

United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development
UNHQ, New York, May 2006

CSD-14 Partnerships Overview

A summary of Partnerships Fair Activities

Featuring

- 7 Partnerships in Practice
interactive discussion sessions
- 28 Partnership presentations
- 25 Partnerships Information Desks



PARTNERSHIPS
for **SUSTAINABLE**
DEVELOPMENT

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Executive Summary

The fourteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) featured a Partnerships Fair in its official activities. The Partnerships Fair was organized by the CSD Secretariat's Partnerships Team to provide an opportunity for registered partnerships to showcase progress in their activities, network with other partnerships, identify new partners and learn from each other's experiences. The programme of activities for this year's fair included "Partnerships in practice" interactive discussions sessions, partnership presentations and partnerships information desks.

From 1 to 9 May 2006, there were 28 partnership presentations, 7 interactive discussion sessions and 25 information desks. Three of the interactive discussions focused on partnerships working in areas related to the thematic cluster of the Commission's fourteenth session. Specific issues covered included energy efficiency and cleaner industrial development; implementing climate change goals and commitments through partnerships; and improving access to energy for the poor. The other four discussions explored cross-cutting issues related to partnerships, including: strategies for the effective communication of partnerships information; benefits related to partnering with the private sector; building capacity through partnerships in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and challenges related to partnership networking.

The presentations and discussions offered an array of partnership experiences: from initiatives that are promoting good governance and working to effect change at the national, regional and international policy level to examples of partnerships working at the local level, delivering affordable alternatives to unsustainable energy sources, reducing greenhouse gases emissions, improving air quality and developing emission standards. The role of partnerships in engendering broad stakeholder engagement was recognized, noting the work of various initiatives that serve as a facilitating mechanism to bring together relevant stakeholders working towards sustainable development. The importance of strengthening the participation of the private sector in partnerships was underlined.

Partnership representatives stressed that the success of their initiatives was dependant on the existence of a supportive policy and regulatory framework; political commitment at high levels; public awareness; and a sustainable resource base. The challenges identified ranged from difficulties faced in scaling up pilot projects to the national and regional level to concerns over the time and resource-intensive nature of coordination between partners.

The need for effective communication of partnership outcomes was stressed, with a focus on reporting demonstrable results. At the same time, it was acknowledged that the metrics of assessing partnership success remain a challenge, particularly in the cases of those initiatives that are focused on activities with qualitative outcomes such as capacity-building, training and public education.

A diverse range of participants — from Governments, major groups, the United Nations system and other organizations — and a focus on practical results-oriented dialogue created a positive learning atmosphere. All sessions featured dynamic and fruitful exchanges.

The partnerships fair presentation and discussion sessions were well attended, averaging 35 people per session (ranging from 20 to 60). Overall feedback from partnership representatives who utilized the information desks was also positive.

The following pages provide a more detailed overview of the issues discussed at each session of the CSD-14 Partnerships Fair.

1 May 2006

“Partnerships in Practice” Interactive Discussion Session

Sharing Partnership Information: Strategies for effective communication

Vice-Chair of CSD-14 Azanaw Abreha opened the Partnerships Fair on 1 May 2006. Welcoming CSD participants to the first interactive discussion session of the Partnerships Fair programme, Mr. Abreha stressed that these sessions were being organized to foster open discussion on practical issues related to partnerships, based on the ‘real’ experiences of CSD-registered partnerships. He mentioned that in addition to these discussion sessions the Partnerships Fair would feature partnership presentations, and partnership information desks in the Neck area. He announced that a total of 33 registered partnerships for sustainable development would be participating in these activities.

Kicking off the discussion session on “Sharing Partnership information: Strategies for effective communication”; Mr. Abreha pointed out that many organizations and partnerships are working to facilitate dialogue and exchange information on partnerships. He stressed that gathering and sharing information on partnerships’ experiences was vital if we are to maximize our understanding of partnership processes, and help bolster momentum.

He highlighted the need for effective communication and outreach in the context of capacity-building, scaling-up, creating an enabling “learning environment”, advocacy, and effecting change on the policy-level. Mr. Abreha also noted the particular relevance of communication and outreach as a means for partnerships to answer concerns raised over issues such as transparency, accountability, monitoring and measuring progress.

Patricia Chaves (CSD Partnerships Team) presented an overview of the CSD Secretariat’s work in communicating partnerships information—from the time when “type-2” initiatives were first launched at the WSSD in 2002, to more recent developments. She noted that while more than 200 partnerships were launched in the context of the WSSD, the number of initiatives registered with the CSD Secretariat has continued to grow over the past 4 years, and recognition of the impact and contribution of these partnerships to sustainable development continues to gain broader acceptance. She reported that at present, there are 321 partnerships for sustainable development registered in the CSD Partnerships database and that a majority of these initiatives have reported progress in their implementation activities.

Ms. Chaves highlighted a number of the information services currently provided by the Partnerships Team, noting in particular the summary reports to CSD highlighting trends in registered partnerships; the CSD Secretariat Partnerships website and database; and the coordination and organization of meetings and activities such as the CSD Partnerships Fair.

Ms. Chaves’ remarks were followed by a brief presentation of the newly redesigned CSD Partnerships website and databases by Mita Sen (CSD Partnerships Team). The CSD Partnerships database <esa.un.org/dsd/partnerships/public> was first launched in 2004 to provide a transparent mechanism to share information on partnerships registered with the CSD. The database has since been redesigned to give it a more streamlined look and feel, and increase user-friendliness. New features added include a partnerships events calendar, databases of partnerships web links, publications and articles and a partnerships proposals database. Ms. Sen also highlighted the release of the first-ever CSD Partnerships CD ROM which was distributed to participants at CSD-14. The CD ROM contains copies of a majority of the partnerships information currently posted on the CSD Partnerships website, including a browsable version of the web-based CSD Partnerships database.

Ms. Sen reiterated that the primary objective of the partnership information tools is to facilitate an exchange of lessons learned, best practices, new ideas and to avoid duplication of efforts. She stressed the importance of receiving feedback and updates from the partnerships as being critical to the success of the Secretariat’s work in this area.

1 May 2006 (contd.)

Sharing Partnership Information: Strategies for effective communication (contd.)

Mr. Jonathan Margolis (US Department of State) impressed the need for clear and transparent reporting on partnerships. He pointed out that by sharing information through databases, presentations at the Partnerships Fair and other fora, partnerships are being held accountable to demonstrate results. Mr. Margolis cited the specific example of the Water for Poor Initiative, a global partnership launched at the WSSD which aims to improve sustainable management of freshwater and coastal resources in over 76 developing countries. To date, the US government has spent nearly 1.7 billion USD in implementing this partnership. However, as Mr. Margolis pointed out the more interesting information is not found in reporting the expenditures, but rather in reporting the actual outcomes of the partnership, namely that as a result of this initiative 24 million people have been provided with access to drinking water and 26 million people now have access to sanitation services.

Mr. Margolis acknowledged that collecting partnerships data and reporting can be a time intensive process. He raised the issue of difficulties associated with metrics; specifically related to reporting qualitative results stemming from activities related to capacity-building and policy-making. Mr. Margolis also mentioned that the US government has a website <www.sdp.gov> through which they disseminate information on partnerships in which the US is a partner.

Partnerships Presentations

Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program (CLASP)

The CLASP partnership seeks to serve as the primary international voice and resource for energy efficiency standards and labeling (S&L) worldwide. CLASP has conducted work in 19 countries and has supported regional S&L projects in 30 additional countries. As a result of CLASP activities, 90 terawatt hours (TWh) of electricity and 86 megatonnes of CO₂ (MtCO₂) will be saved annually by 2014.

Christine Egan (CLASP Secretariat) pointed out that standards and labels increase efficiency of products and provide a market incentive for more energy efficient products. Numerous approaches to establish standards have been researched and published in a CLASP guidebook.

Steve Wiel (CLASP Board) noted that to date the initiative has been awarded over 9.7 million USD from its sponsoring partners and has received increasing support in recent years from the United Nations through the GEF.

CLASP partners present at the session highlighted the key areas that make CLASP a success. Griff Thompson, (USAID), attributed the initiative's focus on concrete measurable and reportable outcomes as key to its success. Brian Dawson (UNDP) and Jacob Moss (USEPA) highlighted the cost effectiveness of saving energy and reducing the emission of greenhouse gases through S&L. Larisa Dobriansky, (USDOE) termed S&L as one of the most effective investments that public sector could make. Mohan Peck (UNDESA) pointed out that since its inception, CLASP has leveraged millions of dollars in financing for S&L. Laura Van Wie McGrory from the Promoting an Energy-efficient Public Sector (PEPS) partnership spoke about the close collaboration between the two partnerships.

For more information see <http://www.clasponline.org>

1 May 2006 (contd.)

The Electricity Governance Initiative

The Electricity Governance Initiative works with sector decision-makers and civil society to promote transparency, accountability, and public participation in the electricity sector. The partnership's overall aim is to enhance the global understanding of electricity sector governance.

The session was opened by Suresh Prabhu, former Minister of Power of India, who stressed the close link between provision of electricity and poverty eradication. He emphasized that power sector reforms could only be successful if the approach taken is adapted to the unique economic, social, ecologically and political circumstances of each country. He pointed out that a demand led approach, which accounted for varied lifestyles and people's needs was essential when considering reforms.

Davida Wood (USAID) highlighted experiences learned while striving to achieve a common language to bring different stakeholders together to improve governance. She stressed that transparency, participation and accountability were key success factors to achieve this aim. Addressing policy processes, regulations and environmental and social issues was seen as a starting point.

Smita Nakhooda (World Resources Institute) highlighted key aspects of the initiative, pointing out that EGI is building an operational framework to assess governance and evaluate progress over time; working on improving communication and creating space for environmental and social voices; and complementing efforts to advance public interests.

For more information see <http://electricitygovernance.wri.org>

Partnerships Information Desks

Cities for Climate Protection Campaign (CCP)

The CCP initiative enlists cities to adopt policies and implement measures to achieve quantifiable reductions in local greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and enhance urban livability and sustainability. Communities that participate in the CCP benefit through:

- Financial savings in reduced utility and fuel costs
- Improved local air quality
- Economic development and new local jobs

For more information see <http://www.iclei.org/ccp>

Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program

The overall development objective of CLASP is to transform the manufacture and sale of appliances, equipment and lighting worldwide through the application of energy efficiency standards and labels so that countries develop in a more environmentally sustainable and economically efficient manner. This engenders several steps, including:

- Deciding whether and how to implement energy efficiency standards and labels;
- Developing a testing capability;
- Designing and implementing a labeling program and analyzing and setting standards.

For more information see <http://www.clasponline.org>

1 May 2006 (contd.)

Methane to Markets (M2M) Partnership

This initiative advances cost-effective, near-term methane recovery and use as a clean energy source. The goal of the partnership is to reduce global methane emissions in order to enhance economic growth, strengthen energy security, improve air quality, improve industrial safety, and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. The M2M partnership currently focuses on four key sources of methane emissions: Agriculture (animal waste management) ; Coal mines; Landfills and Oil and gas systems.

For more information see <http://www.methanetomarkets.org>

Sustainable Cities Initiative (SCI)

The SCI partnership helps cities meet their quality of life and sustainable development objectives. Multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder City Teams (Canadian private sector, government and NGOs) combine forces and resources with local authorities to develop and implement city sustainable development plans. The initiative's main areas of focus are all priority areas for sustainable urban development: clean water, waste management, clean energy, transportation, housing, capacity-building, urban planning, telecommunications, urban infrastructure projects, and port development.

For more information see <http://www.sci.ic.gc.ca/>

2 May 2006

“Partnerships in Practice” Interactive Discussion Session

Access to more efficient technologies: from energy efficiency to cleaner industrial development

CSD-14 Vice-Chair Adrian Fernández Bremauntz opened the discussion noting that 35% of registered partnerships working in the area of energy for sustainable development identify energy efficiency as one of the specific areas that they are active in. He spoke of the contributions partnerships are making by promoting development of sustainable energy industries and facilitating exchanges of experience and knowledge between regulators, manufacturers and vendors. Mr. Fernández mentioned that some initiatives are also focusing on promoting market-based mechanisms such as energy efficiency trading schemes, which can create incentives investment in energy efficiency technologies.

Mirka della Cava (Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program (CLASP)) highlighted the partnership's aim to serve as the primary international voice and resource for energy efficiency standards and labeling (S&L) worldwide. She reported that CLASP has worked in 19 countries and supported regional S&L projects in 30 additional countries. Since its inception in 1999, CLASP has assisted with establishing 21 energy labels.

Ms. della Cava stressed that the introduction of S&L is one of the most cost effective policies available to generate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. She impressed that the CLASP program is open to participation by any stakeholder organization willing to subscribe to its ethical guidelines and to follow the established best practices. She noted that a country adapted approach in implementation has been seen to be crucial to the success of an S&L initiative. She also mentioned a trust fund that has been established by the initiative which aims to enhance the distribution of S&L and to extend the rigor of the S&L already in place.

2 May 2006 (contd.)

Access to more efficient technologies: from energy efficiency to cleaner industrial development (contd.)

Laura Van Wie McGrory (Partnership for Promoting an Energy-efficient Public Sector (PEPS)) highlighted the close ties between the CLASP and PEPS initiatives. She pointed out that focusing on the potential for savings within the public-sector, is based on finding that 10-20% of the energy use of a country is attributed to government use. Ms. McGrory noted that while governments have traditionally focused on regulating energy use in other sectors, they have only recently focused attention on their own energy consumption. To address this, PEPS advocates that governments take energy efficiency of products into account in their procurement procedures. She listed several PEPS resources that can help in this regard, including a website, online tools and a guidebook, which is in its final stage of publication.

Ms. McGrory stressed the importance of studying each country's governance structure thoroughly to identify the appropriate way of achieving substantial impacts on energy use. She presented examples of projects in Mexico, China and India, where due to the varied entry points and decision-making systems in these three countries, PEPs ended up working with officials from different levels of government. In the case of Mexico, PEPS is working with officials at the municipal level; in China they are working with focal points at the central government level, and in India the initiative is working on the State level. Ms. McGrory shared two key success factors, based on the PEPS experience, namely the existence of a national procurement law and a high level of political endorsement.

Both partnerships acknowledged that while there are many other ways to conserve energy, a focus on efficient appliances represents the most effective and simple way currently available to save energy.

Partnership Presentations

Partnership for Clean Indoor Air (PCIA)

PCIA was launched at the WSSD, by four partner organizations. Today, the initiative has over 120 partners from the public and private sector, working in a total of 67 countries. The partnership's goal is to increase the use of clean, reliable, affordable, efficient, and safe home cooking and heating practices that reduce exposure to indoor air pollution.

Eva Rehfuss (WHO) pointed out that cooking and heating practices dependant on stoves using solid fuels such as dung, lead to high levels of indoor smoke which in turn causes health problems such as respiratory diseases. Ms. Rehfuss highlighted the results of the WHO Risk Assessment which found that the health impact from indoor air pollution leads to a 1.5 million deaths a year, mainly among women and children living in the poorest countries.

Marlis Kees (GTZ) spoke of GTZ's efforts in promoting energy efficient and clean cooking technologies. She stressed the need for improved stoves which are convenient, modern, clean and affordable. Ms. Kees acknowledged that wood fuels stoves would continue to be widely used, but pointed out that there was scope to make wood burning stoves cleaner. She presented the example of the 'Rocket' stove, a clean and efficient fuel-wood stove first developed in Latin America, now being used in Africa as well.

John Mitchell (USEPA) impressed the need to improve the lives of the 3 billion people affected by indoor air pollution stemming from household energy use, and presented the target of needing to reach more than 450,000 people per day, every day, between now and 2015.

For more information see <http://www.PCIAonline.org>

2 May 2006 (contd.)

Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development

Originally initiated as a global dialogue which lasted for 2 years, involving 50 countries, the Intergovernmental Forum was established in February 2005, as a voluntary, advisory (non legally binding) body. The main objective of the Forum is to promote the contribution of mining to sustainable development in line with the priorities of the mining section of JPOI.

At present, the Forum has 24 member countries and supporters include UNCTAD, UNDESA, WB, DFID (UK) and Canada. The Forum is being hosted by Canada for the first five years and Canada was also elected as Chair of the Executive Committee, while the Vice Chairs are Ethiopia, Suriname, Russia and the Philippines.

André Bourassa from the Forum secretariat, based in Natural Resources Canada pointed out that many developing countries have competitive quality natural resources, particularly mineral resources, and that these resources cannot be ignored in a development strategy. He stressed that the key issue is not whether these resources should be developed, but rather to ensure that they are used in a sustainable manner. Using the example of the Canadian mining sector, he pointed out that the necessary element for sustainable development in this sector was the capacity to exercise good governance over the management of these resources.

Mr. Bourassa also outlined the current work program of the Forum which focuses on three main areas: national mining policy framework; equitable distribution of benefits and mine closure and financial surety.

For more information see <http://www.globaldialogue.info/>

Methane to Markets (M2M) Partnership

The M2M partnership advances recovery and use of methane as a clean energy source by encouraging development of cost-effective methane recovery and use opportunities in coal mines, landfills, oil and gas systems and agriculture (manure waste management). The partnership currently includes 17 partner countries and 250 Project Network organizations from private sector, development banks, NGOs and other governmental and non-governmental organizations with an interest in methane recovery and use.

Brian McLean (USEPA) gave a brief overview of the initiative, stressing the action oriented aspect of the initiative. He outlined the partnership's key strategies of identifying cost-effective opportunities, removing legal and financial barriers, and conducting training and technical exchange.

John Gehring (Caterpillar Inc.) presented the example of an anthracite coal mine project in China, in which mine and coal-bed methane will be captured through a 120 MW methane-based power plant.

Arden Berg (Alberta Energy and Utilities Board) shared his organization's experiences in gas flaring reduction and methane capture. He reported that gas flaring in Alberta has been reduced by 72%, largely due to the regulatory environment and the multi-stakeholder approach adopted.

Horacio Terraza (World Bank) highlighted ongoing efforts to reduce methane at landfills and generate energy. He described how countries can sell the emissions reductions and use the proceeds for solid waste management. Mr. Terraza also mentioned that the Bank currently has pilot projects in 10 developing countries, where they are negotiating the carbon trading terms, and deciding how to use the funds for investment.

For more information see <http://www.methanetomarkets.org>

2 May 2006 (contd.)

Sustainable Cities Initiative (SCI)

The SCI partnership promotes sustainable urban development, facilitates partnerships, shares and promote Canadian expertise and focuses on involving the private sector. The initiative is currently working in 16 cities in the developing world with half of their projects concentrated in Latin America.

Alain Beaudoin (Industry Canada) highlighted SCI's participatory approach. The initiative works by bringing together groups of city officials, local stakeholders, and Canadian public and private organizations interested in implementing sustainable development projects. These stakeholders then develop an Integrated Roadmap for Urban Sustainable Development which sets sector priorities, generates ideas and provides a long term strategic vision and framework to address complex problems generated by rapid urbanization.

Michael Snow (Golder Associates) shared his experiences with a SCI project in the city of Matamoros, Mexico. He listed the key benefits gained by participating in SCI: help in identifying municipal partners, a clear mission statement from the Roadmap process, government sponsor credibility and the availability to seed funding to facilitate the initial project development.

Mr. Snow presented an overview of the Matamoros project where the city had both waste management and energy needs. SCI took an integrated approach to the project, which resulted in the creation of a Green Energy Facility which generates electricity from dumpsite wastes such as tires and wood; captures landfill gases; and includes development of a wind farm.

The Matamoros project has the overall potential to generate more than 20 MW of electricity; other benefits include an overall reduction in GHG emissions, opportunities for job-creation and an overall savings in electricity costs by the city, of over \$4 million per year.

For more information see <http://www.sci.ic.gc.ca/>

International Law on Sustainable Development (ILSD) Partnership

The ILSD partnership aims to strengthen sustainable development governance at the international, regional and national levels, laying the foundation for policy implementation by facilitating access to, compliance with, and enforcement of coherent, integrated economic, social and environmental law.

Sebastien Jodoin (CISDL) outlined the partnership's activities in the areas of research and capacity— building activities which have led to a wide range of resources and tools related to international law for sustainable development. The partnership is working to develop a user-friendly web-based legal resource centre and network; carrying out legal research and experts workshops; developing a series of legal briefs and capacity building manuals and hosting dialogues on international sustainable development law (ISDL).

Mr. Jodoin pointed out that the information services provided by the initiative are geared to lawyers, law professors and students, judiciaries, and to non-lawyers, from developed and developing countries.

Jacques Prescott (Quebec Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks Department) presented his experiences working with ILSD on the Quebec Sustainable Development Act. The partnership worked with the Quebec government to introduce a new management framework within the public administration of the state of Quebec. The key objectives of these efforts centered around ensuring the coherence of government action on sustainable development; improving overall quality of life; integrating sustainable development principles at all levels within the administration; and developing and applying best available methods and technologies. In order to achieve these aims, a far ranging consultative process has been carried out.

For more information see <http://www.cisdl.org/projects001.html>

2 May 2006 (contd.)

Partnerships Information Desks

International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions

The Mountain Partnership is an evolving, voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to improving the well-being, livelihoods and opportunities of mountain people and the protection and stewardship of mountain environments around the world. The Mountain Partnership taps the wealth and diversity of resources, knowledge, skills and expertise of its members to support positive change in mountain areas. Commitment to the Mountain Partnership has increased rapidly at the country, regional and international levels and concrete action is now underway to improve the lives of mountain people and protect mountain environments around the world.

For more information see <http://www.mountainpartnership.org>

Partnership for Clean Indoor Air (PCIA)

The partnership brings together governments, industry and NGOs to increase the use of affordable, reliable, clean, efficient, and safe home cooking and heating practices and to reduce the burden of disease. Priority areas include:

- Overcoming social/cultural barriers;
- Supporting development of local business models and markets for improved cooking and heating techniques;
- Meeting guidelines for affordable, reliable, clean, and efficient cooking and heating technology.

For more information see <http://www.PCIAonline.org>

The Electricity Governance Initiative

The partnership seeks to enhance global understanding of electricity sector governance, and build the capacity of governments and civil society to implement good governance. The main goal of the partnership is to create space for voices representing social and environmental considerations to be included in electricity sector decision-making, and advance implementation of Agenda 21. The partnership complements the efforts of civil society, governments, and private sector actors to advance public interests in the electricity sector.

For more information see <http://electricitygovernance.wri.org>

3 May 2006

“Partnerships in Practice” Interactive Discussion Session

Local implementation – global impact: implementing climate change goals and commitments through partnerships

Patricia Chaves (Partnerships Team) opened the discussion by noting that 26 partnerships in the CSD partnerships database listed their primary area of focus as climate change and emissions reductions. She highlighted the important contribution of these initiatives in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; developing emission standards and reporting procedures; harnessing carbon sequestration capabilities of forests and offsetting CO₂ emissions.

Kevin Conrad (Coalition for Rainforest Nations) pointed out that no provision is made for emissions from deforestation in the Kyoto Protocol, even though deforestation accounts for 18-20 per cent of GHG emitted by human activity. In November 2005, nine rainforest countries, led by Papua New Guinea and Costa Rica, proposed that countries reduce deforestation below a given baseline in order to be eligible for carbon credits, which other countries could then buy instead of cutting their own emissions. Mr. Conrad stressed that inequities are inherent in the commercial practice of buying raw materials from developing countries and transforming them into products which are sold for 100 times the initial price paid. The Rainforest Coalition seeks to facilitate structural change by negotiating access to carbon trading markets and by linking forest resource-owners and retail forest product markets.

Markku Nurmi (Energy and Environment Partnership with Central America (EEP)) described the work of this initiative between Finland and seven Central American countries. EEP aims to promote renewable energy projects, and holds annual partnership forums to showcase good practices, which are attended by Ministers of both Energy and the Environment. Dr. Nurmi highlighted Finland's expertise in renewable energy solutions and the country's ability to provide technical assistance to partners in technology and policy areas. He stressed that the partnership has large private sector participation on all sides.

Kim Lundgren (Cities for Climate Protection Campaign) outlined how this initiative of local governments achieves reductions in local greenhouse gas emissions, improves air quality, and enhances overall urban livability. She spoke of how the partnership assists local authorities in quantifying results of good practices, demonstrating, for example, reductions in CO₂ emissions. The partnership develops a baseline, sets reduction targets, prepares action plans for municipalities, implements the plans and verifies results. She pointed out that ICLEI works with local agencies and local and regional NGOs, providing clean air and climate protection software and toolkits. Ms. Lundgren stressed that action from local governments can have a significant impact on climate protection and provided examples from Costa Rica and South Africa where the use of renewable energy and market incentives helped prevent deforestation.

The need for flexible incentives that deliver benefits to communities in developing countries was stressed. Incentives suggested included: mayors combining purchasing power to demand vehicles that causes less pollution; co-generation of waste heat from the production of electricity such as in Scandinavia and the steam system in New York City; hybrid electric buses; and tax credits for green building.

3 May 2006 (contd.)

Partnership Presentations

US Clean Energy Initiative

Launched at the WSSD, this umbrella energy initiative is comprised of performance-based, market-oriented partnerships focused on putting sustainable development dialogue into action. Larisa Dobriansky (U.S. Department of Energy) described the key accomplishments of some of these partnerships, namely that the Efficient Energy for Sustainable Development (EESD) initiative has achieved 20% energy intensity reduction in 20 countries over 10 years; Global Village Energy Partnership (GVEP) has enabled new energy access for 150 million people; and the Partnership for Clean Indoor Air (PCIA) has led to a reduction of 3 million deaths attributable to air pollution.

The wide range of partnerships and projects presented at this session focused on: creating markets for cleaner and more energy efficient technologies, products and services; promoting public leadership that spurs demand for efficient energy products and advancing sustainable buildings and community development. The initiative provides an open network for distributed peer production of models and tools for energy smart community planning, design and development.

William Becker (Global Energy Center for Sustainable Communities) spoke of the Global Energy Network (GEN) which is an international network of centers helping communities develop integrated and sustainable energy systems with country projects in the United States, China and Israel. The National Energy Centre for Sustainable Communities works along the lines of GEN to integrate renewable resources, energy efficiency, new building technologies and municipal infrastructure to achieve sustainable communities.

Brian Castelli (Alliance to Save Energy) described how the Alliance focuses on buildings and utility efficiency, energy and water efficiency, and efficient industrial processes.

Steve Wiel (Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program) spoke about how this global partnership focuses on energy efficiency standards, labels and testing.

Laura van Wie McGrory (Promoting an Energy-efficient Public Sector) described how the initiative works to create markets for energy efficient products and services through government energy management programs and alternative financing.

For more information see <http://www.sdp.gov/sdp/initiative/cei/>

Asia-Pacific Environmental Innovation Strategy (APEIS)

The APEIS partnership aims to develop and promote scientific knowledge-based tools and policy options for sustainable development. Mikiko Kainuma (Climate Policy Assessment Section, National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan) outlined how APEIS supports policy-making processes by supplying tools and databases. She described the three sub-projects of APEIS: Integrated Environmental Monitoring (IEM), Integrated Environmental Assessment (IEA) and Research on Innovative and Strategic Policy Options (RISPO). Ms. Kainuma stressed out that each sub-project is designed to provide a scientific basis for decision-making and to establish on-going communication between scientists and policy-makers.

IEM utilizes satellite observation and an ecological observation network to assess ecosystem services and detect ecosystem vulnerability. IEA concentrates on the potential for innovative strategies to achieve win-win situations for economic development and the environment. RISPO, carries out economy-wide policy impact assessment. Specific sectors will be more thoroughly analyzed and the results described in three scenarios, which will vary by economic performance of the region. The outcome of this sub project area will be a delineation of economic, social and environmental implications of policy options. Ms. Kainuma impressed that scenario analysis is essential tool for policy advisors in shaping policy responses that consider trade-offs between development and environment priorities.

3 May 2006 (contd.)

Asia-Pacific Environmental Innovation Strategy (APEIS) (contd.)

Ancha Srinivasan, (Climate Policy Project, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)) gave a brief overview of the institute's involvement in the RISPO project. The focus of the collaboration by IGES is on the potential impacts of trade on the environment.

For more information see <http://www.ecoasia.org/APEIS/index.html>

Energy and Environment Partnership with Central America (EEP)

The EEP partnership promotes the use of renewable energy sources and clean technologies in Central America, and aims to make energy services more accessible to the poor, particularly in rural areas.

Markku Nurmi (Ministry of Environment, Finland) provided an overview of the initiative, stressing that EEP seeks to contribute to the Central American region's efforts towards achieving sustainable development and mitigating of global climate change. Dr. Nurmi pointed out that EEP's numerous renewable energy projects help foster regional cooperation by carrying out pilot projects with a high level of expertise, which serve as examples for replication. The experience gained by EEP can thus be used and adapted for other contexts. The partnership fosters ownership by partner governments and communities, who are closely involved in all steps of project planning and implementation. Dr. Nurmi announced that the initiative has introduced a carbon finance guide to promote and clarify the steps involved in the implementation of CDM projects in the region.

Ricardo Ulate (Ministry of Environment and Energy, Costa Rica) pointed out that the success of the EEP is a promising beginning and a substantial contribution to regional sustainable development plans. In particular, he noted the importance of integrating the work of energy and environmental ministries to ensure compatibility of the energy sector with broader sustainable development goals.

For more information see <http://www.sgsica.org/energia/>

White Water to Blue Water (WW2BW) Partnership

The WW2BW partnership focuses on sustainability of small economies of the Caribbean region and aims to improve collaboration between governments, international organizations, NGOs and the private sector. The initiative seeks to enhance existing partnerships and promote new partnerships to advocate best practices and provide training.

Garfield Barnwell, (Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM)) stressed that the rationale for forming this initiative stemmed from the recognition that watersheds, marine and coastal ecosystems in the region are under threat. Given the interlinkages between these systems and the economies and livelihoods of the societies in the region (e.g. tourism and sugar production), the partnership aims to intervene in these areas. Specific priority areas identified include: integrated watershed management; marine ecosystem-based management; sustainable tourism; and environmentally sound marine transportation.

Mr. Barnwell said that the initiative promotes new approaches of integrated management and pointed out that partnership aims to include scientific knowledge in the formulation of projects and incorporates a wide range of experience from all levels into its activities. Mr. Barnwell outlined the initiative's key outcomes to date, noting that over 100 new partnerships were launched following the WW2BW conference in Miami in 2004 and the creation of the WW2BW network to support and promote Caribbean partnerships which includes an open grants competition.

Adela Backiel, (United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)) also mentioned the initiative's publication of the "Communicating Successes Primer", which provide simple guidelines and indicators for communicating the successes of WW2BW partnerships.

For more information see <http://www.ww2bw.org>

3 May 2006 (contd.)

Indicators for Sustainable Energy Development (ISED)

The ISED partnership works to develop energy indicators to assess progress towards a sustainable energy future; assist countries in energy and statistical capacity building and supplement the general indicators effort being undertaken by the CSD.

Alan McDonald (IAEA) presented an overview of recent developments within the initiative. He referred to two publications that provide details on indicators and how to use them along with practical case studies: *Energy Indicators for Sustainable Development: Methodologies and Guidelines*. Vienna, IAEA, 2005; and the *Natural Resources Forum, Special Issue on Policy Applications of Energy Indicators*, 29 (4): November 2005. Both these documents were prepared by the five agency partners: IAEA, UN/DESA, EUROSTAT, the European Environment Agency and the International Energy Agency. Case studies were drawn from the seven country partners: Brazil, Cuba, Lithuania, Mexico, the Russian Federation, Slovakia and Thailand.

Mr. McDonald stressed that these indicators are intended for use in national analyses and self assessment, and that they are not meant to set up pass-fail situations or international benchmarking. A country can use the indicators to see where it is going and how to adjust its policy. Mr. McDonald showed examples of how the indicators can be used for analysis and policy and mentioned that uses of the indicators in IAEA analytic tools include IAEA models that calculate indicators; inclusion of indicators in IAEA databases and IAEA training programs.

For more information see <http://www.iaea.org/OurWork/ST/NE/Pess/ISED.shtml>

Partnerships Information Desks

International Law on Sustainable Development (ILSD) Partnership

This partnership aims to strengthen sustainable development governance at the international, regional and national levels, laying the foundation for policy implementation by facilitating access to, compliance with, and enforcement of coherent, integrated economic, social and environmental law. Objectives include:

- To found a user-friendly web-based legal resource centre to assess, promote and implement international law for sustainable development;
- To undertake capacity building and training in international sustainable development law (ISDL).

For more information see <http://www.cisdl.org/projects001.html>

Sustainable Rural development and Ecovillage Training Program

The partnership is based on an integrated and holistic approach to sustainable rural (and impoverished urban) development, particularly in the 3rd world. It includes a primary component focusing on the ecovillage model of development. The initiative aims to develop an easily accessible information database containing descriptions of the primary programs, exemplary projects, and best practices that are being carried out around the world. In addition, support would be given to field training and implementation projects that can be replicated in other regions.

For more information see <http://www.villageearth.org>

4 May 2006

“Partnerships in Practice” Interactive Discussion Session

Partnering with the Private Sector: how and why?

CSD-14 Vice-Chair Azanaw T. Abreha opened the discussion with a brief overview of how partnerships evolved within the context of World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in 2002. He pointed out that it was strongly felt that partnerships among key actors should be fostered and the expertise and leverage of the private sector was crucial to achieve a sustainable path to development. Inclusion of partnerships as a complementary outcome of the WSSD reflected a growing recognition that in order to achieve the goals of sustainable development; no single actor – whether government, civil society or private sector – could achieve these goals on their own. Mr. Abreha noted that the most recent report on CSD-registered partnerships showed that 43% of registered initiatives had business and industry involvement. He commented on how these private sector partners were contributing to partnerships not just through financial resources but also through sharing of management expertise, appropriate technologies, building capacity and skills through training activities.

Chris Morris (International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) shared that IPIECA currently represents petroleum companies producing 60% of the world's oil supply. He stressed that partnerships have always been important part of the petroleum industry efforts towards achieving sustainable development. In this context, Mr. Morris mentioned the release of a IPIECA report containing 40 case studies of partnerships in the oil and gas industry. He pointed out that the case studies reflect a growing recognition that oil and gas companies can better achieve sustainable development goals by working with others whether they be other business entities, government agencies, NGO's, communities or academic institutions. Mr. Morris noted that effective communication is often the key, especially when significant social tension exists between oil companies and local communities and that partnerships are often a matter of building levels of trust.

Norine Kennedy (US Council for International Business) outlined the key assets private sector partners can contribute to the challenge of achieving the development issues brought forward in the Agenda 21, JPOI and during the Millennium Summit. She listed these core competencies as financial capabilities, technical know-how and interdisciplinary expertise. She stressed that the overall business orientation to practical solutions and the corporate culture of innovation and improvement, are valuable resources the private sector brings to any partnership. Ms. Kennedy pointed out that in order to attract private sector involvement and have effective business participation there is a need for an enabling environment, characterized by good governance and a functioning governing infrastructure.

Antonio Pflüger (International Energy Agency (IEA)) shared his experiences in collaborating with the private sector to fight global energy poverty. He pointed out that in order to effectively collaborate with the private sector, organizations need to demonstrate their competency, commitment and available resources and clearly communicate the expected outcome of the collaboration. He noted the role of the public sector in providing clear guidance, a robust policy framework, and long term perspectives for the private sector.

On the issue of challenges associated with partnering, Mr. Morris pointed out that while no partnership is ever easy, comfortable, secure, safe, quick or cheap, however with good management, good will and determination, partnerships can work well. He ended by presenting 3 golden rules to keep partnerships on track: building on shared values; being creative and being courageous – as all partnerships involve risk.

Patricia Chaves (Partnerships Team) highlighted the value of increased visibility, knowledge exchange and added global impact as the prime incentives of registering as a CSD partnership. She also stressed the importance of exploring more innovative ways for the private sector's further involvement in partnerships for sustainable development.

4 May 2006 (contd.)

Partnership Presentations

LPG Challenge

The LPG Challenge partnership works towards meeting thermal energy requirements of developing country rural and peri-urban populations through the expanded use of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG).

James Rockall (World Liquefied Petroleum Gas Association (WLPGA)), presented an overview of the partnership, which combines industry members under WLPGA with UNDP and developing country members. He reported that the partnership has set up pilot projects in six countries: China, Ghana, Honduras, Morocco, South Africa and Viet Nam.

Mr. Rockall noted that the initiative is the result of complementary competencies and resources, including expertise and capital. The WLPGA provides access to a worldwide private sector network, while UNDP offers its global reach, awareness raising and capacity building. UNDP can also assist developing countries with finding sources of finance for clean fuels and establishing viable markets for LPG delivery.

Mr. Rockall cited the South African pilot project where the government allocated \$60 million to a 'Switching fund' to encourage households to switch to using LPG. The project began with a target audience of 250,000 suburban households currently using kerosene, with the long-term aim of reaching 3 million households by 2009.

Andrew Yager (UNDP) noted that his agency is active in the partnership as it offers a way to provide access to clean modern fuels, and helps to support achievement of the MDGs. The use of LPG can contribute to women's empowerment through positive effects on health, literacy, fertility, safety and economic opportunities. He stressed that women should be targeted as the major users of energy for cooking and heating, where LPG is most used.

For more information see <http://www.undp.org/energy/lpg.htm>

Promoting an Energy-efficient Public Sector (PEPS)

The PEPS partnership focuses on improving energy efficiency in the public sector, as governments at all levels account for 10-20% of energy use in all countries. As a huge user and buyer of energy and services, governments thus provide an opportunity to save energy and influence market demand.

Laura van Wie McGrory (Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory) outlined the various measures that governments can take: such as purchasing energy efficient products, retrofitting buildings, improving street lighting and water systems, developing cost criteria for recycling, operation and maintenance, and training staff. She mentioned PEPS information tools including an energy savings estimation (EST) software, and an efficient energy use guidebook.

Phil Coleman (Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory) spoke of a PEPS program in Mexico where the initiative worked in partnership Cities for Climate Protection Campaign. Initial efforts to replicate a US programme in Mexico failed as the programme was too ambitious and needed to be adapted for the Mexican context. Subsequently, an eight-city program was developed to assist municipalities with carbon goals, specifications for energy efficient products, lighting and office equipment. PEPS helped these cities draft regulations and policies to help purchase energy efficient products. By 2005, this project had generated savings of more than 5000 MWh, or \$726,000, and has since been expanded to 20 new cities. Dr. Diego Arjona Arguelles (CONAE, Mexico) said that his agency wants to develop a Federal government procurement scheme for energy systems in government buildings.

Nitin Pandit (IIEC) described a PEPS project in India where PEPS provided guidance on scope and format for building energy audits, on how to make these practical and useful. The audits were done by sector, using audit manuals. One Indian city is now expanding energy efficient products to schools, hospitals, water pumping, street lighting and other public sector applications.

For more information see <http://www.pepsonline.org>

4 May 2006 (contd.)

Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21)

REN21 was launched as a global policy network in June 2005, following a political declaration made at the International Conference for Renewable Energies in Bonn in 2004. Paul Suding (REN21 secretariat), highlighted the key objectives of the initiative, which include providing international leadership for the rapid expansion of renewable energy in developing and industrialized countries based on cooperation among stakeholders and promoting policies to increase the renewable energy use. Mr. Suding mentioned that the network includes a wide range of stakeholders from governments, international organizations, NGOs, industry and financial associations, regional and local governments, and members at large. He mentioned a recent report produced by the partnership titled "Renewables 2005: A Global Status Report, which provides very useful baseline data on the issue.

Rajendra Pachauri (TERI) described some of the trends highlighted in the Global Status Report --very rapid growth rates in investment in renewable energy projects in recent years, especially in wind, solar and biofuel sources. Even though use of modern renewables is still a small percentage of total energy used, if this momentum continues, the picture will be quite different in 10 years. Dr. Pachauri stressed the importance of developing energy solutions tailored to fit local needs, enhance the welfare of people and offset the use of fossil fuels.

Steve Sawyer (Greenpeace) said that Greenpeace had been mandated by REN21 to monitor progress in the follow up to the International Action Plan. He reported that thus far the country level response rate has been 42%, with the greatest number of responses from the Middle East and Asia. In terms of progress achieved, the responses indicate that wind and biomass investments have far exceeded initial expectations.

For more information see <http://www.ren21.net/>

Cities for Climate Protection Campaign (CCP)

The Cities for Climate Protection campaign is building a world wide movement of local governments to achieve measurable reductions in local GHG emissions, improve air quality and enhance urban livability. The 546 municipalities participating in this initiative represent 245 million people who account for 10% of world GHG emissions. By participating in this initiative municipalities are saving \$2.1 billion annually.

Kim Lundgren (ICLEI) outlined the key elements of the campaign, describing how CCP assists local authorities to quantify results of good practices, demonstrating, for example, reductions in CO₂ emissions. The program works by developing a baseline; setting reduction targets; preparing action plans for municipalities; implementing the plans; and verifying results. ICLEI focuses on working with local agencies and local and regional NGOs, as it was felt that local government can have a significant impact on climate protection.

Ms. Lundgren described one of the software tools utilized in CCP -the Harmonized Emissions Analysis Tool (HEAT) <heat.iclei.org>. This tool consists of a web-based global database of emissions and action plans, housed on the ICLEI web-server. The database covers all relevant sectors, including energy, waste and transport, and uses standardized reporting for all cities. It includes easy to use emissions calculators in a multilingual format.

The HEAT software is currently being used in Philippines, Mexico, South Africa, Indonesia and India. Local level impacts include job creation, reduced emissions and access to better energy supply. Future plans include: the selection of additional model communities; establishing resource centres in the model cities; and establishing an international network by 2008.

For more information see <http://www.iclei.org/ccp>

4 May 2006 (contd.)

Designing Country Profiles on Sustainable Energy Development

The initiative seeks to enable countries to analyze their energy sector by taking stock of a country's current situation on sustainable energy development; defining and testing a systematic and comprehensive forward looking approach; and identifying sustainable energy strategies.

Holger Rogner (International Atomic Energy agency (IAEA)) described the capacity building objectives of the initiative which include developing and transferring energy models tailored to developing country circumstances; transferring latest data on technologies, resources and economics; assisting in national energy studies; provide extensive training to local experts and helping strengthen institutional capabilities for energy system planning and development.

Mr. Rogner reported that country profiles had been completed for Brazil and South Africa, and a profile for Cuba was being edited. The partnership was implemented in these countries as their governments had expressed an interest in the project, which is a prerequisite for involvement by the IAEA. Mr. Rogner stressed that the IAEA takes a technologically neutral stance and presents participating states with an array of options for energy supply.

A challenge has been, particularly in the case of Brazil, to define criteria for sustainable energy development among the different Brazilian stakeholders. Mr. Rogner pointed out that the partnership has been unique and innovative in bringing the indicators developed together with the developed scenarios. The conclusions of the case study in South Africa showed that energy efficiency is important but in order to address future challenges the supply side of energy needs to be targeted by energy policy makers.

As a final step, progress towards a sustainable energy future is assessed. The implementation of this project has shown that the main outcome was the capacity built within the partnering countries.

For more information see <http://www.iaea.org/OurWork/ST/NE/Pess/ISED.shtml>

Vinyl 2010

The Vinyl 2010 partnership is putting into practice the European PVC industry voluntary commitment to sustainable development spelled out in a 10-year plan with defined targets and deadlines. The initiative uses a lifecycle approach to the production and use of PVC by seeking to minimize the environmental impact of the production process, using chemicals responsibly and reducing the environmental impact of products once disposed (e.g. through recycling).

Martyn Griffiths (Vinyl 2010) presented an overview of the initiative, pointing out that the partnership was set up by the four European industry associations which represent 23,000 PVC companies, 530,000 employees and a turnover more than 74 billion Euro. Mr. Griffiths pointed out the importance of communications and transparency when dealing with corporate governance related issues. He highlighted that partnerships success in bringing together diverse stakeholders from the European Parliament, the European Commission, trade unions and consumer associations, and noted that the main challenge that remained in this area was to effectively involve environmental NGOs in the initiative.

Mr. Griffiths outlined some of the partnerships key accomplishments which include: 20% reduction use of lead based stabilisers from 2000 to 2005; more than 20 waste management projects covering technology, research, organisation (recycling schemes) and communication (best practice); and more than 25 million USD of investments over the last 5 years and project funding of €4.4 million in 2005. He also shared that one of the main challenges faced by the initiative centred around an overall shortage of PVC waste flow coming back to be recycled. Next steps for the initiative included the need to improve the eco-efficiency of PVC resin, replacing lead-based stabilisers by 2015 and boosting PVC collection and recycling schemes

For more information see <http://www.vinyl2010.org>

4 May 2006 (contd.)

Partnerships Information Desks

Energy and Environment Partnership with Central America (EEP)

The EEP partnership promotes the use of renewable energy sources and clean technologies in Central America, and aims to make energy services more accessible to the poor, particularly to those in rural areas. The initiative's expected results include:

- Increased utilization of renewable energy in the national and local energy mix;
- Introduction of new energy and environmental technologies;
- Utilization of CDM potential;

Better energy sector management and increased access to energy services.

For more information see <http://www.sgsica.org/energia/>

LPG Challenge

The partnership addresses concrete barriers to meeting the thermal energy needs (heating, cooking, and heat using productive processes) of rural and peri-urban populations in developing countries through expanded use of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG). The key issue this initiative aims to address are market and technical barriers to the expanded use of LPG and to design local partnerships, business models and financing mechanisms to overcome these barriers. This will be accomplished through local dialogue processes and partnerships involving all relevant stakeholders.

For more information see <http://www.undp.org/energy/lpg.htm>

Promoting an Energy-efficient Public Sector (PEPS)

The PEPS partnership aims to spread the concept of public sector energy management to developing countries, encourage new or expanded initiatives and promote information exchange among countries. The initiative's multiyear strategy is designed to achieve its objectives through:

- Compiling and documenting program information from many countries;
- Producing and disseminating a guide to planning and managing public sector energy efficiency programs;
- Providing training and information exchange.

For more information see <http://www.pepsonline.org>

Vinyl 2010

This partnership was set up to provide the organizational and financial infrastructure to manage and monitor the actions undertaken as part of the Voluntary Commitment of the European PVC industry's 10-year plan. The initiative's main objectives include:

- To manage initiatives that put European PVC industry commitments into practice;
- Bring the whole industry together: resin manufacturers, plastic converters, and producers of stabilizers and plasticizers;
- Involvement in recycling and other ways to dispose of industrial and post-consumer waste.

For more information see <http://www.vinyl2010.org>

5 May 2006

“Partnerships in Practice” Interactive Discussion Session

Improving access to energy for the poor: benefits of partnering

CSD-14 Vice Chair Adrian Fernández Bremauntz opened the discussion by stressing that the critical role of access to modern energy services in the efforts to eradicate poverty cannot be overstated. This link between achieving sustainable development goals and the MDGs (in particular, halving the proportion of people living in poverty), was affirmed at the WSSD, resulting in the JPOI commitment to improve access to reliable and affordable energy services. He pointed out that many energy partnerships are working to improve access to underserved populations in energy in urban, peri-urban and rural areas through exchanges of experience and knowledge; training programs; and national energy-poverty programs. Mr. Fernández noted that these partnerships are facilitating co-operation between all relevant stakeholders including national and regional institutions, financing bodies, experts, civil society organizations and consumers to increase access to energy services.

Sarah Adams (Global Village Energy Partnership (GVEP)) described how GVEP works to harness sustainable energy for poverty reduction: using a technology neutral approach, with preference for clean energy; multiple uses, concentrating on productive uses that improve livelihoods; multi-sectoral (agriculture, water, health, education, etc); and stressing advocacy. The partnership provides seed capital, assistance for local capacity building, and feedback through an improved knowledge base. Ms. Adams presented examples of national plans that had been developed in Cameroon and Ghana on energy for poverty reduction, and described how GVEP works in cooperation with Brazil in its 'Light for All' programme, and in Guatemala with Fundación Solar.

Marianne Osterkorn (Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP)) described how the REEEP initiative works to promote renewable energy and energy efficiency systems (REES) by supporting legal frameworks in favor of REES, supporting integration of REES into development policies, increasing awareness, building capacity and focusing partnership initiatives at the municipal and suburban level. Dr. Osterkorn cited an example from South Africa where financing was made available for energy upgrades for low income homes. She also mentioned activities in South Asia, where REEEP support has concentrated on developing small-scale renewable energy enterprises in India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

James Rockall (LPG Rural Energy Challenge) described how the LPG partnership promotes the creation of viable and commercially sustainable markets for LPG, targeting domestic and industrial productive uses. Mr. Rockall stressed that LPG fuel is clean, does not require investment in technology and is a good option for dispersed settlements in rural areas. He mentioned that to date, six countries have been selected for pilot projects, and South Africa has pledged an initial investment of \$60 million to encourage households to switch to LPG.

John Christensen (Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development (GNESD)) pointed out this network of 21 centres of excellence, promotes information exchange, learning, analysis and study. The network looks at market-oriented reforms that have had neutral or adverse impacts on the poor. Mr. Christensen pointed out that unless power sector reforms include an explicit pro-poor dimension, they do not work. Thus, policy has to build in provisions for access for the poor at the beginning.

Rene Karottki, (European Union Energy Initiative (EUEI)), described how the initiative aims to contribute to the achievement of the MDGs through provision of adequate, affordable and sustainable energy services to the poor. Mr. Karottki pointed out that the partnership is implemented in dialogue with and through ownership by participating developing countries. Dialogue so far has been focused mostly with countries in Africa, Pacific and Caribbean, which has strengthened co-ownership. Mr. Karottki stressed that the focus should be on delivery of better energy services, ownership and participation in implementation by developing country stakeholders, and that governance, management and stimulating frameworks are necessary to enabling energy access.

5 May 2006 (contd.)

Partnership Presentations

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP)

The REEEP partnership aims to reduce market barriers and financial obstacles for renewables and energy efficiency systems. The initiative focuses its implementation equally on the change in demand and supply side of energy systems towards more sustainability.

Marianne Osterkorn (REEEP Secretariat) reported that the initiative was launched at the WSSD by the UK government, and currently includes 185 partners, including 30 governments. She noted that REEEP receives funding from 10 governments - Austria, Australia, Canada, Germany, EU, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, US, and the UK. Dr. Osterkorn highlighted the fact that with ten regional offices and a budget of 6 million USD (80% of which is used for projects), REEEP's activities are targeted on policy improvements and innovative finance mechanisms, with an emphasis on improving access to sustainable energy for the poor.

Martin Devine, (UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)) shared that the UK government has provided both financial and political support to this initiative, as well as helped in building a network to enable its implementation.

Mark Lambrides (REEEP's Latin America and Caribbean Regional Secretariat) outlined some of the key factors for having a successful project: reliable access to renewable natural resources; capable local partners, decision makers, and technicians; cost-effective financing and a fair and transparent regulatory framework.

REEP is currently collaborating with a number of energy partnerships including the Global Village Energy Partnership (GVEP), Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development (GNESD), Mediterranean Renewable Energy Programme (MEDREP), Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program (CLASP), Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21), the US Clean Energy Initiative and others

Larisa Dobriansky (US Department of Energy) shared some of the benefits of partnering with REEEP, pointing out that initiative is a good match to the US Clean Energy Initiative in that it promotes energy efficiency, leadership by example and focuses on developing sustainable cities and communities.

The discussion highlighted that one of the key contributions of the initiative is in building capacity, and in this context the launch of "reegle" <www.reegle.info> information gateway was announced.

For more information see <http://www.reeep.org>

Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (nrg4sd)

Esther Larrañaga (Basque Minister for the Environment) presented an overview of this network which was launched at the WSSD by a group of regional governments committed to policies for sustainable development. The initiative represents regional governments at the global stage and promotes sustainable development and partnerships at the regional level around the world. The partnerships goals are to facilitate communication flow on best available technologies, establish networks among regional experts and decision-makers and increase regional co-operation and partnership.

Ernst-Christoph Stolper (Ministry of Environment and Conservation, Agriculture and Consumer Protection of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia), highlighted the role regional governments play in implementing of national policies, in some cases even as pioneers, developing their own strategies. Mr. Stolper pointed out that often the relationship of regional governments is closer to energy users and producers in comparison to national governments.

Delfin Ganapin, (Global Environment Facility (GEF)) presented an overview of the GEF Small Grants Programme

5 May 2006 (contd.)

Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (nrg4sd) (contd.)

(SGP) which aims to deliver global environmental benefits in the GEF Focal Areas (biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation, protection of international waters, prevention of land degradation and elimination of POPs) through community-based approaches. He shared that to date, GEF has provided 24 Million USD for grants on renewable energy projects and there are plans to scale-up and replicate these projects. In this context, the SGP is interested in partnering with nrg4SD to take successful examples achieved at the local level to the regional level.

Allison Schumacher (Clean Energy Group (CEG)) described the work of CEG, which works to promote clean energy investment and deployment at the state level in the US. The initiative works with public fund managers, private investors, businesses, academics, and other energy consultants to provide information, advocacy and analysis to develop market opportunities for clean energy. While at present CEG is not formally linked to nrg4SD, and interest to partner was expressed.

For more information see <http://www.nrg4sd.net>

Public Interest Intellectual Property Advisors (PIIPA)

The PIIPA initiative was formed to help governments, government agencies and non-government public service organizations acquire intellectual property expertise on a pro bono basis, in order to meet the health, agricultural, environmental and cultural needs of developing countries.

Steven Price (PIIPA) presented an overview of the initiative, highlighting its overall goal of helping developing countries and not-for-profit organisations obtain free information related to intellectual property. He noted that initiative is financed by trusts and foundations and over 400 intellectual property professionals, who provide their expertise free of charge. Thus, PIIPA functions as a matching service by facilitating communication between applicants and intellectual property corps.

Mr Price pointed out that a prerequisite for a project to qualify for this free service is that it needs to serve a public good. Potential applicants for the service include intergovernmental organizations, developing country governments, research institutions, international research consortia and qualified small to medium enterprise as well as individuals.

PIIPA's field of work covers patents, copyrights, trade secret protection and dispute resolution, with trademarks making up the largest share of the initiative's over 100 projects. Mr. Price described the cases of Vietnam, Jamaica and Sierra Leone, which were interested in updating their intellectual property laws by reaching out to law clinics of US universities. In these instances, PIIPA services provided included legislative counselling.

Mr. Price also shared the results of a PIIPA world-wide survey, to determine the need for intellectual property assistance. The survey found that that 5000-8000 organizations currently need access to intellectual property professional assistance.

For more information see <http://www.piipa.org>

5 May 2006 (contd.)

Scientific Capacity Building/ Enhancement for Sustainable Development in Developing Countries (CAPaBLE)

Linda Anne Stevenson, (Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) Secretariat) provided an overview of the CAPaBLE initiative which works to enhance scientific capacity in developing countries to improve decision-making in areas related to climate change, water/food security and global change issues. APN, an inter-governmental network promoting global change research and links between science and policy making in the Asia-Pacific Region, is the lead partner of the CAPaBLE initiative. Dr. Stevenson highlighted that CAPaBLE works by enhancing capacity of scientists and conducting outreach to students, educational trainers, policy-makers and civil society. In the past three years, the initiative has invested a total of over 1.5 million USD in 30 projects.

Two examples of CAPaBLE projects were presented. Michael Glantz (National Center for Atmospheric Research) presented the results of a workshop organised in South-East Asia, designed to catalyze educational activities related to climate from the local to the global level. Mr. Glantz pointed out that the approach of linking climate to more tangible topics like water and weather was found to be an important success factor in communicating these issues. He shared that while a variety of projects have been carried out by the participants as a follow up to the workshop, challenges remain in securing funding for these projects.

Roland Fuchs (Global Change System for Analysis, Research and Training (START) Secretariat) gave an overview of the Global Earth Observing System of Systems (GEOSS) in the Asia Pacific region. GEOSS aims to inform decisions and actions by realizing comprehensive and coordinated earth observation systems through improved monitoring, increased understanding, and enhanced prediction of Earth processes. The project carried out a comprehensive assessment of the shortcomings of the current systems in the Asia Pacific Region and identified areas requiring further capacity building.

For more information see <http://www.apn-gcr.org/en/activity/capable.html>

Adriatic Action Plan 2020 (AAP 2020)

Emilio D'Alessio (Italian Association Agenda 21) presented an overview of the initiative which includes cities in seven countries bordering the Adriatic Sea: Albania, Bosnia/Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Serbia/Montenegro and Slovenia. The partnership seeks to revitalize the region, improve governance, conserve resources and use a common action plan for the Adriatic. The initiative has 27 partners, of which 21 are cities and was first launched in Kyoto at the Third World Water Forum in 2003.

Mr. D'Alessio shared that the initiative will have "a traveling meeting" in June 2006, from one end of the Adriatic to the other, which will finalize the common Adriatic Action Plan. The actions and commitments of this plan are to be implemented by 2020. The overall goal is to assist in evolving local governments towards a common scenario that promotes the integration of sustainable practices into markets and governance.

Pier Roberto Remitti (AAP 2020) described the management system for local sustainable development programmes, including tools such as sustainability reporting for 21 cities in seven countries; an Environment Management System (EMS); and the Adriatic Sustainable Accounting Procedure (ASAP). Mr. Remitti pointed out that ASAP tool is considered the most important, and most complicated to implement, as in order for cities to utilize it, the procedure must be integrated into the city-level decision-making, introduced in all the city councils and become part of budget, resources, environmental and social reporting. Twenty-eight indicators in 10 categories are utilized: water; biodiversity; climate air quality; land use patterns; local mobility systems; waste management; availability of local public spaces and services; population, education and safety; contacts and relationship; and employment and enterprises.

5 May 2006 (contd.)

Partnerships Information Desks

Adriatic Action Plan 2020

The Aap2020 partnership encourages and manages the implementation of Agenda 21, involving all local governments of the two sides of the Adriatic region. Some of the partnership's expected results include:

- Dissemination of sustainable development practices;
- Improvement of standards of environmental quality for all concerned communities;
- Increase of global efficiency in using resources, particularly in the production of consumer goods, services and commodities.

For more information see <http://www.aap2020.net>

Asia-Pacific Environmental Innovation Strategy Project (APEIS)

The APEIS partnership aims to develop scientific knowledge-based tools and innovative strategy options to promote informed decision-making for sustainable development, for the use of policy makers in the Asia-Pacific region.

Expected results include:

- Monitoring methodologies and networks that cover environmental disasters and degradation, and make full use of satellite technologies;
- A set of assessment models to assess and predict the trends of environmental emissions and natural resources, and subsequent impacts.

For more information see <http://www.ecoasia.org/APEIS/index.html>

Public Interest Intellectual Property Advisors (PIIPA)

This partnership was formed to help governments, government agencies and non-government public service organizations acquire intellectual property expertise on a pro bono basis, in order to meet the health, agricultural, environmental and cultural needs of developing countries. PIIPA seeks to promote volunteerism among intellectual property professionals worldwide to serve developing country public interest needs. PIIPA serves as a mechanism for networking between intellectual property legal professionals in different countries, and as outreach to such professionals.

For more information see <http://www.piipa.org>

Scientific Capacity Building/ Enhancement for Sustainable Development in Developing Countries (CAPaBLE)

This partnership aims to develop scientific capacity in developing countries to improve their decision-making in the target area related to climate change, and water and food security that are directly linked to their sustainable development. Expected results:

- Capacity enhancement of leading researchers in developing countries;
- Enhanced sharing of knowledge, experiences and scientific information within the Asia-Pacific region;
- Improvement of informed decision-making in developing countries.

For more information see <http://www.apn-qcr.org/en/activity/capable.html>

8 May 2006

“Partnerships in Practice” Interactive Discussion Session

Building capacity through Partnerships in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

CSD-14 Vice Chair Adrian Fernández Bremauntz opened the discussion by pointing out that at the WSSD, a number of SIDS-related partnerships were launched to serve as a mechanism for further implementation of sustainable development in the SIDS regions), notably 14 partnerships were launched under the “Pacific Umbrella Initiatives” and 9 under the “Caribbean SIDS Partnership”. These umbrella initiatives aimed at coordinating efforts of partners, donors and technical institutes on the regional level, which would in turn help to implement sustainable development at the national level .

Coral Pasisi (Pacific Island Forum Secretariat (PIFS)) pointed out that experiences with partnerships under the Pacific Umbrella Initiatives have shown that an integrated approach, which focuses on open and effective communication, is crucial to avoid a duplication of efforts with existing initiatives. Partnerships are particularly important for SIDS as human and financial resources are limited and international finance as well as the expertise of international partners are needed. Ms. Pasisi stressed that the large number of partners and stakeholders, made it important for partnerships that all partners actively engage, build trust and share information.

Paul Fairbairn Pacific Island Forum Secretariat (PIFS)) gave a brief introduction of projects carried out under the Pacific Islands Energy for Sustainable Development [PIESD] partnership, in the areas of policy formulation and promotion of renewable energies. These projects have shown that there is a need to report in a concise manner the wealth of information available. Mr. Fairbairn stressed that partnerships should be based on shared priorities and can only be successful when all partners work together.

Franklin McDonald (University of the West Indies) introduced the priority areas of the institute: sustainable development related to tourism; risk reduction and resilience, and forecasting. He mentioned the recent decision to create a SIDS university consortium to strengthen information technology for communication and administration, which was made at the Mauritius International Meeting (BPoA +10) in 2005. Dr. McDonald pointed out that partnership building and maintenance are major challenges and experiences gained should be documented.

Donna McRae-Smith (Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) Secretariat) highlighted how CARICOM is working to galvanize efforts from its members to overcome the limitations of the member states' size. She presented successful examples of collaboration among member states include initiatives on climate change to reduce vulnerability. Ms. McRae-Smith stressed that public education and outreach and creating an enabling environment to acquire resources for successful projects are the main challenges for SIDS.

During the discussion it was suggested that donors need to show flexibility to grant funding to initiatives in SIDS as a lack of institutional and human capacity to put together successful proposals to acquire funds remains a challenge. Past experiences in the Pacific have shown that small grants which can be applied in a flexible manner can have very positive impacts. Furthermore, a focus on the core area of expertise of each stakeholder in a partnership can have synergetic effects if clear communication channels exist. It was also added that by including stakeholders from civil society, the public and private sector improved collaboration with positive effects beyond the actual partnership may be achieved. Capacity building needs to start by engaging with the youth. Commitment, genuine engagement and clear communication by the partners as well as concise reporting are crucial for a successful partnership. Moreover, a degree of technical competence needs to be present within the senior levels of management of an initiative.

The lessons learned in SIDS with regard to reducing vulnerability are useful globally. Especially the integration of a gender component throughout all phases of a project has shown in numerous examples to be a success factor. With a number of functional partnerships it is important to strengthen the existing ones rather than creating new partnerships. Best practices at the SIDS scale should be promoted and interventions should be made strategically.

8 May 2006 (contd.)

Partnership Presentations

Partnerships for Sustainable Development in Caribbean Small Island Developing States

Franklin McDonald (University of the West Indies) presented experiences in developing partnerships in the Caribbean under the White Water to Blue Water (WW2BW) partnership. He pointed out that the main challenges facing the SIDS are: climate change and sea-level rise; lack of financial support; low level of coordination of all the agencies involved; and gaps in ocean governance systems. Priorities for action include: clearly articulated national policies on coastal zone and marine issues; coastal zone management policies and practices that explicitly address improving livelihoods; and support to ratification of the 'Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety'.

Dr. McDonald pointed out that WW2BW aims to stimulate activities related to integrated watershed and coastal zone management and the initiative's geographical coverage is the same as that covered by the Cartagena Protocol. The partnership includes governments, NGOs, private sector, IGOs and universities and focuses on integrated water resources management (IWRM), sustainable tourism, and marine ecosystem-based management.

Dr. McDonald shared that in 2007, WW2BW pilot projects on watershed management and adjacent coastal areas will be initiated in nine countries in the Caribbean. Reefs in the region are in poor condition, mainly due to the high nutrient content of runoff from land-based human activities. Funding from the GEF for the pilots amounts to over \$11 million. The nine countries are currently preparing studies based on UNEP's Global Programme of Action and national programmes of action (GPA NPA).

Dr. McDonald noted that the partnership approach provides recognition of existing institutions that can provide capacity building and policy support and also provides a means to generate new investments in finance, knowledge, and mobilizing public and private resources. Networking between partners improves linkages among existing projects such as the GEF GIWA, while institutions such as the Institute for Sustainable Development at the University of West Indies provide a regional portal for a range of sustainable development issues, including: resilience and risk reduction; sustainable tourism; and forecasting.

For more information see <http://www.ww2bw.org>

Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development (GNESD)

The GNESD partnership's primary objective is to support information exchange and poverty alleviation. It provides: policy support; capacity building; advocacy; research, analysis and study. GNESD also works directly with other energy partnerships such as GVEP, REEEP and EUEI.

John Christensen (GNESD Secretariat) provided an overview of this action-oriented partnership focused on energy for sustainable development, which was first launched at the WSSD. The initiative currently includes 21 centres of excellence on sustainable energy solutions, of which ten centres are located in developed countries (7 in Europe, 2 in USA, one in Japan); 4 in Africa; 2 in Latin America; and 5 in Asia and the Pacific. Mr. Christensen noted that the research undertaken by GNESD is often quoted in international policy debates and has influenced national policy documents in countries such as Lebanon, Kenya and China.

Ogunlade Davidson (University of Sierra Leone) described the basic methodology used: GNESD researchers analyze the current situation, assess policy options that are most suitable, and suggest ways to implement them. The overall approach is to progressively see how you can influence policy to include energy for the poor. Major themes include: energy access; power sector reform and impact on the poor; and the contribution of renewable energy technologies to poverty alleviation.

Dr. Davidson pointed out that unless power sector reforms include an explicit pro-poor dimension at the beginning,

8 May 2006 (contd.)

Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development (GNESD) (contd.)

they will not help the poor. He stressed that successful policy requires commitment of the government, participation of local communities, promotion of income generating activities and coordination among agencies.

Touria Dafrallah (Environment Development Action in the Third World (ENDA)) described the benefits ENDA has derived from its membership in GNESD. ENDA aims to identify conditions of access for the underserved, and analyze synergies between energy, sustainable development and poverty alleviation. Ms. Dafrallah said that GNESD had helped ENDA to collect and share lessons learned, to conduct research on the energy sector and develop common approaches and tools for communication and lobbying within national committees. The Network has also helped ENDA with networking through collaboration and interaction with other GNESD members.

For more information see <http://www.gnesd.org/>

USEA/USAID Energy Partnership Program

This practitioner to practitioner partnership aims to transfer knowledge between electric and gas utilities, as well as energy regulators in developing countries and the US. The program aims to engage in a two-way exchange of best practices between the partners in a commercially viable, market oriented approach.

Gordon Weynand (USAID) highlighted USAID's commitment to provide energy for poverty reduction in the developing world by focusing its work on public private partnerships, technical assistance and training.

Barry Worthington (US Energy Association) provided an overview of the partnership, reporting that to date the program has resulted in 81 partnerships in 30 developing countries, in which 12,000 executives have participated pro bono, resulting in 58 million USD in donated time and resources. The key benefits that been in the areas of efficiency in electrical transmission and energy regulation. Mr. Worthington pointed out that the US has a long history of regulating the power industry and promoting best practice in energy distribution. Other areas of collaboration include market development, financing and improving power generation.

Mr. Worthington stated that the knowledge exchange between practitioners have resulted in increased reliability, affordability, economic viability, and social and environmental sustainability of the energy supply. He presented examples of partnerships in Bangladesh, where the maintenance of an energy utility in Dhaka was improved; in . Angola where the national distribution company is developing a slum electrification program with the assistance of a utility in Salvador, Brazil; in Mongolia where the regulatory commission has adopted "life-line" tariffs, following a US model, to provide an affordable option for energy supply for low energy users.

Mr. Worthington shared that the key challenges faced are that often information is not readily shared between participants and field staff not chosen for exchange activities. Therefore future efforts focus on ensuring that overseas partners disseminate the information received by US companies.

James Connelly (Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy (MDTE)), shared experiences in partnering with a number of institutions in developing countries under the auspices of EPP. MDTE was able to assist the Central Energy Regulatory Commission of India to develop a performance-based tariff, building on MDTE's tariff structure. Other partners which the MDTE was able to assist are based in the Philippines, Romania, Pakistan and Egypt. Benefit for the MDTE are the exposure to international regulatory frameworks, the sharing of practices and the development of staff presentation skills.

For more information see <http://www.usea.org/workingfiles/epphome.htm>

8 May 2006 (contd.)

Partnerships Information Desks

Dams and Development Project

The DDP partnership aims to link national initiatives aimed at improving decision-making, planning and management of dams and their alternatives. The initiative's goals include:

- Enhanced effectiveness of inclusive national multi-stakeholder processes and their capacity to influence policies;
- Bringing together governments, civil society, the private sector and researchers in an area which has historically been divisive, but where sustainable solutions need to be found to meet the increasing needs of the developing world for water and energy.

For more information see <http://www.unep-dams.org>

Global Village Energy partnership (GVEP)

The GVEP partnership aims to reduce poverty and enhance sustainable development through accelerated provision of modern energy services to those un-served or underserved. The initiative brings together key stakeholders to:

- Address linkages between access to energy services and poverty reduction;
- Build capacity to support expanded generation and delivery of energy services;
- Bridge the gap between investors, entrepreneurs, and customers in the design, installation and operation of replicable energy projects.

For more information see <http://www.gvep.org>

Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (nrg4sd)

This partnership was formed to share information and experience about sustainable development policy-making at the regional level of governance. The network promotes understanding, collaboration and partnerships in sustainable development and seeks greater international recognition of the importance of the contribution which regions make to sustainable development. The network aims to be a voice for, and to represent, regional governments at the global level, promoting sustainable development at regional level around the world.

For more information see <http://www.nrg4sd.net>

Strategic Partnership Among Benin, Bhutan and Costa Rica for Co-operation on Sustainable Development

The initiative promotes sustainable development on a south-south basis through a long term partnership between Benin, Bhutan and Costa Rica based on the principles of equality, participation and reciprocity. Recognizing that lasting poverty alleviation will be achieved only in the context of sustainable development, the partnership seeks to catalyze the transition to sustainability by supporting innovation in policies, seeding initiatives and replicating success stories. The partnership will be implemented through policy dialogues, consultation and participation of the multi-interest groups.

9 May 2006

“Partnerships in Practice” Interactive Discussion Session

Working in Collaboration: Partnership Networking and Relationship-building

CSD-14 vice Chair Azanaw T. Abreha opened the discussion noting that partnerships are about relationships and building trust. He pointed out that most partnerships spend considerable time and resources to build effective mechanisms to communicate and coordinate between partners. Some partnerships' primary aim is to serve as a mechanism for information exchange- to share experiences and best practices, to exchange practical knowledge, and to engage in common analysis and review, as well as informal and frank debates. These initiatives are working to create multi-stakeholder networks, connecting governments, international institutions, NGOs, industry associations, and other partnerships. Mr. Abreha also noted that it is important to recognize that there isn't one model or "one size that fits all", and that partnerships are often "learning by doing".

Ross Andrews (UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)) noted that UK government currently participates in over 20 WSSD partnerships and has developed a Learning Network to share experiences and good practices among partnership practitioners. He pointed out that the Learning Network is a demand-led, public domain service for information exchange on training, monitoring and evaluation. Mr. Andrews shared some observations on partnerships based on the UK experience: partnerships are important - they actually deliver results; they are innovative, by engaging many different stakeholders; working together enables individual stakeholders to do more; and governments can assist with finance, convening power and regulatory regimes. Mr. Andrews acknowledged that partnerships can be difficult and risky, and the ones that survive still have to work hard, and need a strong support network. He stressed the importance of demonstration projects and a clearly defined division of labor. Mr. Andrews identified key future issues: the need for better links to the private sector, toolkits and technical support, advocacy and communications.

Jane Ross (Mountain Partnership) shared her experiences working with the Mountain Partnership, a voluntary initiative with 130 member organizations, including 47 countries, 17 inter-governmental organizations and 75 major group organizations. The partnership is supported by a small secretariat, which acts as a broker on frameworks and conventions involving all the mountain areas of the world, encouraging debate among its members. Challenges faced include geographic and language barriers. The partnership is currently developing various electronic tools and services, and has held two global meetings and seminars. The partnership has identified communications champions, and encourages face-to-face meetings, especially between people from mountain villages.

Philippe Lempp (Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21)) described the activities of this global policy network which serves as forum for international leadership in the area of renewable energy. REN21 includes governments, international organizations, NGOs, industry and financial associations, regional and local governments, and members at large. It provides support in policy, advocacy, and information exchange. It has produced three studies on renewable energy which contain useful baseline information. In addition, as a follow up to the International Conference on Renewable Energy held in Bonn in June 2004, REN21 has developed an International Action Programme which monitors progress among its member countries.

Francois Rogers (Supporting Entrepreneurs for Environment and Development (SEED)) outlined the work of the initiative which supports innovative, entrepreneurial partnerships on the ground through the SEED awards, an international biennial competition. The first round of SEED Award winners were announced at CSD-12 and CSD-13. This year, at CSD-14, the second round of awards has been initiated with a call for proposals. Mr. Rogers stressed that the larger goal of the initiative is to encourage reciprocal engagement by the winning partnerships in the SEED initiative. Challenges identified included the need for better communication of the partnership's achievements so that the initiative can attract other partnerships to join the effort. Mr. Rogers also pointed out that SEED needs a framework for developing partnerships and better participation by developing countries.

9 May 2006 (contd.)

Working in Collaboration: Partnership Networking and Relationship-building (contd.)

In summarizing the discussions at the partnership fair, Patricia Chaves (Partnerships Team) pointed out that there is broad recognition of partnerships as a viable vehicle to implement WSSD commitments. Ms. Chaves thanked all the partnerships and participants for their commitment and enthusiasm. She noted that the Partnerships Fair had provided a rich experience, based on the presentations, thematic discussions and information desks. Ms. Chaves stressed that partnerships are clearly making an impact on the ground, which goes far beyond the CSD. She also committed her office to support year-round activities of the partnerships registered with DESA. Ms. Chaves encouraged CSD participants interested in partnerships to continue the discussion and use the website.

The Chair, Mr. Abreha closed the Partnerships Fair by noting that the partnership approach is developing and growing. He commented that this approach is complementary to the intergovernmental process, and pointed out that building trust is crucial to the process. Mr. Abreha said that the CSD should be able to reach out to other partners. He went on to say that the success of the 321 partnerships currently registered with CSD depends on these initiatives' ability to demonstrate results.

Partnership Presentations**Global Village Energy partnership (GVEP)**

The partnership's primary aim is to harness energy for poverty reduction. The initiative promotes technological neutrality, with preference for clean energy sources; multiple uses, concentrating on productive uses that improve livelihoods; multi-stakeholder, with partners in the government, NGOs and civil society; multi-sectoral with applications in agriculture, water, health and education; and stressing advocacy for individuals at the local level.

Sarah Adams (GVEP Secretariat) described how the partnership has focused on providing technical assistance and funding from donor partners to enable developing country partners to formulate action plans addressing the energy needs of key sectors identified in national poverty reduction strategies and to carry out studies to reorient national energy programmes towards more productive uses and livelihood transforming activities.

Marta Rivera (Fundación Solar) described the GVEP country project in Guatemala where the first steps involved capacity building of facilitators and identification of a high level advocate for the project. A bottom up analysis of the current situation was complemented by a top down view of the challenges, thus a dialogue with local stakeholders on the expectation of the government's policies established. The holistic approach of GVEP integrating the concerns of the community was seen advantageous to other sector-specific approaches.

Gregory Woodsworth (UNDP) spoke about the merging of GVEP initiatives and the East Africa Community (EAC) to increase regional energy access to modern energy services. Ministerial commitment has been secured in this top down approach by the EAC to scale up modern energy application and the improvement of access to energy. The process has been marked by delineating a regional strategy and its adoption by the EAC Council of Ministers and Heads of State. This is followed by the development of investment programmes, a pilot phase and its implementation to improve energy for about 50% of the region's population.

Ms. Adams noted that in the future GVEP will work to deepen its relationship with donors, NGOs and developing country government partners. GVEP will also focus on reinforcing the partnership's 'village' component, supporting and adding to the smaller, in-country partners as well as its non-profit and for profit implementers. New appropriate tools will be developed and the focus on countries will be extended to create regional hubs. Furthermore, the information base will be extended and the focus on the role of women in energy management will be reinforced.

For more information see <http://www.gvep.org>

9 May 2006 (contd.)

Coalition for Rainforest Nations (CfRN)

The coalition aims to bring together 16 developing countries, who have committed themselves to the UNFCCC, the Millennium Project and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO). The CfRN aims to take on the challenge to bring a diverse range of nations together to formulate interregional policy. Partners of the coalition include industrialized nations that support fair trade and improved market access for developing nations.

Kevin Conrad (Coalition for Rainforest Nations (CfRN) Secretariat) described how the initiative facilitates new and improved revenue streams to underpin community-driven environmentally sustainable economic growth. This is done by advocating reform in international regulatory, trade and economic frameworks to effectively align market incentives with sustainable outcomes. The coalition aims to improve and find alternative revenue streams for developing nations, whose rainforest products are extracted for a price, which is a small fraction of the final product. Mr. Conrad stressed the need to assign value to the preservation of rain forest under the Kyoto protocol to give developing nations an incentive to practice sustainable resource use and to limit climate change.

Making a case for positive incentives for sustainable use of rainforests, Mr. Conrad pointed out that the process could begin with ODA and subsequently be replaced by market frameworks, which would help developing nations with rainforest resources move away from a dependency on highly fluctuating ODA amounts. He stressed that market forces drive most deforestation and emissions markets may hold the key to stemming deforestation in rainforest nations.

For more information see <http://www.rainforestcoalition.org>

Strategic Partnership Among Benin, Bhutan and Costa Rica for Co-operation on Sustainable Development

The partnership aims to stimulate South-South dialogue, by raising the understanding and internalizing the process of a sustainable development in line with outcomes of the JPOI through policy dialogues, funding initiatives, supporting projects of mutual interest, replicating success stories and deepening contacts among the participating individuals. Although geographically different, the three countries in this initiative are closely connected by having a wealth of biodiversity, and a shared interest in participatory processes and forming global partnerships.

Severin Asse (Benin), Nim Dorji (Bhutan) and Eugenia Wo Ching Sancho (Costa Rica) provided an overview of the initiative from the perspective of their individual governments. They described how the partnership builds on the principles of equality between donor and the recipient; broad based participation, management of funds by the receiving nation and a regular exchange among the partners.

To translate the vision and goals of the partnership into concrete programs and projects, a Program for South-South Cooperation (PSC) was formalized in May 2005. Funding was provided by government of the Netherlands and others. Priority areas for the program, include biodiversity conservation, sustainable tourism, sustainable consumption, sustainable energy provision and gender equality. Projects within and between the three countries are also meant to provide examples for replication beyond the partnership.

Challenges faced relate to geographic distance, the need for communication in 3 different languages and respecting cultural diversity. Furthermore realizing that sustainable development is a long term objective, but that financial commitments from partners are short or medium term, requires innovation, flexibility and vision. Next steps include promoting a model for sustainable development on a South-South basis; country ownership of partnership priorities; demonstrating visible results and impacts and replicating successes and attracting more partners.

9 May 2006 (contd.)

Partnerships Information Desks

Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles

This partnership aims to improve air quality through the use of cleaner fuel and higher standard vehicles. The initiative's objectives include:

- Help developing countries to develop action plans to complete the elimination of leaded gasoline by end 2008;
- Phase down sulfur in diesel and gasoline fuels, long-term objective - 50 ppm & below
- Support the development and adoption of cleaner fuel standards and clean vehicle requirements

For more information see <http://www.unep.org/pcfvl/>

Recovery of the Circuit of Four Lakes

This partnership is working to assess and stop the growing chemical contamination of 4 Andean mountain lakes located in the provinces of Acomayo and Canas, Dept of Cuzco, in the Peruvian Andes. The initiative aims goal to clean the waters and banks of these four lakes and to recover the biological diversity, flora and fauna representative of this important site; to educate and assist the communities on ways to prevent future contamination, which will include building/upgrading septic tanks and laundry facilities in some villages.

For more information see <http://www.yachaywasi-ngo.org/lakesproject.htm>

Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21)

This initiative is a global policy network aimed at providing a forum for international leadership on renewable energy. Its goal is to promote the rapid expansion of renewable energies in developing and industrialized economies, by supporting relevant national legislation and international processes. REN21 brings together actors from the energy, development and environment sectors. It is a multi-stakeholder network, connecting governments, international institutions, non-governmental organizations, industry associations, and other partnerships and initiatives.

For more information see <http://www.ren21.net/>

USEA/USAID Energy Partnership Program

This initiative facilitates partnerships that provide an opportunity for senior executives of overseas utilities and regulatory agencies to observe and learn how their U.S. counterparts are structured, financed, managed and regulated. Benefits to non-U.S. partners include:

- Allows for a transfer of knowledge on market-based planning, international energy sector restructuring, and development experiences by peers;
- Establishes advisory/commercial relationships to discuss changes affecting the industry, corporate structure and regulation of the energy industry .

For more information see <http://www.usea.org/workingfiles/epphome.htm>

About the CSD Partnerships Fair

The Partnerships Fair at the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) provides a venue for registered partnerships for sustainable development to showcase progress, launch new partnerships and network with existing and potential partners. The CSD-14 Partnerships Fair gave CSD participants an opportunity to create synergies between partnerships, and learn from each other's experiences.

The CSD-14 Partnerships Fair was an official activity of Commission and took place at UN Headquarters in New York from 1-9 May 2006 and featured: "Partnerships in Practice" interactive discussion sessions ; Information desks where CSD registered partnerships display and distribute information ; and Partnership presentations on progress made in partnership implementation.

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