

JOICFP NEWS

Women High on Agenda at Mexico

Latin American and Caribbean conference highlights reproductive rights and health issues



President of Mexico Salinas de Gortari (center) addresses the conference in Mexico.

"Success in family planning (FP) means redefining many long-held attitudes, especially towards women. Women are at the center of the development process. If we are to achieve sustainable development they will have to become both the architects and the beneficiaries of policies and programs. We need a concerted effort to integrate women's concerns into all population policy and programming," said Dr. Nafis Sadik, executive director of UNFPA, and secretary general of the upcoming 1994 UN International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD).

Addressing the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Conference on Population and Development, Sadik said that the ICPD theme of "Choices and Responsibilities" had relevance for the region in terms of widening women's choices concerning family size and increasing men's share of responsibility. "The form and content of action programs to improve reproductive health, to reduce maternal mortality, teenage pregnancy and abortion, are well-known in the region," she said.

In her address given on May 2, Sadik also acknowledged the contribution that

non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are making in the field of population and development. "NGOs in this region have made a very important contribution, especially in reproductive healthcare and family planning (FP)," she said.

Prepcom II

The conference, held from April 29 - May 4 in Mexico City, was attended by government experts of 31 countries from the Latin American and Caribbean Region and representatives of international agencies and NGOs. JOICFP was also represented at the meeting which produced a regional consensus on population and development that was put forward at the Second Preparatory Committee Meeting (Prepcom II), held in New York from May 10 - 21. The Mexico meeting was the last of five regional conferences held prior to the Prepcom II.

The conference was jointly organized by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), UNFPA and the Latin American Demographic Center (CELADE) and chaired by Patrocinio González Garrido, minister of the Interior, Mexico. Speaking at the

opening session, President of Mexico Salinas de Gortari expressed strong expectations for the ICPD and reaffirmed Mexico's support for action on population and development in the region.

To encourage the active participation of women and NGOs, the conference schedule included a meeting for women on May 1 and a meeting for NGOs on May 2. This attention enabled women and NGOs to make valuable contributions to the conference which were reflected in the recommendations of the consensus.

Among the issues given priority in the recommendations was the need to recognize the opportunity to regulate fertility as a human right and for governments to ensure the full exercise of this right by providing access to FP services, expanding the coverage and improving the quality of these services, and by providing care without restriction to all men and women who request it. It was stressed that FP programs cannot be detached from social policies, and that governments need to collaborate with NGOs and the private sector to make services accessible to the most disadvantaged groups.

Noting a concern for teenage

Prepcom II

Paving the Way for ICPD

U.S. reaffirms commitment to raise population assistance at meeting

pregnancy, the recommendations urged governments to devote efforts on a priority basis to designing and adopting global reproductive healthcare models for teenagers, focusing particular attention on population education, and to reconsider regulations restricting teenagers' access to contraceptive methods.

In view of the current trends in the region towards decentralization of decision-making on social policy and management, the consensus stressed the importance of governments to open up channels of communication and share leadership responsibilities with community organizations, women's associations, NGOs and the private sector. The recommendations also called for the introduction of IEC strategies to rectify the problems of low active involvement of men in FP decision-making and the opposition to contraceptive use by women.

Focus on Women

Women were given priority attention in the recommendations which called for measures to eliminate the stereotypes, prejudices and negative attitudes regarding women in the region that impeded the effective exercise of women's reproductive rights.

Abortion was also mentioned in the consensus which urged governments to study the topic with a view to evaluating the prevalence of abortion and its impact on the health of women and their families.

In a departure from the format of previous pre-ICPD regional conferences, participants of the Latin American and Caribbean conference decided to delay the finalization of the "Plan of Action" for the region until after the Cairo meeting. However, the recommendations laid out under the conference consensus were presented at Prepcom II. 



Carmen Elu de Lenero, technical secretary, Commission on Women, Ministry of Health, Mexico (right), speaks during the women's meeting.

A total of 370 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) were newly approved to participate in the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) to be held in Cairo, Egypt, at the Second Preparatory Committee Meeting (Prepcom II), held at the UN Building in New York from May 10 - 21. The NGOs, including JOICFP, were formally accredited at the Prepcom II to enable them to take an active part alongside other prominent NGOs such as IPPF, agencies such as UNFPA and government delegations at the ICPD.

Another major highlight of the meeting was the determination shown by the U.S. to increase its population assistance. U.S. Representative Timothy Wirth announced that President Clinton had requested a US\$100 million increase in population assistance for fiscal year 1994. "I am pleased today to reconfirm the Clinton administration's intention to contribute to UNFPA," he said. The representative also underscored U.S. support for reproductive choice. "The U.S. government believes the Cairo conference would be remiss if it did not develop recommendations and guidance with regard to abortion," he said. "Our position is to support reproductive choice, including access to safe abortion."

Wirth also made a point of recognizing the critical role that NGOs are making in preparations for the ICPD. "Their ideas, energy, experience, and connections to real people in every corner of the world have helped us come this far," he said. "They will give life to our deliberations in Cairo and beyond."

Fred Sai

Chaired by Dr. Fred Sai, president, IPPF, the Prepcom II was the second of three such sessions to be held prior to the ICPD. The main aim of the Prepcom II was to synthesize the recommendations from the six expert group meetings and five regional conferences held since the first Prepcom.

Dr. Nafis Sadik, executive director, UNFPA, introduced a conceptual framework for an international plan of action on the integration of population concerns into

development activities at the conference. She also expressed pleasure at the strong NGO presence at the meeting. Representatives of NGOs from developing countries were particularly prominent among participants at the Prepcom II and some countries even included NGO representatives in their official delegations. Accordingly, NGOs were able to make active contributions to the meeting.

"In few areas of international activity are we seeing such a rapid change as in the relationship between governments and NGOs," Sadik said. "Although some countries started off with doubts about the appropriateness of any significant role for NGOs, the UNCED

process demonstrated that a complementary role is not only possible but very important."

Preparations for Cairo

Commenting on preparations being made at the national level prior to the ICPD, she said, "More than 80 countries have informed us of the establishment of national committees to prepare for the 1994 conference. In many of these countries a wide range of government agencies are involved alongside others such as NGOs, community representatives and parliamentarians. I am convinced that such a degree of interaction can only be positive."

Sadik also highlighted the need for investments in women and girls during her address. "I am a firm advocate of investing in women," she said. "In economic and social terms the returns are enormous." She added that nowhere is that investment more beneficial than in improved health services including family planning which enable women to take greater control of their lives, their well-being and their futures. The UNFPA head was pleased to note the strong turnout of women at the meeting, where 90% of NGO delegates were women.

The third Prepcom is scheduled for April next year ahead of the ICPD to be held from September 5 - 13 September, 1994. 



NGOs: "the Last Hope for the '90s"

UN expert sees NGOs as the most effective agents of change in population and development

Don Hinrichsen, United Nations Consultant in Population, Environment and Development and author of numerous publications on the environment, spoke with JOICFP NEWS on April 21. Below are the highlights of his comments.

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have an important role to play in the Cairo conference (1994 UN International Conference on Population and Development). NGOs should set up a dialogue with UNFPA as soon as possible to see how they can play a constructive role in Cairo, and find ways to work better together. UN agencies are restricted by their mandates, but it is important to take a more integrated approach to development. Integrated



Don Hinrichsen

development should become the norm, not the exception. Right now it is the exception. NGOs can nudge the UN in the right direction — to make it think in a more integrated fashion, think integrated projects, not vertical programs. In the real world, everything is linked. It makes no sense to separate them all out.

The Cairo conference faces the same problem as the Rio Conference (Earth Summit). If the recommendations are not followed up, they will not mean very much. UNFPA has to be given a strong mandate for the conference to identify clear directions for the next decade, and it needs to have firm commitments by the governments and donors to back it up. A strategic development plan for population

and the environment, which are interlinked, should be developed. The Cairo process should reinforce the Rio process and vice versa. NGOs can be allies of UNFPA: lobbyists to keep population issues in the forefront, and watchdogs to push UNFPA when it is not doing what it should be doing.

Family Planning

By NGOs, I mean village-level development organizations, income-generating groups, small local collectives or community groups of men and women bound by a single issue. In terms of family planning (FP), the populations which are hard to reach and cannot be served by the UN agencies, such as those in rural villages, must be reached by NGOs, and those are places where NGOs are working. The NGOs just have to be given the tools to work with. I think the NGOs are the last hope for real development in the '90s and beyond — unless the governments find ways to get the money down to the ground.

You get better results, faster, by going through the NGO network than you do by simply concentrating on the usual government channels. It is a matter of ground-up rather than trickle-down development. I think the NGOs are the only ones capable of doing this in a timely and efficient fashion. It takes time and effort to identify them, what their strengths and weaknesses are, where they need help and where they don't need any.

IEC Campaigns

I also believe that working with local groups is the best way to effectively tailor IEC campaigns to meet people's preferences. For an IEC campaign to work, it has to challenge the people to think about issues. It takes a long time to educate people, but once people see how things work, make the connections and see the results, they catch on. People may be ignorant, but they are not stupid. You need to spark their interest somehow and that takes a long time. You need to be in for the long haul, and that is where the big development projects fail because they all want instant results.

Lecturing people and banging on their heads will not work. You have to start at a very basic level, gradually build up the confidence and understanding of the people, and suddenly you will get a breakthrough and everything falls into place. Then you have a basis for sustainable management. 

Shedding Light on AIDS

Japan Family Planning Association (JFPA) has come up with another innovative way to combat the spread of AIDS in Japan with the publication of a handbook designed to be utilized as an AIDS-prevention IEC material for young people. Following its release earlier this year of its novel IEC condom pack, the production of the handbook provides younger readers with a broad basis of knowledge about AIDS.

The booklet is entitled *STOP AIDS CONDOM: To Protect You and Your Loved One from AIDS* and is written by Dr. Hidebumi Kubo, board member of JOICFP and chairman of Family Planning Federation of Japan (FPFJ). Small and light enough at 24 pages to be slipped inside a pocket, the booklet features an attractive cover, as well as cartoons and diagrams throughout to appeal to a younger audience.

The booklet offers easy-to-understand information on HIV transmission and AIDS prevention and draws attention to common misconceptions about the disease. The latter half of the booklet is devoted to information about condoms and includes a guide to the correct use of condoms to prevent HIV transmission. One of the most notable aspects of the booklet is its practical approach to AIDS prevention and the absence of any moralizing about sexual activities among young people.

As with most of the IEC materials created by JFPA, it is hoped that the handbook will be sold in bulk to cover the costs of publication and to sustain the association's ongoing IEC-production activities. Priced low at ¥200 (US\$1.60 at ¥122 to US\$1) the booklet is easily affordable to public bodies such as educational institutions, private organizations catering to young people and individuals. The association is planning to produce more IEC materials designed for AIDS prevention in the near future.

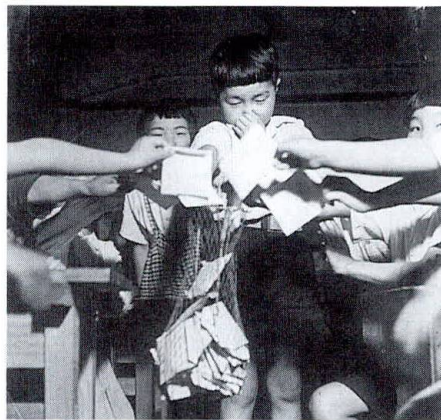


Lessons from the Community

Kunii's book highlights effectiveness of listening to community people and answering their needs

The English-language version of "It All Started from Worms — The 45-Year Record of Japan's Post-World War II National Health and Family Planning Movement" was published by the Hoken Kaikan in December 1992. Written by JOICFP Chairman Chojiro Kunii, the book documents the work of the Hoken Kaikan Group and spans the years shortly after World War II up to the present day. The book is written as a personal account by Kunii and includes a variety of essays, articles, poems and photos.

Beginning with a description of the early postwar people's cooperative movement, the book provides a chronological overview of the progressive movements that were inspired by Kunii and his supporters.



Children hand in stool samples for examination during the 1940s in Japan.

From the cooperative movement, which was brought to an end by the high postwar inflation, Kunii moves on to describe the creation of the parasite control (PC) movement which flourished and quickly spread throughout Japan. With about 80% of the Japanese population infected with parasites at the time, the PC services proved extremely popular and established a firm financial basis for self-reliance.

The success of PC provided Kunii with valuable lessons on how to mobilize people, which he shares with readers in his book. Kunii's interest in health issues continued to grow in the postwar years, and with the support of the government and academic groups, he was able to

provide broader preventive healthcare services and maintain self-reliance by charging fees.

In the early 1950s, Kunii's attention turned to the alarming incidence of induced abortion in Japan. Motivated by a concern for the health of women undergoing abortions, he launched family planning (FP) activities and began developing his philosophy of "humanistic family planning," which today forms the basis of activities conducted in developing countries through JOICFP under the Integrated Project (IP).

Integrated Project

Essentially aimed at appealing to the interests of community people to improve their health and standard of living, the IP utilizes PC to stimulate interest in health and integrates a number of components such as FP, nutrition and environmental sanitation that directly improve the health and way of life in the community.

Kunii's book also provides background to the establishment of JOICFP, one of the member organizations of the Hoken Kaikan Group, and offers insights into past and current population issues. In the latter part the book, Kunii offers comments on new challenges in the field of population, world peace and international cooperation. 9

Words of Support

JOICFP Chairman Chojiro Kunii received a variety of responses from readers about his book "It All Started from Worms — The 45-Year Record of Japan's Post-World War II National Health and Family Planning Movement." Below are a few of the comments.

Your life and experiences are an inspiration to readers involved in health and population programs in developing countries. Through this book they can better carry on the advocacy aspects of their program with their respective governments, and they will be in a better position to understand and adapt the Japanese model to their special situations and to carry on periodic assessment of their effectiveness of their programs. We recommend that the book be distributed if possible to all family planning associations involved in Integrated Projects.

Richard Turkson, regional director, Africa Regional Office, IPPF

I found your book very impressive. It covered not only a historical description of the FP movement in Japan but also included

the human dimension of the FP program which we must understand.

Bal Gopal K. C., UNFPA country director, Pakistan

The book as a whole is a good example of the integration of preventive health services. Your experiences in PC activities after World War II and continuation in a new health field such as FP were farsighted movements and reflected change in the social structure of the country. Also, the tripartite system consisting of government, academia and private organizations was a good initiative.

Dr. Claudio Sepulveda, representative, UNICEF, Turkey

The part I would want to quote from your book, whenever the opportunity arises, is the one dealing with thoughts from your essay "Small Japan." It is truly remarkable that what you wrote over 20 years ago is so relevant in



Kunii soon after the war.

today's troubled world. If, as you said at the time, we could "suppress material desires and enrich spiritual life," if we could move "towards more active international cooperation" and if we could appreciate the urgent need for unpolluted "air," "water" and "green" for human survival — the world will be a much happier and peaceful place.

Professor Mahroof Ismail, head, Department of Parasitology, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

In MEXFAM we are very enthusiastic about following your steps and achieving as much self-reliance as possible.

Alfonso López Juárez, director general, Family Planning Foundation of Mexico (MEXFAM)

We in Africa need to learn the lesson that Japan became a rich country from many such small contributions of its own citizens such as you; and that foreign aid will not be enough to lift us out of poverty and ignorance.

Isaac K. Boateng, executive director, Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana

Building a Successful FP Program

J. S. Parsons highlights the unique elements in Indonesia's FP program

J. S. Parsons, deputy director, Asia and the Pacific Division, UNFPA, spoke with JOICFP NEWS on April 30 about the transferrability of the experiences of Indonesia's family planning (FP) program with other countries. Below is an outline of his interview.

At present, there is great focus being put on those lessons that are truly Indonesian FP experiences which many of us believe are transferrable across national borders. What are those key lessons?

Political Commitment

One is the importance of political commitment and the translation of that commitment into a viable non-monetary reward system for all who participate in the FP effort. Once a year, President Soeharto invites hundreds of representatives from every province in the country to the palace have lunch. Among them are people who have been FP users for 10-15 years and these people receive rewards for their contributions to the Indonesian development effort. This event receives tremendous TV and printed media coverage and these people go back to their villages as national heroes.

In addition, each cabinet minister works as a sort of an ambassador of the president himself in both his own sector as well as in the areas. Government ministers in turn are talking about FP, looking at FP and praising FP. It is amazing the range of government ministers who will have something to say about FP.

There are many countries in the developing world that have a strong political commitment to FP yet have not been able to translate that commitment into something that will actually galvanize the infrastructure, the manpower and the people. FP is presented in Indonesia as a major development effort and as an opportunity for the Indonesian people to contribute to their own development, to their government's development and to a program that is highly favored by the president. The BKKBN (National FP Coordinating Board) is saying "Here is an opportunity for you to personally participate in the

development of Indonesia. Your contribution in this is a vital and real contribution to Indonesia's development." People feel proud – FP acceptors and providers – because they have contributed in this way.

The next lesson is that BKKBN has mobilized, again through the President's Office and through its own activities, the



J. S. Parsons

development ministries of the government. FP is not just the responsibility of the BKKBN or the Ministry of Health (MOH), which is the main service provider. FP is everyone's baby, literally. Every ministry of the government has a stake in seeing the success of FP and, therefore, most ministries are considered to be in the category of "implementing units."

The key implementing unit is the MOH since it provides the services. The military also provides services, both to the military population and through special activities organized in the communities. The Ministry of Agriculture has its own implementation unit. The Ministry of Education is involved in population education. The Ministry of Information provides major support to the FP program.

Development Ministries

Every development ministry and agency of the government has been brought around to seeing the importance of FP to their development work. They therefore

support it in their work. That kind of mobilization of government ministries is very important. That is why BKKBN's FP program in Indonesia is called a social movement. It mobilizes the entire society, be it ministries or people.

Religious Leaders

The other key transferrable concept, is the mobilization of a variety of formal and informal leaders. Traditionally, these have been the religious leaders. The amount of time, energy and money that have been spent by the BKKBN in motivating religious leaders is incredible. It has been a slow process, but it has generally paid off. It has brought about a greater tolerance on the religious leaders' parts for elements of FP, which in other circumstances might be considered sensitive to religious values.

The print and electronic media have also been very carefully cultivated. There are training opportunities, contests for reporters to go out to report the best FP stories and study tours both within the country and outside the country.

The media is also involved in virtually every international meeting that occurs on population or FP.

Community Mobilization

Teachers are another group that have been motivated to support FP and at the most basic level is community mobilization. There is no other country, I was told by a recent UNFPA evaluation mission to Indonesia, that has addressed community mobilization the way Indonesia has with the systematic objective of getting communities to assume increasing responsibility for the planning and implementation of their own FP efforts. Today there is a well-established village presence that involves a variety of people from a variety of sectors all contributing mostly as volunteers to the success of the FP effort.

Those are the key lessons of the BKKBN. From the beginning it has involved a very conscious approach to mobilization from the highest levels right down to the grassroots. 

Headway for Women in Zambia

Women's clubs in IP areas in Zambia become a vital community force as activities expand

When women join hands, they can accomplish a great deal. That is the message from the members of the women's clubs in the areas of Zambia where JOICFP's Integrated Project (IP) is being promoted. Encouraged under the IP to make the women's clubs an active force in their communities and provided with some modest support in the way of materials and training, the women in IP villages are coming together in increasing numbers to tackle such problems as malnutrition and illiteracy and to learn about issues such as family planning (FP).

Women's Clubs

When the IP was launched in Zambia in 1985, there was a total of three women's clubs in the three pilot project areas. Today, that number has been increased to 23 with membership limited to around 35 or so for each club. The activities of these clubs have also expanded dramatically as they have won the active participation of women and gained support of the village authorities as well as the community at large. As a result, the clubs have become an influential force in the development of the IP and instrumental in raising the standard of life in the community.

One of the most obvious benefits of the clubs is that they have helped make the presence of women felt more strongly within the home and the community. As the clubs have brought positive changes to community life, village people have been more willing to place value on women's activities. With greater recognition, the women have gained confidence and freedom to expand their joint activities and discuss issues such as FP.

The establishment of women's shelters in IP areas has done much to spur the collective activities of women. The construction of the women's shelters is



Members of the Bwafwano women's club greet visitors.

usually done as a joint community effort with the support of the local authorities. With a meeting place, women are then able to gather more easily to exchange information, share experiences and take part in income-generation activities such as gardening, sewing and knitting. Through such communal work, women have gained the administrative skills for banking and the establishment of revolving funds for reinvestment into continuing activities.

The positive impact that the organization of the clubs has had on women has been clearly demonstrated in Kapata, Luapula Province, where a number of women's clubs are running day care centers from their shelters. The centers, initially set up to tackle the problem of child malnutrition in villages, have also inspired the launch of literacy classes for women and collective agricultural activities.

The Katunasa Women's Club in Kapata, for example, has seen its activities expand since it started day care services. The services, operated out of the shelter from 8 a.m. - 11 a.m., are primarily aimed at bringing children together to provide nutritious snacks made from local food sources. The club charges about 30 kwacha (10 US cents) a semester for the services.

Extremely popular among the

community, the day care services have spurred the women's club members to launch home-gardening activities to secure stable, year-round sources of food, and to learn nutritious ways to prepare food for children. The provision of school lessons for the children at the day care center also created an awareness of the importance of reading and writing and a desire to learn among the women themselves who set up adult literacy classes for club members.

Awareness of Health

A greater awareness of health has also been another benefit the day care center has brought the women of Katunasa who are now planning to run a maternal and child health clinic from the women's shelter. By mobilizing the women to play a more effective role in raising the health status of the children through better nutrition, the IP has also created greater interest in health issues among the community as a whole, which has in turn made community people more willing to listen to the health benefits of birth spacing for children and mothers.

In cooperation with the health advisory committees for local steering committees implementing the IP at the local level, JOICFP has continued to encourage the expansion of the activities of the women's clubs in Zambia. In addition to providing such items as cooking utensils, cloth and seeds for gardening, JOICFP has also worked closely with members of the Municipal Coordinating Committee for Overseas Bicycle Assistance (MCCOBA) to secure the donation of paper and pencils for the day care centers. Notebooks and toys will also be donated by MCCOBA members to support the activities of the centers this year.



A literacy class in Katunasa.

Sri Lanka Still on Track

De Knocke notes Sri Lankan success and new openness in Maldives

Dr. Hans de Knocke, country director, Sri Lanka and the Maldives, UNFPA, spoke with JOICFP NEWS on May 21 about population and family planning (FP) issues in Sri Lanka and the Maldives. Below is an outline of his interview.

One of the major reasons why Sri Lanka has managed to do so well in terms of population is because people are educated. I think this is superior proof that education is a good basis for achieving success with a population program. But there is more to the success than education.

In Sri Lanka there has been a traditional emphasis on the social sector as a whole — both education and health. Compared to other countries, there has been easy access to schools and health facilities over the whole island and this has made Sri Lanka a very fertile ground for a population program.

The status of women in Sri Lanka has also been an important factor in the success. The position of women may be the result of education, but I get the impression that the women in Sri Lanka have always had a different position in society than in other South Asian countries.

Model of FP Success

Up until the 1980s Sri Lanka was a model of a successful FP program. It was given a very high profile by the government and was the pride of the country. But Sri Lanka has been in a war since 1983 and this is still the main problem confronting the country.

There are severe population problems within in the war zones among the Tamils, especially among the east Tamils who have a tradition of high fertility. The good health and the low fertility that you

hear about in Sri Lanka is only for two-thirds of the country. We do not know what is happening in the rest of the island.

Population Policy

The objective of the population policy of the present government is to achieve replacement-level fertility by the year 2000. For UNFPA, the main focus in Sri Lanka is adolescents and those subgroups with high fertility. On average, the fertility is quite low in Sri Lanka, but there are quite

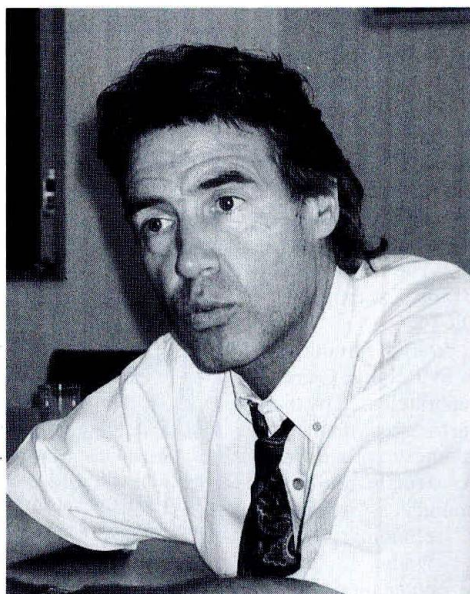
a few pockets where the fertility is high and where there are enormous health problems.

For adolescents, UNFPA is focusing on school youths and out-of-school youths with the integration of family life education (FLE) into school programs and vocational training programs. It is just starting and the document has just been written with the Labor Ministry to get FLE included in

vocational training.

The Maldives are totally different in every respect to Sri Lanka. To be able to talk about population issues openly is a new development for the Maldives. There have been some small projects in the past with the Health Ministry, but they have been very low profile. However, the present president has started talking about population growth and this has had an enormous impact. It has now become acceptable to talk about FP.

Fertility is very high in the Maldives which has a population scattered over 200 islands. We have just conducted a PRSD mission and on the basis of that I will present a country program in September this year. By January next year we can begin the program in which IEC for the people as well as the policy makers will be the most important project. [7]



Hans de Knocke

Sustainable Development: a World Bank View

Ismail Serageldin, vice president in charge of ESD (environmentally sustainable development), World Bank, spoke on May 14 in Tokyo about the Bank's views on the environment and sustainable development. Below are the highlights of his presentation.

The key areas concerning the environment today are: climate change, the ozone layer, biodiversity, the seas, sustainable agriculture, the forests, droughts, toxic waste, energy, and consumption patterns.

Consumption Patterns

According to a recent UNDP report which provides an overview of the global economy, the richest 20% of the world's population receives 83% of the total income of the world, whereas the poorest 20% receives only 1.4%. There are huge disparities in consumption patterns: the developing countries consume 70% of the calories, 6% of the paper and 8% of the energy is consumed by developed countries.

The dimensions of ESD include economic (sustainable growth and capital efficiency), social (equity, social mobility, participation, and empowerment) and ecological (ecosystem integrity, natural resources, biodiversity, and carrying capacity), which are all interrelated. If different analyses are made under different premises without the integration of all elements, internal conflicts will result.

Development & Environment

The Bank is working on four global issues: global warming, ozone depletion, biodiversity, and the pollution of international waters. We must change the way people think — there is no dichotomy between development and environment. Environment is a central part of promoting real sustainable development, that is, development should not be carried out with the sacrifice of the environment.

The Bank carries out environmental assessment systematically for every investment. With regard to population, the Bank has steadily increased the size and scope of its population lending. It provides direct support for family planning (FP), which is reinforced by lending in other human development fields, and is trying to encourage girls' education on a very large scale. The Bank will facilitate Japan to share its experiences in pollution abatement which is a mix of incentives and regulations that have worked in different industries. Japan's official development assistance puts high priority on the environment and that philosophy is in tune with that of the World Bank.

Voice of Voices

By Chojiro Kunii

An International Movement

On April 27, MCCOBA (Municipal Coordinating Committee for Overseas Bicycle Assistance) held its first General Meeting. An organization comprising 15 members (14 city governments and JOICFP), MCCOBA has been actively donating reconditioned bicycles and other items to people in developing countries. Since its establishment 5 years ago, the organization has seen its activities expand with the enthusiastic support of the people receiving the bicycles.

As of March this year, over 7,000 bicycles had been donated to people in Asian, African and Latin American countries through MCCOBA. Other items such as treadle sewing machines, microscopes and stationery have also been sent abroad under the scheme.

It has been particularly heartwarming to see the number of grassroots campaigns that have sprung up in Japan to support the scheme. Notable among these is the campaign launched by students of Taishido Junior High School in Setagaya City. Under the campaign, the students have been soliciting the help of residents through fund-raising activities to support the donation of reconditioned sewing machines abroad.

School Campaigns

The students and faculty of Fuchu Daikyu (No.9) Junior High School in Fuchu City have also become active in the international cooperation field since sending reconditioned sewing machines to Guatemala under the scheme. Another supporting school is Tokyo Jyoshi Gakuin in Nerima City. The school has not only donated sewing machines, but ran a campaign to increase awareness of international cooperation and raised ¥220,000 (US\$1,800 at an exchange rate of ¥122 to US\$1) at its fair to assist with shipping costs.

Contributions to the scheme have also been made by Janome Sewing Machine Co., Ltd. which has been repairing donated treadle sewing machines free of charge. Meanwhile, retired mechanics have made significant efforts to overhaul the bicycles to almost new condition prior to shipment.

There is a domestic movement in Japan called the "Small Kindness Movement." In my view, the activities of MCCOBA represent the international version of this goodwill movement. Like the goodwill movement, the donation scheme continues to attract support and most recently the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Japan Bicycle Promotion Institute have been collaborating with us to support this cause.

JOICFP would like to continue cooperating with UNFPA and IPPF to expand this scheme. These donation activities work in well with our Integrated Project (IP) which involves practical activities that assist people to improve their lives. [J]

DIARY

Mark Laskin, assistant secretary general, IPPF, visited JOICFP on April 26 and 27 to exchange information.

J. S. Parsons, deputy director, Asia and the Pacific Division, UNFPA, visited JOICFP on April 30 for a meeting with JOICFP executives and staff.

JOICFP Program Officer Kiyoko Ikegami was in Mexico from April 29 - May 5 to attend the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Conference on Population and Development and to hold discussions with MEXFAM officials. She moved on to the U.S. where she was in Atlanta on May 6 to exchange

information with the Centers for Disease Control and in New York until May 12 to take part in Prepcom II.

Holly Ornstein Carter, writer and photographer, visited JOICFP on May 17 to collect information on Margaret Sanger.

Dr. Hans de Knoke, country director, Sri Lanka and the Maldives, visited JOICFP on May 21 to exchange information.

JOICFP Program Officer Aiko Iijima was in Indonesia from May 24 - June 2 to prepare for the Asian Regional Workshop on Effective Strategies for Community-based FP/MCH Project with Special Focus on Women to be held in Jakarta in October.

Jaehae Wilder, newly appointed director for Japan, Australia and New Zealand, UNICEF, visited JOICFP on May 28 to discuss future collaboration. She was accompanied by UNICEF Program Officer **Jun Kukita**.

China in Spotlight

Population, environmental and economic prospects for China and the larger international role the country is expected to play in the future were among the issues covered in a speech given by Takeo Fukuda, JOICFP president and former prime minister of Japan, at the joint meeting of JOICFP board members, counselors and councilors, on May 31. The meeting, an annual event, was held to discuss the policy and action plan for JOICFP.

Recently returned from a summit of former heads of state in Beijing, China, Fukuda referred to a report released by the World Bank in April that foresees a dramatic increase in the gross domestic product of China over the next decade and the emergence of the country as a major

economic power. With a large population and a strong economy, China will have to take a more active role in world affairs and its action will have a large impact on the future of the earth and its people, he said.



Fukuda

Commenting on his experiences in China, Fukuda said that he met with Chinese leaders including Jiang Zemin, general secretary, Communist Party Central Committee. During discussions with Jiang, Fukuda said that he expressed a hope that China would not follow the pattern of other economic superpowers and become a military giant. Fukuda said that he also encouraged Jiang to continue its successful efforts in the population field.

JOICFP Chairman Chojiro Kunii also spoke about China at the meeting, reiterating his desire to establish a center for South-to-South cooperation in the country.

JOICFP DOCUMENTARY SERIES

NEW DOCUMENTARY FILM

The Awakening Kowloon *Village Women in Vietnam*

Color/Vietnamese & Japanese version: 39 min.
English version: 32 min.



Despite the many years that have passed since the end of the Vietnam War, the people of Tan Buu Commune still have no bridge to replace the one that was destroyed in a bombing raid. Each day, children cross the river by boat to go to school along with women volunteers who promote family planning and maternal and child health among the community people.

The Awakening Kowloon — Village Women in Vietnam documents the struggle of the Tan Buu people to rebuild their bridge and the vital role that women play as agents of change.

Distributed by

Sakura Motion Picture Co., Ltd.

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Tokyo 151, Japan Tel: 81-3-3320-6311 / Fax: 81-3-3320-7666
Telex: J34799 ITCINBH / Cable: "SAKURAMOVIES TOKYO"

16mm/VTR (Beta, VHS/NTSC, PAL, SECAM)

JOICFP NEWS is a monthly newsletter published by the Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning, Inc. (JOICFP).

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