

The *Rise* of Civil Society in XXI century

*Shaping Community at Home,
in the Workplace, and in Society
through Greater Participation*



I.C.A.I. GLOBAL CONFERENCE

Cairo, Egypt
24-30 September, 1996
Ramses Hilton Conference Center

I.C.A.I. GLOBAL CONFERENCE

HIGHLIGHTS OF CON

I. TRAINING

A. PARTICIPATORY RURAL APPRAISAL

How can we adopt the attitude of learners, conveners, catalysts and facilitators, and begin acting less as "development experts". A training seminar to sensitize practitioners towards approaches that empower others to do their own research, analysis, presentations, planning and implementation. Directions to access the two-way highway of mutual learning and intelligent development action.

B. TECHNOLOGY OF MEANING

Civil Society depends on people finding meaning in their work. The sense of meaning is at the heart of motivation, commitment and productivity. This workshop will present theoretical formulations as guides and a framework to search for practical methods.

C. PARTICIPATORY METHODS

This training seminar looks at approaches and methods by which situational and strategic analysis as well as problem solving solutions can take place through dialogue and group action. Techniques to spark and facilitate creative group participation and interaction make up the agenda.

D. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

This training session draws on current research to find out where successful community efforts exist and what makes them so. Participants will benefit from presentations and teaching modules where novel conceptual and practical tools - the training of community workers - will be presented.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

II. WORKSHOPS

A. YOUTH

How do we increase the awareness of communities, organizations and business to the inherent value of youth? The establishment of partnerships between youth and adults, youth and business, as well as youth and NGOs will be explored as a viable solution for building and sustaining civil society. The accent is on turning youth from a perceived issue into part of the solution.

B. WOMEN

"One Year Beyond Beijing" will be looking at the *Platform for Action* as stated in the Fourth World Conference on Women. The agenda for the platform features human rights, empowerment, power sharing, equality, development and peace. The workshop will review what is presently being done and what needs to be done in the future.

C. LOCAL ECONOMICS

How do we empower local economic alternatives in a world that is ordered through global monetary systems? This workshop offers an opportunity to share in the experience and on-going research behind alternative money schemes presently being implemented. Local credit, bartering and savings for the purpose of alleviating poverty, creating employment and sustaining the environment will be reviewed and evaluated.

D. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs)

This workshop will focus on government, donor, non-governmental agency cooperation in development. What is the role of NGOs vis-a-vis the government ? How do we strengthen civil society organizations ?

III. PROJECTS

A. UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP); LOCAL INITIATIVE FACILITY FOR URBAN ENVIRONMENT (LIFE)

Promoting local-local dialogue and action to improve the living conditions in low-income urban communities. The goal is to help city dwellers to help themselves find local solutions to local problems such as sanitation, recycling and income generation, and environmental health.

B. JACOBS FOUNDATION

A unique private sector approach to supporting civil society through a foundation which focuses on organizational and social change, offering technical and training assistance, as well as mentoring local non-profit organizations. The Jacobs Foundation is committed to building and testing innovative, sustainable models for communities to solve current and pressing issues.

C. SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME (CEP)

The CEP objective is to build the capacity of rural communities in Ethiopia to initiate and sustain their own development activities. Rather than a conventional blue print programme with predetermined objectives and outputs, the CEP is process-oriented making use of opportunities and developments as they appear on the "project theatre".

D. CIVIC INDEXING: THE NATIONAL CIVIC LEAGUE (U.S.A)

The National Civic League developed the *Civic Index* to help communities evaluate and improve their civic infrastructure - the complex interaction of people and groups through which decisions are made and problems resolved. The ten components of the *Index* serve as a description of the types of skills and processes that must be present for a community to deal effectively with its unique concerns.



"All who drink from the waters of the Nile are destined to return"

Egyptian proverb

While it is no longer recommended practice to drink from the Nile, the attractions on hand in Egypt do prove to make it irresistible. The following are a few tips:

Climate and clothing

Egypt ranges in temperature from hot to warm in summer, but the heat is dry. In terms of clothing, it is best to bring your lightest cottons and to avoid dark colours. Beiges and light browns are the wisest colours to choose. Besides being cool, they don't show Egypt's ever-present dust. At night the temperature can plummet by as much as 15 degrees Celsius, from 35 to 30 down to 20 to 15. The contrast makes it feel even cooler than you'd expect. So bring along a sweater, jacket or wrap for the evening.

Food and Drink

Egyptian cuisine is a melting pot of all the civilizations who have settled the Nile valley. You will find the food good, hearty and enjoyable. You can eat reasonably in elegant but not luxurious restaurants for US\$15 to 20 per day. Dinner-theatre at the Ramses Hilton Hotel runs at about US\$30.

Moving around Cairo

The most convenient and reasonably priced mode of transportation are the black and white taxis. They can be easily flagged down on most Cairo streets. It is good practice to agree on a fare with the driver before riding. Also convenient and accessible in downtown Cairo is the underground.

Currency

The Egyptian currency is the pound, and one US dollar is equivalent to 3.34 Egyptian pounds. Currency exchange is possible at the hotels or at the many exchange bureaus and banks.

Visas

Visas can be easily obtained at the Egyptian Embassy or Consulate nearest you, or at the Cairo International Airport upon arrival. Check with the Egyptian Embassy or Consulate on the best way to obtain your visa.

English

Welcome
Good morning
(response)
Good evening
(response)
How are you ? (to m / f)
(I am) well (m/f)
Please (to m/f)

Arabic

Ahlan wa sahlan
Sabah Alkheir
Sabah Alnoor
Masaa Alkheir
Masaa Alnoor
Izzeyak / Izzeyik
Kwayis / Kwayisa
Min fadlak / min fadlik

English

Thank you
You're welcome
Yes
No
How much ?
Cheap
Expensive
Bathroom

Arabic

Shukran
Afwan
Aywa
La
Bi Kam
Rikhees
Ghali
Hammam





An action-research conference designed to identify trends, models and methods useful in the emerging global civilization and to create new opportunities for networking toward a human and sustainable future.

In Africa, the oldest recorded civilization flourished 5,000 years ago. The world of the pharaohs was founded on agricultural surplus and ordered by theocratic beliefs. Its central project, the pyramids, were not built by slave labour as is commonly believed, but through the organization of the world's first civil society. In terms of time, ancient Egypt has been human kind's most sustainable civilization. At the threshold of a new millennium, our emerging global culture would do well to take stock of the lessons of its humanistic past even as it beholds the unfolding of an ever interconnected, technological future.

THE CENTRAL ISSUES:

SOLIDARITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

The creative wellsprings capable of elevating 21st century global civilization beyond the domain of tabloid sensationalism lie not in electronic wizardry but in the human heart. Five millennia after civilization first appeared in the fertile valley of the river Nile, it is clear that if we are to have a sustainable future, humanity must address two central issues: *human solidarity* transcending national, religious, racial, cultural, class, gender and other socially-imposed barriers; and *social responsibility* capable of caring for our endangered planet.

INTERDEPENDENCE AND CIVIL SOCIETY

The new human and ecological interdependence needed to insure our and our descendant's future will not materialize in a vacuum. Creative interdependence requires stability and a learning medium that begins in the home and continues through the institutions of civil society (i.e. citizen's associations, trade unions, service clubs, non-governmental organizations, cooperatives, religious bodies, women and youth groups, academia, the media, the private sector and more).



CIVIL SOCIETY

HABITS OF HEART AND MIND

People learn about solidarity and responsibility by actively participating in society. Through the practical give and take of a dynamic civil society, a citizen will develop the *habits of heart and mind* needed to address the complex challenges of our post-modern world. Through civil society people may find a voice and a stake in their community, and by extension, in our planet. In the process, the *social capital* required for a vibrant civil society and a healthy civilization is developed. Before global civilization moves beyond the sound bite effect into the realm of comprehension and effective solutions, its member societies must discover what they have in common and accentuate their deepest aspirations regarding human solidarity. To help achieve this we must ask:

- What changes need to be made ?
- What are the catalysts for change ?
- What has already been accomplished ?
- Which theories, images, models and tools need to be shared ?
- How can we network to empower Civil Society, locally and globally?
- What joint projects can we undertake to strengthen and accelerate the development of vibrant civil societies ?

A PARTICIPANT-DRIVEN CONFERENCE

In promoting citizen empowerment, this conference is a participant-driven event. Participants are encouraged to help shape the conference agenda through their input as possible presenters. Please fill out the attached application for a conference presentation (case studies, workshops, training events). We look forward to your presence and active participation in Cairo. The conference is divided into three distinct parts: Part One (Sept. 24, 25, 26) will feature 30-40 outstanding presentations from around the world. Part Two (Sept. 27) will be a day of field visits. Part Three (Sept. 28, 29, 30) will feature workshops and training opportunities to network and strategize towards the future.



REGISTRATION PROCESS

All participants are required to fill in the conference registration form (1), the accommodation form (3), and if intending to present a case-study, workshop or training seminar, the presentation form (2).

Conference Registration: Please fill in attached conference registration form (1), and mail with cheque or credit card data and signature. Full conference fee payment is needed for registration and is required of all participants and presenters.

Conference fees are as follows :

Registration received before July 15 → US \$ 300

Registration received after July 15 → US \$ 400

Payments may be made by :

(1) Personal cheque addressed to ICA International (in US\$) or;

(2) Master Card or American Express (in Belgian Francs 9,300 if paid before July 15)

Conference registration form (1), payment and presentation form (2) should be mailed to: SIMON KOOLWIJK at ICAI in Belgium. [see address in Form 1 and 2]

Lodging Information : Please fill in the attached accommodation form (3), and send by registered mail with payment **before** August 15 to Gezira Travel, the accredited travel agent for the ICAI GLOBAL CONFERENCE 96 in order to ensure reservation of rooms.

An attempt has been made to accommodate the tastes and budgets of all conference participants. All hotels are within reasonable walking distance from the conference site. The following is a listing of the special hotel rates for the conference:

HOTEL	SINGLE	DOUBLE	TRIPLE
Ramses Hilton * (5 Stars Deluxe)	US\$90/night	US\$90/night	US\$129/night
Helnan Shepherd Hilton ** (5 Stars)	US\$59/night	US\$68/night	US\$89/night
Cosmopolitan *** (3 Stars)	US\$25/night	US\$32/night	US\$42/night
Cleopatra Hotel *** (3 Stars)	US\$25/night	US\$32/night	US\$42/night

* Rates are per room per night and include service charges and taxes. Sumptuous buffet breakfast offered at a special rate of US\$9/person.

** Rates are per room per night on Bed and Buffet Breakfast basis and include service charges and taxes.

*** Rates are per room per night on Bed and Continental Breakfast basis and include service charges and taxes.

All lodging arrangements must be made directly with Gezira Travel. Upon arrival in Cairo, a car escort service is available to meet and take you from the Cairo International Airport to your hotel for US\$10/person each way. An optional Nile cruise with dinner and entertainment is also being arranged for US\$25/person. Those wishing to receive either of these services must inform Gezira Travel directly with your registration. [see address in Form 3].

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM [1]

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Tel.: _____ (0) _____ (H)

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Payment to be made by:

1. Cheque made out and sent to ICA International
2. Valid credit cards accepted: MasterCard / EuroCard / American Express

Card Type (Master / Euro or Am. Ex.) _____

Card Number _____

Exact Amount (US\$) _____ Card Expiry Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____



PRESENTATION FORM [2]

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Tel.: _____ (o) _____ (H)

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Presentation Information

1. Type: *Case Study / Workshop / Training / Other* (please circle one)

SIMON KOOLWIJK
Conference Registrar,
Institute of Cultural Affairs International
Rue Amedee Lynen no. 8,
Brussels B - 1210, Belgium.
Tel.: (32-2) 219-0087
Fax: (32-2) 219-0406
e-mail : icaï@gñ.apc.org.



SIMON KOOLWIJK
Conference Registrar,
Institute of Cultural Affairs International
Rue Amedee Lynen no. 8.

2. Name of Presentation: _____
3. Short description of the presentation: _____

Material and /or equipment needed for the presentation (ex. overhead projector, flip chart etc...): _____

Exhibition Space: All participants are encouraged to make use of the exhibition space for displaying materials and products.
Please indicate in the box below if you require space.
☐ Yes, I will require pre-alloted exhibition space.

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ACCOMODATION FORM [3]

NAME : _____

ORGANIZATION : _____

TEL.: _____ (O) _____ (H)

FAX : _____ E-mail : _____

HOTEL REQUESTED

Hotel : _____ Number of nights: _____

Occupancy: Single / Double / Triple _____

A **deposit** of three nights must be made in order to ensure reservation of your rooms.

Accommodation Fee _____ X 3 Nights = _____ Total deposit required

Date of Arrival : _____ Date of departure : _____

Payment can only be accepted in the form of a bank draft made payable to *Gezira Travel*.
Balance of payment will be made in Cairo at the hotel, and will be accepted in the form of cash, travellers' cheques or major credit cards.

N.B. Cancellation Policy

Should you need to cancel your reservations for any reason full reimbursement will be made if cancellation notification is received in Cairo before September 4. After this date, Gezira Travel reserves the right to deduct one hotel night plus transfer charges.

_____ Optional Nile Cruise _____ Meet and Assist at Cairo Airport

Brussels B - 1210, Belgium.

Tel.: (32-2) 219-0087

Fax: (32-2) 219-0406

e-mail : icaï@gñ.apc.org.



Gezira Travel

Att.: Mr. Iskandar Farid

Subj.: ICAI Global Conference

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