



Chartered
Institute of
Environmental
Health

INTERNATIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MANAGEMENT BOARD

NEWSLETTER No 1

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Welcome to the first edition of this publication, which is intended to satisfy key objectives in our 2009 business plan by keeping interested members of the ISIG informed of activities and as a forum for providing information and advice and interaction with like-minded people. Hopefully it will also enable access to resources by sharing information and expertise. Initially it is intended to produce an edition approximately every 2 months.

MARCH 2009 OPEN FORUM REPORT:

We will take this rather belated opportunity to advise you of the members open forum held at Chadwick Court on 9th March. Speakers from THET (Tropical Health and Education Trust), BUILD (Building Understanding through International Links for Development) and REDR outlined their organizations and membership availability.

Dr Nick Morris from BUILD talked about his organisation's work developing Links and International Partnerships and discussed the mutuality of benefits for linked organizations. Lobbying parliaments, meeting with ministers. Useful linking toolkit available at [.build-online.org.uk](http://build-online.org.uk)

Andrew Purkiss from THET – talked about existing health links and how they may be developed to include Environmental Health, and health links owned by institutions, so not dependant on enthusiastic individuals. [.thet.org.uk](http://thet.org.uk) .

Toby Gould from REDR – which helps to rebuild lives by providing aid workers with the skills they need to make a difference. They do this through delivering expert international and UK training programmes, running a recruitment service and by providing online expertise. They use competent people to respond to emergencies, working with organisations. Still lack EHPs on their books. Not being asked enough for EHPs because a lot of organizations don't understand what they can offer in an emergency. Membership is by interview. [.redr.org.uk](http://redr.org.uk)

The REDR and THET presentations are on the ISIG website at [://www.cieh.org/international](http://www.cieh.org/international) By clicking on the ISIG link you will also see there is information on new international links, presentations by last year's Commonwealth Fellows, and the ISIG business plan.

We hope to arrange a second open forum in July where the theme will be how EHO's have got involved in International activity. More details will follow when available.

Following his work with BUILD as a representative of CIEH and also as an individual member of BUILD, Peter Minhinnett was invited to meet the Regional Director for the WHO Regional Office for Africa (WHO/AFRO); Dr Luis Gomez Sambo at a special meeting at the House of Commons in March.

Nick Maurice, the Director of BUILD who spoke at the recent ISIG Forum, wanted to advise Dr. Sambo about the work of BUILD members involved with linking partnerships in Africa. In addition to presentations by BUILD, THET, and other members of BUILD, Peter was able to advise the WHO Director of the CIEH twinning/partnership links with African Countries, our work with our colleagues working in Environmental Health in Africa, Commonwealth Fellowships and the development of the International Special Interest Group.

It was also pleasing that Nick Maurice praised the work of CIEH internationally in developing these links. At the end of the Meeting Peter was able to meet briefly with Dr. Sambo and discuss further partnerships. Dr. Sambo confirmed he would like to find out more about our work as he agreed that Environmental Health was an area that needed developing throughout many, if not all, African Countries. He promised to get back in touch and offered a tentative invitation to a Conference in Kigali, Rwanda in August 2009.

COMMONWEALTH FELLOWS:

In 2008, four Commonwealth Fellows visited the UK for a period of 3 months. **Chileshe Mapemba** came from Ndola in Zambia where she is an EHO with responsibility for Health Education and pest control, and she was hosted by the North West Region. **John Nelson Opi** came from Lira in Uganda, where he is involved in health challenges regarding resettlement of internally displaced persons in the camps set up in that area. John was hosted in the East Midlands Region; **Salim Ngari Kassim** came from Mombasa in Kenya where he is the officer in charge of the Old Port, and was hosted in the Northern Region; **Eric Moosa** came from Bo in Sierra Leone where he is Acting Senior District Environmental Health Superintendent at the Ministry of Health and Sanitation and was hosted in the West Midlands Region. They are pictured in that order in the attached photo, when they met Chief Executive Graham Jukes at Chadwick Court at the September open forum



DISASTER MANAGEMENT:

The Department of Geography, Environment and Disaster Management at Coventry University runs courses in disaster management. Combating disease, reducing social and economic inequalities, regenerating our cities and promoting good health and prosperity command our attention whilst disasters and emergencies occur all too frequently across the world and need to be managed effectively. Check out <http://wwwm.coventry.ac.uk/bes/ged/Courses>.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

The Department of Development and Economic Studies at Bradford University run six Master's degrees which offer a wide choice of subject areas covering many different aspects of economics and international development including development theory and policy, project planning and management, human resource development, environmental assessment, social aspects of development, international economics, micro-finance, and economic policy management.

<http://www.brad.ac.uk/acad/bcid/course/postgraduate/index.php>

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Got some news you would like to share with other ISIG members? Contact the Communications Secretary, Barrie Whitehead at bw@rochdaleuwh.co.uk