



UN-NFF

UN-NFF ALUMNI
ASIA-PACIFIC CHAPTER

United Nations-Nippon Foundation Fellowship Alumni Newsletter— Asia-Pacific Chapter

LA-Caribbean alumni meeting was taken place in Barbados



Source: Uirá

The LA-Caribbean alumni meeting held during April 17-22, 2010 in conjunction with the IOI training module: Law of the Sea & Principled Ocean Governance. The alumni had opportunities to fulfill their experiences and sharing the idea on the ocean governance and the law of the sea aspects which focused on the issues of Ecosystem Based Approach, Precautionary Approach, Public

Participation Principle, Polluter Pays Approach, Fisheries Management focusing in the Caribbean Sea, Maritime Boundary and Delimitation and Conservation and Ocean Environmental Protection.

The alumni not only shared their works in their countries in different field of ocean governance but also involved discussion in depth of each topic of their concern. They not only engaged the discus-

sion but also worked as facilitator in each group which was a good opportunity of creating a good relationship with participants and key resource persons from various countries of the LA-Caribbean region. The rap up and round table discussion was full of productive, creative and responsive environment.

The informal meeting among alumni and the full day of activities session had been conducted on the last day, April 22, 2010. There were several games activities that aimed to enhancing the capacity of alumni, conducting teamwork and dealing with the negotiation situations. Apart from the productive matter that alumni have perceived from this section, it has crucially strengthened the sense of team and the long lasting of friendship among them.

Editorial - moving forward needs teamwork

The highlights of this issue are the reports from the alumni who attended the LA-Caribbean meeting which

was held in Barbados. Each of them may have different interests in different issues of the ocean which included in the meeting. So, the reports are from their different perspectives.

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However, the important things that they uniquely agreed without any doubt are how value of the meeting is and how it is mean for them. There was more than only the benefit of educational discipline that alumni perceived from the meeting.

They had opportunity to know each other and relationship have been created and due to this chance, the net of alumni work is not only bounded by their commitment and responsibility anymore but also by the great and deep sense of friendship among them which exist beyond countries and regions. The first Asia-Pacific alumni meeting in Tokyo, 2009 had been proved how crucial of teamwork is, and this second alumni meeting is another step which is significant matter to moving forward to achieve our goal of harmonizing the ocean governance of the world.

Insights on the IOI Training Module & the LACA alumni meeting

The Principled Ocean Governance was the main concern of the IOI training held in Barbados from 17 to 22 of May, 2010. It was also focused on the Caribbean Region for obvious reasons. Participants were from Latin America, Caribbean and North America. Most of them work in government or are involved with decision making process at some point. This resulted in a very experienced audience that could as well give us lectures on their own. Lecturers were professors from IOI and West Indies University, all well prepared and experienced. Lectures were given on several aspects of ocean governance such as principle driven governance, precautionary approach, public participation, EIA, polluter pays principle and so on.

Being held in the Caribbean meant that we would be talking about intense use of the seas, boundaries issues and challenging integrated ocean governance. It was very good to learn from nations that face challenges such as shared resources, boundaries, extreme international negotiation and, finally, a wide and overlapped variety of institutions and commissions and agreements and committees that deal with the variety of subjects related to the Ocean. One is to perceive the uniqueness of the Caribbean Sea and the big challenge it is to build integrated, principled based Ocean governance there. Another interesting point was how other participants were interested in the fellow-

ship! Many questions, many exchange of information, awesome people! Something tells me that there will be many candidates from the LACA region for the 2011-2012 fellowship... It was a great experience to access realities so distant and yet so close to the problems my nation faces. One couldn't stop from thinking that the world is pretty much the same everywhere and that the Ocean is what binds us all.

This was also the first LACA (Latin America and the Caribbean) alumni meeting. At the same time we benefited from the training IOI was holding and also from being together, knowing each other for the very first time! Exciting! We were there to find our own identity, the way in which we will cooperate from now on. And we did it! Between English, Spanish and Portuguese we managed to get together and start developing a network based on our passionate commitment to our nations and most of all, to the Ocean. For that I have to thank las chicas locas Cecilia (Chile), Miriam (Peru), Tatiana (Colombia) and Bryslie (Guatemala); the island girls Natasha (Bahamas), Aleeza (Barbados), Tricia (Antigua and Barbuda), Lavern (St. Lucia); also our dearest representative Sampan (Thailand) and finally my good friend Uira (Brazil).

The LACA meeting was very important in a sense to perceive that UN-Nippon alumni have no boundaries. We belong to the Ocean instead of the other way around. We are all deeply involved with marine and

maritime affairs within our nations and also involved in a global network that embraces all continents. We have the freedom to discuss issues without representing any government; we can share our opinions freely. In a time to come we can make a difference and maybe then we will be able to find among ourselves creative solutions to the sea of troubles we are facing now.

All in all, the experience was very good. Network is growing, sharing is increasing and most of all we are more connected now than ever. We should consider meeting in a regular basis in order to maintain this very important connections. Special thanks to the best of all: Olguita and Dr. François Bailet. I thank the Nippon Foundation for this outstanding opportunity.



Source: Uira
Andrei Polejack
current fellow 2010-2011
Brazil

IOI Training Module: Fisheries Management Issues in Caribbean Region



The most challenge for this region is the Illegal Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) Fishing. One among other weaknesses is the minimized penalties, and it is very low when com-

pare to the profit that the fisher can take from breaking regulations. The Caribbean countries have to urge to adopt or sign the Port State Measure Agreement and the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Approach (MCS)

and the enforcement of the regulation has to be improved.

The national fisheries plan and policy have to be prioritized and harmonized in the Region. The strengthening of the cooperation and commitment has to be enhanced especially in term of sharing data, enhancing institutional capacity including human resources, technological resources and financial resources.

However, in this issue, it may need the assistance from the developed countries with respect actual requirements of the received countries in the Region. The Precautionary Approach was mentioned to be implemented the open access has to be replaced by the limited access fishing right. Lastly, the climate change issued has to be addressed and investigated so that the ac-

tual impact of climate change on the fisheries ecosystem can be identified.

The strength of the Caribbean countries for the further fisheries management including the capacity of human that are ready to be enhanced or improved, the knowledge of the fisheries resources and using it in the best ways, most of required principles are recognized, they needs effectiveness implementation, thought. There are several formal institutions that have capacity for the better coordination of the regional countries including ACS, CRFM and OSPESCA.

Sampan Panjarat
Alumni 2007-2008
Thailand

DEVELOPMENT & PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: CHALLENGES



One of the principles of governance that is becoming really useful today is public participation. This is happening because during the last years the debate about the meaning of develop-

ment has showed that if we want to implement a really sustainable development, we need to leave behind the economic paradigm. This means, that it is important to take into account the social and cultural component in order to allow people to express their interests, through mechanisms such as public participation.

In consequence, this is going to guaranty

that the process of decision making of diverse development projects, could consider the opinions of diverse actors. Therefore, this is going to increase the success probability of the implementation of these ones, because since the beginning it is going to be made and agreement among the parts in order to avoid negative impacts in the communities involved. Nevertheless, this mechanism of participation has diverse challenges that we need to face in order to develop a successful process. The first one is to leave clear the differences between equity and equality from the beginning of the process, in order to avoid misunderstandings among the parts.

The second one is to have clear that depends on the context (particular case) the social and cultural component is going to have more or less weight than the other ones (environmental, economical, political etc). The third one is that public participation should be at local and national level, but also at regional and international level. People don't need to be there, but the point is that their opinions could be take into

account in these scenarios in order to help decision makers. The fourth one is that all the actors need to have clear that this one is a joint learning process; no one has the unique true. The last one is that at the end of the process community should be informed about the reasons that don't allowed that their ideas could or couldn't be include.

As we can see the diverse actors of this process has a along path to walk; but the important thing is that now at least these ideas are beginning to be take into account. If we really want to implement a sustainable development understand from an integral perspective, we need to have in mind the diverse aspects (such as the social and cultural) and the importance that all these ones have to develop good projects that could have good impacts for all the parts involved.

Tatiana Ome Baron
Alumni 2007-2008
Columbia

Public Participation in Central America

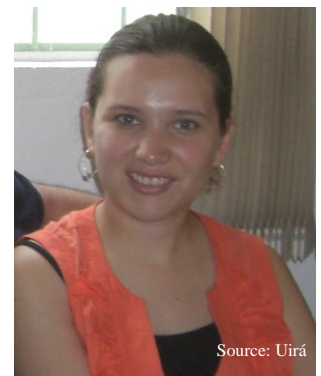
During the week in Barbados I had the pleasure to attend many lectures related to Law of the Sea and Principled Ocean Governance in the Caribbean. One of the lectures was about the *public participation principle*, the topic caught my attention and I started to think about what Guatemala is doing, through the Unit of Management of Fishery and Aquaculture (UNIPESCA) dependence of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA), to include all the sectors in proposals related to management of fisheries in the Caribbean and Pacific Oceans. Nowadays, people in that areas are more concerned about fisheries and aquaculture, that is why the aquaculturalists dedicated to shrimp production, fishermen from interior waters, public servants from several institutions including MAGA, the Commission of Protected Areas (CONAP), Non-governmental Organizations, among others, respond on May 4th, 2010 the call that the competent authority did to consult the project of the regional initiative to implement a "Code

of Ethic for Fisheries and Aquaculture for the States of the Central America Isthmus".

The process went pretty much as Professor MacConney said at the lecture; people involved in the consultation had the initiative to share their experiences, thoughts, suggestions, etc. to obtain a result which will be a benefit to every person who is interested fisheries and aquaculture activities. Experiences such as the one mentioned before proves that some types of documents, even if they are not legally binding, need to be consulted under the public participation principle.

Central America has demonstrated that is enforcing its legislation related to sustainable fisheries, particularly using the public participation principle, by doing the consults of the project related to the "Code of Ethic for Fisheries and Aquaculture for the States of the Central America Isthmus" at a national level before subscribing it as a Re-

gion. The Central American Isthmus is working to harmonize each national regulations and laws and there is no doubt that all the countries are approaching their goal by implementing the participation of the sectors involved.



Source: Uirá

Bryslie Cifuentes-Velasco
Alumni 2008-2009
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The role of Science in Ocean Governance

During the IOI Training Module on Law of the Sea and Principled Ocean Governance held in Barbados, the subject of Science came up in several lectures. This is not a surprise considering that our understanding on the Oceans is less than what we know about the space! But what exactly do decision makers expect from scientists?

Despite all the important aspects the oceans play in our lives, one in particular calls our attention: oceans are one of the conditioners of climate, and ultimately a conditioner of life. This increasing public awareness on the role of the oceans has resulted in a need to improve marine predictions affecting society more directly and harshly. Because of that, scientists are being urged to be more efficient in understanding the oceans and in accurately predicting its effects. Similarly, governments are pressured to provide society with security and well being. Because of that, the importance of the oceans is present in all public agendas in the world.

In a world where decisions need to be made even before conclusive scientific evidence is available, the potential error

costs of wrong decisions can be huge. There is a need to develop appropriate means for creating scientific baseline and channeling scientific advice to policy-makers and equipping policymakers with tools to assess and manage scientific uncertainty, risk and precaution.

In this context, Science most of the time fits as a tool to either assess ocean's resources (fish stocks, bioproducts, renewable sources of energy, mineral resources, geomorphology, and so on) or increase the predictability of natural disasters (tsunamis, earthquakes, climate change, sea level rise, and so on). Decision makers use advisory bodies as consultative entities from which they expect to acquire the solution to its problems. Unfortunately, there is not enough data available to make this results certain and error free. It is important to cut the problem by its root, that is, we must bridge science and policy in order to build better models of governance.

Science, Technology and Innovation themselves should be considered as principles in Ocean Governance. The challenge to politicize scientists as well as make their information accessible to deci-

sion makers is huge. This could be achieved by bringing the academia to the negotiation table in order to find out what next step should we take considering the evidence available today. Together with public and private sector consultations, scientists should be deeply involved in this process. By doing that, we could build a strong communication in which issues such as uncertainty assessment and capacity building could be addressed more effectively. After all, it is better prevent than cure.



Source: Uirá

Andrei Polejack

Event Report: The World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress (WSFC) will be held in Bangkok



Source: WSFC, 2010

The World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress (WSFC) will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, October 18-22, 2010. The conference will focus on 'issues and solutions'. It is the first of its kind that features small-scale fisheries as the central theme at the global scale. The Coastal Development Centre at Kasetsart University and the Department of Fisheries, Thailand, will co-host the WSFC in partnership with the International Coastal Network at Memorial University, Canada, and other research institutions and organizations around the world including SEAFDEC and WorldFish Center. Researchers, practitioners, policy makers, community members, industries and students interested in small-scale fisheries are invited to participate in this gathering, making it a useful forum for interaction and strengthening of network. For information, questions and suggestions, please contact wsfc2010@mun.ca or visit the website: www.seafdec.or.th/wsfc2010.

Sampan Panjarat
Alumni 2007-2008
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Source: Sampan

Source: WSFC, 2010

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and the law of the sea***

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Next Issue:

- *Fisheries Co-management in India*
- *The South East Pacific Regional Sea Program: issues and challenges*

Contribution: This newsletter is open for all who has the same or relate field of interest: Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

Please contact the editor for your contribution: spanjarat@yahoo.com

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LACA Training Course: Voice from Barbados



Source: Uirá

The meeting of the Latin America and Caribbean alumni (LACA) held in Barbados was a truly unique experience. It put faces and personalities on the concept of the alumni while providing an opportunity to socialise and work together on minor tasks. It was also my pleasure to have this interaction take place in my country and an even greater pleasure to know that everyone enjoyed themselves in Barbados.

The forum of the meeting, held within the margins of the University of the West Indies/ IOI training module entitled, “Law of the Sea and Principled Ocean Governance for the Caribbean” was incredibly apt since each alumnus represents a State that borders the Caribbean Sea and since the issues covered were broad enough to touch on matters of concern to individual alumni members. Accordingly, there were presentations and discussion on fisheries issues, maritime boundary delimitation, institutional aspects of ocean governance, conservation and biodiversity and associated environmental principles, public participation in ocean governance, and implementation of ocean governance principles in the Caribbean. From this perspective the meeting was both engaging and relevant as well as a learning experience for all.

At the same time, each alumnus had the opportunity to contribute his or her unique perspective to the wider meeting. The alumni made brief presentations on issues discussed in the meeting as they related to their particular countries, or from a perspective that was not dealt with or fleshed out in depth under the training module. As such, the other participants of the IOI training course, as well as the alumni, were treated to presentations on ocean governance from the perspectives of the implementation of the concept of the public trust, equitable sharing of resources, maritime cultural heritage, sub-regional harmonisation of legislation, environmental licensing, implementation of MEAs through the sustainable development agenda, and approaches taken to various aspects of ocean governance in the countries of the alumni.

The skills development exercise which involved only the alumni was also educational as not only did we hone our negotiation skills but we also learned much about each other and about ourselves.

The LACA alumni meeting was definitely a success if only from the point of view of the additional motivation it sparked among members to work together and collaborate on matters of common concern to the group. As the meeting itself allowed us to find commonality despite wide diversity on a personal individual level, so has the experience motivated a greater will to find commonality despite wide diversity on a cooperative regional level. Let the work begin.

Aleeza Mosley

Alumni 2008-2009

Barbados

