

Mr. Johan Galtung, Rector, Transcend University

Peace human rights and development in a multi-polar and evolving world

People-centered development has to reach the most needy where they are, addressing directly and locally their basic needs deficits in food and water, clothing and housing, health and education. Communities are fundamental units of development. Therefore, starting with the poorest communities, development should be catalyzed by providing micro-credits to small local companies producing food, clean water, clothes and houses with local materials, by promoting health through fighting the most common diseases, and by educating children and adults. Jobs should enable those most needy to produce for their own needs, to make goods and services available on the market at low costs and to repay micro-credits. With their basic needs met, more people will become market-participants whose demands stimulate the economy.

Among the many obstacles to this vision is the fear of those high up that "if those low down rise, then one day they will come and treat us like we treated them". Such fears have to be met by showing the advantages of more egalitarian societies--including parity between men and women--and by lifting the bottom of society up without touching those at the top with the power to prevent any change.

In the globalizing multi-polar world of today no development model, not the Western liberal or the Marxist models can claim to be the only one. Among others, there are also Islamic, Buddhist, Chinese and Japanese models. Guided by the Right to Development of 1986, States can select the best aspects of each, thereby, satisfying their needs for development with identity.

People-centered development with dialogue should be possible without violence from below or above if the top is adequately prepared for the benefits of more egalitarian societies and does not feel threatened. Likewise, alternative models of globalization should also be possible without violence and intervention. The problem is not who is now on top, but how to arrive at a global, equitable, order with nobody on top.

Ms. Myrna Cunningham, Member, UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Indigenous perspectives on development and human rights

In recent years a development concept has emerged that incorporates indigenous peoples' perspectives. In the Qhichwa language this approach is known as *Sumak kawsay*. A similar concept is described by the terms *suma qamaña* in Aymara, *sumak ñandereco* in Guarani, *Laman Laka* in Miskitu, and *Buen Vivir / Vivir Bien* in Spanish. There is not really any English equivalent in the idiomatic sense. There is a term from the period of transition from feudalism to capitalism, "commonweal." It is the source of the word Commonwealth, as in the British Commonwealth (Mancomunidad). The original meaning of commonweal is similar to the indigenous concept of *Buen Vivir* that involves living together and sharing wealth not just by consuming things but by enjoying social life in a community of associated producers and members. The Oxford entry for the term: *commonweal* /kɒmənweɪl/noun (the commonweal) reads archaic, the welfare of the public.

The *Buen Vivir* "living well" approach to development does not just refer to per capita income or economic growth but includes a more holistic perception of individual, societal and ecological well-being. In Ecuador and Bolivia the concept of *Buen Vivir* has been included in their respective constitutions. It presumes common cultural mores, and harmony between human beings and Mother Earth. *Buen Vivir, or Living Well*, stands on values that stand for culture for life, for living together, and for complementarity not just among people but also

harmony between people and nature, for the protection of the commonweal and of life in benefit of communities and nations as a whole.

These precepts coincide with those of indigenous peoples throughout the rest of the world. Indigenous peoples' approach to self-determined development is based on the fact that culture is a way of life. Items used to procure livelihood and relationship to land are part of the spiritual lives of indigenous peoples. Development with culture and identity is characterized by having a holistic non-sectoral approach, seeking to build on collective rights, security, and greater control and self-governance of lands, territories and resources. An indigenous approach to development must build on tradition with respect for our ancestors and our values while looking toward the future.

Ms. Delphine Djiraibe, Principal Advocate, Public Interest Law Center, Chad

Democratic governance, human rights and the equitable development of natural resources

The world is evolving. Almost everywhere in the world there is no real peace. The number of poor people is growing dramatically. The world is facing economic crises like never before. Respect for basic human rights is lacking almost everywhere. Basic human needs like access to drinking water, to shelter, to electricity, to education, to food, and to health care are not satisfied. In the years since the Universal Declaration of Human rights, "human dignity" has become just an empty catchphrase for most human beings.

Paradoxically, while millions of their citizens live in poverty unable to satisfy their basic needs, some African countries control vast natural resource wealth such as minerals, oil, gas, rainforest, fertile lands, rivers and lakes. Why aren't these natural resources exploited for the benefit of the population? Why isn't poverty reduced? The obvious answer is the lack of Good Governance mainly Democratic Governance.

To build democratic governance the biggest challenge is to develop institutions and processes that are more responsive to the needs of ordinary citizens including the poor and that promote development at the same time. Such processes must promote participation, accountability, and effectiveness at all levels.

Without democratic governance, sustainable, people-centered development is not possible.

Chad exemplifies how a lack of democratic governance can drastically undermine opportunities for sustainable development and elevate poverty. Chad's oil wealth has deepened the divide between rich and poor and exacerbated armed conflicts over power: "who controls power controls oil money."

In Chad, the World Bank should have known that an oil project launched in the context of massive human rights violations, inadequate democratic governance and insecurity could turn to a disaster. Indeed, civil society in Chad has actively called upon the government and the World Bank to create conditions conducive to good governance before initiating oil development. Their failure to take these ideas into consideration continues to negatively impact the people of Chad who should be the primary beneficiaries of oil development.

Mr. Martin Khor, Executive Director, South Centre

Overview of people-centred development and globalization

Ms. Virginia Dandan, independent expert on human rights and international solidarity

Being Bajau: The path to choice

The issue of whether or not globalization creates prosperity, has been discussed interminably it seems, amid a litany of the “goods” as well as the “no-goods” that it brings. Everyone experiences globalization in different ways, on a daily basis, whether aware of it or not. I believe in the theory that social phenomena and their meanings are created by social actors themselves, and therefore development should be based on people’s choices, including how to manage the “no-goods” that come along with the “goods” that globalization brings. More often than not, the capability to choose is the leverage of successfully managing whatever “no-goods” one encounters including those brought about by globalization. How do marginalized and excluded communities who have limited capability to choose if at all, experience the adverse impacts of globalization on their way of life and social relations?

The Sama Dilaut of Mindanao in the southernmost part of Philippines, better known to Filipinos as Bajau, were once itinerant and boat-dwelling people, their life and culture relying mostly on the sea. A large number of them have been forced to live on land by a number of factors such as armed conflict, piracy and loss of their traditional fishing livelihood. The Bajau experience widespread extreme poverty, hunger and malnutrition, displacement from their traditional communities, debt bondage, mendicancy, exploitation by large fishing enterprises, discrimination, marginalization and exclusion from socio-political affairs of mainstream society.

Small wonder then that the Bajau have low self-esteem, convinced that they are undeserving of good things simply because they are Bajau. This is an account of how they were introduced for the first time to the idea that they have the power to decide their own destiny.

Ms. Maria Mercedes Rossi, Representative, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23),

APG23’s experiences with participatory development in Zambia

APG23 is committed to promote integral development that encompasses all aspects of human life. APG23 believes that development involves more than just economic growth and that true development requires respect for all human rights.

APG23 has worked in Zambia since 1985. In Zambia, poverty is commonplace and the HIV epidemic has had devastating effects on communities creating almost 1 million orphans, especially before the availability of antiretrovirals. This presentation will focus on lessons learned and results produced by two projects run by APG23 in Zambia's Copperbelt province.

Rainbow Project is a multi-sectoral model of care for orphans and vulnerable children, and their families that supports community based responses to their different needs. The Rainbow microcredit program and its “twin-track approach” exemplify people-centred and participatory development through direct involvement of people in planning, decision-making and implementation.

Chichetekelo Youth Project for children and youths who live on the streets, offers integral development through education, artistic and recreational activities, creation of job opportunities and spiritual formation and has involved youths and families in its implementation and continuous development. Through this program, hundreds of youths have

become self-reliant and achieved sustainable household food security for themselves and their families.

APG23's experiences demonstrate that local communities and individuals know what is good for their own development; therefore, development assistance should offer people benefiting from it, the opportunity to express their views and pursue their own priorities

Mr. Robert Moulias, President, Allô Maltraitance des personnes âgées et/ou des personnes handicapées (ALMA France) and Ms. Astrid Stuckelberger, Chair, NGO Committee on Ageing,

A plea for the active participation of older persons in development and globalization

All over the world, people are living longer and in better health than ever before. Our increasingly multi-generational society faces a range of unprecedented obstacles to its sustainability. A growing body of evidence clearly demonstrates that remaining active physically, mentally and, mainly, socially is the best way to “age well” and for a society to enjoy distributive rights and guarantee socio-economic cohesion and peace, especially in low- and middle-income societies ageing at a fast pace.

Many examples can be found where older persons play useful roles in transmitting knowledge, developing services or helping vulnerable persons such as orphans from AIDS. Examples of groups combating age discrimination, abuse and neglect can be found locally (e.g. ALMA in France or “Voice of Voiceless” in Uganda), at the European level (e.g. IAGGER Bologna Declaration) and at the international level (e.g. International Network on Prevention of Elder Abuse). At the United Nations, no binding law for the human rights of older persons yet exists, which demonstrates the urgent need to include older persons.

Confronting the implications of population ageing on health and the social and economic order requires urgent local and international action to promote innovative policies and legislation. These policies should be developed with the participation of older persons but existing mechanisms for older men and women to exercise their right to participate in development and globalization are lacking. It is time to address poverty, isolation and the exclusion of older persons from development and from the global UN agenda and budget.

Ms. Ramona Constantin, Community Worker, Big Life Company, Manchester

The story of Ramona Constantin’s migration: challenges and opportunities

Ramona Constantin moved from Romania to England in 2009 at the age of 24. A housewife and mother, she had never left Romania but when her husband left her she became depressed and saw no other options.

When she first arrived in Manchester, Ramona shared a house with 14 people and worked selling The Big Issue in the North. She sold the magazine for 18 months building relationships with customers who brought her food and talked to her about her life. Ramona began to speak more English, a skill which helped her secure a place in a training and employment programme for Roma people based at a local children’s centre. The programme trained people in the skills they needed to become outreach workers who would engage with their local community and help ensure Roma children and families accessed the services available.

During the programme, Ramona took part in training courses including interpretation skills and safeguarding. Ramona began doing outreach with local families and is now

employed by the children's centre as an outreach worker. Ramona also works for a number of local primary schools with Roma and non-Roma children making sure they understand the work they are being taught and can do their homework.

Ramona's presentation will focus on the challenges she and other migrants face to survive in their new homes, the way she was able to overcome these challenges and the need to develop an adequate support structure so that others may do the same. Ramona will discuss the work of building a life for herself in Manchester and her aspiration "to become a social worker and to help families that are in trouble."

Mr. Alfred De Zayas, independent expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

The need for democracy in international relations

In this panel the Independent Expert would like to explore the existing links between domestic and international democracy. He will further elaborate on the importance of strengthening democratic values to ensure an international order that is more democratic and more equitable.

The notion of "democracy" as a form of government has been understood primarily at the national level. The implementation of international human rights norms that make democracy possible have been often conceived in terms of the relations that States have with their inhabitants. However, it is important that a closer look is taken beyond the national borders of the State.

One of the essential elements of democracy is that it correlates the will of the people and the actions of its elected representatives. However, the key principles of democratic governance - which include, *inter alia*, participation, transparency, the rule of law and accountability - are hardly present at the international level. This is particularly relevant as the foreign policies of States only have legitimacy if they genuinely represent the actual wishes of the people and not the agenda of an oligarchy. Moreover, independent civil society should be given opportunity and means to meaningfully participate - whether *de jure* or *de facto* - in national and international decision-making.

More effort is needed to enforce accountability in international politics, with the UN Charter acting as a World Constitution and the International Court of Justice as a World Constitutional Court. The uniform application of international law must remain the basis for State's conduct, fully respecting the sovereign equality of States and the principle of self-determination of peoples; and rigorously observing the prohibition of the threat of or use of force (Art. 2(4)) and the obligation to negotiate in good faith (Article 2(3)) and settle disputes peacefully.

Mr. Obiora Okafor, Member, Advisory Committee of Human Rights Council

Poverty, State-building and the right of peoples to development: an African perspective

The paper will examine how a deeper appreciation and committed on-the-ground implementation of the norms and jurisprudence of the African Human Rights System relating to the right of *peoples* to development is capable of leading to the significant re-conceptualising and re-shaping of state-building thought and action, and contributing immensely as a result to the struggle against poverty, in Africa, as elsewhere. The paper will begin with a brief discussion of the nature of the right to development under the African

Charter. This will be followed by a discussion of the concept of development that animates the relevant provision of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the right to development. And it is here that the character and orientation of the jurisprudence of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights on the right to development will be analyzed, with particular attentiveness to its cutting edge qualities. Thereafter the paper will consider the ways in which serious attention to the norms and jurisprudence of the African system on the right to development requires the very re-conceptualization and re-shaping of state building thought and action in Africa and beyond, in ways that will contribute immensely to the struggle to ameliorate (extreme) poverty around the world.

Mr. Koen de Feyter, Professor, University of Antwerp, Belgium

Sites of rights resistance

Human rights claims originate at a local site, but appeal to institutions at several levels, varying from the local to the universal. The presentation investigates to what extent local practice may contribute to achieving universal protection of human rights, and more broadly, to human dignity. From a human dignity perspective, the utility of supporting an individual human rights claim, is to serve not only the interest of the claimant, but the interest of all those who are in the same situation.

Local human rights claims refer to events that take place *somewhere*, in a specific geographic location. Local groups across the world have used human rights as a counter-hegemonic strategy of resistance in order to challenge social exclusion, insisting on the accountability of agents they hold responsible for a threat to their human dignity.

Ideally, local human rights claims are accommodated by agents that are geographically close to the area where the claim emerges. In this respect, the relationship with local public actors is an important factor in determining whether accommodation will take place.

On the other hand, the effectiveness of the regional and international human rights regime is dependent on a more intensive engagement with local human rights experiences. The creation of a universal knowledge of human rights, - an essential step towards achieving a real shared understanding - requires an infusion from all societies on local human rights experiences.

Mr. Gustavo Massiah, Member, International Council of the World Social Forum

Social movements and issues of crisis (original text in French, unofficial translation to English by OHCHR)

The crisis deepens. Social and citizens movements are reflecting about it. This crisis articulates four dimensions: socio-economic, geopolitical, ideological, and ecological. This is actually a triple nested crisis: of neoliberalism as a phase of capitalist globalization, of the capitalist system itself and that of a civilization, the Western civilization, which needs a return to the traditional relations between human being and nature.

The resistance of peoples have accentuated the crisis of neoliberalism. The depletion of neoliberalism does not mean *per se* the overcoming of capitalism. It only opens a period of structural crisis that will see the confrontation between three possible outcomes: the strengthening of other forms of financial dictatorship and the inclusion of nature in the

financial system; the reorganization of capitalism based on public regulation and social modernization, and thirdly, the opening breach of an ecological, social and democratic transition; the new contexts will be characterized by specific articulations between these three issues.

The World Social Forums have led the battle of ideas in two ways. One towards an alternative path based on the access to rights for all and the equality of rights from local to global. And another based on immediate measures adopted against the consequences of the crisis on the living conditions of the masses. Between the question of urgency, that of the dictatorship of realism, and the structural transformation, the movements are involved in the definition of a new strategic thinking.

Les mouvements sociaux et les issues de la crise

La crise s'approfondit. Les mouvements sociaux et citoyens permettent de la penser. Cette crise articule quatre dimensions : économiques et sociales, géopolitiques, idéologiques, écologiques. Il s'agit en fait d'une triple crise emboîtée : celle du néolibéralisme en tant que phase de la mondialisation capitaliste ; celle du système capitaliste lui-même et celle d'une civilisation, la civilisation occidentale, qui nécessite de revenir sur les rapports entre l'espèce humaine et la nature.

Les résistances des peuples ont accentué la crise du néolibéralisme. L'épuisement du néolibéralisme ne signifie pas pour autant le dépassement du capitalisme. Il ouvre une période de crise structurelle qui verra la confrontation entre trois issues possibles : le renforcement sous d'autres formes de la dictature financière et l'inclusion de la nature dans les circuits financiers ; un réaménagement du capitalisme fondé sur une régulation publique et une modernisation sociale ; une rupture ouvrant sur une transition écologique, sociale et démocratique. Les nouvelles situations seront caractérisées par des articulations spécifiques entre ces trois issues.

Les forums sociaux mondiaux ont mené la bataille des idées sur deux plans. Celui d'une orientation alternative à partir de l'accès aux droits pour tous et de l'égalité des droits, du local au planétaire. Et celui des mesures immédiates par rapport aux conséquences de la crise sur les conditions de vie des couches populaires. Entre la question de l'urgence, celle de la dictature du réalisme, et celle de la transformation structurelle, les mouvements sont engagés dans la définition d'une nouvelle pensée stratégique.

Mr. João Pedro Stedile, Member, National Coordination of the Landless Workers' Movement (MST) and Vía Campesina

Reflections on the control of capital and transnational corporations over world agriculture: its consequences and peasant alternatives (original text in Spanish, unofficial translation by OHCHR)

The capitalist system of production has been developed through different stages: fifteenth century mercantilism, was followed by industrial capitalism in the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries and monopoly capitalism in the twentieth century. In recent decades, the world has entered a new phase dominated by global control increasingly concentrated in the hands of transnational corporations and finance capital.

This form of domination controls the production of goods in the industrial, mining and agricultural sectors and has caused many changes in agricultural production worldwide. Every food has turned into a commodity which is controlled technologically from its production until its consumption and subjected to price fixing and speculative investments. The result is

that transnational corporations control agriculture in most countries, and are also protected by their influence over WTO rules and bilateral agreements between governments.

As a consequence, food prices are rising uncontrollably, there is price speculation, harms to the environment have increased, more food is contaminated by pesticides and more people are going hungry. Still, companies continue to increase their profits! And that process has been exacerbated by the crisis in the financial system from 2008.

The MST and Via Campesina are against this perverse model of transnational domination of food, natural resources, water and air, causing more and more problems for humanity.

We defend a new development model, based on the proper valuation of peasant labor, respect for rural communities, and a productive paradigm in balance with the environment that recognizes food is a human right that must be satisfied for all of the world's inhabitants.

Changes are urgent, but governments and international agencies are deaf and blind to the need because of the dominant influences of capital. We believe that people are beginning to realize the need for change and to mobilize for a new agriculture.

Reflexiones sobre el control del capital y sus empresas transnacionales sobre la agricultura mundial: sus consecuencias y las alternativas campesinas

El sistema capitalista de producción se ha desarrollado por diferentes etapas: a partir del siglo XV con el mercantilismo, fue seguido por el capitalismo industrial en los siglos XVII y XIX y capitalismo monopolista en el siglo XX. En las últimas décadas, ha entrado en una nueva fase del dominado ahora por el control global cada vez más concentrado en manos de las empresas transnacionales y del capital financiero.

Esa forma de dominación controla la producción de mercancías en los sectores industrial, minero y agrícola. Y ha provocado muchos cambios en la producción agrícola en todo el planeta. Ha transformado todo alimento en una simple mercancía. Controla desde la producción, con su matriz tecnológica hasta los consumidores, imponiendo precios e especulando con los estoques. El resultado es que las compañías transnacionales controlan la agricultura en la mayoría de los países, y además son protegidas por sus influencias en las reglas de la OMC y en acuerdos bilaterales de los gobiernos.

Las consecuencias son alza de los precios sin control, especulación de precios, más agresiones al medio ambiente, más alimentos contaminados por agrotóxicos, y más hambre. Pero ellas siguen aumentando sus ganancias! Y ese proceso se ha agravado con la crisis del sistema financiero a partir del 2008.

El MST y la Via Campesina son contra ese modelo perverso de dominación de las transnacionales sobre los alimentos, los recursos naturales, el agua y el aire, que provoca cada vez más problemas a la humanidad.

Y defendimos un nuevo modelo de desarrollo, basado en la valorización del trabajo campesino, en el respecto a las comunidades rurales y una matriz productiva en equilibrio con el medio ambiente, que transforme los alimentos un derecho humano, que todos los habitantes del planeta tengan acceso.

Los cambios son urgentes, aunque los gobiernos y los organismos internacionales estén sordos y ciegos, dominados por las influencias del capital. Creemos que las personas empiezan a darse cuenta y a mobilizarse por una nueva agricultura.

Ms. Pascale Delille, Researcher, Université Blaise Pascal, France

The social and solidarity economy and inclusive and participatory development (original text in French, unofficial translation to English by OHCHR)

The social and solidarity economy (SSE) is an economic concept defined by practices most often arising from a collective mobilisation in a local context. They are socio-economic activities largely seen as more inclusive, sustainable and responsible with their stakeholders and Communities in which they are implemented. Fair trade, solidarity finance (complementary local currencies, community banks, investments solidarity, micro-credit, etc.), producers and consumer's direct linkages, inclusive economy, recycling plants, products of second hand are some of the well-known forms which the social and solidarity economy can take. These modalities are transversal to all economies and are expressed mainly through democratic organisations such as associations, co-operatives, and enterprises open to stakeholders. They have limited profitability and most of the revenues are reinvested in society with strong social and environmental content.

For its capacity to integrate informal economies, the social and solidarity economy allows populations to access the first steps to recognising their human rights in the socio-economies sphere. SSE's are a type of organisation regulated by economic practices and with recognised juridical format. The International Labour Organization (ILO) for instance has since a very early stage recognised and promoted these types of collective enterprises guided by democratic governance and seen them as guardians of the local interest of their populations and particularly more resilient to crises.

Not being subject to the financial interests of shareholders, SSEs are adaptable to the conflicting interests of stakeholders, which allows the co-construction of the general interest of the sphere of influence in which they develop.

Economie sociale et solidaire et développement inclusif et participatif

L'Economie sociale et solidaire est un concept économique défini par ses pratiques, qui se développent le plus souvent suite à une mobilisation collective, en réponse à des enjeux locaux, par des activités socio-économiques, inclusives, durables et responsables vis-à-vis de leurs parties prenantes et des communautés dans lesquelles elles se développent. Le commerce équitable, les finances solidaires (monnaies locales complémentaires, banques communautaires, placements solidaires, mirco-crédit..), les circuits courts producteurs-consommateurs, l'insertion par l'économie, les recycleries/ressourceries, sont les formes les plus connues de ce secteur qui a pourtant vocation à être transversal à toute l'économie, s'exprimant plutôt par des formes d'organisations démocratiques (association, fondation, mutuelle, coopérative ou entreprise classique ouverte à ses parties prenantes), avec une lucrativité limitée, principalement réinvestie dans son objet social, qui répond à une finalité sociétale, fortement encadrée par des préoccupations sociales et environnementales.

Par sa capacité à intégrer l'économie informelle grâce à ces pratiques participatives, l'ESS permet aux populations d'accéder à ce premier socle indispensable pour une reconnaissance des droits humains dans la sphère socio-économique : une organisation régulée de pratiques économiques, inscrites dans une forme juridique reconnue. L'OIT(organisation internationale du travail) a très tôt reconnu et promotionné ces formes d'entreprises collectives à la gouvernance démocratique, comme étant garantes de l'intérêt des territoires et de leur population, et particulièrement résilientes face à la crise.

N'étant pas ou peu soumises à l'impératif des intérêts financiers des actionnaires (shareholders), elles restent adaptables aux intérêts contradictoires des parties prenantes (stakeholders), qui permettent la co-construction de l'intérêt général de la sphère d'influence dans laquelle elles se développent.

Mr. Eunchang Jun & Ms. Hye Won Jeon, Youth Rights Activists, Republic of Korea

Advocating for the rights of youth

A number of violations of student's rights can occur in Korea's schools including: hair regulations, forced dress codes, physical punishment, prohibition of political activities, prohibition of demonstrations and protests, prohibition of dating relationships and enforced competitions for acceptance to college. In response to these violations, students in Seoul fought for adoption of the Seoul Student's Rights Ordinance. The Ordinance is the first result of youth rights organizations in Korea and seeks to guarantee the students's rights.

The presentation will describe the process of creating the Seoul Students' Rights Ordinance by organizing an unprecedented 'motion of residents' movement among youths, the preceding Gyeonggi Province Students' Rights Ordinance, how the students' rights movement first came to be organized, and the significance of the movement and its result.

In particular, the presentation will introduce the organizational and management principles of youth movements in Korea using Asunaro as an example. It will describe:

- A) How Asunaro organizes youth movements with actual case examples.
- B) The management of Asunaro as an organization run mainly by youths.

The presentation will also introduce other youth rights organizations describing what they do and the hardships youth rights organizations and activists face. Finally, the presentation will introduce various changes achieved since the enactment of the Ordinance, attempts by the government to demobilize the Ordinance, changes inside the schools of Seoul and newly appearing challenges to the implementation of the Ordinance.

Ms. Shreen Abdul Saroor, Founder, Mannar Women's Development Federation, Sri Lanka

Women's rights, development policy and peace-building in a post-war situation

While there has been an end to the armed conflict in Sri Lanka, women in the North and the East – post-war areas - have seen very little "progress" in their lives. These women have undergone severe hardships during nearly 3 decades of civil war, including the loss of loved ones, family support structures, livelihoods, homes, dignity and life itself. One of the burdens women have had to bear due to the war and its brutal conclusion is the loss of family members (especially men), that pushed them outside the conventional family structure and made them the primary income earners. This change provides an opening for abuse of widowed and single women as development opportunities are dominated by males. Women in the North and East continue to suffer due to lack of access to natural resources, basic amenities and services necessary for their livelihoods. Even though the Sri Lankan government has made commendable progress in terms of physical rebuilding, this rebuilding has primarily taken the form of transportation, military, industrial and tourism related construction in which community women have not been consulted. There is an urgent need to redefine development and growth in a way that includes women's perspectives. To these women, who have an abundance of war related experiences (however painful) "progress" requires going beyond these basic infrastructural development policies. In my presentation, I will discuss what development means to these women especially in the context of reconciliation, reparation and seeking social justice, and their continuous struggle to carve out

spaces for continuous engagement with the on-going resettlement, reconstruction and development processes that are militarized and controlled by the state.

Ms. Manal Alsharif, Women's rights activist and blogger

Promoting women's rights in Saudi Arabia through social media

In the absence of national elections, political parties and any form of civil society, social media began to play a vital role in political and societal transformation in Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia experienced a phenomenal growth in the usage of social media in the year 2011, placing it on the top of the world on the number of YouTube videos views and on the top of the Arab world in the number of Twitter active users. Saudis succeeded in creating their own cyber civil society, where they voice their opinions, criticize the government openly, shape the public opinion, discuss urgent matters like unemployment, corruption, etc. This cyber-society has been particularly critical to my work and the work of other women's rights activists by providing an organizing space for our efforts and casting an international spotlight upon them. This presentation will explore the role that social media is playing in the political and societal transformations currently taking place in Saudi Arabia.

Ms. Priti Darooka, Executive Director, Programme on Women's Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, India

Women, the economic agents of people-centred development

Throughout the world, women are engaged in all levels of the economy. They are farmers, land managers and gatherers. Through their activities women play a vital role in providing subsistence to families and communities. All women work whether paid or unpaid. Women do a lot of unpaid work within the household and in family farms and enterprises. Despite its obvious economic and social worth, much of the work that women do remains invisible, undervalued, and under-appreciated.

Women are often seen as a vulnerable group that needs to be protected and taken care of. It is essential to recognize women as economic actors—workers and producers—providing subsistence to families and communities by taking care of their basic necessities such as food, water, fuel, healthcare, and social security.

This starts with acknowledging the right to a livelihood which is crucial to women and men around the world. It is a right that is fought for and defended by farmers, workers, peasants and the urban poor. Conceptually, this right surpasses the right to work, the right to property or the right to income earning assets. It is the right to pursue a dignified life. In its essence, the right to livelihood entails the opportunity to realize other rights with dignity. The experience of the Programme on Women's Economic, Social and Cultural Rights suggests that “to advance and make real the vision of a world in which all human beings enjoy all their human rights in peace, we must engage the concept of dignity”. Therefore, recognition, respect for and protection of women's livelihoods is critical to their enjoyment of basic human rights.

Mr. Francois Mercier, Desk Officer for Financing for Development and Programme Officer on the Democratic Republic of Congo, CIDSE- Catholic NGO Network

Tax havens hinder the mobilization of domestic resources for development

Multinational companies, in particular in the extractive industry, make substantial use of secrecy jurisdictions and tax havens. Numerous sophisticated strategies allow company profits to be transferred out of producer countries to tax havens, often entirely legally and out of public sight.

In 2011, "Bread for All" and "The Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund" carried out a research about the activities of Glencore in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), in collaboration with Congolese nongovernmental organisations. The research showed not only that Glencore was involved in severe environmental damages and social conflicts, but also that a large part of the profits made were shifted to tax havens. Subsidiaries of the commodity company pay only minimal taxes in the DRC, resulting in million dollar losses for the Congolese State.

Transparency in corporate reporting, in particular a disclosure of profits and losses made in each country, would help to fight tax abuse. Tax havens deprive poor countries of important resources for their development. According to estimations, a correct taxation of the extractive sector in the DRC could yield more money than the country receives in development aid.

Ms. Gemma Adaba, Advisory Board Member, Social Justice in Global Development and Representative, Peoples Movement for Human Rights Learning

Mobilizing official development assistance (ODA) and harnessing South/South cooperation for development effectiveness

The financial and economic crisis have considerably weakened the prospects of many developing countries to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. This trend has served to sharpen the focus on mobilizing all sources of finance for development, and on effective development results, particularly in the case of deployment of ODA. The Aid Effectiveness Agenda of the OECD-led Paris Declaration (2005), and Accra Agenda for Action (2008) process has evolved into something more comprehensive in terms of an inclusive partnership for development, including South/South Cooperation actors, and civil society organizations (CSOs): The Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (BPD). As a follow-up, partners agreed in July 2012 to a governance and monitoring framework to maximize chances for successful implementation.

As many developing countries still face tremendous challenges of poverty, food insecurity, lack of decent employment, social protection, and sustainable livelihoods, as well as lack of enjoyment of human rights, what is the potential of this new development aid framework to address these social issues? Defining development effectiveness in terms of the core principles of people-centred, rights-based development, gender equality, use of country systems, democratic ownership, mutual accountability, and untied aid, the Paper will examine this important question. Given the fact that key South/South cooperation actors have signed on to the BPD, the Paper will focus on the perspectives and modalities of South/South cooperation, comparing these with traditional donor approaches as applied through the predecessor Paris/Accra Frameworks, and will draw lessons for effective development policy and practice, going forward into the post-MDG era.

Ms. Jean Saldanha, Policy and Advocacy Officer on Resources for Development, CIDSE Catholic NGO Network

FTTs: taxing financial markets as if peoples' rights mattered more than money

Making fiscal policy more progressive and redistributive nationally and globally is an important means to create a more globally enabling environment for development. Value added taxes and taxes on labour continue to be the most popular instruments of fiscal policy to raise revenue. On the other hand the under-taxation of the financial sector is glaring in comparison to its exponential growth just in the past decade. In 2008, for example, the trading of financial transactions was approximately 74 times higher than nominal global Gross Domestic Product. In 1990, it was only 15 times higher. Just in the past decade, the trading of derivatives and foreign exchange has far surpassed global trade. This has contributed to a skewing of income distribution in society, in turn contributing to growing inequality. It has also impacted on the amount of revenues that states can spend on fulfilling their responsibility to fulfil and enforce their human rights obligations. Financial Transaction Taxes (FTTs) are a mechanism to reintroduce a measure of equality and progressivity in taxation systems, helping governments to meet legal commitments to provide resources to respect protect and fulfil people's rights.

Mr. Collins Magalasi, Executive Director, African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)

Towards a lasting solution to sovereign debt problems: promoting responsible lending and borrowing through fair and transparent debt arbitration

The World is in dire debt distress. Today, sovereign debts are no longer the problem of only the poor South. Low, middle and high income countries are experiencing increased levels of sovereign debts. With the drying up of finance for development due to the global economic crisis, countries want to borrow more money to increase their liquidity while creditors want their debts repaid.

There are increasing disputes over sovereign debt. However, to date, no international mechanism exists to deal comprehensively and effectively with sovereign debt problems. This presentation will look at the need for responsible lending and borrowing, and more importantly the urgent need for the establishment of an independent, fair and transparent debt arbitration mechanism.

Ms. Isabel Ortiz, Associate Director, UNICEF

A Recovery for All - There are Alternatives

The world's financial and economic crisis has taken a toll on children and poor households. High food and commodity prices, unemployment and austerity measures have aggravated persistent inequalities and contributed to a substantial rise in hunger and social tensions. [A Recovery for All](#) presents useful data for advocacy on 158 countries. While the world remains fixated on austerity in high-income economies, developing countries are also contracting public expenditures. In 2012, 133 countries are expected to reduce spending by an average of 1.6% of GDP, with 30% of governments undergoing excessive contraction, defined as cutting expenditures to below their pre-crisis levels.

Now, more than ever, investments for the world's poor are needed to recover lost ground in pursuit of development objectives. [There are alternatives](#), fiscal space for social and economic development exists even in the poorest countries. There are six broad methods – all supported by United Nations policy statements – by which governments could find additional

fiscal space: re-allocating expenditures; increasing tax revenues; lobbying for aid/transfers; tapping into fiscal and foreign- exchange reserves; borrowing and restructuring existing debt; and adopting a more accommodative macroeconomic framework. These should be accompanied by adequate regulation of the financial sector; countries need a far smaller, simpler, more transparent and accountable financial sector, focused on lending to the real economy, not on making exorbitant profits and salaries for outrageously overpaid bankers. Global problems require global solutions; international coordination is critical to address world inequalities and promote a recovery for all to expand employment opportunities, social protection and social services as a matter of social and economic justice.

Mr. Manuel Montes, Senior Adviser on Finance and Development, South Centre

The international financial system and enhancing a globally enabling environment for development

The ongoing global economic crisis has exposed the treacherous features of the international financial system. The current crisis originates from the developed countries and continues to threaten global economic recovery for all. The source of the current financial problems cannot be blamed on the corruption and inefficiency in the developing countries. Systemic reforms are required. Because of the entrenched commercial interests that are advantaged by the current financial rules and arrangements, the international community must also overcome crises in politics, policy and morality to undertake systemic reforms.

Current financial rules are inimical for prospects for economic development in poor countries because volatile and large private financial flows restrict the policy space of developing countries governments in promoting long-term investment to diversify their economies. The global system is configured to encourage competition among nations over trade and for private investment even though private investment is highly unstable and unable to provide the scale of resources needed for development. In the context of this competition, developing country governments are seriously constrained from mobilizing resources for their own development from their own domestic economies.

The presentation will cover the role of the key aspects of international financial reform including:

1. financial regulation, both internationally and nationally and the development of domestic financial capabilities;
2. international cooperation in domestic resource mobilization, including concerted efforts against tax evasion and for greater international tax cooperation; and
3. governance reform in international financial and trade rules.

Mr. Stephen Hale, Deputy and Advocacy Campaigns Director, Oxfam International

Promoting sustainable development in an era of globalisation: a safe and just space for humanity

Stephen Hale will focus on the current and future challenges facing Oxfam and many other organisations seeking to promote sustainable development. Oxfam works in around 90 countries to eradicate extreme poverty and injustice. His speech will cover three areas. First he will reflect on the current economic and political context and the persistent weaknesses of

the multilateral system and the way that Oxfam and other civil society organisations can maximise their influence in this context. He will consider the lessons to be learnt from the failure to make significant progress in various multilateral processes, including the recent Rio + 20 summit on sustainable development. Secondly he will highlight climate change, as a key challenge for global sustainable development. He will reflect on the current prospects for a global agreement and action of the kind needed, and the urgent need to accelerate action on this. The 2015 deadline for a new agreement on this provides a long-term framework for all to develop strategies for both national and international action. Finally he will outline a potential framework for linking environmental and social issues, at national and global levels.

Ms. Dashdolgor Dolgorsuren, Head of Foreign Relations, Health Agency, Bulgan Province, Mongolia

Promoting sustainable development for the nomadic peoples of Mongolia

For thousands of years, the people of the Mongolian steppes have practiced a pastoral way of life, moving in the search of the best pastures and campsites and creating a special “Nomadic” civilization. Occupying huge pasturelands and practicing nomadic lifestyles, Mongolians developed a unique appreciation for harmony between human beings, nature and livestock. Many Mongolians still keep this tradition alive.

However, the Mongolian way of life is also changing. After the breakdown of communist regimes in Eastern Europe in late 1989, Mongolia saw its own Democratic Revolution in early 1990, which led to the transition from a centralized economy to a market economy. This transition process has had both positive and negative impacts on the lives of Mongolian nomads, which are now tied to worldwide development and globalization.

Contemporary Mongolian herders may have modern technologies like solar panels, televisions, motorbikes, cars, trucks, and mobiles etc. as a result of worldwide development and globalization but they remain deeply connected with their environment. There is a need to resolve global problems in order to ensure the universal human right to live in an ecologically secure environment and to promote sustainable development. Clean water and sanitation, energy, agriculture productivity, biological diversity and ecosystem management and health are critical and also are the large problems that require global solutions.

Ms. Yoandra Muro Valle, Vice-Rector of the Latin American School of Medicine in Havana

Promoting south-south cooperation in the field of medicine

For more than 50 years, the Cuban National Public Health System has been providing care to people of different countries through its Health Cooperation Programs which, in the spirit of international solidarity, send medical professionals equipped with medicine, materials and expertise to other countries where they are needed.

Today, many of the Cuban doctors participating in Health Cooperation Programs in several countries are specially-trained in disaster medicine and epidemic prevention and are veterans of disaster relief efforts in Pakistan, Indonesia, Central America and elsewhere. As of 2011 the human resources devoted to Cuba’s efforts included 39,163 workers in 69 countries including 25,150 women, representing 64.2 % of the total.

This presentation will describe several areas of Cuba's medical assistance programs including medical assistance indicators, technology transfer, emergency relief and scholarships.

Mr. Jorge M. Dias Ferreira, Main Representative, New Humanity

Solidarity and integral development

According to a popular expression in Cameroon, Europeans are always running, stressed, anxious, frightened, drugged and sick in their efforts to arrive as soon as possible... at their own graves! The drive for rapid progress and economic development at any price seems to require this fate. It does not matter what the price to be paid is as long as profit, efficiency, productivity and the targeted end benefits reign supreme and demonstrate their almost 'sacred omnipotence', being promoted as absolute dogma. The immediate consequence is to reduce the person to an object, just a means of production.

However, time is passing... and it is necessary and urgent to denounce this tide which turns against man himself who is the real, unique and irreplaceable actor in economic and social life. And it is only for him, and for his genuine moral and ethical well being, that the development process must be directed according to the hierarchy of man's material needs, as well as his intellectual, moral, spiritual and religious needs.

The absence of effective holistic development processes inhibits the autonomy and existence of States because the basic purpose of States as political communities is to enable the societies and peoples that compose States to be masters of their own destinies! Without integral development it is not possible to affirm the practice of Human Rights.

Therefore, a new paradigm is needed to promote solidarity and integral development and prohibit serious human rights abuses, whose effects are already very evident today. This presentation explores the fundamental question: what more do we need to recognize abuses, to stop the processes that permit them and to seek out together genuinely human models of development that permit all persons to exist and have their rights acknowledged?

Mr. Xigen Wang, Professor and Vice-Dean, Wuhan University Law School, China

Implementing the right to development in the aftermath of the global financial crisis: challenges and prospects

In the aftermath of the global financial crisis of 2008, the fluctuation of exchange rates and the reduction of overseas investments and trade have impacted developed and developing countries alike. Potential consequences of the global financial crisis in developing countries include the intensification of the debt crisis, rising poverty rates, higher unemployment, reduced economic growth and increased social inequality. These impacts severely restrict the realization of the right to development (RTD). In order to implement RTD, the following measures should be taken immediately. First, we should reconstruct the idea of the RTD based on a global concept of people-centred development with justice. Second, we should develop a strategic system for the implementation of RTD including principles, targets, methods and roadmaps for mainstreaming RTD. Third, we should establish evaluation, monitoring, early warning, emergency response and intervention mechanisms. In addition, by linking RTD to the two International Conventions on human rights (adopted in 1966), efforts to realize RTD may be advanced. Eventually, it is necessary to enact a Convention on RTD. A complete obligation system of RTD should include endogenous obligations (ethics and institutions) and instrumental obligations (contracts and a Convention).

key words: Post-Financial Crisis era; right to development, human rights

Original text:

后危机时代发展权面临的挑战与出路

汪习根

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[摘要]

在后危机时代，危机的中心正在通过对发展中国家的贸易和投资的减少以及汇率变化而最终从发达大国转移到发展中国家，具体表现在债务危机的加剧、贫困率的上升、更高的失业率和经济增长的减缓以及社会不平等，严重影响了发展权的实现。发展权问题成为人权领域的首要问题。为此，首先应该优化理念：从传统正义论转变到一种新的正义观——

以人为本的“发展正义观”。其次，实现发展权的主流化（**Mainstreaming RTD**）：从主流化的原则、目标、方法与路线图四个层面构建发展权实施战略体系。再次，建立危机预警与应急系统，包括评测、监督、预警、应急与干预机制。此外，将发展权利宣言巧妙地连接到现有的国际人权两公约之上，借用公约机制救济发展权，最终可以考虑制定发展权公约。没有义务的权利是死亡的权利，而一套完整的发展权的义务体系应包括本源性义务（伦理与制度）和工具性义务（善良、契约与公约）。

[关键词] 后金融危机时代；发展权；人权