



IfE

# Equity & Sustainability Field Hearings

bringing voices of socially and economically insecure, excluded or marginalized communities into the global dialogue on sustainable development

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**National Coordinator**

**Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC)**

**Executive Director**

**Women Environmental Programme (WEP), Nigeria**

Member, Project Steering Committee

**IfE - Initiative for Equality**

with over 250 partnering organizations  
in 67 countries around the world.





# Outline of Presentation

- **Who We Are**
- **Equity & Sustainability Field Hearings**
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as of 15 September 2013.



# Who We are

## **Initiative for Equality (IFE)**

- IFE is a global network of activists and academics working on issues related to the three pillars of sustainable development; environmental, social and economic/ political equality. Along with partners and communities around the world. We develop information, goals, and strategies needed to bring about greater equality: We collaborate and coordinate efforts on issues, test and implement.

## **Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council(WSSCC)**

- WSSCC work in open collaboration with its Members and partners to contribute to the broader goals of improved health, social and economic development and promote good governance, equity and sustainability

## **Women Environmental Programme (WEP)**

- WEP is a Nigerian-based NGO that inspires actions through working for change. The organization envisions a society where environmental, socio-economic and political rights of women, children and youths are protected through collaboration and partnership, networking, lobbying and advocacy for policy and decision inclusivity, community engagement, capacity building, climate change, water and sanitation, research and documentation

# Equity & Sustainability Field Hearings



- collate input from highly vulnerable (economically insecure, socially excluded or marginalized) communities
- present these collective voices in the global dialogue on Sustainable Development Goals



# We need your participation!

## We need Field Hearings in every country.



# Goals

## 1. Influence the Sustainable Development Goals outcomes through these grassroots voices

IfE is partnering with Stakeholder Forum, WEP and others, bringing this input into the UN's SDG dialogue.

<http://www.sdgseinventory.org/>





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# Goals

## 2. Build a strong global network of organizations working for more equitable development



HOME ABOUT US GET INVOLVED INFORMATION RESOURCES DISCUSSION CONTACT US LOG IN

- Equity & Sustainability Field Hearings
- Equity Treaty & Action Collaborative
- New Economy Project
- New Paradigm Project

### Welcome!

*Initiative for Equality*, or *IfE* (pronounced "ee-fay"), is a global network of activists and academics working on issues related to social, economic and political equality. Along with partners and communities around the world, we develop information, goals and strategies needed to bring about greater equality; we collaborate and coordinate efforts on these issues; and we test and implement the new social, economic and political strategies. We hope you will join us!

### Field Hearings gear up for Phase Two



HEARINGS TO EXPAND

### Achieving the Equity Treaty Goals



EQUITY ACTION



# Goals

3. Interested groups and communities will be able to take part in a follow-up project, developing local plans to create fairer, more participatory economic opportunities





# 2012 Field Hearings

- 18 academic and civil society organizations
- 34 communities in Asia, Africa, and Europe
- 2700+ individuals
- 60 co-authors



# Questionnaire / Reporting Template

- assess trends: health, education, the economy, politics, conflict, families, happiness, circumstances for women
- speculate about the causes
- propose changes needed
- describe perceptions of privilege and deprivation
- articulate wishes for the future

**Questionnaire for Study on  
"EQUITY & SUSTAINABILITY"**

The purpose of the questionnaire is to understand the local voices regarding the meanings and way of achievement of "sustainable society", and "equality". The information will be used only for the academic purposes and personal information will not expose to others.

**I. Demographics**

Name (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_  
Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M / F Education: \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Family members: \_\_\_\_\_  
Social Class: High / Middle / Low Household Monthly Income: \_\_\_\_\_  
Country: \_\_\_\_\_

**II. Assess Trends**

Put the applicable scale value for the following issues in perspectives of your community  
Scale: 1—Very good, 2—good, 3—quite ok / not clear, 4—bad, 5—very bad

	Now	5 years ago
a. economic wellbeing/ condition	_____	_____
b. immorality, unethical practices, corruption, etc.	_____	_____
c. level of efforts to maintain same standard of living	_____	_____
d. the lives of children	_____	_____
e. the lives of adults over 60	_____	_____
f. the health care system of people	_____	_____
g. the proportion of educated people	_____	_____
h. the quality of services (education, health, social service, security, food...)	_____	_____
i. social relationships	_____	_____
j. the position of women	_____	_____
k. the level of happiness	_____	_____
l. level of inequality between rich and poor group	_____	_____
m. the wellbeing of the poverty level people	_____	_____
n. the surrounding environment quality	_____	_____
o. competition for access of resources (playground, job, water, electricity)	_____	_____
p. supply of resources (water, electricity, food, etc.)	_____	_____
q. political situation/ stability	_____	_____
r. conflict between different groups of people (politic, ethnic, institution...)	_____	_____
s. city problems- traffic, crowded, waste, water logging, recreation space, ...)	_____	_____







# Preliminary Results 2012.

Worsening income insecurity, social breakdown, and environmental degradation – causes seen as:

- corruption, lack of accountability and transparency
- social and economic inequality
- competition for scarce resources, growing populations, changing weather
- lack of appropriate training and planning
- lack of sufficient trust and unity among community members







## Preliminary Results 2012 cont..

- Inequality perceived as increasing greatly almost everywhere
- Wealth and poverty seen as directly associated with access to political decision-making and economic opportunities
- Modest and sustainable aspirations: a future in which basic food, housing, health care, education, and job security needs could be met

# The Future We Want for WATER???







# Report: June 2012

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## Waiting to be Heard

Preliminary Results of the 2012  
Equity & Sustainability Field Hearings





## Co-authors 2012

Nazmul Huq  
Syed Iqbal Ali  
Sarder Alam  
Saqib Huq  
Md. Mahmudul Alam  
Mohammad Mashnun  
Hossain  
Lei Zhang  
Yiwen Hu  
Duoyi Peng  
Zhuangyue Luo  
Zhengyi Feng  
György Málovics  
Barbara Mihók  
István Szentistványi  
György Pataki  
Elizabeth Lakatos  
László Jakab

Manish Vyas  
Shailaish Majumdar  
Ashu Saxena  
Ajit Kumar Saxena  
Aizhamal Bakashova  
Olga Djanaeva  
Asel Dunganaeva  
Nazira Dzhapakova  
January Watchman Mvula  
Daniel Phiri  
Eliya Jumbe  
Mc Donald Mvula  
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Dashini Allagapen  
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Samuel Tough  
Mr. Amama Sunday  
Ahmed Chinade Abdullahi  
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Sonia G. Masaoay  
Karl Leonid R. Silva-netto  
Charles De Guzman  
Darlene Miller  
Pamela Harris  
Diana Sanchez Betancourt  
Gray Maguire  
Charles Nhemachena  
Richard Osaliya  
Rose Nandudu  
Leonard Otika  
Robert J. Macheri

# 2013: Structure of Project

Local communities: 1 to 5 per Field Hearing Partner

Field Hearings Partners: local civil society groups, NGOs, academic and research institutions (1 to 10 per country)

Regional Coordinators: 2 to 4 per continent

Steering Committee: 17 members

Global Convenor & Coordinator:  
Initiative for Equality (IfE)



# Project Steering Committee

Ai Zhamal Bakashova\*

Akhteruzzaman Sano\*

Amewu Attah

Anthony Akpan\*

Bálint Balázs

Christina Straub\*

Deborah Rogers

George Chaima\*

Mouna Eusman\*

Md. Mahmudul Alam

Nazmul Huq Russell

Priscilla Achakpa

Roberto Guimaraes

Richard Osaliya\*

Samuel Eyambe A. Clifford\*

Tina Clemente

Zhiyuan Song

\* Regional coordinators





# Steps & Follow-through for Partners

- Select communities and arrange Field Hearings
- Translate and modify Questionnaire for local use
- Conduct Field Hearings – public meeting, focus group, or individual interviews
- Expense money for partners (subject to availability)
- Submit report to global convenor (in English)
- Together we will use report to inform decision-makers and Sustainable Development Goals process
- Follow-up with communities to plan future pro-equality economic development alternatives – optional

# Solving Challenges

- Accessing remote communities
- Language and cultural barriers
- Taking the message to decision-makers



Project: I.F.E - Initiative for Equality  
(INITIATIVE FOR EQUALITY)

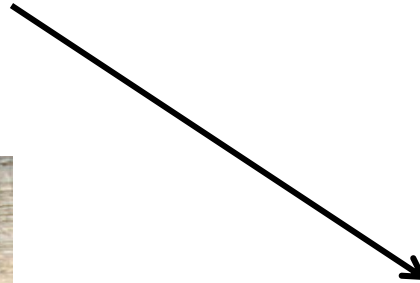
Purpose of field hearings  
TO continue the global dialogue on human  
nature, drawing in the ideas of ordinary  
people (all classes);  
TO create opp't for ordinary people to say  
what "Sustainable Society" should mean  
from the point of view of ordinary people



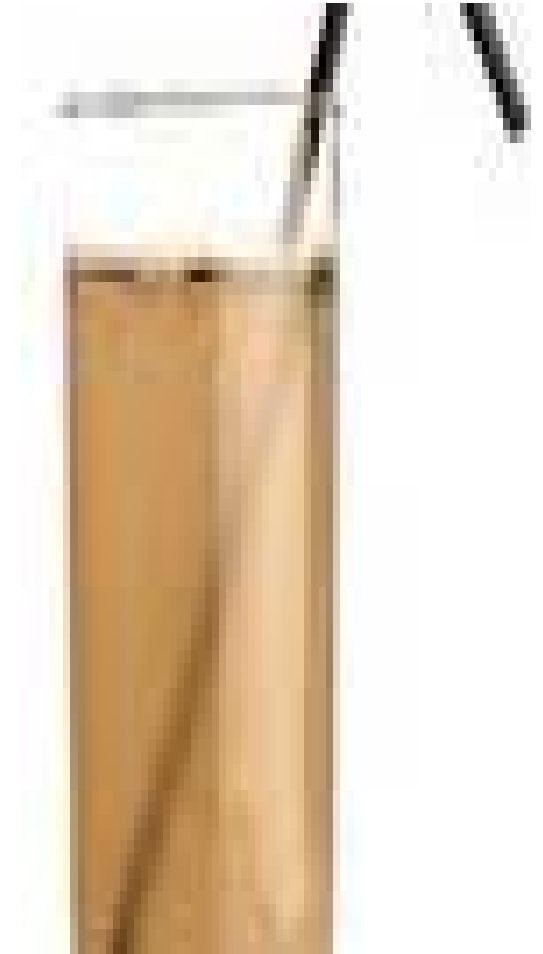
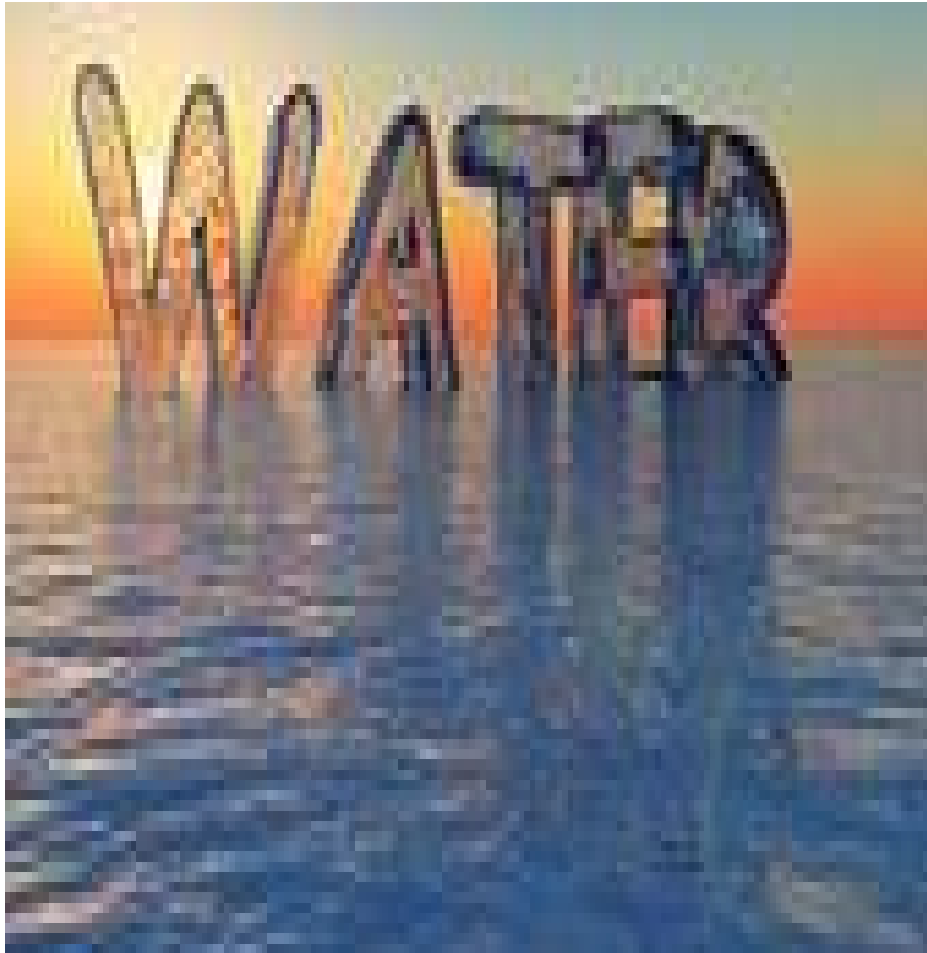
# Solving Challenges



How do we get from here...



Water, the future we want for all.





# Countries with Field Hearings Partners as of 15 September 2013

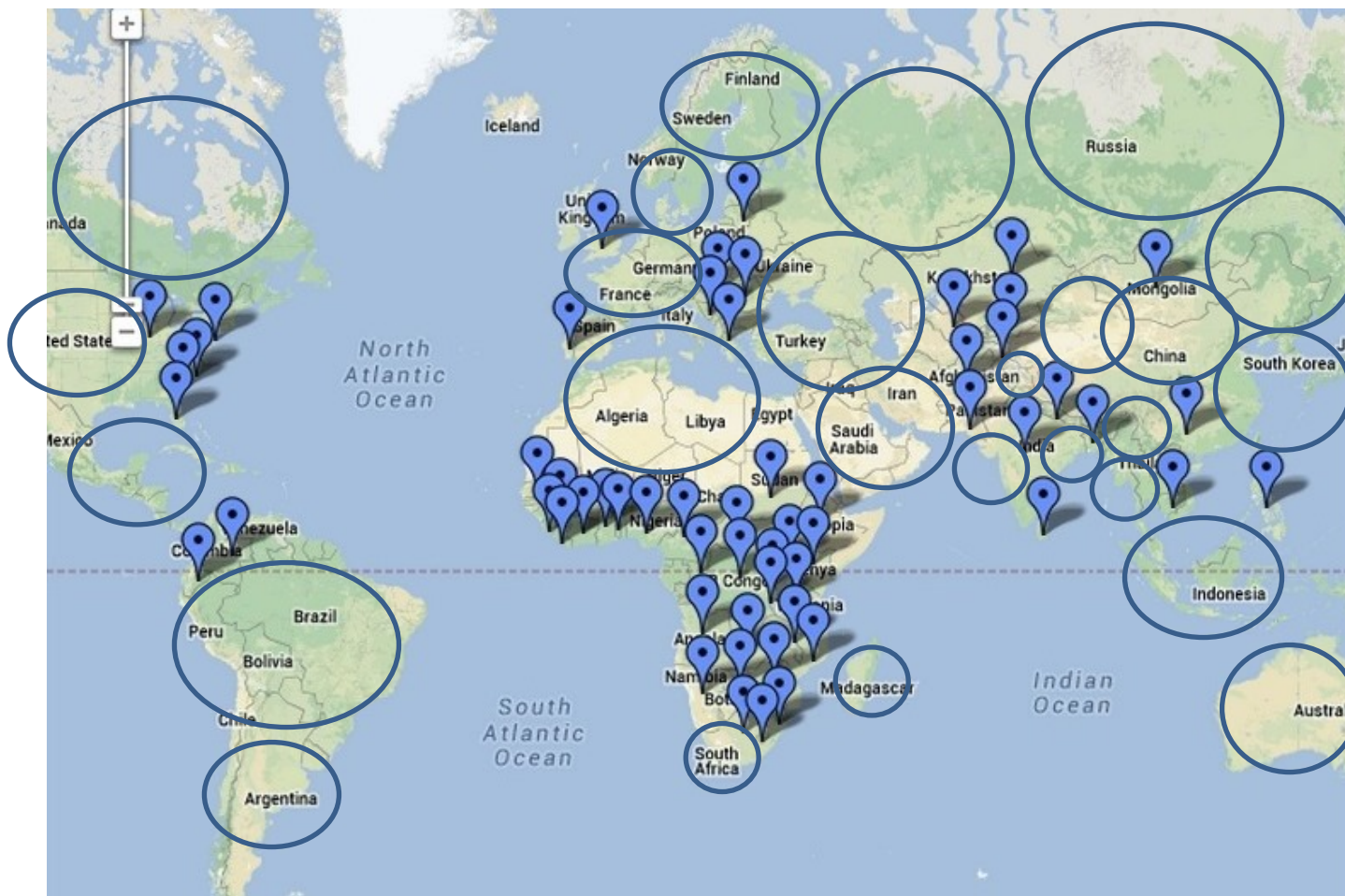




*From residents of war-torn  
Bukavu City, DR Congo,  
to indigenous hunters  
in Burundi's forests;  
from displaced farmers  
on the outskirts of Kunming  
to fruit vendors in  
Rawalpindi's markets:  
**this is an unprecedented phenomenon.***

*Never before have so many  
marginalized communities  
around the world  
come together to speak out  
– **collectively** –  
to influence policy.*

# We need you to fill in the blanks!





# Co-authors 2013?

We invite you  
to join us!







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# Thank you!

## ***Initiative for Equality***

A US-based charitable organization  
fiscal sponsor: FJC

<https://www.initiativeforequality.org/>

Email: [info@initiativeforequality.org](mailto:info@initiativeforequality.org)

## **WSSCC**

A UN focused organization on water and sanitation

[www.wsscc.org](http://www.wsscc.org)

Email: [pmachakpa@gmail.com](mailto:pmachakpa@gmail.com)

## ***Women Environmental Programme (WEP)***

A Nigerian-based NGO inspiring action, working for change

[www.wepnigeria.net](http://www.wepnigeria.net)

Email: [info@wepnigeria.net](mailto:info@wepnigeria.net), [wep2002@hotmail.com](mailto:wep2002@hotmail.com)



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Initiative for Equality

