



## UNITAR e-Newsletter Summer 2012

### UNITAR's participation at Rio+20: 'Looking Back, Heading Forward'



The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development - Rio+20 represented an important milestone to reflect on twenty years of sustainable development work, and promote learning, dialogue and action in order to create a 'Future We Want'. At the Conference, UNITAR focused on addressing the challenge how human resources, skills and supporting governance structures can be strengthened to foster a green transition.

The diverse events supported by the Institute resulted in a range of partnerships, including the organization of an International Forum on Training and Skills Development for Green and Climate Resilient Jobs through collaboration with ILO, UNESCO, UNEP and others in 2013. Two months after the RIO Conference, the focus now is on implementation. UNITAR is ready to make its contribution.

*Achim Halpaap -UNITAR Associate Director, Training Department, and Head of Environment Unit*

#### Dear Reader,



We are delighted to send you the Summer Newsletter of the [United Nations Institute for Training and Research](http://www.unitar.org) (UNITAR). In this issue, we provide information about what

UNITAR's key programmes are doing 'Looking Back, Heading Forward from Rio+20'.

Your feedback counts! We are enthusiastic to find out what you think about this e-Newsletter, its content and its relevance to you, our loyal readers. Please send us your comments or feedback to: [communications@unitar.org](mailto:communications@unitar.org).

Happy reading.

#### Testimonial



***"Governments and civil society need to take forward the commitments made at Rio and fight for sustainable development."***

**H.E. Mr. Gilberto Carvalho,  
Chief Minister of the General Secretariat of  
the Presidency of Brazil**

#### To Advance Green & Climate Resilient Jobs

Green jobs, in the sense of environmentally friendly and socially responsible jobs, are not only for a minority of highly-skilled workers, but also concern remote areas and disadvantaged groups.

"Moving to green societies is about learning and

#### UNITAR's Involvement at Rio+20

UNITAR organized directly or partnered on thirteen different activities, and added intellectual contribution to seven events at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. Over 1,000 participants took part in these events and more than 10,000 delegates visited the Green Dreams exhibition.



[Read more](#)

#### Call for a New Social Contract?

This event brought together leading international thinkers to discuss a new holistic vision for humanity and nature.



"It is time for the global community to change mindsets and attitudes and catalyze innovative change", UNITAR Executive Director concluded, by encouraging the audience to spread the message of a new Social Contract through their diverse organizations, networks and initiatives.

[Read more](#)

#### Developing Capacity for Participatory Environmental Governance

UNEP and UNITAR are planning a two-year global project to strengthen the implementation capacities of Governments, Major Groups and other stakeholders in developing countries that

about engaging people - not only through general education, but also through formal, informal and vocational education, and concrete action on the ground," said Ms. Veerle Vandeweerd, Director, Environment and Energy Group, UNDP. [Read more](#)

## New Partnerships



UNITAR and the [Monterey Institute of International Studies](#) (MIIS) signed a Letter of Intent. MIIS students and alumni translators will translate UNITAR course materials into 9 languages.

UNITAR and the [Green Legacy Hiroshima Initiative](#) (GLHI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding. This initiative spreads the seeds - and the peace message - worldwide.

The Multilateral Diplomacy Programme continues to develop cooperation with the Diplomatic Academy of Algeria. Activities will take place over a period of three years, launching in September 2012, with workshops focusing on media relations and public speaking.

## Announcements



UNITAR and the CIFAL Network will host training and learning events focusing on key topics of "urban planning and design" at the 6th [World Urban Forum](#) from 1 to 7 September.

The New York Office will organize a workshop on International Disaster Relief with the International Federation of Red Cross, and an event to promote education on democracy with the Community of Democracies.

UNITAR published a new [info-graphic brochure](#) on its 5 years of achievements.



focuses on building legal capacities and providing hands-on training (e.g. on public participation techniques).

[Read more](#)

## Chemicals Success story to extend into the next Decade

There is still much work to do in the second decade of the Global GHS Partnership. But we are confident, as with the first ten years, that the Partnership will make an important contribution to the post-2015 development agenda, as it has done for Agenda 21.



[Read more](#)

## Green Dreams - 'Call to Action'

"What is your green dream?" This is the guiding question of the [Green Dreams Around the World](#) campaign created to give voice to dreams of thousands of individuals as their contribution towards sustainable development.



[Join this campaign!](#)

## Online Catalogue and Virtual Learning Environment



UNITAR offers more than 400 events per year. Check out our [e-Learning courses](#) and other [UNITAR events](#) in our Online Catalogue.

Or consult the UNITAR [Virtual Learning Environment](#) and find e-Learning courses that best address your needs.



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