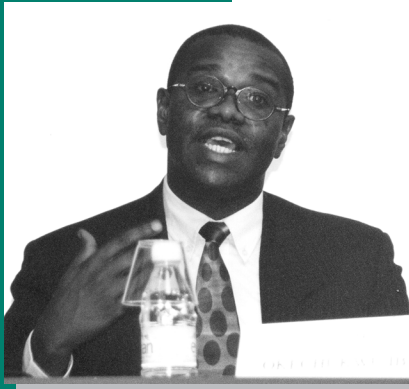


## Oiling the Friction: Environmental Conflict Management in the Niger Delta, Nigeria

*Featuring: Okechukwu Ibeanu, Department of Political Science, University of Nigeria*



Okechukwu Ibeanu

The Niger Delta, once considered "the White Man's Graveyard," is viewed today as an important biological and economic source of wealth for its richness in biodiversity and for its immense oil reserves. However, according to Dr. Okechukwu Ibeanu, the extraction and production of oil by large oil companies in cooperation with the Nigerian federal government, has caused environmental damage in this extremely sensitive ecosystem. The government-petrobusiness alliance has exacerbated tensions between various local ethnic communities in the Niger Delta. Dr. Ibeanu presented his research findings on conflict in this oil rich but environmentally fragile region of Nigeria at a meeting co-hosted by the Environmental Change and Security Project and the Africa Project of the Woodrow Wilson Center.

Since the 1950s, when Nigeria began exporting large quantities of oil, the oil-rich southern region of the Niger Delta, known as the "oil belt," has been a massive source of revenue for the Nigerian federal government. Nigeria is the fifth largest producer within OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries), and currently exports about one million barrels of oil per day with Shell Nigeria - the Shell Petroleum Developing Company, a subsidiary of Royal Dutch/Shell, producing about fifty percent of total oil exports.

Oil and gas pipelines crisscross the region that has experienced many large spills over the last half century. One recent pipeline break resulted in as much as 13 million barrels spilling over an extremely confined space. These oil spills destroy the freshwater ecosystems, foul farmland, kill animals and endanger human life. In addition, canals built to support the pipelines impact the hydrology of the Niger Delta, creating a scarcity of water as well as acting as conduits to pass pollutants back into the ecosystem.

Environmental awareness among Nigerians is widespread and a number of local and international

environmental nongovernmental organizational (NGOs) are trying to highlight the precarious environmental situation in the Niger Delta. Yet Dr. Ibeanu stressed that no systematic study has been done on the environmental impact of oil production in the Niger Delta. The Nigerian environmental protection agency remains in its infancy (only ten years old), has limited financial and technical capacity, and is susceptible to corruption. In essence, the agency acts as a rubber stamp for lower standards by endorsing the oil companies' own standards. While oil exports constitute only 13 percent of Nigeria's gross domestic product, they make up about 80 percent of government revenues, causing the government characterize continued production of oil as an essential Nigerian security interest. In contrast, oil is not central to the survival of the majority of people in the oil-bearing communities of the Niger Delta. Most rely predominantly upon agricultural and pastoral economies. These divergent dependencies have created what Dr. Ibeanu terms a "paradox of securities" in that the federal government's pursuit of oil-based "national security" has come into direct conflict with providing communal security for its citizens. The state and its oil company partners and the local communities of the Niger Delta hold very different perceptions of what constitutes security.

In order to ensure the viability of the oil production, the state has relied on the military to secure a stable environment for the oil companies, which together with state officials, constitute the elite of Nigeria. This alliance was firmly cemented during the long military rule of Nigeria and continues today, as evidenced by the high level of corruption within the federal government. Thus, according to Dr. Ibeanu, the Nigerian government, in collusion with petrobusiness, has relied on conscious, systematic, and organized state violence against groups in conflict with the government or petrobusiness. This conflict often emerges when local communities assert their claimed rights to greater shares of the oil profits. But perhaps more importantly, this conflict arises when communities move to protect the local environment upon which they depend for their, livelihoods. In

### contents

#### 2 ECSP Meetings

Environmental Cooperation for Regional Peace and Security in Southern Africa

Forest Futures: Population, Consumption, and Wood Resources

#### 4 From The Field

Progress in Gender Integration at the World Wildlife Fund Nepal Program

#### 6 Book Review

Violence Through Environmental Discrimination: Causes, Rwanda Arena, and Conflict Model

#### 10 Project News

## ECSP Meetings

# Environmental Cooperation for Regional Peace and Security in Southern Africa

*Larry A. Swatuk, Department of Political Studies, University of Botswana*

**A** geographical and historical overview of southern African is a necessary starting point for discussing water issues in the region. Dr. Swatuk pointed out that the pre-colonial settlement structure of the region was focused along rivers, that regional patterns of trade followed the course of these rivers and generally remained within the geographically defined "basin structure." This structure was disrupted with the colonial era. State boundaries were overlaid on these natural structures to create political zones of exclusivity based on mineral and physical resource wealth. Infrastructure development and settlement patterns were then re-focused to support extraction and exploitation. The colonial state attitude toward the environment was based on the attitude that resources determine borders, so that the more valuable the resource, the stronger the state. This attitude continued with many post-colonial governments. Each historical era has thus moved further away from the early settlement patterns around water resources, and each era has posed new challenges to the human populations and state structures within the region.

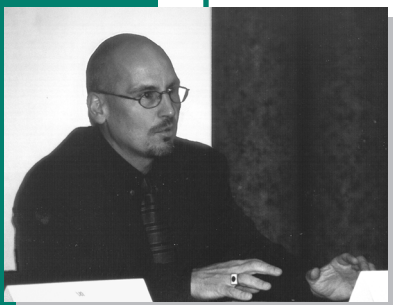
History has thus created certain realities within the southern African region. Centers of population have been focused on areas of mineral extraction and are often located in areas that have insufficient natural resources to support these populations. This mismatch and shortfall is particularly apparent when one examines settlement patterns in relation to water availability. Population bases, in many cases, are far away from water sources, creating in some instances the need to literally make water run uphill. Historically South Africa has been the dominant state in the region, and that dominance continues today with South Africa accounting for 93% of the regional GDP. There is a high level of inequality within the region and within the individual states in the region. Some states are more urbanized, some states have a more developed civil society, and many states still rely on the production of primary products to fuel their economy. All of these realities

must be understood in order to explore the strengths and weaknesses of the various proposals for environmental cooperation and the potential effect of that cooperation on regional peace and security.

Having set the historical, geographical and political stage, Dr. Swatuk then briefly examined two examples of regional cooperation around the essential resource of water. In the cases of both the Okavango and the Zambezi basins, cooperation has emerged in a fairly ad-hoc manner, driven by the response to a crisis rather than by an overarching desire to cooperate. In both cases, the water resource is shared across several countries. Dr. Swatuk outlined some of the institutional bodies that have evolved around these basins, but pointed out that none of them has been particularly strong in developing, agreeing and implementing legal or institutional management structures. He also pointed out that the growing importance of tourism has brought additional non-state actors into the forum including non-governmental organizations (NGOs). In the case of the Okavango, these NGOs are proving the most vociferous campaigners for cooperation and are driving the decision-making structure because of their relative international strength in comparison with the states themselves. Thus, in that situation, there is an essentially 'accidental' conservation based on the ability to generate income and development from the tourist industry.

Dr. Swatuk concluded by stating that the increased activity of the traditionally weaker states in international discussions around the environment, and specifically water was one way in which they were building statehood. He tabled the idea that perhaps this type of internationally-driven resource cooperation could form the basis and framework for wider, more formal efforts to integrate environmental cooperation into the region as part of a larger effort to build peace and security.

□ *This meeting was co-sponsored by the Environmental Change and Security Project and the Africa Project.*



*Larry A. Swatuk*

## Forest Futures: Population, Consumption, and Wood Resources

*Robert Engelman, Vice President for Research, Population Action International*  
*Tom Gardner-Outlaw, Research Associate, Population Action International*  
*Nigel Sizer, Director of Forest Policy, World Resources Institute*

The meeting highlighted the recently released publication by PAI entitled *Forest Futures: Population, Consumption, and Wood Resources*.

As a research and advocacy organization, Population Action International investigates the relationship between population growth and the availability natural resources and uses that research to explore and promote positive policy options to address the challenges of rapid population growth. Robert Engelman briefly touched on current and positive downward trends in population growth rates, but pointed out that continued overall growth in numbers and shifting consumption patterns mean that there will be increased pressure on natural resources into the foreseeable future. Forests have traditionally provided one of the most easily renewable resources important to human populations as fuel, raw material and in more recent history, as an essential element of communication and education through the use of paper. However, evidence suggests that as human populations have grown, forest cover has been more heavily exploited and the total global forested area has been reduced.

One statistic that graphically bears this tendency out is the ratio of forested land to human beings. As global population has grown, this ratio has dropped steadily. The amount of forested cover available to each person has declined globally by 50 percent since 1960. This ratio, currently at 0.6 per capita, is expected to continue to decline as total population continues to grow. Mr. Engelman defined the critical forest ratio as .1 hectare per person. Below this level, forest resources would be too scarce to successfully sustain global populations. He highlighted that one of the most critical variables in this ratio is the consumption pattern of current and future populations, particularly the consumption of tropical forest products.

Tom Gardner-Outlaw expanded on Mr. Engelman's general comments and supported them with particular findings from the recently released PAI publication enti-

tled *Forest Futures: Population, Consumption, and Wood Resources*. Of the total current global distribution of forests, 60 percent are in developing countries and are primarily tropical. The remaining 40 percent occurring in developed countries are temperate forests. When examined more closely, low forest areas closely correlate with areas of high population growth. For example, Asia has 60 percent of the global population, and only 15 percent of global forest resources.

The trends in forest cover have been very different in developing versus developed regions. In the period from 1990-1995, total forest area has increased in developed countries by 8.8 million hectares, while in developing countries it has fallen by 65.1 million hectares. Mr. Gardner-Outlaw pointed out that this high rate of decline in developing countries reflects a similar pattern in Europe when those countries were in a similar stage of economic development.

The report contains an extensive section on understanding forest loss and an examination of the factors behind loss. Mr. Gardner-Outlaw broke these causes into two categories: underlying and direct. Under the heading of underlying causes he listed population growth, economic growth, poverty, market failures and policy failures. Within direct causes he listed agricultural clearing, industrial logging, infrastructure and industrial development and clearing for fuelwood and charcoal. Population and population growth play a role in all of these individual causes, but also in the relationship between these causes. In recent years, per capita consumption in the global wood trade has been relatively stable, but because of the overall growth of population, total global consumption levels have continued to rise. In addition, because many people in developing countries rely directly on forest products and cleared forest lands to maintain their livelihoods, consumption of these re-

...continued on pg. 9



Robert Engelman



Tom Gardner-Outlaw

**“Eight out of ten human beings have yet to reach the level of paper use considered necessary to achieve the basic needs of literacy and communication.”**

## From The Field

## Progress in Gender Integration at the World Wildlife Fund Nepal Program

*Melissa Thaxton, University of Michigan Population-Environment Fellow, placed with the World Wildlife Fund Nepal*



Melissa Thaxton

Since the World Wildlife Fund Nepal Program (WWF/Nepal) office opened in 1967, the scope of the Program's work has expanded significantly. From its original primary focus on the preservation of endangered species, WWF/Nepal has broadened its understanding of, and approach to, biodiversity conservation. It now supports integrated conservation and development projects (ICDPs) in or around four of Nepal's seventeen protected areas. Indeed, WWF/Nepal's

ICDPs have become increasingly more important in the effort to respond to the social and economic needs of local people, while simultaneously promoting and improving the conservation of natural resources. As a University of Michigan Population-Environment Fellow at the WWF Nepal Program, I am working to strengthen these integrated programs, especially in the areas of gender, health, and women's empowerment.

The integration of gender concerns within the ICDP has become a relatively new focus at WWF/Nepal, in recognition of the large role that gender (especially the gender division of labor and household and community-level gender relations) plays in the use and management of natural resources. Since men's and women's perspectives, work and family responsibilities, and their roles in the home and community differ in every culture and society, an understanding of men's and women's realities is cru-

cial to equitable and sustainable development and pursuing effective conservation strategies. Two WWF/Nepal projects in particular are poised to more fully integrate gender into project implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. These are the Bardia Integrated Conservation Project (BICP) located in the lowlands of southwestern Nepal and the Kanchenjunga Conservation Area Project (KCAP) located in the country's mountainous northeast.

As part of the integration process, WWF/Nepal administrative, program, and field staff completed a weeklong gender sensitivity training course, combined with a gender integration strategy workshop. The participants of the Gender

**“An understanding of men's and women's realities is crucial to equitable and sustainable development and pursuing effective conservation strategies.”**

Training and Strategy Workshop identified four main goals at the outset of the workshop: 1) to understand the concept of gender; 2) to internalize the gender concept and issues; 3) to identify ways in which WWF/Nepal could integrate gender into WWF/Nepal programs; and

4) to develop WWF/Nepal's gender strategies.

Attaining all four of these goals was a major achievement for the WWF staff. The newly adopted Gender Strategy identifies gaps in gender integration at policy, organization, and program levels; outlines actions to be taken to integrate gender into the organization and all projects and programs; and assigns responsibility to appropriate staff to achieve the strategic goals. As a result of the workshop and training, WWF/Nepal has articulated a new commitment to, and understanding of, the relationship between and gender and conservation.



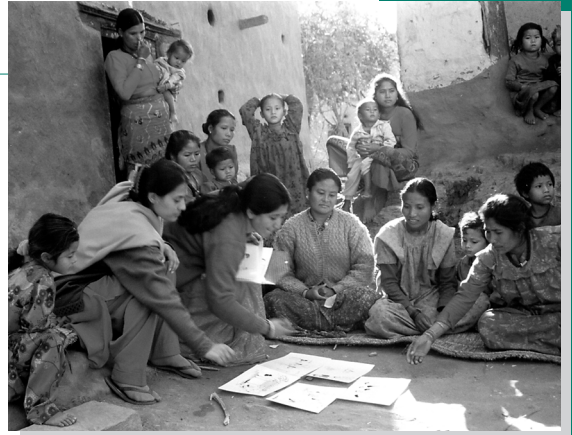
One of the Strategy's identified gaps is the lack of gender-disaggregated data—both quantitative and qualitative—that WWF/Nepal can use in the design, implementation and evaluation stages of the project cycle. This shortfall has made it difficult, at times impossible, for WWF/Nepal to measure the impacts of its integrated conservation and development projects (ICDPs) on the men and women it seeks to serve. The WWF Nepal Program has a long history of success in conservation and development when measured by its Project indicators, most often the number of services it has provided or the number of people it has reached. For example, in WWF/Nepal technical reports, the numbers of Mothers' groups that have been formed, hectares of land reforested, or people who have completed literacy training are impressive. But what do these numbers mean in terms of the lives of the men and women that have been involved in these activities? How can WWF be sure of the links between gender, development and conservation?

The first step in answering these questions is to talk to the men and women in the BICP and KCAP directly, thereby building a data base that can be used immediately for monitoring and extension purposes, as well as in the future—3 or 5 years from now—to evaluate the effectiveness of WWF/Nepal's projects and programs. Information will be collected in BICP and KCAP this

spring through the administration of a structured questionnaire and additional in-depth interviews. Topics addressed in the questionnaire include: women's and men's current work load, level of education, access to health services, use of family planning methods, patterns of water and forest resources use, perceived benefits of Project activities and initiatives, and men's and women's most prevalent concerns surrounding community and environment.

It is believed that a better understanding of the relationship between gender, development and environment will better prepare the WWF Nepal Program to advocate for, and work toward, the human development and empowerment of individual men and women and the communities in which they reside as an effective means to achieving natural resource conservation.

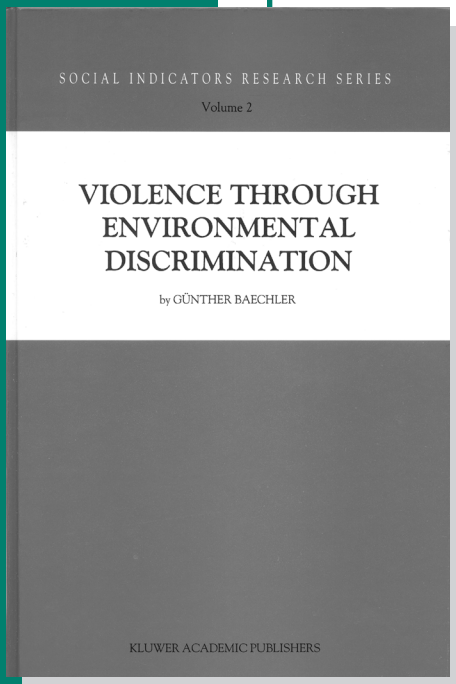
□ For more information on the Population-Environment Fellows Program please go to [www.sph.umich.edu/pfpls/](http://www.sph.umich.edu/pfpls/).



*Melissa is helping to build the capacity of WWF and its partners to address population and gender issues in communities around protected areas.*



## Book Review



## Violence Through Environmental Discrimination: Causes, Rwanda Arena, and Conflict Model

*Günther Baechler*

Dordrecht: Kluwer, 1999.

*Reviewed by Simon Dalby*

Günther Baechler was the director of the Environment and Conflicts Project (ENCOP) supported by the Swiss Peace Federation in the 1990s. This volume draws heavily on the work of the

project and its case studies. Although not officially ENCOP's final report, much of this volume effectively acts as such. It provides a summary of the theoretical framework as well as a synthesis of the findings of the empirical material. While much of the project material has appeared in summary form in articles and book chapters, including in the Environmental Change and Security Project Report, this volume offers a full-length elaboration of both the model and the findings. As such, this volume is a most useful addition to the environment and conflict literature.

The basic premise in the study follows much of the literature in the field in arguing that political conflicts in the underdeveloped world have identifiable material roots. In exploring the chains of causation that link environmental factors to conflict, Baechler develops a complex model that emphasizes political factors within states as crucial to predicting the eruption of violence. The ENCOP findings confirm other research, which suggests that environmental conflicts are mostly internal to particular states and unlikely to cause inter-state conflict in the immediate future. Unraveling the important causal factors and the circumstances that are likely to lead to organized conflict, if not to full-scale warfare, is not an easy task although this volume carefully lays out the causal connections. But, Baechler wants to do more than revisit this research; he tries to extend the analysis to suggest some practical ameliorative measures that will take the pressure off rural re-

sources and hence prevent conflicts occurring. This attempt at ameliorative measures leads him back to a discussion of security and sustainable development towards the end of the book.

While much of the environment and conflict research focuses on the question of environmental degradation as a factor in causing conflict, Baechler emphasizes that the other side of the coin, the transformation of environments by human action on the largest scale, is also an important part of the current processes. In particular the actions of industrialization, the development of a fossil-fueled economy, and the expansion of industrial agriculture in the second half of the twentieth century have been major factors in the transformation. Right from the first page of chapter one, Baechler uses Vandana Shiva's term "maldevelopment," to make the connections between violence, poverty, and environmental degradation in Africa explicit. But more generally he discusses this within the framework developed by Karl Polanyi, of the "Great Transformation" from traditional agricultural to modern industrial society in Europe which has directly driven many of the large-scale environmental changes of the last few centuries. Crucially Baechler suggests that maldevelopment in Africa, in particular, is part of the larger consequences of the "Great Transformation."

These conceptual considerations suggest clearly that conflict is a result of the disruptions of development and transformation rather than a result of solely indigenous causes. This connection is crucial to the discussion in this volume and a very useful contribution to the larger literature linking environment and conflict. While some researchers might demur at the broad generalization that the places that are likely to have environmental conflicts are arid grasslands and mountain

areas, which have been only partly disturbed by the processes of industrial transformation, this volume has the very considerable advantage of making the geographical factors of conflict much more explicit than is often the case in this environment and conflict literature. Focusing on the particular kinds of environments that are involved in conflicts simplifies both the relevant causations to be studied, and also narrows the often loose definitions of both "environment" and "resources" included in models that try to offer very broad generalizations about the processes of environmental conflict.

Using the African "maldevelopment" cases where violence is directly linked to the environment and the lack of development, Baechler suggests that these processes must also clearly be understood in terms of the unfortunate history of colonization and the economic marginalization of rural populations. Discussing these marginalized people, as the title of the volume suggests, in terms of environmental "discrimination," may not be the ideal terminology. But, discrimination does convey the crucial point of the whole volume, that many people do not have access to either the resources they need, or economic alternatives to these resources, for political reasons, and are often forced to fight to survive as a consequence. The Rwanda case study that forms the empirical demonstration of the ENCOP model however emphasizes that environmental factors were not the crucial cause of the violence there in the 1990s. Rural discrimination there was overlain with powerful ethnopolitical fractures that were mobilized by elites in a desperate genocidal bid to maintain power in a crisis situation.

Parts of this book read more like a technical report than a scholarly monograph, but apart from some minor irritants like the unusual designation of quotation marks, the volume is easily accessible. The detailed summary presented in the introductory pages clearly lays out the overall argument of the volume. Appendices and a detailed bibliography are also useful scholarly additions to the field. The last substantive chapter argues convinc-

ingly that thinking about practical policy initiatives requires linking the debates about rethinking security, conflict research, and the possibilities of sustainable development.

The volume closes in chapter eight with a brief discussion of the "Borana solution" to the potential conflicts between 14 ethnic groups in an area in East Africa. Here cooperation and an intricate agreement forestalled conflict and generated a locally sustainable pattern of resource use as well as an agreed arrangement for enforcing the agreement. Baechler suggests that there is much to be learned from this case, but this reviewer was disappointed that much more was not made of this analysis.

In particular, Baechler would have strengthened the volume, if he had explicitly worked the Borana solution back into the model on the one hand, and, on the other hand, if the crucial question of keeping central state officials out of the way to allow a local solution to be worked out, was discussed in more detail.

How all this might lead to alternative modes of "off farm" rural economic employment that reduce the strain on agricultural re-

sources in other situations needs much further work. Hopefully, the results of such research will be forthcoming in future volumes based on the current research in Africa that has followed on from the ENCOP analyses. What is abundantly clear in this important volume is the necessity of understanding violence as a part of contemporary social transformation, and of understanding the political specificities of particular environmental contexts in predicting conflict, as well as in suggesting ameliorative actions.

□ *Simon Dalby is Associate Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies at Carleton University in Ottawa.*

**“While much of the environment and conflict research focuses on the question of environmental degradation as a factor in causing conflict, Baechler emphasizes that the other side of the coin, the transformation of environments by human action on the largest scale, is also an important part of the current processes.”**

...continued from pg. 1

many cases, communities have been willing to resort to violence to end crude oil production if they perceive their human or communal security to be threatened.

The changing nature of ethnicity in Nigeria is another element that is creating instability and contributing to more conflict, says Dr. Ibeanu. With the introduction of oil money, many new ethnic groups are laying claim to the oil-producing land and resulting profits. This is not to say necessarily that "new" ethnic groups are forming, but rather that definitions of who constitutes particular ethnic groups are changing, primarily in response to the degradation of the environment combined with the flow of oil money straight into a corrupt federal government coffers. These ethnic groups are distressed that the oil companies misuse security forces to protect production of oil in the face of native claims to the land. There is a lack of accountability and transparency since oil revenues, which supposedly are part of the state income, are actually siphoned off by state officials and oil leaders.

In response to state violence, ethnic groups have mobilized to present their grievances. Dr. Ibeanu, however, was quick to point out that some ethnic group elites manipulate the environmental question to their own benefit, further degrading the legitimate claims of those communities truly in need. The paucity of infrastructure and the widespread deprivation in the Niger Delta present a stark contrast to the widespread financial value of the extracted resources, and explains the local demands for more resources, including schools, roads, and hospitals. The percentage of monetary resources derived from oil production that filter back to the communities has dropped from about fifty percent following independence to about 13 percent in 1999. Communities are simply not seeing the benefit from the oil extracted from their territory. In sum, the tension in the Niger Delta is the result of competing demands of better living conditions for communities and elite self-interest. These competing demands are then fueled at an additional level by conflict between ethnic groups such as the Ogoni and the Ijaw.

The federal government, with the financial support of the oil companies, has responded in two ways. Historically, the military government responded with force as major tool of oppression (with the oil companies themselves directly calling in the military on occasion). With the recently elected civilian government, a new strategy of appropriate compensation has been introduced through the Niger Delta Development Cooperation bill. This program aims to send resources back to local communities in the Niger Delta. However, problems have emerged with this approach with struggles over which ethnic groups are located in the Niger Delta.

Will resources be given to traditional ethnic groups living in the wider Niger Delta as defined by the ecosystem? Or will payments go only to the smaller oil-producing area within a subset of the Niger Delta. Hence, tensions have only increased between ethnic groups, a situation the oil companies have been quick to exploit. Moreover, a final level of conflict occurs over the source of funding for the new initiative. The government claims that the funds for this development initiative should come from oil revenues that currently go to the local communities. However, the communities insist that there is not enough money derived from oil revenues that goes towards community development and insist that the initiative should be funded by new government money.

Why does this conflict persist and what can be done about it? Dr. Ibeanu stressed that there is a continued misunderstanding of the problem on the part of the federal government, the oil companies, and the international community. He asserted that they are insistent that more money will resolve the issue. However, this money is being misappropriated. Instead of pouring more money in, Dr. Ibeanu recommended some fundamental policy changes to overcome the conflict: increasing local participation, encouraging further decentralization and democratization, re-addressing the issue of Nigerian federalism, and changing the mindsets of both local communities and federal government elites.

Despite past grievances, local communities need to begin moving away from viewing the government as the enemy and should seek to cooperate with the government in order to ensure change. On the other hand, the oil companies must be re-oriented in their focus. Currently, they concentrate too much on improving their image through public relations. Instead, Dr. Ibeanu suggests that the oil companies should view their activities in the long term. Transparency and openness of their activities will help to alleviate tension, especially if combined with infrastructure investment, rather than payment of compensation, which feeds corruption. Finally, oil companies must adhere to international environmental standards to show their commitment to protecting nature.

□ *The summer 2000 issue of the Environmental Change and Security Project Report will feature an article on oil politics and environmental conflict in Nigeria by Dr. Ibeanu.*

**“Communities are simply not seeing the benefit from the oil extracted from their territory.”**



...continued from pg. 3

sources in developing regions has a more direct relationship to population growth. In contrast, trends in consumption of forest products in developed countries have been much more dependent on consumer preferences and less directly on population growth.

According to Mr. Gardner-Outlaw, these trends have implications for the consumption of global forest resources and for the livelihoods of the various groupings of people reliant on these resources. Significantly, the increasing scarcity of forest resources would have a direct and adverse effect on the lives of women and children. Because women bear the primary responsibility for gathering fuel wood and carry the heavy loads to attend to the needs of the household, a reduction in forest resources could well mean a greater burden on the lives of women and girls. Conversely, improving the well-being and socioeconomic status of women could also lead to more sustainable use of forest and forest products.

A second important implication cited in the report is the future demand for paper as the main medium of communication and education around the world. Mr. Gardner-Outlaw pointed out that eight out of ten human beings have yet to reach the level of paper use considered necessary to achieve the basic needs of literacy and communication. If the resources to meet this gap are to be found, vast increases in paper availability will be necessary while at the same time, the excessive use of paper products in countries like the United States must be addressed.

Dr. Nigel Sizer, providing critical comments on the presentations and Forest, picked up on the issue of consumption. He highlighted consumption as an essential element in the forest debate, particularly when examining consumption rates in different regions. In the developed OECD countries, each person consumes an average of 160 kilograms of paper a year. In contrast, a person in a developing country only consumes an average of 17 kilograms in a year.

Dr. Sizer briefly outlined some of the current and proposed timber and wood product regulations, particularly in relation to upcoming and ongoing World Trade Organization negotiations. He highlighted the fact that most of these discussions deal with trade issues, but not with the issue of the growth of demand. The rapidly increasing demand for paper products has a knock on effect for water resources and pollution related climate change. He concluded that work must focus on reducing unsustainable demand for forest products through campaigns aimed at reducing consumption, by increasing recycling and by changing the methods of production to reduce the overall negative impact on the environment.

□ For a copy of the report, please contact Population Action International at: (Tel) 202-557-3400 or <http://www.populationaction.org>.



Nigel Sizer

## ECSP-FORUM

### The Environmental Change & Security Project's E-Mail Forum for Environment, Population, and Security Issues

The Environmental Change and Security Project (ECSP) is pleased to announce its new e-mail forum for environment, population, and security issues—ECSP-FORUM. This forum, which operates via e-mail, serves as a means for practitioners, scholars, and policymakers to participate in a dialogue with others in the community. The purpose of ECSP-FORUM is to provide a forum for discussing relevant issues and research, posting current policy questions, and listings relevant policy, scholarly, and teaching resources. Accessible from the ECSP website or by e-mail, it is a convenient and resourceful tool for all interested in the topics of environment, population, and security. Discussions will be archived and fully searchable through the ECSP website, providing a useful reference point for accessing information at a later date. There is no charge to subscribe.

To subscribe to ECSP-FORUM, send an email to [listproc@listproc.net](mailto:listproc@listproc.net) and:

- 1) Leave the subject heading blank
- 2) In the text box type sub ECSP-FORUM your name.  
For example, sub ECSP-FORUM Jane Doe

For more information, please visit our web site at <http://ecsp.si.edu/listserv>.

## Project News

- In February, Simona Wexler joined ECSP as Program Associate to work on a variety of issues including environmental security in a regional context, trade and the environment, and remote sensing. Simona also works within the Wilson Center's Division of International Studies on nuclear non-proliferation and information technology.

### Fellowship Opportunities at the Woodrow Wilson Center

- The Woodrow Wilson Center awards academic year residential fellowships to individuals from any country with outstanding project proposals on national and/or international issues. Projects should have relevance to the world of public policy. The application deadline is October 1, 2000. For eligibility requirements and application guidelines, please contact: The Scholar Selection and Services Office, E-mail: [fellowships@wwic.si.edu](mailto:fellowships@wwic.si.edu); Tel: 202-691-4170; Fax: 202-691-4001; Web: <http://www.wilsoncenter.org>.

### ECSP on the Internet

<http://ecsp.si.edu>



- Download the ECSP Report and China Environment Series
- Access bibliographic guides to relevant ECSP and China and environment literature
- Browse through an inventory of work being performed on the environment in China
- Search through summaries of ECSP and Working Group on Environment in U.S.-China Relations meetings

### Publications

- The Working Group on Environment in U.S.-China Relations, a project within ECSP, has published its third issue of the *China Environment Series*. A tool for researchers, policymakers, and educators, the *China Environment Series* examines environmental challenges facing China and explores how U.S. foreign policy and assistance might be more effectively crafted to produce more environmentally sound development and better relations with the People's Republic of China. To access the *China Environment Series* via the Internet, visit <http://ecsp.si.edu/CES3>. For a hard copy, contact Jennifer Turner at [chinaenv@erols.com](mailto:chinaenv@erols.com).
- ECSP, in cooperation with the Woodrow Wilson Center's award winning radio program *Dialogue*, has recently released a boxed set of three compact discs featuring six radio interviews with scholars and policymakers who focus on environment and demographic issues. Interviewees include Allen Hammond (World Recourses Institute), Eugene Linden (Time), Paul Simon (former Senator), Linda Lear (Smithsonian), and Geoffrey Dabelko (Wilson Center). These programs will soon be available online with audio streaming at <http://ecsp.si.edu>.
- In May, ECSP, the Wilson Center's East European Studies Program, and the Wilson Center's West European Studies Program jointly published the conference proceedings from a meeting held in May 1999. *Protecting Regional Seas: Developing Capacity and Fostering Environmental Cooperation in Europe* compares and analyses the state of environmental management around the Baltic, Mediterranean, and Black Seas. The volume is edited by Stacy D. VanDeveer of the University of New Hampshire and Geoffrey D. Dabelko, Director of the Environmental Change and Security Project. For a copy, contact Jessica Powers at [powersje@wwic.si.edu](mailto:powersje@wwic.si.edu).
- The Project is collaboratively publishing a series of eight briefing papers, entitled *AVISO*, with the Global Environmental Change and Security Project (GECHS). Issue 5, "A Southern Dialogue: Articulating Visions of Sustainable Development," and Issue 6, "The Index of Human Insecurity," have recently been released. To obtain copies, visit the *AVISO* website at <http://gechs.org/avisol/>.

**Website**

- The Woodrow Wilson Center webpage currently features a set of commentaries on trade and environment in the wake of the failed World Trade Organization talks in Seattle, Washington. For a direct link to the page please go to [www.wilsoncenter.org/NEWS/wto.htm](http://www.wilsoncenter.org/NEWS/wto.htm). Commentators include former President Mikhail Gorbachev, Secretary of Commerce William Daley, and Wilson Center fellows Kent Hughes and Stephen Clarkson.

**Recent ECSP Meetings held at the Woodrow Wilson Center**

For summaries of the following meetings, visit ECSP's Current Events webpage at <http://ecsp.si.edu/news>.

- "Environmental Action Programme for Central and Eastern Europe: Results and New Challenges in the Balkans and Newly Independent States" January 10, 2000  
*Arcadie Capcelea, Co-Chair of the EAP Task Force and Moldovan Minister of Environment*  
*Jean-Francois Verstryngne, Co-Chair of the EAP Task Force and Deputy Director General, European Com-*

*mission's Directorate General XI for Environment*  
*Brendan Gillespie, EAP Task Force Secretariat and OECD Environment Directorate*  
*Stefan Schwager, Project Preparation Committee Officer, EAP*  
*Jernej Stritih, EAP Task Force Secretariat and Executive Director, Regional Environmental Center*

- "Population Growth, Environmental Degradation, and State-Sponsored Violence: The Case of Kenya, 1991-93" January 11, 2000  
*Colin H. Kahl, Research Associate, Columbia University's Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN)*
- "Environmental Financing in China" January 28, 2000  
*John Wise, EPA*  
*Michael Curley, EPA*
- "Environmental Financing in China-Multilateral Perspective" February 9, 2000  
*Tim Ryan, International Finance Corporation*  
*Alan Miller, Global Environment Facility*
- "Water and Population Dynamics: Case Studies and

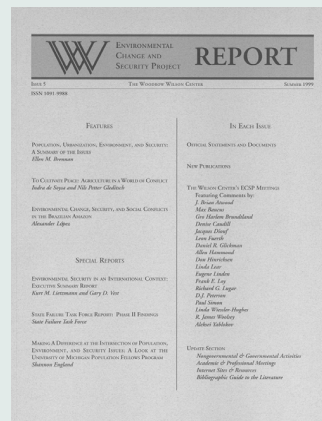
...continued on pg. 12

*Environmental Change and Security Project Report, Issue 5*

The Environmental Change and Security Project (ECSP) has published its fifth issue of the *Environmental Change and Security Project Report*. A tool for researchers, policymakers, and educators, the *ECSP Report* examines the various aspects of linkages among environment, population, and security. Contents include features such as:

- Population, Urbanization, Environment, and Security: A Summary of the Issues*  
Ellen M. Brennan
- To Cultivate Peace: Agriculture in a World of Conflict*  
Indra de Soysa and Nils Petter Gleditsch
- Environmental Security in an International Context: Executive Summary Report*  
Kurt M. Lietzmann and Gary D. Vest
- Official Statements and Documents
- An Update Section including:
  - Nongovernmental & Governmental Activities
  - Academic & Professional Meetings
  - Internet Sites & Resources
  - Bibliographic Guide to the Literature

The *ECSP Report* can be obtained by email at [ecspwwic@wwic.si.edu](mailto:ecspwwic@wwic.si.edu) or online at <http://ecsp.si.edu/ECSP-Report5>. Issue 6 of the *Environmental Change and Security Project Report* will be published August 2000.



**PECS NEWS**

Published tri-annually by The Woodrow Wilson Center's Environmental Change and Security Project

**EDITOR**  
Shanda Leather

**PRODUCTION & DESIGN**  
Karin Mueller

**PHOTOGRAPHS**  
Karin Mueller (pgs.1,2,3,9)  
BMC, University of Michigan (pg.4)  
Frank Zinn (pg.5)

**ECSP STAFF:**  
Geoffrey D. Dabelko  
Shanda Leather  
Karin Mueller  
Jessica Powers  
Jennifer Turner  
Clair Twigg  
Simona Wexler

Environmental Change and Security Project  
The Woodrow Wilson Center  
One Woodrow Wilson Plaza  
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20004-3027  
Tel: 202-691-4130  
Fax: 202-691-4184  
E-mail: [ecspwwic@wwic.si.edu](mailto:ecspwwic@wwic.si.edu)  
Internet: <http://ecsp.si.edu>

This publication is made possible through support provided by the Office of Population, U.S. Agency for International Development, and the University of Michigan, under the terms of Grant No. CCP-3054-A-00-5004-00. The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Agency for International Development, the University of Michigan, or the Woodrow Wilson Center.

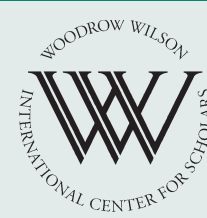


Policy Implications" February 17, 2000

*Alex de Sherbinin, Research Associate, Columbia University's Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN)*

*Victoria Markham, Executive Director, Center for Environment and Population (CEP)*

- "Petrobusiness, Politics, and Environmental Conflict in the Niger Delta" February 29, 2000  
*Okechukwu Ibeanu, Department of Political Science, University of Nigeria*
- "Integrating Gender into USAID's Population, Health, and Nutrition Programs" March 8, 2000  
*Michal Avni, University of Michigan Population Fellow, USAID*
- "China's Response to Water Scarcity in the Hai Basin and Summary of US-China Forum on Environment and Development" March 8, 2000  
*Fred Crook, USDA*  
*Bryan Lohmar, USDA*  
*Dennis Hjerson, Los Alamos*  
*Paul Anastas, Office of Science and Technology Policy*
- "The Promises and Pitfalls of Environmental Peace-Making in the Aral Sea Basin" March 13, 2000  
*Erica Weinthal, Lecturer, Department of Political Science, Tel Aviv University*
- "Environmental Cooperation for Regional Peace and Security in Southern Africa" March 14, 2000  
*Larry Swatuk, Department of Political Studies, University of Botswana*



The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, located in the Ronald Reagan Building in the heart of Washington D.C., was founded in 1968 by Congress as the nation's memorial to President Woodrow Wilson. Through its renowned fellows program and a range of regional and functional programmatic activities, the non-partisan center fosters scholarship and dialogue in the humanities and the social sciences. As such, The Wilson Center serves as an ideal meeting place for scholars and practitioners of widely divergent ideological and professional backgrounds. Meetings are marked by free intellectual exchange, reflecting a tradition of bringing together people who differ in discipline, profession, and nationality, but who share an interest in a subject and in having their views challenged in lively debate. The Wilson Center is directed by The Honorable Lee H. Hamilton and its Board of Directors is chaired by Joseph A. Cari, Jr., Esq. Prior to becoming Director, Lee Hamilton served for thirty-four years as a United States Congressman from Indiana. He served as a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, now the Committee on International Relations, for his entire tenure.

- "Water, Land, People, and Conflict" March 22, 2000  
*Jessica T. Mathews, President, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace;*  
*Robert Engelman, Vice President for Research, Population Action International*  
*Geoffrey Dabelko, Director, Environmental Change and Security Project, Woodrow Wilson Center*

This meeting was presented as part of the D.C. Environmental Film Festival.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND SECURITY PROJECT  
THE WOODROW WILSON CENTER  
ONE WOODROW WILSON PLAZA  
1300 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20004-3027

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

PRESORTED FIRST CLASS MAIL  
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID  
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
G-94

Environmental Change and Security Project (ECSP)

Since October 1994, the Woodrow Wilson Center's Environmental Change and Security Project (ECSP) has provided specialists and interested individuals with a "road-map" to the myriad conceptions, activities and policy initiatives related to environment, population and security. The Project pursues three basic activities: (1) gathering information on related international academic and policy initiatives; (2) organizing meetings of experts and public seminars; and (3) publishing the *ECSP Report*, *The China Environment Series*, and related papers. ECSP is directed by Geoffrey Dabelko and housed in the Wilson Center's Division of International Studies—headed by Robert S. Litwak. ECSP explores a wide range of academic and policy-related topics: various theoretical linkages among environment, population and security; how environment, population and security ideas are nested in the broader debates over redefining security; the ways in which policymakers in the United States and other countries are utilizing these ideas and making related policies; and how governments, NGOs, businesses, and other organizations respond to the causes and symptoms of environmental and demographic issues.