Local development fostering global peace and prosperity, the SymbioCity Approach

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United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
What is UNITAR?

- The United Nations Institute for Training and Research is the training arm of the UN. It aims at enhancing the effectiveness of the UN through appropriate training and research.

- UNITAR’s mission is to deliver innovative training and conduct research on knowledge systems to develop the capacity of beneficiaries.

- UNITAR works in all the fields covered by the UN: peace and security, development, human rights, humanitarian affairs, international law.

- UNITAR was established in 1963, as an autonomous body within the UN system.
UNITAR’s Beneficiary and Event Statistics

Global outreach

- Over 25,000 beneficiaries/ year
- Over 450 events / year
- Over 75% of events are training-related
- e-learning equals to 50% of learning events

Top 10 nationality rankings of beneficiaries (2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>691</td>
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<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>574</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>327</td>
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<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>268</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>205</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>179</td>
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<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>165</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>161</td>
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<td>Kenya</td>
<td>160</td>
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Peace, Security and Diplomacy Unit

Sample of activities

**Multilateral Diplomacy**
- UN System Protocol, conference rules, drafting and adoption of UN resolutions, etc.
- Skills Development Chairing International Conferences, Public speaking in a multilateral context, mediation skills, etc.
- Environmental Diplomacy Climate change diplomacy)
- Human Rights Diplomacy (Human rights orientation programme for diplomats)

**Peacekeeping Training**
- International Master’s Degree in Conflictology Enhancing the Capacity of African Peacekeeping Training Institutions
- Portfolio of online courses:
  - Introduction to peace operations
  - Protection of civilians in peace operations
  - Natural resources management in post-conflict countries
  - Introduction to security sector reform
  - Transitional justice and peacebuilding

**Peacemaking and Conflict Prevention**
- Project for Special and Personal Representatives and Envoy of the Secretary-General
- UNITAR-IPI Fellowship Programme in Peacemaking and Preventive Diplomacy
- Conflict Prevention and Peacemaking in Africa
- Conflict Prevention and Peacemaking Capacities of Indigenous Peoples’ Representatives

**International Law**
- Portfolio of online courses:
  - Introduction to International Environmental Law
  - Techniques and Procedures in International Environmental Law
  - International Environmental Governance
  - International Environmental Negotiations
  - The Law of International Organizations
  - Internat. Water Law
  - The Law of Treaties
Sample of activities

**Waste and Chemical Management**
- National Legislation on Chemical Labelling Indonesia
- National Inventory of Toxic Emissions (Mexico)
- Strategic planning to phase-out mercury mining (Kyrgyzstan)

**Climate Change**
- Identify climate change adaptation options for the traditional pastoral system (Mongolia)
- Raise the awareness of farmers and watershed managers to the vulnerability of crops and water yield to climate change (Philippines)
- Assess degree to which climate change has caused an increase in waterborne diseases (Ghana)

**Environmental Governance and Law**
- Agreement reached among government sectors and stakeholder to strengthen access to environment information policies in Costa Rica and Dominican Republic
- Public participation section of 2007 National Air Quality Management Framework in South Africa developed through consensus process (with UCT)
- International network of public participation researchers catalyzed through 2008 UNITAR-Yale Environmental Governance Conference
Governance Unit

Sample of activities

Decentralized Cooperation

- CIFAL Global Network events (incl. CIFAL Maghreb)
- DPP Master Programme for Afghan MOF officials
- Long-term training for Nigerian oil & gas engineering qualification
- Annemasse Agglo PPP Platform for Sustainable Development
- SymbioCity
- International Migration
- Portfolio of online courses on local sustainable development

Public Finance and Trade

Public Finance, Trade and Intellectual Property issues

Portfolio of online courses on:
- Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Capital Market Development and Regulation
- Debt Management and Poverty Reduction
- Financial Governance
- Financial Negotiation
- Microfinance and Procurement
- Financial Risk Management
- Public Financial Management
- Trade and Intellectual Property

Face to face events such as:
- Seminar on High Performance Leadership
- Seminar on International Negotiation for Government and Business Executives
Objective

The objective of both DCP and the CGN is to strengthen the capacity of government authorities and civil society leaders, thus empowering them to advance sustainable development.

Origins

- DCP & the CGN were created as a result of the WSSD (Johannesburg, 2002)
- WSSD acknowledged the key role of partnerships between the UN, civil society and academia, local authorities and the private sector in the advancement and successful realization of the sustainable development agenda

Target audience

- Public officials from national, sub-national and local governments
- Academics
- NGOs and CBOs
- Private sector representatives
- International organizations

Sample of DCP partners

- MOF Afghanistan
- MICL & MHUV Algeria
- Graduate Institute Geneva
- French Government
- Flemish Government
- PTDF Nigeria
- CAF
- Annemasse Agglo
- ASUR
- Veolia Environnement
- UN-Habitat
- UNESCAP
- UN Water
- Municipality of Plock
- Municipalities around the world
- ...
The Global CIFAL Network

A multi-stakeholder hub for local capacity development and experience sharing

CIFAL Global Network Facts 2013

“Experience is knowledge, all the rest is information”
Albert Einstein

“The CIFAL concept is an excellent means to promote city-to-city cooperation. It assists municipalities in making the MDGs at the city level”
Hiroshi Nakada, Mayor of Yokohama, Japan
Decentralized Cooperation Programme & CIFAL Global Network - Thematic Areas

Urban Governance & Planning
- Urban Services
  - Transport
  - Road safety
  - Water and sanitation
  - Waste management
  - Safety and security
  - Technology
- Disaster Risk Reduction
- Transparency and Anti-corruption

Economic Development
- Entrepreneurship and Business Development
- Employment Promotion
- Creative Economy
- Competitiveness
- Tourism for Development
- Airports Management

Social Inclusion
- Education/STEM
- Migration and Human Trafficking
- Gender Equality
- Youth Engagement

Environmental Sustainability
- Green Growth
- Climate Change
- Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency
- Green Cities
- Symbiocity
The Diversity of DCP/CIFAL Training Events

- Urban Governance & Planning
- Economic Development
- Social Inclusion
- Environmental Sustainability

- Short events (Workshops, conferences, Seminars, etc.)
- Long-term events (Master degree, fellowship programme)

- e-Learning
- Blended Learning

- National Governments
- Provincial Authorities
- Municipalities
- Civil Society
- Academia
- Media
- Private Sector
- International Organizations
Strategic territorial planning & management

Where are things located?  Where should they be?  How to move them?

awareness phase  analytical phase  implementation and good governance phase

PREPAREDNESS  DIAGNOSTIC  PLANNING  IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW UP

knowledge of the territory (information gathering)  identification and assessment of the current situation and trends (SWOT analysis)  definition of a local development strategy according to the diagnostic plan  implementation and evaluation and monitoring

Geographic Information System
Looking at the world in a dynamic way for evidence-based decision making.
The SymbioCity Approach: a framework for holistic and sustainable urban development

SymbioCity is a fast track to holistic and sustainable urban development.

The secret: combine urban systems and benefit from synergies.

SymbioCity pinpoints key urban systems – from energy to IT and water to waste – that are the foundation for good living conditions, prosperity and welfare in any city. Unlocking the synergies within – and between – these systems can make all the difference as cities strive to curb environmental impacts and deliver social and economic benefits to citizens.

SymbioCity website

SymbioCity video
A tool seeking to develop synergies between subsystems

SymbioCity
A multidisciplinary approach that analyses an area from a number of perspectives to identify synergies between different aspects in the integrated planning framework
Using differentiated technologies and looking for synergies depending on local contexts

Strategies in Traffic and Transportation –

Scale and technological level

Sample of potential synergies and interfaces
- Utilize synergies between land-use, traffic and transportation to achieve good prerequisites for public transportation and minimize energy consumption, air pollution and noise
- Gas from digestion of biomass may be used as fuel for vehicles
- Minimize transportation of drinking water by truck by implementing sound drinking water supply
Using differentiated technologies and looking for synergies depending on local contexts

Sample of potential synergies and interfaces

- Plans for how to make waste transportation efficient
- Cooperation with water and drainage utilities to avoid dumping of waste/septic sludge in collectors for storm water and/or wastewater
- Use of waste for energy production
- etc.

Waste Disposal –
Scale and technological level
THANK YOU!