



YOH!
YOUTH OPEN HOUSE
BUILDING DIALOGUE WITH YOUTH IN CANADA AND THE US

Book of Proceedings

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BREAKOUT SESSIONS
JUNE 11, 2007

Topic: Addressing Problems of Animal-Based Agriculture & Promoting Healthy, Sustainable Solutions

Convener: Pulin Modi

Participants: Jeff Beyer, Kosta Buhler, Eunice Buhler, Sean Morris

Session Summary: A discussion on the negative impacts of animal-based agriculture in terms of sustainability, human health, food security, and animal welfare. Worldwatch Institute reported that the “growth of factory farms, their proximity to congested cities in the developing world, and the globalized poultry trade are all culprits behind the spread of avian flu”<http://www.worldwatch.org/node/4925>. The discussion encompassed evidence from this report, the benefits of vegetarianism, and the ethical and health issues associated with meat consumption of animal-based agriculture.

Major points/ outcomes:

PROBLEM: Resource Depletion

- BBC News Online environment correspondent Alex Kirby also reported how the “growth in demand for meat and dairy products is unsustainable.”
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/3559542.stm>.

PROBLEM: Climate Change

- One study from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations found that, “the livestock sector generates more greenhouse gas emissions as measured in CO2 equivalent – 18 percent – than transport. It is also a major source of land and water degradation.” (<http://www.fao.org/newsroom/en/news/2006/1000448/index.html>)
- Furthermore, a study out of the University of Chicago concludes that the “average American diet requires the production of an extra ton and a half of carbon dioxide-equivalent, in the form of actual carbon dioxide as well as methane and other greenhouse gases compared to a strictly vegetarian diet.”
<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2006/04/060414012755.htm>)

PROBLEM: Education

- Individuals do not have information on more sustainable forms of producing food and meeting nutritional requirements. The information currently available en mass is biased by the corporate agribusiness industry where profits often come before local, organic farming methods.

Action points/suggestions:

SOLUTION: Less Meat Consumption

- The average American consumes approximately 100 animals a year. Even halving that figure per person in the United States and developed nations will have a positive global impact.

SOLUTION: Improve Education

- Focus more on education, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs, and move towards healthier options available for those especially in lower income urban areas.

SOLUTION: Responsible Loans

- World Bank should establish firm guidelines to prevent problems of animal care, waste output, deforestation, and resource consumption attributed to industrialized animal farming projects world wide.

Topic: Combating Despair and Dispossession: How to help young people reach a vision

Convener: Bilal Ahmed

Session Summary: This session discussed the importance of addressing marginalized youth and what actions could be taken in order to involve all youth voices in the development process.

Major points/outcomes:

Goals:

- Make poverty elimination seem less overwhelming
- Reduce human suffering
- “Preach to the non-converts”
- Show people they can change things
- Use the “FOOTSTEPS” model of personal commitment/ responsibility
 - i.e. “pick your #” Millennium Development Goals (MDG) campaign
- Engage marginalized youth
- Come up with some tangible outcomes relating to the question

What tools/approaches do we have to intervene with dispossessed youth?

- Positive role models
- Reshape what’s cool
- Giving youth responsibility/ ownership – tangible, immediate, goal-oriented
- Connect actions at home to impacts overseas through personal stories
 - Humanizing development
- Create personal/individual responsibility the choices you make
- Positive “brainwashing” – media images as a solution
- Make it personal
- Parental influence
 - Until certain age
 - Depending on relationship
- Create high expectations
- Play to their strengths
- Create space for silence, reflection
- Specific abilities
- Listen

Action points/suggestions:

- Listening
- Mentorship/role modeling
- Have youth take responsibility
- TAKE ACTION!

Topic: Development through Sport

Convener: Mary Catharine Breadner

Participants: Alex Balas, Cynthia Thomson, Dara Parker, Daniel Hatcher, Eunice Buhler, Joanna Haber, Konstatine Buhler, Kirsten Jordan

Session Summary: This session discussed the current status of sport and development, making a distinction between sport development (meaning the introduction of elite level sport) and development through sport (meaning sport as a tool for development work). It also looked at the benefits and disadvantages of sport in general.

Major points/outcomes:

- Sport can be used as a tool for development
- Sport one way to introduce good values to an individual
 - Can foster conflict (team rivalries) or inclusion (boys and girls playing together)
- Sport can be competitive or co-operative
- Sport can teach people about their personal limits

Ideas that need more discussion:

- How can sport be better used for development work?
- How do we know if sport is a good/effective tool?
- How can we harness the positive aspects of sport so it can become a better development tool?

Action points/suggestions:

- Sport Tool Kit
- Creating more co-operative games

Topic: Driving Clean Energy Development Worldwide

Convener: Monica Samec

Participants: Cynthia Thompson, Dara Parker, Rene Coignaud, Ariel Zucker, Syed Faraz, May Jeong

Session Summary: This discussion covered the dilemmas and ironies confronted by energy policy, development, and production. The session took a particular interest in energy efficiency, sustainable energy, and energy concerns in the developing world.

Major Points/Outcomes:

Dilemmas:

- Renewable resources could not replace the current energy demand
 - Coal is the cheapest
 - Nuclear is not economically feasible
 - If only the G8 kept with their promises!
 - Nuclear vs. renewable energy
- Energy efficiency – reduce consumptions
 - The way we create cities, build things, lodging, housing – so much energy is wasted
- Awareness is a big issue
 - Policy drives activism and consumer choice
 - Education is key
- Development issues are why we're here
 - Conflict with the environmental movement – another form of white man's burden?
 - North America lacks technology such as the TGV
 - Importance of how renewable policy is pushed world wide
 - Congo has more hydro than Africa can use 50 times over
 - Tanzania and India is abundant with cell phone
- Question of capacity?
 - We are making great inroads of renewable technology

Conclusions:

- The needed technology is already there
- Renewable is closely linked with politics
- Educating the public is essential
- The developing world need not suffer – they have all the potentials to nurse renewables

Topic: Informal Political Participation

Convener: Claudine Desjardin

Participants: Avigail – Apathy is Boring, Erin – Youth Challenge International

Session Summary: This session involved a rich discussion with little focus on action. A broad range of topics was covered, from the role of the media in enabling political action to the apathy vs. efficacy question.

Major points/outcomes:

- Defining informal political participation:
 - Any political action not driven by government
 - Art (dance, theater, film, music etc.) – expression/voice = accessible, cross cultural/linguistic
- What is political action? (or what is not?)
- Voting with everything (dollars, food, laundry soap)

- Voting as the most common form of political participation:
 - More people voted in the last American Idol than in the last Presidential election
- Opposing views on above statement:
 - Make the process of voting fun.
- Apathy – why care when all your needs are met?
 - Status quo is easy, inertia is the strongest force on earth.
 - Is it apathy or efficacy? Are people not voting because they don't care or because they feel like it doesn't make a difference?

- The media and politics
 - Colbert and Stewart make politics fun

- Education and empowerment for political action
 - Needs to be a seat at the table and the tools to be an effective participant

- Coalition building and interest group identification
 - Issues – competition

- LDC's
- Networking, bloggers: using creative outlets that allow folks to remain anonymous
- Problems to be addressed: co-optation, inaccessibility

Ideas that need more discussion:

- How to build a bridge between theory and action?

Topic: Micro-Enterprise (Micro-Finance) as a Means for International Development: Fostering entrepreneurship/small business within the developing world

Convener: Naomi A. Tschirhart (Naomi_A.Tschirhart@unb.ca)

Note Taker: Urvaksh D. Patel (urvaksh.patel@gmail.com)

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Major Points/Outcomes:

Obstacles:

- Title of property and property rights
 - Who owns the property
 - Who can gain from the revenue generated by the use of the property
- Lack of collateral
 - Will institutions/individuals provide micro-finance or fund micro-enterprise projects without any securitization
 - One solution may be peer lending, whereby a group of participants joins their assets together to form an asset base, which can be a form of security
- Access to markets
 - Does a market exist for the product or service being provided
 - Is the infrastructure reliable and capable of transporting goods and services
 - Any social/cultural impediments (example given: women unable to work or seek education to foster entrepreneurial ventures due to family imperatives)
 - Any relevant competition (especially from larger multinational conglomerates)
- Government/political factions
 - Government rulers may prohibit private enterprises in fear of losing influence
 - Opposing parties within governments may disagree on use of additional tax revenue (creating divisions rather than mending them within local regions)
- Creation of social economic disparities within a community
 - Families with income being generated by micro-projects may fare much better than those without such opportunities, which could create socio-economic tension
 - The “Have vs. the Have Not”
- Centralization vs. decentralization
- Cost effective
 - Is the product of a micro-enterprise venture being produced in the most cost effective manner?
 - Sometimes large corporations are able to reap the benefits of cost and scale more effectively than smaller operations.
- Literacy
 - Are the recipients literate enough to even make small business decisions?
 - Micro-financing should not come at the cost of forgoing more structured learning opportunities or chances for enhanced learning

Opportunities:

- Taxation
 - Profiting micro-enterprises create a supplemental taxation base for local and national governments
 - Tax revenue can then be used for building more or enhancing existing infrastructure

- The development of more sound infrastructure may also lead to additional returns for micro-enterprise owners and lenders (as markets develop, so can business revenue)
- Linkage to global markets
 - Increases export volume, which boosts economic output, strengthens local currency, and bolsters regional growth
 - Opens the market to new imports as well
 - Establishes a base for increased foreign direct investment
 - Creates more awareness of local issues to the outside world
- Ownership/social capital
 - Provides a means to ownership
 - Equity switches from government or few stakeholders to the masses
- Practical education
 - A means to instilling leadership qualities among people within a region
 - Provides training in both technical and soft skills (ex. bookkeeping and teamwork)
- Return on investment
 - Goal is that micro-enterprise operators improve the quality of their lives through a means of business ownership and fulfilling a need to society
 - Lenders' interest is to earn a return on their investment, but also fulfill a larger social mission
- Economic multiplier effect
 - Money circulating through a region is “multiplied” as it passes among individuals, businesses, and the government
 - Increased money exchange may also create a means for a sounder relationship among government, business, and local citizens
- Migration alleviation
 - As struggling regions begin to prosper, the effect of populations migrating from those regions may ease
 - Places less pressure on the global community (especially neighboring governments, which typically absorb refugees)

Ideas that need more discussion:

- What is the process for loan repayment?
- Are larger more established financial institutions involved in micro-financing?
- What type of training or skills do micro-fund recipients receive?

Action points/suggestions:

Additional Sources of Information and Group Recommendations:

- www.kiva.org
- www.microfinancegateway.org
- “Banker to the Poor” by Muhammad Yunus

Topic: Opportunities and Challenges of Interfaith-based Initiatives in Youth Advocacy and Development

Convener: Kalin McCluskey

Session Summary: The session discussed the challenges of interfaith dialogue. Though the complexity of the problem poses great difficulty, it concluded that discussion and understanding is the best solution for bridging the gap between faiths.

Major points/outcomes:

- We must manage the presuppositions of our own worldviews
- We must bridge the gap between religious and non religious people
- There are those who identify with the label of religion, both negatively and positively
 - People have a need to call attention to the negative aspects
- The problem with interfaith dialogue is not the “interfaith” part, but rather the framing of religion and the stereotypes
- How to hold on to personal beliefs
 - By understanding others, do we lose part of ourselves?

Action points/suggestions:

- Find similarities to diffuse the barriers
- Encourage opening up, dialoguing, and finding similarities and positives
- Come together in solidarity and see the best in others
- Listen
 - Listening leads to understanding, which is a critical role in the development of peace
 - Be understanding and compassionate of something different
 - Head to the religious institution (a synagogue, a mosque, etc.) and talk to people to garner accurate information about an unfamiliar faith
- Talk
 - Disagreements may be difficult, yet they can be beneficial
 - Expand your worldview and encourage dialogue
 - Plant the seed for great discussion and enhanced learning
 - Talk to strangers
 - Can lead to an increase in learning and a truly interfaith dialogue

Topic: Security and Development: Assisting Youth to Escape the Conflict Trap

Convener: Max Kelly

Participants: Sabrina Hirsi-Issa, Alexandru Balas, Benjamin Perryman, Michael Eddy

Session Summary: The theme of this session was the interdependence of security and development, particularly with regard to youth. The discussion included a brief overview of the concepts involved, a review of the policy tools available for breaking the 'conflict trap' at the level of individual youths, and the current and potential role of the World Bank to coordinate with other actors in order to break the cycle during the delicate transitional period from peacekeeping to peace building.

Major points/outcomes:

- The World Bank has both an interest and an imperative to contribute to the transition from the peacekeeping to peace building phase of post-conflict state-building and recovery
- Youth are a key constituency that must be mobilized in support of such transitions if they are to succeed
- There is a distinct gap in the competence, capacity, and mandate of international actors with regard to assisting nations through the transition from peacekeeping (building a secure environment) to peace building (strengthening of accountable state institutions, encouraging economic growth, promoting reconciliation and transitional justice, etc.), and that critical gap can result in a return to conflict
- Barriers to World Bank involvement include:
 - Reservations about violating its mandate by becoming involved in explicitly political matters, especially security issues
 - Lack of operational experience among frontline development staff in insecure environments, generating reluctance to be deployed into those contexts
 - Security issues and conflict analysis have not yet been fully incorporated into World Bank operational policies and procedures
- The World Bank possesses analytical and financial resources that outstrip most other multilateral actors working on post-conflict recovery
 - It should therefore coordinate closely with those actors whose core competence is building a secure environment in order to provide the necessary resources to restructure local economic opportunities in support of peacekeeping and peace building efforts

Ideas that need more discussion:

- The involvement of the World Bank in SSR
- Its coordination with other actors such as the UN and regional organizations at earlier stages of the transition out of conflict
- The integration of security issues into World Bank operational procedures

Action points/suggestions:

- Reorienting World Bank measures of progress and development to better account for insecurity at the individual, community, and national levels.
- Providing access to World Bank analytical resources to peacekeeping missions in order to foster coherent transition strategies incorporating economic, political, and security issues.
- Providing relatively small, highly targeted grants or loans in coordination with peacekeeping missions, international and local civil society, and national governments for projects (such as cash infusions into DDR efforts, or targeted micro-credit programs) designed to reduce

the economic incentives for a return to conflict during the interim period when the tangible economic dividends of peace have yet to materialize and former or potential combatants have begun to contemplate taking up arms again.

- Working with the UN's Sport for Development and Peace initiative to create and fund programs addressed primarily to youth in post-conflict environments that, through participation in sport, will build social capital and enhance education projects.
- Encourage youth participation in non-violent civil society groups, and in turn the participation of those groups in deliberations on PSRPs and CAS through the YDP network mechanism, by providing funding and logistical support to such nascent organizations.
- Conduct impact studies for all youth-focused projects in order to ensure that programs are in fact addressing their needs, and to develop greater knowledge about the most or least successful aspects of development projects.

Is there a person present willing to champion this topic? If yes, who?

Max Kelly, Alexandru Balas, Benjamin Perryman, Michael Eddy

Topic: Student-Led Research

Convener: Sarah Haddock

Participants: Pulin Modi, Claudine Desjardins, Erin Nesbitt, Ankur Mangalagiri, Katie Chau, Sarah Haddock, Courtney Matson, May Jeong

Major Points/Outcomes:

- Make research appealing to youth advocates
 - Youth friendly research component
 - White papers are hard to gain access to
 - We need to legitimize ourselves
- Bridging policy making and research is a big question
 - Evidence based advocacy
 - Coordinating body – Think!, Igloo, Change.org, TakingITGlobal
 - Collaborating with professors work well
 - One needs to be aware of what is lacking before blaming academia
 - Munk Centre – excellent venue for public, civil society outreach if need be
- Social networking vs. academia – draw the line?
 - Do not reinvent the wheel
 - Professors certainly add gravitas

Action points/suggestions:

- Contact pre existing organizations
- Research project
- Reach out on youth led research that already exists

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS
JUNE 12, 2007**

Topic: Addressing the Disproportional Impact of HIV/AIDS on Women

Convener: Julie Cook

Session Summary: This session discussed the reasons women are disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS in developing countries, and what possible steps could be taken to address this problem.

Major points/outcomes:

Why are women disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS?

- Myths about HIV contraction (eg. Sex with a virgin)
- Myths about treatment
- Cultural attitudes towards women
- Sex work
- Migratory labour
- Religious beliefs about contraception
- Lack of education
- Power imbalance between men and women
- Lack of access to resources (eg. Land, information, condoms)
- Rape of women in conflict zones
- Biological reasons
- Added burden of women as caregivers

Action points/suggestions:

- Work with both women *and* men in prevention education
 - Engage men in conversation about HIV and ways to prevent it
 - Ask them questions and answer their questions
 - Challenge common views about women as inferior to men
 - Encourage open and frank discussion between the two sexes
 - When holding a women's conference, invite men in at least one aspect of it
- Establish male mentors and role models in the community and in the media
- Use the peer education model to ensure mutual trust and respect
- In the case of Westerners helping in developing nations, we must ask what our partners deem important rather than making assumptions about their needs
- Get tested to ensure credibility (so that you understand how it feels)
- De-stigmatize through informal conversation with friends and family members
- Work with religious and traditional healers as well as other leaders who are respected by the people
- Collaborate with faith-based organizations if possible
- Scale up prevention efforts in unaffected or little affected areas
- Ensure that there is equal awareness and prevention efforts in all areas (awareness of susceptibility)

Topic: How Can the World Bank Do More for Sustainability?

Convener: René Coignaud

Session Summary: The discussion focused on the issues of sustainability, not always pertinent to the work of the World Bank.

Major points/outcomes:

- Making loans dependant on limiting pollution
- Ensuring local acceptability of projects
- WB should integrate environmental economics in all its works
- Should ensure clean tech transfer
- A vegan diet was mentioned as a way to reduce GHG
- Perhaps the WB should not support factory farming and should support sustainable livestock
- Perhaps the WB should have sustainable procurements policy

Topic: Initial Discussion on YDP Network in North America

Convener: Kirsten Jordan, TakingITGlobal

Participants: Aalaa Abuzaakouk, Alexandru Balas, Ariel Zucker, Arturo Romboli, Christoffer Grønstad, Christopher Malano, Ines Huwe, Johanna Alexandra Gomez, Kohei Nakasato, Michael Eddy, Mitty Steele, Rosario Castro, Sara Critchfield, Sarah Haddock, Sofia Rodriguez Gallagher, Summy Jafri, Tomohiro Muramoto, Yamingué Béтинbaye

Session Summary: Session convened to discuss the possibility of creating a network of youth organizations engaged in development issues. Specifically, this group looked at the potential for forming a YDP North America chapter, discussing the positive and negative aspects of adopting the YDP label.

Major points/outcomes:

Create an international network:

- Connect organizations tackling development issues
- To shed more light on issues facing youth in developing countries
- Network should be inter-religious and intercultural to encourage dialogue
 - Means of attaining peace, awareness, and participation
 - Perhaps initiate exchange program
 - Promote skill sharing
 - TIG can set up online mailing; AID can set up video conference
- Create a database of organizations

Structure ideas:

- Council or committee to ensure equal voices to various organizations
 - Important to define 'whom you represent'
- Collection of youth organizations – similar to model in Europe and Japan
 - A coalition to unite voices and work towards common goals
- Work at national level with representatives at regional and local levels
 - Local chapters can steer local projects
- Global steering committee
- YDP Chapter:
 - Mandate – to advocate for development and peace
 - Each chapter defines individual priorities
 - Designed by youth
 - Affiliation with the World Bank
 - Advantages of resources and knowledge of staff
 - Not controlled by World Bank
- Consensus model – more bureaucratic, but more cooperative

Purpose of the organization:

- Youth-led movement – place a youth voice at the table
- Policy advising or partner with NGOs?
- To connect youth organizations involved in development
- Lead by example – learn from the past but show how things can be done differently

Ideas that need more discussion:

Is it important to address issues in our own communities?

- Addressing local issues may grant legitimacy abroad
- Education is an important issue to be addressed in North America
- Importance of role internationally may outweigh national focus?

How to engage youth organizations in North America:

- Need to remain inclusive – be open, inclusive, inform others, accept differences
- Reach out to university campuses/organizations for mobilization
- Large community to deal with – how big is too big?
- US needs to show it can be cooperative

Challenges of forming a 'youth organization:'

- How to define 'youth organization' – 15-29?
- Individuals grow out of 'youth'

Topic: Making Development Fun and What's Your Number Campaign?

Convener: Rohit Malholtra, F.O.O.T.S.T.E.P.S

Major Points and Outcomes:

- Powerful tools: music, comedy, art
- Some students don't care
- Get students involved by involving development in things already going on
- Advertise through media
- Use influential figures
- Make it tangible
- Challenge: making concepts like maternal health "tangible"
- A fun conference
- Should be open ended- no one looking over
- Travel grants are a must
- Important to create a network
- Ownership is necessary
- Educating in a way that's simple to understand
- We should have a conference at a variety of universities
- Using the phrase youth voice is inaccurate because the youth have many voices
- We should create statistics on what students are passionate about
- Students come together if something is fun and they can do something about it
- We should create the first youth report

Topic: Moving Beyond Tokenism: Meaningful youth participation at the national, regional and international level

Convener: Katie Chau

Participants: Big group, 19 participants

Session Summary: This session addressed the importance of youth involvement, and the challenges faced by youth organizations in seeking meaningful engagement.

Major points/outcomes:

Definition of tokenism:

- Lack of integration of youth issues into broader, larger discussions, processes
- Youth being involved very late in decision-making processes
- Endorsing projects, rather than conceptualization and development
- Fixing on a little piece of the bigger picture (Africans in grass skirts, etc)

How do we move past this?

- Help young people gain the tools to raise their voices, so that people in power listen
 - Decide to work with, around, through other power structures
 - Ask sensitive questions to make sure that the candidates answer questions that relate to youth issues
 - Raise youth involvement
- Target partners to press for youth involvement

How can we move away from tokenism?

- Infrastructure and planning: workshops for organizations to educate about the importance and value of having young people involved in decision-making processes
- Youth has its advantages, but also has its short-comings
- One barrier to effective communication and youth input is an unfortunate tendency to take absolutist positions and talk at rather than “talk to” people
 - Making sure youth have the tools, info and education to engage meaningfully

The same youth being involved – the “elite” voice

- Important to represent the diversity of youth
- University campuses
 - Networks students; only represents specific segment of the youth population
- Youth have different ideas and priorities
 - You should be careful to not generalize youth and their interests
 - Representation of ALL views is important
- Cultural barriers bar people from get involved
 - In some places being youth is a barrier for meaningful involvement
- Strengthen linkages between elite and non elite
 - Programs where youth take on leadership or management roles

What are concrete strategies?

- Work through schools and through pop culture
- Use youth branches to contact the larger organization
- The basic problem is that the youth voice is very weak in general
 - Particularly in N. America, youth voice is very weak in public debate
 - The starting point is getting youth involved in the agenda
- Important to use evidence of success of youth organizations
- Finding political leverage is a fundamental issue
- Using larger institutions and organizations to help youth groups coordinate

- Important to identify obstacles from participating in non-youth organizations
 - Legal barriers: for example, minimum age restrictions
 - Youth must be willing to take the risks associated with responsibility
 - Young people experience higher risk, because they have less capital
- Important for youth to participate in non-youth specific sessions and activities to ensure that young people's voices are heard across the board
- Important to sell the value and importance of youth participation to non-youth
- When people "graduate" to non-youth, they often take everything with them
 - Important for youth organizations to partner with non-youth organizations and for non-youth to continue to be engaged with youth after they "age-out"

Other obstacles:

- When youth gain a voice, then the voice/power is taken away from someone else.
 - It's important to demonstrate why youth involvement is important
- Youth come from different backgrounds
 - Youth from minority backgrounds are often marginalized
 - Important to keep in mind that there are different outreach methods

Topic: Post-Kyoto Protocol Commitments

Convener: May Jeong

Session Summary: Participants addressed the Kyoto Protocol. They looked at how the developing countries are suffering the most and how the onus is on the developed countries to address the problems of reaching Kyoto commitments. An intergovernmental binding treaty as the sole panacea was further addressed.

Major Points/Outcomes:

How you feel towards the issue of climate change within the perspective of a developed and developing dichotomy?

- Developing world pollution and lack of concern for sustainable resources adversely affects poor countries
 - Peru's agriculture is suffering from global warming, but this is not entirely due to the pollution within Peru but that from the developed nations;
 - Are the damages reversible?
 - What can we do now?
- Pressure put on developing nations is unfair
 - we need to create incentives so that preserving their natural resources doesn't come at a detriment to their progress
 - WB is paying countries not to wipe out their forests
- It is hypocritical - we know the history; knowledge could be used for solving environmental problems
 - Is this a question of money?
- Economics and climate change
 - This is a critical time in the negotiation for initiating substantial change
 - Developing countries can initiate projects

Regulation at home:

- Any form of regulatory measure can only happen if you have internationally binding agreements
 - Developed nations have the power and the backing to move on
 - Intensity vs. CO2 emissions
 - After Bush's State of Union address on ethanol, its sales went from 1/2M to 300M
 - What about economies relying heavily on corn produce? Mexico and its tortilla craze?
- Public vs. private
 - Atlanta is fully implementing the LEED standard – environmentalism is good for business as well
 - What is the incentive? It saves 1 yr for developers
 - Advertisements make it become public knowledge
 - Many countries are doing energy audits as well
 - Solar panels as an option on every single home in California – did not pass
- Producing hydrogen power is inefficient right now – will not be implemented in 10-15 yrs
 - Hydrogen is safer according to scientists
 - Adaptation in climate change from a developing country's perspective
 - 1% funds from CDM go into the climate change adaptation funds
 - \$100B/yr carbon credit – more than what the WB has every yr
- Monetize the externalities
 - Put a price on the CO2 emissions
 - \$32,000B on energy project and only 1% is renewable

- When the WB does their environment assessments, calculate the CO2 emissions that the project emits and buy CDM credits

Action points/suggestions:

- We all know voluntary mechanisms do not work unless an economic incentive is embedded into the program
- It may not be fair for the developing countries to impose upon them a universal cookie-cutter treatment
- Partisan politics must be divorced from climate change policy negotiations

Topic: Next Steps Session

Convener: John Engle

Participants: All participants

Session Summary: The final session discussed the next steps to follow after the conference. The proposed actions included a discussion of creating a Youth Peace and Development (YDP) network in North America, the advantages and disadvantages of YDP, and the purpose of creating a network.

Major points/outcomes:

Aspects of YDP

- Framework for action
- Local government involvement
- Access to knowledge/publicity
- Loose, informal network
- Youth – led prioritization
- Easy links to youth organizations elsewhere
- Internal advocacy and World Bank
- Benefits from YDP label
- Limited but some financial infrastructural capabilities

Why are we here? (Mandate)

- Education of young people about international development
- How to take action
- Establish network between groups with similar focus
- Get an aggregated voice that recognizes individual/local concerns and issues
- Value in writing it down?
- Differentiate between local and global issues
- Strength in numbers
- To advance the goals of our individual organizations
- Why not? No harm in trying
- Clarify the focus as local or global or both

Ideas that need more discussion:

- Networking vs. events
- What do you think about the YDP network
- Open vs. closed network
 - Open seems preferable
- Explore how we can work together better

Action points/suggestions:

- Top 3 Issues
 1. Reflection
 2. Mission
 3. Structure

Topic: YDP North America Brainstorming Session

Convener: Kalin McCluskey

Participants: Courtney Matson, Aataa Abuzaakouk, Summy Jafri, Michael Eddy, Alexandra Balas, Max Kelly, May Jeong, Kalin McCluskey

Session Summary: The brainstorming session drafted an initial document towards forming a YDP North American chapter.

Major points/outcomes:

What is the North American Youth Development and Peace Network?

- A loose coalition of youth organizations from across North America working together on providing a voice for youth in issues regarding development and peace.
- A Network of committed organizations focusing on developmental issues at home and abroad.
- A means of promoting interaction among youth organizations, the World Bank, the Global Youth Development and Peace Network Steering Committee and other partners to encourage participation of youth in projects, policy design and youth advocacy.

The objectives of the Network, as borrowed from the global Steering Committee, are:

- Improve mutual knowledge and understanding through information sharing between youth organizations and the World Bank
- Empower youth organizations through cross-regional communication, dialogue at all levels and training.
- Facilitate joint collaboration on specific issues and projects

MISSION

To create a network for youth organizations in North America to share information and ideas to work together for development and peace in addition to functioning as a clearing house for wisdom and mutual sharing of best practices. As youth, we are not simply the leaders of tomorrow, but rather at the leaders of today. In this mentality, the network will also function as a means to collaborate on projects, policy design, advocacy, and empowerment of youth on issues surrounding development.

VISION

It is the vision of the North American Youth Development and Peace Network that through working together we can one day live in a world where poverty has been eradicated, health care and primary education are readily accessible, and war ceases to exist. It is our vision that one day we will live in peace, and conflict will only be a historical term rather than reality. To achieve this vision, the Network's primary focus will be in three areas:

- Advocacy
- Education
- Sharing of Best Practices

STRUCTURE

The North American YDP Network will exist as a loosely defined coalition with the following exceptions:

- Steering Committee
The Steering Committee will exist as a means of overseeing procedural necessity and will function as a focal point for the network. The role of the steering committee will be to oversee the working groups, and disseminate the

information from the working groups to the member organizations. The steering committee shall consist of: a representative from each member organization, a representative from each working group. From this, a chair and a secretary shall be nominated for procedural purposes.

- Working Groups
Working groups will be flexible coalitions of organizations working on a specific issue. These groups will prepare documents and will work cohesively to promote tangible action items among the member organizations on their particular area. Sample working groups may include:
 - Education
 - Health
 - HIV/AIDS
 - Access to Water

The Steering Committee and Working Groups will work together to facilitate the development and focus of the North American Network. Communication among the working groups and steering committee are crucial and may be facilitated by: e-mail, blogs, TakingITGlobal, as well as potential for Conference Calling.