UNU/IAS shall:

...create a vigorous, in–residence community of scholars dedicated to research and learning at the frontiers of knowledge and shall foster multidisciplinary approaches and creative solutions to major problems of humankind.

...have a flexible and multi–thematic programme orientation and be concerned with the interactions of societal and natural systems.

Bringing together international expertise locally, regionally, and globally, the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU/IAS) pursues strategic and advanced areas of research on issues of concern for all of humankind, and for governments and decision makers at various levels. Research at the Institute has a sharp policy focus and utilises advanced and multidisciplinary research methodologies accompanied by postgraduate education and capacity development activities, particularly for developing countries.
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From the Rector

The Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), held in August/September 2002, was a unique opportunity to avert the trends towards environmental degradation, poverty, and disenfranchisement, and to reaffirm the international community’s commitment to the goal of sustainable human development.

A new commitment alone, however, will not create “the responsibility for each other, the responsibility for our planet, and the responsibility for the future” that UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan pointed to as critical goals for the Summit; goals which governments, civil society, and business and industry must work towards. Sustainable development requires action and basic changes in how we approach our everyday lives. It requires innovative partnerships, scientific and technological advances, and, above all, education.

The United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU/IAS) has played an important role towards the sustainability challenge. As the focal point for the UNU’s contribution to the WSSD, UNU/IAS presented the University’s research and activities in order to inform the preparations and the decisions made at the Summit itself. The Institute’s specific contributions to the Summit on sustainable development governance and the creation of sustainable development frameworks for large developing countries exemplify the type of applied research on complex and policy–relevant issues that it is capable of defining, executing, and disseminating.

Sustainable development cannot be achieved without adequate human resources. Incorporating it into all levels of education will ensure that students from primary to tertiary levels are aware of the imperatives of sustainable development, and that they will eventually use these principles in their professions, vocations, and in everyday life. The Ubuntu Declaration, signed at the WSSD, calls on the science and education communities to join forces and mobilise themselves to work towards sustainable development. UNU/IAS is continuing to work on this critically important issue, and has formed the Ubuntu Group to develop a global learning space for sustainable development.

Sustainable development governance has been a core area of research since UNU/IAS was established in 1996. This work was based on the premise that the three pillars of sustainable development—economy, society, and environment—require a strong and effective institutional setting, and initially served as a foundation for UNU/IAS’ work on the inter–linkages between multilateral environmental agreements. Research has focused on reforms and options for strengthening the sustainable development global governance system.

The Institute’s new research agenda on biodiplomacy, science and technology for developing countries, and sustainable development education is innovative, and its continuing work on urbanisation and sustainable development governance continues to be at the fore of international policy discussions. I am confident that UNU/IAS will make even greater contributions in the years ahead.

Hans van Ginkel
Rector
United Nations University
From the Director

Through research, education, and capacity development, UNU/IAS is working towards the goals and objectives set out by its constituents and reflected in historic agreements such as the Millennium Development Goals, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the Monterrey Consensus, the Doha Declaration, and Agenda 21.

UNU/IAS has taken up the challenges of sustainable development with great vigour. As the only advanced studies institute within the UN system, we have a unique niche to fill. The Institute has made strategic choices about areas of research, focusing our efforts where we will fill gaps in knowledge, providing new insights and offering balanced perspectives to UN Member States and stakeholders involved in the UN's work. Although our small size and budget preclude addressing major capacity development needs, we have developed useful models for building capacity and continue to provide new knowledge for capacity providers.

We also cultivate new leaders and thinkers in the area of sustainable development by offering a doctoral and postdoctoral fellowship programme. We make great efforts to involve young fellows, particularly from developing countries, in the work of the Institute so that they gain experience and knowledge to contribute to their careers as well as to further the goals and mission of the UN. Since the programme began in 1996, the Institute has given more than a hundred such scholars this opportunity; seventy per cent of whom have come from developing countries.

Beyond our organisation, UNU/IAS' work reaches policy makers, educators, scientists, civil society organisations, and all actors involved in the formulation of policy to promote sustainable development. To this end, in collaboration with the UNU Centre, we have introduced the U Thant Distinguished Lecture Series for the world’s great thinkers. We are working in Central Asia, Mongolia, and South East Asia to provide technical training on integrated approaches to biosafety, access and benefit–sharing of genetic resources, traditional knowledge, and trade and the environment, while in the Middle East, we are assisting countries in the region on the technical issues of the Doha Development Round. Globally, we are conducting research that assists city planners to adopt ecosystem approaches to city management, promoting education on sustainable development, seeking to improve the effectiveness and transparency of sustainable development institutions, assisting policy makers in areas such as access and benefit–sharing of genetic resources, bioethics, and promoting agriculture as a means to peace building.

This third report by UNU/IAS on its activities marks the first during my tenure. I have used my time at the Institute to build upon the strong foundations created by my predecessor, and to reinforce and focus our research. My vision is to guide UNU/IAS research toward policy–making discussions. It is my goal that we not only undertake cutting–edge research around issues of sustainable development, but also that we package and present the research in a way that policy makers can use, understand, and apply it.

A H Zakri
Director
UNU Institute of Advanced Studies
United Nations University and its Global Reach

Background
UNU functions as an international community of scholars engaged in research, postgraduate training, and dissemination of knowledge in furtherance of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. The idea for this type of international organisation was originally proposed in 1969 by then United Nations Secretary-General, U Thant, who suggested the creation of “a United Nations university, truly international in character and devoted to the Charter’s objectives of peace and progress”.

The University commenced operations in September 1975 as an autonomous organ of the United Nations General Assembly, under the joint sponsorship of UNESCO.

Objectives and Roles
As the UNU’s Charter states, its aim is to foster intellectual co-operation among scholars and scientists in an effort to understand and solve “pressing global problems of human survival, development and welfare”. The University has a special mandate to alleviate the intellectual isolation of academics in developing countries by organising worldwide networks of collaborating scholars and research institutions.

Based on an analysis of the UNU Charter, it is evident that four roles are central to the UNU mission in the coming years:
• UNU should be an international community of scholars
• UNU should form a bridge between the United Nations and the international academic community
• UNU should serve as a think-tank for the United Nations system
• UNU should contribute to capacity development, particularly in developing countries

The UNU System
The University consists of the UNU Centre in Tokyo, thirteen worldwide research and training centres and programmes (RTC/Ps), including Macau, Helsinki, Accra, Maastricht, Amman, and Reykjavík, of which UNU/IAS is the only research and training centre located in Tokyo. The University’s academic activities are co-ordinated and carried out by the UNU Centre and the RTC/Ps as well as through a global network of associated and co-operating institutions and scholars.
As an advanced studies institute, UNU/IAS’ approach to solving global policy problems is forward–looking, multidisciplinary, and innovative. Our research agenda is driven both by our statute, and by the problems that face our constituents, which include UN Member States, international organisations and civil society. Many of these problems are complex, requiring creative research solutions. Often, they are also emerging issues on the international agenda; they require foresight to anticipate their growing impact and to undertake the necessary research to inform future policy discussions.

The thematic direction of our research concerns the interaction of social and natural systems. Thus, our research combines the social sciences (law, economics, politics, and policy) with some of the physical and life sciences (genetics, ecology, and biology). Our entire body of research, both theoretical and applied, is aimed at the development of informed policy–making to address global concerns.

The UNU/IAS statute was created over a span of twenty years by a UNU task force comprised of academics, experts, and officials. They designated four major themes, which encompass our many programmes and projects: advances in science and technology and their impact on society; multilateralism and governance; urbanisation; and reflections upon human values and ethics.

UNU/IAS is unique not only for its forward–looking and multidisciplinary research, but also for the way in which the Institute undertakes this work. The Institute comprises an in–house group of scholars who both live and work together in a residential and office complex in the heart of downtown Tokyo. In order to produce work of the highest calibre, our research teams include senior, more–established scholars working in collaboration with young PhD and postdoctoral students as well as master’s students. In–house research is also combined with an international network of scholars, which adds to the diversity and depth of the research.

The current research agenda is focused on strategic paths to sustainable development, and under this broad theme, we are working on projects around the issues of biodiplomacy, sustainable development governance, urban ecosystems, science and technology policy options for developing and least developed countries, and education and sustainable development.
The Biodiplomacy Initiative

The Biodiplomacy Initiative supports international diplomacy and policy-making on strategic, security, ethical, and technical issues concerning the advancement of biological sciences. The Initiative brings together scientists, experts, and eminent persons from a range of disciplines to work with diplomats and other decision makers in government and business on particular fields of bioscience. Together, they address key policy issues through dialogues and meetings as well as undertaking capacity development and policy research on emerging issues for the international community. They also support existing intergovernmental negotiations and programmes. Endorsed by Kofi Annan, UNEP, CBD, and the FAO, the Biodiplomacy Initiative represents a much-needed response in the following six areas:

Access and Benefit-Sharing of Genetic Resources (ABS)

As one of its principal responses to the WSSD, the Biodiplomacy Initiative has developed an ABS component, which facilitates an informed global dialogue on ABS by providing policy-relevant analysis through advanced research projects, preparation of information documents, organisation of regional workshops, and international conferences on ABS law and policy and capacity development.

Genetic Resources in the Last Frontier: Antarctica and the Deep Seabed

The value of genetic resources from the world’s last frontiers—the open oceans, the deep seabed, and Antarctica—is of undoubted significance. Currently there are a limited number of regimes that directly relate to the resources in these territories. Several critical questions that still remain unanswered include: who owns the genetic resources, how can scientists working in these areas legitimately acquire these resources, what measures should scientists take to protect these resources, is benefit-sharing feasible and if so with whom, and who owns the commercial products resulting from these resources?

Bioethics, Cloning, and Stem-Cell Research

Stem-cell research has ground-breaking therapeutic applications. Identification of the factors involved in the cellular decision making process that results in cell specialisation may lead to a cure for serious medical conditions, such as cancer and hereditary diseases. Considering the potential in stem cell technology, there are important ethical issues that have to be considered. Who is qualified to access this knowledge and what should their moral obligations be? How do stem-cell discoveries relate to human rights and respect for human values, such as prior informed consent? These challenging issues require extensive research inputs.

Sam Johnston
Senior Research Fellow
Traditional Knowledge and Intellectual Property Rights

Through new international regimes, knowledge has become a commodity protected by intellectual property rights, which have grown and developed as quickly as the scientific advancements themselves. At the same time, traditional knowledge has continued to flourish and develop, though at a significantly different pace. These forms of knowledge remain protected by a traditional way of life with values and norms that have changed little over the last millennium. Increasingly, however, the worlds of traditional and modern knowledge are in contact and conflict, and the result can only viewed as a clash of cultures. How can these two worlds be reconciled and agree on a mutually supportive system of governance?

Genetically Modified Foods and International Trade

The Initiative’s work on biosafety is very conscious of ongoing work that enables the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol through UNEP, GEF, and donor countries. It is also mindful of the gaps that exist in understanding and employing integrated approaches, as well as the enormous amount of capacity development required to manage these issues. In this context, the Initiative is examining some of the inter-linkages between biosafety and other regimes in areas such as methods of fundamental jurisdictions between human health and the environment, risk assessment, and risk communication to both the public and decision makers, the precautionary principle, liability, equivalence, integrated approaches between food safety and biosafety, and dispute settlement. These issues require both constructive dialogues and further research.

Agriculture for Peace

How can we use agriculture for building peace? Peace is the result of many interactions between social, economical, and political factors; agriculture is one of the contributing factors in such interaction. Employing agriculture to promote peace in a complex interaction requires not only theoretical knowledge of the issues involved but also practical involvement and experience in handling difficult cases dealing with both peace and agricultural issues.

Highlights of the Initiative

Since work began within the Biodiplomacy Initiative, UNU/IAS has organised a scoping meeting on capacity development for ABS, held in co-operation with UNEP in October 2002 in Malaysia involving representatives from the countries in the five UN regions and representatives from major intergovernmental organisations and NGOs. The Initiative has also held a number of capacity development workshops including one in Indonesia in November 2001 on Integrated Approaches to Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organisms, and In Search of Biosecurity: Access to Genetic Resources, Benefit-Sharing and Biosafety in Central Asia and Mongolia held in Mongolia in June/July 2002. As a result, from this latter workshop, the Central Asian Biosafety Bioresources Network, comprising collaborating countries, was established and a second capacity development workshop is scheduled in Kyrgyzstan in Summer 2003. The Institute will produce a report on user measures, which will be presented at the March 2003 CBD meeting for a multi-year programme of work. In 2003–2004, the Biodiplomacy Initiative is expected to be fully underway.
One of the keys to strengthening sustainable development is to ensure that its three conceptual pillars—economy, society, and environment—have effective transparent institutions to operationalise and implement the sustainable development principle. Given these complexities, the Sustainable Development Governance Programme’s approach has been interdisciplinary and has focused on a variety of topics and approaches to governance. To date, the Governance Programme has examined global institutions, regimes, values, and policies relating to sustainable development. In order to achieve and maintain sustainable development, it must be approached from several directions and on a number of levels.

The Programme is currently implementing two projects: Multilateralism, Sustainable Development, and Institutional Change as well as Disenfranchisement: Participation and Inclusion in Sustainable Development Governance. The Disenfranchisement Project examines the obstacles that impede effective participation of marginalised groups and proposes institutional changes to remedy them. The research pays particular attention to actors from developing countries, including state actors, civil society, and the scientific community. The Institutional Change Project studies the gaps and weaknesses of the current environment and sustainable development regime, and models some of the recent suggestions on reforms such as creating a World Environment Organisation, a World Environment Court, or clustering systems.

The Institutional Change project presented a comprehensive report, *International Environmental Governance—The Question of Reform (Preliminary Findings)*, to the third global preparatory committee (PrepCom) meeting of the WSSD held in New York in March 2002. A final workshop was also held in conjunction with the Global PrepCom in partnership with Kitakyushu University and was co-funded by the Center for Global Partnership. Several newspapers ran coverage of both the report and workshop, and three radio interviews, including the Voice of America, were also conducted. The final report, emphasising sustainable development governance, comprising the writings of twenty-one scholars and new findings from the PrepCom workshop, was presented at the WSSD in Johannesburg in August 2002. Entitled *International Sustainable Development Governance—The Question of Reform: Key Issues and Proposals (Final Report)*, the report became an official UN background document for WSSD deliberations and will be expanded and published as two edited volumes in June 2003.

In addition to policy analysis and research, the Programme is actively promoting dialogues, discussion, and capacity development. It has held roundtable seminars and lectures in Tokyo as well as numerous side events at global forums such as the Sixth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. In coming years, the Programme will be enlarged to include regional institutions and their unique potential to improve the effectiveness of the global sustainable development governance regime. The Programme is also developing modules and workshops to prepare negotiators involved in future sustainable development negotiations and university professors in developing university curriculum on WTO rules in Asian developing countries.

Joy Aeree Kim
Research Associate
Urban Ecosystems

Recognising the ever-increasing magnitude and complexity of urban environmental problems worldwide, the UNU/IAS Urban Programme has embarked on the Urban Ecosystems initiative. An ‘ecosystem’ approach to cities promises to provide a rich and dynamic conceptual framework for understanding cities holistically and comprehensively. Human beings represent a core element of the ecosystem approach to integrated environmental management, but have been absent from the type of management systems normally considered for other ecological assessments.

UNU/IAS has worked with a wide range of renowned academics in developing this approach. In September 2001, UNU/IAS organised a workshop on Urban Ecosystems: Overcoming Definition, Scale and Methods Challenges with the World Health Organization and the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme. Initial findings were presented to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Panel in Paris in March 2002 and then to an audience of practitioners from ASEAN cities at the First Annual Healthy Cities Conference in Kuching, Malaysia in June 2002. From these meetings and extensive in–house work, two UNU/IAS reports have been completed, including Defining an Ecosystem Approach to Urban Management and Policy Development and Urban Ecosystems Analysis:

Identifying Tools and Methods. The Urban Ecosystems initiative has undertaken both capacity development and research efforts. The results of this work will include both a guide to implementing the ecosystem approach for urban managers and a multi-authored research volume series starting with An Ecosystem Approach to Urban Management.

Urban Transitions

UNU/IAS is currently collaborating with the International Institute for Environment and Development on a project entitled Scaling the Urban Environment Transition: From Local to Global and Back. This project held a review meeting in 2002 at UNESCO in Paris and is expected to produce an edited volume in 2004.

The Urban Transitions Project will continue to facilitate exchange between the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and the Asia–Pacific Environmental Innovation Project. In this regard, three capacity development training courses for decision makers in developing countries were carried out in June and July 2002 with the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Global Environmental Center and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies.
Science & Technology Policy Options for Developing Countries

Science has contributed immensely to human progress and to the development of modern societies. The application of scientific knowledge continues to provide essential ways for solving many of the challenges facing humanity, from food security to disease prevention and eradication, from pollution reduction to the non-proliferation of weapons. Recent advances in information technology, genetics, and biotechnology hold extraordinary prospects for individual well-being and that of humankind as a whole.

However, as recently pointed out by the UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, almost ninety-five per cent of the new science in the world is created in developed countries which on average spend two to three per cent of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on scientific research. Developing countries, which make up almost four-fifths of the six billion people on earth today, spend less than one per cent of their GDP on such activities. Kofi Annan argues that the unbalanced distribution of scientific activity generates serious problems not only for the scientific community in the developing countries, but also for development itself. It accelerates the disparity between advanced and developing countries, creating socio-economic difficulties at both national and international levels.

There is a clear need to articulate the role of science and technology in national development among governments, and to link academia with decision makers. Further, in terms of sustainable development, an issue raised at the Earth Summit in 1992 and contained in Chapter 31 of Agenda 21 is the role of scientific advice in the formulation of sustainable development policies and strategies was highly emphasised. This was further reiterated during the WSSD in 2002. It is imperative that the United Nations system and processes, in particular decision makers from developing countries, be better equipped with the best scientific and technological advice for them to play an effective role in international decision making.

The UNU/IAS Programme on Science and Technology (S&T) Policy Options for Developing Countries addresses the above issues by analysing the current status of S&T in selected developing countries and highlighting the lessons learned why some countries are more successful than others in harnessing S&T for socio-economic development; assessing modalities of partnership between developed and developing countries for the advancement of science in the ‘world of the have-nots’; promoting the role of university and industry linkages in S&T development in developing countries; and reassessing the role of scientific academies in the provision of global public goods.

Mohammed Taeb
Research Associate
Sustainable Development Education

If the global desire for an environmentally sustainable world is to be realised, the teaching of sustainable development must become embedded in our education systems at all levels. We recognise that a commitment of this magnitude requires educators, civil society, and governments to work together towards teaching sustainable development in all subjects as well as the development of a new generation of curriculum. A key to this endeavour is a new understanding and application of how science and technology can be combined with education and applied to sustainability.

At the WSSD, UNU/IAS led the development of a new international initiative on sustainable development education called the Ubuntu Group. The group is a partnership between the education and science and technology organisations of the world, including prominent members such as UNESCO, the International Council for Science, the Third World Academy of Sciences, and the Science Council of Asia. The basis of the initiative is the Ubuntu Declaration that commits its members towards strengthening education and science and technology for sustainable development. For UNU/IAS, the creation of this group unites the two key elements of its Virtual University Programme and its current capacity development and training programmes on sustainable development.

In 2002, the UNU/IAS Virtual University Programme enlarged to become the basis of a wider programme for all of the UNU’s thirteen worldwide research and training centres and programmes. Virtual University-related research and development activities have continued as before, but are now under the auspices of the UNU Campus Computing Centre and have been renamed UNU Online Learning. A new online learning initiative has been established at the UNU Centre with the aim of applying the results from past work on the development of e-learning technologies and in setting up a learning management system. One key partnership launched in 2002 was the Global Virtual University, a collaboration between UNU, UNEP, and Adger College University designed to deliver postgraduate courses on environmental science to students in the developing world.

UNU/IAS’ capacity development and training activities have been so far very specialised in focused areas such as urbanisation, governance, and science and technology. From 2003, it will begin developing a new programme aimed at assisting universities to develop and cultivate curriculum on sustainable development. One approach will be ‘training the trainers’ and working with the UNU Online Learning to make its course materials available. UNU/IAS will also work with the Ubuntu Group as a preliminary secretariat and help co-ordinate educators and Ubuntu Group members to promote their activities in key forums such as CSDEI and the upcoming World Conference on Higher Education + 5.

Brendan Barrett
Research Fellow
Capacity Development at UNU/IAS

The UNU/IAS Capacity Development Programme aims to enhance the impact of the Institute’s research programmes by improving the capacity of young scientists, policy makers, and developing country scholars to influence policy-making in areas aimed at locating creative solutions to pressing global problems.

The current programme consists of a fellowship programme, where the Institute offers PhD, postdoctoral, and junior professional fellowships, and advanced training workshops. Work in the field of sustainable development education underpins the capacity development activities of the Institute while aiming at bridging knowledge gaps between developed and developing countries through the use of information and communication technologies as a means to support and enhance education, research, and dissemination.
The Fellowship Programme has been one of the Institute’s most important activities since its inception in 1996. The programme provides young researchers, scholars, and policy makers, particularly those from developing countries, with an opportunity to experience the unique international academic environment and to expand their intellectual vision beyond a single scientific field. It also provides opportunities to participate in the Institute’s programmes and projects, and to interact with the Japanese academic community.

Six postdoctoral fellows and four PhD fellows joined the Institute in Autumn 2001 for a period of ten months, followed by five new postdoctoral fellows and five PhD fellows who started in October 2002. This last group of fellows continues their research and involvement in UNU/IAS projects. The programmes also affiliate fellows with the Japanese national universities, enabling them to create lasting linkages with the Japanese academic community and to open new avenues for future co-operation and joint work.

In 2002, the Institute introduced a junior professional fellowship programme for researchers holding a master’s degree. The three fellows work full-time with the Institute’s research teams in order to gain programmatic experience working both within the UN system and in an international research institution.

The JSPS–UNU Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme was also jointly launched in 2002 by the UNU and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS). The programme was designed to provide opportunities for young researchers to conduct co-operative research under the leadership of their host researchers from Japanese universities, especially in the fields relevant to the main thematic focus of UNU/IAS and the UNU Centre.
UNU/IAS Fellows

UNU/IAS Postdoctoral Fellows

First Group Autumn 2000
Pooya Alaedini Iran
Rutgers University, USA

Vinna Jauhari India
Institute for International Management & Technology, India

Narayanan Krishnan India
University of Delhi, India

Zhang Michael Wei Zhang China
University of Sheffield, UK

Second Group Autumn 2001
Sofia R Hirakuri Brazil
Washington University, USA

S M Irene Lee Singapore
University of Kassel, Germany

Yinliang Liu China
Ministry of Science & Technology, China

Lap Duc Nguyen Vietnam
Aichi University, Japan

Maragaret M Oduk Kenya
United Nations Environment Programme, Kenya

Tan Yigitcanlar Turkey
Izmir Institute of Technology, Turkey

Third Group Autumn 2002
Ngo Luc Cuong Vietnam
Cuu Long Delta Rice Research Institute, Vietnam

Gabriel Eweje Nigeria
University of London, UK

Xu He China
Nankai University, China

Sunil Kumar Karn Nepal
Ministry of Water Resources, Nepal

Kathleen M D Kevany Canada
Brock University and University of Western Ontario, Canada

JSPS–UNU Postdoctoral Fellows 2002
Sofia R Hirakuri Brazil
Washington University, USA

Alphonse Kambu Papua New Guinea
Chiba University, Japan

Muhammad Abu Yusuf Bangladesh
Ministry of Science and Information & Communication Technology, Bangladesh

UNU/IAS PhD Fellows

Fourteenth Group Autumn 2000
John Olatunji Adeoti Nigeria
Maastricht University, The Netherlands

Kuniko Ashizawa Japan
Tufts University, USA

Liviu–Daniel Galatchi Romania
Ovidius University, Romania

Thi Binh Minh Nguyen Vietnam
Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok

Jianhua Zhao China
South China Normal University, China

Fifteenth Group Autumn 2001
Patrick Buyinza Uganda
Makerere University, Uganda

Donna Green Australia
University of California, Berkeley, USA

Joy Aeree Kim South Korea
University of East Anglia, UK

Abhinav Walia India
Nottingham Trent University, UK

Sixteenth Group Autumn 2002
K Chamundeeswari India
University of Sheffield, UK

Veronica Hendriks Malaysia
Curtin University of Technology, Australia

Satoshi Ishii Japan
Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, UK

Dagmar Lohan Germany
Oxford University, UK

Sergio R Pena–Neira Chile
Utrecht University, The Netherlands

UNU/IAS Junior Professional Fellows 2002
Grant Boyle Canada
Kirsten Neumann Germany
Asao Shimizu Japan

Reika Kawajiri
Receptionist
UNU/IAS undertakes capacity development workshops and advanced training for decision makers in developing countries. During 2001 and 2002, the following workshops were held internationally:

Capacity Development for the Integrated Approaches to Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs), Jakarta, 6–8 November 2001
UNU/IAS convened this workshop in Jakarta in collaboration with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat and the Indonesian State Ministry of Environment, along with the support of The Rockefeller Foundation, to provide more advanced knowledge for national and regional policy development on the safe transfer, use, and handling of GMOs.

This meeting was organised in collaboration with UNESCO’s Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme and the World Health Organization to further the conceptual understanding of urban ecosystems and to make recommendations to the parallel Millennium Ecosystem Assessment meeting on how to incorporate urban ecosystems into the assessment.

Post–Doha WTO Workshop, Kuwait, 6–7 April 2002
In collaboration with the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the World Trade Organization, UNU/IAS held a workshop in Kuwait on the Post–Doha WTO in order to brief officials from small developing countries about the 4th WTO Ministerial Conference held in Doha, Qatar in November 2001.

ASEAN Healthy Cities Meeting, Kuching, 18–21 June 2002
UNU/IAS hosted an urban ecosystems workshop at the ASEAN Healthy Cities meeting to inform those working in ASEAN’s Healthy Cities Programme about the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and the current UNU/IAS–UNESCO/MAB–WHO research collaboration, as well as to stimulate dialogue on the possibility of undertaking a local urban ecosystem assessment within the region.

UNU/IAS held a workshop for representatives from government, academia and NGOs from the Central Asia region and Mongolia in Ulaanbaatar to promote capacity development and stakeholders’ awareness of global, regional and national activities related to access and benefit–sharing, traditional knowledge, and biosafety.

Scoping Meeting on Capacity Building Approaches for Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit–Sharing (ABS), Kuala Lumpur, 7–9 October 2002
UNU/IAS organised a scoping meeting on capacity development approaches for ABS, in conjunction with UNEP, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The meeting identified four critical areas where more capacity development is required for developing and implementing ABS regimes: national policy and legislation, user measures, science and technology, and enhancing the participation of stakeholders.
Contributions to the World Summit on Sustainable Development

As co–ordinator of United Nations University’s overall input into the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) process, UNU/IAS actively participated on a number of different levels in the Summit, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in August and September 2002.

The delegation led a forum on education, science and technology, and sustainable development, which culminated in the Ubuntu Declaration on Education and Science and Technology, creating a major global alliance to promote science and technology education for sustainable development worldwide.

UNU/IAS will host the interim secretariat of this alliance, composed of the United Nations University, UNESCO, the International Association of Universities, the Third World Academy of Sciences, the African Academy of Science, the Science Council of Asia, the International Council for Science, the World Federation of Engineering Organizations, the Copernicus Campus, the Global Higher Education for Sustainability Partnership, and the University Leaders for a Sustainable Future.


Grant Boyle
Programme Associate
Special Events

Among the weekly seminars organised by UNU/IAS in 2001 and 2002, noteworthy were invitational lectures by Norman Myers, Amory Lovins, and Jeffery Broadbent and roundtable seminars on the Bonn Guidelines on access and benefit-sharing; youth, culture and cities; ethical issues of science and technology; and sustainable science’s impact on global change research. In addition to their specific objectives, they all have a common aim of raising the visibility of the Institute and contributing to the Japanese public by providing information on global issues related to the Institute’s research areas. Japanese scholars and the general public as well as the diplomatic corps are widely invited to these events.

The U Thant Distinguished Lecture Series was launched in 2001 with the collaboration of the UNU Centre. The inaugural lecture was delivered in June by Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia, on Globalisation, Global Community, and the United Nations. This was followed in October by South African President Thabo Mbeki’s lecture on The New African Initiative. In May 2002, William J Clinton, 42nd President of the United States, delivered a lecture on Our Shared Future: Globalisation in the 21st Century. The hall was filled with invitees from the diplomatic, governmental, political, academic, and business circles as well as the general public and students. Dr Norman E Borlaug, Nobel Peace Prize winner, discussed his views on Agriculture and Peace: The Role of Science and Technology in Feeding Humankind in the 21st Century in the fourth lecture of the series in October 2002.

Among a number of academic and policy-oriented forums held by the Institute was the well-attended public forum in July 2002 entitled The Road to the Johannesburg Summit 2002 and Beyond: The Role of Japan and United Nations University in Tokyo. The purpose of the forum was to raise awareness and understanding of the Summit among the general public in Japan. A post-WSSD forum is being planned for September 2003.
Event Highlights

9 February 2001
NIES/UNU/IAS Workshop on Climate Change Regime: Linkages between International and Domestic Levels of Climate Change Politics

15–16 March 2001
Conference on Challenges Facing Japan in the Twenty–First Century, co–ordinated with National Institute for Research Advancement (NIRA)

20–21 March 2001
Conference on Indonesia’s Sustainable Development in a Decentralisation Era, co–ordinated with Indonesian Regional Science Association, University of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia

4 June 2001
International Symposium on Environmental Accounting, co–ordinated with Ministry of the Environment

6 June 2001
Forum on the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment: An Ecosystems Approach to Sustainability, co–ordinated with WRI

7 June 2001
First U Thant Distinguished Lecture on Globalisation, Global Community, and the United Nations by Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia

6–7 September 2001
A Joint Workshop on the Asia–Pacific Environmental Innovation Strategy Project and Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, co–ordinated with Ministry of the Environment

20–22 September 2001
UNU/IAS Urban Ecosystem Workshop

2 October 2001
Second U Thant Distinguished Lecture on The New African Initiative by Mr Thabo Mbeki, President of the Republic of South Africa

22 March 2002
Brief Session of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment with a Specific Focus on Urban Ecosystem Assessment

21 May 2002
Third U Thant Distinguished Lecture on Our Shared Future: Globalisation in the 21st Century by the William J Clinton, 42nd President of the United States

11 July 2002
Public Forum on WSSD, The Road to the Johannesburg Summit 2002 and Beyond: The Role of Japan and United Nations University

1 October 2002
Fourth U Thant Distinguished Lecture on Agriculture and Peace: The Role of Science and Technology in Feeding Humankind in the 21st Century by Dr Norman Borlaug, Nobel Peace Prize winner

25 October 2002
Agriculture for Peace: The Robert S McNamara Seminar on the Role of Agriculture in Sustainable Development, co–ordinated with CGIAR, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries, United Nations University

5–8 November 2002
Katoomba V Conference, co–ordinated with Forest Trends

Number of Events held at UNU/IAS (January 2001 to December 2002)

- Project Workshops & Meetings (including training courses) (29) 15%
- Conferences, Forums & Symposiums (including U Thant Lectures) (29) 15%
- Brown Bag Lunchtime Seminars (56) 36%
- Seminars & Lectures (49) 32%
- Roundtables (6) 5%
UNU/IAS launched a Tokyo roundtable seminar series in 2002. These seminars provide the setting for in–depth discussions of key aspects of the sustainable development challenge from a perspective that is both policy–relevant and in accordance with the highest standards of academic rigour. They bring together diverse pertinent views on core elements of the Institute’s research on sustainable development, and are aimed at policy makers, members of the Japanese government, and the academic and diplomatic communities in Tokyo. The following roundtables were held during 2002:

**First Tokyo Roundtable on Bonn Guidelines on ABS: The Way Forward**
18 March 2002, with the participation of Kerry ten Kate, Policy Adviser, Royal Botanic Garden, UK.

**Second Tokyo Roundtable on Climate Change and Implementation of the Kyoto Protocol**
9 May 2002, with the participation of Robert Watson, head of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), from the World Bank.

**Third Tokyo Roundtable on New Consumers and Sustainability Dilemma**
16 May 2002, with the participation of Norman Myers from Oxford University.

**Fourth Tokyo Roundtable on Post WSSD: The Way Forward for Global Change Research**
1 October 2002, co–organised with the Asia–Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN).

**Fifth Tokyo Roundtable on Youth Culture in Japan**
8 October 2002, with the participation of Alex Kerr, an authority on East Asian art and aesthetics.

**Sixth Tokyo Roundtable on Ethical Issues of Science and Technology for the New Millennium: Emerging Ethical Issues in Life Science R&D**
13 November 2002, co–organised with the Japan Society for Future Studies.
The electronic and print dissemination activities of UNU/IAS relate to two main areas: institution building and research outputs. The former includes institutional brochures, annual reports, electronic and print newsletters, a website, and a contacts database. The latter includes books, monographs, reports, working papers, peer-reviewed articles, research papers, conference presentations, seminars, and project websites.

At the beginning of 2002, a new institutional brochure outlining the Institute’s research programme for the 2002–2003 biennium was produced and widely distributed in both English and Japanese. A total of eighteen books have been published on UNU/IAS–related projects over the past four years, seven of which came out between 2001 and 2002. In addition, the Institute published seven policy reports during the same period, six of which were prepared as part of the University’s input into the World Summit on Sustainable Development process, beginning in November 2001.

Since the Institute was established in 1996, it has produced a total of ninety-seven working papers; which represents an average completion rate of sixteen working papers per annum. The Environment and Multilateral Diplomacy series added two more papers, and a new working paper series dealing with the theme of International Environmental Governance was initiated in February 2002, producing twelve papers within six months. Since January 2001, the academic faculty at UNU/IAS have externally published thirty-five papers and articles in refereed journals, books, conference proceedings, and newspapers.

In late 2001, the Institute redeveloped and launched its new English website. The website utilises a customised web-based content management system, allowing more than twenty contributors to add new stories. The Institute began regularly sending an electronic newsletter to more than 2,000 email subscribers, providing news updates and reports on recent activities and publications. In December 2002, after continued development and refinement of the website, a bilingual version in Japanese was launched. Since the launch of the new site, the amount of traffic has substantially increased—from 200,000 hits per month on average on the old site to 500,000 hits per month on the new one.

In support of UNU and UNU/IAS’ jointly hosted U Thant Distinguished Lectures, the UNU Campus Computing Centre extended the Institute’s web presence by presenting live streaming webcasts of the four lectures given by Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad, Thabo Mbeki, William J Clinton, and Dr Norman Borlaug.
Policy Reports and Working Papers

Policy Reports


UNU Report on Improving the Management of Sustainable Development — Towards a New Strategic Framework for Large Developing Countries: China, India, and Indonesia, Tokyo, UNU/IAS, 2002, 36 pages.


UNU/IAS Working Paper Series


Environment and Multilateral Diplomacy Working Paper Series


International Environmental Governance (Gaps and Weaknesses/Proposals for Reform) Working Paper Series
Chad Carpenter, “Strengthening IEG by Reforming Existing UN Bodies,” 2002.


Books


Norichika Kanie, Chikyukenkyu Gakou to Kokunai seisaku: Kyoto Giteisha wo Meguru Hoandarano Gaikou to Seisaku (Global Environmental Diplomacy and National Policy-Diplomacy and Policy of the Netherlands in Relation to the Kyoto Protocol), Tokyo, Keio University Press, 2001.


Selected Articles


Host Country

UNU/IAS continued to receive the strong support of the Japanese Ministries of Foreign Affairs (Gaimusho), Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Monkasho), and Environment (Kankyosho) as well as the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, the Ishikawa Prefectural Government and Kanazawa City. Monkasho provided additional funding for invitational programmes of scholars and professionals in the form of specific programme contributions, while the Ministry of the Environment also enhanced its existing collaboration with the Institute by increasing the number of annual seconded personnel from one to two. The Ministry of the Environment will continue to show their support for the Institute by contributing further funds to implement collaborative activities.

On a project level, UNU/IAS is closely collaborating with their Asia–Pacific Environmental Innovation Strategy Project (APEIS) and co–organised a workshop on water in November 2002. The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) also began working closely with the Institute in their training courses. Courses were co–organised on a range of topics including environmental policy, environmental education training, and the role of distance learning. Members of the faculty delivered lectures in their areas of expertise.

Special Programmes

In co–operation with UNU/IAS, the Ishikawa International Co–operation Research Centre (IICRC) carries out joint projects with the UNU, Ishikawa Prefecture, and Kanazawa City. It aims to provide local input to UNU efforts on worldwide sustainable development, and the development of international co–operation. During 2001 and 2002, the Centre worked on a research project of four case studies based on the international conference series, Culture in Sustainability of Cities.

IICRC organised several other activities in 2001: the third in the international culture in sustainability of cities conference series in Cheongju, South Korea; a regional seminar on East Asian Historic Cities; and a special symposium on Globalisation, Culture and Youth, as a part of the International Conference of Cities Renowned for Arts and Crafts in Kanazawa in 2001. The first Kanazawa Session of the UNU Global Seminar, which attracted one hundred attendees, also took place in 2001. The second Global Seminar was held in November 2002 on Environment & Development: A ‘Glocal’ Approach, attracting fifty university students from thirty–one universities.
External Networks

Charged with the mandate of enhancing links between the host country and an international community of scholars and policy makers, the Institute forges collaborative relationships by signing formal Institutional Co-operation Agreements and Memorandums of Agreement, as well as maintaining a number of informal relationships.

Within Japan, for example, the Institute has a formal collaboration agreement with the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES). Based on this agreement, the Institute organised a joint workshop on the Asia–Pacific Environmental Innovation Strategy Project (APEIS) and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) in September 2001 in Tokyo to explore synergies between these two global projects.

Within Asia, the Institute also has strong ties with regional organisations. Between 2001 and 2002, UNU/IAS participated in special sessions during the ASEAN Ministerial Meetings on the Environment in Phnom Penh and Vientiane to discuss collaborative activities and country capacity development needs. The discussion resulted in several ASEAN–endorsed activities such as capacity development workshops in several Asian countries, including Indonesia in November 2001 and Malaysia in October 2002, in order to raise awareness of biosecurity–related issues in those respective countries.

At the global level, the Institute enjoys close collaborative relationships with a number of UN agencies including UNCTAD, UNITAR, UNESCO, and WHO, as an academic arm of the United Nations.

With UNEP, for example, the Institute has a jointly appointed professional staff member stationed at UNEP in Nairobi, who works with the Institute towards promoting joint activities on access and benefit–sharing of genetic resources.

The Institute has also developed a number of partnerships with NGOs and the private sector. For example, the Institute partnered with Forest Trends, a US–based NGO, to host the fifth meeting of the Katoomba Group in November 2002. The group is a collaboration of public sector associations, private business, and experts that meet annually around the world to discuss sustainable forest management.

Informally, the Institute works with a number of universities, think tanks, and consultants to implement its projects and activities. An example of this informal collaboration is its relationship with the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA), a large–scale scientific initiative endorsed by the UN Secretary–General Kofi Annan. The Institute’s projects, especially the Urban Ecosystems Programme and the project on Environmental Transitions, have established close ties with the MA and shared research results by co–organising workshops.
UNU/IAS relies on a system of extensive institutional networking, with the Institute’s facilities in Tokyo acting as the main co-ordinating centre. The Institute’s faculty, consisting of scholars and institutions from all regions of the world, are involved in UNU/IAS research, postgraduate education, and advanced training activities. The work of the Institute is guided by the UNU/IAS Board, which is composed of seven eminent scholars and distinguished policy makers, and provides the Director and faculty with valuable and useful advice on new activities.

In addition to sixteen visiting professors from Japanese universities, affiliated with PhD and postdoctoral fellows, in 2002 the Institute appointed four visiting professors, who are renowned for their distinguished scholarship or policy contributions:

Calestous Juma, Programme Director, Science, Technology and Innovation, Center for International Development, Harvard University, USA

Norman Myers, Honorary Visiting Fellow, Green College, Oxford University, UK

Vicente Sanchez, Senior Research Fellow, Bolivar University, Chile

Robert Watson, Chair of the IPCC, and Chief Scientist and Director of the Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development Network, World Bank, USA

The core of the UNU/IAS academic community is the Institute’s in-house faculty and staff who work on a full-time basis. The UNU/IAS in-house faculty includes an Associate Director, Senior Programme Coordinator, Senior Research Fellow, Research Fellows, Research Associates, Senior Visiting Fellows, Visiting Fellows, and Visiting Research Associates and other project personnel. One Senior Research Fellow, two new Research Associates, two Visiting Research Associates and three Junior Professional Fellows were recruited in 2002. In addition, two Senior Visiting Fellows were seconded from the Ministry of the Environment as well as a Visiting Research Associate from the Iwate Prefectural Government. Members of the UNU/IAS administrative staff play an equally vital role in the life of the Institute. In addition, all of the PhD fellows and postdoctoral fellows live and work in–residence.
UNU/IAS Staff and Faculty

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Director–General and Chairperson, Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development

Jean–Pierre Contzen (Chair, UNU/IAS Board) (Belgium)
IST Chair Professor, Technical University of Lisbon

MGK Menon (India)
MN Saha Distinguished Fellow, The National Academy of Sciences, India/Former Member of Parliament and Minister for Science and Technology

Gertrude Mongella (Tanzania)
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Director General, Japan Society for Promotion of Science/Special Advisor to the Minister of Education, Science, Sports and Culture

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UNU Rector

A H Zakri (Malaysia)
UNU/IAS Director

Direction
A H Zakri
Director

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Senior Programme Coordinator

In–house Faculty
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Research Associate (until Jun 2002)

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Edson Kenji Kondo
Senior Fellow (until May 2002)

Peter Marcotullio
Research Fellow

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UNL Project (until Dec 2001)

Thangavel Palanivel
Fellow (until Jul 2002)

Awaist Latif Piracha
Research Associate

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Mohammad Taeb
Research Associate (from Mar 2002)

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Masako Unoura
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Senior Researcher (until Mar 2002)

Eric Williams
Associate Fellow (until Aug 2001)

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Meiyong Zhu
Research Manager (until Dec 2001)

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UNU/IAS Chair of International Governance (Former Prime Minister & Minister of Justice, The Netherlands)

Gary Sampson
UNU/IAS Chair of International Economic Governance

Hirofumi Uzawa
Chair Professor of Advanced Studies (until Apr 2002)

Visiting Faculty
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Robert Ayres
Visiting Professor (European Institute of Business Administration) (until Feb 2002)

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(World Bank) (from Apr 2002)

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Yozo Yokota
Visiting Professor
(The University of Tokyo)

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(Iwate Prefectural
Government) (until Mar 2002)

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(Ministry of the
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Mitsuo Usuki
Senior Visiting Fellow
(Ministry of the
Environment) (from Jul 2002)

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Visiting Research Associate
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Government) (from Apr 2002)

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of the Environment)
(until Jun 2002)

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Junior Professional Fellow
(from Mar 2002)

Kirsten Neumann
Junior Professional Fellow
(from Feb 2002)

Asao Shimizu
Junior Professional Fellow
(from Feb 2002)

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Dissemination Coordinator

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Website Translator/Editor
(from Dec 2002)

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Programme Activities
Assistant

Toshie Honda
Senior Administrative
Assistant

Nobuyuki Kawade
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Assistant

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Teerapat Sosakul
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Panrit Tosukhowong
IT Developer

Chatchai Wattanasin
IT Developer

Michihiro Yamamoto
IT Developer

Ney Andre de Mello Zunino
IT Developer

Special Programmes

Ratna S J B Rana
Centre Director,
Ishikawa International
Co-operation Research
Centre
Results in 2001 and 2002

Note: DC refers to Developing Countries

Fellowships

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Projects and Activities

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Training Courses

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| 2002 | 8 | 188 | 140 | 40 | 29 | 25 |

Outreach Activities

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UNU/IAS expresses its sincere gratitude to its sponsors and donors in Japan and abroad. Thanks to their generous contribution, the Institute has grown, since its inception in 1996, into its current shape with a multi–thematic research programme and worldwide network of scholars. We are proud of and grateful for the warm support extended by the national and local governments, research institutions and foundations in Japan as well as international organisations, foundations and NGOs worldwide.

Support from Japan

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) provide the core funding that forms the basis of the Institute’s research activities. Complementing this contribution is specific project support provided by the Ministry of the Environment.

In addition, local governments support the Institute’s activities, among which the most notable are the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, which provides the premises and basic facilities of the Institute, and the Ishikawa Prefectural Government, which supports the Ishikawa International Co-Operation Research Centre in Kanazawa.

In the private sector, the main contributors include the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), the Japan Bioindustry Association, Fuji Xerox Co. Ltd., and the Showa Shell Oil Environment Research Center.

Support from Other Countries

In 2001 and 2002, several international organisations, especially UNESCO, provided funds for the Institute’s programmes on urban ecosystems and biosecurity. Various foundations including the Ford Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development made sizable contributions during 2001 and 2002, which were utilised to organise capacity development workshops in various developing countries. In addition, Forest Trends, an NGO based in Washington, provided funds to co-organise an international conference on forest ecosystem services.

UNU/IAS Report Production

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