of the Alternative Evolution – the Working Group on Good Governance, Poverty Reduction and Community Reduction is a timely effort by the Green Movement of Sri Lanka, Centre for Family Services and Disaster & Development Centre is not due to the WTO Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong this year, but also due to unplanned development agendas pushes by the International Financial Institutes (IFIs) in developing and developed countries, promotion of community vulnerability in development and disaster situations by the United Nations (UN) and INGOs and last but not least governments that are not transparent to its own people make this world a place that is not suitable for future generations. We strongly understand that the environment we live are belongs to our future generation and we have borrowed it to live. But we also have the responsibility and duty to protect it and nourish for them.

We are living in a time that disasters have become part of our day to day lives [no matter in a developed or a developing country], communities in developing countries and individuals in developed countries are becoming stressed with debts, access to information and justice becoming difficult at all level and finally the concept of helping has become such as professional focus that a poor community in Africa, Asia or South America will have to buy their development frame work as it has been researched, developed and patented by an academic. These influence all of us to realise that we have to take action and be creative.

The holistic picture may not be so dark at this stage, but we can not ignore the possibility of entering in to a darker level. May our Grand Fathers and Grand Mothers such as Chief Seattle, Anagarika Dharmapala, Annie Besant, Rosa Luxemburg and Kasturba Gandhi bless us for – continuing the search for a better world – the struggle continuous.

IT ALL STARTED LIKE A SPARK!

The idea came in to our minds in 2003, when we all with William, Debi, Mahasivam, Ravi and many individuals who felt the same way about what is going in Sri Lanka, organised the People's Response to Regaining Sri Lanka and Needs Assessments. It was a tremendous effort, which needed further organising and place in a global platform. The Working Group on Good Governance, Poverty Reduction and Community Resilience is a result of three of the activists still determines to do so.

Co-Convenors
Alternative Evolutions
2005

In March 2001, the then Government-in-power, the People's Alliance (PA), spread out of a tight fiscal fallback of the economy, held discussions with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank. Within the discussions the Government of Sri Lanka (GOSL) proposed a program that could be supported by a Stand-By-Agreement. Within these papers reference was made to reform the labour legislation to create a much more "flexible" labour market for Sri Lanka (Sri Lanka – Memorandum of Economic and Financial Policies – IV Structural Issues – point 19, p.56 – March 19, 2001). This move by the IMF and the GOSL was highly opposed by the trade unions. Sensitive political movements arising at the time led the PA to temporarily withdraw the amendments proposed.

Growing opposition regarding the technical papers and other political maneuvers were used by the chief opposition party, the United National Party (UNP), to create inroads to topple the Government. In December of 2001, the United National Front (UNF) - was formed. Based upon the larger picture of achieving economic stability, the Ministry of Labour was burdened with the task of utilizing labour as a key tool for economic development.

In May of 2002, programme reforms were geared to meet certain objective criteria of the IMF and the GOSL's obligations, for example, national policies on employment and productivity. Auditors, Ernst and Young drafted the policies, while an advisory board consisting of selected trade unionists and industrialists was formed to study the draft and give recommendations.

Furthermore, the precursor to the national policies on employment and productivity were labour laws earmarked for reforms. The National Labour Advisory Council (NACL), a tripartite body, was informed of the earmarked laws to be reformed. The following was put forward to the NLAC by February 2002:

- Overtime Legislation – to better suit some of the elaborated codes of conduct of corporations and compliance organizations to generate a comparative and competitive advantage in the garment and textile industries.
- Industrial Disputes – Progressive amendments made to the Act in 1999 (Industrial Disputes Act (Amended) 1999 – Based upon a case filed in the ILO by the Commercial and Mercantile Union [CMU] – 1995 – ILOLEX – Case no 1621 and pressure built through a US General System of Preferences [GSP]) to be toned down to better suit the growing need of employment generation and to create a "disciplined" workforce.
- Termination of Employment Act – To reduce the time in expediting cases at the labour tribunals and creating a more flexible method to settle disputes. (Additional clauses based upon point (ii) above)

- Amendments to Restructure Wages Boards Ordinance - To create a homogenous system of wages applicability within industries and setting of minimum wages.
- “Liberalizing” worker benefit funds and pension’s funds – To privatise or hand over of fund management to private sector companies or individuals to better yield interest on Workers Provident Funds, Pension Funds and Trust Funds.

By August 2002, the MOL was successful in blindsiding the trade unions represented at the NLAC to push forward legislation on Overtime for Women Workers, where agreed changes to the act were disregarded at the Parliamentary proceedings to win over investor and employer confidence. Key trade unions representing the NLAC withdrew their participation from the NLAC on grounds of non-transparency and genuine accountability.

Though the IMF’s Director Board was content with the performances of the key financial sectors somewhat, during the Article IV discussions held in September 2002, the Fund’s Board of Directors iterated the formula for larger and “ambitious” privatization and reforms programs, targeting public sector expenditure and smoothing out distortions within the labour market (Public Information Notice (PIN) No. 02/100 - September 11, 2002 - IMF Concludes 2002 Article IV Consultation with Sri Lanka - <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pn/2002/pn02100.htm>). Thus the MOL was to accelerate the Labour Law Reforms Programs by October to December period of 2002.

While key trade unions boycotted the NLAC meetings, the MOL was gearing itself to push forward three bills;

- Industrial Disputes (Hearing and Determination of Proceedings) (Special Provisions)
- Termination of Employment of Workmen (Special Provisions) (Amendment) and
- Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill.

The boycotting trade unions joined forces with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO’s) to formulate a joint opposition on the proposed labour laws reforms and privatization programs. Protest campaigns were launched starting October 2002, around the country.

By end of December 2002, the Joint Trade Union Front, along with its sister NGO coalition the Alliance for the Protection of National Resources and Human Rights (APNRHR) held discussions with the parliamentary opposition party coalition of civil society organizations. Thus, all three parties declared the month of January 2003 as a protest month on reform processes.

From 5th January to 7th January, the trade unions wielded much agitation on the labour law reforms being presented in Parliament. Over 50,000 people participated in these demonstrations. On 7th January 2002, based upon striking a balance between the trade unions and the MOL, the Prime Minister of the UNF Government invited key trade unionists to a meeting at the Parliamentary complex. Within the meeting the Prime Minister created a consensus of amending and changing conflicting clauses of the proposed amendments and stated that no date would be fixed on the bills being passed till other mechanisms were in place to accommodate the full functioning of the bills. These mechanisms involve (i) a formula to calculate workers who are terminated, (ii) devising a safety net to be placed to accommodate retrenched workers and (iii) developing an unemployment payment scheme.

The deadline is set for end January and March 2004 for both the MOL and trade unions to generate the above to fully activate the amendments.

The reason for accelerated changes in Legislation is found in the new Memorandum of Economic and Financial Policies (MEFP) – Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) re-submitted by the UNF government for the IMF approval on April 2002 (Sri Lanka: First and Second Reviews of the Stand-By-Arrangement and requests for Wavier of Performance Criterion and for Extension of the Agreement – Staff Report; Staff Statement; and News Brief on the Boards Discussion – IMF Country Report No 02/86. International Monetary Fund – April 2002) supplementing the MEFP of March 2002 (Sri Lanka: First and Second Reviews of the Stand-By-Arrangement and requests for Wavier of Performance Criterion and for Extension of the Agreement – Staff Report; Staff Statement; and News Brief on the Boards Discussion – IMF Country Report No 02/86. International Monetary Fund – April 2002). On page 15 is explicitly stated that –

“Although labour market reform is not part of the explicit conditionality of the SBA, it is critical for both state sector reform and private sector led growth. The World Bank and ADB have put emphasis on this reform with regard to providing adjustment lending. The authorities will shortly implement a regulatory change to permit labour mobility by defining and adopting minimum compensation rules for terminated staff and introduces time-bound resolution of labour issues. Pending a complete overhaul of the Termination of Employed Workmen Act (TEWA), the measures to be undertaken are expected to mitigate labour mobility problems caused by the rigidity of the Act. (Sri Lanka: First and Second Reviews of the Stand-By-Arrangement and requests for Wavier of Performance Criterion and for Extension of the Agreement – Staff Report; Staff Statement; and News Brief on the Boards Discussion – IMF Country Report No 02/86) ” While the PRSP was on the move, the UNF government targeted the donor community as a whole to bind the PRSP in a development strategy that is linked to the peace process and reconstruction in Sri Lanka. The program was termed “Regaining Sri Lanka” (RSL), which is a modification of the PRSP.

Simultaneously to the PRSP process two documents related to the NorthEast were circulated among the donor community:

- (i.) Assessment of Needs in the Conflict-Affected Areas (Districts of Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullativu, Mannar, Vavuniya, Trincomalee, Batticaloa and Ampara) submitted by the ADB, United Nations and World Bank, produced under the auspices of the Sub-Committee on Immediate Humanitarian and Rehabilitation Needs in the North and East (SIRHN).
- (ii.) Assessment of Conflict-Related Needs in the Districts of Puttalam, Polonnaruwa, Anuradhapura and Moneragala,” submitted by the ADB, United Nations, and World Bank

Based upon the new development, trade unions and NGO’s in the south who originally opposed the PRSP started communications with counterparts in the NorthEast of the country. A series of discussions took place starting from end May to first week of June 2003 that bound the North and East trade unions and NGO’s with its counterparts in the South. The joint force was called “the People’ response to Regaining Sri Lanka and Needs Assessments.”

One common complaint between the North & East and the South is that people in the North & East think that the money invested in development always goes to the South and people in the South think vice versa. Also, related to the conflict, Muslim communities feel that they are not part of the development process of Sri Lanka. (People’s Response to Regaining Sri Lanka and Needs Assessments, 2003, p. 02)

Individuals and organisations that initiated the People's Response to Regaining Sri Lanka and Needs Assessment were initially planning to break this line of unhealthy thought where collective thinking is not altogether popular, and try to fit the pieces of the jigsaw puzzle together to make a pretty picture once again. Feelings of animosity, bitterness and especially irritation among members of Tamil, Sinhala and Muslim communities were the most common feelings that had to be dealt with. This is because these are the only feelings that they have known throughout the past two decades and others who do not belong to their own communities are considered to be opponents.

A society devoid of such collective thinking bars any sort of development of the Country, especially this one where development is a necessity. War stricken areas need to be brought up to standard, proper schools need to be built and many other facilities are needed to be provided for these villages. Such rehabilitation work will be useless if the communities within are unable to come to terms with each other.

This is the first challenge that the People's Response to Regaining Sri Lanka and Needs Assessments had to deal with: the communities in the NorthEast expect proper re-building and reconstruction, while the people in the rest of the Country expect to see a holistic development process for Sri Lanka. After a number of discussions and many arguments all the individuals and organisations in the People's Response process agreed to the following:

“Priority must be given to rebuilding the NorthEast. The NorthEast must be brought to the same development level as the rest of the Country, before undertaking the sustainable development process of the whole Sri Lanka. As a result of the conflict, the NorthEast is much lower levels of development than the rest of the Country, which is visible in agriculture, fisheries, industry, social services, electricity, transport, communication, market access and many other aspects of livelihoods that have been severely restricted”

(People's Response to Regaining Sri Lanka and Needs Assessments, 2003, p.02)

With this agreement the People's Response to Regaining Sri Lanka and Needs Assessments, started their activities under the following areas:

1. Compiled working document about the people's response to Regaining Sri Lanka and Needs Assessments (www.geocities.com/unitypeaceanddevelopment)
2. This document was widely distributed at the Tokyo conference for Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Sri Lanka and still distributing around the world
3. Commitment to continue the process and selection of Co-convenors to support the process¹
4. Working on the action plan for the future and implementing it
5. Organizing and outreach for national and international support

Apart from the above outcome it is very important that people from NorthEast and rest of the Country receive the opportunity to re-build new relationships and get to know each other. The success of this process is based on that and, remarkably, people are developing strong relationships as citizens of the same country after twenty-three years. Most people who are participating in this process see it as a very fragile and very sensitive area to be strengthened.

CONFERENCE PROCESS

Opening of the Conference

The Chairman of the Green Movement of Sri Lanka – Sumana Liyanage, welcomed the participants and opened the Conference on Thursday, 08 December 2005 at 9.00 hours. Representatives from Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Denmark, Sweden, Belgium, Norway, Italy, United Kingdom, and Germany were present at the meeting. The list of participants is included as Annex 1.

Adaptation of the Agenda

The agenda of the Conference was organic as it set the floor to the participants of the process to interact with each other and come up with their own ideas, comments and thoughts freely. The agreed agenda of the Conference and the terms of reference are attached to the report as Annex 2.



CONFERENCE ON GOOD GOVERNANCE, POVERTY REDUCTION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Key Note Address: Pro-poor Growth – The Political Democracy and Economic Democracy Nexus

Dr. Ponna Wignaraja, Chairman of SAPNA

The inadequacy of the mainstream development paradigm based as it was on narrow economic and technocratic approaches has been partially recognised in South Asia since independence. External intellectual forces and a global agenda over which South Asia has had little control inspired the dominant mainstream development thinking. In order to find alternative solutions to this paradigm we need to start with a home-grown idea with a firm base in the roots of civil society. In 1991 the Independent South Asian Commission on Poverty Alleviation (ISACPA) was established in order to seek out what went wrong in past attempt of poverty alleviation and draw positive lessons from the ground where the poor have been mobilised to successfully contribute to growth and development, and identify important elements in a new poverty alleviation strategy in South Asia. The report from this commission came up with three coherent messages:

1. The large number of poor in South Asia and the complex problems related to poverty puts democracy and the civil societies at risk. There is no political democracy unless there is civil democracy.
2. The conventional development strategies with pre-determined objectives have been inadequate, and have not been able to capture the real-felt needs of the majority of the poor. The state's role has to change from a centralised power carrying out projects to someone that will enable and support a number of actors on the ground.
3. In order to eradicate poverty there is a need for a major political approach in which social mobilisation and empowerment of the poor plays a critical role. When the poor participate as subjects and not as objects in the process they are enabled to generate additional growth in a development perspective.

The critical fundamentals for poverty eradication in the report of ISACPA are:

1. *Revolution and social transformation* – a structural and transformative change that is rooted in the people and encompass the whole society. A major social mobilisation effort is needed to make this change based on self-reliance and full-fledged participation.
2. *Perspective and values* – we have to go back to fundamental values in traditional South Asian societies and examine these values in the context of poverty alleviation today in order to understand the contradictions, observe the changes and learn the lessons from some of the democratic and wider development values.
3. *Countervailing power: a political approach to the transition* – there is a need of devolution of power and empowerment of the poor in order to achieve a participatory democracy. Only through sharing of power can the poor also share the resources, and the decision of sharing power has to be a political one.
4. *Growth, human development and equity: no trade-offs* – the development process is seen mainly as an economic exercise driven by the industrial countries both in west and east, but sustainable development strategies need to search for alternative driving forces for a self-sustaining process. There is also a need to adopt more complex strategies that combines human development, growth, equity and technological change with a wiser and more creative use of local resources and knowledge.

5. *Refocusing practise and participation* – knowledge can be used to reinforce good governance. The traditional knowledge systems need to inform the whole process and stimulation in the form of an animator is needed to bring out creativity, self-reliance and self-involvement in the processes.

In order to eradicate poverty in South Asia there is a need to build a new school of thoughts based on these five fundamentals that are accepted by the politicians and civil society alike and link this to the mobilisation of people and the lessons learnt from the grassroots experiments.

Good Governance and Poverty Reduction

Suranjan Kodithuwakku, Chief Organiser, Green Movement of Sri Lanka

The PRSP's are a common painkiller for poverty in countries all over the world, and the outlines are the same in all countries and on all continents. How can then the strategies suit the circumstances and conditions in each country? In Sri Lanka the PRSP is published only in English so 95 % of the population, and particularly the poor that the PRSP is concerning, are not able to read and understand it. Can it then have been made by the people? Can the poor themselves then have had anything to say in the process? In the PRSP issues such as water, land, forests, minerals, transport, education and bank systems are discussed in order to find a solution to reduce poverty. According to the PRSP the solutions seem to be through privatisation of resources.

Proposed project under the PRSP in Sri Lanka are:

- National water policy. This implies that all water sources should be owned by the government, water should be made a commercial good and it should be managed by the private sector.
- National land use policy. This will give priority to commercial crop production and increased productivity and strengthen the private ownership. It will persuade poor farmers to sell their land and encourage commercial production.
- Protected area management and wildlife conservation project will privatise management of wildlife parks, promote (so called) eco-tourism and establish private zoos in national parks.
- Tropical forest conservation act in USA that will give USA rainforest ownership in Sri Lanka and entrance to bio-piracy and carbon trade and give Sri Lanka debt reduction.
- The implications of WHO in the PRSP are amendments of IPR laws, signing of TRIPS, GATS and GMO and GMF related issues.

Green Movement of Sri Lanka have been very active in lobbying, advocacy and campaigning for community owned and responsible PRSP and positive outcomes of TRIPS, GATS and other international agreements. They have been successful in many cases such as in promoting sustainable gem mining mechanisms and environmental conservation, protection of a major water shed in a national forest, prevention of water privatisation and protecting phosphate deposits.

What is expected by the civil societies in Sri Lanka from the Government, IFI's, UN and INGO's are

- Full participation of communities in the PRSP project cycle.
- Respect and knowledge of community wisdom and indigenous knowledge.
- Using local expertise in development of economic paradigms.
- Access to justice and information.

- Implementation of democratic and community owned development processes.
-

Community Resilience

Bernard Mayena, Research Associate, Disaster Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods Unit, Disaster and Development Centre, Northumbria University, United Kingdom

The concept of resilience was first used in the 1940's in psychology and psychiatry. It was adapted to ecology and is now a keyword in poverty reduction processes and disaster risk reduction. The definition of disaster resilience has multiple definitions but does not rest on any theory and cannot be measured. It is often seen as the opposite of vulnerability on a continuum scale and can be viewed as the outcome or the process or both.

"Disaster resilience could be viewed as the intrinsic capacity of a system, community or society predisposed to a shock or stress, to adapt and survive by changing its non-essential attributes and rebuild itself"

- Bernard Mayena -

If there is resilience a system will change according to the changing challenges, and each challenge requires a different change that is not based on science.

Case study: Binga, Zambezi Valley, Zimbabwe

In 1958 the people in Binga were forcibly removed due to the construction of Lake Kariba for hydroelectric power. The displaced people were not given adequate support in regaining their livelihoods and even though the government has made some efforts to improve indicators through building roads, schools and health infrastructure it has done little to construct sustainable and resilient communities. The vulnerability context of Binga is described in terms of a food insecure area where 80 - 90 % of the population live in absolute poverty, frequent occurrence of waterborne disease outbreaks and large socio-economic instability due to amongst other HIV/AIDS. The resilient context of Binga is its abundant natural resources, plenty of labour and established traditions for preparing and responding to stresses and shocks.

Building disaster resilient communities in Binga depend on key success factors such as

- Building on knowledge, capacities and priorities of the people.
- Mainstreaming gender issues in Disaster Risk Reduction.
- Increase public awareness of disasters. What are the disasters and how can people respond to them and move out of them?
- Community Based Disaster Resistance Mechanisms including ownership of Early Warning Systems. EWS should be built for the communities and the local authorities, otherwise the EWS will disappear with the implementing NGO.
- Creation of partnerships.
- Institutionalising Disaster Risk Reduction.

Disasters are multi agent issues - not sectoral issues - and the problem is often to identify proper institutions with the mandate to act, because the issues are not within the mandate of any single one department. Also, in order to build disaster resilience we need strong institutions that can reform interventions. In Binga there has been several capacity building programs with competing or similar objectives, but different reporting requirements have made it difficult for the local authorities. Reporting is a lot of work for the thinly staffed local authorities and there has been little coordination amongst donors and different projects. In a disaster resilient system the

decisions also need to be taken on the ground, but in Binga only some of the power are decentralised. Rights related to natural resources and economic power are still centralised. Bodies related to disaster policy should be proactive rather than reactive and built into long term development work.

Women's Right to Rural Development

Magdalena Kropiwnicka, Food and Hunger Policy Advisor, ActionAid International, Italy

Food is a basic human right and is the one global development priority to work for, but due to poverty, marginalization, conflict, social exclusion and failed economical- and development-policies millions of people are facing hunger every day. Hunger and food insecurity are largest amongst the socially and politically marginalized, often women and girls.

The agricultural worlds can be divided into three:

- World one: The big, fully integrated. These farms are fully integrated into the global economy, they are occupying the best resources and are exploiting natural and human resources.
- World two: The small and vulnerable. Smallholders that are partly integrated into the economic trade, but under-capitalised and vulnerable to globalisation.
- World three: The remote and resource poor. They have little access to natural resources, no access to the market.

The three worlds can exist together, but global markets favour world one and the national state focuses on world two, while world three is much neglected. In all three worlds women are to a large extent marginalized and exploited.

All mass poverty reduction in the world during the last 300 years have been dependent on small-scale farming, and growth in the small farm economy is the most powerful tool to alleviate rural poverty, but current trends threaten the ability of agriculture to deliver these benefits. One of the key factors in enabling agriculture to act as an alleviator of poverty is access to land and land rights. Social movements can be a key factor in the work for land rights, and land rights are part of a larger struggle for socio-economic transformation. In addition discriminatory legislations and policies, traditional practices and the economic framework is leading to a large gender injustice around land and property rights. Although women constitute up to 80 – 90 % of the workforce in some subsistence agriculture practices, women on a world basis only account for 1 % of land ownership. This also leads to discriminations in access of credit, extension services and decision-making power. This is also showed in a report made by the Action Aid International through a desktop literature review in order to review the statutory and discriminations faced by women. The key findings are that women are facing discrimination regarding land access and are disempowered from decision-making processes related to farming. The main obstacles to women's land access are:

- Overlapping norms of statutory and customary norms.
 - Statutory discriminations and loopholes that ignore women.
 - Customary law.
 - Women's secondary rights might become unprotected.
 - Women are often excluded from key decision and have little representation in local land administration institutions.
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Concluding Discussion of the Day – 01

Sustainable development through poverty alleviation has been a stated top priority for most governments, NGOs, INGOs and IFIs for the last decades. The amount of resources made available to pursue this goal has never been higher than they are today, but still the magnitude of the problem remains the same or in some cases has even increased. Why do we continue to fail so miserably?

The key source of knowledge leading to a sustainable path of poverty alleviation is found among the poor sections of communities. Rather than being viewed as an objective to be overcome, marginalized communities should be regarded as subjects in a community driven process of eradicating poverty. This common agreement shared by all conference participants is accompanied by a concurrency that most development programmes, including PRSP, are failing to realize this when it comes to community participation. The fact that most local governments, NGOs, INGOs and IFIs fall through on achieving this can be viewed upon as a crucial factor in explaining why most projects targeting poverty alleviation and sustainable development continue to fail in terms of long-term sustainability.

Parts of this forum call for a change in development paradigm in order to meet this challenge. The project oriented, top down, approach to sustainable development through poverty alleviation has failed. Now time has come for this to be turned upside down and focus should be given to community mobilization and political processes instead. The progress will evolve from the grass-root level in terms of community participation, but at the same time we have to work on a national and global level whenever and wherever there is space available. After the tsunami there have for example been cases where communities have been taking responsibility of collecting and verifying data being used by the government as well monitoring the process of implementation. To accomplish this we need to develop a strong social movement as we see advancing in South and Central America these days (e.g. Via Campesina, The Zapatistas movement, and MST) and unite all the fragments under a common coalition

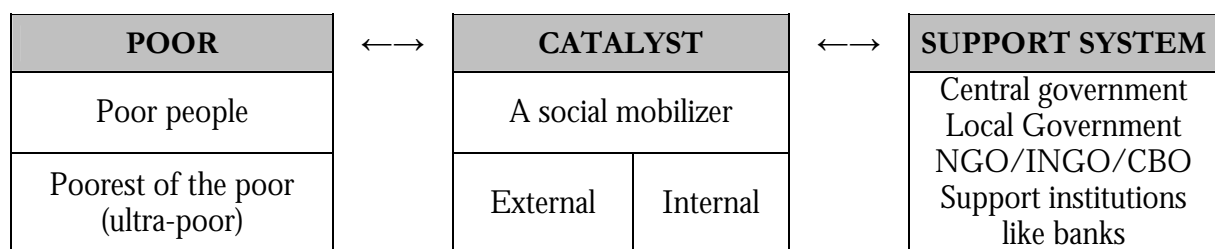
While agreeing on the basic principles of social mobilization and community participation, a fraction of the forum recognizes project driven activities as a necessary means in achieving these goals. No matter how noble the idea of changing society may be, it still remains an utopia. Instead energy has to be put into changing problems within the already existing system, such as putting more emphasis on the importance of rights based development and oppose the neoliberal policies within, ADB, IMF and WB.

How do we re-engage?

Susil Sirivardana, Civil Society Activist / SAPNA

At the core of this presentation lies the following acknowledgement; we already have the knowledge and a methodology of how to achieve sustainable development through poverty alleviation (See the *five principles of the core methodology*), and success stories can be traced to almost any country. So why haven't we managed to mainstream this method and scale it up to a national and global level?

The fundamental idea of the core methodology is summarized in the following figure:



The *contradiction tree*, which can be viewed as a web of interest conflicts within a small society, is present in any given village trough out the world. The contradictions between community members can take on various forms, e.g. religious, economic, social, politic, trade, land rights. The complexity and nature of the contradictions differ from one village to the next and forms the setting from which a facilitator will have start his or her work.

The facilitator will work on the dimension of rising consciousness of the local people. He is not supposed to act the role of a teacher, but rather mobilize the population into identifying their own problems, selecting their own strategies of action and finally implementing and finding ways of monitoring their progress. In the process of reaching this goal, mind and action will feed each other to improve the process and there will take place a natural social mobilization.

The 1993 SAARC meeting which summoned top leaders from 14 Asian countries culminated in a decision to eradicate poverty by the means of social mobilization within a timeframe of ten years. Needless to say, the goal of this praiseworthy effort has not been achieved. The rise and fall of Sri Lanka's national policy for poverty alleviation, *Janasaviya*², is another example of failure despite the presence of a strong political will to engage the problem trough social mobilization.

So where can we look to find a way of explaining this devastating fact? A methodology to poverty alleviation through social mobilization has shown both external and internal shortcomings. Some of the most important are listed below.

External weaknesses:

- As illustrated in Sri Lanka, government's lack of political vigour and wholeheartedly support of the methodology has caused the process to fail on a national level.
- Institutions (national, international, NGO, INGO) involved in the work of poverty alleviation have become ineffective, which can be linked to the next point.
- Bureaucracy has grown as governments, as well as institutions have grown in size. This has not necessarily provided a higher output yield, but in most cases rather gone on the expense of efficiency.
- The rhetoric has lost its powerful content. Written by people that are disconnected from the fundamental issues of social mobilization, they often end up as empty words in glossy reports.
- A non-party political movement, as seen in South America, have not emerged in continents like Africa and Asia.

Internal weaknesses

- The method of social mobilization has not reached the level of global attention as other methods because of a failure to brand the concept.
- It has not managed to absorb and incorporate new technologies into the method. Social mobilization has managed to pull communities out from extreme poverty, but has not been able to progress development any further.
- Not enough attention has been given to the needs of the young generation. Subsequently it has failed to mobilize the youth in the same way as the adult generation.

The way forward will have to be based on work taking place on the grassroots level. Only though social mobilization can we achieve the formation of stable, empowered local communities with the vigour to create a new agenda by themselves and for themselves. Once this is accomplished we can broaden the work into a variety of fields by adopting a rights based approach to the

struggle for poverty alleviation (land rights, water rights, fishing rights and so on). However, simultaneously we have to view the local processes in light of wider national and global context and recognize that these levels are connected.

Discussion: Way Forward Vision, the Process and Capacity Building

The initial stages of this conference have repetitively come back to underscore the importance of a mobilized community in the effort of gaining sustainable development through poverty alleviation. However, as already mentioned, the *micro* level cannot be regarded separately from the *meso* and *macro* levels. Thus, gaining a genuine political will both on a national and global level, will be of crucial importance for the continuation and scaling up of social mobilization.

As the governing elite in many developing countries continues to dissociate themselves from the rest of society they lose the credibility to construct a new political agenda concerning the issues of poverty reduction. The proven track record of the international funding institutions is emphasizing their agenda to such a degree that a similar articulation in their respect would at best be considered an understatement of the facts. Subsequently, an agenda meant to eradicate poverty can only be designed through the participation of the poor themselves. One important task for the future will therefore be to make people aware of the fact that this is not the case today and secondly get them to realize the repercussions from the absence of local participation on the sustainability of development projects.

This new agenda should emerge from a rights based approach to the subject of sustainable development through poverty alleviation. The social mobilization should focus on raising people's awareness concerning their legal status, both within a national legal framework and in terms of international human rights.

This discussion also expressed the view that decisions in connection to the process of scaling up should be left for the mobilized social movements to overcome themselves. Much in line with the idea that they should be given the opportunity to set their own agenda they should also be given a decisive power when faced with the next step on the development ladder. This is not to say that they will be left alone with the challenges. As unravelled by experiences from Zimbabwe there may sometimes be a certain need for asset inputs in terms for the mobilized societies to maintain their level of activity after the termination of a project phase. For a community without any assets, lack of money for travel can mean the collapse of a mobilized network when the project money comes to an end.

When discussing the issues of scaling up and mainstreaming social mobilization as a methodology we should not lose sight of the fact that every local community will interpret the concept of good governance in its own way. What works in one community would not necessarily work in the next. So instead of asking *how* we can achieve our goals we can ask ourselves *what* is needed to accomplish it.

Karl Heinz Segschneider, reflecting upon the development in Thailand, introduced the following five fundamental *whats* on the path to sustainable development;

- Eradicate extreme poverty through social mobilization.
- Eradicate relative poverty by claiming control over administrative structures channelling resources into the communities.
- Form stable and vigorous CBOs, independent from external inputs, on a community level.
- Use this power to lobby for the communities' rights.
- Unite all the CBOs into a national political party.

PRSP is about people – Experience and reflection with partner organisations in Cameroon, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana and Tanzania

Roland Hackenberg, Researcher, Züdwind Institute, Germany

Presentation of a research project on reviewing the extension of participation of civil societies in the PRSP processes with the aim of improving participation of partner organizations in all stages of PRSP.

According to the World bank PRSPs are: “*prepared by governments through a participatory process involving civil society and development partners*”. But when analysing the extent of participation in PRSPs in different countries there are large discrepancies according to the political environment and the capacity of the partners in the different countries.

Achievements in participation have been

- Improved dialogues between the government and the civil society, but general criticisms have been strong and have been confirmed during the study.

Constraints in participation have been

- International dominance especially from IFI's that has led to lack of ownership of the process.
- The national political system with a corrupt state versus CSO's and poor farmers.
- Consultation rather than real participation. In the final say the outcomes from consultations with CSO's where not taken into account.
- Concentration of participation of large, national level CSO's and the process happening in the capital city, something that is excluding small and local CSO's.

The civil society organisations on national and local level are experiencing the participation of the PRSP processes differently. On national level PRSP is seen as an opportunity for awareness building, monitoring of the processes and strengthening cooperation amongst CSO's, while the grassroots level are often excluded from the participation due to lack of knowledge, capacity, awareness and resources.

So, even though PRSP have made it possible for the CSO's to enter the political arena and it could be an opportunity for the civil society to influence poverty reduction strategies, there are still too many restrictions in the CSO's participation. Amongst others CSO's participation is restricted to certain topics, areas and groups, participation is not guaranteed, CSO's are only consulted and not really participating and CSO's have shortcomings that hinders them real participation.

The key recommendations are:

- CSO's to be included in all stages of PRSP.
 - Broaden the group of participating CSO's.
 - Awareness building.
 - Capacity building (both for national and local level administration and for CSO's and the poor).
 - To find alternative macroeconomic policies.
-

Good Governance and Sustainable Development: Experience from Food Sovereignty

Patrick Mulvany, ITDG UK and More and Better International Campaign

The question to be asked when examining good governance is; what really works and what does not?

No matter what approach one chooses when working with local communities the outsider will decisively influence decision making to some extent. But that is acceptable if in the medium term the overall objective is that communities separately and collectively are able to set their own agenda – and gain political space in which to do so. To achieve sustainable development, external facilitators must learn how to interact effectively and enable locally-led development processes to emerge, rather than impose their own professional perceptions of what they think is desirable.

- *Cooperationalising sustainable development – Privatising Life*

Why have Sustainable Development approaches failed? International conventions that originated with good intentions have now been thoroughly compromised by corporate interests in a manner that serves their ends. For example, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 1992 was intended to protect natural resources from unsustainable exploitation. In part, this was done by recognizing national states' sovereign rights to its natural resources. This nationalization of common property resources opened up the opportunities for privatisation, from which it was a short road to bio-piracy by multinationals. Another example of this is the process of the appropriation of Farmers' Rights to use, save and sell seeds and plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. The initial legislation originated in order to secure consumer rights but plant breeders have now made it into a tool to protect their patented, proprietary interests. These rights have been transferred from the right of individuals to use, save and sell seeds to the right of corporations to control seeds through seed laws, Plant Breeders Rights, as treated under the UPOV convention and supported by WTO TRIPs, to technological controls through hybridisation and now Terminator Technologies that prevent farmers from sowing farm-saved seeds. Although Farmers' Rights should have been realised by the International Seed Treaty, which was developed by FAO as international law in harmony with the CBD, the Convention has not been strong enough to defend them. An international instrument that should have protected individuals from corporate greed has failed. And the list goes on. What is needed now is a technology democracy – the right of individuals and their organisations to determine what technologies are used and for what purposes.

- *Who governs?*

The traditional governing structures, from local level to super powers, still play a role but globalisation has shifted power from individuals and the state and into other institutions. Now this power has been translocated into international institutions, bi- and multi-lateral agreements as well as multinational companies. Even among NGOs and INGOs there is now sometimes too much power. Lobbying and advocacy groups have grown in recent years and their role must also be recognized. However, there is a correlation between negative sustainable development national strategies and the number of advocacy organizations (e.g. Washington and London)

- *Governance of food and agriculture*

As an example of the governance of sustainable development one can look at the governance of agriculture, which not only produces food, but also secures livelihoods, protects living landscapes and sustains ecosystems and the biosphere. The Green Revolution in the early seventies put focus on food production and food security. In the decades that followed the global attention on food and agriculture steadily decreased with funding decreasing severely in the decade of the 1990s. Via Campesina, the global farmers' movement was the driving force behind the movement that again brought world attention to this fundamental right through the development of the food sovereignty policy framework. Faced with the formation of the WTO in 1995 they determined to come up with an alternative to global governance of food and agriculture, which resulted in the introduction of the concept of Food Sovereignty. This was an alternative paradigm to the aspirational concern for food security. This new approach to governance of food and agriculture is based on the needs of producers and consumers, not corporations. It embraces issues of regulation of corporate control and the imperative of gender equity. Within this, there are four pillars of food sovereignty;

1. Right to Food.
2. Trade should be primarily local before international but must be fair; there should be no 'Dumping'.
3. Access to and control over resources Recognizing local and indigenous communities rights to their traditional natural resources – including land, water and genetic resources / agricultural biodiversity.
4. All production and harvesting must be sustainable – e.g. agro-ecology.

Through the food sovereignty policy framework sustainable development can be achieved. The modalities for its governance at local, national and international levels still need to be agreed.

- *Good governance*

The 8 principles for better aid as developed by the More and Better campaign put emphasis on locally derived priority setting and the strengthening of local institutions (see www.moreandbetter.org) in order to secure sustainable development. In a process advanced by the International Institute for Environment and Development (www.iiied.org), the conclusions about how best to enable governance of sustainable development include:

- Transformation of external support agencies and their ways of working
- Support for enabling national policies and legislation, and
- Support for enabling global multilateralism and international policies

Within a country, governance can be divided into three levels; national level (government), local level (local people) and a level in-between (*meso* level). This *meso* level is the most important. It includes the local government and other institutions that mediate resources, policies and power between national to local levels. This level is the key to improving good governance. By mobilizing and strengthening local / grass-root organizations and social movements like farmers organisations, fisheries associations and local CBOs, communities can be better equipped to negotiate their own interest and develop their own political space within which to realise sustainable development of their communities.

Interactive Group Session: Social Mobilisation as a Way Forward

Factors preventing a successful scaling up of social mobilization as a methodology

- Status of women: lack of a female voice having slowed down the process.
- Weak Community Based Organisations: Dumping resources on them by outside agencies (name board CBOs, opportunistic CBOs and genuine CBOs), how we build capacity of genuine CBOs? Weak state holder analysis.
- Different understanding of the concept of participation: different level of participation such as information, consultation and true participation. Participation has become a fashion word.
- Lack of human resources and corrupted existing political system.
- Weak network: different organizations doing mobilization such as World Bank or NGOs, but they do not network.
- Lack of special space for people with disabilities.
- Lack of capital or finance – projects are not designed to receive participatory planning.
- Lack of involvement of whole community.
- Lack of effective leadership.
- Externally driven activities.
- INGOs: Providing welfare and destroying the concept of community.
- INGO agendas, different governing structures, funding resources, etc.
- Lack of sustainable engagements with communities and processes are been broken.
- What is the meaning of real change and pseudo change? Issues are political?

What can be done?

- Improve communication within and between – trained external facilitators and trained internal facilitators – strengthening CBOs / NGOs, documentation in local and simple language (less bureaucratic language), information in a level that children understand (that children will do things and continue to do things).
- Grassroots mobilisation should think about quantity and quality mobilizations.
- Local village/community meetings.
- Inter-connected and information based networking among NGOs, CBOs, GOs, INGOs, UN and IFIs.
- Redefining what the state does. States remain powerful but their priorities change i.e. militarization vs welfare, deregulation versus citizen protection.
- Creation of networks and engagement with networks driven by grassroots organisations, membership should be wide.
- Investment in children as agents of change.
- Identification of internal motivators on local village level.
- Need to regenerate social mobilization capacity, reinstall social values.
- Information dissemination.
- Legal frameworks allow for making states accountable.
- Human Rights and national frameworks.
- Local recognition of local laws.

Community Involvement in Decision Making: A case study from rural Sri Lanka

Dr. Vishaka Hidellage, Intermediate Technology Development Group (ITDG), South Asia

ITDG have been working with development on Sri Lanka for the last 15 years, through identifying problems together with the communities and local government and finding technological solution to the problems. This often works well on a local scale, but the problem often appear when trying to scale-up, because there are no mechanisms in place to handle and take responsibility for such projects, and they have also experienced problems with community cooperation and lack of knowledge amongst the communities. Even though it can prove difficult, it is very important to involve the local communities from the beginning, both in the planning phase and the implementation phase. In that way also the local authorities start to show interest, which is crucial for a sustainable long-term time frame.

By involving the communities it is also possible to end up with very different solutions than what was suggested by outside experts, and these solutions could both prove cheaper, simpler and more sustainable.

A large community development project, Community Governance in Rural Development, has now started in 85 villages in Kurunegala District in North-western Sri Lanka. Here the communities are mobilised, asked what their problems are and given an opportunity to come up with ideas for how they should be solved. The model used in this project is based on people's needs and the mechanisms and methodology to address these needs. The methodology is developed through a process with no method in place when they started.

The mobilizing were done through local NGO's that are committed to this kind of development work and represents long-term continuity as they are based in the area. The purpose is to strengthen the participatory capacity of civil society in local development planning. Community mobilisation is important for community participation, because it enhances the knowledge and awareness in a community.

The local involvement from the government is so far good, and the prospects of the project look very promising. Some of the community development plans have already been integrated into the local government's plans, and hopefully this will also expand to other areas.

If this process is going to be scaled up and take place in a larger context one of the biggest challenges will be to mobilize the new communities. Who will be given responsibility for this? By experience it does not happen spontaneously, it does need a catalyst and it is not an easy job. At the moment they are trying to mobilise the Samurdhi¹, and hope they will be interested to take over the responsibility for community mobilisation in other villages.

In regard to the efforts of raising participatory involvement in the PRSP process it *is* possible to use the mobilised villages to get feedback, but for those communities still not mobilized this can prove to be quite difficult. When the communities through mobilisation see that they are affected by the PRSP they automatically take an interest in participating.

¹ Poverty alleviation strategy launched by the GOSL in 1987

Finalising Group Workshops

1. Summarising key issues
2. What is the future for such a working group?
3. How do we proceed?

Conference participants split into three discussion groups

Discussion Group One

Key issues during the conference:

- Mobilization of grassroots levels.
- We should create a network that will lobby our ideas.
- A new methodology, core methodology, presented that is criticizing the PRA. PRA might work in an emergency situation but not in a long term. It would then be interesting to then test this new core methodology.
- We are from different backgrounds, and everyone have different way of practicing PRA. It would then not be fruitful to focus on the methods rather make a loose forum to share experience and success stories.
- Expectations: to hear different methods and examples and hear about the difficulties and the pitfalls and the good experiences. What we have heard in this conference is very much about changing the system from the top, but still the problems are on the grassroots level.
- The challenge is still to bring in the communities, but here we are sitting and there are no representatives from the communities.
- We are not focusing on the money, and what is happening to the money in the PRSP processes.
- It has to be a bottom up approach, and we can agree here on a common approach on how to carry out our projects. This approach has to start as a local community approach and then we can take it further. Because methods will be very different from country to country, but it's still possible to get a common approach.
- We have to do something about the PRSP in the countries, and to do that we need to change the national policies and the agenda of the politicians. Then saying we have our own plans on how to eradicate poverty. The NGO sector and CBO's will have to be important in coming with this new methodology.
- The stronger the NGO's the bigger chance to direct and influence.
- There an opening in the agenda to influence the policy makers, because the PRSP is carried out in many countries despite the protests of the people.
- Grassroots level, local level (local government etc) national level, international level (is the link between national level, IFI's etc.).
- We have to make a big movement to stop PRSP
- But then we will also stop the good things related to PRSP.
- The forces initiating PRSP are very strong and there is nothing stopping it. It will be very difficult to stop it. We should rather be very careful about it, and educate the people on what is happening.
- Could we agree on that we have to take the PRSP into account? It will be too difficult to take it away completely, but try to change the way it is working, and try to include the grassroots to a larger level.
- What is our task is how we can change PRSP to include the grassroots levels.
- It's a practical issue, we have to critically include in the process, and try to change the top-down approach and aware the people.

- How to change the PRSP?
- Education – for long-term benefits of integrated societies. By educating the people they will be more able to influence the decisions made. Focusing in children
- But in some countries even the parliament members do not know about PRSP. We also need to compile information in a popular language for politicians and local level. Distribute information.
- We have to look for parliamentarians that are willing to listen, and influence them, and they again will be able to influence other politicians.
- We should work both from the top and the grassroots level.
- You first have to mobilize the grassroots and having their background and information from them before you go to the national levels.
- But the government is very often indebted to the IFT's, and will do what they are told and not care about the farmers or grassroots level. So we have to work on national level as well.
- We really need politicians that are sympathizing with the poor. Someone with power how are able to influence the policies.
- But popular movements are still the basic work, and sympathetic politicians still need these movements behind them.

Synthesis:

PRSP cannot be abolished, but our aim is to have a real participatory process and make PRSP a tool for civil society to influence national policies towards the needs of the poor.

Grassroots level:

- Different methodologies in different countries.
- BUT: strong commitment to participatory approaches (Films, case studies).
- Awareness building: PRSPs in simple, local languages
 - => making poverty reduction an issue for discussion on the grassroots level.
 - => include the children.
- Focus on education.

National Level

- Strong national networks.
- Awareness building of national level politicians.
- Lobby and advocacy of grassroots needs on a national level (government, politicians etc.): starting with politicians sympathetic towards civil society participation in PRSP.
- Lobbying towards IFIs.

To achieve this we need strong social movements coming from the grassroots but we also need to influence the national level by strong national network on lobbying and advocacy.

How can the grassroots and the national work of civil society be improved by an international network?

Task of international network:

- Exchange of experience - What are the successes of PRSP and what are the pitfalls and impose it on the national governments.
- Analyze experience of PRSP papers.
- Develop alternatives on the basis of grassroots needs (needs of the poor!).

- Each country can make their report, and the international network can make an international report strengthening the national reports.
=> Watchdog: what is going right and what is going wrong (yearly monitoring report?)

A strong international network together with national and grassroots movements has a better standing in changing the PRSP in favor of the real needs of the poor!

Discussion Group Two

1.

- Changes in the rural food situation. Consumer pattern has changed. Less food is produced locally
- More people are facing poverty.
- Good governance, poverty reduction, community resilience. These are interlinked in the work of poverty alleviation.
- Lack of good strategies and good practices for scaling up. There are not existing a common framework for poverty alleviation amongst agencies and institutions working on the issue.
- Work according to the peoples needs. Make a collective method for voicing the people's needs and interest.
- The starting point of poverty alleviation is needs of the people and the needs should identify.
- Government accountability, especially at a local level.
- Participation is a politically sensitive issue.
- Community mobilization can happen, is necessary and can be effective. What is needed is a long-term programme for strengthening grass root institutions like fisher societies, farming societies, CBOs, making them capable of interacting with local government institutions.
- Working with policy on a national political level.
- The issue of considering poor people as objects or subjects. Part of the problem or the solution?
- Community disaster resilience is a strategy towards poverty reduction. Identify both essential and non-essential assets. The PRSPs are creating a space and an opportunity to act.
- Need to identify opportunities and take advantage these opportunities.
- Community mobilization. Through the mobilization and empowerment of local communities over time we can strengthen the local communities and make them capable of voicing their own interest faced with i.e. tsunami reconstruction programmes, international development programmes.

2.

- A network for sharing experiences and good and bad practices.
- A forum for motivating each other for the work.
- Sharing ideas in an effort to outline a common methodology in the struggle for poverty alleviation. Create a common (general and adaptable) ideological platform that unites its members.
- Each partner can feed the members of the network with alternative methods that make the campaign better on a local, national and global level.
- Find a way to build on the work and capacity of already existing networks (i.e. More and Better). This can also add value and a new dimension to these networks.
- An existing network may not share our ideas on the fundamental issues expressed during this conference and the output of this conference may be lost when absorbed into the network.

3.

- Based on the output from various discussions during this conference we have to “define ourselves”.
- We need a good and clear summary of the ideas presented on this conference.
- A clear understanding of the possibilities and our role/space in an existing network should be defined. On what criterion can we join, and what can we offer/contribute.
- The secretariat has to commence the work of finalizing this statement and approaching possible networks.
- Any network should meet the following four criterions;
 1. Decisive membership by social movements.
 2. Needs to be international, members pre-existing in all continents.
 3. Functioning secretariat capable of handling.
 4. Openness and willingness to include community mobilisation into its existing work, perhaps through forming a special interest group within existing network (keeping our identity).

Discussion Group Three

Resilience

- Sustainable environment management.
- Support community knowledge and wisdom – indigenous knowledge.
- Community control over natural resources.

Poverty

- Awareness raising and alternative models / Paradigms.
- Information dissemination on good practices.
- Strengthen CBO's.
- Perspective building on poverty issues.
- Exploring / adopting alternative distributive economic models.

Good Governance

- Join, support, or built social movements.
 - Support alternative paradigms.
 - Research and database on good governance.
 - Upholding human rights legislation.
 - Keep government accountable.
-

Adaptation of a draft report

The Conference Rapporteurs will work on the draft report and the Green Movement of Sri Lanka, Centre for Family Services and Disaster & Development Centre will finalise it before send for the Working Group comments and suggestions. After incorporating the comments and suggestions the report will be adapted.

Closing of the Conference

The Conference was closed on December 10, 2006 at 14.30 hrs. Suranjan Kodithuwakku, the Chief Organiser of the Green Movement of Sri Lanka thanked all participants for their fruitful work and agreed to strengthen the Working Group based on the Conference outcomes.



SPECIAL SESSION ON TSUNAMI RECOVERY, REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION

Ground level experience in the implementation of rehabilitation and reconstruction

Suranjan Kodithuwakku, Chief Organiser, Green Movement of Sri Lanka

“Emergency relief will save the day, but when people are living on the verge of hazards it is not enough to return them to the status quo. If we can raise the quality of life, we may enable most vulnerable not just to survive but to cope with and prevent disasters”

*-Tenna Mengistu-
Secretary General of the Ethiopian Red Cross*

The Green Movement of Sri Lanka (GMSL) is a consortium of 144 civil society organisations whose work centres on environmental conservation, effective natural resource management and sustainable development through empowerment of the poorest and sustainable livelihoods. This is done through focus on current environmental problems and provision of solutions utilising collective efforts based on participation and accountability. In 2003 GMSL cooperated with the Disaster and Development Centre of Northumbria University to establish the disaster management unit of GMSL; the Disaster Management and Information Program (DMIP) which are working with research, education, mitigation and response in relation to human made and natural disasters. The work of the Green Movement and The DMIP is a continuous process of assessing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Already from the afternoon of the day of the tsunami, employees and volunteers from the Green Movement was out assessing the damages of the tsunami in order to decide how they best could help. They started with helping pregnant mothers and children and continued with gap filling work throughout the relief phase in activities such as housing, livelihood, bio-diversity and environmental concerns, education and school support, youth skill development and sports, health risk reduction and psychosocial wellbeing. In all these activities Green Movement have been emphasising their concept of giving special attention to environmental, development and gender issues. In the reconstruction process emphasis have been put on participatory planning for ownership and responsibility of the community, sustainable home gardening and waste management, re-establishment of livelihoods and market access, micro-credit schemes for women and social networking for women and children.

The main gaps that have been observed in the rebuilding process are; lack of environmental consideration, particularly in land allocation and land clearance issues; lack of coordination between and within government, UN, NGO and INGO bodies which is affecting the communities and the environment; and a lack of sensitivity about cultures that is resulting in implementation of western models of reconstruction and rehabilitation.

Experience from South East Asia

Karl Heinz Segschneider, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Thailand

Presenter is part of an “Aid Watch” initiative in Thailand that has been given two year funding from the Heinrich Böll Foundation in Germany. The programme does not have the resources or the capacity to engage in grassroots level implementation or national policies, but will instead

concentrate is focus on monitoring the middle level of the tsunami development work. The programme consists of five components;

1. Tsunami aid watch. Monitoring aid and aid structures in a positive and constructive manner. There have been examples from the southern regions dominated by Muslim communities where Christian aid agencies have traded "aid for belief". In return for development projects agencies have asked for one of the local Muslims to convert into Christianity in order to justify building churches in the village. There have also been cases where land previously owned by poor villagers are been claimed by big tourist hotels since the affected families have lost any proof of ownership to the land in the tsunami. Sources are also claiming that there has been a deliberate under-reporting of casualties from the tsunami. As much as 60-70 % percent of the labour force in the Thai tourism industry is migrant workers, many from Burma. Without any legal working permit this discriminated group are considered as illegal immigrants and not granted any social or legal security in Thailand. This group represented a large number of the casualties in the tsunami, but are kept out of all official statistics in an effort to minimize the extent of the catastrophe and re-boost the tourism industry as quickly as possible.
2. Identify and develop guidelines for good practices. Look at what worked and create a database for how to address future disasters, targeting governments and international aid agencies. This would also include establishing a small fund to encourage the use of these best practises in Thailand.
3. Publish these findings in a book by the end of 2007. Believing that the experiences in Thailand to some extent can be generalized, this publication will link the findings with experiences from other countries affected by the tsunami, but also looking at international aid structures and policies.
4. Establish a fund that will support sharing of information and experiences and facilitate cooperation between tsunami-affected counties. This money can go to support seminars, workshops and conferences.
5. Support development of new concepts on sustainable energy, new systems of community ownership and alternative ownership models. An example was given from a simple methodology that extracts plant oil that can be mixed equally with diesel to reduce fuel cost for fishermen.

Acmad Taufik, Via Campesina, Indonesia

The Province of Aceh, in the northern tip of Sumatra Island, retained the most extensive damage in the december 26 tsunami that calimed more than 150 000 lives (another 90 000 is still reported as missing) and displaced 430 000 in Indonesia³. The Indonesia government promised they will announce that the missing people assume died a year after earthquake and tsunami.

Within on day of the catastrophe the Federation of Indonesia Peasant Union (FSPI), a member of La Via Campesina, formed an emergency team, based in Medan, North Sumatera Provincial capital, under the name of *Koalisi Solidaritas Kemanusiaan Bencana Alam* (KSKBA), or Coalition of Humanitarian Solidarity for Natural Disaster in Aceh & North Sumatera. The Coalition consists of 24 local peasant organisation (FSPI members in South Sumatera, West Sumatera, North Sumatera and Aceh), NGO's, students student groups, in North Sumatera and Aceh.

³ According to data collected by Coalition of Humanitarian Solidarity for Task Force of Federation of Indonesian Peasant Union (FSPI)

Their actions have included:

- Distributed of Information in order to call solidarity in local, national and international level.
- Collecting Aid
- Distributed of Aid
- Sent volunteers and teams for:
- Evacuate corpses
- Distributed of food aid in form of rice, vegetable, fruit, water, etc.
- Distributed of non-food aid in form of clothes, medicine, health care etc.
- Collected baseline data
- Technical Assistant
- Community Organizing and Assessment
- Lobbying with the local government
- Rebuilding houses
- Rebuilding production tool for peasant such as rice mill,
- Repairing and replacing of Fishing tool
- Form of cooperative for peasant and fisher folk

After one year the effects from the vast amount of money that poured into the country is difficult to detect. Close to 107 000 tsunami victims are living without permanent shelter in rotting tents or barracks. The optimistic pledge for 40 000 new houses by the end of 2005 made by NGOs and the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Body have not been fulfilled. In the fishing industry Indonesia has experienced problems similar to Sri Lanka in that boats donated by NGOs are failing to meet construction requirements of the marine conditions in Indonesia, making them useless for the fishermen.

The Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency in Nias and Ache recently published a list of NGOs seeking money to fund their projects, which is hard to comprehend knowing the large sums pledged by the international community of the tsunami rebuilding.

Human Rights in tsunami recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

Y.K.H. De Silva, Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka

The number of IDP's in the world has increased drastically the last 20 years. In 1982 there were a total of 1.2 million IDP's worldwide, while the number today is 25 million in 40 different countries. In Sri Lanka 800 000 people are displaced due to conflict or the tsunami. Even though these people are deprived of their safe and familiar surrounding of their own homes they all have the right to live, the right to food, the right to housing, the right to education and other human rights which are securing the fundamental privileges of people without discrimination.

After the tsunami, UNICEF asked the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka to do a monitoring of the tsunami rebuilding work in order to assure that there is no discrimination in the distribution of tsunami aid. The Disaster Relief Monitoring Unit started this work in all the 13 affected districts in Sri Lanka, and their mandate is to monitor the governments role in the rebuilding and ensure that standards set by the government are followed and that people get what they are promised without injustice or corruption. They are also collecting people's complaints regarding injustice and discrimination during the tsunami rebuilding.

During their work they have seen a lot of volition of the promises of the government and unjust practices related to distribution of food relief, rebuilding of houses and in livelihood activities.

Food aid in many cases did not get where it was supposed to get, and not in right amounts. In some cases the only food aid reaching the communities was flour which is not much used in Sri Lankan cooking, and this was to a certain extent done deliberately so the communities had to sell the flour on the local market for a very low price. There are also a lot of complaints on unjust allocation of aid. Many people that were not affected by the tsunami got aid such as money and livelihood assets from various donors, while others who were really affected got nothing. Also in the housing business there were a lot of complaints, both on the regulations given by the government and the execution of these. Many were complaining about unfair categorisation of the degree of damage on houses, and also on the practice that everyone with a damaged house got 100 000 rupees whether only a window was broken or whether the whole roof was missing.

Their teams also went around in all the affected districts together with university students, informing people about their rights. The people told the students about their complaints which will be compiled in a report and published in Tamil and Sinhalese.

In order to better be able to handle and follow up all the complaints from the people the Monitoring Unit will open offices in all the affected districts.

Tsunami reconstruction in Sri Lanka and the role of the people's planning commission

Sarath Fernando, MONLAR

In order to coordinate the rescue and relief operations in an efficient manner the President of Sri Lanka, established the Centre for National Operations (CNO) as an immediate response to the December 25th tsunami catastrophe. CNO was abolished within weeks, and replaced with the Task Force for Rebuilding the Nation (TAFREN). TAFREN was set up under a Presidential directive with a clear mandate to facilitate, enable, coordinate and monitor the post-tsunami reconstruction efforts. 12 months after the tsunami one can question whether there has been another and less visible mandate behind the whole process of rebuilding the nation.

The appointed body of TAFREN consists of top-level businessmen, many of whom have direct economic interest in the tourism sector in Sri Lanka, and is completely detached from any local participation. Major development lines in the reconstruction planning are merely blueprints of projects that have previously been rejected by the people of Sri Lanka.

The buffer zone that was introduced through the TAFREN, initially put strict restrictions on any infrastructure development within a zone of 200 meters along most of the coastal line⁴. Exceptions were however given to tourism development, so while families were forced to relocate outside the buffer zone any hotel development project within the same belt was highly encouraged by the Government of Sri Lanka (GOSL). The idea of a coastal belt, or set back zone, goes back to the first Coastal Zone Development Plan in 1990, almost at the same time as work on the second Master Plan for Tourism was commencing (1992). The plans presented by TAFREN on urban infrastructure development are also showing striking resemblance to the ADB funded Country Assistance Plan on infrastructure.

It seems clear that the agenda behind TAFREN is more focused on using this window of opportunity to execute development projects that will serve the interest of the business elite rather than concerning the needs of a poor rural population. In the name of tsunami rebuilding,

⁴ This later became a political issue during the November presidential election, and the extent of the zone has now been reduced throughout the country.

plans are now being developed to translocate 15 towns along the affected coastline and facilitate these areas for tourism development. The plans for Arugam Bay alone are budgeted to 80 million USD, and will affect local communities along a 17 km stretch. If the remaining 14 development zones acquire a similar amount tourism industry will consume 1.2 billion USD, or 40 % of the money pledged by the world community as tsunami aid.

The question then arises whether this can be justified based on the knowledge that the international community through a great act of generosity has given this money and that the donations have been raised in the name of the suffering victims from the tsunami. The answer to this question is no. This money have been given to the affected people of Sri Lanka and they should be given the opportunity to decide how they best can benefit from them, in other words; this money belongs to the people. Any attempt to exploit these resources in a manner that goes against the interest of the affected people should be considered as a criminal act.

The formation of the Peoples Planning Commission (PPC) is based on the above-mentioned acknowledgment and on the belief that an alternative development strategy with full participation from the local communities is possible. The PPC is supported by a large network of national and international interest organizations and academics.

A People's Planning Commission should be a process and a body that would be the 'expression' of the process and the results of the process to all parties that matter. Most of all it should be a way of building confidence among the affected people, the owners and beneficiaries of the rebuilding process that such a process is just and workable. This should lead to the much-needed struggle for 'Justice to victims of tsunami and other disasters', including the disaster of poverty. It should be attempted to arrange that the process and final proposals would be taken up for serious consideration at the local, national and international levels, at bodies such as the UN Commissions and in the Development Cooperation Ministries of the relevant countries, with the IFIs and most of all at the level of the national government and its political process. (Background paper on the Peoples Planning Commission, 2005).

Tsunami recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction in conflict affected communities

P. Vigneswaren, NGO Council, Jafna, Sri Lanka

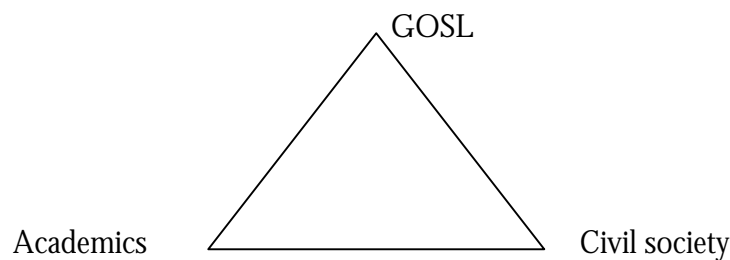
Sri Lanka can be separated into three areas with different sense of controlling body.

1. Government controlled areas.
2. LTTE controlled areas.
3. Conflict area partly government control and partly LTTE controlled.

North and east consists of eight districts, all are war affected and six have additionally been affected by the tsunami.

Aid agencies are trying to undertake development after the same principles as for the relief phase. National needs assessments are being conducted but are not based on references from the local level. This is often resulting in unsustainable projects that are not designed after the needs of the communities. And when local participation is not included the affected people develop into passive recipients that lead to a dependency, which is seen in Sri Lanka today. We need to mobilize the community and move away from this state of dependency in order to gain a sustainable economic development, which is needed the most at the moment.

On the process of developing a new agenda for sustainable development we need to triangulate the process:



These three elements have to work together in order to find a common agreement on sustainable development.

Today the most affected people are not the ones getting the most aid.

We have to improve coordination, communication and monitoring/evaluation from the present situation. Today, for example, the provincial government is bypassed on the way to the district. Coordination is very bad, and there are also communicational problems. We have to establish a planning unit in every district that are given the responsibility of monitoring and guiding agencies that wants to do work in the district.

Establish a community body that can select and identify the rightful beneficiaries.

Agencies are too focused on output, not impacts. Boats are given, but without nets, so the fishermen can still not go out fishing. The project-based approach is also lacking a holistic dimension. Boats and engines are distributed, but no post handling opportunities and no infrastructure for markets exists.

Society is not homogenous; this is not taken into consideration.

At the moment agencies are not interested in strengthening local capacities. Rather they conduct high intensive projects only to pull out both knowledge and resources at the end.

Conclusion of the Special Session on Tsunami Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction

Patrick Mulvani, ITDG - UK Food Group and More and Better International Campaign

The result of the tsunami December 26 2004 was devastating and so has the result of the money that poured into the region afterwards been. We all have a lesson to learn from this – Do no harm; less is better. Many of the blunders made could have been avoided if the people themselves were in control of the rebuilding processes and if they had an actual right and something to say in the decision-making.

What is important and significant in the aftermath of the tsunami is that the plight of the fisher folk have come forth and is back on the agenda of the international communities. We should make sure that it would stay this way for a long period in order to develop sustainable fisheries and consummation of natural resources. It is very important for food sovereignty that people themselves can decide what should be their livelihood.

Accountability, social order and monitoring is needed to make sure money are used in the best way possible, and there is three point that needs to be mentioned in relation to this:

1. In disaster situations there is a need for making assessments, but it does need to be coordinated and local people and local agencies have to be involved in the rebuilding.
 2. It is very clear that there is a great lack of coordination, both between and within agencies involved in the rebuilding, but coordination and implementation should not undermine local government structures and their participation, because that will undermine the future sustainability of the work and local ownership of the projects.
 3. It is also important to remember that short time relief management should not overrun long term local development plans, but should rather be integrated into the local and long term plans.
-



FINAL THOUGHTS AND FUTURE....

The Working Group on Good Governance, Poverty Reduction and Community Resilience (Working Group) is planning to build relationships of common cause with practitioner groups (such as policy lobby, advocacy and campaign groups), academics and policy makers around the world who share our analysis that poverty and under-development are caused by compositional inequalities among and within nations and who are working to promote social, political, environmental, economic and cultural justice in their communities and societies. Further the Working Group supports communities in developing countries to create healthy, safe and secure presence.

The core value of the Working Group is to establish a creative space for a non-violent and free struggle to challenge compositional obstacles to positive change. Future work of the Working Group includes research, networking and education to protect human rights of communities caught up by violence and insecurity in areas of unplanned developmental activities and natural and human-made disasters, including internally displaced people and refugees.

The name Alternative Evolutions means "to challenge the mainstream and let the disadvantaged have a space within" The relationships and approach to work of the Working Group is grounded in the determination that working in common cause to confront social, political, environmental, economical and cultural injustice, to improve the world, and to promote more sustainable models of human community and interaction.

Through providing technical support to community-based research, networking and education programmes and participating in international coalitions and networks, the Working Group is planning to strengthen positive change processes in policy and practice. In this effort to build community and re-create caring societies, the Working Group will be linked to positive action in developing and developed countries in the globe with positive change processes internationally and advocates for global justice and equitable sustainable development, which brings good governance and promote community resilience. .

In the approach to the public, rather than spending time and resources on large fundraising and publicity campaigns, the Working Group have chosen to develop and build a solid core of committed supporters in coming years. This strategy will not make Alternative Evolutions a household name, but a respectful of the type of commitment communities, practitioners, academics and policy makers expect. .

Working Group Principles

The activities and work of the Working Group will be rooted in the principle that every person has the "right to be." This right implies that every person and every community not only has a right to live, but also have a right to a quality of life that is human and humane. Every person and every community has a right to live decently and with dignity, and to develop their authentic human capacity and qualities. Each person, and each community, has a right to develop as they wish, to their full creativity and potential.

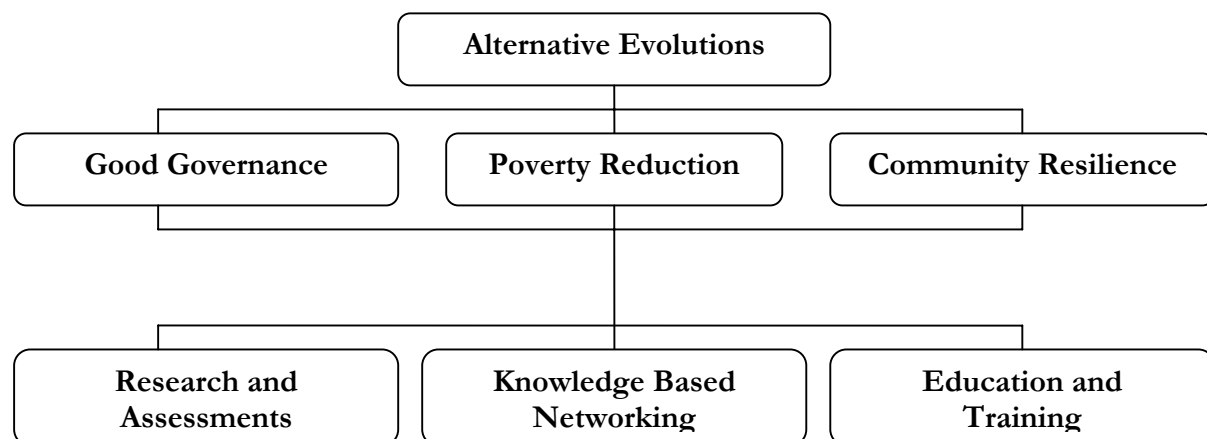
The "right to be" includes, at a minimum, the right not to be killed by the state, or its military proxies or unplanned mega developmental projects. It means the right not to waste away from malnutrition; the right not to die from disasters or development that the simplest precautions could prevent, or from wars waged by dictators against their own people. It means the right not to die from diseases that are easily preventable.

But the “right to be” goes beyond this right to live with a minimal degree of physical security. It is also the right of all communities to be free persons, to be thriving and growing individuals or communities, to be full participants in a free and equal society, to resist oppression and promote justice. It is the right to become - to become what we can, and to seek what we dream.

The Working Group exists to initiate and support actions that promote the right of all persons to be fully human and achieve their full creative potential, and to live creatively and actively as active members in their communities, their countries and their world. Strengthening the capacity of disadvantaged communities to influence the social, economic and political structures that govern their lives - even as forces of globalization, government decentralization, poverty reduction strategies by IFIs and governments, development projects, repression and militarization threaten the basis of civil society – will be a central focus for the Working Group.

Apart from all these the Working Group is committed to promote three pillars of good governance – transparency, accountability and participation – in all levels of community organising, policy formulation and developmental research. It also, look in to policy and practice implications of the International Financial Institutions including WTO at local, regional and international levels to struggle for positive changes at all levels in life on earth.

Activities of the Working Group



The Working Group will relate primarily to local organisations, academic and campaign groups and communities, working together to solve shared problems, which will provide support for local organisations will take place on three levels: technical, knowledge and education. Members of the Working Group will defend the work and lives of these local organisations through determined presence and support, and through international advocacy and political campaign. The Working Group will accompany communities in the field and share their problems and dilemmas, and offer experience and walk with them through difficult times when appropriate. The Working Group will also collaborate with counterparts in international campaigns to influence the social, political, environmental, economical and cultural conditions in which everyone work together. Working Group will create opportunities for its members to learn directly from each other, by supporting mutual exchanges. Working Group members will travel and discuss with communities involved in local processes, and strategize together about what to do next.

Rather than relate to one-time projects, the Working Group will try to offer communities the freedom to plan support where they feel it will do most good - which is often activities for which it is difficult receive assistance. The Working Group will use this space to "seed" new initiatives at local level. This approach will allow the Working Group members to relate to communities as a whole and to be constantly discussing future vision as well as present results. Clearly then, the most important task of the Working Group will be to seek and develop relationships that have the potential for profound collaboration and mutual learning over the long term.

On the political front, the Working Group determine that there is a the social, political, environmental, economical and cultural responsibility to influence government policies in developing and developed countries, procedures and practices on matters directly related to the Working Group mandate; that is, on questions of good governance, poverty reduction and community resilience. The Working Group will play a role in connecting organisations, groups and communities who are working on issues of common cause.

The Working Group will also address governments, IFIs and global policy makers directly, often by invitation. Such invitations will be through policy and practice dialogues, which by producing research, discussion and briefing papers, participating in policy debates at community, regional and international level and organising and strengthening policy campaigns on good governance, poverty reduction and community resilience.

Conclusion

Based on these thoughts and ideas the Working Group on Good Governance, Poverty Reduction and Community Resilience will develop a five-year framework for action. The framework for action will work at regional levels such as South Asia, South East Asia, Southern, Central Africa and Sahel, Americas, Europe and Middle East.

It will begin with work in South Asia – India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Maldives and Bhutan – by analysing existing poverty reduction strategies such as PRSPs and 20-20 India. Also, this process will formulate strategies to deal with imposed privatisation issues such as water and land. Based on this experience the Working Group will create quantum effects, which similar and parallel processes will be carried out in other regions.

This of course will be a reality on available financial and resources of the Working Group.

ANNEX 1

AGENDA

DECEMBER 08, 09, 10 AND 11, 2005

DAY – 01

- 08.45 am **REGISTRATION**
- 09.00 am **OPENING CEREMONY**
- 09.10 am Welcome – *Gloria de Silva, Working Director, Centre for Family Services*
- 09.30 am **KEY NOTE ADDRESS: PRO-POOR GROWTH: THE POLITICAL DEMOCRACY AND ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY NEXUS –**
Dr. Ponna Wignaraja, SAPNA
- 10.30 am Tea and Refreshments
- 11.00 am **GOOD GOVERNANCE AND POVERTY REDUCTION –** *Suranjan Kodithuwakku, Chief Organizer, Green Movement of Sri Lanka*
- 12.30 pm Lunch
- 02.00 pm **COMMUNITY RESILIENCE –** *Bernard Manyena, Research Associate, Disaster & Development Centre, Northumbria University, United Kingdom*
- 03.00 pm Tea and Refreshments
- 03.30 pm **RURAL POVERTY AND GENDER IN DEVELOPING NATIONS –**
Magdalena Kropiwnicka, ActionAid, Italy
- 05.30 pm Evening Break
- 06.00 pm **HOW THE PARTICIPATION OF THE POOR IN DEVELOPMENT: CASE STUDIES FROM NEPAL AND SRI LANKA –** *Documentary Films*

DAY – 02

- 09.00 am **RECAP OF THE DAY ONE**
Dr. Ponna Wignaraja, SAPNA
- 09.30 am **HOW DO WE RE-ENGAGE? –** *Susil Sirivardana, SAPNA /Civil Society Activist*
- 10.30 am Tea and Refreshments
- 11.00 am **DISCUSSION –** *Way Forward*
Vision, the Process and Capacity Building
- 01.30 pm Lunch
- 02.30 pm **PRSP IS ABOUT PEOPLE – EXPERIENCES AND REFLECTIONS WITH PARTNER ORGANISATIONS IN CAMEROON, DR CONGO, ETHIOPIA, GHANA AND TANZANIA –** *Roland Hackenberg, Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter, Germany*

04.00 pm	Tea and Refreshments
04.30 pm	GOOD GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - <i>Patrick Mulvani, Intermediate Technology Development Group, United Kingdom</i>
06.00 pm	Evening Break
06.30 pm	GLOBAL PLATFORM ON GOOD GOVERNANCE, POVERTY REDUCTION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE – <i>Activities and Agenda</i>
DAY – 03	
09.00 am	RECAP OF DAY TWO
09.30 am	COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING: A CASE STUDY FROM RURAL SRI LANKA - <i>Dr. Vishaka Hidellage, Intermediate Technology Development Group, South Asia</i>
10.30 am	Tea and Refreshments
11.00 am	FINALISING THE WORKING GROUP AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES
02.30 pm	Vote of Thanks – <i>Suranjan Kodithuwakku, Chief Organiser, Green Movement of Sri Lanka</i>
SPECIAL SESSION ON TSUNAMI RECOVERY, REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION	
09.10 am	Experience of a Community Based Disaster Management Model: Disaster Management & Information Programme of the Green Movement of Sri Lanka
09.45 am	Experience from South East Asia <i>09.45 – 10.15 Achmad Taufik, Viacampesina</i> <i>10.15 – 10.45 Karl Heinz Segschneider, Heinrich Böll Foundation</i> <i>10.45 – 11.00 Question and Answer</i>
11.00 am	Tea and Refreshments
11.30 noon	Human Rights in Tsunami Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction: , <i>Y. K. H de Silva, Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka</i>
12.30 pm	Lunch
01.30 pm	Presentation: People’s Commission on Tsunami Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction – Sarath Fernando, MONLAR
03.00 pm	Tsunami Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction in Conflict Affected Areas: P. Vigneswaren, NGO Council
03.30 pm	Recommendations and Conclusion: Patrick Mulvani, ITDG - UK Food Group/ More and Better International Campaign

ANNEX 2

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