THE WATER ISSUE
Until recently, water has driven virtually all human progress. From the earliest appearance of Homo sapiens, people have always settled near reliable supplies of fresh water and migrated to new places when water supplies diminished. Cities have always needed abundant water for human consumption, bathing, and sanitation, and also for agriculture and livestock. The trade networks that effectively expanded the food supply radius around ancient cities depended on water transport, because even the smallest boats could carry bulky cargoes ten or more times further at less cost than overland transport. Rivers, lakes, and oceans also contributed to food supplies. Water-powered mills and factories dominated industrial development until long after the steam engine first appeared. And steam engines themselves were machines that used coal to heat—water.

The legacy of water’s influence on modern society is still visible. Look at any population density map of the globe. Most of the world’s population still lives along rivers, lakeshores, or seacoasts. The amazing technological advances of the past century, which initially speeded up population growth and made it feasible to build cities far from their sources of water, immensely improved human living conditions in much of the globe—but not everywhere, and not forever. When the transition to sedentary agriculture began roughly 10,000 years ago, the earth’s human population stood at a bare 10 million. By the dawn of the “common era,” this number had risen to perhaps 200 million or so. Water was always scarce in some regions even then, and people who migrated in search of it often had to hunt for years to find a reliable supply in a safe place. Not so today.

With more than 6 billion people on the planet today and the combined effects of global warming and industrial and urban pollution, the supply of water safe enough for drinking, recreation, production, and other uses is becoming scarce. In some parts of the globe, prolonged droughts and other weather events (like the freeze that burst pipes in Ireland last December) or humanitarian crises and refugee camps have already created emergencies that threaten entire populations.

This issue of SIPA News focuses on the public policy dimensions of water consumption and conservation, a topic of increasing importance to citizens and policymakers in every country in the world. New York City itself faces a potential water problem, as do millions of people living in low-lying areas near the earth’s oceans.

SIPA’s second year as an independent professional school at Columbia is rapidly transforming our 64-year-old institution with outstanding new faculty, an even more diverse and talented student body, the full implementation of our new curriculum, and a series of research and development initiatives that are already laying a durable foundation for SIPA’s future.

John H. Coatsworth
Dean
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Cover photo taken by Karina Nagin, MPA ’11, during her summer internship in Rajasthan, India. Read the full story on Page 6.
Water sits in a reservoir after being treated at the state-owned Empresa Pública Social del Agua y Saneamiento SA (EPSAS) Puchuckollo treatment facility in Viacha, Bolivia. As Bolivia’s glaciers recede, the landlocked Andean nation’s water supplies grow more at risk.
From Relief to Development: Water Is the Key

By Dirk Salomons

THE RIGHT TO CLEAN WATER: AN AFTERTHOUGHT?

This summer, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution recognizing that “the right to safe and clean drinking water is a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights.” The developing world voted in favor of it, but most of the affluent nations abstained. What good will this resolution do for the 900 million people who currently have no access to clean water, and how will it help the 2.5 billion people who have no access to basic sanitation? Will it protect them from typhoid and cholera? Will it eradicate the waterborne diseases that kill 4,000 children every day, more than malaria, HIV/AIDS, and measles combined?

Water is a matter of life and death. Too much or too little is equally threatening. No need to explain that to the 20 million Pakistanis whose livelihoods were recently destroyed by the raging floods in the Indus valley, nor to the three million Darfuris languishing for years in barren camps as the aquifers below them run dry. The tsunami that killed hundreds of thousands in Asia as 2004 came to an end remains a horrendous memory, attesting to the deadly power of water. After a few days without water, we die. Why, then, have we taken our dependency on water so lightly and ignored its threat?
The General Assembly's resolution may be no more than a rhetorical flourish, coming 60 years after the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, or it may be a wake-up call. Finally paying attention to water means finally paying attention to climate change, pollution, the implications of poor governance, the dangers and opportunities of privatizing the water sector, and the lethal conflicts brewing over access to water. Ultimately, paying attention to water means taking global poverty seriously.

**Awakening to the Need for Sustainability**

For humanitarians, the need to provide clean water has always been a priority, be it in conflict zones or after natural disasters. In the 1990s, as professional standards were drawn up, the benchmark for delivery was clear: 15 liters per person per day, maximum distance to a water point not to exceed 500 meters, queuing time at water source no more than 15 minutes. Drilling boreholes, setting up pumps, it was all in a day's work. But when camps have to be kept open for months, or even years, a new reality emerges: the need to find sustainable solutions. Large refugee populations are an environmental scourge, and rarely do water supplies keep up with demand over time. The Darfur region in Sudan, for example, has an unprecedented concentration of population, imposing high demand on water resources. The four major clusters of camps in Darfur have to be drilled ever deeper to meet the occupants' needs, and if there is even one dry year, the United Nations predicts a calamity. And what about the water needs of the four million Darfuris who are not in camps? All of a sudden, in Darfur and elsewhere, humanitarians have to think in terms of long-term development and understand how their relief efforts relate to the broader issues of global poverty.

**The Right to Water is the Right to Development**

More than two thirds of all clean water withdrawn from the earth is used for food production. It takes 100 gallons of water to produce one pound of bread. Producing one pound of beef requires 1,500 gallons of water, or nearly 5,700 liters. Globally, agro-industry is by far the thirstiest consumer. Often, what stays behind is pollution: water fouled by pesticides, fertilizers, and the manure of livestock. Chemical companies, coal-fired power plants, nuclear plants—they all use vast amounts of water and leave toxic waste behind. According to the World Bank, within the next 30 years, global demand for water will exceed supply by 40 percent.

Climate change adds to the levels of uncertainty. According to the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, global warming will intensify droughts worldwide, and at the same time, it will intensify floods. This is not a long-term projection. It is happening now. A sad example is the way in which a long-lasting drought has turned the Middle East's 'Fertile Crescent,' the breadbasket straddling Syria and Iraq, into an uninhabitable dust bowl, displacing tens of thousands. Such shifting patterns are becoming all too frequent.

How can the poor manage in such an environment? Millions of the world's poor, especially in rural areas surviving on subsistence agriculture, depend on clean water for their livelihoods. Two billion people live in water-stressed areas. Is their right to clean water limited to the amounts they can drink, as the General Assembly has so carefully phrased it? What is the role of the state? Who provides the infrastructure needed to ensure an equitable storage and distribution of water? In countries with weak governance, there are no suitable mechanisms and institutions to regulate water use, and the struggle for access to water then takes on Darwinian traits, pitting community against community, herders against farmers, villagers against urbanites. Is there an international "responsibility to protect" when it comes to water? Can research contribute to better, more economical water use and thus take the edge off communal strife?

The argument has been made that privatization is the best solution when state capacity is lacking. The private sector has the resources needed to invest in infrastructure, it has the technology, it can use pricing to reduce waste. In the 90s, the World Bank asked impoverished countries like Bolivia to privatize its water supplies as a condition for receiving economic assistance. The Bechtel Group, a privately owned engineering firm from the U.S., took over and doubled Bolivia's water rates. The subsequent upheaval brought Evo Morales' populist movement to power, and a public utility has now resumed services in Bolivia. The lesson learned is that privatizing essential public goods places profits before human rights and destroys the state's legitimacy as a service provider. For Bolivia, fortunately, this is now water under the bridge. For the international development community, the pitfalls of privatization create an opportunity and a challenge to share both capital and technology in support of weaker states' capacity-building in the public sector. On the development agenda, water has far too long gotten short shrift, massive investments are needed to redress the gaps resulting from those years of neglect.

**Preventing Deadly Conflict: Managing our Water Supply Across Borders**

Ensuring fair access to water is not just a matter of alleviating poverty or stabilizing economic growth. Water-related tensions can easily spill over into conflict, within or between states. According to UNESCO, 96 percent of all fresh water resources are stored as groundwater, and two or more countries share half of the world's aquifers. Above ground, the Yangtze, the Nile, and the Ganges are all suffering serious water security stress, facing demographic pressures, pollution, and degradation. Areas where a shortage of water might aggravate tensions often happen to be zones that are already prone to conflict: the Middle East, the borders between India and Pakistan, the Mekong delta. If these potential conflicts are not dealt with, they may first lead to forced migration and social instability, and then, ultimately, to violence as deadly as the sudden surge of floods or tsunamis.

How can we show that we take the General Assembly's exhortations seriously? International organizations, aid agencies, NGOs, and the private sector can all support peace-building efforts by addressing water availability, allocation, and use through direct interventions or in policy dialogue. Initiatives such as the joint Israeli, Jordanian, and Palestinian “Water Data Banks Project” or the work of the Mekong River Commission (bringing Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and China to the negotiating table) are harbingers of such forward-looking strategies. In many cultures, water is a symbol of peace. Water sustains life. If we truly want to recognize the right to water as a fundamental human right, we cannot limit it to "safe and clean drinking water" but have to expand it, so that it includes all water essential to sustain basic livelihoods. At the same time, this would create a global obligation to treat water as a "common public good," protected from mercenary exploitation. Is it time to advocate for an “International Treaty for the Preservation of the Right to Water?”

Dirk Salomons is the director of the Program for Humanitarian Affairs at the School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, where he also heads the International Organization specialization.
As Waters Rise, Environmental Migration Surfaces

By Sheena Jones

"My husband stayed and watched over the house, sitting on a chair stacked on a table as he watched the water slowly rise," said Yvette, a housekeeper in Mananjary, Madagascar.

In January 2007, in an idyllic beachside town on the island nation of Madagascar, Yvette’s home, a one-room thatched hut on the bank of the Canal des Pangalanes, was one of hundreds in Mananjary affected by Cyclone Clovis. Yvette was fortunate that her home survived the season’s strongest cyclone, but other families were not as lucky. An estimated 400 Mananjary homes were destroyed by Clovis, displacing 2,857 people.

Since 2007, the cyclones in Madagascar have grown in frequency and intensity. With each new cyclone—Ivan in 2008, Jade in 2009, and Hubert in 2010—Mananjary’s flood death toll has risen into the hundreds, while thousands more have lost their homes. Pactole Alison, a Mananjary native who now resides in the United States, said Cyclone Hubert was the worst disaster the town had seen since 1959. With 90 percent inundation, the town resembled a lake with people paddling from place to place in dugout canoes. The culprit of these stronger, more numerous cyclones and hurricanes is widely thought to be rising sea temperatures, a result of increased greenhouse gas emissions.

Tropical storms gain power when they move over warm waters. “As oceans warm, they provide a source of energy for hurricane growth,” according to a 2009 report by the U.S. Global Change Research Program. The number of Category 4 and 5 cyclones has nearly doubled in the Indian Ocean region in the past 15 years.

If these trends continue, Yvette’s family, along with the thousands currently living along the Canal des Pangalanes, could soon join the 211 million people worldwide who have left their flooded homes for higher ground. They may become environmental migrants.

Climate change is hardly a new phenomenon. For as long as the earth has existed, the climate has oscillated, from the warmth of the Jurassic Period to the below-freezing temperatures of the Pleistocene’s “ice age.” Migration has always been man’s response to pendulum-like changes in climate. One theory suggests that a period of disparate rainfall, fluctuating from extreme droughts in one year to mass flooding in the next, resulted in early man’s first migrations out of Africa. Today, those affected by climate change have international borders to contend with, in addition to financial constraints.

The face of the environmental migrant is the face of the poor, said film director Michael Nash in his documentary Climate Refugees. The people most likely to be affected by climate change are those like Yvette, who lives with her family in a 10-foot square thatched hut on the bank of a river, in one of the poorest nations in the world. Like many of her neighbors, she has limited social connections outside the town and has never left Mananjary, even for a weekend.

Lauren Greenberg, a community liaison officer working for Conservation International in Madagascar, said that people in the region were already struggling to make ends meet. “When there’s a cyclone, the flooding means more months of the year without sufficient food,” Greenberg noted. If the crops are wiped out, people subsist solely on cassava, a nutrient-deficient plant that is similar to the yam.

When Alison was growing up in Mananjary, flooding after a cyclone damaged the roads into town, cutting off access to the outside food supply. “I remember staying in a long line for a few [cups] of rice,” he said.

The world is only beginning to understand the implications of mass environmental migration. Nash suggested that millions of environmental migrants attempting to enter wealthier nations in Europe and the United States could result in national security issues and widespread conflict. Italy and the United States have seen a rise in agricultural laborers illegally immigrating to the country, causing clashes with local populations and government. In the next 70 years, climate change will induce 1.4 to 6.7 million Mexicans to emigrate, according to the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Environmental migrants are often referred to as climate refugees or the environmentally displaced. However, many contest these terms. While a number of international frameworks currently protect those displaced as a result of political or ethnic targeting, there is no such protection for people displaced by cyclones or other natural disasters. Those who contest the term “climate refugees” fear that, among the billions of people affected by climate change, political refugees might get lost in the crowd and wouldn’t receive the political asylum they need.

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) considers environmental migration a phenomenon that urgently needs to be addressed. If cyclone velocities continue to increase, migration may soon be a reality for Mananjary, as it will be for the 252 million affected by natural disasters annually. While UNHCR is exploring ways to incorporate environmental migrants into international amnesty laws, it could take years before an international framework is put in place to deal with the vast numbers of environmentally displaced. For the world’s poor, who are most affected by climate change, time is of the essence.

Sheena Jones is a second-year Master of International Affairs student, concentrating in Human Rights. She spent 2005 to 2007 in Mananjary, Madagascar, as a Peace Corps volunteer and equates Mananjary with home.
THE WEIGHT OF WATER

BY KARINA NAGIN

A woman carries jars of water, part of the daily routine in Rajasthan. Right: The Lake Palace in Udaipur, surrounded by marooned boats, sits in a dried-up lake bed.
A small boy bathes on a balcony, letting the rain rinse his hair. A man stands in the middle of the street, his arms outstretched, head tilted back, and mouth wide open to the downpour. It is the first monsoon of the season, and the excitement is tangible in the narrow streets of Pushkar, a small town in the arid state of Rajasthan, India. Instead of running for cover, people dash into the streets. The relief the monsoon offers from the scorching summer heat is not their only reason for excitement: A three-year drought makes heavy rains imperative for the 56 million people living in this water-scarce state.

In a state that is two-thirds desert, the issue of water weighs heavily on everyone’s mind. From rural farmlands to urban slums and upper-class city streets, “This year has to be a good monsoon,” was the chorus heard across Rajasthan last July. Ninety percent of people here are dependent on groundwater for drinking and irrigation, and the population is growing at a rate of 28 percent per year, outpacing the supply of resources. Add to this the fact that NASA has estimated that groundwater levels are decreasing at a rate of one foot per year, and one begins to understand the sense of urgency.

Rajasthan’s water woes go beyond issues of growing scarcity. Just accessing and transporting water is a daily challenge for millions in Rajasthan, and one group is affected more than most.

Around the world the burden of collecting and transporting water overwhelmingly falls on the shoulders of women and children, literally. Many women in rural villages walk up to 15 km a day just to collect the water their families need. The time spent obtaining and transporting water to meet a household’s requirements often keeps children out of school and prevents women from carrying out the domestic and income-generating work for which they are also responsible. Gary White, co-founder of water.org, an NGO focusing on water and sanitation issues in developing countries, estimates that in just one day, more than 200 million hours of women’s time is consumed worldwide collecting water for domestic use.

Mala, a 25-year-old mother who lives in a small village 60 km from the city of Udaipur, is a testament to the statistics. “I have to walk two to three kilometers three times a day to collect water for my family and our animals,” she said. “In the summer it’s much more.”

The UN suggests that individuals need a minimum of 20 liters of water every day just for drinking and food preparation, which is 44 pounds of water per person. Women in Rajasthan can be seen carrying it on their heads in everything from plastic buckets to rusty cans. Most often, women use a 15-liter metal or clay pot. However, it is not uncommon to see a woman balancing a second or even third pot on top of the first for a total of 25 liters. That’s more than 55 pounds of water. While this traditional method of carrying water may look graceful and picturesque, it can cause chronic arthritis, severe damage to the spine, and complications during childbirth.

A young woman and her middle-aged mother filled their water pots at the community tap in a small village in the western district of Jodhpur. The mother explained the consequences she has experienced collecting water every day for the past 40 years. “My ankles are swollen and my neck hurts,” she said as she hoisted the large pot onto her head. “If I didn’t spend all my time collecting water...I could keep more goats; I’d sell more milk. Life would be better.”

Urban dwellers face challenges in collecting water as well. Madhuri, a grandmother who lives in one of the many kacchi basti (slums) that surround the capital city of Jaipur, relies on government faucets for her water. But government taps are only turned on from 7:30 to 8:00 a.m., and the morning rush often results in more than 20 women anxiously waiting for their turn at the tap. When asked what she uses to carry and store water, Madhuri looked momentarily confused and then finally answered, “anything that holds water.” In these overcrowded, peripheral communities, every option is utilized, from traditional clay pots to empty Coke bottles.

Despite the overwhelming challenges, human ingenuity and necessity create ways to improve access to clean water and reduce the transport load. Huge water tankers pulled by tractors slowly slosh down city streets, delivering hundreds of liters of water to those fortunate enough to be able to pay. Thatched roof “water huts,” funded by local philanthropists, dot city sidewalks and offer a sip of water free of charge to any thirsty passerby. Meanwhile, larger multimillion-dollar government-funded programs work on infrastructure issues, and scores of NGOs focus on water harvesting and purification.

Ronak Shah, a field officer with the Rajasthan-based NGO Seva Mandir, points to one cause of water concerns: unrestricted development over the past decade. This development has contributed to the problems of water contamination, infrastructure deficiencies, and a lack of environmental protection. “Lakes are getting encroached upon with highway construction and housing developments,” said Shah. “[New] laws for environmental protection are there in the legislation, but implementation is always the problem.”

In Udaipur, the Lake Palace usually appears to float amidst the city’s shimmering Pichola Lake. The former royal residence typically attracts swarms of tourists; but last summer it lay deserted in the middle of a dry, cracked lake bed.

“Water is life,” said Shah simply. Undoubtedly the challenges of Rajasthan’s water situation are many:

- Water rights, infrastructure, and environmental impact must be addressed. But it is the individuals, those who literally carry the weight of water on their shoulders every day, whose burden ultimately must be lifted.

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- Water rights, infrastructure, and environmental impact must be addressed. But it is the individuals, those who literally carry the weight of water on their shoulders every day, whose burden ultimately must be lifted.

Karina Nagin is a second-year Master of Public Administration student, concentrating in Economic and Political Development with a focus on social entrepreneurship. She spent the past summer in Rajasthan, India, working for Wello, a social enterprise focusing on water transportation.
El Niño Drought Leads to Blackouts, Power Rationing, and Political Fallout in Venezuela
Venezuelans faced a painful shock in the early weeks of 2010. Months of drought led to steady declines in the country’s mammoth reservoirs, forcing production cuts at hydroelectric dams. Water shortages threatened to undermine the South American country’s power grid, forcing the government to implement rationing measures that brought economic and social hardship and fueled political opposition to President Hugo Chávez.

Faced with looming electricity shortages, in January the government floated a plan calling for daily four-hour blackouts in Caracas, similar to electricity cuts already implemented in much of the rest of the country during the previous nine months. Public backlash prompted Chávez to scrap the idea in favor of a less drastic proposal and replace his minister of electricity, even as drought continued to deplete reservoirs. In the western Táchira state, the water level fell so low in the Unihante Reservoir that a village that was submerged in a reservoir in 1985 reappeared in February.

“When we have a problem with a drought, it creates knock-on effects,” said Fernando Branger, a professor at the Instituto de Estudios Superiores de Administracion (IESA), a school of business and public affairs in Caracas. “We’re talking about a situation where the supply of electricity fell very close to demand.”

Venezuela relied on hydroelectric power plants for 73 percent of its electricity in 2009. Chávez, who assumed office in February 1999, has touted the fact that Venezuela is powered by a renewable resource. But the OPEC-member country’s reliance on a single type of power for the majority of its electricity, and its failure to invest in new capacity over the past 20 years, sparked an economic train wreck in 2010.

The El Niño drought reduced water flows on the Caroni River that feeds the Guri power plant, the world’s third-largest hydroelectric generator, just as the country was reeling from a collapse in the price of oil. Parts of Caracas suffered regular water disruptions, and Chávez was forced to implement rolling blackouts across the country to preserve the power grid. At a time when it could least afford it, Venezuela was forced to burn oil to run backup power plants.

Chávez’s new electricity minister announced the government would require certain customers in the capital to cut power use by 20 percent, and the government reduced the public sector workday to five hours.

“This has happened to us in other instances, but this time, our reservoirs were more affected,” said Jesus R. Ortega, head of hydrometeorological services at the National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology, a government agency. “Generally, this happens every three or four years, and in some instances it’s not intense. In others, like this year, and in 1998, it affects us strongly.”

Rainfall has picked up since the middle of this year, and Ortega said that reservoirs have recovered, but the nation’s water shortages and its fragile power grid remain political issues.

“We have to prepare to manage our reservoirs better, and people have to be conscious of the rational use of water resources,” he said.

Opposition leaders say the power shortages are more evidence that Chávez has mismanaged the country’s infrastructure and squandered chances to diversify its energy matrix. Blackouts, along with rising crime, 28 percent annual inflation, and an economic recession prompted voters to punish the president’s party in September’s National Assembly elections.

Chávez’s United Socialist Party of Venezuela saw its share of the National Assembly fall from 139 to 96 seats. While the socialists maintained a majority, the party lost the two-thirds voting bloc necessary for Supreme Court appointments and presidential decree powers.

“For the first time, we are starting to see in polls that the president is being directly associated with problems in the country,” Branger said. “In the past, the country has suffered many problems, but it was often blamed on a minister, for example. A part of the population is starting to say, ‘Well, if the problem was the drought, then now that the rains are back, why do we still have problems with the lights?’”

The main difference this year compared with previous droughts is that the demand for electricity has exploded over the past decade, and investment in new capacity hasn’t kept pace. Between 1990 and 2009, Venezuela’s power demand increased 118 percent, while installed capacity rose just 8.6 percent, according to a report published in March by the Comunidad Andina de Fomento (CAF), a Caracas-based multilateral development bank.

The country’s cheap electricity rates, which are subsidized by the government to keep them at the lowest level in Latin America, also helped fuel the surge in power demand, according to the CAF report.

Branger said the government might have to raise those rates to give incentives to investment and efficiency.

“A new tariff structure could emerge, with important increases for commercial sectors, shopping centers, and some residential areas,” he noted. “They will keep rates low for impoverished areas. Our grid has huge bottlenecks, and some infrastructure is operating at 130 percent of capacity.”

“In that situation,” Branger explained, “any problem can cause a blackout.”

Matthew Walter is studying International Finance and Economic Policy and will graduate with a Master of International Affairs in December 2011. Matt worked as a foreign correspondent for Bloomberg News in South America for five years. He reported on the economy and government from Santiago, Chile, and later became the bureau chief in Caracas, Venezuela, heading up coverage of President Hugo Chávez’s government.
IN CAMBODIA, DEVELOPMENT PUSHES AHEAD AT THE EXPENSE OF A LAKE

BY ANDREW BILLO

Nestled in a cramped, urban district north of Phnom Penh’s city center, Beoung Kak Lake once provided a welcome respite from the city’s heat and humidity—rickety guesthouses and cafes popular with foreign backpackers and local residents lined its shores, while fisherman floated by in wooden canoes, casting their nets. But in late August 2008, this idyllic setting was irrevocably changed when a private firm with links to senior officials in Cambodia began filling the lake with sand in order to make way for a new housing and tourist complex geared toward wealthy Cambodians and expatriates.
A Cambodian man rows his boat in the Beoung Kak Lake in Phnom Penh in January 2010.
In Phnom Penh, where heavy rainfall inundates the city for half of the year, the company, Shukaku, Inc., is filling in Beoung Kak Lake to create space for what it is reportedly calling the “New East City.” Some NGOs are skeptical that such a development will be built at all and claim instead that the lake, once filled in, will be divided into parcels and sold as prime real estate near Phnom Penh’s central district.

According to Sia Phearum, the secretariat director of an NGO alliance called the Housing Rights Task Force, 4,000 households on and around the lake, which fall within a government-determined “development zone,” will be displaced as a result of the project. According to Sia, the project’s contract was awarded to Shukaku, Inc., in 2006 without public consultation or a transparent bidding process. The resettlement site offered to displaced families 25 km from the city center is inadequate to meet their basic needs, Sia said. “More than 70 percent of the families displaced thus far have returned to the city center to find work, renting rooms and apartments on their own.”

Funding for the project came from a World Bank loan worth $24.3 million in 2002, as well as from private investors in Yunnan Province, China. However, the Cambodian government returned the undisbursed portion of the World Bank loan in September 2009, after the bank allegedly requested the project’s suspension while resettlement policies were improved. The project’s Chinese investors have also pulled out fearing negative publicity, said Sia.

The project was intended to improve land management and governance and fell into a longer-term strategy of improving the ability of poor households to access social services and economic activities, according to documents issued by the World Bank’s Inspection Panel, which has been investigating a notice of complaint from concerned local and international NGOs. The project established a modern land management system in Cambodia that “resulted, notably, in the registering and titling of more than 1.1 million parcels of land at an estimated cost of US$11 per title,” wrote World Bank Management in its response to the complaint.

However, bank Inspection Panel documents strongly state that the project made “no progress” in working with the government of Cambodia to ensure that persons facing displacement would be resettled in line with the bank’s own Resettlement Policy Framework. In this regard, management...
documents acknowledged the project’s failure: the Municipality of Phnom Penh illegally determined land surrounding the lake as State Public Land, thus excluding residents from the land titling process, since “possession rights cannot be claimed on State Public Land.”

Attempts to interview World Bank representatives in Phnom Penh and Bangkok were declined due to the ongoing investigation and negotiations with the involved parties. However, the bank’s Inspection Panel did state that a final evaluation of the project was scheduled to be released in December 2010, some 15 months after the initial complaint was received.

Attempts to reach the Municipality of Phnom Penh were also unsuccessful.

David Pred, executive director of the NGO Bridges Across Borders Cambodia, which issued a press release condemning the project at its outset in August 2008, said, “The situation for the families has now become unbearable. Deliberate flooding of communities surrounding the lake is being used as a ploy to remove people from the area. Sewers and drainage systems have been blocked with sand, leaving families at risk of disease and infection as their homes are flooded with sewage-laden water.”

Pred reported that even communities outside the areas initially designated for resettlement by the Cambodian government are also being flooded to make way for access roads into the project site. “Historically, these communities have never flooded, but they are being deliberately targeted as their houses lie on key access routes to the project site,” said Pred.

Both Pred and Sia concur that land rights are the core issue. As a result of formal land titling that systematically excludes households targeted for development, an inadequate complaint mechanism for resolving disputes, and a judiciary that “only serves the wealthy and well-connected,” the land rights of ordinary individuals are being ignored, Pred and Sia said. The World Bank was “asleep at the wheel for seven years,” noted Pred, “while poor and vulnerable segments of the population were denied any access to the formal system that has become the only means of protecting oneself from forced eviction in Cambodia today.”

One lakeside resident and restaurant owner, Ly, age 61, who requested her full name be withheld for fear of police retribution, has lived on the lake’s periphery since 1979, when after the collapse of the Khmer Rouge regime, she returned to Phnom Penh to start a small business.

Lake water laps against the floorboards of Ly’s raised deck—serving as an ever-present reminder of her impending plight. Ly described how she saved money over the years to open her restaurant: “At first, I grew vegetables in the lake’s water, and from that business I could earn $10 per day,” a relatively large sum of money in poverty-stricken Cambodia. “In 2005, when I started my restaurant, there was no information regarding the government’s plan. Prior to the construction, I had an offer to buy my property for $200,000—now the government is offering me just $8,500.”

With the lake water rising every day, and further relocations imminent, more families are coming into direct confrontation with the project’s developers and government. Both the Phnom Penh Post and Cambodia Daily, the country’s two main English-language newspapers, have reported on police forcibly disbanding meetings organized by city residents in regard to their impending displacement.

As Ly stared wistfully across the lake, she said, “If I am forced to leave, it will not be until the very last moment. The restaurant supports my three children and four grandchildren, and without it we don’t know what we’ll do. We don’t intend to give it up.” In spite of Ly’s steadfastness, her family’s relocation is inevitable. If they stay, her restaurant and home are certain to end up under water.

"Deliberate flooding of communities surrounding the lake is being used as a ploy to remove people from the area. Sewers and drainage systems have been blocked with sand, leaving families at risk of disease and infection as their homes are flooded with sewage-laden water."

—David Pred, executive director of the NGO Bridges Across Borders Cambodia
GREENING NEW YORK CITY’S WATER SYSTEMS
BY STEVEN COHEN

Work in north tunnel, 12 ft. in diameter, November 2006. Miners work 800 feet below Manhattan tunneling bedrock to create the 60 mile long City Water Tunnel #3, which will provide fresh water and prevent a catastrophic water shortage in the city.
Every day, New York City’s water system provides more than one billion gallons of water to eight million New Yorkers and one million residents in nearby counties. But the water that goes in has to come out, and for a city like New York to be sustainable, it must both supply its residents with clean water and ensure that postconsumer water does not pollute New York’s 578 miles of surrounding waterfront and nearby waterways. The city’s elected leaders are now using ecosystem protection strategies and green infrastructure to deliver high-quality drinking water to residents and to reduce New York City’s impact on the surrounding environment.

A World-Class Water Supply System

New York City gets its water from two upstate reservoir systems that it owns and operates. To keep its water sources clean, the city purchases land near these water sources and also ensures that local farmers and other residents use best-management practices. According to New York City’s 2006 water supply report, the Department of Environmental Protection’s $19.5 billion capital investment strategy for the next decade, “will be used to upgrade and add to existing infrastructure and guarantee that we can fulfill our mandate of delivering quality water to New York for years to come.” By taking preventative action to protect New York City’s water supply and the infrastructure that delivers it, the city will benefit financially and have a positive environmental impact.

The two underground tunnels that carry water to New York City residents represent some of the most impressive public infrastructure in the world. The first tunnel was completed in 1917, the second in 1936. Construction on a third tunnel started in 1970, and, with luck, will be completed within the next decade. Spanning nearly 60 miles, the new tunnel is “one of the most complex and intricate engineering projects in the world,” according to the water industry’s website, watertechnology.net.
In constructing the new tunnel, the Department of Environmental Protection hopes that over the next century Water Tunnel 3 will relieve the existing tunnels, allowing time for much-needed repairs. Some experts estimate that about a third of the water we draw from our upstate system leaks out before it gets to our faucets, so a third tunnel will allow the city to fix the source of these leaks.

While we may lose a lot of our water supply, the quality of our water is quite good—so good, in fact, that “the city is not even required to filter it,” as Elizabeth Royte noted in her 2007 New York Times piece, “On the Waterfront.” According to Royte, this distinction is shared with only four other major American cities: Boston, Seattle, San Francisco, and Portland, Oregon. New York City’s water is not filtered in a plant, and, as Royte described, arrives in our taps after just “a shot of chlorine and chasers of fluoride, orthophosphate, and sodium hydroxide.” To environmental economists, the natural process of ecosystem-based water filtration is an “ecological service”; nature takes care of a task that the city would otherwise have to spend money on.

In fact, the filtration exemption granted by the Environmental Protection Agency saves New York City the $6 billion to $8 billion dollars that it would cost to build a water filtration plant for the water coming from the Catskill and Delaware watersheds west of the Hudson River. Filtration-plant operation and debt-service payments would require an additional cost of $1 billion per year. While the majority of New York City’s water arrives unfiltered from west of the Hudson, the rest comes from the Croton Watershed in Westchester and Putnam Counties, which lie east of the Hudson and closer to the city. New York City is now completing a $1 billion water filtration plant under the Moshulu Golf Course in the Bronx to protect the water coming in from the east.

To avoid constructing a water-filtration plant for water that comes from west of the Hudson River, New York City has spent more than $1 billion during the last decade to keep development-related pollution at bay. The cost of protecting upstate water is, of course, cheaper than building and operating a second filtration plant.

Because the price of a filtration plant is known, we can estimate the monetary value of the natural ecosystem-provided services that currently filter our water: $1 billion annually minus the approximately $100 million that the city spends each year to protect the upstate ecosystems. The difference comes to $900 million a year of found money that we will lose if we do not protect nearby ecosystems. This illustrates that what is good for the environment is often good for one’s bank account. In the case of the water system, New York City succeeds at using sustainability management strategies to protect its financial and natural resources.

**Greening New York’s Sewer Systems**

In addition to ensuring that our water supplies are clean, the city is trying to reduce its environmental impact on surrounding waterways. Major rainstorms often cause something called “combined sewer overflow” in cities with old infrastructure like New York’s. Wastewater from our homes travels through sewers in the street before arriving at the local treatment plant, and a large amount of rain can send a torrent of water through the streets and into sewers, overwhelming treatment facilities and causing raw sewage to be dumped into local waterways before it can be treated. The traditional approach to dealing with sewer overflow is to build tanks and other facilities designed to hold storm water during inclement weather and then release it into the sewers once the storm has ended.

A less traditional approach for mitigating sewer overflow is to build green infrastructure to capture water. Recently, New York City released a “Green Infrastructure Plan,” which modifies its existing approach to sewer-pollution control to include a combination of green and traditional, “grey” infrastructure. According to the city, in addition to capturing 40 percent more storm water by 2030, “the plan will reduce the city’s long-term sewer management costs by $2.4 billion over the next 20 years, helping to hold down future water bills.”

The city’s plan includes grey infrastructure, such as steel and concrete tanks and pipes, as well as green infrastructure like green roofs, planted street medians, rain barrels, and permeable surfaces in streets and parking lots. An entirely grey approach would have been more expensive in the long run, and green infrastructure provides more immediate reductions than grey infrastructure does; it takes much less time to plant greenery or put out rain barrels than it does to site, design, build, and operate a holding tank.

**Ecosystems Provide Valuable Services**

The need for sophisticated green infrastructure and good management of our natural environment grows with the size and complexity of the global economy, increasing city populations, and the stress our consumption places on ecological resources. The move from overreliance on grey infrastructure to the incorporation of green techniques is a sign of sustainability management within New York City’s government; policymakers are demonstrating a sophisticated understanding of resource use and ecosystem impact. Both the system of filtering water upstate and of dealing with combined sewer overflow are making use of the ecosystem services provided by the natural environment.

My hope is that New York City will continue to model its infrastructure systems after its successful water supply system, showing a commitment to long-term planning, environmental protection, and cost savings. By working for the future and reducing pollution, New York City has tapped into an invaluable financial resource: its natural ecosystems. By following this path, the city will continue to benefit from its sustainable water resource management for decades to come.

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The 2010 Shanghai World Expo aimed to impress Chinese citizens and the world. In this, it was successful. The Expo Park welcomed more than 70 million visitors during the six-month event and hosted an unprecedented 246 nations and their staffs. Many of the pavilions were breathtaking: beautiful, architecturally innovative, and environmentally conscious. The Canadian pavilion doubled as a rainwater collecting structure, Norway’s was solar powered, and China’s was carbon neutral. China’s Chengdu city display was a “living water park,” a miniature version of the city’s innovative all-natural water purifying system. In July 2010, halfway through the Expo, the EU approved a large high-profile investment in China’s first renewable energy-focused private equity firm.

In line with this environmental focus, the official Expo motto in English was “Better City, Better Life.” The Chinese version, 城市,让生活更美好, translated into English as “cities make life more beautiful and happy.” Yet there was a sharp contrast between the Expo and the rest of Shanghai. Nearly 95 percent of the Expo’s guests were from China, but most Chinese people have experienced the opposite effect of cities on quality of life in urban and rural areas. As China continues to develop its economy, it neglects its environmental responsibility. Cities and industrial centers flourish, while rivers, air quality, and citizens’ health suffer gravely.
China is naturally short on water—even before contamination. The country is home to 20 percent of the world's population, but only 7 percent of the global fresh water supply. As if this weren't bad enough, 70 percent of rivers and lakes are too polluted to drink, and 28 percent are not even fit for irrigation or industrial use, according to the Woodrow Wilson International Center's 2007 series on the environment in China. Even Shanghai, a naturally water-rich city, suffers from water shortages. For the rest of China, which is not as well endowed with water, this is an ominous sign of what may come to pass.

While Shanghai has benefited from multibillion-dollar environmental rehabilitation projects for its major waterways, the city's tap water remains undrinkable—as it is in every Chinese city. Shanghai let its mask slip more than once during the Expo months, most notably when the Suzhou River filled with raw sewage and household waste following heavy rains in August.

At the Expo, guests could safely drink from designated public water fountains but not bathroom taps. However, many guests were skeptical of the fountains, having had negative experiences in their home provinces drinking publically available, free water. “I'd rather just spend 10 kuai ($1.50) buying an overpriced bottle of water. Who knows where that [fountain] water really comes from? Look at the river,” said an Expo guest surnamed Li.

He was referring to the Huangpu River, Shanghai's main waterway, which is already significantly cleaner than it had been 10 years before. In preparation for the Shanghai Expo, China spent more than $45 billion cleaning up the city's waterways and clearing an Expo site on what used to be two square miles of riverside factories and neighborhoods. Similarly, Suzhou River, the main waterway that flows into the Huangpu, was rescued from being permanently known by locals as the “black and stink” by a $1.6 billion rehabilitation project started in 1998 and partially funded by the Asian Development Bank.

How was this achieved so quickly? “Of course they shut down factories for the Expo, just like for the Olympics in Beijing,” said Xu, a journalist for a major Shanghai newspaper group. “They didn’t let anyone report it because it would be too embarrassing. We haven’t seen the sky this blue in over 10 years, and I don’t remember the rivers ever being this clean.”

China’s state-run media are quick to emphasize the country's dedication to meeting world standards on environmental sustainability. This is not entirely accurate, although there have been large state-led efforts aimed at fostering environmental sustainability and rehabilitating regions damaged by pollution. Chinese media regularly fail to report sources and levels of pollution and have largely ignored the looming disaster of China's contaminated water supply. The media also encourage a sense of apathy among its citizens, who accept the health hazards of heavy pollution because they have been told it is necessary for their country's economic development.

The U.S. embassy in Beijing keeps a Twitter account to monitor air pollution and ozone levels. It usually reads somewhere between “very unhealthy” and “hazardous.” Such readings correspond to “very good” or “excellent” readings on China Daily's official online pollution updates. Twitter, however, is blocked in China, so only those who can afford a virtual private network (VPN) at a cost of roughly $10 per month (the average net monthly wage is only $153) can read about the discrepancy that lies on the other side of the Great Firewall. Similarly, in 2007, the Shanghai region had its entire water supply jeopardized by an algae bloom in an upstream lake located in Taihu. It was caused by industrial waste but the government called it
a "natural disaster." Most Chinese are aware their cities are polluted, but they do not know to what extent. However, the statistics speak clearly: not one Chinese city has drinkable tap water.

For poorer residents, who cannot afford bottled water, this means taking a chance with their health every time they eat or drink. They make up the reported 320 million Chinese (a quarter of the population) who regularly drink water contaminated by human or industrial waste, as reported by the state media giant Xinhua.

Wang, a Shanghai resident in his 60s, lives in a riverside community that has been condemned by the Shanghai municipal government. With a resigned sigh, he says, "What can I do about it? They're building a new Shanghai. I'll be relocated to government-subsidized housing far away from here, but at least I'll finally have running water."

He continues, "Even with running water you still can’t drink the tap water in Shanghai. We've always boiled it. I've never had any big problems, but I'm lucky to be this old and still healthy. The water in rural areas has more chemicals in it because the government doesn't care. People get cancer from the water."—WANG, SHANGHAI RESIDENT

China’s cancer rate has grown by 80 percent in the last 30 years and now accounts for nearly 20 percent of the country's deaths. Many Chinese have no doubt that this was caused by industrial pollution, but the government does not take responsibility, especially in rural areas. The World Health Organization estimates that more than 100,000 deaths occur in China due to water pollution every year.

Stories of China’s “cancer villages” are increasingly common in Western news media. These riverside communities, which are often remote and rural, have had exceptionally high rates of cancer following the opening of nearby industrial parks, which are notorious for dumping toxic industrial waste into waterways. There are an estimated 459 of these villages, mostly clustered near the eastern coast of the country.

The major eastern coastal cities, namely, Beijing and Shanghai, do not suffer from such severe pollution, although they continue to have problems. When China prepares for its big events, it relocates polluting industries to remote rural areas, where public health infrastructure is less developed and even fewer people have health insurance.

As media coverage on industrial dumping health scandals has increased, the government has been forced to take more responsibility, if only to save face. The existing Water Pollution Prevention and Control Law, passed in 2008, heavily penalizes companies for industrial pollution and failing to report pollution incidents. Despite this, the number of spills and water pollution incidents remains high, due to corrupt officials and the government’s tendency to cover up scandals. A few communities have managed to effect change through public protest, but there have been no widespread movements. This is a combination of the political climate in China and a belief among citizens that clean water is not a right but rather a luxury for developed countries.

“People here don’t have the same power as they do in America,” says Xu, the Shanghai journalist.

“We can’t protest and change the government—it’s as futile as punching your fist against a stone wall.”

In many small towns, the only jobs available are in factories. Fear of losing one's job keeps rural Chinese from complaining too much about polluted water.

China has learned to put on a spectacular show, and it has the economic means to continue doing so. The grievances of rural Chinese seemed worlds away from the Shanghai Expo Park, as they did from Beijing during the 2008 Olympics. Developing cities at the expense of rural areas is not a sustainable policy. The Expo showed that clean urbanization technologies are feasible; now China must prove that it is up to the challenge of widespread implementation.

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By monitoring fish populations, Professor John Tiedemann and his students identify areas that can be restored or improved for fish habitats.
The Jersey Shore native is an aquatic animal. Growing up in a town like Sea Girt or Bay Head, wind-weathered and looking seaward, means pacing your day with the tide. A true Shore resident can tell you day to day what the water temperature has been, which creatures have been spotted, and, most importantly, whether bacteria levels are dangerously high. Here, contaminated water is no abstraction: it’s a threat to the way of life of a community built on the ocean.
Sampling the Water

1. Choose a time close to dead low tide.
2. Wearing sterile gloves, attach sterile, single-use test tubes to the end of a golf ball retriever.
3. Standing on dry sand, scoop water about a foot deep.
4. Cap the tube, place it in a cooler, and return to the laboratory within six hours.

Testing the Water

1. Use Enterolert®, a reagent that tests for an indicator bacteria called enterococcus (saltwater).
2. Mix the reagent with distilled water to make a 1 to 10 dilution.
3. Separate the distillation into five test tubes, each containing 9 mL of reagent mixture and 1 mL of collected seawater.
4. Let incubate for 24 hours to grow coliforms.
5. Shine a black light on the test tubes. If the test tube glows, the water is contaminated. (This roughly translates to a maximum of 200 fecal coliforms per 100 mL.)

Joe Mairo, a biology teacher from Bradley Beach, knows this all too well, since a morning of surfing in Asbury Park landed him in the hospital with an acute MRSA infection. Professor John Tiedemann of Monmouth University does too, after algal blooms and oil spills virtually destroyed his favorite fishing spots on the coast. Both are active members of the Surfrider Foundation, a national nonprofit dedicated to marine protection whose Jersey Shore chapter forms the cornerstone of environmental activism in Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Organizations like Surfrider are full of people like Mairo and Tiedemann: surfers, fishermen, swimmers, boaters, and beachgoers whose lives and livelihoods are tied up with the quality of the water they use. It is these stakeholders—the tan, salty, and perpetually wet—who have led the way in local initiatives to improve water quality along the shore.

Environmental activism along the Jersey coastline arose in the wake of the Fish Kill of 1976, when a massive photoplankton bloom depleted the ocean of oxygen and sickened scores of beachgoers, crippling both the fishing and tourism industries. The shore experienced a resurgence of activism in 1988, when tons of medical waste washed up in what became known as the “Syringe Tide,” closing beaches and costing the tourism industry upward of one billion dollars. These events were catalysts for local activist groups like Surfrider and Clean Ocean Action. Shore dwellers fought for the regulation and elimination of the eight ocean dumpsites operating off the coast of New Jersey, which had for decades been depositing contaminants ranging from sewage sludge to acid waste. Their efforts were rewarded with the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act, which phased out all ocean dumping, and the Shore began to see marked improvements in bacteria levels in the water.

Still, by the 1990s, improvements reached a curious plateau. Coastal lakes, bays, and estuaries continued to suffer from high bacteria levels and algae blooms, especially after rainfall. Local scientists and activists soon made the connection: this pollution did not come from offshore dumpsites. Rather, the rain was washing runoff from the streets—fertilizer, sediment, animal waste, oil, trash—into storm drains and depositing it directly into coastal ponds. This was providing bacteria with a feast of nutrients after every rainfall, leading to alarming pathogen levels and closing shellfish beds and bathing beaches all along the Monmouth County coastline. Runoff, or what scientists call “nonpoint source pollution,” was the new enemy of New Jersey’s beach-going activists.

Testing the Waters

Ever since being ill with MRSA, Mairo has become something of a water quality watchdog. When he shared his experience with MRSA at Surfrider, he found that he was not alone. Many other members had contracted illnesses—especially earaches, nausea, and skin infections—after swimming in contaminated waters. Because a loose collection of complaints was unlikely to bring enough attention to the issue, Mairo and the other members decided that these reports should be documented more formally. The solution: a website (http://www.surfrider.org/oceanillness.asp) on which Jersey Shore beachgoers could submit reports of illness. Mairo designed the interface for the Ocean Illness Campaign with the help of a fellow tech-savvy Surfrider volunteer, and he linked it to a popular surf report site. He counts more than 40 submissions since the site went live last spring. Once he has collected a large enough body of reports, he plans to present the data to the affected towns to move them to action.

Mairo’s mission to alert his neighbors to water contamination does not stop there. Also through Surfrider, he founded a local chapter of the Blue Water Task Force, a program devoted to water quality monitoring, education, and advocacy. His students from Wall Township High School now sample water near the pipes that funnel into the ocean from the aptly named Wreck Pond, a spot notorious for its consistently high bacteria levels.

The opportunity to involve his students in this quest was a bonus for him. In his words, “This program could connect with what I do to make a living, and also connect with my passions. It gives the kids I work with a cool experience and makes them feel like they’re doing something special. And they are.”

Mairo’s students collect water samples three times a month, whenever low tide falls conveniently after school. They clip test tubes to golf ball retrievers and scoop foot-deep water near the mouth of each drainpipe. Once they return with coolers full of test tubes, they begin the lab work, mixing a diluted reagent with the collected samples. The following day, they shine a black light on each of the samples. If the specimen glows, bacteria levels are dangerously high.

These students are doing more than hands-on learning; they are actually filling a gap in water testing on the Jersey Shore. While Monmouth County boasts a particularly aggressive water-testing schedule, promptly posting signs and beach closings whenever readings are high, these only take place in the summer. Mairo explains that high levels are likely to...
Investing in an Ecosystem

Mairo received a great deal of support, advice, and materials for his water-testing program from Professor John Tiedemann, a local expert in marine ecology. I visited Tiedemann at his office at Monmouth University to discuss his recent research on nonpoint source pollution in New Jersey’s coastal lakes. He himself has a toe in several ocean user groups: on his faculty website, he writes, “I’m also always ready to discuss the latest news on environmental issues in our region, excellent beach breaks (especially secret spots), orstriper hot spots.”

Tiedemann has witnessed the historical trajectory of Monmouth County’s water quality problems since the days of ocean dumping, and over the years, he has taken on roles as a regulator, researcher, teacher, and advisor. One pattern he has noticed: ordinary citizens, rather than government officials, are the first to move progress forward. “The government tends to be reactive rather than proactive. It reacts to a fish kill. It reacts to a wash up. It reacts to public outrage.” Local government action is vital, he stresses, and it must be informed and motivated by the concerns of the residents.

These same residents have been the loudest voices in the battle to combat pollution of coastal lakes. “These shallow waterways are receiving so much runoff,” explained Tiedemann, “and they don’t flush well. Whatever enters doesn’t leave; it becomes resident in the pond.” As they watch their local waterways grow murky, “citizens begin to react: ‘This lake is supposed to be an asset to our community, not a retention basin. Who let this happen? Why did this happen? And what can we do to fix it?’”

Tiedemann and his colleagues at the Urban Coast Institute (UCI) are trying to answer that question. His recent article, “The Future of Coastal Lakes in Monmouth County,” accessible on the UCI website (http://www.monmouth.edu/urban_coast_institute/), lays out a series of strategies and recommendations to restore and maintain coastal ecosystems in the long term. His prescription is holistic, and it makes recommendations for every point of runoff. Many of his recommendations are preventative, such as laws reducing fertilizer use and the creation of vegetated zones to act as buffers and biofilters between land and water. Others address lakes that are already far gone, retrofitting them with filters and treatment systems, controlling weed and algae growth, and, when necessary, dredging the lake.

Tiedemann emphasizes methods that are not simply quick fixes, but rather options that can protect against or mitigate future contamination. “Don’t just fix the road; first, think about whether you could do something environmentally sound,” he says. He posits an example: a restoration of a town pond surrounded by a manicured lawn. Canada geese, whose droppings are a major culprit in the runoff problem, are attracted to the lawns around ponds. To drive away the geese and prevent runoff, he says, “Instead of grass, plant shrub vegetation along the pond shorelines. Take the curbs out. Grade the road so that water runs into the vegetation and it can act like a biofilter.” These comprehensive, well-advised renovations result in self-sustaining coastal ecosystems, rather than a ten-year postponement of the next lake dredging.

To further this vision, Tiedemann has just founded the Coastal Lake Coalition, made up of members of Surfrider, smaller lake coalitions, fishermen, residents, and other user groups of coastal estuaries. Their mission is to act as a unified voice to make recommendations to local governments regarding the design of wetland restoration projects. “The technology exists. There are things that can be done. And they need to be made part of the planning process.”

Though progress is slow and largely dependent on grant cycles, Tiedemann can count some significant victories. A grant has just come in from the Environmental Protection Agency, funding 14 Stormceptors to filter the water funneling into the ocean from Wreck Pond. Joe Mairo may be happily surprised when his students report fewer and fewer glowing test tubes, and the warning signs on the beach are taken down.

Laura K. Budzyna is a first-year Master of Public Administration in Development Practice student, scheduled to graduate in May 2012. She grew up on the Jersey Shore, surrounded by sandy, salty, and scientific friends whose passion for clean oceans inspired this article. This story gave her an exciting opportunity to return to the community beat she once covered as an intern at the local Two River Times.
Bottled glacial water from Alaska may soon be a staple in India. With an ever-growing population and diminishing water flows from the Himalayas, the Indian subcontinent needs water and needs it fast. Two-thirds of the glaciers in the Himalayas are shrinking, causing decreased runoff to ten tributary rivers, reports Kings College in London. Altogether, 1.3 billion people—about one-third of the world’s population—depend on the drainage from the Himalayan basin.

Enter S2C Global Systems, a San Antonio, Texas-based firm that specializes in providing water globally from source to consumer (S2C). Luckily for S2C, the fishing town of Sitka, off Alaska’s southeast coast, has a wealth of fresh water flowing from its mountains. Located on Baranof Island, Sitka is accessible only by boat or small plane. With its deepwater port, Sitka harbor is attractive for large-class vessel use.

A majority of the world’s freshwater is found near the poles, though most of the world’s population is centered near the equator. Since the populations cannot be easily moved, S2C figures it can bring the water to these populations.

The notion of a bulk water export business has been around since the 1990s, though until now, no companies have come close to making it a reality. In the summer of 2010, Alaska Resource Management, the joint venture between S2C and True Alaska Bottling, secured the rights to export 2.9 billion gallons of water per year from Sitka’s Blue Lake Reservoir. The Texas firm secured the bulk water license at a rate of $.01 per gallon. If production begins, these sales could provide between $26 and $90 million in revenue annually to the city of Sitka.

As of September 2010, S2C was finalizing legal and logistical plans for its “World Water Hub,” to be located south of Mumbai, on the western coast of India. The plans forecast that this port can receive large tankers carrying 50 million gallons of fresh water from Alaska, which could then be dispersed to smaller vessels bound for shallower ports in the Middle East and northern Africa. Water would be distributed in bulk, in special containers geared toward pharmaceutical and high-tech manufacturing use and in 10-liter bottles for consumer purchase.

Rod Bartlett, managing partner of Alaska Resource Management said, “Every nation within a four-day target of the hub is a potential customer or client that will need fresh water.” Should operations be successful, this would be the world’s first large-volume export of water via tanker.

Water has been traded internationally for some time now, though in much smaller volumes and more regionally. Greece, for instance, has been shipping water to the island of Aegina since 1997. Singapore imports fresh water from Malaysia while it builds a desalination plant. Turkey had planned to sell water to Israel, but diplomatic tensions arising from the flotilla raid in May 2010 have suspended business arrangements for the time being.

A major challenge for S2C will be competing with desalination plants in their target market. Currently, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait depend almost completely on desalinated seawater. Saudi Arabia has such a lack of fresh water that it has built 27 desalination plants, including the largest plant in the world. Its water problems are so severe that the kingdom once proposed towing an iceberg from Antarctica to the Gulf for use as fresh water. Desalinated water costs about $1 per cubic meter, which includes the capital and operating costs of the desalination plant. According to Bartlett, the fresh water shipped from Alaska to India has an
Mass Freshwater Exports: Alaska’s estimated cost of $18 per cubic meter. The shipping time would also necessitate further processing before the fresh water would be ready to sell. In order to turn a profit, the company will have to mark up prices.

THE POLITICS OF WATER

For those of us with immediate access to potable water, S2C’s global water venture sounds improbable, but the company may actually be visionary. Grail Research predicts that by 2025 three billion people will live below the “water stress” threshold. These populations will primarily be in rapidly developing countries, such as India and China. Flawed business management by either S2C or True Alaska Bottling (both companies have experienced past business blunders) could keep this vision purely a pipe dream.

The town of Sitka has been promoting itself as a source for water export sales since 1999. Sitka Mayor Scott McAdams commented in May 2010, “There’s not a lot of opposition to it. In this borough we have 8,600 people, but we have a renewable resource of water that could meet the needs of a metropolitan area. We do have excess water.”

Peter Gleick, a scientist, water expert, and president of the Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment and Security, remains skeptical of SC2’s plans. “I think it’s a dream,” he said. “I don’t think bulk water transfers of any significant volume are ever going to happen, because the cost of moving water, especially across the ocean, is so high.”

Canadian groups are not excited about the removal of bulk water from North America. Maude Barlow, the chair of the Council of Canadians, a citizens group, said, “There is a common assumption that the world’s water supply is huge and infinite. This assumption is false. At some time in the near future, water bankruptcy will result.” In 2004 she declared, “The wars of the future are going to be fought over water.”

Barlow endorsed a 1999 paper from the Canadian Environmental Law Association that claimed water as a public good, rather than as a commodity to be sold. Water shipped overseas would end up being affordable only to affluent populations, further deepening the gap between rich and poor.

Very few steps can be taken at this point to rapidly reduce the populations in Asia or increase their natural resources. Shipping and selling bulk water to people in need may be a smart business venture, providing the supply where the demand exists. At the same time, extraction could produce unwanted side effects, including possible damage to Alaska’s biodiversity, local ecology, or even weather patterns.

Alaska has a long dependence on natural resources for fast cash. After the United States purchased the land from Russia, the gold rush and oil boom began. Alaska does not collect sales or income taxes but sustains its budget purely on rents from oil companies operating on the North Slope. Recently, the push has been to extract natural gas from the northern territories, a dangerous procedure. Water may now become the new cash crop.

Kelsey L. Campbell is a second-year Master of International Affairs student concentrating in Economic and Political Development. Prior to SIPA, she was stationed in Alaska for four years while serving in the Air Force. Her time in the 49th state gave her up-close experience with many of the resource issues to be tackled in this century.
Notes from the Field: Water in Haiti

By Megan Rapp

After the devastating earthquake in Port-au-Prince, on January 12, 2010, Haiti is still struggling to recover. The reconstruction phase has been tumultuous, and the recent outbreak of cholera has compounded the challenge of obtaining clean water in this fragile state. I was caught in the earthquake in Port-au-Prince together with Professor Elisabeth Lindenmayer and five other SIPA students. We were conducting field interviews for a yearlong research project on the private sector's potential for state building and spent the immediate hours and days following the catastrophe helping victims of the quake. When May 2010 came and my first year at SIPA ended, I was anxious to be back in Haiti helping the recovery efforts. I spent the summer working for the United Nations Environment Programme on fuel-efficient cookstove strategies and attending UN WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene) cluster meetings to gain a better understanding of the water resource situation in the country.

Before the earthquake struck, most Haitians struggled to access clean water. What may come as a surprise is that after the earthquake, many Haitians living in the managed tent cities around the capital saw their water situation improve. While working in the internally displaced persons (IDP) camps in Port-au-Prince, I met Esther, a Haitian teenage girl who lived there. Among her many daily struggles, obtaining potable water seemed to be one of the more manageable tasks. Esther's mornings begin at 5:00 a.m., when she walks to the nearest borehole to get water for her washings. She waits in line, chats with the other women and children getting water, and then returns to her tent. But Esther knows this water is not drinkable; in fact, most Haitians know this and will either treat the borehole water or use it solely for washing laundry. Instead, Esther typically consumes potable water from purchased sachets and bottles, but the excessive expense wears on her budget and the six family members she supports. Postearthquake, Esther was presented with a new option: water-trucking services. In some of the managed camps, free, clean drinking water is trucked in daily. This service has provided thousands of Haitians in the camps with easy access to potable water.

More than 1.4 million people were living in nearly 1,300 IDP camps scattered around Port-au-Prince as of August 2010. The “lucky” inhabitants, like Esther, are in camps managed by well-resourced international nongovernmental organizations. Yet the recent outbreak of cholera in Haiti has demonstrated how difficult the management and distribution of clean water in a crisis environment can be. Water-trucking services were scheduled to end their free distributions in January 2011, on the one-year anniversary of the earthquake, but exit strategies have been tabled for the time being. Eventually, however, the international organizations will have to leave. What will happen then, when another of Haiti’s few clean water sources dries up?

Megan A. Rapp will graduate with a Master of International Affairs in May 2011 and is focusing her studies on energy and development. Megan began working in Haiti in 2005 with educational and environmental NGOs. She currently works with the United Nations Environment Programme's Post-Conflict and Disaster Management branch in Haiti on fuel-efficient cookstove efforts.
Powering Our Future: Leaders in Global Energy

By Alex Burnett

People strolling down Columbia’s College Walk on the morning of November 5 witnessed an unusual site: a futuristic, bright blue vehicle zipping across the sidewalk. It was the new zero-emission Nissan LEAF, which was on campus to demonstrate environmentally sustainable transportation.

The car was part of SIPA’s Leaders in Global Energy lecture series. Nissan Executive Vice President Carlos Tavares and a team of company designers and marketers offered an overview of the LEAF as a means to meet some of the challenges posed by climate change.

“There is no tailpipe in a Nissan LEAF because there are no tailpipe emissions,” said Tavares. “This is what we call the ultimate solution.”

Creating sustainable energy while protecting the environment and reaffirming corporate citizenship is one of the great challenges of this century. The Leaders in Global Energy series, supported by a gift from EDP-Energias de Portugal, is a centerpiece of SIPA’s initiative to identify solutions. The lectures were organized and moderated by Visiting Professor Manuel Pinho, former Portuguese minister of economy and innovation.


Tanaka said that the world would require a global transformation in how energy is produced and consumed. He indicated that fossil fuels will continue to provide much of the world’s energy but must be made more expensive.

“We are now saying that the cheap energy age is simply over,” Tanaka said. “In the 21st century, we must have a different paradigm—high energy prices.”

Energy and development are inextricably linked, said Piebalgs, former energy commissioner for the European Union. He noted that fewer than 8 percent of people in rural, sub-Saharan Africa have access to electricity.

“Without access to electricity, how can we pretend that people have the chance to pull themselves out of poverty?” he said.

SIPA also hosted several world leaders in energy and sustainable development, including José Manuel Barroso, president of the European Commission, and José Sócrates, prime minister of Portugal.

Global Experts in Philanthropy and Sustainability Join SIPA

By Alex Burnett

SIPA welcomed several new faculty and researchers during the fall 2010 semester:

Yuen Ang, assistant professor of international and public affairs, focuses on China, political science, institutions, and development. She is affiliated with the Weatherhead East Asian Institute and the Committee on Global Thought.

Olle Folke, assistant professor of international and public affairs, teaches economics and environmental policy. His research centers on applied political economics and environmental economics.

Suresh Naidu, assistant professor in economics and international and public affairs, teaches economics, political economy, and development. His research focuses on labor and development economics, and economic history.

Benjamin Orlove, professor of international and public affairs, focuses on climate and society, with an emphasis on water, natural hazards, and the loss of iconic landscapes. He is a senior research scientist at the International Research Institute for Climate and Society and is one of the four co-directors of the Center for Research in Environmental Decisions.

Manuel Pinho was a visiting professor during fall 2010. Pinho is director of the International Energy MBA at the Lisbon Institute in Portugal. Previously he was minister of economy and innovation of the Portuguese government and served in Parliament.

Joan Spero is an adjunct senior research scholar. She is a SIPA alumna and former president of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. Spero is working to advance and engage students in research and writing about international philanthropy, particularly philanthropy during the Cold War and challenges to philanthropy in the post–Cold War era.

Laurence Tubiana was a visiting professor during fall 2010. She was appointed under the Columbia-Paris Alliance Program, teaching a doctoral course on the politics of sustainable development. Tubiana served as director of Global Public Goods in the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, director of the Sustainable Development Center at Sciences Po, and is founder/director of the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations.

Akbar Zaidi is a visiting professor for 2010–2011, focusing on development, governance, and political economy in South Asia. He holds a joint appointment with SIPA and the Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies.

Alex Burnett is communications officer at SIPA.
Alumni News

17,000 Strong: Staying Connected with SIPA Alumni Around the Globe

By Daniela Francesca Coleman

In case you haven’t noticed—the SIPA alumni community has grown to more than 17,000 graduates currently living in 153 countries. It’s quite daunting to imagine that no matter what remote part of the world your work and live in, chances are, you have a classmate—and a friend—nearby. This can be quite comforting when travelling to new distant lands, foreign cities, or remote and deserted out-of-the-way locations throughout the world. Let’s face it. SIPA alumni are always on the move. The best way to keep up with them is to link up with them: Facebook, LinkedIn, and the SIPA Online database are just a few simple ways to keep in touch.¹

Besides being ubiquitous, our alumni are also an active group of individuals. Many of our SIPA graduates hold leadership positions in the global Columbia Alumni Club Network. If you haven’t checked out what your local Columbia Club is organizing, make it one of your New Year’s resolutions. This past fall, SIPA had the opportunity to meet some of our graduates around the world.

SIPA Dean John H. Coatsworth met with alumni in Bogotá, Colombia, to talk about President Obama’s Latin American policy, and in Toronto, Canada, to update alumni on the state of the School; Professor Ken Prewitt lectured in San Francisco to alumni on the role of “race” in the U.S. census taking; Professor Dorian Warren held a candid conversation on the U.S. midterm elections and Obama’s presidency in Washington, D.C. In New York City, the Picker Center celebrated its tenth anniversary; SIPA alumnus and terrorism expert Mitchell Silber (MIA ’05) held an off-the-record dinner conversation with alumni on “The Al-Qaeda Threat from the NYPD Perspective”; International Fellows heard from Jean-Marie Guéhenno (director, Center for International Conflict Resolution) on “From Afghanistan to the Democratic Republic of the Congo: Fragile States and the New Security Challenges”; and SIPA Advisory Board member Nemir Kirdar spoke to alumni on his latest book, Saving Iraq: Rebuilding a Broken Nation. In addition, thanks to the support of the Columbia University Club Network, happy hours, social events, and career networking opportunities were held in numerous cites around the globe.

To benefit from the SIPA network, it’s important to stay connected. If you aren’t hearing from us, it’s likely that we don’t have your contact information. (Send us a note so that we can update our records. E-mail: sipaalum@columbia.edu.) We are looking forward to seeing you soon. Stay tuned for our future travels to a city near you.

¹ SIPA alumni can reconnect with each other on Facebook at “Columbia University, SIPA,” on the LinkedIn group “The School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) at Columbia University Alumni Network,” and on the Alumni Connections online database at www.alumniconnections.com/sipa

Daniela Francesca Coleman is director of alumni affairs at SIPA.

SAVE THE DATES

Thursday, April 14, 2011
Eleventh Annual Global Leadership Awards Dinner
Honorees include WITNESS and Mitchell Silber, MIA ’05, Director of the NYPD Intelligence Division’s Analytic and Cyber Units
Mandarin Oriental, New York

Saturday, April 16, 2011
SIPA Alumni Day
Featuring “PBS Nightly Business Report” anchor Susie Gharib, MIA ’74
Faculty House, Columbia University

More information on both events will be available at www.sipa.columbia.edu
Anu Jayanti, the global head of foreign exchange sales for Citi and a SIPA Advisory Board member, is donating $100,000 to the School’s endowment as a tribute to her mother.

Jayanti was born in London to Indian parents and spent most of her childhood in Costa Rica. Her mother, Ranjit Jayanti, worked for several UN agencies, eventually spending 20 years as an officer of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Jayanti credits her mother with exposing her to humanitarian concerns. The elder Jayanti worked extensively with Ethiopian refugees in Djibouti in the 1980s and administered camps for Vietnamese refugees in Hong Kong in the 1990s.

“I went with her to see the Vietnamese camps,” Jayanti recalls. “That was pretty moving.”

Anu Jayanti holds a master’s degree in economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science and is fluent in five languages. Though not a graduate of SIPA, she joined the board because she believes in the School’s mission of empowering future leaders to serve the global public interest, from addressing human rights violations to achieving environmental sustainability.

“Any number of the big issues that you can think about on the global stage—at some level SIPA’s teaching affects those issues,” Jayanti says.

As a specialist in foreign exchange, Jayanti has worked for major financial firms, including Salomon Brothers International, Merrill Lynch International, JP Morgan, and UBS Warburg.

At Citi, Jayanti manages a global sales and marketing team and travels widely. She says that her work has taught her the importance of understanding the world’s interconnectedness, whether one is in the private or public sector.

Jayanti notes that Citi is one of the biggest employers of SIPA graduates, and many have done well at the company. “I’m very keen to see SIPA students among our ranks here,” she says.

For Jayanti, giving to SIPA is part of a tradition of social engagement that stretches through the generations of her family.

Ranjit Jayanti recalls how, growing up in India’s Punjab region, her own parents taught her the social values of their Sikh religion, including integrity, honesty, and the idea that service to humankind is service to God.

“Our environment was such that you saw the raw face of human suffering and poverty every day around us,” she recalls.

Ranjit Jayanti says she would encourage SIPA students to go into humanitarian work if they believe it is their calling. It helps to develop a particular field of expertise, she says, and to be prepared for challenges.

With UNHCR, she was often deployed to hardship locations—borders between countries where refugees gathered and there was no infrastructure to accommodate them. Between Chad and Sudan, for example, she and her colleagues had to construct latrines out of cardboard boxes. Violence from angry or traumatized refugees was not uncommon.

Yet Ranjit Jayanti looks back fondly on her career. “Humanitarian work can give you so much satisfaction,” she says.

As a retiree, Ranjit Jayanti volunteers as the UN representative of Guild of Service, an Indian organization that empowers women and children, with a particular emphasis on widows.

Anu Jayanti notes that, like her mother, many SIPA students come from around the world and are committed to giving back to their home countries. She believes it is important for SIPA to build its endowment in order to provide tuition assistance to talented students from underdeveloped countries who could not otherwise afford to attend.

Donations like hers—of $100,000 or above—will be matched on an equal basis by funds earmarked for SIPA’s endowment by the late Columbia University benefactor John Kluge.

Tim Shenk, MIA ’11, is concentrating in Human Rights. He is a program assistant in the Office of External Relations and Communications at SIPA.
The International Fellows Program: A Unique Course of Graduate Study

The International Fellows Program (IFP) is a two-semester seminar open to students of graduate degree programs at Columbia University. It comprises Fellows from a variety of professional backgrounds, intellectual perspectives, and nationalities. The IFP, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2010, continues its commitment to examining the complex issues of international affairs and teaching the tools of international problem solving.

Throughout both semesters, students meet with current practitioners and outside speakers, write and present policy papers, and visit the United Nations and key policymakers in Washington, D.C.

Program Director: Stephen Sestanovich is the Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Professor at SIPA, whose professional interests include American foreign policy, post-Soviet affairs, and strategic planning. Ambassador Sestanovich’s diverse career includes senior positions in the U.S Department of State and the National Security Council and at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Apply to the International Fellows Program
Application Deadline: March 4, 2011, 5:00 p.m.

For information about eligibility and an application:
www.sipa.columbia.edu/ifp
1953
Arlette (Moldaver) Laurent, MIA
After graduating from SIPA, Arlette Laurent had a very fulfilling career in the diplomatic service of the European Commission in Brussels. Her last posting was as Chargé d’Affaires of the EU Delegation to the UN. She would be very happy to connect with graduates from her class.

1954
Cecile Brunswick, MIA
Cecile Brunswick is pleased to announce the publication of two of her drawings in the spring 2010 issue of the international online magazine On the Issues Magazine. Her work illustrates the article “Students Blow the Whistle on Sexual Violence.” To read the article, visit www.ontheissuesmagazine.com

1957
Peter D. Ehrenhaft, MIA
Peter Ehrenhaft graduated from SIPA in 1957, the same year that he received his LLB from Columbia Law School, finishing Columbia’s unique seven-year program that granted an AB from the College, an LLB from the Law School, and an MIA from SIPA. He pursued a law career that began with clerkships at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and then as senior clerk to Chief Justice Earl Warren at the U.S. Supreme Court. Ehrenhaft served as deputy assistant secretary of the Treasury (Tariff Affairs) during the Carter administration and for 30 years as an Air Force reserve judge advocate. He retired as a colonel after tours as the reserve executive to the judge advocate general and as a judge of the Court of Military Review. Most of his professional life has been devoted to private practice focused on transnational transactions. Ehrenhaft was recently awarded the honor of “Distinguished Alumnus of the Year 2010” from the Columbia Law School Alumni Association.

1966
Howard Cox, IF
Venture capitalist Howard Cox was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Population Council, effective July 1, 2010. Cox is an advisory partner at Greylock Partners, a national venture capital firm with which he has been associated for 38 years. Greylock invests in health care, software, and data communications. The Population Council conducts research worldwide to improve policies, programs, and products in three areas: HIV and AIDS, poverty, gender, and youth, and reproductive health.

1966
Curtis Shaw, IF
Curtis S. Shaw is executive vice president and general counsel of Styron, a leading global materials company dedicated to delivering innovative thinking to its customers. He is responsible for all legal affairs for Styron and is a member of the Styron Executive Leadership Team. Shaw brings to Styron a 35-year career as an accomplished corporate lawyer with extensive experience in the global chemicals and materials industry, specializing in mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, public offerings, financings, and federal offerings and antitrust law.

1976
Jeffrey Kashida, MIA
Jeffrey Kashida recently accepted a position at Koto Inc., located in Los Angeles, as CEO/president. Kashida recently was employed at JHK International as partner/director. He writes, “It is not exactly a change because I remain a partner for JHK International Partners. The new company is a U.S. company, a group of number one collectible toy companies in Japan. We manufacture and supply collectible toys under major licensors of the U.S. entertainment industry, including Marvel, DC Comics, Pixar Pictures, Paramount Pictures, Microsoft, Sega, Activation, etc.”

1976
Richard Jones, MIA
Richard Jones was recently recognized on “The Top 100 Wirehouse Advisors in America” list in the September 2010 edition of Registered Rep. Magazine, with a ranking of 23 this year. He has nearly 30 years of experience in the financial services business and is part of the Private Banking and Investment Group at Merrill Lynch. Jones is also on the boards of Bet Tzedek Legal Services and The Fraternity of Friends of the Performing Arts Center of Los Angeles.

1980
Gary Hayes, MIA
Gary Hayes’ book, Leading in Turbulent Times, with co-author Kevin Kelly, the CEO of Hyperlink and Struggles, was recently published in the United States by Barrett-Koehler Publishers and in the UK by Pearson Education Limited. The book presents the findings of interviews with more than 30 CEOs around the world and their experiences dealing with the impact of the recent financial meltdown. In addition to the obvious need for rigorous cost cutting and increased risk management, three key ingredients of successful leaders were identified: passion, people (communication), and vision.

1981
Susan Greenhalgh, CERT
In her new book, The Rise and Politics of Population, Susan Greenhalgh, professor of anthropology at the University of California, Irvine, and one of the foremost authorities on China’s one-child policy, focuses on China during the first ten years of the 21st century. After decades of viewing population as a hindrance to modernization, China’s leaders are now equating it with human capital and redefining it as a positive factor in the nation’s transition to a knowledge-based economy. Professor Greenhalgh argues that the vital politics of population have been central to the globalizing agenda of the reform state.

1982
Thomas Vinje, IF
The global law firm Clifford Chance recently announced that Thomas Vinje will take on the leadership of its highly respected Global Antitrust Group, along with Oliver Beetz. Vinje, who is based in Brussels, will become chair of the Global Antitrust Practice, with a focus on the group’s overall strategy and high-level leadership, with a particular emphasis on the United States and Asia. He has worked with a host of major antitrust matters, including merger clearance for Oracle’s acquisition of Sun Microsystems and Nokia’s acquisition of Symbian, as well as successfully representing major IT industry associations pursuing Microsoft for market dominance.

1985
Mallika Dutt, MIA
Mallika Dutt, founder, president, and CEO of Breakthrough, launched the global expansion of its award-winning Bell Bajao Campaign (Hindi for “Ring the Bell”) at the Opening Plenary of the 2010 Clinton Global Initiative in New York City on September 21, 2010. The campaign calls on men and boys to take a stand against domestic violence. In addition, the Bell Bajao Campaign was recently awarded a Silver Lion at the Cannes International Advertising Film Festival and the “gold” for Best Integrated Campaign at the Spikes Asia 2010 Advertising Festival.

1986
Karen (Panton) Walking-Eagle, MPA
Karen Panton Walking-Eagle recently joined the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C., as an attorney in the Office for Civil Rights. Prior to this, she worked in the field of education research and policy with a focus on K-12 education reform and on issues affecting the education of children and...
youth in low-income communities. She lives with her husband and sons in Fairfax, Virginia, and would love to hear from fellow classmates who live in the D.C. metropolitan area.

1990
Justin Friedman, MIA, CERT
Justin Friedman was recently promoted to director, Office of Export Control Cooperation, at the Department of State in Washington, D.C. “I assumed this position in July 2009. As director, I lead a 90-person team, working with over 60 countries to advance the United States’ nonproliferation objectives. The Export Control and Border Security (EXBS) program is a $33.9 million annual program of training and technical assistance to improve partner nations’ capacities to regulate, detect, deter, intercept, and seize weapons of mass destruction, their components, and delivery systems.”

Sarah (Pressman) Lovinger, MIA
Sarah Pressman Lovinger is a practicing MD who has returned to global issues in the past two years. As executive director of the Chicago chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility, Lovinger works to rally physicians to address climate change, protect the Great Lakes, and push for nuclear disarmament. A passionate local food advocate, Lovinger taught a class at Northwestern University on climate change and human health and also blogs about these issues for the Huffington Post. Lovinger lives in Evanston, Illinois, with her husband, David, and daughter, Natalie, and would love to hear from any SIPA alums.

Michael Malefakis, MIA
Michael Malefakis began his appointment as associate dean for Executive Education at Columbia Business School on November 9, 2010. He will be responsible for leading the Executive Education team in the creation and delivery of high quality custom and open enrollment executive education programs worldwide.

Alex Zucker, MIA
On October 21, 2010, Alex Zucker received the 2010 National Translation Award from the American Literary Translators Association, for his translation from Czech of the novel All This Belongs to Me, by Petra Hůlová. There were 109 books nominated for the award and 15 finalists.

1994
Steven Fainaru, MIA
Steve Fainaru is currently working as the managing editor for News for the Bay Citizen in San Francisco. He worked for 10 years at the Washington Post and received the Pulitzer Prize for international reporting in 2008 for his series on abuses involving private security contractors in Iraq. He is the author of two books: The Duke of Havana: Baseball, Cuba and the Search for the American Dream and Big Bay Rules: America’s Mercenaries Fighting in Iraq.

Shelly (Pettigrew) Gardeniers, MIA
Shelly Gardeniers moved back to her native Maryland in October 2009 with her husband, Tom Gardeniers and their two children (Lucas and Jacob). Gardeniers had moved to London in 1997 to work for Rabobank and then to the Netherlands in 1999, where she worked for Royal Ahold, Sara Lee, and Randstad. She is currently on the Board of Directors of the Transitional Housing Corporation in Washington, D.C., and is also involved in various activities throughout the greater Washington metro area, as well as doing independent consulting.

Mahvash Hassan, MPA
Mahvash Hassan is a consultant for the Public Engagement and Collaborative Governance program of the Institute for Local Government (www.ca-ilg.org). She is working on inclusive public engagement and immigrant engagement and integration projects that support city and county staff and elected officials in California.

Nicole Reynolds, MIA
Nicole Reynolds writes, “After a career in the private sector, I left to do something closer to why I went to SIPA in the first place. Currently, I’m serving as a senior financial markets and business development adviser to the Economic Policy Reform and Competitiveness Project in Mongolia, funded by USAID. I’m working with the central bank on bank capital sufficiency standards and restructuring, with commercial banks on loan workouts and with the credit information bureau to set up a new credit monitoring and scoring agency to stimulate the growth of consumer and commercial credit markets. I’m also doing corporate training with bankers in financial analysis and corporate governance. It’s pretty challenging to try to change the mindset of a former communist country to adapt the practices of a market economy but I’m having a lot fun.”

1997
Katherine Metres, MIA, IF
Since founding her own company a year ago, Katherine Metres added a second division to Your Edge for Success (YES: YES Education) offers test prep, tutoring, writing and editing, admissions, and scholarship services (including by Internet). The company has also been doing a fair amount of grant writing. The new division, YES Wellness, offers Nikken’s break-through wellness technologies and a business opportunity. She would love to explore if either of these are right for fellow alumni or students.

Carrie Simon, MIA, IF
Carrie Simon founded Washington Wine 9, located in Seattle, Washington. After more than 12 years in hedge fund marketing, including more than three as an independent consultant, Simon left financial services and launched a travel planning service to Washington State’s wine country. Please contact her so she can help plan your trip: www.washingtonwine9.com

Heather Higginbotham Ward, MIA
Heather Higginbotham Ward is director of International Programs and co-director of the Spencer Center for Civic and Global Engagement at Mary Baldwin College in Staunton, Virginia, where she and her family relocated from New York City in 2001. She keeps in touch with Rini Banerjee and recently reconnected with Haifa Hammami, and she’d love to hear from other classmates.

1998
Leonard Costa, MIA
Leonard Costa is now director of Social Media, Interactive, and External Relationships at the CFA Institute in New York City.

Anisa Kamadoli Costa, MIA
Anisa Kamadoli Costa was appointed president of the Tiffany Co. Foundation, effective September 1, 2010. In addition to her appointment as foundation president, she holds the title of vice president, Corporate Social Responsibility. Costa has more than 11 years of experience in philanthropy and a keen understanding of the foundation’s issue areas and the broader role that philanthropy plays in affecting change. She also plays a leadership role in several external philanthropic organizations, including currently serving as vice chair of the Board of the Environmental Grantmakers Association.

Patrick Tiefenbacher, MIA
Patrick Tiefenbacher and Justin Andrew are happy to announce their marriage on February 5, 2010, in Connecticut. After five years together in three different countries—and triggered by the U.S. Transportation Security Administration—the couple got married with one week’s notice.

1999
Gabriella (Dahlstrom) Barschdorff, MIA
Gabriella Barschdorff recently met up with some other SIPA graduates Rebecca Engel (MIA ‘01) and Tara Rangarajan (nee Gruzen, MIA ’99) in Ho Chi Minh City. Barschdorff lives in New York with her husband and children and works at J.P. Morgan.

Carolyn Miles Garber, MIA
Carolyn Miles Garber has been appointed director of development at the University of Texas’s Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs. Garber was a director for Public Strategies Inc., before coming to the University. She has experience in corporate development, policy research, consulting on public opinion and financial campaigns, and international nonprofit work. Garber will work closely with the dean’s office, the school’s
faculty and centers, the Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation, and the university's central development office.

Tokumbo Shobowale, MIA
Tokumbo E. O. Shobowale is the chief of staff to the deputy mayor for economic development of New York City. In this capacity, he coordinates economic policy development for the Office of the Mayor, as well as oversight of more than a dozen agencies—including those responsible for affordable housing financing, construction, and preservation, city planning, business services, and workforce development, tax policy and tax collections, business attraction and retention, and economic development broadly across the five boroughs of New York City.

2000
Mary Beth Corazzini, MPA
Mary Beth Corazzini is currently a program officer of the Citi Foundation in New York. Her responsibilities include managing the Arts and Culture portfolio and the selection of Citi mentors and summer internship placements for Citi scholarship recipients, as well as the Academy of Finance local grants program for high schools throughout the United States.

Clark Griffith, MIA, CERT
Clark Griffith recently accepted a position at GE Capital Japan in Tokyo, as senior vice president. He writes, “I recently returned to Tokyo, and GE, for my third stint in Japan after nine years working in the USA (for GE Capital and Union Bank). GE Capital's Structured Finance team relocated me to Tokyo in order to help develop a new asset-based and cash flow–lending platform, one of the few companies offering such financial products in this market. Gave some recent changes to Japan's legal system, it seemed like a good time to return to Tokyo for this exciting and entrepreneurial endeavor.”

2001
Jessica (Smith) Bobadilla, MIA
Jessica Smith Bobadilla (formerly Jessica Erin Kouymjian Smith) is pleased to announce the opening of a third office as an addition to her law practice. The firm, the Law Office of Jessica Smith Bobadilla, a PLC, specializes in all areas of immigration and national–law law, including professional visas, changes of diplomatic status, family petitions, court representation, and consular processing matters. The firm has locations in San Francisco, Fresno, and now Los Angeles. Bobadilla also serves as an advisor to the Consulate of Mexico regarding migration/immigration issues. She is also chair for Latino Outreach for the Fresno County Democratic Central Committee.

Ferry Pausch, MIA
Ferry Pausch recently became the managing director of Deutschlandstiftung Integra tion, a foundation that aims to promote tolerance and exchange between people of different national, cultural, and social backgrounds.

Rita Soni, MIA
Rita Soni was appointed CEO of the NASSCOM Foundation (NF), the social development arm of NASSCOM, India’s premier information technology (IT) industry body. Soni will strengthen the efforts of the IT industry toward inclusive growth, build strategic relationships, and establish effective links between industry, nonprofits, and government to contribute to the cause of social development.

Gabriel Stricker, MIA
Gabriel Stricker is currently the director of Global Communications and Public Affairs for Google, Inc. in Mountain View, California, where he heads Search communications, addressing everything from Web search and other search properties (such as maps, earth, news, and books) to issues pertaining to partnerships, content, and the use of intellectual property.

2002
Guillaume Delvallee, MIA
Guillaume Delvallee was recently assigned to the General Consulate of France in Shanghai, as deputy consul general for public affairs. Delvallee was previously employed at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris, before moving to the Permanent Representation of France to the European Union in 2007, as consumer policy, public procurement, and EP affairs attaché.

Eben Forbes, MIA
Eben Forbes recently relocated to Myanmar, where he is a program officer (advocacy and protection) at UN-HABITAT.

Stephanie Meade, MIA
Stephanie Meade recently launched a new online magazine, InCultureParent.com, for parents raising little global citizens. InCultureParent focuses on culture, language, and tradition to appeal to parents raising multicultureal and multilingual children as well as parents interested in global parenting practices. InCultureParent is a new kind of parenting magazine that offers viewpoints from around the world. She thinks it could appeal to a lot of SIPA parents, so please check it out: http://incultureparent.com

2003
Dara (Wax) Erck, MIA
Dara (Wax) Erck and Dan Erck are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Samuel Lawrence. He was born on June 9, 2010, in New York City and weighed 7 lb. 6 oz. Leo is very excited to be a big brother.

Carla Sapsford, MIA
Carla Sapsford is now the news and programming director for Malaysia's only business radio station, BMF 89.9. She's trying to push the envelope on free speech and a free press, within limits. Carla recently married and doesn't know which role is more satisfying—news or spousedom!

2004
Daniel Cohen, MIA
Daniel Cohen and Silvia Cohen are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Alex Cohen.

Robert Freundenberg, MPA
Robert Freundenberg is a senior planner whose primary focus involves sustainability planning on Long Island and in the surrounding New York metro region. His current work includes coordinating RPAs’ Long Island Committee, developing products for the LI2035 transportation and land use visioning project, engaging in planning efforts for the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway, and serving on the Long Island Sound Study Stewardship Workgroup.

Richard Greenberg, MPA
Richard Greenberg was elected president of The Fund for New Jersey, a private foundation that supports public policy initiatives throughout the State of New Jersey, by its Board of Trustees effective March 1, 2010.

Stuart McCarthy, MIA, IF
Stuart McCarthy, first secretary of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, was awarded the Order of the British Empire during the celebration of Queen Elizabeth II's birthday in June 2010.

Ruth Rotenberg, MPA
Ruth Rotenberg will be a Jerusalem Fellow at the Mandel Leadership Institute in Jerusalem this coming academic year, where she will be working on a project on philanthropy. The Mandel Jerusalem Fellows (MIF) is a one-year, residential fellowship program based at the Mandel Leadership Institute. This fellowship is aimed at mid-career professionals with a proven track record in Jewish educational and communal leadership.

2005
Olutayo Akingbe, MIA
Olutayo Akingbe currently lives in the Washington, D.C., area and works as an associate business manager for the Nature Sector at DAI in Bethesda, where she is responsible for the successful contractual, financial, and personnel management of five USAID-funded programs worth a total of $71 million.

Sidney Nakao Nakahodo, MIA
Sidney Nakao Nakahodo, a native of Brazil, now works for the World Bank as a carbon finance analyst. He provides logistical and analytical support to carbon funds that sponsor projects in developing countries aimed at mitigating carbon emissions.

2006
Sherif Ayoub, MIA
Sherif Ayoub is currently special advisor to the vice president (finance) with ICD (an affiliate of the Islamic Development Bank Group) in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, focusing on private sector development in Africa.
Sarah Huber, MIA
Sarah Huber is currently the director of Business Development for DripTech, a for-profit social enterprise making drip irrigation systems for small farmers in the developing world. She's excited about the social impact and sustainability of the work and is enjoying the startup environment. She's traveling a fair amount to India these days and would love to meet up with alumni there or in the Bay area.

Philippe Dauba-Pantanacce, MIA
Philippe Dauba-Pantanacce is now a senior economist with Standard Chartered bank in Dubai. His focus is on global markets with a regional focus on the Middle East and North Africa.

Daniel McSweeney, MIA
Daniel McSweeney is currently the executive director of the SS United States Conservancy, a national nonprofit organization working to preserve America’s national flagship, the legendary passenger ship SS United States. For more information, see: www.ssunitedstatesconservancy.org

Esther Waters, MIA
Esther Waters is currently the Social Reintegration Team coordinator for the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in South Sudan.

2008
Scarlett Freeman, MIA
Scarlett Freeman has entered the Juris Doctor program at St. John’s University School of Law. She is living in Queens, New York.

Marcy Fowler, MIA
Marcy Fowler was awarded an Alfa Fellowship by CDS International and Alfa-Bank. Fowler is currently in Moscow, Russia, where she is spending 11 months as an Alfa Fellow and Visiting Junior Nuclear Policy Scholar at the Carnegie Moscow Center.

2009
Laurence "Brook" Boddie, MIA
Brock Boddie is working for a nonprofit in Connecticut called buildOn, as their Web manager as well as for the Open Society Institute as their senior Web advocacy advisor.

Jackie Frankel, MPA
One year ago, Jackie Frankel started her life as an Israeli living in Kfar Sava and interning for Nitzan (the Israel Association for the Learning Disabled) at its headquarters in Tel Aviv. While completing the new five-month Ulpan Etzion Carmel in Haifa, she consulted for Women and Men in Blue and White (a nonprofit dedicated to helping Lone Soldiers), marketed the music of Israeli Composer Gilad Hesseg to the United States, and sang at Haifa’s Pasta Carolla Italian Bistro. She moved to Tel Aviv in March upon receiving her position as development associate and Youth 4 Youth coordinator at the Jaffa Institute, where she helps at-risk children escape from the cycle of poverty.

Reza Hailu, MIA
Reza Hailu is currently working as monitoring and evaluation and knowledge management advisor to the Federal HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Office (HAPCO), helping develop new data collection tools and systems to monitor the national HIV/AIDS response effectively. Hailu has been seconded to hold this office by the American International Health Alliance, a President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)-funded organization.

2010
Lia Carolina Ortiz de Barros, MIA
Upon graduating, Lia Carolina Ortiz de Barros began working at Nestlé Brazil. She currently manages a portion of Nestlé’s social projects in the areas of infant nutrition, environment preservation, and rural development. She is also working on the implementation of Nestlé’s shared value strategy with business units.

Jonathan Hogstad, MIA
Jonathan Hogstad started his new position as National Research coordinator at Restaurant Opportunities Centers United (rocunited.org), a growing 501(c)3, member-led workers center that is organizing restaurant workers across the country. All ROC affiliates are multiracial organizations that engage in research, policy work, and workplace justice campaigns and facilitate political education and leadership development for their worker members. The research drives the policy work and employs various participatory techniques to show how severe worker exploitation as well as race and gender discrimination are in this industry of more than 10 million employees in the United States.

Hama Makino, MIA
Hama Makino has been busy since graduating in 2010. She worked at Deutsche Bank’s Community Development Finance Group in Microfinance Investing, followed by working as a session writer for the Economic and Empowerment sessions at the Clinton Global Initiative’s annual meeting. She has since moved to the World Bank’s International Finance Corporation in the Access to Finance Advisory Services group, focused on microfinance.

Mark Mozur, MIA, CERT
Mark Mozur is currently living in Moscow, participating in the Alfa Fellowship Program.

Tom Pellens, MIA
Tom Pellens moved to Kampala, Uganda, in September to work for Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) as deputy country director for the Uganda office. IPA conducts impact evaluation to develop and test solutions to real problems faced by the poor. In Uganda, IPA is currently a partner in a number of projects in the field of microfinance, entrepreneurship, health, water, education, and environment. For more information, see www.poverty-action.org

Daniel Perez, MPA
Dan Perez accepted a position as a senior consultant with BCG and Allen Hamilton in the Washington, D.C., metro area, where he will develop strategy and policy for government clients.

Karla Sy, MIA
Karla Sy has recently located to Shanghai to work for HSBC, doing business development for its rural banking arm. She was sad to leave New York City but is also excited about the new adventures and challenges in Shanghai. She looks forward to connecting with SIPA alumni in China.

Denise Lee is a second-year Master of Public Administration in Development Practitioner student.

Mitzi Pelle is an administrative assistant at SIPA.
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