

ISSN 1613-2270

No. 4 - December 2004

Living Knowledge

■ International Journal of Community Based Research

Advancing Science & Society Interactions



- Second Living Knowledge Conference
- Transnational Linkages
- Empowerment of the Community in Health Actions
- Wither Sustainable Sciences?



Living Knowledge
The International Science Shop Network

Contents

Focus: Advancing Science and Society Interactions

Alive and Kicking

From 3-5 February the 2nd international Living Knowledge Conference will be hosted by the University of Seville, Spain. Teresa Rojo from Pax Mediterranea about the aims of the forthcoming conference. » 5

Advancing Science and Society Interactions

The second international Living Knowledge Conference

Conference aims, conference activities and registration. » 6
Preliminary programme » 7

Transnational Linkages

Within the EC project ISSNET a specific workpackage refers to the improvement of international exchange of information and good practices on themes of mutual interest for Science Shops and community groups in different countries. The workgroup describes the role and contribution of Science Shops in linking partners in thematic transnational research Co-operation. » 9

Bridging Gaps

Saeed Asefzadeh from Qazvin, Iran, about the necessity for empowering the community in health action and setting learning objectives. » 13

Whither Sustainable Sciences

Günther Jikeli, Bettina Hoffmann and Joachim Borner about the Results of the 1st European Networks Conference on Sustainability in Practice (ENCOS 2004) » 14

Around the World » 3
Forum » 18
Clippings » 20

Editorial

Looking back at 2004, it was a good year for Science Shops in the context of international co-operation. There were presentations at international conferences, such as “Community Campus Partnerships” in Stavanger, Norway, or “The Europe of Knowledge 2020” in Liège, Belgium. There were publications by the EC, such as the Science Shop brochure “Knowledge for the Community” or an article in the RTD info “Neighbourhood Science”, and of course 3 issues of the Living Knowledge Magazine. But most important for me is the growth of the free news and discussion group of the Living Knowledge network, where about 300 members are in contact for the exchange of information and experiences. This network allowed to contact, and in many cases finally cooperate with new partners from countries where Science Shop haven’t been established yet. There are new Science Shops in South Korea, France, Romania and Portugal. Science Shops and Science Shop like organisations from Greece, Latvia, Turkey, Iceland, Estonia, but also from Spain, Belgium, France or Romania are now newly involved in international co-operation. Other Science Shops are involved in new projects and Networks of Excellence within the 6th Framework Programme of the EU. Last but not least: the increasing visibility of Science Shops and their projects led to information requests from and exchange of information with organisations from Hungary, Norway, Italy or Germany. And ... five years ago we did not know of each other!



The next event is coming very soon. At the beginning of February the second Living Knowledge Conference will be held in Seville, Spain. Up to now there were 114 abstracts of people who were interested in a presentation and there are 180 pre-registrations from all over the world. So join this conference, share your experience and get access to a huge variety of specialists. Please register!

And so this is Christmas / I hope you have fun / The near and the dear ones / the old and the young. / A very merry Christmas, / and a happy new year. / Let's hope it's a good one / without any fear.
(John Lennon & Yoko Ono, 1972)

Yours sincerely
Norbert Steinhaus

Living Knowledge

International Journal of Community Based Research

No. 4 – December 2004

Published by: ISSNET, c/o Wissenschaftsladen Bonn e.V., Buschstr. 85, D-53113 Bonn, Germany, phone: ++228 201 610, fax: ++228 265 287, mail: info@wilabonn.de, http://www.wilabonn.de

Editor: Norbert Steinhaus (norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de), Assistant Editors: drs. Caspar de Bok (c.f.m.debok@bio.uu.nl), David Hall, (djhall@liverpool.ac.uk)

Layout: Norbert Steinhaus, Pictures: Archive, Günther Jikeli, Queens University Science Shop, N. Steinhaus, Wissenschaftsladen Bonn, www.zer0-m.org;

Printed by: druckladen gmbH, Bonn, December 2004, Number of Copies: 3500

Living Knowledge – Journal of Community Based Research is part of a project called ISSNET which has been awarded financial support by the European Commission through the contract HPRP-CT-2002-00011. ISSNET is a ‘Thematic Network’ in the 5th Framework Programme, under the theme ‘Improving Human Potential & Socio-economic Knowledge base’, section ‘Raising Public Awareness of Sciences and Technology’. For further information please see www.scienceshops.org or contact drs. Caspar de Bok, c.f.m.debok@bio.uu.nl.

Living Knowledge – International Journal of Community Based Research is a four-monthly publication. The next issue will be published in March 2005. The magazine welcomes the contribution of reports, articles, news, press releases and clippings, letters, contribution to discussions, job offers, internships, internet links etc. Reports and detailed articles should follow the editorial guidelines. Information about the magazine and the editorial guidelines can be found at the homepage of the Science Shop network (www.scienceshops.org). Please feel free to contact the editors for your questions and any support.

The views expressed in the articles and papers are those of the authors and are not necessarily endorsed by the publisher. Whilst every care has been taken during production, the publisher does not accept any liability for errors that may have occurred.

Belfast, UK

Queen's University Science Shop shares it's Knowledge

The Science Shop at Queen's University Belfast is currently working with Share Holiday Village in Co. Fermanagh to continue to develop models of best practice in terms of social inclusion and environmental awareness. Last year a student on the MSc Environmental Engineering course at Queen's University, Michael Walls, examined the current situation in relation to environmentally friendly practices at the Centre. Whilst it is widely regarded as a model of best practice in Northern Ireland, harnessing wind turbines to generate electricity, using reed beds to treat human waste, and offering recycling facilities, Director Oliver Wilkinson saw a need to go further.

'I am indebted to Michael for his excellent report. He 'pulled no punches' in providing us with a frank analysis of current waste management practice at the Centre and we are committed to implementing the

recommendations made, over the next three-years'. More recently The Science Shop teamed up with colleagues in the Social Survey Unit at Queen's University to work with Share Holiday Village and the Northern Ireland Kidney Patients Association. The Share Holiday Village was established in 1981 as one of Northern Ireland's projects to celebrate the International Year of the Disabled. Based close to the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, the centre now welcomes over 15,000 participants each year



Outdoor experience on the lakes

making it the largest outdoor centre in Ireland. It provides opportunities for all to participate in a wide range of creative, educational and recreational activity-based programmes and specialises in water-based activities which take place on the neighbouring lakes. Share Holiday Village was keen to explore ways in which they could offer holiday facilities to people suffering from renal (kidney) problems who needed dialysis. However the first step, of course, was to carry out research with people who use dialysis to see if they would use



Clearing the decks

such a facility. They contacted The Science Shop to see whether any support might be available to design the research. The Science Shop facilitated a meeting with the Social Survey Unit, who have drawn up a questionnaire. To date, the questionnaire has been distributed across renal outpatient units in Northern Ireland, and the preliminary results are encouraging.

If you are interested in exploring facilities at Share Holiday Village their website address is www.sharevillage.org. For further information on the research, contact Emma McKenna at The Science Shop at Queen's University Belfast, email e.mckenna@qub.ac.uk.

Utrecht, NL

Dutch annual Science Shop Award

Since 2002 the Dutch Science Shops have set up a yearly competition for the best Science Shop research project. The prize is rewarded to the researcher who has performed the best scientific research project at one of the Dutch Science Shops in request of a societal organization. The winner is declared at the Dutch annual Science Shop conference. The researcher wins a cash prize while the winning Science Shop is rewarded with a trophy. The independent jury is put together by the Science Shops hosting that years conference and consists of persons from different backgrounds and fields: societal organizations, students, researchers and politicians. Criteria used to judge the quality of the submitted projects are: societal renewal and relevance, customer satisfaction, scientific quality and the attained

educational goals for the involved student or researcher. One of the reasons to start the annual competition is the opportunity to draw new attention to Science Shop work and its results, in both the university community and in society. For that reason messages for the press are distributed in advance and directly after the event. In 2002 and 2003 the Wageningen University Science Shop was the first-price winner. At November 4th of this year the prize was awarded to the Science Shop for Biology of Utrecht University for a research project on fish-protection systems to prevent fish mortality at hydro-electricity plants. The study was performed by student Kim Beijer and was requested by the environmental organization Stichting Reinwater. It was supervised by Pita Verweij of the department of



Nature policy and society and Manon Vaal of the Science Shop for Biology. The jury rewarded this study because of its original scientific approach and the accessibility to lay people of the information presented in the report. In addition, the report has proven to be useful to the requesting organization because it was used as input for a discussion on a national policy level.

More information on this prize (in Dutch) and the report (summary in English) can be found at: www.bio.uu.nl/wetenschapswinkel/ at the item 'nieuws' with a link to the report 'Vissen laten lijden of geleiden' or by contacting Manon Vaal (m.a.vaal@bio.uu.nl)

Hannover, D

Exhibition Agency

Whoever looks out for exhibitions on environmental topics is generally forced to time-consuming own researches. The creation of environmental exhibitions needs a lot of work time and high financial means. But a comprehensive marketing is often missing, so that many environmental exhibitions rarely shown. The exhibition agency ENVIRONMENT of the Hannover Science Shop aims at mediating between exhibitors and prospective customers to make use of the potential of existing exhibitions. The agency provides current overviews of existing exhibitions, and an advisory service for borrowers is offered to find a suitable environmental exhibitions for their intention.

Wissenschaftsladen Hannover e.V., Nieschlagsstr. 26, 30449 Hannover, Tel.: + 49 511 441 916 umweltberatung@wissenschaftsladen-hannover.de

Lisbon, P

A new Science Shop in Portugal

In Portugal many persons do not have access to higher educational levels. This demands a low cost access to scientific knowledge to understand complex issues and manage problems. There is also a need to develop existing skills and capacities by improving the scientific background. Regarding traditional know how and skills from a scientific perspective may open new paths to innovation.



The monument of discoveries in Lisbon

On 26 October 2004 a Knowledge Shop (Loja do Saber) was officially launched in Lisbon as the result of an initiative of a private institution (CEIFA ambiente – Centre for Studies, Information and Education for the Environment). The Loja do Saber aims at exploring and disseminating “intelligent” traditional knowledge and

technologies but also to bridge the gap between institutions that produce or disseminate formal knowledge and the civil society. The founding activity was inspired by experiences made by the Science Shop movement in Europe as well as the Community Based Research experiences in non-European Countries especially such as India and Brazil. The focus of Loja do Saber as a non-profit organisation is on knowledge for sustainable development. It wants to improve the transfer of technologies and support the implementation of sustainable, context adequate solutions for problems of general interest. The Portuguese “Knowledge Shop” intends to run target group oriented projects driven by direct demands from civil society, being receptive for international cooperation with other European Science Shops. Loja de Saber also intends to create new careers options in co-operation with a Portuguese university to improve the professional qualification of persons with a long practical experience but without academic degrees. The new shop aims to extend the scope of its activities to other Portuguese speaking countries.

Contact: Loja do Saber, Rua Azedo Gneco, 68, CV Dt, P-1350-038 Lisboa, geral@ceifa-ambiente.pt

Utrecht, NL

Korean documentary

The South Korean TV production company „Media Special“ is working on a series of documentaries science, science education and its public access in China, USA and the Netherlands. The documentaries will be broadcasted by the end of 2004 at the Korean documentary TV channel „Q channel“. Through contacts with the first South Korean Science Shop, at Chonbuk University (<http://scishop.chonbuk.ac.kr/>) Media Special gained interested in the

Science Shop concept. One 50 minutes documentary will focus on the Dutch Science Shops. Examples of Science Shop projects from the universities of Eindhoven, Groningen, Tilburg and Utrecht (for all Dutch Science Shops see www.wetenschapswinkels.nl) will be shown and discussed with different stakeholders. It is foreseen that the documentary will be distributed in an English version as well.

Contact: c.f.m.debok@bio.uu.nl

Berlin, D

ZerO-M

Building up a cross-cultural cooperation on decentralized sustainable water management concepts

Sustainable water management becomes more and more a key issue of the 21th century. On the Johannesburg summit on sustainable development in 2002 it was declared as one of the main goals of the worldwide policy for the next two decades to halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water (reaffirmation of Millennium Development Goal) and to halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation.

The project “ZerO-M – Sustainable Concepts towards a ZerO Outflow Municipality on Decentralized Water Concepts” intends cultural interaction in a double sense: To build up a working consortium that combines the expertise of scientists from research institutes as well as environmental NGOs and business organisations. It further more intends to integrate practitioners from local authorities and municipal water suppliers and bring together partners from 8 countries with various cultural background – from North Africa and the Middle East to Central and North Europe.

The project is co-ordinated by AEE Intec, an Austrian environmental NGO, assisted by kubus, the Science Shop of the Technical University Berlin. Funded by the Euro-Mediterranean Regional Programme for Local Water Management

(MEDA Water) the project started in September 2003 and will be finished in August 2007. The project ZerO-M aims at concepts and technologies to achieve optimised close-loop usage of all water flows in small municipalities or settlements (e.g. tourism facilities) which are not connected to a central wastewater treatment – the Zero Outflow Municipality (ZerO-M). This requires the application of water-saving technologies as well as the separate collection of different wastewater for a treatment and reuse according to their quality. For these decentralized sanitation concepts the involvement of users and a proper maintenance is the key to success.

According to the approach of transdisciplinary and community based research the active involvement of different actors on the local and regional level is as well intended as organised. Main elements are the development of training and demonstration centres, the training of planners, engineers and other target groups, pilot case studies and a pilot implementation. The first ZerO-M conference on sustainable water management will be held from 15-16 March 2005 in Istanbul, Turkey.

For more information please visit www.zer0-m.org or contact Gisela Hoffmann Dipl.-Ing. Environmental Engineering, Science Shop kubus, Technical University Berlin, kubus@zek.tu-berlin.de



Batch feeding siphon in empty chamber, constructed wetland, Roussillon, France

Interview

Alive and Kicking

Advancing Science and Society Interactions
Second Living Knowledge Conference, Seville 3-5 February 2005



Dr. Teresa Rojo, sociologist, works with Pax Mediterranea, a Seville research and consultancy organisation, and is professor at the University of Sevilla, teaching at the faculty of communication sciences. She was interviewed about the aims of the 2nd international Living Knowledge Conference in Seville, Spain, and its preparations.

*M*s Rojo, the forthcoming conference will be organised as part of the ISSNET project 'Improving Science Shop Networking'. Could you tell me about the general objectives of organising this international conference?

The February 2005 conference is continuing the process which started with the 1st Living Knowledge conference held in Leuven, Belgium in early 2001. This first conference was all about establishing an international Science Shop network on a solid base of management and publicity, facilitating access to scientific information and support across geographic and disciplinary boundaries. At that time 106 people from 19 countries attended the conference which was organised by a consortium of Science Shops from nine countries.

Were you a part of this first consortium?

No, I attended the conference as participant, but joined the transnational cooperation between Science Shops later within the INTERACTS project¹. Now within the ISSNET project² my organisation Pax Mediterranea cooperates with partners from Science Shops in the Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Austria, France, Romania and the USA to prepare a forum where information on community based research, carried out in both community and academic settings, can be shared and developed.

Please, tell me more about your organisation.

Pax Mediterranea S.L. is a research and consultancy organisation placed in Sevilla, in the region of Andalucía in Spain. It provides technical and scientific support in the domains of social sciences, environment and new technologies. Since 1995 Paxmed has concentrated on projects promoting economic development and social cohesion in the western Mediterranean, giving a special focus on social and environmental sustainability. Here we have developed capacity in organising and co-ordinating participatory events for collaborative research.

¹ see Living Knowledge – The international journal of Community Based Research, No.3, December 2004

² Improving Science Shop Networking: Key objective of ISSNET is to carry out activities to advance citizens' access to – and use of – scientific information, knowledge and expertise in a demand driven way by Science Shops. ISSNET activities contribute to start, set up and maintenance of the open network Living Knowledge. It is the implementation of Action 21 of EC's Science & Society Action Plan.

The conference will be held in Seville. I came to know Seville as a wonderful city.

Yes, Seville is the Capital city of the province and the region of Andalucía. It is a city steeped in history with wonderful monuments, building, parks and museums. But as well as its important monuments and fascinating history, Seville is universally famous for being a joyous town. While the people of Seville are known for their wit and sparkle, the city itself is full of vitality. It is the largest town in southern Spain, the city of Carmen, Don Juan and Figaro.

In preparing for the second Living Knowledge conference, we have a lot of support from local authorities and organisations. The conference will be held at the Engineering School of the University of Seville, which is well placed in the main core of the city, with easy walking and public transport access. The

main contributors to the local conference organisation are the University of Seville's Social Council, together with other departments of the same University, and the Seville section of the European Students of Industrial Engineering & Management Association (ESTIEM). We also receive support from an advisory committee which is

made up of representatives of universities, associations, enterprises and public administrations and whose work is related to the objectives and themes of the conference

Let us come back to the objectives of the Seville conference.

The general objective of this international conference in Seville is to reflect the social impact and scientific and democratic value of research from a range of disciplines including social, natural, physical and technological sciences. Therefore the conference aims to enhance academics' and policy makers' capacity to work with and for citizens. Part of this will be to build equitable and supportive research partnerships and to develop concepts and tools for community based and participatory action research.

How will the conference be structured, or what themes will be included?

The conference will include plenary and parallel sessions, oral presentations, workshops, poster sessions, exhibitions and a

Living Knowledge is not just about the dynamics of the most valuable asset a society produces and that it flows to society as well as to industry; it is also about the knowledge for living the kind of life society has the right to shape for itself, in the context of to-day's complex world. Mike Rogers

marketplace. In addition, there will be opportunities for field trips, excursions and networking.

The submitted abstracts and chosen topics for workshops and sessions are very promising. When the conference opens, we will start with a plenary session dealing with current practices in the interactions between science and society. Representatives from different stakeholders will focus on the impact of communities on the research and policy agenda and citizen participation in research and policy making. They are going to discuss the possible infrastructures for mediation and communication of community based research as well as local and global demands for access to research, science, education and technology. The contributions to the parallel sessions in this theme will be clustered within the scientific fields of urban renewal, water management, social exclusion and environment and health. Other plenary and parallel sessions will discuss future opportunities, aspects of problem solving as well as a call to action. You can find the detailed programme on our conference website.

Who do you want to participate in the conference?

This conference will be of interest to people who are active in, or interested in, the field of community-based research. This concerns practitioners either from NGO's, non-governmental organisations, or research institutes, as well as academic staff and students from

universities. But also science and society policy makers are invited to share their experiences. The conference will offer an opportunity to discuss the needs for community based research with all stakeholders, and to share ways of meeting those needs.

What results do you expect from the conference?

The conference will increase the visibility of Science Shops and help community groups to realise that Science Shops offer possibilities to meet their research needs. It will also strengthen and expand the International Science Shop Network and it will improve the dissemination of good practices to raise the public awareness of science through Science Shops. But most importantly it will be an international forum for all people from organisations involved in community based research such as scientists, policy makers or representatives of community groups to meet and discuss concepts and tools for community based and participatory action research.

So, please register and recommend the conference to your colleagues and partners.

Thank you very much, Ms. Rojo.

Contact: Teresa Rojo, Pax Mediterranea, Plaza Pelicano 4 (taller 27). 41003 Seville, Spain, +34.95.4922390, paxmed@arrakis.es

International Conference

Advancing Science and Society Interactions

Seville, 3-5 February 2005

The 2nd "Living Knowledge" Conference will be hosted by the University of Seville, Spain, from February 3rd to 5th, 2005.

Titled "Advancing Science and Society Interactions", this conference is organised by the International Science Shop Network *Living Knowledge* and supported by the European Commission under its Science and Society Programme.

It will provide a forum where information on community based research, carried out in both community and academic settings, can be shared and developed. The conference will reflect the social impact and scientific and democratic value of research from a range of disciplines including social, natural, physical and technological sciences. It will be of interest to people who are active in, or interested in, the field of community-based research. Practitioners from NGOs, research institutes, universities and science and society policy makers are invited to share their experiences.

The conference aims to ... build equitable and supportive research partnerships and develop concepts and

tools for community based and participatory action research.

The conference themes will include ...

Local and global demands for access to research, science, education and technology and the development of infrastructures for mediation and communication of community based research. The impact of communities on the research and policy agenda will be discussed.

Conference Activities ...

will include plenary sessions, oral presentations, workshops, poster sessions, exhibitions and a marketplace. The official languages of the conference are English and Spanish. Translation will be available throughout the conference. There will be opportunities for field trips, excursions and networking. Child-care will be offered during the conference.

Fees, program and registration

Registration fees will be from 25 € for Students to 100 € for NGOs and universities and 200 € for policy-makers / others. After December 15th 2004 fees will increase by 20%.



You can find an overview of accepted proposals for workshops and sessions in this magazine (see p. XX)

For online registration, please visit the website www.cienciaysociedadsevilla.org. To register by mail, and further information on scholarships and bursaries please contact the Conference Secretariat:

Pax Mediterranea, Plaza Pelicano 4 (taller 27). 41003 Seville, Spain, conference@paxmediterranea.com.

A printed conference announcement is available. Please address to norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de and ask for the needed number of copies.

This Conference will be organised as part of the ISSNET Project 'Improving Science Shop Networking', which has been awarded financial support by the European Commission, contract HPRP-CT-2002-0011.

Living Knowledge
The International Science Shop Network



Advancing Science and Society Interactions

Second International Living Knowledge Conference



Preliminary Programme

Thursday February 3

17.00 – 18.30 Opening Ceremony

Words of welcome from the University of Seville, the Regional Government and the City of Seville and the Directorate Science and Society of the European Commission (Francine Goffaux) and an introduction to the conference and the concept of science shops and the International Network of Science Shops. (Caspar de Bok, coordinator International Science Shop Network 'Living Knowledge').

Reception and welcome drinks

Key note speakers representing the different stakeholders will be: **Gerry McCormac**, Pro Vice Chancellor Community and Communications, Queen's University Belfast (UK); **Khan Rahi**, Coordinator of the North American Community Research Network (CA); **Jens Petersen**, Director Danish Cyclist organisation (DK); **Maria Luisa Garcia** (to be confirmed), President of the Social Council University of Seville (E)

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee break

In each cluster session there will be a series of short presentations about practical experiences. After the presentations the experiences will be discussed.

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

Friday February 4

14.00 – 15.30 Plenary Session

Future Opportunities

Chair: José Antonio Hernandez (to be confirmed), Oxfam (E)

In this plenary session representatives from different stakeholder groups will discuss their perspective on future opportunities, infrastructures and instruments for science and society interactions. After the key note speeches the topic will be discussed with the audience.

Key note speakers representing the different stakeholders will be: **Monica Menapace**, Project co-ordinator Education and Science, Dir. Science and Society, EC; **Roger O'Sullivan**, Director Rural Community Network (UK); **Rob Hagendijk**, Dean International School for Humanities and Social Sciences (ISHSS), University of Amsterdam (NL); **Michael Søgaard Jørgensen**, Head Science Shop- Technical University of Denmark (DK).

15.30 – 16.00 Coffee break

Friday February 4

9.00 – 10.30 Plenary Session

Current Practices

Chair: **Rafael Pardo Avellaneda** (to be confirmed), Research professor CSIC / President of the BBVA foundation (E)

In this plenary session representatives from different stakeholder groups will discuss their perspective on current practices in science and society interactions on a general level. *How do stakeholders see the state of the art in science and society interactions? How do they link science and society?*

After the key note speeches the topic will be discussed with the audience.

Friday February 4

11.00 – 13.00 Parallel sessions

What are the practical experiences within science and society interactions? An exchange on current practices in science and society interactions. This session will give you an overview of practical examples of those relations. It might give you ideas to start new projects in your own country or to link your activities with those of other experts. The contributions in this parallel sessions will be clustered within the themes:

- environment
- health
- agriculture
- social conditions
- communication



Registration (l.) and auditorium in a workshop (r.), 1st Living Knowledge Conference, Leuven, Belgium, January 2001

2nd Living Knowledge Conference
Advancing Science and Society Interactions

Preliminary Programme
 (continued)

Living Knowledge
 The International Science Shop Network

Friday February 4

16.00 – 18.00 Parallel sessions

What processes, tools and infrastructures can advance the interaction between science and society? Workshops with good practices on processes, tools and infrastructures that benefit the interactions between science, society and policy makers. This workshop will give you an overview of options to improve science and society interactions. It also offers you the opportunity to discuss the possibility to adapt mechanisms in your daily work. The workshops will be clustered around the following issues:



Coffee break discussion

- Research and policy agendas
- Citizen participation and partnerships in research
- Infrastructures for science and society interactions
- Science communication
- ICT-tools for science and society interactions

In each cluster there will be a series of short presentations about the processes, tools or infrastructures. After the presentations options for science and society interactions will be discussed.

Conference dinner

www.cienciaysociedadsevilla.org

Saturday, February 5

9.00 – 10.30 Plenary session

Call to Action

Chair: **Peter Levesque**, Dept. Director Knowledge Products and Mobilisation, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (CA)

In this plenary session representatives from different stakeholder groups will express their call to action to advance science and society interactions. From their specific point of view and expertise they will express what next steps need to be made to advance the science and society interactions. They will focus on the themes:

- Advancing the impact of communities on the research and policy agenda
- Advancing citizen participation in research and policy making
- Advancing the development of infrastructures for mediation and communication of community based research

After the key note speeches the topic will be discussed with the audience.

Key note speakers representing the different stakeholders will be: **Peter Nijkamp**, Chair of Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NL) / president of EuroHORCs (European Heads Of Research Councils); **Tara O'Leary**, Co-ordinator Friend of the Earth -Scotland (UK); **Arturo Garcia Arroyo** (to be confirmed), National Foundation of Science and Technology (E); **Phil Nyden**, Director Center for Urban Research and Learning, Loyola University Chicago (IL) (USA)

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee break

Saturday, February 5

11.00 – 13.00 Parallel session

Call to Action

In the parallel sessions calls for action will be discussed in working groups that focus on a specific perspective (e.g. stakeholders, thematic fields). Calls and recommendations from different participants in science and society interactions, will be expressed. This discussion will be based on the participants experiences and the plenary session 'Call to action'. In a participatory process each workgroup will formulate actions for the near future. The actions that will be formulated will be related to the themes:

- The impact of communities on the research and policy agenda
- Citizen participation in research and policy making
- Development of infrastructures for mediation and communication in science and society relations

This session will finish with concrete actions and recommendations for participants to take home.

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch



Workshop auditorium

Saturday, February 5

14.30 – 16.00 Closing ceremony

With a presentation of the call to action from the different working groups, a brief summary of the conference by one of chairs of a plenary session and words of thanks and goodbye by the conference organisation.

International

Transnational Linkages

The Role and Contributions of Science Shops in Linking Partners in Thematic Transnational Research Co-operation

by Carmen Teodosiu, Søsler Brodersen,
Kirsten von der Heiden and Andrea Gnaiger

In the EC project "ISSNET" (Improving Science Shop Networking) 13 organisations from The Netherlands, Germany, Romania, Austria, United Kingdom, Denmark, Spain, France and the USA co-operate for the development of a functional network of Science Shops and Science Shop-like institutions and networks inside and outside of Europe.

There are activities of the ISSNET project that are related to the development of a sustainable network structure, a website with a public database and an online discussion forum, an international 4-monthly magazine, the continuance of the international conference, but also to the establishment of the transnational research co-operation as a regular activity of the network.

Within the EC project "ISSNET" (Improving Science Shop Networking) the objectives of the specific workpackage 4 (WP4), *Transnational Research Co-operation*, refer to the improvement of international exchange of information and good practices on themes of mutual interest for Science Shops and community groups in different countries. Considering a series of activities that initially involve co-operation between ISSNET partners on a specific topic (Sustainable Water Management and Land Use), as well as international research projects undertaken previously through intermediaries such as Science Shops, this workpackage envisages the development of concepts and procedures that can afterwards promote transnational co-operation on a variety of topics at the level of the international Science Shop network.

Why a special workpackage for research co-operation within an international Science Shop network?

The Lisbon European Council in 2000, set the strategic goal of transforming the European Union by 2010 *into the most competitive and dynamic knowledge based society in the world capable of sustainable economic growth with more, better jobs and greater social cohesion*. In close connection with this goal, the process of creation of the European Research Area (started in January 2000) and specifically the EC Science and Society Action Plan (2002) bring into discussion the need to develop

stronger and more harmonious relation between science and society. Although international research co-operation has been one of the major objectives of the European Framework Programmes from their initiation, most of this co-operation was supported by Universities and research institutes through fundamental and applied research themes and accompanied by mobilities of staff and students. Few examples, only in the last years, may be mentioned for international research co-operation based on themes that are requested by community groups and that include intermediaries such as Science Shops as initiators and involve subsequently researchers, NGO members and students.

A common theme to start up transnational research co-operation

The workgroup of WP4 formed by both university based and non-university based Science Shops(*) developed a pilot on environmental co-operation with the objective of facilitating sharing of experiences, knowledge build-up, documentation and co-operation among Science Shops and community groups, with the purpose to improve sustainable environmental actions in different European regions.

A first assessment on the topics that have been developed by the WP4 partners as part of their existent co-operation with different groups (especially NGOs)

revealed that out of the 31 topics that have been mentioned, 22 come from the environmental field (water management, impact of industrial processes, waste recycling, solid waste management, local Agenda 21, participatory and sustainable urban city planning, ecological concepts and eco-management in SMEs, environmental education, etc.).

Based on the experience and interest for transnational co-operation in the field of *Sustainable Water Management and Land Use* and also on the actual research component and potential for co-operation (that allows participation of different organizational forms of Science Shops, students, community groups and universities) all WP4 partners considered as adequate this field for the start up of the pilot project.

Effective co-operation for the pilot project. Country analysis and the interest of different groups to participate in thematic research co-operation

In order to assess the opportunities for transnational co-operation in the field of



Sustainable Water Management and Land Use, all WP4 partners have used a semi-structured interview proposed by 'kubus' Science Shop, Technical University of Berlin, Germany and modified accordingly to the suggestions of WP4 partners. This interview was focused on the following issues:

- the specific topics (e.g. monitoring, water and wastewater treatment, training, educational programs, management, etc.) and documentary evidences in the field of *Sustainable Water Management and Land Use* of different organization with whom Science Shops co-operate at local, regional and national level;
- the type of partners with whom the interviewees work usually;
- the specific interest for dissemination and exchange of information at the organisational level, including their participation in networks, community organisations;
- the type of support (included details on the important stakeholders) envisaged by individual groups so as to develop trans-national thematic co-operation as well as other topics that could support it;
- the specific interest of the groups to participate in the ISSNET WP4 pilot project and further on, to the development of the LK network and of common projects.

The target groups considered in the national contexts for the conduction of interviews, expressing interest for the pilot project, were: governmental organizations, NGO's, university staff (researchers) and science-shops, and details are presented in table 1.

The analysis of the interviews has been performed using a framework proposed by InterMEDIU Department (Technical University of Iasi, Romania) and agreed by the WP4 partners. In principle, this analysis is based upon the major categories of questions addressed by the interviews and has the role to:

- selection of partner groups interested to facilitate communication and co-operation on the established subject;
- disseminate and exchange of existent knowledge (at different levels, i.e. Science Shops, society groups, students) and identification of other demands of client groups related to the pilot project subject;
- generate international projects by linking project partners;

- identify additional topics for future transnational co-operation.

The most addressed topics connected with the pilot project subject as identified in the interviews are presented in Table 2, but a more in depth overview of co-operation possibilities will be presented in the cross analysis that will consider co-operation as seen from the perspective of NGOs, universities, Science Shops and governmental organizations in the different countries participating.

More specific results of the pilot project have been presented by each partner in a country report (all reports are available for download at <http://www.scienceshops.org>, under the heading of: Research Co-operation/Publications)

In Austria, the FBI Centre, organized recently in Innsbruck a meeting on water management that brought together politicians, a governmental agency, representatives of NGOs, students from a secondary school and members of the University of Innsbruck. After an introduction made by one of the officials of the administrative district of Innsbruck, a project on sustainable water management in the community of Kematen, called "Moving Water" was presented by the students. This meeting was combined with the presentation of the ISSNET project and WP4 interview results, and with discussions of the possibilities for further co-operation, networking and exchange of information. As a result of this meeting the participants improved their regional co-operation possibilities (by identifying common topics) and also recommended 2 topics for international co-operation (these topics will be further discussed in 2nd Living Knowledge Conference in Sevilla with the aim to initiate international project co-operation).

Apart from these activities, in the context of the pilot project, a student from the Technical University of Iasi, Romania has undertaken a period of approx. 3 months mobility at the Danish Technical University, so as to work with local groups on existing projects in water management and to participate in specific lectures or visits in order to finalize his diploma research related to sustainable river basin management (the

Table 1. Involvement in the pilot project: Interviewers and respondents

Interviews taken by	InterMEDIU TU Iasi Romania	ScienceShop DTU Denmark	kubus and WilaBonn Germany	FBI Austria
Target groups				
NGO's	4	5	3	1
Governmental organisations, administration, policy-makers	4	4	3	2
University staff, researchers	4	4	5	1
Science Shops, transfer organizations	4	2	6	-
Others	-	-	-	1 (private company)
Other potential partners	-	-	12	-

exchange was possible considering a formal agreement of the two universities).

Facilitation of communication among partners

Communication is probably one of the important issues that contribute to a successful co-operation at national or international level. In an initial stage, the WP4 group was interested in facilitating a separate subsection of the ISSNET website, with access to the mailing lists and publications (reports, articles, bibliographic information). For any of the groups that are interested in transnational thematic co-operation, or considering the information that this type of co-operation produce, it is important to have access at the Living Knowledge database (searchable on key words so as to provide access

to topics of Science Shop co-operation, reports, useful links, etc.) and also at the WP4 thematic discussion group. The Living Knowledge newsletter and magazine are also efficient possibilities of dissemination of information related to current projects and new calls for proposals, and all those interested are invited to participate.

Role and contributions of Science Shops

Linking project partners especially for small organisations with limited financial and networking capacities (as Science Shops and NGOs in most of the cases are) provide different opportunities such as:

- Science Shops coordinators involved in a specific project develop university co-operation on curricula and research, and

Table 2. Topics addressed in the field of Sustainable Water Management and Land Use

Romania	Denmark	Germany	Austria
Governmental organizations, administration, policy-makers			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water quality monitoring, - Wastewater Treatment - Sustainable land use - Environmental authorizations and agreements, - Water Framework Directive Implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waste water disposal control - Water supply - Water Pollution Control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water quality monitoring - Water framework Directive Implementation at state level - Berlin surface waters management (supply, use, licenses, traffic) - Joint research project on river basin management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nature conservation and sustainable development in Tyrol Region - Consultancy, information and juridical assistance on environmental issues
NGO's			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental education - Environmental consultancy - Capacity building - Soil pollution control - Protection of sensible areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water quality - Land use and agriculture - Environmental space - Capacity building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Involvement of society in water management - Protection of surface waters - Environmental education - Consultancy of river development - Local Agenda 21 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water quality monitoring - Soil pollution
University staff, Researchers			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quality assessment and monitoring of waters, wastewaters - Water treatment and wastewater treatment technologies - Water resources management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water management - Land use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interdisciplinary co-operation development - Water shortage forecasting - Flood prevention and management (for WFD Implementation) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Microbial ecology - Aquatic biodiversity - Effects of environmental stressors - Environmental education
Science Shops			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ecological assessment of lakes and ponds - Ecological education programs - Water and wastewater quality - Water management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water management - Land use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water management and technological development - Environmental consultancy - Water analysis 	

subsequently staff and student exchanges (examples at the level of Dutch, Romanian, Danish, German and British Science Shops) ;

- university and non-university Science Shops generate co-operation with non-governmental organisations and make the linkages between them including transfer of information or start-up of project proposals (for example, a project on the NGO capacity building was developed by a Romanian Science Shop and an US Community Based Research Institution)
- university staff members working with the Science Shop facilitate co-operation of Science Shops and community groups



within large research projects (such as FP6 integrated projects or networks of excellence). In this case, the Science Shops as well as community groups may benefit by their direct links so as to make effective the communication and dissemination of scientific results, as specifically requested by the FP6 programs. For example, the participation of the of DTU Science Shop to the NoE ACCENT (*Atmospheric Composition Change: An European Network*) is part of the workpackage dealing with integration of scientific activities with policy making and public awareness.

What are the next stages of transnational research co-operation ?

The assessment of thematic international co-operation undertaken previously or on-going in the Science Shop context is going to be realized so as to find out which are the most relevant aspects that contribute to the initiation and the fruitful finalization of such co-operations. Each of the partners will take a close look at existent transnational projects with the purpose to discuss organizational, financial aspects but also policy implications and follow up projects.

Dissemination and presentation of other relevant topics (health, education and minorities, voluntary organisations, legal support, others) and tools for transnational research co-operation is another objective that will be taken into consideration by the WP4 group. The major issues that need to be addressed in order to transpose all thematic co-operation at the Living Knowledge network level relate to:

- the efficient linkage of project partners and facilitation of improved or start-up thematic research co-operation (through dissemination and exchange of existent knowledge (national or international)
- joint participation in project proposals, that include a variety of partners and experiences.

Some Science Shops and their stakeholders will continue with national workshops. A common instrument of all international partners to build up new and living transnational linkages is the forthcoming 2nd Living Knowledge conference in Seville (Spain) between 3 and 5 February 2005 (<http://www.scienceshops.org>, www.cienciaysociedadsevilla.org). At this ISSNET conference, there will be a workshop in the field of Sustainable Water Management and Land Use, prepared by the WP4 partners, taking the chance to disseminate interview result and demands addressed towards Science Shops improving their roles.

Why should other groups be interested in thematic co-operation?

Most of the points of interest have been discussed so far, and this paragraph could resume the positive aspects of joining these activities:

- access to the necessary links at both national and international level
- approach of partners for a NGO capacity building project proposal or for dissemination activities at an international level.
- access to existent co-operation projects or networks
- searching for project partners or project proposals through the database.

Corresponding address for this article: inmediu@ch.tuiasi.ro

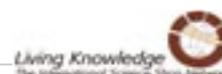


Table 3: The partners of the ISSNET workpackage 4

InterMEDIU Information, Consultancy and ODL Department, 'Gh Asachi' Technical University, Iasi, Romania: Carmen Teodosiu, Maria Gavrilescu, Liliana Maftai and George Barjoveanu (inmediu@ch.tuiasi.ro)
Science Shop at the Technical University of Denmark, Lyngby, Denmark: Michael Sogaard Jorgensen and Søsler Brodersen (msj@ipl.dtu.dk)
kubus (The Cooperation Consulting Centre for Environmental Questions), Technical University Berlin, Germany: Wolfgang Endler and Kirsten von der Heiden (wolfgang.endler@zek.tu-berlin.de)
Institut für gesellschaftswissenschaftliche Forschung, Bil- dung und Information (Institut FBI), Innsbruck, Austria: Andrea Gnaiger and Gabriela Schroffenegger (fbi@reflex.at)
Wissenschaftsladen Bonn (WilaBonn), Bonn, Germany: Anke Valentin (anke.valentin@willabon.de)

International

Bridging Gaps

Empowerment of the Community in Health Action

by Saeed Asefzadeh,

Qazvin University of Medical Sciences, Qazvin, Iran

In order to develop a country's research capacity effectively, we need to prioritize in terms of how and who, will be using the research products.

Without a concreted effort to focus on the priority problems in health research capacity, people would be trained, organizations built and institutions strengthened with no clear end goal.

Countries should look at where capacity is most required and enrich these areas first. (1,2)

In the past, health research in Iran has been characterized by low adherence to priority research, and removal from the communities' real health needs. The situation could cause widening of the gap between the universities and the people's needs.

The necessity for empowerment

During the past three years, in an attempt to develop equity in health, the modern approach of participatory health research priority setting in the Universities of Medical Sciences in Iran – that they are responsible both for medical education, research and delivery health care to defined the population – pushed them to revise their policies towards shortening the 10/90 gap by building partnership in health research activities. (3)

Qazvin University of Medical Sciences Covering a population of about 1100,000, also revised and developed its health research policies towards socially accountable goals through involving a broad range of the main stakeholders and determined the health problems of the people and formulated them into more than 200 research topics.

According to these topics, the versatile health teams led by the academicians, are to launch community based research projects. Now, the lay persons as the member of the research team lag before the experts and this condition leads to misunderstandings. What we could do is to build the capacity to mobilize the resources through continuation of the coalition.

Bridging gaps

To bridge the cultural gap between the community and the academicians (4), we organized some meetings and assessed the learning needs of the community volunteers for action research. Setting the learning objectives, we prepared a specially designed practical guide book for their training and organized several workshops.

More than 110 people who were NGO's members, housewives and female community health volunteers participated in the workshops to be empowered in critical thinking as well as participating in the community based research projects.

Now, they are capable of problem finding and analyzing it, data collecting and processing, and examining the interventions independently and collaborate with the researcher in progress of nine participation health research projects. Some of them also motivate and train the other volunteers in action research.

Our experience is to be generalized to other universities.

Conclusion

The critical first stage in any participatory process is to lay the basis for the relationship between the project workers and the community and the key issue is the notion of the fact that community participation is not merely an input to the project but the basis upon which it will operate.

Keeping this matter in mind, our experience indicate that the community volunteers within the research team can facilitate :

- a) getting entrance to the selected community,
- b) getting to know the community and creating awareness of the project,
- c) gaining the trust of the community,
- d) operational management of the project,
- e) establishing the basis of community participation to develop the project and
- f) mobilizing and pooling the resources.

At the end, our experience in Iran reveals that the empowerment of the community in actions research can develop the skills and abilities to enable people to facilitate and manage the process of the participatory research better and have a say to what is done. People can build partnership in the research that they as a part of the population are the real owners of the results, and they stride towards equity in health.

On the other hand, by bridging cultural gap the researchers' and academicians' attitudes are reoriented towards responding the real health needs of their communities – it is a give-and-take process.

Contact:

Saeed Asefzadeh, Ph.D, Associate Professor, Director of Research, Qazvin University of Medical Sciences, Qazvin, Iran, Sasefzadeh@qums.ac.ir, Sa34_asefzadeh@Yahoo.com

References:

1. COHRED. (2000): The ENHR Hand book. Document 2000.4
2. BOELEN, C. (2001): Towards Unity For Health. Case studies. Geneva: World Health Organization.
3. ASEFZADEH, S. (2003): Building up Partnership: Setting Health Research Priorities. The Network News Letter. TUFH, Dec. 2003: 7
4. RICHARDS, R. W. (1996): Building Partnership, Educating Health Professionals for the Communities They Serve. Jossey – Bass Pubs. 1996:17-21



Vienna, A

Whither Sustainable Sciences?

Results of the 1st European Networks Conference on Sustainability in Practice, Berlin, April 2004

by Günther Jikeli, Bettina Hoffmann, Joachim Börner
Kolleg für Management und Gestaltung gGmbH



Sustainable development has been on the agenda of various research and policy fields for a long time before the Earth Summit in Johannesburg in 2002. Yet, until today, it is not evident whether new sustainability strategies will be able to interlink theoretical developing research with the relevant policies implemented in practice and society. The question about the future of sustainable development has to be reformulated jointly what demands more than the imparting of scientific and political knowledge by experts in a professional manner. Organisations linking science and society, as it is the idea of Science Shops, will play an important role. The question of (new) knowledge production corresponds with the responsibility of scientists to draft the scope of design for sustainability and with institutional innovation.

Latest developments in Sustainability Sciences were presented at ENCOS 2004 by Hartmut Graßl, (German Advisory Council on Global Change) Peter Hennis (President of the Wuppertal Institute), Antonio Elizalde Hevia (Bolivarian University, Chile), Jan Rotmans (ICIS), Carlo Jaeger (PIK), Uri Zoller (Haifa University), Ritje van Dam-Mieras (Open University) and others in several panels.

The presented exemplary research projects reflected approaches integrating the non-scientific and even lay-knowledge of stakeholders into the whole research process. On institutional level intermediary institutions such as Science Shops play an important role in bringing together co-operation partners and in enhancing a bi-directional transfer of scientific knowledge and practical expertise while jointly conducting projects.

The ENCOS conference itself can be seen as an example of changing learning methods and self-conception of science: The attempt was successful to extend the mainly scientific concept by involving contributions of politicians and practitioners as well as integrating a networks fair and guided urban ecological tour. An effective change concerning the scientific self-conception and the institutional setting was proclaimed and the following future challenges were formulated:

- Strengthening the inter- and transdisciplinary communication and cooperation between science, business, politics and society,
- Orientation of universities towards recent trends such as life-long learning, student-centred curricula and collaborative learning/international transfer of knowledge,
- Broader integration of practical know how and cognitive knowledge in the entire education sector,
- Development of adequate forms to communicate and transmit new research findings/insights transparently to various target groups.

The conference under the patronage of the German Minister for the Environment Jürgen Trittin was organised by the KMG (www.kmgne.de) in cooperation with Ganzheitlicher/Kritischer Umweltschutz (Technical University Berlin) and ESSENCE.

Ottawa, CA

Canadian Science & Society Association – CANSSA

The Canadian Science & Society Association – CANSSA is being launched to support and promote an environment:

- a. with fluid links between scientific efforts and public concerns and aspirations
- b. where citizens and policy-makers can openly discuss issues of science and technology, so as to make informed choices
- c. where knowledge is shared within and across all sectors of society and acted on for mutual, long-term benefit

As an incorporated, non-profit organization, the Canadian Science & Society Association – CANSSA, will seek to engage all sectors in a dialogue to develop the conditions which lead to inclusive collective intelligence on the issues which most affect our lives – today and for the future. Three initial efforts form the first set of activities. These are:

- 1) Conversation: Submissions are being sought for a publication discussing the state of „Science & Society” in Canada. Science in this context is used as a term for organized investigation and incorporates the social and human sciences,

arts, as well as the natural, physical, engineering and technological sciences. The publication is to be published independently with a planned release date of May 1, 2005.

- 2) Community: A weblog is currently being developed to permit active online conversations. These online community will lead to face to face conversations across Canada with a goal of developing the policy framework to support the CANSSA vision.
- 3) Collaboration: Partners, both individual and organizations, are being sought to form a collaborative. Collective networks, as in open source, draw together a diversity of partners, who focus on their core talents, together building something which is mutually beneficial.

Interested individuals and groups, whether for information, to volunteer, to donate, or to partner, are asked to contact:

Canadian Science & Society Association – CANSSA c/o Peter Levesque
905 Balzac Lane Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K4A 4E4 (613) 841-0858.
coming soon: www.canssa.org

Bookreview

Evaluation and Social Research

Introducing small scale practice

by Irene Hall and David Hall

Published by Palgrave MacMillan, UK, 2004. ISBN 0-333-93095-9

Experience with applied social research, the work with students and the need to engage them more with community programs as well as the requests from different community organisations for external evaluation seem to be the most important factors that explain the authors' commitment in writing this book published recently by Palgrave MacMillan.

Universities engagement with their communities is becoming significant for many countries in Europe and world-wide, and organisations such as Community Based Research centres and Science Shops can contribute to the opening of Universities to the needs formulated by community organisations (information, research, education) contributing thus to the democratization of knowledge. In this context, evaluation research conducted by students as part of their study programme with small scale, local organisations (voluntary and welfare organisations), but nevertheless providing high quality reports, provides benefits for both organisations and the students (in terms of experiences and skill gained in the community).

The book is structured on eight chapters, completed with preface, appendices, lists of tables and figures, references and index.

The first chapter introduces the key issues that are important for the evaluator when working with the model of small scale evaluation- the model is defined, and then developed further with practical examples taken from student projects.

In chapter 2 several models of evaluation are discussed and there are presented the usual problems and their solutions in a user-friendly manner, so that one that is unfamiliar with social research and evaluation can easily find his way into this demanding field.

Chapter 3 takes into consideration the ethical and moral issues that arise in evaluation. These issues encompass the research activity, as a planned scientific activity, with the ethical issues like anonymity and consent of the participants.

Chapters 4 and 5 refer to the planning of research and the analysis of the findings. The research methods are presented through examples and conclusions may be drawn easily. Also, since literature on research methods is so rich, many references are provided so as to provide more details to the reader.

Chapter 6 presents the structure, content and the presentation of the evaluation report, highlighting the important aspects that need to be taken into account.

Chapter 7 takes into discussion the concept of "reflective practice" in research, focusing on the role of the evaluator in the evaluation process, the final report carrying his own mark.

The final chapter, contains examples of full evaluation experiences, completed for each case with conclusions and recommendations.

The book is a valuable source of information on social research and evaluation techniques and it can be an invaluable aid both for the specialists and students interested in this field, and to those working in Science Shops and Community Based Research Centers. Nevertheless, practitioners working in interdisciplinary research projects or those who need to evaluate work and welfare organisations will also benefit of this book guidance.

This book outstanding through the clarity of the discourse and the scientific approach. The information is very well structured and the multitude of examples, references and reflections on the ideas give an impression of the very good academic skills and communication aptitudes of the authors.

Prof.dr. Carmen Teodosiu

"Gh. Asachi" Technical University of Iasi, Romania

Information about the authors:

Irene Hall is Senior Lecturer in the Deanery of Science and Social Science at Liverpool Hope University College. David Hall is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work Studies at the University of Liverpool. Irene and David Hall are joint authors of the book *Practical Social Research* published also by Palgrave MacMillan.

Exhibition

Registration is open!

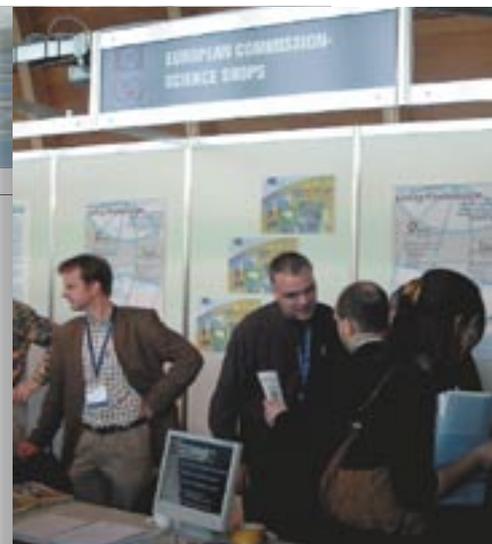
Science and Society Forum 2005
Brussels, 9-11 March 2005

European and national policy-makers, parliamentarians, opinion leaders, entrepreneurs, researchers, scientists, representatives of civil society groups, science mediators are invited to discover amazing initiatives from across Europe and to share experience and visions. In reflection cross-cutting issues of the Science and Society agenda will be discussed. Another focus will be to map out the future. Participants are asked to engage in a community debate for shaping the next European Science and Society policy.

The International Science Shop Network and Living Knowledge – The international journal of Community Based Research will exhibit at the Forum.

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/society2005.htm>

Presentation of the International Science Shop Network at the "Europe of Knowledge 2020" conference, April 2004 in Liège



Call for Proposals

The European Commission has published a call for proposals for the 'citizens and governance in a knowledge-based society' thematic priority of the Sixth Framework Programme (FP6).

Some of the areas covered by this call are for **Networks of Excellence and Integrated Projects**:

- knowledge based policies for the knowledge based society: policy learning and the sources of policy knowledge;
- education strategies for inclusion and social cohesion and their relation to other policies; linguistic diversity in a European knowledge based society
- towards a European public sphere;
- gender and citizenship in a multicultural context.

For STREPs and CAs:

- understanding knowledge;
- new EU borders, new visions of neighbourhood;
- governance for sustainable development;
- economic governance, articulation and competences and role of expertise;
- values and religions in Europe;

For SSAs:

- increasing the visibility and impact of research infrastructures and activities for social sciences and humanities in Europe;
- promoting international research and policy cooperation in social sciences and humanities;

To see the full details of the call, please consult the following web addresses:

http://fp6.cordis.lu/citizens/call_details.cfm?CALL_ID=175
http://fp6.cordis.lu/citizens/call_details.cfm?CALL_ID=176
http://fp6.cordis.lu/citizens/call_details.cfm?CALL_ID=177

The deadline for submitting tender documents is 13.4.2005. You can use the Living Knowledge network for sharing ideas, finding partners and building a projectgroup.

Neighbourhood Science

The latest issue of the EU DG Research magazine "RTD Info" has published an article about Science Shops.

"In a sense, science shops are both shop and embassy. Rooted in the local community and working hand in hand with universities, they place research and know-how at the service of needs on the ground. Citizens, associations and NGOs make up their 'clientele', whose concerns they meet by carrying out audits, studies, investigations, research and sometimes even proposing innovative technical solutions ..."

More at http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/rtinfo/43/index_en.html

Please Contribute

Making a magazine requires participation.

Living Knowledge - International Journal of Community Based Research is published every four months. The next issue will be published in March 2005. The general topic will be "Community Based Research in Social Sciences". The deadline for submitting contributions is February, 19th 2005.

The magazine welcomes contributions such as reports, articles, news stories, press releases and clippings, letters, contribution to discussions, job offers, internships, etc. Reports and detailed articles should follow the editorial guidelines. Information about the magazine and the editorial guidelines can be found at the homepage of the Science Shop Network (www.scienceshops.org). Please feel free to contact the editors for questions and assistance.

norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de, c.f.m.debok@bio.uu.nl, djhall@liverpool.ac.uk,

Globalization and International Security: New Challenges for the 21st Century

6th Open Meeting of the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change Research Community, 9-13 October 2005, University of Bonn, Germany

Global environmental change is occurring within the context of a number of transformations, including those that are strongly biophysical and those that are more socio-economic and cultural in nature. These interrelated transformations are creating opportunities and challenges for a sustainable future. The 6th Open Meeting of the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change Research Community is set up to promote a better understanding of global transformations, to identify the resulting opportunities and challenges and to develop appropriate responses.

Timeline and deadlines for applications:

Paper abstract submissions: February 1st, 2005 to March 15th, 2005, Poster submissions: February 1st, 2005 to March 15th, 2005, Pre-Open Meeting capacity-building training seminars: November 15th, 2004 to February 15th, 2005.

More details, including information, application forms, timelines and deadlines, are now available at the Open Meeting website, <http://openmeeting.homelinux.org>. This site is also accessible by going to the IHDP website at www.ihdp.org and clicking on the 2005 Open Meeting link.

What is a Science Shop?

A „Science Shop“ provides independent, participatory research support in response to concerns experienced by civil society. Science Shops use the term „science“ in its broadest sense, incorporating the social and human sciences, as well as natural, physical, engineering and technological sciences.

There is not one dominant organisational structure defining a Science Shop. How Science Shops are organised and operate is highly dependent on their context.

Organisations that meet the definition of a Science Shop and do provide civil society with knowledge and skills through research and education on an affordable basis will be taken into account.

There are forums for all parties interested and involved in Science Shops and other forms for community based research. They can give input to but also get information from the Living Knowledge discussion list, the bimonthly newsletter or this magazine, which provide users with resources and tools related to community-based research.

Living Knowledge Website:

www.scienceshops.org

International Science Shop Office

isso@bio.uu.nl

If you want subscribe or unsubscribe to the magazine or the newsletter please send a message to C.F.M.deBok@bio.uu.nl or visit our website at <http://www.scienceshops.org> and select 'Discussion list and Newsletter'

Science Shop Brochure

In March 2004, an international brochure on Science Shops has been released.

This brochure was produced by the European Commission in close co-operation with the International Science Shop Network. In the brochure information can be found on activities and impact of Science Shops. The examples in the brochure give an outstanding overview of the different contexts in which Science Shops operate and the networking of Science Shops. The brochure is of special interest for people who want to adopt the concept of Science Shops or are involved in science and society issues (on a practical, political and management level). The brochure is available in English, German and French. Brochures can be ordered for free at the European Commission, Science and Society Directorate.

For ordering the brochure please contact Jette Gents, jette.gents@cec.eu.int, tel. +32.2.29.99909