

SIAN

Issue 32

December 1993

CONTENTS

Association for Social Assessment Inc. -(p2)

- Comment from the Convenor
- Note from the outgoing SIAN Editor
 - 1993 ASA AGM - Akaroa
 - 1993 ASA Conference - Akaroa
- ASA Training Day - November 1993
- ASA Conference - Social Monitoring Workshop
 - Issues in Social Monitoring

Conferences or Workshops Coming Up -(p6)

- Women in Agriculture
- Ecopolitics VIII Conference - 1994

Blackboard -(p7)

- Community Development
- Communication and Jargon
 - Economical A-Z
- Maori Access to Official Information

Current Work: Focus on

Women's Suffrage Research -(p8)

- DSW Women's Suffrage Research Projects
- Lives With Science, Profiles of Senior NZ Women in Science
 - NACEW Research
- Recent Research on Rural Women
- Women in Development : A Conference for Pacific Island Women Leaders

Recent Publications - (p13)

- Te Maori i Roto i Nga Mahi Whakaakoranga - Maori in Education
 - From Birth to Death III

Summary of ASA Objects, Means of Achieving Objects and Ethical Guidelines - (p14)

Sponsorship

This issue is jointly sponsored by Nick Taylor & Associates, James Barnes and Associates, and Rivers Buchan Associates.

Subscriptions Due Reminder

1994 Membership Renewals are now due. Membership fees for 1994 are \$10 for those on low incomes and \$35 for others (including organisations). Renewals are \$35 if paid before the 1 May, otherwise \$40 (ie there is a \$5 late payment penalty).

The SIA Newsletter is compiled and published by members of the Association for Social Assessment (Inc.). Its aim is to encourage contact and sharing of information between all those interested in social assessment in New Zealand. The views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of their various employers or the Association.

Communications and Contributions

SIAN welcomes reports, news, reviews, and help with typing of written copy onto computer and creating artwork / illustrations etc. Contributions on Macintosh or MS-Dos formatted disks are best, but not essential. Communications and contributions can be forwarded to the following people.

Social Impact Assessment Newsletter
P.O. Box 2581, Wellington, New Zealand
Contact : Jo Lynch
Ph: 04-562 8820

FROM THE CONVENOR

MAORI ISSUES

The current wave of Maori radicalism on the settlement of outstanding Treaty claims is quite understandable in the context of the fiscal envelope and talk of republicanism.

The introduction of the Fiscal Envelope is now considered not to have been well planned and consequently not well timed. Coinciding as it has with growing Maori dissatisfaction over settlement outcomes and political kite flying on Republicanism, it could not have been tabled at a worst time. If the Crown thought it got bruised over corporatisation and the issue of Treaty Partnership, how is it going to survive any attempt to do away with the Treaty altogether and establish a Republic of New Zealand?

The rise in Maori radicalism is quite fascinating when one hears some of the reasons for its sudden upsurge. New Zealand has been relatively free from such attitudes for nearly a decade. It would appear that much credit must go to a sense of achievement felt by Maori in taking the Crown to Court in the late 1980's over the corporatisation of State assets, and the protection gained for Treaty rights. A number of Maori leaders who were prominent in achieving those gains are now being opposed by the so called radical element within Maori society. Almost without exception, those who battled the Crown in the 1980's stand accused by many, particularly young, Maori who have become disaffected by the lack of participation in the gains made. It is said that the gains are being enjoyed by an elite group of leaders and those they have chosen to favour, through a series of appointments to Commissions and Boards. The fisheries settlement features high in the dissatisfaction that has been generated over Treaty settlements.

Te Puni Kokiri (TPK) staff are currently wearing the brunt of a difficult exercise that has, for what ever reason, essentially gone wrong. To the casual observer it is hard to understand how TPK could be so unprepared for what is now happening. Many organisations have developed sophisticated consultation methodologies that factor in the likely reception the issue they wish to present will receive and adopt strategies accordingly. In this regard, TPK has implemented a consultation strategy that has left them exposed to backlash.

Talk of republicanism has quickly died down but where there is smoke there is fire and there is a growing sense that Maori are not going to wait for the next government move before taking action to protect their relationship with the Crown. Increasingly, we are seeing the results of this action.

**JAMES BARNES
CONVENOR**

ASA Officers for 1995

Convenor : James Barnes

Treasurer : Ann Pomeroy

Secretary : Paul Lister

Strategic Direction : Mary-Jane Rivers and Julie Warren

Auckland Contact : David Haigh

Lower North Island Contacts : David Thorpe, Karen Jones

Christchurch Contacts : Carolyn Blackford and Nick Taylor

Otago Contacts : Pat Shannon and Ruth Houghton

SIAN Editor : Jo Lynch

SIAN Production : James Barnes

ASA Working Groups

Rural Issues : Diane Anderson

Social Assessment in Government : Core Group to follow up

Social Monitoring : James Newell and Gerard Fitzgerald

Resource Management and Social Assessment : Helen Lowe and Ali Memon

Biculturalism : James Barnes

1995 Conference

Location : Taupo

Date : October

For further information contact: Liz Fairlie, Taupo District Council, Private Bag, Taupo. Ph 07 377 9899, Fax 07 378 0118 (or the Core Group)

Core Group Meetings 1995

Meetings held on 13 February and 4th April.

Next meeting 23 May 3pm , Conference Room, 3rd level ASB Bank Building, Lambton Quay, Wellington

BRANCH NEWS

ASA CANTERBURY BRANCH

A meeting was held on 3 February 1995, in the Sociology Department, University of Canterbury. This was the last meeting in the current set of six. The theme for the professional development part of the meeting was Social Monitoring, and The session was led by Gerard Fitzgerald and Nick Taylor. The objectives of the session were set out as:

- 1) to develop a shared understanding of social monitoring and its utility;
- 2) to build commitment to social monitoring in Canter-

bury, especially state of the environment monitoring, as a basis for social assessment in general; and

3) to develop a programme of action to support social monitoring efforts in Canterbury.

The session started with an exercise that examined the current emphasis, activities and issues for social monitoring in Canterbury.

Social Monitoring in Canterbury

It was clear that from the members present that there is a variety of social monitoring activity is carried on. Much of this is "state of the environment" work that forms the basis for policy development and operational plans, usually by documenting a variety of social trends. For instance, the Christchurch City Council monitors economic activity and the services it provides to promote economic growth, such as labour force and skills issues, health of residents and the workforce, income, health and quality of life of residential areas.

There is a trend towards more assessment of the impact of social policies. For example, there has been some interest in monitoring the impact of central, regional and local government policies on disadvantaged groups, including the impact of central government policy on employment.

The CCC has a monitoring project to monitor social well being as part of its effort to meet social objectives. Health monitoring is carried out by CHEs. Employment Service and DSW provide basic statistics on the region. Department of Statistics provides a sound base of longitudinal data. Social research in general, such as university work, provides background data. There is some project specific monitoring, such as for the Rabbit and Land Management Programme, although there is a lack of longitudinal work overall.

Background on Social Monitoring

Gerard provided a review of social monitoring activity in New Zealand. He started with some quotes from Dan Quale! e.g. "It isn't pollution that's harming the environment, its the impurities in our air and water that are doing it." "... People are not homeless if they are sleeping in the streets of their own home towns".

Social monitoring was defined as the systematic collection of information over time. Types of monitoring include:

- baseline monitoring (population, health, employment, etc.)
- census (not a lot of use on its own - it needs to put together with other information);
- trend data (is a population getting wealthier/poorer?)
- implementation monitoring (for policy, planning, services)

- effectiveness monitoring (e.g of RMA, Public Finance Act - are objectives being met?)
- compliance monitoring (eg for resource consents)

There has been limited social monitoring in New Zealand. The Department of Statistics started providing trends from the census in the 1970's, and work stimulated by the OECD saw monitoring of factors such as housing conditions. The New Zealand Planning Council, now defunct, produced the "From Birth to Death" series. There were also the project specific efforts of the late 1970's, early 1980's, of projects at Huntly, Cromwell, Marsden Point and Taranaki, in some cases followed by very specific wind-down monitoring.

More recently there has been a shift to monitoring for objectives. Gerard pointed out that under the RMA local authorities are required to undertake state of the environment monitoring, including social monitoring.

"Every local authority shall monitor - (a) The state of the whole or part of the environment to enable the local authority to effectively carry out its functions under the Act" including the effectiveness of policy statements, and the exercise of resource consents. Under definitions of the environment in the Act, social monitoring can clearly include social, economic, aesthetic and cultural conditions. There is also provision in the Act for monitoring resource consents (as outlined in Schedule 4).

Issues for Social Monitoring in Canterbury

The group identified a number of issues:

- Limited resources for monitoring. Who pays?
- Better coordinating and networking to use limited resources.
- Access is needed to public good science funds, Lottery Board, and other sources of funding.
- Lack of commitment and determination to persist with monitoring.
- Why monitor - need to educate.
- Longer term monitoring in a short-term worlds, the problem of planning time frames
- Lack of conceptual development.
- Social monitoring will be a key part of approaches to achieving a sustainable society, moving beyond a narrow emphasis on the physical environment.
- The role of district councils.
- Tensions between the role of central and local government.
- Potential monitoring of impacts of activities such as casinos.

Actions on Social Monitoring

A number of actions flow out of these issues (for ASA to consider):

- The need to work on concepts and methods.
- More focus on key issues.
- Better identification and assessment of options.
- Educate key managers on the value of social assessment.
- Joint funding by the private sector and councils.
- Coordination of information and sharing of social monitoring efforts.

ASA Canterbury Group Organisation for 1995

There was discussion on the need for better structuring of the networking part of the meetings. The group needs to work harder on dealing with current issues and problem solving, especially as no one is in charge. It was suggested that one of the sessions this year could be a "marketing" initiative, perhaps in conjunction with a meeting of TLAs. Alison Loveridge and Colin Goodrich kindly agreed to continue to keep the mailing list. Please let them know if you have any changes to the list.

The sessions for the year were discussed. It was agreed that there should be the same pattern of six sessions, bi-monthly, on the first Friday, as there was no particular reason to change the formula this year. Meetings will begin at 1.30 pm with one and a half hours for professional development, and the rest of the meeting for networking and tackling current issues. Additional "issue" meetings could be held if necessary.

The set dates for the year are (circle your diary now!):

7 April
 2 June
 4 August
 6 October
 1 December
 2 February (1996)

Suggestions were sought and ranked for six professional development topics. The top two topics were selected by those present as "conflict and negotiation", to be led by Gaye Pavelka and the "privacy act". The suggestions for the four remaining, unallocated sessions have been circulated to Canterbury members for them to identify their choices.

Nick Taylor

SETTING UP A BRANCH - ASA CANTERBURY HISTORY

A local ASA networking meeting was held to set up the branch in 1990. The SIAN mailing list was used to contact potentially interested people in the first instance and new

names were added as the branch grew.

Meetings were held quarterly initially with costs such as postage being absorbed by the members' workplaces. Meeting venues have been at members' workplaces so as not to incur venue costs. A workshop was held during this period with a charge for attendance being made. A bank account was established to deposit the profit but no guidelines were set out for managing the account. Accountability procedures regarding the account need to be established.

At the beginning of 1992 (with a core of at least 20 members) it was decided that bimonthly meetings would be held. Membership of the local group was built by sending out copies of meeting minutes and formally asking interested people whether they want to be kept informed. The main purpose of the local group was established as

- information sharing
- promoting future SA and professional development.

This occurred through individual members giving a small presentation about current work, relevant issues, skills, etc. with the intention that these would act as a catalyst for group discussion. This kind of focus was also intended to improve attendance when others heard about this approach. Examples of the kind of topics include: 'The social cost of a sustainable future' and 'Developments in soft systems theory'. James Barnes was also invited to give a seminar on auditing the work organisations of members on their performance over bicultural issues. One meeting was devoted to an assessment of the Regional Policy Statement from a SA perspective and a subcommittee subsequently prepared a submission on the Statement.

At the beginning of each meeting everyone would report briefly on the areas of work they were involved in at the time. 'Drinks and nibbles' were organised after meetings (held on a Friday afternoon) with a small koha to cover costs.

During 1993 members of the local group formed an organising committee for the annual conference in Akaroa. Towards the end of that year it was decided that a new format would be adopted for the coming year and a brainstorming meeting was held to record the kinds of issues/skill attainment that people were interested in for their professional development needs. These included: personal computer applications, social monitoring, how to get groups together, Privacy Act, Agenda 21, social aspects of the RMA, Treaty of Waitangi, the ASA and its role, learning and learning styles, local consultation and negotiating, health issues, and community development in SA work. A survey was carried out, and a programme of six meetings was set based on a ranking of preferred seminar/workshop topics. Suggested speakers, dates, and convenors were included on the programme which was circulated to everyone on the mailing list (currently stand-

ing at 50 people).

Outside speakers were invited to give seminars/presentations in most instances except for the ones on Applications of the Ottawa Charter and Social Monitoring. The convenor was appointed to take responsibility for inviting the speaker, organising a venue, ensuring that meeting notices and a brief summary/minutes of the previous meeting were sent out, and inviting agenda items for the networking meeting that would follow the seminar.

As this meeting format was successful it is being repeated for 1995. However, the group has decided that networking meetings (following the seminars) needed to be better structured than they have been as well as being formally facilitated so that time is used appropriately.

At the most recent local meeting those who were there agreed that as the branch was not formally organised/constituted, then any funding required would be sought from the ASA Core Group on an ad hoc basis. Reference to the AGM agenda item below indicates that this approach is not likely to be possible.

Carolyn Blackford, ASA Canterbury

CONFERENCES

9TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF RURAL SOCIOLOGY (IRSA 1996)

Theme : Rural Potentials for a Global Tomorrow

Date : July 22 - 26

Location : Bucharest, Romania

16TH EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF RURAL SOCIOLOGY

Theme : From Productionism to Sustainable Rural Development- The Transformation of Rural Economy, Society and Space in the Late 20th Century

Date : July 31 - August 4

Location : Agricultural University Prague-Suchdol Czech Republic

For further information, contact Dr Ann Pomeroy, MAF, Wellington, Ph (04) 472 0367

RURAL DEVELOPMENT: AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO LOCAL ACTION

Location : Pitlochry and Aberdeen

Date : 15 - 25 October 1995

For further information Contact: The British Council, PO Box 1812, Wellington, Tel (04) 472 6049, Fax (04) 473 6261

Theme :

The seminar will provide an opportunity to consider rural development through a series of themes that will enable participants to develop new ways of thinking and working to suit their own particular institutional environment and key concerns. The themes will focus on an integrated approach to rural development linking issues such as business development, training for employment, housing, transport, environmental and cultural issues.

Formal presentations will be made by policy makers, practitioners and academics. This will enable a strong link to be developed between research and policy development on the one hand and practical rural development outputs on the other. An important part of the seminar will be smaller discussion sessions following the formal presentations. These will be aimed at identifying key elements of successful rural development outcomes within the context of each theme, and provide an opportunity for an exchange of knowledge and experience.

1995 NZ GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE

**To celebrate fifty years looking back,
looking forward**

Second Circular Call For Papers

Date : 27 - 31 August 1995

Location : University of Canterbury, Christchurch

Theme :

The theme of "fifty years: looking back, looking forward", has been chosen to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the New Zealand Geographical Society. The conference subject is intended to give emphasis to the past, present and future contribution of New Zealand geography to understanding changes in the local, national and global environment.

It challenges presenters and participants to focus on the key issues currently facing New Zealand and the wider international community and on the way our educational and training methods have enabled us to focus effectively on these issues.

The conference brings together members of the New Zealand Geographical Society, university geographers, members of the secondary teaching profession and geographers working in business and government. Papers are welcomed from all areas of the discipline, but particularly in the following areas:

- * Global economic change and the New Zealand economy;
- * Restructuring of the welfare state;
- * Changing cities and regions;
- * New Zealand's changing relations with Asia and the Pacific;
- * Bicultural and gender issues;
- * Global environmental change;
- * Physical processes and change in the New Zealand landscape;
- * Developments in Antarctic research;
- * Environmental management and the Resource Management Act;
- * GIS and its role in teaching, research and government;
- * Mapping our past: The New Zealand Historical Atlas;
- * Challenges for geography teaching in the schools; and
- * Information technology and tertiary teaching.

Please return with your abstract to:

The Conference Office, New Zealand Geographical Society Anniversary Conference - 1995, Centre for Continuing Education, University of Canterbury, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch, New Zealand

Telephone 64-3-364-2162, Fax 64-3-364-2057, E-mail : L M Brown@csc.canterbury.ac.nz

TSUKUBA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE - THE SUSTAINABILITY OF RURAL SYSTEMS

Location : Tsukuba, Japan

Date : August 19th - 26th, 1995

Local Organiser : Professor Hiroshi Sasaki

University of Tsukuba, Japan

Chair of IGU Study Group: I R Bowler

University of Leicester, U K

For more information, contact: Dr C Cocklin, Department of Geography, University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand

Call for papers

Tsukuba Conference welcomes contributions on the following themes:

- 1 Japan's experiences of sustainable rural systems
- 2 Regional characteristics of sustainable rural systems in

Asia

- 3 Concepts and theories in defining sustainable rural systems
- 4 Current trends in the sustainability of rural systems
- 5 Evaluating existing policies that influence the sustainability of rural systems
- 6 New policies to promote sustainable rural systems
- 7 Linking rural to other systems (eg urban) for sustainability
- 8 Modelling sustainable rural systems

FEATURES

"SUSTAINABLE" CITIES

Sustainability is a catchword of the 1990's. The Resource Management Act 1991 promotes 'the sustainable management of natural and physical resources_ to enable 'people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing and for their health and safety. Agenda 21, the outcome of the 1992 Earth Summit, promotes sustainable management, stressing the need for global partnership to achieve it. In its Environment 2010 Strategy, Government seeks a 'clean healthy environment, sustaining nature and the people's needs and aspirations. In all these cases, however, sustainability tends to be linked to the management of natural resources: forests, land, fisheries, air and water quality and so on.

But for most of us, our immediate environment is urban. Most New Zealanders live in cities and towns. However, the concept of urban sustainability is still fairly new - although Auckland's water crisis last winter certainly made us all more aware of the limits of urban development. In most urban environments the development of infrastructure - water supply, waste management, transport systems, power supply etc. - is not yet driven by long term sustainability criteria.

Under the Resource Management Act there is likely to be more debate about the appropriate basis for sustainable management of resources in an urban setting. Recently the Waitakere City Council developed an eco-plan for the city. And last month in Waitakere, there was a conference on sustainable cities. The Ministry for the Environment has produced a strategic policy paper on sustainable communities, following on from its 1993 workshop, 'Sustainable Development: A Social Perspective_'. And the Ministry for the Environment and Works Consultancy jointly commissioned an annotated bibliography on urban sustainability. Internationally, a major change in thinking is taking place. For example, in an October 1994 report, the UK Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution on Transport recommended that Britain's road building pro-

gramme should be halved and the money spent on improving public transport. These initiatives, and others, are evidence that the debate is becoming more widespread and that major change is likely.

How do we develop a vision of urban sustainability that would result in a more environmentally responsible future? What do we mean by urban sustainability? Urban sustainability should not be confused with notions of urban self-sufficiency. Any vision of urban sustainability has to acknowledge the impacts of urban life on areas outside a city. Waitakere City Council confronts the issue of urban sustainability in a 1993 strategic directions paper - to develop as an eco-city would require 'presenting to the next generation an environment and resources of no less quality than the present generation enjoys - and more optimistically an environment more robust and freer of threats to on-going sustainability'. That seems a good start. What would that require - full employment? managing urban spread? reversing car dependency? preventing pollution? eliminating hazardous waste? using land to its best advantage? protecting the natural, cultural, and historic environment? social equity?

Many of the recent changes in New Zealand reflect successive governments' confidence in the market as the best mechanism for resource management. Underlying this confidence is an assumption that individuals, acting to maximise their own benefits, collectively serve the best interests of society. Nevertheless, in its Environment 2010 Strategy, the current Government acknowledges that the market will not necessarily deliver on all values and objectives - 'such as meeting basic human needs, environmental quality and access to resources for future generations'.

Many of the changes needed to achieve urban sustainability would require individuals, households, businesses, all levels of government, community groups and others to change their behaviour. In the short term, it can be expected that changes will be relatively superficial, but major changes could be expected in the medium to long term. What are the sociocultural, environmental and economic implications of likely changes and how will these affect different parts of the community? What are the limits and barriers to such change? At what rate should change happen? Who should be involved in the decision making process?

Centralised decisions imposed from above and market mechanisms will not be enough in themselves to achieve the necessary changes. Instead, achieving urban sustainability will require motivating communities and mobilising resources. Social assessment, as a basis for the management of change, provides a systematic basis for consideration of the questions we raise above - at a policy, programme and project level. Social assessment practitioners need to be involved in any debate about urban sustainability and they need to be involved in the develop-

ment and implementation of sustainable management strategies.

*Julie Warren
James Newell*

AGENDA 21

On Friday, 4 November 1994 Diana Shand, Regional Councillor and NGO representative, gave a presentation on **Agenda 21** to the Canterbury Group of the ASA. (Diana prepared **Taking up the Challenge of Agenda 21: a guide for local government** which has been published by the Ministry for the Environment. To date five local authorities have demonstrated an interest in implementing Agenda 21 at the local level. They are Waitakere and Hamilton Cities, Tasman District/Nelson City, and the Waimakariri District Council.)

There is general acknowledgement of the need for people's involvement in the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Brazil 3-14 June 1992. The following documents were produced in conjunction with the Conference and can be used as the basis of a programme of action -

- Agenda 21
- Rio Declaration
- forest principles conventions
 - *climate change conventions
 - *biodiversity conventions

(* internationally ratified and being incorporated into international law)

The main messages to emerge were: vision future, holistic view, integrated approach, long-term perspective, interdisciplinary partnerships, and the adoption of a precautionary approach. **Agenda 21** comprises 40 chapters presented in four major sections entitled -

1. Social and economic dimensions
2. Conservation and management of resources for development
3. Strengthening the role of major groups (e.g. women, youth, etc.)
4. Means of implementation.

(An example of how the Waitakere City Council is applying **Agenda 21** is that they screen their policies for their effects on children in acknowledgement of the United Nations First Call for Children.)

The **Agenda 21** process model includes

- commitment at the highest level
- commitment of resources and personnel

- participation
 - at all levels
 - of all major groups
 - partnerships with business, science and citizen groups
- agreed-on programme of action
 - researched
 - targeted
 - integrated
 - prioritised
 - programmed
 - monitored
 - reported
- flexibility

A proposed model for adopting **Agenda 21** by local authorities based on Waitakere/Hamilton/Waimakariri pilot projects has four distinct stages:

- awareness
- interest and education
- decision
- adoption and implementation.

Barriers to adoption include blockages with regard to the unknown, people, and what **Agenda 21** is about; the denial process as to what is happening; and ignorance, arrogance, greed and selfishness. Means of overcoming the difficulties in/reluctance to apply **Agenda 21** at the local level include using terms such as 'strategic planning' and 'total quality management' that Councils are familiar with. Structural/institutional barriers relate to the long-term approach inherent in **Agenda 21** compared to the fact that local authorities are used to dealing with what might be described as a more 'ad hoc' approach.

A structural approach to consultation has emerged because 'real' consultation is not happening. New techniques include:

- *Issue mapping* where a blown up map of a community is used by participants to identify major concerns using coloured markers
- *Diagram of sustainable development* where participants are asked to contribute ideas as to how it could be achieved
- Development of indicators of sustainability
- *Backcasting* where participants envisage their community in the future and then project back to the present to identify what policies help and those that don't in achieving the future vision.

Points taken from the discussion following Diana's presentation include -

- agency heads not giving credence to public consultation feedback
- the word 'consultation' losing its credibility
- some don't know what's involved - the relationship between consultation and decision making is not seen
- need for a commitment by decision makers to do it properly
- diametric opposition between environmental conservation and jobs
- sustainable development is inclusive - everyone can find something for them in it
- dilemma over unliveable cities and the need for private transport
- people's views should be taken into account at top levels of decision making
- problems with where the power is held
- problems that the impact of decisions falls more heavily on certain groups
- peer pressure can assist - easy to encourage behaviour change
- diagram of well-being - draw rather than pressure into change
- need different approaches because all people different.

Carolyn Blackford

CHANGES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM'S RURAL POLICY¹

Since 1988 the British Economic and Social Research Council has been undertaking a comprehensive research programme to monitor and document the perceived changes in rural areas throughout England. By 1993 it had concluded that the changes were so significant that a complete 'rethink' of its rural policy was needed.

During the nineteenth century urban growth escalated in England and Wales, while rural areas stagnated (Whitby and Powe, 1994). Poor employment prospects in rural areas meant either migration to the cities or emigration to the colonies. Concern over rural economic decline saw the setting up of what is now called the Rural Development Commission, in 1909. The purpose of this government agency was to promote rural employment as a means of halting rural depopulation. In 1965 the Highlands and Islands Development Board (now Highlands and Islands Enterprise) took over this task in Scotland, and a Development Board for Rural Wales was established in 1977.

During the sixties, rural England, like many other countries, experienced a rural population turnaround. While agriculture continued to decline, there were rising demands on rural land from other users. At the same time, the view held to the mid 70's that agricultural expansion (and intensification) was in the national interest, was increasingly being queried (ESRC, 1989: 5-6). In 1981 the Wildlife and Countryside Act introduced the concept of

compensating farmers for foregoing a farm development opportunity (particularly a government financed one) which might damage the wildlife interest of a site. This was followed by a series of other, stronger measures including EC regulations. Similar shifts from a production first orientation were also introduced into forestry policy. The Broadleaved Woodland Grant Scheme which was passed in 1985 offered higher rates of grant for rehabilitating old broadleaved woods or planting new ones. It specifically aimed at encouraging environmental amenity objectives (ESRC, 1989: 6-7).

By the end of the eighties the UK policy framework had changed towards more of a focus on people and land rather than products (which was the focus of the Common Agriculture Policy). The impact of urban development, including growth in new economic activities, imbalances in rural housing markets and environmental deterioration were of greater concern than the traditional concerns of rural depopulation, deprivation and the economic efficiency of farming (Lowe *et al*, 1990).

In 1987 the British MAFF introduced a Farm Diversification Scheme to encourage farmers to add-value to food products, engage in recreation, tourism and on-farm marketing (ESRC, 1989). The combination of capital restructuring (Marsden *et al*, 1990), urban commuter expansion, together with new policy aimed at environmental protectionism, and economic rejuvenation of rural areas, resulted in some significant changes. These have been summarised by the ESRC. Of particular interest is the finding that:

Agriculture is no longer the mainstay of the rural economy and the influence of farmers in rural society has declined. Different industries and new interest groups are competing to fill the vacuum.
(ESRC, 1993: 2)

Itemised changes were:

- Farm size increased at an average rate of more than an acre per year since the war (the average farm size increased from 42 ha in 1939 to 66 ha in 1989 giving Britain the largest farms in Western Europe). This holding expansion has contributed to over-production.
- Reduction of farm support (with the proposed retrenchment of the Common Agricultural Policy) may lead to either stagnation or a reversal of postwar farm growth.
- While attempts to relax planning constraints over agricultural land have been strenuously resisted by rural conservation interests and planners, there has been greater acceptance of farm building conversions. Planning permissions for the latter doubled in the late eighties to average 7,000 per annum in England alone. These conversions were mainly for residential use (eg executive homes from old barns), with 10% being for light industry (including stables and holiday accom-

modation).

- In the late 80's there was an explosion of golf course development (averaging around 100 ha each) as land-owners looked for new sources of income. Some 1,400 planning applications were submitted between 1988 and 1991, but by 1992 the boom collapsed as many of the courses proved to be economically nonviable.
- With the decline in agriculture, rural tourism has become increasingly important. However, most countryside recreation costs the user nothing. To assess the economic value of specific sites an analysis was undertaken of the costs the public were willing to incur to visit such sites. This was found to be up to £2. When multiplied by estimated visitors per site the income was found to be £8.7 million, a figure just above the subsidy paid each year to the Forestry Commission to cover forestry recreation and amenity.
- Canals and inland waterways were found to be even more valuable as sources of recreational benefit, with the return being greater than the cost of operation and maintenance. The Council indicated that a case could be made for increased funding for this class of amenity.
- Overall the analysts calculated that £900 million should be added to the National Income accounts to reflect the net values of the agricultural and forestry sectors to the landscape and amenity benefits which they provide.
- Support given by the Rural Development Commission to depressed rural areas in England since 1984 was assessed as having generated up to 42,000 jobs. The jobs were created by providing factories mainly for light industrial and distributive firms in areas of high unemployment, and by giving advice and financial assistance to small rural businessmen (sic).

A rethink of policy was seen as needed because the nature of England's rural areas had changed. But why was this important. For example, why in the face of the general concern about unemployment in Britain should rural areas be specifically targeted. Whitby and Powe's (1994) analysis addresses this question. They discount the early argument that a populated countryside is needed for the defence of the nation, but note that planners have since the 1950's developed arguments about the cost of delivering services to rural communities (Whitby and Powe, 1994: 4). Services are cheaper where scale economies are possible, but require the maintenance of a minimum population size (Powe and Whitby, 1993). They also cite Treasury arguments that depopulation should be prevented in order to maintain "rural life", although Treasury was seen to admit that this did not depend solely on preventing depopulation, and also had doubts whether preventing depopulation would in fact preserve rural life and local culture.

Another argument was one of equity. The 'vicious cycle

of decline' was evident (i.e., fewer and often poorer older people in rural areas following concentration of services elsewhere, which followed substitution of labour by capital, especially within agriculture, increased costs of servicing rural areas, and a reduction in the number and quality of local facilities). The perceived continued decay of rural settlements, especially those in the more remote countryside, generated a political concern to address the problems of their experience (ESRC, 1989).

More importantly, it was recognised that rural areas cannot be regarded as discrete. As Lowe *et al* (1990) suggest, rural areas are just one arena within which economic, social and political processes are played out.

Although they have distinctive characteristics, such as low population densities, rural areas are an integral part of national economies and societies... they can no-longer be seen as agrarian-based but in varying degrees of transition towards a service-based economy.

(Lowe *et al*, 1990:3)

The role of agriculture in Britain is not denied but it is seen in a context of environmental consumption as much as food production, and as having a decreasing contribution to output and employment in the rural (and national) economy. With 56 million people, mainly located in urban areas, the British are concerned that social and economic change in rural areas is more and more influenced by urban-centred housing and labour markets, and decision-making has shifted away from rural localities. Attempts are being made to redress this through the planning system. For example, as well as covering themes such as housing, leisure and conservation, structure plans (which provide the strategic policy framework for local planning and development control in each county, consistent with national and regional guidelines) are required to have general policies on the rural economy of the county. This is a radical departure from previous planning concerns (CRE, 1993: 28).

References

CRE (1993) *Countryside Change: A Synopsis* Centre for Rural Economy, University of Newcastle on Tyne.

ESRC (1989) *The Countryside in Question: A Research Strategy* ESRC, Countryside Change, Working Paper Series No 1, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne.

ESRC (1993) *The Changing Countryside* Research Briefings No.6, Swindon.

Lowe P, Marsden T, and Munton R (1990) *The Social And Economic Restructuring of Rural Britain: A Position Statement*. ESRC Countryside Change Working Paper Series No 2, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne.

Marsden T, Whatmore S, and Munton R (1990) 'The Role of

Banking Capital in the British Agro-Food Complex' in Marsden T and J Little (eds), *Perspectives on the Food System* Gower, London

Powe N and Whitby M (1993) *Is there an optimum configuration of Settlement Sizes?* ESRC Countryside Change Working Paper Series No 41, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne.

Whitby M and Powe N (1994) 'Promoting Rural Development Through Rural Employment, Projects and policies: Some British Experience'. Paper to the Rural Realities Conference, University of Aberdeen, June 1994.

¹ This paper is based on Dr Ann Pomeroy's meetings with several of the Directors of the Countryside Change, London and Newcastle Research Programme, and officials from MAFF, the Ministry of the Environment, and Rural Development Commission in December 1994 and January 1995.

Ann Pomeroy

DEVELOPMENT OF THE KAPITI COAST COMMUNITY PLAN

[Note : SIAN 31 (August 1993) reported on the Kapiti Coast Community Needs Assessment. One of the recommendations of that Needs Assessment Report was that it be used as the basis of a community plan. Two years on and a community plan has been prepared as reported here. - James Newell]

The Kapiti Coast, over the last 12 months, has developed a Community Plan that appears to be a unique document within the local authorities in the area possibly because of the process used.

This process outlined below, allowed a wide range of people from the local community, including local and central government, to work together to develop strategies for managing issues related to the provision of community facilities and services both now and in the future.

The aim is that the Plan becomes a working document which encourages us all to work towards the achievement of the identified goals. The details in the current plan relate to issues that are to be actioned within the next 12 months at which time we will begin on a further process of defining or redefining the issues.

For many of those involved it was a sharp learning curve as they had not previously come across the type of inclusive processes and brainstorming techniques that were used. In some respects this hampered the progress of the workshop but I feel that it also encouraged people to look at, and become involved in a decision making process which was different from their usual one.

Background

In 1992, the Kapiti Coast District Council, having recently moved into the area of community development, commissioned a Community Needs Assessment Report. The brief was to develop a plan that would assist with the planning of community service delivery from 1993 to 1998.

The report, presented in May 1993, developed nine recommendations with recommendation three being to 'develop a "Community Plan" to articulate issues relating to the provision of community facilities and services which could then assist with the development of the Council's Annual, Strategic and District Plans.' This recommendation recognised that the assessment was a one off exercise and that an annual, ongoing and formal mechanism for reviewing and evolving goals, directions and actions in the community development area was needed.

After discussion within and outside Council it was decided that the best way to proceed was to hold a community based workshop with the representatives from a wide range of groups, organisations, service providers and Council.

The Process

Kapiti Coast District Council organised a planning workshop in March 1994 attended by representatives from a wide range of community groups and organisations, local Iwi and service providers including government departments.

The aims of the workshop were to:

1. Share a range of views about the role of the Council in the provision of community facilities and services
2. Identify key issues likely to impact on the provision of such facilities and services over the next five years
3. Develop some creative strategies for dealing with the future
4. Obtain the commitment of the workshop participants

The workshop process, which had several sequential and cumulative stages, was designed to encourage active participation, to assist participants to share their views and hopes for the future and to develop a shared responsibility for planning. The Search Conference process was used with brainstorm sessions in the large group and then small groups discussing and prioritising the information. Information was sorted under the following headings that would assist with the planning:

Needs Analysis

Environmental scan - identifying key trends in society likely to impact on the provision of community services and facilities

SWOT analysis - related to the provision of community services and facilities 5 years from now

Strategic Vision - for the provision of community services and facilities 5 years from now

Strategic Goals - realistic expectations by Council, Council and community, community

Achievement objectives - for the next twelve months

All discussions were recorded on butcher's paper and a full report of the proceedings was sent to all participants and accepted by Council and the Iwi Liaison Group. From these, Council developed a 'draft community plan' including strategic goals developed at the workshop.

A criticism of this part of the process was that the strong presence of elected members of Council more used to a formal decision making process, inhibited others from exploring further some of the innovative ideas that came forward and I believe this criticism to be valid. Balancing that though is the opportunity to expose our elected representatives to alternative process and to encourage them to be involved at the community level. This has happened for a number of Councillors who are now actively part of the ongoing process within the community.

At a further community workshop the strategic goals were prioritised and the wording defined. The process for achievement of these goals was established with the community members, service providers, Councillors and Council staff taking responsibility for the achievement of the goals. Most goals have required the establishment of working groups.

The plan then went out for wider public consultation with community groups, community boards and the general public. Only a few submissions were received but a number of groups contacted me to say that they were satisfied with the opportunities they had had for input. This finalised the community input into the plan and Council subsequently accepted and adopted the plan and took responsibility for involvement in it.

Ongoing development

The working groups have since been established and a community meeting was held in February 1995 to report on progress to date and to encourage ongoing involvement with the plan. These meetings will be held at the beginning of each year to assess the progress and to analyse needs for the next 12 months.

The Community Services Section of Council will continue to drive this ongoing process by offering encouragement and assistance when required as well as being actively involved in the achievement of some of the goals.

The consultative and development process has taken over 12 months and at times I have felt that it may have been too long. In an exercise such as this there is always the possibility that those involved may lose their commitment to the process but this does not seem to have happened. The wide involvement has led to a strong community ownership of, and commitment to, the process and the plan and this has been apparent in the willingness of people to

be involved in the working groups. The establishment of these working groups means that the process will be more community based bringing a wider section of the community than was possible at the start of the process.

The ongoing development, review and evaluation of the plan is now part of an annual process supported by Council, the community and service providers. The commitment for the community will ensure that the plan will be a working document that will guide the community to achieve identified objectives within a realistic time frame.

Margaret Brooker

SKILLS FOR STRATEGIC AND CREATIVE THINKING

**A Report on the Workshop
by Tom Fookes, Planning Department, the
University of Auckland**

Planners are being challenged to respond to opportunities which lie beyond their conventional world of preparing and implementing controls over development. The message is clear: cling to the past and the profession will be declared redundant by politicians and the community at large. This article by Tom Fookes explains what the need is and how something has been provided to help planners respond. This has been through a workshop which was held in December 1994 at the University of Auckland's Planning Department. Dr Jim Sheffield (Dept. of Management Science and Information Systems) was a consultant and principal facilitator of the workshop. Both Tom Fookes and Mike Pritchard helped run the workshop. Lisa Sheffield (Consultant) joined the team for the workshop. Ken Tremaine (KPMG Consultants) and Jim Harland (North Shore City) were keynote speakers.

In December 1994 two University of Auckland departments jointly ran a three day workshop for the NZ Planning Institute (NZPI) on Skills for Strategic and Creative Thinking: the Department of Management Science and Information Systems joined with Planning on this initiative. They designed a cross-discipline project which introduced models for strategic and creative thinking in a computer supported setting.

The workshop was supported by the NZPI and Auckland City Council. The objective for the workshop was to give planners both the knowledge and hands on experience to be effective in a range of decision making settings within their organisations or projects. In short, to prepare them to go beyond the limiting world of planning regulations: as some would say, "To break the mould."

Why Break the Mould?

The suite of reforms from 1989 which changed forever the New Zealand planning landscape are well known. Many of us are also now experienced at carrying out social assessments, or running strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats analyses (SWOT) over other people. We are not so good at applying these techniques to ourselves. How often do Planners ask, "How well am I shaping up to this new environment?" This workshop provided the opportunity for those asking that question to take some action.

The workshop was based on the premise that non strategic plans are becoming centre stage in the policy work of regional councils and territorial local authorities, as many councils are forced to define outcomes which are then used to set financial priorities. However, it is not common to find planners leading strategic plan or annual plan projects. The workshop was seen as an opportunity to extend the knowledge and skill base of those planners who are sufficiently conscious of this shortcoming to move ahead of those still waiting for the next revolution in regional and district planning!

As Ken Tremaine explained: "The Resource Management Act doesn't provide that sort of scope any more. Also many planners are still seen as regulators without the necessary skills to effectively contribute to newly emerging opportunities. The latter isn't true but you still need to sharpen up your skills and confidence if you want to use planning processes to influence the big picture."

What are the Skills?

The workshop provided direct experience with proven methods of problem solving. To consolidate that experience it also applied those methods to a real world planning problem. One that required the use of low and high technology decision making and presentation - from butchers paper and white boards to computers.

The workshop was innovative: it was doing more than explain methods for strategic and creative problem solving. It took a range of decision making technologies and let participants discover how they work with different problem solving methods. These included:

- * Edward de Bono's Parallel Thinking (six coloured hats method)
- * Xerox Company's six step process (with divergent and convergent thinking)
- * a model developed for the workshop: a synthesis of the above related to the PROCESS and FOCUS of decision making
- * scenario-building

The workshop was hands on: guest speakers and formal instruction were kept to a minimum. Key ideas were learned through individual and group exercises; the classic learning by doing approach! At key stages participants

consolidated the ideas and their experiences through evaluation. The workshop culminated with a formal presentation of a strategic planning task before an invited audience of stakeholders.

The workshop was practical: problem solving and decision making methods were learned and applied to real situations which had been selected because they had a wider application to places other than Auckland. These were:

- * *Agenda 21* : as a source of key areas where mistakes have been made and can be avoided in future development
- * Transitional areas: locations where planning opportunity primarily exists because one pattern of use has ceased to be viable and is likely to be replaced by another.

Why Auckland Central City Fringe?

Auckland's Central City Fringe provided the case study because it is an area in transition. It was also the workshop's setting. Furthermore, it enabled us to examine a key principle: Planning that allows new uses in areas of transition to repeat the mistakes of the past misses the opportunity to recognise the needs of both present and future generations.

having examined that principle in the field participants had to think of strategic and creative responses to it by producing two things relevant to this transition process. The first was a strategic vision of the future against which the changes could be measured. The second was to explore mechanisms to test those idealised goals for their practical limitations by exploring the means by which they might be achieved.

This is based on an article in the December Planning Quarterly

Tom Fookes

A VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA

20 NOVEMBER - 1 DECEMBER 1994

Introduction

This is a report on some of the observations made by James Barnes about South Africa, as a result of a visit to Cape Town. The itinerary was arranged by The Institute for Indigenous Theory & Practice, a South African NGO¹. Essentially the trip was arranged for the purpose of gaining input from a New Zealand perspective and the presentation of a paper at an Indaba (a gathering). Other presenters at the Indaba came from around the African Continent. The Indaba was organised to discuss the integration of indigenous knowledge, norms, customs and practices within a multi-cultural society. The paper presented outlined a number of basic issues from the New Zealand experience.

Included in the itinerary were two workshop presentations on managing diversity, one for commercial organisations and the other for NGOs. These workshops were co-facilitated with a Black woman and Coloured man respectively. Both workshops were sponsored by Caltex (SA) Pty Ltd in association with the Institute for Indigenous Theory and Practice. Also co-presented was a lecture with a White Afrikaans woman on the methodology of Social Assessment, at the School of Social Work Cape Town University.

A presentation of a case study to the Environmental Evaluation Unit, Cape Town University, on the impacts of urban growth on indigenous communities in New Zealand was also conducted. The case study was designed to draw attention to the importance of ensuring links between Natural Science and Social Science are formally established when conducting impact assessments involving community wellbeing.

At all of these events, various aspects of the Cultural Concepts in Strategic Planning & Development Model² were presented. As a result of these presentations, a number of significant interviews were arranged with senior officials from prominent organisations involved in the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) which is currently the focus of attention in South Africa.

General Observations

Political Environment

The political climate in South Africa is generally positive and optimistic across all sectors of society. There is a high degree of energy for making the "new" South Africa work. The most positive aspect of this resolve is that it is not just driven by President Mandela and the ANC. It would appear however that the South African society has put itself under tremendous pressure to have in place, in a very short timeframe, the infrastructure required to allow participatory democracy to work effectively. No one is under any illusion that a lot of very difficult problems will need to be overcome before this can happen³.

The Government of National Unity is made up of political parties with agendas that are beginning to emerge and there is a struggle going on, particularly between the ANC and the National Party to win the hearts and minds of the people. The aim appears to be to identify and establish a prominent position along the new political spectrum that has yet to be clearly defined.

The impression is gained⁴ that both parties are keeping an eye on each other to ensure that initiatives taken by one party are not sabotaged in any way by the other.

Having created the new sense of belonging, the Government is very aware it needs to move quickly and implement

RDP⁵. A major issue in the implementation of RDP will be the need to establish a consistent level of consultation.

Cultural Perspectives

Reference to Black, White and Coloured categories of South Africans will become a relic of apartheid once mechanisms are in place to integrate the aspirations of all South African citizens into RDP. One of the connections made in relation to how New Zealand is dealing with cultural issues, is the use of a Founding Document to establish the basic values of the Society. New Zealand has the Treaty of Waitangi (TOW) and South Africa, RDP. The “indigenous culture” of South Africa has yet to be defined but is not likely to be based on who the “Tangata Whenua” are. Apparently, who was in South Africa first it is not going to be an issue⁶ but rather, what cultural traditions and customs best reflect the nature of the society and how these will manifest themselves politically.

Community Organisations

While many community organisations can loosely be described as NGOs, there is a growing sense in South Africa that the mandate for RDP has to be owned by the townships and ethnic communities if it is going to be accepted as the basis for establishing the new direction. One of the key elements to the success of RDP will be the process by which policy development is authorised. During the apartheid years, marginalised norms and practices of many communities were established along traditional values. Significant understanding of customary authorisation held by village and community leaders will be as important as any authorisation that might be sought from commercial or political interests. The principles of participatory democracy will require the diverse nature of community life in South Africa to be managed at the local as well as national level. The consultation required to maintain the continuity of RDP will be extensive.

Institutional Change

While a new constitution has yet to be written, work is already being commenced in institutions based on the guidelines contained in a white paper setting out the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP). As already mentioned, the political will is strong for change, however, the lack of infrastructure⁷ in the organisations involved in RDP means that progress is seen initially, to be slow. This is mainly due to the need to implement new processes and procedures while still having to deal with the day-to-day problems and issues that arise as life goes on in South Africa.

Voluntary Sector

There is a proliferation of NGOs in South Africa. Many were obviously formed to assist in the struggle against apartheid. The RDP is causing particular funding difficulties for those NGOs who refused to accept Government assistance during the apartheid years. As international

donors begin to withdraw direct funding and channel their funds through Government agencies, stricter accountability along with a lack of working relationships with government agencies is becoming a major survival issue to be resolved within the NGO sector. Many small and a number of large NGOs may cease to exist after their current financial year. The South African Government has signalled to the sector that it needs to rationalise its services and delivery options to meet the requirements of RDP. With no national federation to manage their affairs, major NGOs are considering the need to establish a national structure that will lobby the Government for secure funding.

Private Sector

One of the key concepts that is being promoted across all sectors in South Africa is the need for organisations to change their corporate culture and become competent in managing diversity. Managing diversity in South Africa is mostly about race and gender. In the new South Africa the labour market at the senior executive level is beginning to open up to Blacks and Coloureds who previously were in the main, excluded from these level. This development in the labour market has created some difficulty, particularly for white males who now have to compete for jobs in a way they did not have to previously. The other dimension is the acknowledgement that the role and numbers of women in commercial organisations needs to be improved significantly. Despite the difficulties that these new developments are causing, there is a general desire to uphold the principle of inclusion and seek solutions to the transitional difficulties being experienced.

One of the interesting problems being experienced by commercial organisations is in the area of training methodology. Essentially, training methods in South Africa are relatively autocratic compared to other western styles. The impact of autocratic training methods on the transfer of community and culturally based knowledge and expertise is one specific difficulty that South African trainers will need to overcome.

State and Provincial Government Sectors

Managing diversity is a concept that is not new in South Africa. Amongst all the desire for change however, there are vestiges of autocratic attitude which at the present time appear to reflect the legacy of apartheid. Major shifts in methodology for strategic planning, policy development and implementation are being made in an endeavour to maximise stakeholder participation in decision making and problem solving. Logistically however, the fundamental problem that the South African public administration system appears to have is a lack of process and procedural infrastructure to meet the demands being made by the five year political timeframe. This is most evident in areas of Social Policy affecting Black and Coloured South Africans⁸.

Conclusion

This report has to be put in the context of it having been written with only two weeks understanding of the South African situation and from the Western Cape city of Cape Town. It is therefore somewhat limited in scope in that it is only a snap shot in a part of South Africa that is considered comparatively affluent and more tranquil than many other parts of the country. Despite this however, relatively equal time was spent with black, white and coloured South Africans while in Cape Town and the level of commitment and shared focus on what the future South Africa was going to be like, suggests such a focus could not be developed in isolation. It is likely therefore that the level of commitment experienced in Cape Town is universally shared by the majority of the peoples of South Africa.

Footnotes

¹ The Institute has one major foreign donor. The remainder of its income is derived from training and development consultancies.

² A comprehensive Organisation and HRD development model, the intellectual property of James Barnes & Associated Limited, New Zealand.

³ I witnessed the dismantling of a squatter settlement ordered by a Provincial Housing Minister. There was an overwhelming presence of heavily armed Police with dogs supported by Army personnel with armed personnel carriers and tanks, sent to protect the Council workers dismantling the houses. My guide commented that this type of intervention was indicative of the current lack of infrastructure within Government administration to demonstrate the political will that exists to find more satisfactory solutions and outcomes to problems.

⁴ Speaking with ANC and National Party supporters, the ANC wants to be seen as the major initiator of change, the natural Party for the majority of South Africans while the National Party wants to be seen as a Party that has considerable expertise, has successfully adapted to the new political reality and is capable of making significant contributions to the economic and social wellbeing of all South Africans.

⁵ Without exception, officials from all the organisations identified in this report expressed various concerns about the lack of real progress being made on policy development and implementation. The lack of organisational infrastructure to cope with the demands of change was a major concern.

⁶ The definition of indigenous South African culture was debated by Black, White and Coloured South Africans at the Indaba. It was generally agreed that while no clear definition existed, an outcome of RDP will be that Blacks, Whites and coloureds will identify the way they wish to belong and participate in the new South Africa, based on the traditional customs and practices of their people.

⁷ Inadequate mechanisms to facilitate consultation between individuals, groups and organisations is having a significant impact on the implementation of RDP.

⁸ The reduced funding provided to NGOs by international donors, has implications for many worthwhile wel-

fare programmes. Some may have to close down if they are supported by an NGO that ceases to exist. A vacuum is forming around some key programmes as they await funding from government agencies.

*James Barnes
Managing Director
New Frontiers International Limited*

Recent Publications

A Conceptual Approach to Social Impact Assessment

Collections of Writings by Rabel J Burdge and Colleagues
Social Ecology Press Middleton - Wisconsin ISBN 1-941042-16-2

Soft Bound, 273 pgs., \$18.95(US), \$24.50(CAN)

A Community Guide to Social Impact Assessment

Rabel J. Burdge Social Ecology Press Middleton - Wisconsin ISBN 0-941042-17-0 Spiral Bound, 193 pgs., \$18.95(US), \$24.50(CAN)

ANZALS Leisure Connexions Conference Proceedings

“Australian and New Zealand Association for Leisure Studies

Leisure Connexions Conference Proceedings
January, 1995

Over 200 pages with 63 papers representing leisure research and thinking in Australia and New Zealand.

Cost is NZ\$50.00 plus \$15 postage.

Order from: Rick Mansell

Department of Parks, Recreation and

Tourism

Lincoln University

PO Box 84

Lincoln, Canterbury

NEW ZEALAND

email: Mansell @ Lincoln.ac.nz”

Tel: (64) (03) 325 2811

Fax: (64) (03) 325 3857

Proceedings of the International Symposium on Participatory Research in Health Promotion

In September 1993, the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (Education Resource Group) together with the African Medical Research Foundation hosted this international workshop in Liverpool (England). The workshop brought together over 100 people working in participatory research for health promotion, most of these from outside Britain.

The workshop can be regarded as a spinoff from contact between the Education Resource Group at the School and other educational institutions and organisations in Kenya, India, the Philippines and Nigeria amongst other countries. The aim was to enable health professionals and other workers with an interest in participatory research to:

- * Share their expertise with others;
- * Clarify and get to know different perspectives and practices in participatory research
- * Network and provide mutual support for using PRA in health;
- * Strengthen the confidence of, and generate ideas for, workers still exploring the use of PRA in health and development.

Contributions for the symposium were invited which would share experiences and ideas in :

- * Participatory research in action - with case studies to highlight methods, educational processes, successes, difficulties and outcomes;
- * Training in participatory research - looking at teaching and learning methods;
- * Theoretical development in participatory research - research paradigms and concepts of participation and empowerment in health promotion;
- * Networking in participatory research - ways of sharing information and providing support.

The proceedings are set out under the following subject headings :

- * History of participatory research
- * Training in participatory research
- * Frameworks to implement participatory research
- * Theory of participatory research
- * Evaluation of participation
- * Relationships between research institutions and communities
- * Integration of participatory research in government services
- * Participation of health workers in formative research and evaluation
- * Participatory research in healthy city projects in the UK
- * Community-based needs assessment and health information systems

- * Reflections on and examples of participatory research in women's health
- * Use of participatory research in prevention of HIV/AIDS
- * The use of draw and write methods with school children
- * Participatory research and the promotion of health in the work setting
- * Use of participatory research in water and sanitation projects

The material in the proceedings appears quite relevant to those working in the field of social assessment. Social assessment as practised by many in New Zealand recognises the role of participation by the subject in the research process. This provides a common chord of interest in participatory research theory and practise. In the UK there is a grouping of practitioners of what is called "rapid (rural) appraisal" which also has much in common with some of the methods used in social assessments here in New Zealand. The proceedings of the symposium were kindly forwarded to ASA by Grindl Dockery who gave a short seminar on rapid appraisal to the Wellington ASA group while she was visiting Wellington in early 1993. I should also mention that Grindl is looking for an opportunity to come and do some work using rapid appraisal / participatory research methods in the Pacific / South Asia area sometime this year. If anyone is interested in contacting here please contact me. Likewise, I have a master copy of the Symposium Proceedings which are notice are not copyrighted. I am happy to supply a copy of the proceedings to anyone on request. I am not sure exactly what the reproduction cost will be. I will wait until I get an indication of how many copies are needed and then arrange for copies to be made. To make things easy I will charge \$15 per copy for the proceeding reproductions. Any surplus over the cost of reproduction will be given to ASA. For further information please contact James Newell, Ph 04 384 8438, fax 384 8004, PO Box 2445, Wellington

James Newell

Please send any reports or papers you wish to have reviewed to Wayne McClintock, 54 Parnwell St, Burwood, Christchurch. He can't review thin air!