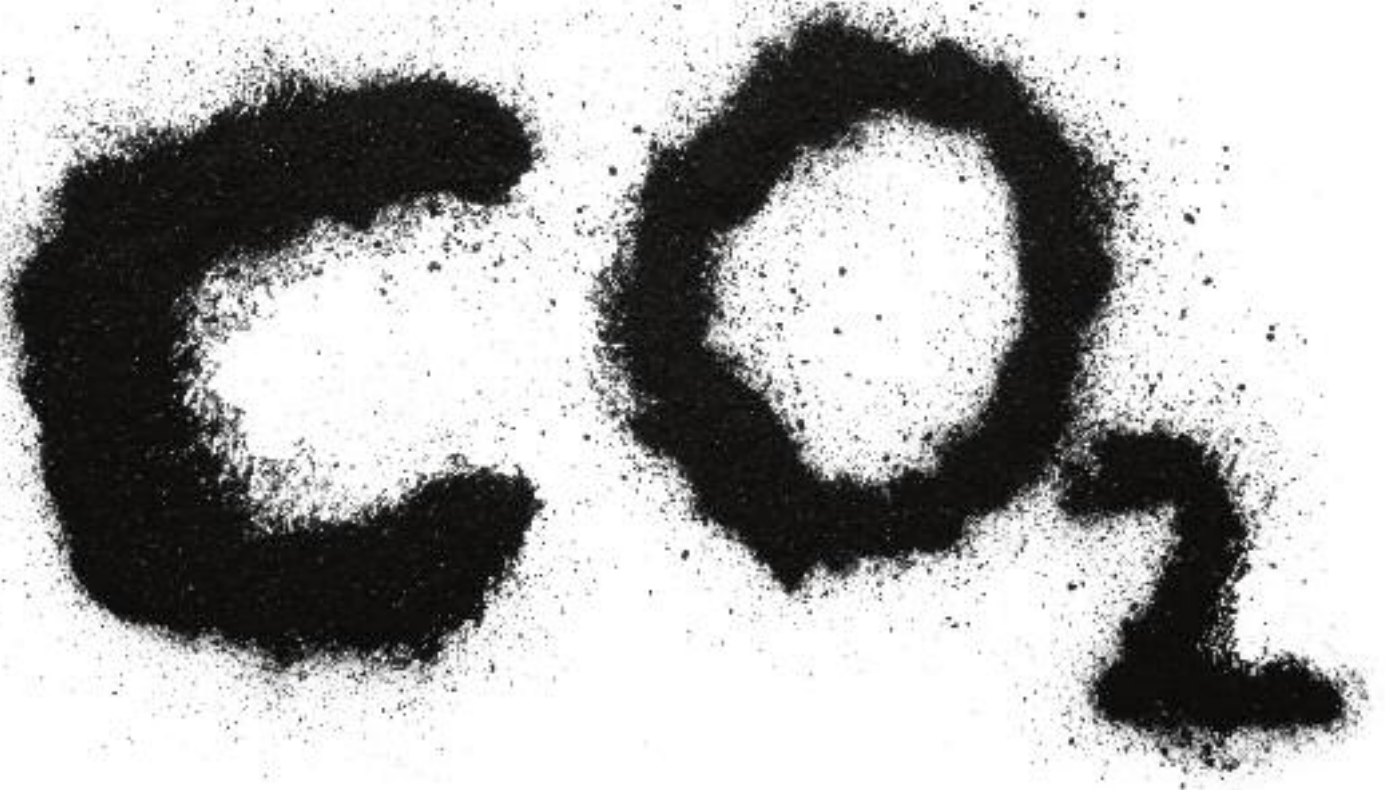


the Networker

August / September 2009 Issue 87

COMMIT TO CLIMATE



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- DFID White Paper launch
- Climate change negotiations
- Adaptation and disaster risk reduction
- Campaigning news

Plus the latest funding, BOND groups and development news



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Commit to climate

DFID launched the new White Paper for International Development at the beginning of July. On 15 July, Douglas Alexander, Secretary of State for International Development, at BOND's request, presented it to BOND members and took questions from the floor. See page 7 for more details. He acknowledged the influence of BOND in the consultations, and it is encouraging that the White Paper reflects many of the key areas raised in the BOND submission. Important sector-wide issues such as 'the role of civil society' are also addressed in ways they might not otherwise have been. More information about the White Paper, including the BOND response to it, can be found on the 'Consultations' page of the website.

This issue of *The Networker* focuses on climate change ahead of the Copenhagen meeting in December. The impact that climate change is having on the world's poorest and most vulnerable people is well documented but the lives and livelihoods of thousands of people in developing countries continue to hang in the balance. Quite simply, Copenhagen must deliver new levels of realism and of resources. Here, several articles look at different aspects of the climate change debate and highlight the work some of our members are doing with local communities in areas such as disaster risk reduction, adaptation and technology. There is also an update on how the pre-Copenhagen negotiations are shaping up.

This year, the BOND Annual Conference and AGM will be held on 5 November in central London. We are finalising a lively and challenging agenda, which includes plenty of opportunities to network with other members. Members can now pre-register on the website – see page 5 for more information.

In September and October, we are running several new training courses that tackle the two big challenges for our sector; maintaining and maximising our income in the current financial climate, and making sure that we use it to the greatest possible effect in our activity. Details are on the back page or go to www.bond.org.uk/learn. Please do share information on these courses with your colleagues.

Finally, BOND members can download a PDF of this and past issues of *The Networker* from the members' area of the BOND website. Sign in to the members' area as usual and go to the 'Membership' pages. Please contact Jemma Ashman, Communications and Marketing Officer, for more information or if you would like to contribute to *The Networker*. jashman@bond.org.uk

With my very best wishes,



Nick Roseveare
Chief Executive



About BOND

BOND is the UK membership body for non-governmental organisations working in the international development sector. We promote the exchange of experience, ideas and information and, as the UK's broadest network of international development organisations, provide our members with opportunities to influence change through collective action.

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About *The Networker*

The Networker is a bi-monthly publication that is sent to all BOND members and subscribers. It offers topical and forward-thinking features and news relevant to the sector, with the aim of inspiring thought, debate and reflection. It is complemented by a monthly e-bulletin, *Your Network*.

Contributing to *The Networker*

If you have an idea that you think would be of interest to readers, or if you would like to comment on this issue of *The Networker*, please contact Jemma Ashman, Communications and Marketing Officer: jashman@bond.org.uk

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Member Spotlight: Frontier

Frontier (Society for Environmental Exploration) is celebrating its 20th year as a non-profit conservation and development organisation.

During those 20 years, our dedicated teams of research officers and volunteers have carried out extensive groundbreaking surveys to help safeguard biodiversity in some of the world's most precious environments. This has been done in close collaboration with local communities, whilst building sustainable

FRONTIER



Climate change threatens turtles in Costa Rica

livelihoods, which we strongly believe to be key to any successful conservation project. In fact, we have trained over 600 host-country stakeholders to ensure that our environmental work can be successfully continued into the long-term future.

Our reputation and achievements have brought us invites to work in new countries, and our most recent quest is in the protected areas of Costa Rica. The country boasts the highest density of species in the world and conjures up images of lush rainforests, big cats and turtles. However, it stands to lose a great deal of its cultural and biological heritage due to the effects of climate change.

The overall aim of the project is to determine the effects of climate change on flora and fauna in five major ecosystem types: tropical dry forest, tropical rainforest, cloud forest, páramo and coastal habitats. As well as identifying the threats, we plan to assist with preventative and adaptive management on local, regional and national scales. The focus of this management will be through local capacity building and the development of habitat corridors, which crucially allow species to migrate between fragmented habitat blocks.

For more information:
www.frontier.ac.uk

Network Spotlight: Consortium for Street Children



The Consortium for Street Children (CSC) is the leading international

member-based network dedicated to advocating, promoting and campaigning for the rights of street-involved children.

We are committed to creating a better and sustainable future for some of the most disadvantaged and stigmatised children by working together to inform and inspire research and action that influences policy and best practice worldwide.

CSC is at an exciting point in its 15 year history, having recently rebranded, launched a new website and opened up membership to non-UK based organisations. CSC's work follows three key strands:

- Member services: provide excellent networking opportunities, discounted training, child protection policy support and CRB checks, inclusion in the CSC Working Groups and provides organisations with the CSC quality mark of approval
- Member-led projects: includes any area where CSC can complement our members' activities
- CSC initiatives: includes support and advice to members' advocacy campaigns and parliamentary priorities by CSC's Advocacy Manager

CSC members are also able to initiate an Urgent Action process highlighting abuse of street children's rights, and pursue joint fundraising bids and projects overseas.

New members

Welcome to the following members who joined BOND in May:

- Africa Educational Trust
- Breakthrough Foundation
- Beryl Browne Foundation
- Kids in Need of Education
- Kileva Foundation
- Marwyn Trust
- Mother Helpage UK
- Practical Help Achieving Self Empowerment Worldwide (Phase Worldwide)
- Project Harar
- Quaker Bolivia Link
- Railway Children
- TackleAfrica
- The Infant Trust

Next membership round deadline

The next membership round deadline is **18 September 2009**. For full details of how to join go to the 'Membership' page of our website, www.bond.org.uk.

Alternatively, email membership@bond.org.uk or telephone 020 7520 0256.

CSC-Initiatives focus on lobbying multi and bi-lateral institutions, such as DFID and UNICEF. The aim is to influence high-level policy debates and decision-makers through campaigns focusing on the rights of street children.

CSC also undertakes the development of new research. Our most recent report, *State of the World's Street Children: Violence*, was the first of its kind. We also represent our members, and the street children they support, on several working groups and advisory boards.

For more information:
www.streetchildren.org.uk or
info@streetchildren.org.uk



BOND Annual Conference and AGM

5 November 2009, London

To reflect the dynamic environment in which we work, the theme of this year's event is International Development in a Changed World. It will provide us with an important opportunity to discuss and debate some of the key challenges facing the international development sector.

The morning has a political panel in Question Time format, moderated by Zeinab Badawi, with representation from the main political parties, including Douglas Alexander, Secretary of State for International Development. They will respond to questions from the floor on their approach to the NGO sector and their policies on international development.



The afternoon will focus on our own policy and practice.

Prof. Rajesh Tandon, President of Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), will kick-off with some reflections from the South on the role of Northern NGOs. A panel will discuss his remarks and bring in contributions from the floor. Confirmed panellists include Prof. Lawrence Haddad, Director of IDS, Ramesh Singh, Chief Executive of ActionAid International, and Christine Allen, Executive Director of Progressio.

The afternoon will also include parallel sessions that focus on a wide range of issues that are relevant to our members. These include sessions on UK NGO advocacy here and globally in 2010 and beyond, strategic future resourcing for the UK's CSO development actors and also the challenges of effectiveness in the overseas programme work of British development agencies. In addition, we hope to hold a session specifically tailored for small NGOs.

The day will also feature the BOND AGM.

Pre-registration is available for BOND members. Go the 'Events' page on the website for more details.

Yasuni Green Gold UK campaign and book launch



New Internationalist is working with the Yasuni Green Gold campaign to publish a book with a simple message in photographs from the Yasuni people – leave the oil in the ground and protect the Yasuní rainforest forever. The launch on Monday 6 October will include meetings with UK Government departments and the All Party Parliamentary Group on Climate Change.

For more information:

www.newint.org/publications/news/2008/10/02/yasuni-green-gold-launch/

International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer

16 September 2008

For more information:

www.unep.fr/ozonaction/events/ozoneday

September 2009 – Business power and politics: creating competitive markets for business and development

This meeting will explore what governments and donors are doing to create competitive markets, and explore the business response. Comparing across sectors and countries, it will consider what impacts competition and politics have on private sector development and market outcomes.

For more information:

<http://businessfightspoverty.ning.com/page/september-2009-business-power>

Understanding the influences on policy making and policy makers

30 September 2009
Central London

This event enables participants to understand the decision-making process and influencing powers involved and to make sense of the tactical lobbying interventions that occur throughout the policy making process.

BOND is speaking at this event and BOND members can attend at the discounted rate of £300 instead of £380.

Please contact Evelien Storme at Westminster Explained for more information and to book your place: evelien.storme@westminsterexplained.com

Transatlantic regulatory cooperation: securing the promise of nanotechnologies

Experts from Chatham House, the London School of Economics, Environmental Law Institute, and the Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, have been examining issues of transatlantic regulatory cooperation. Their research findings are to be published in a major report which will be launched at this international conference.

For more information:

www.chathamhouse.org.uk/events/view/-/id/1217/

Small Charities Coalition



The Small Charities Coalition exists to help small charities access the skills, experience and resources they need to achieve their aims. Small charities can join and share their skills with one another. Large charities can get involved and provide free professional development for their staff.

For more information:

www.smallcharities.org.uk

We need alternative models of development, says **Dr Victoria Johnson**, Lead Researcher, Climate Change and Energy Programme at New Economics Foundation.

Another world is possible

By the time the average family in the UK sits down for their evening meal on 3 January, their energy intensive lifestyles mean that they will already be responsible for the equivalent greenhouse gas emissions that a similar family in a sub-Saharan African country like Tanzania would produce in an entire year.

Furthermore, not only is responsibility for climate change unevenly distributed, so are its impacts. Those least responsible for causing climate change, bear the brunt of its impacts. The combination of the continuing development crisis and marginal climate conditions in much of the global South means that many people are more vulnerable to increased climate variability and long-term climate change. This means that development must be one of the key strategies for adapting to climate change.

What does 'development' mean?

Ideally, 'development' should mean different things in different places and cultural settings. It should describe a plurality of ways of seeing and interacting with a complex and varied world, itself shaped by diverse values, and

political and economic agendas. Unfortunately, however, it is rarely understood in this way. If anything, 'development' has come to mean something uniform – a one-path-fits-all trajectory for societies, regardless of place, culture and circumstance.

Such short-sightedness demands an alternative narrative. That is exactly what the latest report from the Working Group on Climate Change and Development sets out to provide.

For the past five years, New Economics Foundation (nef) and IIED (the International Institute for Environment and Development) have chaired a coalition of the UK's leading development and environmental NGOs to draw attention to the impacts of climate change on efforts toward poverty reduction around the world. The Working Group on Climate Change and Development set out to document the impacts of climate change from the point of view of practical, community-based organisations engaged in designing responses to a changing environment.

A critique of current development models

The coalition's report, *Up in Smoke? Other World's are Possible*, to be published later this year critiques current models of development drawing from the practical experience of the coalition's partners. It also includes four short essays from leading international thinkers:

Professor Jayati Ghosh from India, Wangari Maathai from Kenya, Manfred Max Neef from Chile, and David Woodward based in Cambodia.

The report shows how heavily current models of development rely on conventional (and infinite) economic growth. But economic growth as a means of ending poverty has long failed on its own terms.

A shrinking share of the benefits are reaching those who need it most, and the paradox of its logic dictates that the already-rich now have to consume even more, to deliver a shrinking share of benefits to the poorest¹.

Economic growth increases emissions

The latest climate science raises serious questions about whether, even if it were beneficial, infinite orthodox economic growth is physically possible. Evidence suggests that the surge in emissions growth is primarily due to increases in economic activity. After all, economic growth is driven by the exploitation of natural resources and powered by fossil fuels. While the growth rate of CO₂ emissions includes carbon-cycle feedbacks (decrease in the effectiveness of the land and ocean to remove human driven CO₂), over half of emissions growth is due to an increase in economic activity².

Given the current, highly unequal pattern of the distribution of benefits from economic growth, we could only get everyone in the world onto an income of at least \$3 per day – the level around which income stops having an extreme effect on life expectancy – if we had the resources of fifteen planets like Earth. Even then, environmental costs would fall disproportionately, and counter-productively, on the poorest – the very people the growth is meant to benefit.

Abandoning development based on economic growth does not, of course, mean giving up on ways to improve the world. The coalition's report will make the simple case that there is not one model of development, there are many. We are surrounded by a sleeping architecture of alternatives, some further evolved than others, but all show that we have much more choice about our collective economic future than we have been led to believe.

Written by Dr Victoria Johnson, Lead Researcher, Climate Change and Energy Programme at New Economics Foundation (nef).

For more information on nef: www.neweconomics.org

¹ Woodward D and Simms A (2006) *Growth Isn't Working: the unbalanced distribution of benefits and costs from growth* (London: nef).

² Canadell J, Le Quéré C, Raupach M, Field C, Buitenhuis E, Ciais P, Conway T, Gillett N, Houghton R, Marland G (2007) *Contributions to accelerating atmospheric CO₂ growth from economic activity, carbon intensity, and efficiency of natural sinks* Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 104 (47) 18866-18870.



BOND has welcomed the new White Paper on International Development, *Building our Common Future*, and its focus on tackling current challenges in the external landscape. The 2009 White Paper will be a key document giving long-term direction to DFID's work.

DFID launch White Paper

DFID has rightly set out to address many criticisms in this White Paper particularly around the need to strongly focus on conflict and security as a key issue in UK development policy. It also refocuses UK aid on providing support for agriculture and infrastructure.

UK leadership in aid commitments is reconfirmed with a strong commitment to 0.7% by 2013 and the call for specific donor progress reports on commitments to monitor achievements and failures.

BOND members have mainly been positive, cautiously so in some regards, about *Building our Common Future* and the direction it is giving. Many issues which BOND raised in the consultation process have been addressed, yet, now the challenge is to implement the White Paper and to link its content to previous strategies.

With the publication of the White Paper, a new brand – UKaid – was introduced aimed at strengthening the identity and recognition of UK development assistance.

Whilst this initiative, based on a proposal by the International Development Committee in Parliament, looks to be a good step towards improving public support and recognition, BOND also emphasises that DFID needs to be doing far more to generate public support and engagement and a comprehensive strategy is needed towards this aim.

The BOND website has responses to specific development policy areas based on issues we highlighted in the BOND White Paper submission as well as links to member reactions: www.bond.org.uk/pages/white-paper-2009.html

If you have any comments on the BOND analysis or want to share your organisation's analysis of the DFID White Paper, please get in touch with BOND Advocacy team: advocacy@bond.org.uk

Douglas Alexander discusses White Paper with BOND members

On BOND's suggestion, Douglas Alexander, Secretary of State for International Development, held a meeting exclusively for BOND members to discuss the new DFID White Paper on 15 July.

He shared his comments on the White Paper; its implications for UK development policies and for civil society. BOND members had the opportunity to ask questions and to raise their concerns.

Douglas Alexander says: 'We appreciated all the input received by NGOs. Environment is one of the areas where your response to the consultation made a real difference in our way of thinking'

BOND members said:

'The White Paper reaffirms the commitments on aid effectiveness and highlights the importance of the Paris Declaration. Yet, the White Paper says nothing on post-2010 when the Paris Declaration expires'

'We welcome the commitments in the White Paper on social protection but in the last White Paper social protection was a key issue. Now it is short-term and contracted out to multilaterals. We would like DFID to commit to long-term social protection monitored by civil society'

'The elements on tax and tax dodging in the White Paper are very welcomed but what is the way to go to deliver on this? The September G20 meeting is a key moment that DFID needs to engage in'

'A lot of issues in the White Paper do concern other departments as well, for instance in the approach on corruption or asset recovery. Will other government departments also work to stop money being laundered through UK companies? UK companies have a role in fuelling conflict, for example in DRC, undoing DFID's good work on conflict issues'

'We welcome the commitments on maternal health and water and sanitation but are you not at risk of supporting a lot of vertical initiatives instead of promoting sustainable health systems in general?'



Anna Feuchtwang, Chair of BOND, and Douglas Alexander at the 15 July meeting

Negotiations ahead of the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December aim to pave the way for a strong, fair and science-based climate deal. Sara Shaw outlines the progress made so far.

NEGOTIATING CHANGE

This year is a critical one for climate change. Unless governments agree a strong, fair and science-based climate deal at Copenhagen in December, the future for poor people and the planet looks bleak.

The imperative for agreeing a deal by the end of 2009 is that it is crucial to have something in place for when current Kyoto targets end in 2012 and it will take time for it to be ratified by countries.

It is vital, however, to note the words 'strong, fair and science-based' – a weak, unscientific deal that puts the burden of action on poor people would not be acceptable, and many believe this would be a worse outcome than a delay in agreeing a deal, as it risks locking in bad policies for years to come.

Focus of the negotiations

Negotiations are focused on new targets for developed countries who are part of the Kyoto Protocol, mitigation action by the US (NGOs believe this must be targets of the same legal nature as Kyoto parties), nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing countries – supported by finance, technology and capacity building from developed countries, reducing emissions from deforestation, action and finance for adaptation particularly in the most vulnerable countries, raising and distributing finance for developing countries, and the transfer of technology. It is a highly complex and politicised process.

Many members of BOND are influencing the climate negotiations through the eight weeks of sessions this year ahead of COP15 in Copenhagen, as well as in-between sessions back in the UK. Since last October, BOND members, together with colleagues from other likeminded organisations, have worked together as a subgroup of the BOND Development and Environment Group (DEG) to increase strategic coordination and lobbying in the UK. This has contributed to some notable advances in UK policy development, for example, the June announcement by Gordon Brown on climate finance.

More ambition is needed

But there is a long way to go to get an even remotely satisfactory outcome from Copenhagen. At the last session of climate talks in Bonn in June there was a real lack of ambition and political will from developed countries. At the moment, industrialised countries are offering woefully low targets for 2020, ranging from 3% to 20% cuts on 1990 levels (compared to the at least 40% cuts the science tells us are needed), and little in the way of finance to help developing countries reduce their emissions and adapt to climate change.

New targets for developed countries

Many DEG members believe developed countries should take on targets of at least 40% by 2020 with the vast majority of cuts achieved domestically, and that developed countries should commit to new public finance from innovative sources. This is needed to

help poor communities adapt to the impacts of climate change, to protect forests, and to help developing countries reduce their emissions and develop sustainably.

A Copenhagen deal based on current developed country positions would be a total disaster for poor people. NGOs must do all they can to ensure that, regardless of whether current positions are genuine views or simply posturing, developed countries ramp up what they are prepared to offer.

The UK Government is, in many respects, progressive compared to some other developed countries, but there is much work to be done to continue to push them to increase their ambition, and to take a leadership role in the talks.

The people living in the poorest communities in the world tell us of the need for urgent action. Whether they are agriculturalists and pastoralists struggling to adapt farming practices to changing climates, or whole communities affected by natural disasters brought on by unprecedented weather conditions, the message is the same: don't make the poorest countries pay the price.

Sara Shaw is a Climate Policy Officer at Tearfund, and coordinates the BOND Development and Environment Group subgroup on International Climate Negotiations. To join this subgroup please email: sara.shaw@tearfund.org

More information about the BOND Development and Environment Group can be found on the members' area of the website: www.bond.org.uk

Developing countries are using clean technologies in new and creative ways, writes **Tariq Khokhar**, and we would be wise to take notice.



©Camfed

There are two billion people in the world with no access to electricity. This 'energy poverty' is a barrier to improving health, education and productive economic activity.

In the developing world, clean technologies succeed most where there is no alternative; in the developed world they succeed with the right regulatory and economic environment. Ultimately, when it comes to reducing carbon dioxide emissions, we've already got the technology we need to make an impact. The question is, why aren't we using it?

Aptivate recently worked with Camfed to use technology from Aleutia to design a 17-seat computer centre with a server, projector and printer for use in rural north Zambia. Camfed work to educate and empower girls and young women; guided by facilitators from Aptivate, four recent school leavers with no prior IT experience installed, maintain and now support hundreds of others using these computers.

This centre requires less power than a kitchen kettle.

The setup in a typical British school (not counting the buildings) uses at least 5 times as much power for similar functionality. Why is this? Most users only take advantage of a fraction of the computing capacity a standard machine provides. Aleutia recognised this and build machines that have the right capacity for user's needs: the result is small, rugged, low-power computers that can work silently with no moving parts (spinning disks and fans). They take dust, heat and intermittent power in their stride and are sold across the

'Solar LED lanterns provide clean, affordable lighting for the rural poor'

developing world. Why don't all our schools and offices run on low power computers?

The British public sector does no better than schools – the 'Greening ICT Strategy' calls for government IT to be carbon neutral by 2012. A Global Action Plan report published in July 2009 found that 60% of IT managers were not even aware of this target. In the UK, IT can easily represent one quarter of an organisation's energy use. How many charities and NGOs have considered a 'green IT' strategy?

In Malawi, Solar Aid are introducing solar LED lanterns to provide clean, affordable lighting to the rural poor. These cost less than traditional lamps that use kerosine – a toxic substance linked to respiratory disease when burned indoors. It's cheap, clean and provides a high quality light source. Why don't we find solar LED lighting in the UK?

The same Global Action Plan report found that only '20% of responding ICT departments pay for some or all of their organisations energy bills for which their ICT is responsible. This

does not help to incentivise the introduction of energy efficient technologies'. How would people in your organisation work if they had a fixed energy budget for the year? Does it all just come down to incentives?

Inertia has a lot to do with it too. Working from a blank slate is easier – be it a new office in the UK or a community in rural Africa. Starting from a weak position may also be an advantage; I'm writing this article in Abuja where there haven't been any working traffic signals for months due to power issues. I expect a proposal for solar-powered LED traffic lights would be very welcome.

When you're starting with an office or a home that's already 'working fine', what will make you consider clean technologies? In the developing world there seems to be necessity, opportunity and awareness of the immediate benefits clean technology can bring. Perhaps it will be the sudden jump in a gas or electricity bill that puts the issue on people's radars in the UK, but why wait? Let's start talking to our buildings and IT people now, make informed choices in our personal lives and remember that there are young women in rural Zambia already leading the way.

Tariq Khokhar is Chief Development Officer at Aptivate.

Aptivate is an NGO and not-for-profit organisation that provides IT services for international development. We work on both grant funded projects and direct partnerships with NGOs.

For more information: www.apptivate.org

Adaptation must build on and expand disaster risk reduction if vulnerability to climate change is to be reduced, argues **Richard Weaver**.

Linking adaptation and disaster risk reduction

If we're going to avoid a climate catastrophe at Copenhagen this year¹, we must recognise that climate change is an environmental and social justice issue that cannot be addressed in isolation.

The world's poorest and most vulnerable communities are already experiencing its impacts on their lives, livelihoods and food security, and further potentially devastating impacts are already inevitable. The survival of these communities depends directly on the will of other communities to take action – and particularly the political will of developed countries.

Climate change is increasing disaster risk

Global climate change is increasing the risk of floods, droughts and severe storms². Over the last two decades (1988-2007), 76% of all disaster events were hydrological, meteorological or climatological in nature. They accounted for approximately 45% of the deaths and 80% of the economic losses caused by natural hazards³. Climate change is likely to increase these numbers, and the scale of weather-related disasters. With 94% of disaster-related deaths occurring in



©Severine Flores/Tearfund

Flooding hits the poorest communities hard

developing countries and disproportionately affecting women and children, the outlook for poor people is bleak.

The Copenhagen agreement must seek to reduce these communities' vulnerability and build their resilience to the impacts of climate change. The disaster risk management community has a long history of dealing with floods, droughts and storms, and a wealth of experience relevant to adaptation. Clearly, the climate change and disaster management communities⁴ should work together in addressing these issues.

Building on and expanding disaster risk reduction

The case for drawing on the experience, tools and methodologies of the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) community in discussions on adaptation to climate change has been made strongly in the UNFCCC climate change talks. DRR is a preventative approach to disaster management that includes the technical, social and economic actions used to reduce direct, indirect and intangible disaster losses. These discussions have also highlighted the importance of implementing the priorities of the Hyogo Framework for Action in responding to the needs of poor and vulnerable communities already experiencing the impacts of climate change.

This Framework, agreed by 168 governments in 2005, contains a set of goals, activities and policy measures related to DRR which are to be achieved by 2015. The Framework provides guidance that should be used for adaptation. Much good work has been done on DRR that needs to be scaled up. The Adaptation Framework, under the Copenhagen agreement, should build on existing experience and lessons learnt from the Hyogo Framework for Action, when planning and delivering national and local adaptation action.⁵ The adaptation framework should ensure that substantial and additional human and financial resources are available and consistent with the priorities of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

'Often, climate adaptation and DRR strategies are not currently sufficiently integrated'

Disaster risk reduction and adaptation

DRR and climate change adaptation have similar aims and mutual benefits⁶. If climate change adaptation policies and measures are to be efficient and effective, they must build on and expand existing DRR efforts, and if DRR approaches are to be sustainable, they must account for the impact of climate change. For both adaptation and DRR, poverty reduction and sustainable natural resource management are essential components of reducing vulnerability to hazards and climate change. So, both adaptation and DRR should be integrated into long term national development plans.

But the reality is very different.

Often, climate adaptation and DRR strategies are not currently sufficiently integrated, and more coordination between ministries, platforms, policies and processes at the national and sub-national level is required.

The complexity of the international system, and the disconnect that often exists between the poverty reduction, DRR and climate change communities, means that we have a lot of work to do if we're to develop effective ways to communicate.

We should collaborate with each other to develop a comprehensive risk management approach to development at local, national, regional and international levels. At Tearfund, we are seeking to do this as an organisation, through our support to partners and programmes in the developing world, and through our advocacy work.



©Jim Loring/Tearfund

Droughts make growing crops extremely difficult

Priority actions

For the more than 1 billion people living in the 100 most vulnerable countries⁷ – who are the least responsible for causing climate change – massively scaled-up action on adaptation is key to the success of the Copenhagen agreement⁸. In solidarity with these people, Tearfund believes that adaptation must remain a top-level priority in international negotiations for a post-2012 deal. A global Adaptation Framework under the UNFCCC must be agreed to strengthen international activities and commitments to deal with impacts of climate change in developing countries. This framework should massively increase support to vulnerable developing countries to adapt to climate change, reduce their vulnerability and build resilience to the now unavoidable impacts of climate change.

There will be no fair global deal if developed countries do not live up to their responsibilities to deliver sufficient and

‘Action at the local level is crucial to improve resilience against the adverse impacts of climate change’

predictable long-term adaptation financing, which must be additional to existing ODA commitments. In addition all those involved in the climate change negotiations should seek to ensure that language in the negotiating text on adaptation includes a strong recognition of the key role of risk reduction and preventive action.

Action at the local level is crucial to improve resilience against the adverse impacts of climate change, but we won't see this without resources for both local government and civil society. There are resources at the local level in terms of indigenous knowledge and capacity, so local level partnerships should be incentivised to increase access to resources. In addition, civil society organisations and community-based institutions can play an important role in the implementation and monitoring of adaptation at the national and local level.

The recent views from the Frontline report demonstrates the value of a participatory monitoring process in creating dialogue and relationship building between different local stakeholders, as well as highlighting the strategic role civil society can play in independently and systematically monitoring progress towards building local resilience. Civil society and community-based institutions should be involved in an independent local level monitoring framework as part of the adaptation framework. In this context, significant upfront capacity-building support will be vital to enhance the ability of civil society and local poor communities to access, use and monitor adaptation funding.

Developed country governments must play a leading role advocating for the needs and priorities of the world's poorest people. Tearfund argues that special attention must be given to the particular needs of the poorest and most vulnerable communities in adapting to the unavoidable consequences of climate change. Their perspectives must be incorporated fully into the response to climate change.

Richard Weaver is Senior Policy Adviser - Climate Change and Disasters at Tearfund.
 Email: richard.weaver@tearfund.org
 Website: www.tearfund.org

¹ Weaver R (2009) *What the world is waiting for: action on adaptation*. Tearfund
² In its Fourth Assessment Report, the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) projects that rising global temperature will cause increasing drought in mid-latitudes and semi-arid low latitudes. It will also leave hundreds of millions of people exposed to increased water stress, cause increased damage from storms and leave millions more people experiencing coastal flooding each year.
³ ISDR (2009) *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction*. United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland.
⁴ i.e. policy makers, experts, academics and practitioners
⁵ Climate Action Network International (2009) *An adaptation action framework of the Copenhagen agreement*. Submission to the UNFCCC secretariat, 24 April, 2009
⁶ Venton P and La Trobe S (2008) *Linking disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation*. Tearfund
⁷ *Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States and vulnerable countries in the Africa Group*
⁸ *The Copenhagen agreement is the term used here to encompass the international post-2012 climate change framework and a package of measures to implement the action needed between now and the implementation of this framework, all of which must be agreed at COP 15 in Copenhagen in December 2009.*

If the Copenhagen climate change summit in December is to ensure key climate targets are met, policy work and campaigning ahead of this meeting will be crucial, explains **Katherine Watts**.

ROAD TO Copenhagen

The current provisions of the Kyoto Protocol on climate change come to a close at the end of 2012, and negotiations are ongoing on regarding future actions to combat climate change. A complicating factor in reaching agreement is that the US is not a party to the Kyoto Protocol. A second track of negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) itself provides a place where US actions, and those of developing countries – and the support needed to make them possible – can be negotiated. Other items on the agenda are adaptation, technology and finance.

After the ten weeks of UNFCCC negotiations this year, both tracks are expected to culminate in a package of measures in Copenhagen. Unless they are a package, it is unlikely that there will be an agreed outcome.

The Copenhagen outcome will be a complex balance, but as far as NGOs are concerned, certain elements are critical:

- **Mitigation** – reductions must be consistent with the 2°C goal and with a scientifically-defined global carbon budget. Developed countries together must agree to reduce emissions by 40% on 1990 levels by 2020. Developing nations as a group will need to be supported to reduce their emissions consistent with the global carbon budget.
- **Adaptation** – massive flows of secure and predictable funding delivered through well-governed and effective funding mechanisms are needed. Developed countries have so far proposed weak emission targets that would give rise to drastic impacts – meaning that insurance set-ups and/or compensation mechanisms will be essential components of the deal.
- **Financing** – developed countries must agree measures to provide US\$160 billion per year by 2020 to developing countries for adaptation and low carbon development, through measures additional to those counting towards developed country targets. A proposal to auction carbon allowances could deliver large-scale climate finance and could be combined with measures to raise finance from international aviation and shipping emissions or fuels.
- **Technology** – five-year targeted Technology Action Programs should be agreed, to set technology objectives, aiming to increase cooperation on innovation. A substantial increase in spending on research will be necessary.
- **Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation** – a framework needs to be created that ensures programs deliver robust and monitorable carbon benefits, provides the funding and policy support needed; and promotes co-benefits, including biodiversity conservation and access to benefits by local and indigenous communities.
- **Bunkers** – to be comprehensive, the deal must include emissions from international aviation and shipping for the first time.
- **Institutions and structures** – the Copenhagen deal must be in the form of a legally binding treaty, maintaining the 5-year commitment period system. New institutions will be necessary to manage implementation of mitigation, technology and finance components. An enhanced Adaptation Fund Board is also needed. In addition, a carbon market clearing house will be needed to manage the carbon market mechanisms.



NGOs are coordinating on both policy work and on more-public-facing campaigns through new and existing global civil society platforms, including Stop Climate Chaos, Climate Action Network (CAN), Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) and the Global Campaign for Climate Action, using the Copenhagen summit and other international meetings as focal points. Time is running out and governments cannot miss the opportunity provided by the Copenhagen summit to take the necessary action to combat climate change.

Written by Katherine Watts, International Climate Change Policy Officer at WWF.

Get involved

There will be two mass marches on Saturday 5 December 2009, in London and in Glasgow, to coincide with the climate summit in Copenhagen.

Tens of thousands of people will demonstrate for the UK Government to help deliver a fair global deal that keeps global warming under 2°C , and protects the poorest and most vulnerable people.

Find out how your organisation can take action: www.stopclimatechaos.org

On 16-18 October people across the world will seek to persuade politicians of the urgent need to tackle global poverty and climate change in a global mass lobby of politicians.

Stand up and join 'The Great Persuasion'

For the last three years, people in the UK have joined with others across the globe around World Day for the Eradication of Poverty (17 October 2009) to 'Stand Up' against poverty, coordinated by the Global Call to Action Against Poverty. Last year, 116 million people worldwide took part, including 50,000 in the UK.

In 2009, global 'Stand Up' will put direct pressure on parliamentary candidates, to take action to keep temperatures below 2°C, because to not do so will deepen poverty and reverse the limited progress towards the MDGs. This works especially well in the UK as a General Election is predicted for spring 2010.

In the UK, organisations have adopted the identity 'The Great Persuasion'. Activists will visit their candidates, in their constituencies, preferably in person, and hand over a copy of the BOND General Election Manifesto; a list of international development related pledges that UK NGOs together are asking all of the UK political parties to commit to.

All of the people participating in Stand Up and Take Action across the world will be counted, and the numbers presented to the Copenhagen Climate Conference in December and the MDGs review conference in September 2010 (TBC).

BOND is supporting participating organisations including Oxfam, Jubilee Debt Campaign, CAFOD, Christian Concern for One World, TUC, Jewish Social Action, Christian Aid, World Vision, Tearfund, Quaker Peace and Social Witness and Micah Challenge.

If you can put information about this in your supporter communications, contact known activists to get them to take part, or encourage staff at your organisation to visit their candidates, please contact Tim Gee, BOND Campaigns Communications Officer: tgee@bond.org.uk



BOND learning and training

BOND provides a range of learning and training services for NGOs working in international development. We cover the issues that matter to NGOs, sharing practical, real world knowledge through a range of learning methods.

Those courses relevant to those working in advocacy and campaigning include:

Introduction to advocacy
16 September
10 December

EU corridors of power
24-25 September

UK corridors of power
9-10 November

For full details of all our training courses: www.bond.org.uk/learn

Collective campaigning events Autumn/winter 2009

International Development Campaigning Forum

17 September 2009, London
An event for BOND members, partner networks and activist multipliers to finalise collective campaign plans for 2010.

Contact Tim Gee: tgee@bond.org.uk

World Day for the Eradication of Poverty

16-18 October 2009
Local lobby of election candidates

Contact Tim Gee: tgee@bond.org.uk

'Alternative 20 counter conferences'

6-7 November 2009
London and Scotland
Showcase of economic justice experts to contrast to the G20 finance ministers

For London, contact Peter Chowla:
pchowla@brettonwoodsproject.org

For Scotland, contact David Milway:
david@jubileescotland.org.uk



5 December 2009

Mass marches in London and Glasgow calling for an ambitious, fair and binding climate deal at Copenhagen

For London, contact Kezia Lavan:
kezia@stopclimatechaos.org

For Scotland, contact Gail Wilson:
gail@stopclimatechaosscotland.org

Campaigning Forum

Kick start the international development election campaign

On Thursday 17 September, BOND members, partners and key multipliers will meet to kick start the UK General Election campaign for international development.

The Forum will include: briefings from the sector's experts on every aspect of the BOND manifesto, a chance to input into the campaigning strategy; meetings of the teams who will deliver each strand of the campaign and the nomination and selection of delegates to the election campaign delivery team.

As the only time when everyone working on the campaign will be together in one place, the Campaigning Forum is unmissable if your organisation is taking action at the time of the UK General Election.

Entry is free of charge, and includes lunch, but is restricted to representatives of organisations actively considering taking action as part of the campaign.

Please contact Tim Gee, BOND Campaigns Communications Officer, to book your place: tgee@bond.org.uk or 020 7520 0253.

Climate change is real and it's happening now. WWF provides an insight into how ecosystem-based adaptation might hold the key to reducing vulnerability to the effects of climate change.



ADAPTING TO CHANGE

Climate change is already contributing to severe direct impacts including glacial retreat, ocean acidification, severe floods and hurricanes, drought, forest fires, and sea level rise. Variations in temperature and rainfall patterns are leading to serious synergistic effects including the rapid spread of diseases such as malaria and dengue fever and the encroachment of invasive species.

Scientists warn that this century, unless we take radical action we are in danger of reaching irreversible tipping points. These include permafrost melt releasing tonnes of global warming methane into the atmosphere; destabilisation of the ocean circulation systems, and dieback of the Amazon rainforest. At a 2°C rise in global temperature, 20-30% of all species could be lost, and at 3°C few ecosystems will be able to adapt.

Livelihoods rely on natural resources

Approximately 70% of the world's poor are directly dependent upon natural resources for their livelihoods. Recognition of the role ecosystems play in sustainable development, disaster risk reduction and increasing resilience to climate change is therefore of fundamental importance to effective adaptation strategies. Adaptation approaches need to be holistic, recognising the links between ecosystems, livelihoods and climate change, and identifying options which help to deliver 'no regret' solutions, avoiding the possibility of maladaptation.

Natural barriers reduce risk

Natural 'infrastructure' such as mangroves, coral reefs and forestry are cost-effective and locally appropriate means which provide a natural barrier to storm surges and rising sea levels, for example, WWF has been working on a mangrove restoration project in Belize to improve shoreline protection. This is fundamental to effective adaptation in the region because as biodiversity is lost, options for change are diminished and people become increasingly vulnerable. This strategy is being implemented in combination with activities to:

- Increase communities' understanding of the impact of climate change and how this affects their livelihoods
- Monitor effects of climate change and other related pressures on the reefs



Mangrove restoration in Belize

- Improve local coastline development plans to incorporate responses to climate risks
- Decrease other pressures on the natural environment including reducing unsustainable coastal development and unsustainable fishing practices

WWF is also working in the Sunderbans Delta, the largest mangrove ecosystem in the world. This fragile ecosystem and the resident communities are suffering from increasing coastal erosion and salinity as a result of rising sea levels and cyclones. Adaptation responses include testing saline-resilient paddy varieties, sustainable aquaculture, and establishing a community based climate change centre which provides an electronic early warning system, disaster preparedness kits, and provides knowledge and skills for adapting to climate impacts.

Inland ecosystem-based adaptation

Ecosystem-based adaptation is equally important inland where, for instance, rainforests stabilise soils, protecting against lethal landslides after storms. They also stabilise river flows, generate rain and protect against droughts. Decreasing the pressures from other drivers, such as deforestation, is therefore an important component of both increasing resilience to climate change impacts, as well as preventing further CO2 emissions.

Increasing the resilience of ecosystems to extreme climatic events is often also the most cost effective way of reducing vulnerability. A recent study by WRI in partnership with WWF in Belize showed the value of mangroves and related fisheries, tourism, and shoreline protection in Belize is estimated to be \$174m-\$249m a year. Additionally, a project by the Red Cross Association in Vietnam replanting mangroves has saved an estimated \$7m in dyke maintenance from cyclone damage.

Planning for the future

Responding to current climate change impacts, and planning for the future is a huge challenge which will require political will, and new partnerships and collaboration between communities, NGOs, research organisations and policy decision-makers at all levels. Resilient ecosystems and biodiversity are essential to the achievement of the MDGs, and due to globalisation and interdependence – essential for us all.

Written by Beth Marshall, Climate Change Adaptation Officer at WWF.
For more information: www.wwf.org.uk

¹ Global Humanitarian Forum, Human Impacts Report, 'Climate Change: The Anatomy of A Silent Crisis', 2009

What's on offer

books for NGOs

The Life You Can Save: Acting Now To End World Poverty

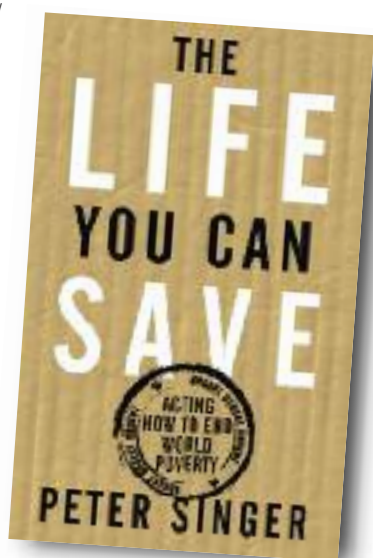
Peter Singer
Pan Macmillan, 2009

Australian philosopher Peter Singer's very readable new book follows his more famous work on animal rights and vegetarianism. Using the straightforward example that anyone passing a drowning child would attempt to save it, he makes the direct moral comparison that we should have the same reaction to saving the lives of children (and adults) living in extreme poverty in the global South by giving up some of our income to prevent more unnecessary deaths from preventable ills.

My main issue with this position is that it assumes throwing more money at the South is what is required to 'solve' the problem of poverty. If it was that simple then the world might be in a somewhat better condition than it currently is. I would also echo William Easterly's concern that while it is generally clear how one goes about saving a drowning child, it is far less obvious how we should go about tackling the complex, entrenched and power-related issues that make up the web of poverty problems.

That said, Singer offers plenty of strong arguments for more public engagement in the problems of the South, particularly for individuals to sacrifice a small proportion of their comfortable lifestyles to donate to charities working in developing countries.

Statements such as 'if you are paying for something to drink when safe drinking water comes out of the tap, you have money to spend on things you don't really need' should provide a stark wake up call to the brutal inequalities in our society. However, will people who could perhaps do with that kind of jolt ever read this book? Probably not. But as a nudge to those who rarely think about how privileged their life is in comparison to the poor, voiceless and dispossessed, *The Life You Can Save* might be just the thing to slip into their holiday reading pile.



The Data Report 2009: Monitoring the G8 Promise to Africa

ONE International



The 2009 DATA Report is ONE International's fourth annual report analysing the G8's progress towards their commitments to developing countries, made at the 2005 Gleneagles Summit. The report deliberately does not include chapters on governance and security or commitments by African leaders to avoid duplicating the work undertaken by partners in Africa and related civil society efforts to hold African governments accountable.

The report divides the G8 nations into three broad categories:

- Those countries meeting or beating modest targets; US, Japan and Canada all fall into this category
- Those striving to meet big commitments; Germany and the UK, despite being off track to meet their Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) to sub-Saharan Africa, are praised for making serious progress against their ambitious commitments. The recent UK budget committed to an increase in global ODA to 0.62%, one of the highest in the EU
- Those countries that are failing to deliver against their commitments; including France and Italy whose cuts to aid budgets in 2008 are threatening to cause the G8 as a whole to default

The report concludes that, despite some encouraging progress from individual nations, as a group the G8 have performed poorly. By the end of 2008 the group collectively had only delivered one-third of the ODA increases promised by 2010; only \$7 billion of the \$21.5 billion promised. The blame for this lies largely with France and Italy. ONE urges citizens to put pressure on the G8 to redouble their efforts to get as close to the promises made as possible.

Written by Georgia Newsam, BOND Advocacy Administrator

If you feel inspired and would like to write a book review, please contact Jemma Ashman, Communications and Marketing Officer: jashman@bond.org.uk

Written by Joni Hillman, BOND Donor Advocacy Officer.
Peter Singer's website: www.thelifeyoucansave.com
William Easterly in the Wall Street Journal: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123621201818134757.html#articleTabs%3Darticle>

The BOND Conflict Policy Group outline the Comprehensive Approach that the UK Government is taking to address conflict and post conflict issues.



Children and adults battle against winds as they collect drinking water for their families in a refugee camp in Afghanistan

Stabilisation and the Comprehensive Approach

The Comprehensive Approach describes Ministry of Defence, DFID and Foreign and Commonwealth Office work in the conflict or post conflict settings in which they are involved.

The aim of this cross-government work is to ensure collaboration and close coordination of HMG objectives, strategies, and activities in the military, development, and diplomatic spheres. The work of the Stabilisation Unit helps to implement this. The work of the MOD within the Comprehensive Approach uses the language of 'civil effects' – activities carried out with and for the civilian population and civil society that are in line with the Commanders' objectives for the mission. These include Quick Impact Projects; 'hearts and minds' activities for consent winning, reconstruction of infrastructure and capacity building of government ministries including security sector reform.

This approach has been developed in response to the dynamic environment of Afghanistan. As the international militaries involved in the ISAF mission and the British military in Helmand in particular, grapple with the drawn out insurgency in Afghanistan there is an

increasing acceptance that military power alone will not bring the country to the desired level of stability and peace. In light of this they are increasingly turning to what are called 'civil effects' to help to secure mission success. These 'civil effects' are part of the Comprehensive Approach.

The challenges of the Comprehensive Approach: a humanitarian perspective

It is imperative that the proponents of the Comprehensive Approach do not see NGOs as 'force multipliers' of Government strategy in conflict areas. The aims of the British Government are not necessarily in line with the humanitarian objectives of the NGOs.

Humanitarian agencies delivering services in areas of conflict like Afghanistan must take care not to be perceived as parties to the conflict, or to be collaborating with military forces. If NGO work is publicly claimed by a government party to the conflict as a sign of stabilisation and victory, or as a 'force multiplier', the impartial nature of the NGO comes into question and the odds increase that the NGO will come under attack and the benefits of its work will be reduced or lost.

Operational security

International militaries operate a sequence of activity termed 'Take, Hold and Develop' or 'Build' which describes the process of taking control of a location, holding or stabilising it and then providing security enough for others to come in and develop it, thereby consolidating the peace. The ability or willingness of NGOs to move swiftly into areas considered 'stabilised' or 'held' but in which violence continues to affect civilians cannot be assumed by those working for stabilisation through the Comprehensive Approach.

As most NGOs do not arm themselves, their perceptions of security may be very different from personnel who travel armed or under armed escort. Aside from the issues relating to levels of association with government or military policy, there are cases where NGOs have witnessed the withdrawal of military forces from areas once considered held and the return of those areas to insurgent control. In such cases they may rightly hesitate to engage in areas newly declared to be taken and held.

It is very hard to move from a very military led set of stabilisation activities to activities that will be connected to longer term development gains. This is not just because such activities are not appropriate with peace time activities but also that those carrying them out will be very different and their approaches with them. There needs to be close analysis of how such activities can be tied to longer term development and be sustainably carried out by the people who will remain in the country for a longer time than UK Government staff.



The BOND Conflict Policy Group focuses on conflict and security-related issues of relevance to development and humanitarian action, seeking to jointly influence policy processes relating to conflict issues with the UK and EU and improving learning and information sharing amongst its members.

For more information:
Log into the members area and go to the 'Conflict Policy Group' page:
www.bond.org.uk

Group Spotlight

The BOND Organisational Learning Group not only focuses on promoting organisational learning within the sector, but applies principles of learning to its own way of working. As part of this, the group organises two learning exchanges each year to explore issues more deeply and share experiences. At our most recent learning exchange in June 2009, the group focused on effective virtual network facilitation.

During the meeting, the group identified some major challenges to effective virtual network facilitation:

- Managing the expectations of participants
- Having the time and support resources available to moderate and participate in network communications effectively
- Lack of participants' experience and/or comfort with technology-driven communications in place of face-to-face interactions
- The purpose and benefit of network participation may be unclear to participants
- Building rapport/relationships is challenging when people don't meet face to face

Some of these issues were explored in more detail several elements that are necessary for effectively facilitating virtual networks were identified:

- It takes time to establish a network; it needs to be viewed as a process
- Meetings and reflective learning sessions could be shared with the wider organisation
- Vibrant networks need to be an institutional priority
- Participation in networks need to be integral to job and not 'in addition to'
- For networks to function well, it requires clear mandate, governance, clear focus/flexibility and clear activities

The following questions arose from the session and warrant further discussion:

- How do we understand how people are using the network? Is their primary purpose to find information? Or could they be interested in contributing with the right moderation?
- How can networks be effectively utilised to develop policies and strategies?
- How can social learning be made directly relevant to participants' job objectives?

To find out more or to engage in future learning exchanges, please join the Organisational Learning Group via the BOND website: www.bond.org.uk

In addition to virtual network facilitation, we have sub-groups on technology, donor learning and mainstreaming organisational learning.



Upcoming BOND groups meetings

Governance Group

24 August, 1.00pm - 5.00pm

Quality Group

9 September, 1.30pm - 5.00pm

Funding Working Group

11 September, 10.00am - 1.00pm

EC Funding Group

11 September, 2.00pm - 5.00pm

Organisational Learning Group

22 September, 1.00pm - 4.00pm

Please register for these meetings on the members' area of the BOND website.

Sign in is required: www.bond.org.uk

BOND Quality Group host logframe debate

Logframes are the most commonly used tool by NGOs and donors to manage development projects. But opinion is sharply split as to whether they are the cause of deep frustrations, or the solution. BOND Quality Group hosted a debate on 11 June on whether the logframe is the right tool for managing most NGO projects.

Peter Kerby (Acting Head of the Civil Society Department, DFID) and Claire Thomas (Deputy Director, Minority Rights Group) spoke in favour of the motion, and Rick Davies (Independent, MandE News) and Robert Chambers (IDS) spoke against.

'They encourage staff to think clearly about the links between activities and results and focus attention on impact rather than day-to-day activities', was one of the arguments in favour of logframes.

Reductionism, however, seemed to be a core argument against it, as Robert Chambers said, 'Complex linkages between activities and factors are left out. Indicators tend to be overly simple. The complexities of poor people's lives cannot be reduced to a single core problem'.

There was a lively debate, with strong feelings from both sides. The meeting discussed whether logframes provide a good enough description of reality to guide work.

To find out more about the debate and the discussion in favour and against logframes visit: www.quality.bond.org.uk/index.php?title=Logframe_debate

BOND Groups

If you are a BOND member, joining a BOND group is an excellent way to work with other members on the issues that matter to you.

You can find out more about the groups on the BOND website. To join a group, log into the members' area and follow the instructions.

More information about the BOND groups, including registering online for meetings and taking part in discussion forums, is on the members area of the website. Members must sign in: www.bond.org.uk

A guide to the responsibilities of UK NGOs and their directors and trustees towards their workers who are sent to hazardous locations.

Into the danger zone



Question:

Our organisation sends people to work in dangerous areas of the world. What responsibility does our organisation and its Directors/Trustees have to them? Does it change depending on whether they are employees, contractors or volunteers?

Answer:

BOND members and other UK NGOs regularly send personnel to work abroad, often to dangerous parts of the world. These workers can on occasion be exposed or even targeted, whilst in the course of their work, to risks to their personal security associated with endemic crime or civil or political unrest. This note provides an analysis of the responsibilities of NGOs and their directors/trustees to their workers, provides some practical guidance on how these responsibilities can be met and touches on the consequences of not fulfilling these responsibilities.

Responsibilities of an NGO to its workers

UK NGOs (like other employers) are bound by a general common law 'duty of care' which makes them responsible for doing everything reasonable to protect their workers from harm. This duty applies to employees, volunteers or contractors regardless of whether such workers are paid or unpaid. It is also relevant for workers based in the UK and abroad.

In addition to common law responsibilities, NGOs may have obligations to their workers imposed by statute. Whilst UK health and safety legislation is not directly applicable to workers based overseas, NGOs will be responsible for adhering to any local safety legislative requirements in force in the relevant jurisdiction and any relevant collective agreements.

Guidance on fulfilling responsibilities

Where NGOs send workers into potentially hazardous locations, their duty of care could be fulfilled by the directors/trustees of the NGO taking steps including the following:

1. Carrying out a risk assessment of the role to be undertaken by workers and the region in which they will be working, which could involve, for example, analysing the political situation, economic conditions and level of social threat
2. Developing a comprehensive risk mitigation strategy which could include having an emergency contingency plan in place (covering, for example, a kidnap scenario or evacuation strategy), being aware of the medical and diplomatic support already available in the region and putting in place adequate employer's liability and personal accident insurance policies. With such insurance policies it is important to ensure that the policy not only covers the relevant country but also the actual workers involved (including volunteers). It is important that workers are fully briefed on the content of this risk mitigation strategy
3. Selecting appropriate individuals who will be most capable of carrying out the assignment in the relevant location
4. Briefing workers so they are fully aware of the dangers they might face, including information on any previous incidents in the region, and providing adequate training to enable them to deal with such dangers
5. Providing suitable accommodation and equipment relevant for the country concerned – which could range from first aid kits and malaria nets to body armour

Consequences

Failure by an NGO to comply with its duty of care to its workers and any legislative requirements could result, not only increased risk to its workers, adverse publicity and censure from families of workers and other pressure groups, but also in action being taken against them through the courts. Depending on the legal form of the NGO, trustees could also find themselves with the potential risk of personal liability in such situations

Written by Bagyasree Nambron, Associate, and Rachel Speight, Partner, at Mayer Brown International LLP, a Legal Partner of A4ID. This publication provides general information and comments on the subject matter covered and are not a comprehensive treatment of the subject. It is not intended to provide legal advice, and readers should not rely on it but seek specific legal advice before taking any action with respect to the matters discussed.

¹ This note is a guide to English law and should not be a substitute for specific legal advice on English law and/or local law.

Advocates for International Development (A4ID), a BOND member, facilitates the provision of free legal advice to development organisations.

Further details can be found at www.a4id.org.org



Advocates for International Development

Pressure mounts for compulsory lobbying regulation to combat corruption



CORRUPTION
vaccine

Some progress is being made on increasing transparency in the lobbying of ministers and civil servants, following an inquiry by the Public Administration Select Committee which produced its report in January. The inquiry followed public concern over the secrecy surrounding lobbying by private companies and special interest groups, which currently direct considerable resources into influencing decision-making, yet are not required to publish information about their activities.

The fight against corruption and for good governance is a key element in building sustainable development. The recently launched BOND Governance Group recognises the crucial role of good governance in poverty eradication and for many of our members it is an increasing focus of their work. It is imperative that Northern governments get their own houses in order, and improving lobbying transparency would contribute to this.

Public perceptions of corruption in the British Parliament, political parties and other sectors are currently so high in fact that BOND member Transparency International UK is planning its first in-depth domestic study of this problem.

The Committee report has recommended that a mandatory register be set up of all lobbyists. It would include the names of lobbyists and the organisations hiring or employing them, including NGOs and campaign groups, the names of clients of lobbying consultancies, and diary records and minutes of meetings between lobbyists and decision-makers.

Instead however, lobbying consultancies have proposed a self-regulation scheme, administered by an umbrella of current membership associations. BOND, and several of our members, as well as the Alliance for Lobbying Transparency, submitted responses to this proposal arguing that only statutory regulation, overseen by an independent body, would assure the transparency that is needed.

The Government's response to the report is still awaited. NGOs will be keeping up the pressure for action, so look out for any further news from us on how you can get involved.

Meanwhile, at European level, a review of the new voluntary EU lobbyists' register one year on has revealed fundamental flaws, according to transparency campaigners. Less than a quarter of Brussels-based lobbyists have registered and there is not enough information on the issues being lobbied on or how much money is being spent. The Alliance for Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Regulation (ALTER-EU), like its UK counterpart, is calling for the register to be made mandatory, with more stringent information requirements and with an independent public oversight body.

Campaigners have identified many discrepancies on the register. According to Corporate Europe Observatory, for example, British American Tobacco's real lobbying budget could be at least five times higher than the €150,000-€200,000 disclosed.

For more information on lobbying in the EU:
www.corporateeurope.org

Go on a virtual tour of the centres of power and key lobbyists in Brussels: www.eulobbytours.org

Speaking up for civil society in the EU

The EU Civil Society Contact Group (CSCG) represents the views and interests of rights and value based civil society organisations across the EU on major cross-cutting issues. Its objective is to encourage and promote a transparent and structured civil dialogue that is accessible, properly facilitated, inclusive, fair and respectful of the autonomy of NGOs.

The CSCG is made up of eight large rights and value based NGO sectors – culture, environment, education, development, human rights, public health, social and women. They bring together the voices of hundreds of thousands of associations across the EU, linking the national with the European level, BOND's voice is represented by CONCORD, Chair of the group for the next 12 months.

A key concern of the group is to defend the importance of civil society participation in EU policy-making.

So far in 2009, the CSCG has been contributing NGO perspectives on lobbying regulation, EC budget reform and the proposed European Code of Conduct on NGOs' transparency in relation to terrorist financing.

The CSCG is co-organising a civil society fair at the new European Parliament from 6-8 October. MEPs, their assistants and political advisers will have the opportunity to access the knowledge and expertise of civil society actors on the major topical issues they will have to address during the new legislature.

The CSCG is also organising a special briefing in October, targeting primarily civil society, on the state of play of the climate change negotiations ahead of the Copenhagen conference in December.

For more information:
www.act4europe.org

Find out more about our EU work and how you can get involved by clicking on 'Europe' on the BOND website.





UK

DFID evaluation policy

DFID has launched its first ever policy on evaluation, 'Building the evidence to reduce poverty', to strengthen existing evaluation function.

To read the new policy, the three year plan and a summary of the consultation feedback visit the 'Evaluation' section of the DFID website: www.dfid.gov.uk

BOND coordinated a consultation response with the BOND Organisational Learning Group in March 2009, which you can read on the 'Past Consultations' section of the BOND website: www.bond.org.uk

Political Party Conferences 2009

BOND members are organising a series of development events at each of the major political party conferences this autumn. The development spokesperson from each party will be invited to outline their party's agenda for development alongside other interesting speakers.

Green Party Conference

3-6 September 2009, Hove Town Hall

For more information:

www.greenparty.org.uk/conference

Liberal Democrat Party Conference

19-23 September 2009, Bournemouth

For more information:

www.libdems.org.uk/conference

Labour Party Conference

27 September – 1 October 2009, Brighton

For more information:

www.labour.org.uk/annual_conference_2009

Conservative Party Conference

5-8 October 2009, Manchester

For more information:

www.conservatives.com/Get_involved/Conference/Conference_2009

Visit the 'Policy' pages of the BOND website for more information on development activities around the party conferences: www.bond.org.uk/pages/policy_now.html

If you want to get involved in the development events, please contact the BOND Advocacy team: advocacy@bond.org.uk



EU

General Affairs and External Relations Council meeting

16-17 November 2009, Brussels

Sweden is to chair the General Affairs and External Relations Council (GAERC) meeting on 16-17 November in Brussels. At the meeting, EU Development Ministers will finalise the EU position on climate change and development in advance of Copenhagen, and will discuss democracy building in EU's external relations, the impact of the financial crisis on developing countries, Policy Coherence for Development, and the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs).

BOND members can get involved in influencing the conclusions of the GAERC meeting by joining the BOND European Policy Group and the BOND Development and Environment Group who will be involved in lobbying activity ahead of the November GAERC meeting.

To join, go to the members' area on the website: www.bond.org.uk



European Development Days

22-24 October 2009, Stockholm

Thousands of development actors from both governments and civil society will participate to exchange information and ideas about the role of the EU and European governments in international development. Visit the European Development Days website for more information: www.eudevdays.eu/

BOND members wishing to attend the European Development Days with a Southern partner are eligible to apply to BOND for funding of up to £2,500 to cover costs for participating. The deadline for applications is 17 August 2009.

To find out more, contact the BOND Europe team: europe@bond.org.uk



International

G20 Update

G20 countries will meet three times in autumn 2009. Finance Ministers will meet on 4-5 September in London and on 6-7 November in St Andrews. This is in addition to the G20 leader's summit in Pittsburgh on 24-25 September.

Following the discussions which took place at the G8 Summit in Italy in July, the main items on the agenda will be further measures against the economic crisis and the commitments made at the G20 London summit. Due to the meeting taking place only a few months ahead of the climate summit in Copenhagen, climate change will be another important issue to discuss.

Based on the policy demands raised by the Put People First Platform ahead of the G20 London summit, BOND members will stress the need for systemic changes, global justice and a green recovery ahead of the G20 summit in Pittsburgh.

On 7 November 2009, Bretton Woods Project, Jubilee Scotland and the Global Call to Action Against Poverty are organising counter conferences, in London and St Andrews to showcase the 'Alternative Twenty' economics experts the G20 should be listening to.

To find out more, and get involved in supporting or promoting these events, please contact: advocacy@bond.org.uk

World Bank and IMF Annual Meetings

The 2009 Annual Meetings of the World Bank and the IMF will take place on 6-7 October in Istanbul, Turkey. In the run up to these annual meetings, the Bretton Woods Annual Committee Meeting will convene on 1 September to discuss the social and environmental impacts of the World Bank and IMF policies and projects.

More information about the 2009 World Bank and IMF Annual Meetings can be found at the World Bank website: www.worldbank.org

For a civil society perspective on these events, visit the website of the Bretton Woods Project which closely monitors the World Bank and the IMF: www.brettonwoodsproject.org

Comic Relief launch new international grants strategy

Comic Relief has launched its new international grants strategy for 2009-2012. With a pronounced emphasis on prioritising learning, the new strategy will require applicants to carefully consider planning and budgeting for learning activities as well as produce data and information that helps learning in the project, within Comic Relief and across other organisations and projects. The six programme areas will remain the same:

1. Trade
2. People affected by HIV and AIDS
3. People affected by conflict
4. Street and working children and young people
5. People living in urban slums
6. Women and girls

However, in addition there will be a Sport for change programme, looking at the transformative role of sport in development, as well as several invitation-only ventures.

The new international grants strategy can be found at: www.comicrelief.com/apply_for_a_grant/our_uk_and_international_grants_strategy

The new £18million Small and Diaspora Led Organisations Fund will be launched later in the summer. You can read presentations from the BOND-hosted meeting in March about this fund on our website: www.bond.org.uk/pages/comicrelief.html



Big Lottery Fund release new strategic framework

Following the recent Big Thinking consultation, the Big Lottery Fund has released a new strategic framework for the period to 2015. BIG has reiterated their commitment to continuing to support international work, although the new International Programme will not be launched until the 2010-11 financial year.

A big thank you to all BOND members who attended and contributed to the preparatory BOND Funding Working Group meetings ahead of the consultation, as well as the consultation meeting with BIG staff and the online questionnaire. Encouragingly, in the consultation response for areas to be funded at the UK level, 'funding for international projects received by far the greatest amount of support, something BIG has committed to continuing'.

The consultation responses and new strategic framework can be found at: www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/bigthinking

The Prime Minister has recently responded to a No 10 petition to 'stop using National Lottery Funds to pay for the 2012 Olympics': www.number10.gov.uk/Page19850

DFID Civil Society Challenge Fund and Development Awareness Fund

On 17 June, DFID representatives from the Civil Society Challenge Fund and the Development Awareness Fund met with the BOND Funding Working Group to present data from the last funding rounds and answer questions about DFID's approach to working with UK NGOs to build public support for development.

Presentations from this meeting are available in the Funding Working Group section in the members' area of the BOND website.

For more information on accessing this area: www.bond.org.uk/pages/groups-home.html

BOND learning and training events

We are running several new fundraising courses in September. Please see the back page of this issue of *The Networker* for more information, or visit the website: www.bond.org.uk/learn for full details.



EC PADOR homepage improved

The EC has upgraded the PADOR (Potential Applicant Data Online Registration) homepage and added a new version of the Quick Guide. There is also a new toolbar linking to more detailed guides to using PADOR, including a general guide, more information about the provision of supporting documents and detailed guides on completing each PADOR screen.

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/online_services/pador/index_en.htm

If you have any comments or suggestions about the new pages for inclusion in CONCORD feedback to the EC, please email Joni Hillman: jhillman@bond.org.uk

Voluntary Income Fundraising Group - call for steering committee members

Do you work on major donor or corporate fundraising? Are you interested in broadening your skills and gaining experience of working collectively with other BOND members to influence the donor agenda? If so, the Voluntary Income Fundraising Group steering committee is looking for those with expertise in the area of corporate and major donor fundraising to add their skills and experience to the group's work.

The group meets three times a year and the steering committee members are tasked with planning and facilitating meetings. They usually also meet three times a year.

You can find out more about the group on the BOND website: www.bond.org.uk/pages/vifg.html

If you are interested in getting involved, please email Joni Hillman: jhillman@bond.org.uk

EC funding advice line

Are you considering putting in a proposal to the EC?

Are you managing an EC grant?

If so, our EC funding advice line can help.

For more information and to find out how to subscribe email: funding@bond.org.uk

A community-based, comprehensive primary health care system is essential in the fight against poverty, argues **Martin Drewry of Health Unlimited.**

Development People



Volunteer peer counsellors in Namibia tackle taboo subjects like HIV amongst their indigenous San community

What is your role at Health Unlimited?

As the Director I am accountable for the vision, direction and implementation of Health Unlimited. It's important to remark though that leadership, vision and power are things that can be exercised by everyone in the organisation in different ways. As Director, sometimes it's easier for me to get things done and sometimes it's harder as things usually need to be implemented by others. I try to use my particular role as effectively as I can, and do so as part of Health Unlimited's leadership team, which includes everyone in the organisation.

What inspired you to work in the sector?

I'm a voluntary sector person through and through; I am wholeheartedly part of it. I became involved in the voluntary sector initially as a grass-roots community development worker and really this was my

social and political introduction to the world. I've been part of the voluntary sector ever since. I moved into international development because I wanted to help address the root causes of poverty and inequality. I find it's a natural incentive to want to do more and be involved in the voluntary sector movement.

What motivates you to go to work every day?

The opportunity to make a difference is my main motivation. Each day we have a new opportunity to make best use of that day, to make a difference to the lives of others. I feel privileged to be able to do the work that I do, and know that we must make the best possible use of all that comes our way.

What are you working on at the moment?

I'm focussing on developing the policy and campaigning capacity of the organisation.

We do excellent development work in many countries but we need to release the potential to influence policy. We are amplifying the voice of the communities we work with so that they can become the architects of their own future. This is a powerful voice of solidarity.

What impact/outcome do you hope this will have?

I hope that it will change the underlying determinants and causes of health and not just the symptoms. If we can raise awareness and campaign systematically to influence health policy at all levels then we will be one step closer to achieving our goals.

What are the current challenges for Health Unlimited's work?

Funding for areas of work that really add value. Donors tend to focus on direct healthcare, such as child immunisations, but we also need funding to enable us to influence and change health care policy. It is extremely hard to get funding for this but it is one of the most important parts of our work.

Another difficulty we often come up against, as an operational organisation, is that we have to operate within that country's memorandum of understanding. This can make it difficult to be able to speak out against the Government in the interests of the communities in which we work. Balancing the risks and making those choices is hard.

Although the G8 and others have committed to improving maternal health, millions of women are still not receiving the support they need. What needs to be done to ensure that the maternal health MDGs are met?

Poverty often impacts on women the most so addressing the social determinants of health and following through to find a solution to the issues is key. Maternal health is a particularly neglected area although it is receiving increasing attention.



©Health Unlimited

Vegetables grown by members of a self-help group of HIV patients in Burma

One of the biggest reasons for the neglect of maternal health is the focus of many donors on particular diseases. That might mean that whilst people don't die of that disease any more they will probably still be afflicted by something else. What is actually needed is a comprehensive primary health care system that is available in the community. That's not seen as very sexy from a political perspective; health systems don't include such easily quantifiable targets and numbers. It's not so easy to show the impact. I think one of our main challenges is to make it sexy, to stress its importance and to generate the political will and sense of urgency to make this change happen.

What part of Health Unlimited's work are you most proud of?

Health Unlimited tries very hard to reach those people who are neglected by everyone else, even other charities. We work in very hard to reach places with the poorest and the most marginalised. I'm very proud that this is a long-term commitment of the organisation.

I also feel very privileged to work with the individuals that we do, many of whom work with us over many years, in the local community and are from the community very often as well. They are the most inspirational, committed and wonderful people, and I am very proud to work with them.

Where would you like Health Unlimited to be in five years time?

A powerful voice. I want us to have a real influence and a genuine impact on policy and practice to allow everyone to fulfil their right to health.

What is the best professional advice you have been given?

Ask the big questions

What is the key challenge for the sector in the coming year?

Be true to our radical roots, we need to ask those big questions and challenge the status quo, even when it's not comfortable to do so.

I also have a specific challenge to BOND on its donor advocacy role. Funding drives our ability to do everything else, and we need BOND to be our passage to the donors. Some donors are great but some of the institutions, especially the EC for example as any organisation that regularly received EC funding will know, on occasion, have diabolical practices. Some of the practices of donors need to change but the level of capacity, time and commitment needed to achieve this means that individual organisations like Health Unlimited can't prioritise it because our primary concern is our core work.

We need BOND to lead on this, and to bring us in when necessary. Full cost recovery is a particular area where urgent change is needed. At the moment, project specific funding from the large institutional donors is inevitably lower on quality development funding compared to the unrestricted funds we get from the general public. Very often though the unrestricted income we get from the public is used to subsidise the short fall in institutional funding by paying for things that they don't want to pay for, such as core costs.

This is just not good enough. We are trying to be challenging and to build public momentum for change on this and I would call on BOND to lead on that work.

Martin Drewry is Director at Health Unlimited.

Martin has a long background in the voluntary sector. Previous roles include Head of Campaigns at Christian Aid where he played leading roles in Jubilee 2000, Drop the Debt, the Trade Justice Movement and was one of the coordinators of Make Poverty History. He became director of Health Unlimited in April 2006.

For more information:
www.healthunlimited.org

Extra courses this autumn

Two of the big challenges facing the international development sector are maintaining and maximising our income in a difficult financial climate, and making sure that it is spent in the most effective way. BOND's extra new courses for autumn 2009 tackle these issues.

Funding and donor relations

Our new funding courses cover the core skills that will help you target the full range of possible donors for international development projects, tailor your fundraising to their different interests, and make sure you meet your core costs.

Fundraising from trusts and foundations: persuasive writing

21 September
Bill Bruty

When you are putting your case to trusts and foundations, you need to know how to make an immediate impact. This course sets the policy, finance and decision making context and helps you present your proposal logically and powerfully to increase your chances of success.

Fundraising from charities and companies: relationship building

22 September
Bill Bruty

Fundraising is all about building relationships, and the personal approach is crucial to your success. This course enables you to try out techniques that will continue to appeal to your prospects in the current financial climate. Find out about different ways of giving and how to make the relationship work in practice.

Fundraising from institutions

21 October
Angela James

This course takes you through the basics of applying to institutional funders who use a two stage process. You will learn how to prepare a concept note for DFID or the EC, or a summary application for Comic Relief.

Fundraising from the public: supporter marketing

3-4 November

Getting small amounts of money from large numbers of people means finding the angles that will appeal to a diverse population. As well as setting out the legal and financial aspects of appeals, events and trading, the course allows you to practise campaign and copywriting tools that deliver results for direct marketing using different media.

Fundraising for financial sustainability

24 November
John Cammack

You will see how your various project budgets work together and look at all the options for funding your core costs. Importantly, you will have the chance to write an action plan that sets priorities and recovers costs in the most appropriate way for your international development programme.

NGO effectiveness

BOND believes that the quality of relationships with partners and beneficiaries is critical to NGO effectiveness. These new courses will help you improve these relationships and maximise your effectiveness.

Working with Southern partners

29 September
Eleanor Cozens

You will look at the principles behind effective partnership working, how they translate into practice and the challenges and pitfalls. The course will identify the approaches and practical tools in the international development sector for empowering and learning from your Southern partners.

Participatory approaches and tools

14 October
Linda Mayoux

You will gain an overview of the innovations and critiques in current participatory development practice, and share challenges and successes. The course will equip you with confidence and practical tools to introduce or improve participation in your work.

Monitoring and evaluation in more depth

30 November - 1 December
Louisa Gosling

Following on from our introductory course *Monitoring and evaluation for accountability*, this course will focus on the practical challenges and opportunities involved in participatory monitoring and evaluation. You will have the chance to explore a range of quantitative and qualitative tools, and develop your own monitoring and evaluation plan.



For full details of all our learning and training events: www.bond.org.uk/learn

Don't forget we are also running all the core courses in our open programme: www.bond.org.uk/learn
Contact us: 020 7520 0242 or learn@bond.org.uk

BOND members can book through our secure online booking system: www.bond.org.uk/how-to-book

Our courses are available in-house if you have eight or more people to train: www.bond.org.uk/in-house-training

Sign up for *Your Development*, our monthly learning and training e-bulletin: www.bond.org.uk/e-updates