



Welcome to the *In Touch* section of *PLA Notes*. Through these pages we hope to create a more participatory resource for the *PLA Notes* audience, to put you, as a reader, in touch with other readers. We want this section to be a key source of up-to-date information on training, publications, and networks. Your help is vital in keeping us all in touch about:

- **Networks.** Do you have links with recognised local, national or international networks for practitioners of participatory learning? If so, what does this network provide – training? newsletters? resource material/library? a forum for sharing experiences? Please tell us about the network and provide contact details for other readers.
- **Training.** Do you know of any forthcoming training events or courses in participatory methodologies? Are you a trainer yourself? Are you aware of any key training materials that you would like to share with other trainers?
- **Publications.** Do you know of any key publications on participatory methodologies and their use? Have you (or has your organisation) produced any books, reports, or videos that you would like other readers to know about?
- **Electronic information.** Do you know of any electronic conferences or pages on the Internet which exchange or provide information on participatory methodologies?
- **Other information.** Perhaps you have ideas about other types of information that would be useful for this section. If so, please let us know.

Please send your responses to: *PLA Notes*, Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods Programme, IIED, 3 Endsleigh Street, London WC1H 0DD, U.K.

Fax: + 44 (0)20 7388 2826; Email: [PLA.Notes@iied.org](mailto:PLA.Notes@iied.org)

***PLA Notes* is published in February, June, and October.  
Please submit material two months before the publication date.**

## Books, reports and videos

### Angkinin ang Kaunlaran: participatory approach in local development planning in the Philippines

Video on CD-ROM, 2000

Farmer communities of Sta. Josefa, a poor rural municipality in Mindanao, take the centre stage in this 25-minute video. It highlights the value of people's participation in the local development planning process in the Philippines. Also featured is a participatory planning process in a second region – Toboso, Negros Occidental.



Available from: **KAISAHAN, Sampung Taon Ibayong Sigla sa Hamon ng Panahon, 43 Masikap St., Brgy. Pinyahan, Q.C. The Philippines**

**Tel: +63 46 9282085; +63 46 4330760;**

**Fax: +63 469286158;**

**Email: kaisahan@phionline.com or kaisahan@codewan.com.ph**

**A limited number of copies are available from: IDS, University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9RE, U.K.**

**Tel: +44 (0) 1273 606261;**

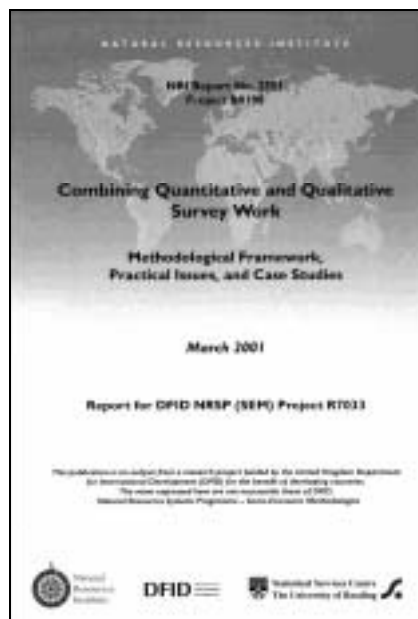
**Fax: +44 (0) 1273 621202;**

**Email: J. Stevens@ids.ac.uk**

### Combining Quantitative and Qualitative Survey Work: methodological framework, practical issues, and case studies

March 2001

This document is an output of the DFID-funded research project "Methodological Framework for Integrating Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches for Socio-Economic Survey Work". The project, jointly implemented by the Natural Resources Institute and the Statistical Services Centre, attempted to bridge the gap between informal/qualitative methods on the one hand and



formal/quantitative ones on the other. The report consists of: the main Methodological Framework document (also available as a Best Practice Guideline published by the Natural Resources Systems Programme of DFID); a series of six theme papers which look into a number of practical issues encountered when combining quantitative and qualitative survey techniques; and six case studies used to demonstrate how the two approaches can be integrated in survey work and experiments related to the natural resources sector.

Available from: **The University of Reading, Statistical Services Centre, Harry Pitt Building, Whiteknights Road, PO Box 240, Reading RG6 6FN, U.K.**

**Tel +44 (0) 118 9318025;**

**Email: statistics@reading.ac.uk;**

**Website: www.reading.ac.uk/ssc**

### Growing up in an Urbanising World

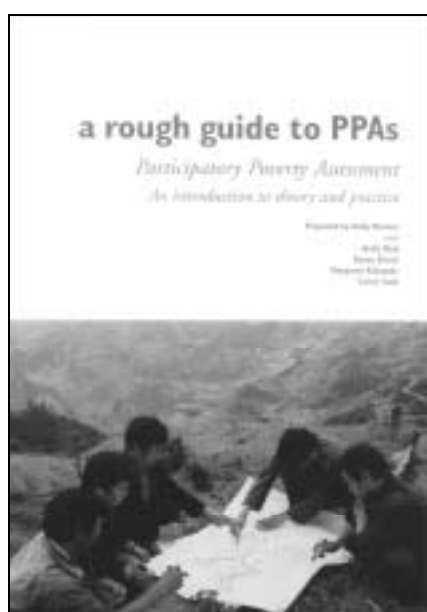
Edited by Louise Chawla, UNESCO Publishing / Earthscan, Paris / London

*Growing up in an Urbanising World* explores young people's relationship with their urban surroundings across a spectrum of low-income neighbourhoods in the industrialised and developing worlds. The book gives new emphasis to the active participation of children and youth in the planning, design and implementation of urban improvements, documents typical obstacles to



participatory processes and recommends policies and practices that will make cities more responsive to the needs of children, adolescents and their families.

Available from: **UNESCO Publishing online** ([www.unesco.org/publishing](http://www.unesco.org/publishing)) or **7 place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France.**  
**Fax: +33 1 45 68 5737; Tel: +33 1 45 68 4930 or Earthscan Publications Ltd, 120 Pentonville Road, London N1 9JN, U.K.**  
**Email: [earthinfo@earthscan.co.uk](mailto:earthinfo@earthscan.co.uk);**  
**Tel: +44 (0) 20 7278 0433; Fax: +44 (0) 20 7278 1142**



## A rough guide to PPAs: Participatory Poverty Assessment – an introduction to theory and practice

Andy Norton with Bella Bird, Karen Brock, Margaret Kakande, Carrie Turk, ODI, 2001

This handbook aims to help development professionals particularly in conceiving and designing a Participatory Poverty Assessment Programme. It gives useful indications on how to assess whether a PPA will be useful; how to decide where the PPA should be located institutionally; how to build the initial partnerships; how to find good technical assistance; how to design the PPA process; and, finally, how to enhance quality in the fieldwork and analysis. The manual also explores potential future directions for development practice arising out of the experience of PPAs.

Available from: **Overseas Development Institute, 111 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JD, U.K.**  
**Tel: +44 (0) 20 7922 0300; Fax: +44 (0) 20 7922 0399;**  
**Email: [odi@odi.org.uk](mailto:odi@odi.org.uk); Website: [www.odi.org.uk](http://www.odi.org.uk)**

## Creating Better Cities with Children and Youth

David Driskell, UNESCO Publishing / Earthscan, Paris / London

*Forthcoming*

This is a “how to” manual for promoting young people’s participation in urban planning, design, and implementation. It provides a framework for strategising participatory projects and building the institutional support necessary for effective implementation. It also provides concrete examples of methods that can be used to engage young people in looking at and evaluating their local environment; analysing and prioritising key issues; and developing and implementing a plan of action. It is particularly useful for reaching out to “marginalised” groups of young people who are typically excluded from local decision making. Readers who would like a description and analysis of how the participatory methods were used should read *Growing Up in an Urbanising World* (Louise Chawla, Ed., 2001).

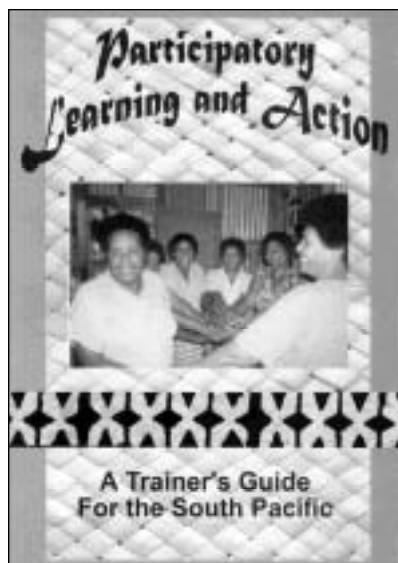
Available from: **UNESCO Publishing online** ([www.unesco.org/publishing](http://www.unesco.org/publishing)) or **7 place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France.** **Tel: +33 1 45 68 4930;**  
**Fax: +33 1 45 68 5737 or Earthscan Publications Ltd, 120 Pentonville Road, London N1 9JN, U.K.**  
**Email: [earthinfo@earthscan.co.uk](mailto:earthinfo@earthscan.co.uk);**  
**Tel: +44 (0) 20 7278 0433; Fax: +44 (0) 20 7278 1142**

## Mirrors of Ourselves: Tools of Democratic Reflection for Groups of Children and Youth

Roger Hart and Selim Iltus

This video is designed for use by groups of children or youth that are reasonably self-organised. It provides an introduction to how children and youth (and their facilitators) can assess the democratic qualities of their organisation and reflect critically on the structure of their organisation and their decision-making processes in order to improve upon them. The methods include: social maps, comparative benefits charts, card sorting, activity preference matrices, diagrams of political structure and political influence, and drama. The methods are illustrated by video, followed by colour animations to give the viewer a clear, step-by-step description of the method.

Available from: **Save the Children Alliance, Box 3394, Jawalikhel, Kathmandu, Nepal or from the Children’s Environments Research Group, Graduate Center of the City University of New York, 365 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10016-4309, U.S.A.**  
**Website: [www.cerg1.org](http://www.cerg1.org)**



## Participatory Learning and Action: a trainer's guide for the South Pacific ECOWOMAN, April 2000

This manual is aimed at practitioners seeking to incorporate PLA techniques in their approach when working with communities. It is designed to guide trainers/facilitators through the PLA process, from background research and coordination, training of PLA practitioners, conducting the field work, analysing the results, following up with the community, and the development of pilot projects. The manual is drawn from local experience gained in conducting PLA projects in Fiji.

Available from: **ECOWOMAN, P.O. Box 16737, Suva, Fiji; Tel: (679) 312371; Fax: (679) 303053; Email: Ecowoman@is.com.fj**

## Children of Thula Mntwana: growing up in cities, (video)

UNESCO and Jill Kruger Research CC  
*Forthcoming–Dec. 2001*

Children describe and evaluate their lives in Thula Mntwana, a squatter camp in Johannesburg (South Africa). The principal character, 13-year-old Zukiswa, explains how her family became squatters in Braamfontein, through force of circumstance. She tells of how she and other children in the squatter camp then learned through the UNESCO-MOST Growing up in Cities project to identify problems in their living environment and how they presented insights to public officials but, still struggle, nevertheless, in an inhospitable environment.

Available from: **UNESCO Publishing online (www.unesco.org/publishing) or 7 place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France. Tel: +33 1 45 68 4930; Fax: +33 1 45 68 5737**

## Growing up in Cities: partners in research and planning

Jill Swart-Kruger

This video records the first-ever workshop in South Africa at which children from a Johannesburg squatter camp join urban policy makers and planners, NGO and donor agencies to discuss problem areas in their lives and how these could be improved.

Available from: **Unisa Press, Video orders, PO Box 392, 0003 Pretoria, South Africa; Tel: +27 12 429-3081; Fax: +27 12 429-3221; Email: frasehhj@alpha.unisa.ac.za or thearl@alpha.unisa.ac.za**

## Growing Up in Canaansland

Editor: Jill Swart-Kruger

This report describes participatory research methods used with children aged 10 to 14 from the Canaansland squatter camp, and discusses the results. It outlines the children's preparations for the Mayor's workshop to share findings with urban planners, and summarises workshop deliberations. The subsequent, unexpected relocation of Canaansland to a desolate spot outside the city is recorded, and a petition lodged in protest is reproduced. An Epilogue contains the children's reflections.

Available from: **On the Dot Distribution, Attn: Marietha van Wyk, PO Box 487, Bellville, 7535, South Africa**

## PLA Notes on CD-ROM

This new CD-ROM covers issues 1 to 40 of *RRA/PLA Notes* – over 500 articles in total. It includes all the recent, popular Special Issues such as *Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation*, *Community Water Management* and *Deliberative Democracy and Citizen Empowerment*, as well as the General Issues, covering a wide variety of topics and tools. A powerful search engine allows users to search by key words for particular themes or authors, and printable, full text versions of all articles are included in portable document format (PDF). *PLA Notes* on CD-ROM will be an invaluable resource for practitioners, academics, and students interested in the scope and practical use of participatory approaches and tools. System requirements: Windows 95/98 or NT/2000. All other software required is included with the CD-ROM.

**Available: January 2002**

**Free subscribers to *PLA Notes* as at 31/10/01 will receive a copy of the CD-ROM in the first half of 2002. Other subscribers: please see order form on page 78.**

## Workshops and events

### Participatory Appraisal

21st–25th January 2002,  
University of Northumbria, U.K.

This is an interactive course, with great emphasis on learning by doing. The course is designed to enhance participants' transferable skills such as group working, personal development and communication. Participants will learn about the background and philosophies of participatory appraisal, get familiar with examples of projects that have used the methodology and become skilled at how to use the tools and techniques with confidence in "real world" settings through fieldwork placements.

For further information, please contact: **Dr Duncan Fuller, Division of Geography and Environmental Management, Lipman Building, University of Northumbria, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8ST, U.K. Tel: +44 (0) 191 227 3951; Fax: +44 (0) 191 227 4715; Email: duncan.fuller@unn.ac.uk**

### Participation and Development with Gender

March–May 2002

In this short course, participants engage in the struggle to engender development work, and have space to reflect on the politics and complications of gender-sensitive development. The introduction starts with a thorough exploration of gender concepts and issues. Practical frameworks and other methods are introduced, with a critical perspective, e.g. gender analysis frameworks, participatory methods, M&E and gender etc. Participants consider how to institutionalise gendered approaches and encourage institutional change, and how to be effective in gender advocacy. Sectoral themes include sexual and reproductive health rights, rural livelihoods, income and gender, education and gender, agriculture, children and conflict.

### Participation & Development with Monitoring & Evaluation

September–November 2001, March–May 2002

The MEIA (Monitoring, Evaluation and Impact Assessment) short course emphasises approaches that integrate social analysis and awareness of social differentiation with effective M&E in applied development contexts. The fundamental concepts of MEIA are explored as are issues of quality, reliability, communication, and ethics, and core issues about the appropriateness of qualitative and quantitative approaches. Participants learn a range of methods, from quantitative indicators and survey methods to participatory approaches and interview skills, in the context of designing MEIA systems and processes.

### Urban Poverty Reduction and Policy

March–April 2002

Many poorer countries are struggling to cope with rapid urbanisation. As urban areas expand, poverty comes into the direct view of policymakers and civil society organisations. This course explores measures, methods and policies for urban poverty reduction.

For further information about these and other courses about participation, please contact: **Centre for Development Studies, University of Wales Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea, SA2 8PP, Wales, U.K. Email: development.short.courses@swansea.ac.uk; Website: www.swan.ac.uk/cds/teaching/index.htm; Tel: +44 (0) 1792 295332; Fax: +44 (0) 1792 295682**

### International Course on Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation

28th February–2nd March 2002 (Pre-Session)  
4th–22nd March 2002

The participatory monitoring and evaluation (PM&E) course is designed for development project executives, research study leaders and extension officers who have been managing and/or implementing community-based development. It will examine PM&E at the community, programme and organisational levels. Selected cases will be presented and discussed. PM&E concepts and theories and methods, tools and techniques which have been tested and used in the field will be shared.

For further information, please contact: **Education and Training Program, International Institute of Rural Reconstruction, Y.C. James Yen Center, Silang 4118, Cavite, The Philippines. Telefax: +63 46 4142423; Tel: +63 46 4142417; Fax: +63 46 4142420; Email: Education&Training@iirr.org; Website (still to be launched): www.iirr.org**

### Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation

26th November–7th December 2001,  
Nairobi, Kenya

The course covers types and elements of M&E, setting up of M&E systems, development of indicators and data collection. Participants will share ideas, experiences and acquire skills in the use of various tools for monitoring and evaluation.

For further information, please contact: **The Course Co-ordinator, IIRR-Africa Regional Office, P.O. Box 66873, Kenya. Tel: +254 2 442610; Fax +254 2 448148; Email: training@iirr-africa.org or iirraro@form-net.com; Website: www.iirr-africa.org/training.htm**

# e-participation e-participation e-participation

Welcome to our e-participation page, which includes the latest news about electronic information, websites and email discussion lists. We would like to hear more from our readers about electronic resources developed in the South and in other languages. If you would like to recommend anything to be included in this section that you would like to share with other readers, please let us know!

## **NRM: Links for developing change in natural resource management**

[nrm.massey.ac.nz/changelinks/](http://nrm.massey.ac.nz/changelinks/)

This is an on-line guide for natural resource managers and others working to help improve the use of participatory approaches for environmental management. External links and on-site material offer approaches, information and theory in related fields such as sustainable development, adaptive management, collaborative learning, action research, facilitation, conflict resolution, information management and Internet use.

## **Popular Education for Human Rights: 24 participatory exercises for facilitators and teachers, by Richard Pierre Claude, HREA; <http://erc.hrea.org/Library/community/Claude00.html>**

This trainer's handbook seeks to promote participatory methods useful to human rights education facilitators. The manual was designed for non-formal education (but can be used in formal education as well), and gives teachers options appropriate for participants with minimal literacy skills. Women's and children's issues are explored, in terms of specified values, e.g., respect for dignity and fair rules, links between human rights and responsibilities, building civil society, confronting prejudice, 'information for empowerment', etc. The handbook is available free of charge from the Library section of The Electronic Resource Centre for Human Rights Education <http://erc.hrea.org>, an on-line repository of human rights education and training materials.

## **[www.crin.org/](http://www.crin.org/)**

The Child Rights Information Network (CRIN) is a global network that disseminates information about the Convention on the Rights of the Child and child rights to a wide and varied membership, including NGOs, United Nations agencies, inter-governmental organisations, educational institutions and other child rights practitioners. The website provides information about publications, events, legal treaties and news, including material on child and youth participation. For more information email: [info@crin.org](mailto:info@crin.org)

## **Dev-Zone International PLA Update**

The Participatory, Learning and Action Update is an irregular email update of news, resource materials and

upcoming events about participatory approaches to development compiled by the Dev-Zone (formerly Development Resource Centre). For inquiries please contact: **Email:**

**Gitanjali at [gbedi@drc.org.nz](mailto:gbedi@drc.org.nz) or write to Dev-Zone, PO Box 12440, Aotearoa Wellington, New Zealand. Tel: +64 4 496 9597; Fax: +64 4 496 9599; Website: [www.dev-zone.org](http://www.dev-zone.org)**



## **Mekong Info: Regional Information System on Participatory Natural Resource Management [www.mekonginfo.org](http://www.mekonginfo.org)**

Mekong Info is an interactive system for sharing information and knowledge about participatory natural resource management (NRM) in the Lower Mekong Basin. In addition to over 2,000 documents (full-text and abstract) in the Library, MekongInfo provides: a contacts database of individuals, projects and organisations, news and announcements of events, relevant web links, a gallery of useful resource materials, a forum for online discussions, and a free web hosting service.

## **Kabissa: Space in the Internet for the African non-profit sector on the Internet for the African non-profit [www.kabissa.org/ctnetwork](http://www.kabissa.org/ctnetwork)**

Kabissa is a non-profit capacity-building organisation that seeks to further democratic change and social justice in Africa by providing a space on the Internet for the African non-profit sector. Eligible non-profits get free membership accounts, including standard email mailboxes, FTP accounts, web space, mailing lists, and more. By using the search facility available, you will be able to access several full-text documents around children and participation in the African context.

## **Growing Up in Cities**

**[www.unesco.org/most/growing.htm](http://www.unesco.org/most/growing.htm)**

This is the website of a UNESCO-MOST project, which is run in collaboration with the Norwegian Centre for Child Research and Childwatch International, Norway. See the introduction to the special issue Overview (page 3) for further details.

## **The Childwatch International Research Network [www.childwatch.uio.no/](http://www.childwatch.uio.no/)**

Childwatch International is a non-profit, non-governmental network of institutions involved in research for children. It initiates and coordinates research and information projects on children's living conditions and the implementation of children's rights. Its website gives detailed information on the network's activities, as well as news on forthcoming conferences, recent publications and other activities. It also compiles lists of relevant links to child-centred institutions, on-line research reports and journals, and bibliographies.

# RCPLA Network

In this section, we aim to update readers on activities of the **Resource Centres for Participatory Learning and Action Network (RCPLA) Network** ([www.rcpla.org](http://www.rcpla.org)) and its members. For more information please contact the RCPLA Network Steering Group:

**West Africa Region:** Awa Faly Ba (*Interim Network Chair*), c/o IIED Programme Sahel, Point E, Rue 6 X A, BP 5579, Dakar, Sénégal; Tel: +221 824 4417; Fax: +221 824 4413; Email: [awafba@sentoo.sn](mailto:awafba@sentoo.sn)

**Asian Region:** Jayatissa Samaranayake, Institute for Participatory Interaction in Development (IPID), 591, Havelock Road, Colombo 06, Sri Lanka; Tel: +94 1 555521; Tel/Fax: +94 1 587361; Email: [ipidc@panlanka.net](mailto:ipidc@panlanka.net)

**European Region:** Jane Stevens, Participation Group, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, Brighton. BN1 9RE, U.K.; Tel: + 44 (0) 1273 678690; Fax: + 44 (0) 1273 21202; Email: [participation@ids.ac.uk](mailto:participation@ids.ac.uk); Participation group website: [www.ids.ac.uk/ids/particip/](http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/particip/)

**Latin American Region:** Fernando Dick, Dirección de Programas de Investigación y Desarrollo (DPID), Universidad Nur, Casilla 3273, Ave Cristo Redentor No 100, Santa Cruz, Bolivia; Tel: +591 3 363 939; Fax: +591 3 331 850; Email: [participa@tabarsi.nur.edu](mailto:participa@tabarsi.nur.edu); Website: <http://dpid.nur.edu>

**North Africa & Middle East Region:** Emad Morris, Center for Development Services 4 Ahmed Pasha Street, Citibank Building, Garden City, Cairo, Egypt; Tel: +20 2 795 7558; Fax: +20 2 794 7278; Email: [cds.lrc@neareast.org](mailto:cds.lrc@neareast.org); Website: [www.neareast.org/explore/cds/index.htm](http://www.neareast.org/explore/cds/index.htm)

**Southern and Eastern Africa Region:** John Kennedy, Participatory Methodologies Forum of Kenya (PAMFORK), Jabavu Road, PCEA Jitegemea Flats, Flat No. D3, P.O. Box 2645, KNH Post Office, Nairobi, Kenya; Tel/Fax: +254 2 716609; Email: [pamfork@nbnet.co.ke](mailto:pamfork@nbnet.co.ke)

## Pamfork's participatory poverty assessments (PPA) experiences and forthcoming regional RCPLA workshop

The Participatory Methodologies Forum of Kenya (PAMFORK) in conjunction with the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF) were mandated by the Government of Kenya to carry out participatory assessments on poverty. The exercise was funded by the British Department for International Development (DFID) and was carried out from January and February 2001. The PPA exercise was designed to provide a detailed input to the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) process. Some of the causes of poverty identified included the following:

- People are poor because they were born poor and no effort was made to change the situation.
- Poor health was acknowledged by poor people to be the major cause of poverty.
- AIDS is a major hindrance to development and a major initiator of poverty.
- Corruption is another contributory factor to poverty development.
- Institutions at the level of communities are very weak.

Other problems cited included landlessness, inadequate marketing opportunities for agricultural produce alongside its low price value, inadequate water, poor sanitation, poor methods of agricultural farming and techniques, tribal and ethnic disputes and general lack of security.

All the above are summarised in *Voices of the People for Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper*.

PAMFORK, in conjunction with the PRA Network of Zimbabwe and Uganda Participatory Development Network (UPDNet), are also organising an RCPLA regional workshop to launch the RCPLA Southern and Eastern Network, to be hosted by the PRA Network of Zimbabwe will host this event which will also be a strategic planning event/ workshop for the region. Tentative dates are late November or early December 2001. This workshop will focus on strategic planning and the exchange of experiences, conceptions, challenges and the way forward. Contact **PAMFORK (see above) for more information.**

## *Encuentro latinoamericana: experiencias sobre diagnóstico y planeación participativa comunitaria*

*(Latin American Meeting: experiences in diagnostic and participatory community planning).* Islas Mujeres, Quintana Roo, México, agosto 1995 (Published: 2000).

This volume offers 30 cases and experiences presented at *The Latin American Meeting on Diagnostic and Participatory Community Planning*, Islas Mujeres, Quintana Roo, Mexico, August 1995. The result of two years of preparation, it was organised by the World Resources Institute, GEA and the Centro de Estudios de la Realidad Económica y Social (Bolivia). The objective of this meeting was to review, critically analyse and identify a plan of action to improve participatory approaches used for rural development in Latin America. Main themes included community action participatory methods, participatory action with regional social organisations, projects in

forested areas, and experiences of international institutions with participatory methods. The compilation of transcripts from recorded presentations and papers is completed by the minutes resulting from the debates and work groups. This book is an invaluable resource for development practitioners. For more details contact: **Grupo de Estudios Ambientales AC, Allende 7, Sta Ursula Coapa DF, Coyoacan CP 04650, Mexico;**



**Tel: +52 5 617 9027; Fax: +52 5 617 9027;; Website: www.laneta.apc.org/gea/; Email: gea@laneta.apc.org**

### Training on Public Consultation in Environmental and Social Assessment of Projects in Nigeria

The Nigeria PRA Network (NIPRANET), in collaboration with the World Bank, delivered a training workshop on "Public Consultation in Environmental and Social Assessment of Projects", organised for officials from the Agricultural Development Programmes (ADPs) and Micro-Environmental Management Programmes (MEMPs) in Nigeria.

About 60 participants attended the training. The main objectives were to build the capacities of participants in the use of participatory approaches to environmental and social assessment of projects. The workshop also acquainted participants with the safeguard policies of the World Bank.

"Lecture" sessions as well as experience-sharing sessions were held to capture the objectives of the workshop. In addition, a field visit gave participants a practical appreciation of PRA as a tool for environmental and social assessment of projects. The training workshop was held in Jos, Nigeria in June 2001. For further information, please contact: **Abdulkareem Lawal, Program Coordinator, Nigeria PRA Network (NIPRANET), 28A, New Dawaki Road, Off Sultan Road, Kaduna, Nigeria; Tel/Fax: +234 62 242 495; Email: nipranet@infoweb.abs.net**

### Participatory initiatives in Sri Lanka

Over the last few months, the Institute for Participatory Interaction in Development (IPID) in Sri Lanka has been using participatory methodologies for several research studies, impact assessments and project formulation/planning activities. The work includes:

- A study on the Impact of Rural Electrification on Gender and Poverty in collaboration with MARGE in France for the World Bank.
- A study on "Human Insecurity and the Threat of Firearms: Perspectives from South Asia". The project was coordinated by the Small Arms Survey, International

Institute for Graduate Studies, Geneva and the Regional Center for Strategic Studies (RCSS).

- Consultation workshops with dairy farmers in Sri Lanka and their Service Providing organisations, initiated to obtain inputs/ insights into the formulation of a project proposal to develop the dairy industry in Sri Lanka.

Other projects include: using PRA methods to conduct baseline surveys; micro-planning and monitoring of inputs and outcomes of a project to promote cultivation of Asian pears and strawberry among small farmers; and an assessment of the socio-economic benefits and impacts of the Kirindi Oya Irrigation Project on the livelihoods of farmers. For more information contact: **IPID (see above)**

### Radio programmes in Nepal and related websites

The Nepal Participatory Action Network (NEPAN) is continuing to run its regular radio programmes on Participatory Development Approaches and Processes, jointly produced with Sagamath 102.4 FM. NEPAN now air this programme on a weekly basis, every Friday at 7:45 pm to 8:00 pm from 19th Asoj 2058 (5th October 2001). If you miss the programme, it can be downloaded from [www.radiosagamatha.org](http://www.radiosagamatha.org).

NEPAN has also redesigned its website ([www.nepan.org.np/](http://www.nepan.org.np/)). The two NEPAN publications *Sahabhagita* (Participation) in Nepali, and a yearly English magazine *Participation* can be downloaded or ordered by email.

For more information, contact: **Rabi Chitrakar, Information Officer, Nepal Participatory Action Network (NEPAN), New Baneshwor Chowk (South), PO Box 13791, Kathmandu, Nepal. Tel: +977 1 482955; Fax: +977 1 419718 (attn: NEPAN); Email: nepan@mos.com.np; Website: www.nepan.org.np/**

### The Participatory Approaches Network for London launched

In London, many local area initiatives and regeneration schemes have begun to use PA in their work. This network offers examples of good practice, better understanding of the value of this approach and access to advice, and aims to act as a "hub" connecting other networks and groups across London. Specifically it aims to:

- Link practitioners through regular workshops, meetings and a website.
- Support practitioners by developing a mentoring system for those new to PA.
- Share information through exploring case studies and examples of the use of PA.

For more information, contact: **Sue Lloyd-Evelyn, King's Fund, London. U.K. Tel: +44 (0) 20 7307 2675. A website at [www.participatory-london.org.uk/](http://www.participatory-london.org.uk/) is being developed in association with IIED7.**





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This new CD-ROM covers issues 1 to 40 of *RRA/PLA Notes* – over 500 articles in total. It includes all the recent, popular Special Issues such as *Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation*, *Community Water Management* and *Deliberative Democracy and Citizen Empowerment* (see back issues order form), as well as the General Issues covering a wide variety of topics and tools. A powerful search engine allows users to search by key words for particular themes or authors, and printable, full text versions of all articles are included in portable document format (PDF). *PLA Notes* on CD-ROM will be an invaluable resource for practitioners, academics, policy makers, and students interested in the potential and practical use of participatory approaches and tools.

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