25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDOING OF THE DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM

This year is the 25th anniversary of the founding of DTP by Nobel Peace Prize winner and former President of Timor Leste, Jose Ramos Horta and Professor Garth Nethheim. We will be publishing a series of contributions reflecting on the new human rights challenges posed by political, economic, social and environmental changes since 1989 and what these mean for human rights in the next 25 years. We invite our readers and alumni to contribute to these reflections.

- This month we link to an Amnesty International policy brief for a post-2015 framework: “Delivering a just future for all: Why human rights matter to sustainable development”

CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

DTP Programs

2014 Draft Schedule

- Feb 4-6 – Our World our Rights – Human Rights and Advocacy Training with Timorese and Australian Students
- Feb 10-14 – National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth Human Rights and Advocacy Summit with Oxfam Australia, UNSW Sydney.
- Feb 14-17 – Final Module: Nepal Special Capacity Building Program on Migrant Workers, See Final Report.
- May 1-4 – Regional Workshop on Ethical Business and Recruitment Practices in Labour Migration in the Middle-East - A Training Program for Practitioners Workshop (Dubai) Brochure
- May 19-28 - Regional Human Rights Advocacy, Business and Development (Myanmar/Thailand/Indonesia) Brochure
- July 7-10 - Special Program: Sri Lanka Capacity Building for Advocacy for Migrant Workers and Safe Migration, Module 1, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- September 2014 - Workshop on Reflections and Lessons Learned from 10 years of capacity building on Migrant Workers Rights with Migrant Forum Asia. (Check DTP web site for further information and if you wish to make a comment on the Lessons Learnt Report)
- October 2014 - 3rd Annual Regional GCC Program on the Rights of Migrant Workers in the MENA Program

- Please check the DTP website for details, program information and application forms. Please send enquiries to dtp@unsw.edu.au

Email: dtp@unsw.edu.au | Website: www.dtp.unsw.edu.au | Phone: +61 2 9385 3549 | Fax: +61 2 9385 1778
Subscribe to the DTP E Newsletter
Other training programs

- HREA: Development and Human Rights: Implications for the Globalized World, 17 September-28 October

PLEASE DONATE

- DTP trainers donate their time and expertise as do the many interns at the office who help with the DTP website, record maintenance and report-writing. However, in order to provide subsidies for the many applicants to DTP programs and to improve the frequency and quality of the programs, we need funding. Please send your donation to DTP now online, or by credit card or EFT with this donation form

ACTION OPPORTUNITIES – CALLS FOR SUPPORT – CALLS FOR COMMENT

- Urgent appeal, Thailand: Arbitrary arrest and incommunicado detention of Ms. Sukanya Phrueksakasemsuk and Mr. Panitan Phrueksakase
- Good news from Paul Bourke of the Australia Tibet Council: Tibetan filmmaker Dhondup Wangchen was released after six years in prison. He was the subject of constant campaigning by ATC and others.
- Urgent appeal, Thailand: Protect human rights defenders fighting corporate mining in Loei Province
- Endorsement call: “Worker and trade union rights must be prioritized for the wellbeing of the workers and their families”
- Organizations with an interest in the human rights and civic space agenda are invited to signal your support for a strong post 2015 sustainable development agenda based on human rights. Access the online form here.
- Urgent appeal, Myanmar/Burma: Army prosecutes farmers for trespassing on their own land

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM DTP ALUMNI

- From Mandira Sharma in Nepal: TRC Act breaches international law and decisions of the Supreme Court of Nepal
- From Yuyun Wahyuningrum in Indonesia: International Principles on the Application of Human Rights to Communications Surveillance
- From Cambodian Human Rights Action Committee: Statement calling for Thai government to humanely treat Cambodian migrant workers with respect for their rights and dignity
- From Kabita Chakma in Bangladesh: Facebook page “Justice for Kalpana Chakma”

WHERE ARE THEY NOW – NEWS OF DTP ALUMNI

- The International Service for Human Rights has profiled Yuyun Wahyuningrum’s work on the ASEAN Charter
- Htoo Chit is an alumnus of the 2004 DTP Program on Migrant Workers in Jakarta. His organization, the Foundation for Education and Development was one of the partners for DTP’s first program in Yangon.

INTERNATIONAL NGO PROFILE
Each issue we will be profiling an international human rights NGO. Some take up individual cases and generate international action on the case. Others focus on research, always with an emphasis on advocacy to bring about change. Each of these actively solicit and welcome information on human rights abuses.

- This month we look at Front Line Defenders

### DTP’s Thematic Priorities

#### Human Rights and Business

- Bangladesh: [New guide on human rights impacts of companies, focusing on ready-made garments sector](#)
- Oxfam: [Why is Coca-Cola championing land rights at the UN?](#)
- Red Card to Child Labour Campaign: [Campaign to combat child labour launches at the opening of the 2014 Football World Cup](#)
- ActionAid presents cases highlighting how land grabs in Cambodia, Kenya, India, Mozambique, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Tanzania are leading to forced evictions, human rights violations, lost livelihoods, divided communities, destruction of culturally significant sites, rising food insecurity and, ultimately, increased poverty.
- [Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement](#) (TPP): Background, commentaries & media coverage on human rights concerns
- UN Secretary-General’s report on challenges to implement Guiding Principles within UN system
- Philippine farmers march against allocation of millions of hectares for oil palm and other large-scale projects, call for government to recognize their land rights
- Meeting Report: [OECD National Contact Points and the Finance Sector, with a focus on financing projects in the Extractives Sector](#)

#### Indigenous Peoples’ Rights

- [Oxfam Australia has published a Trainer’s Manual on Free, Prior and Informed Consent](#)
- Indonesia probes violations of indigenous rights in contested forests
- From IWGIA: [The Indigenous World 2014](#)

#### Migrant Workers’ Rights

- [Trafficked into slavery on Thai trawlers to catch food for prawns](#)
- The UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of migrants has completed an official visit to Sri Lanka. [Here is his report together with his preliminary recommendations to the Government.](#)
- ILO adopts new Protocol to tackle modern forms of forced labour
- New report from International Migration Initiative on how to protect migrant workers in Nepal: “[Migrant Workers’ Access to Justice at Home](#)”

#### Women’s Rights

- Video profile of SAWERA, a women’s NGO that won the 2014 Front Line Defenders Award for Human Rights Defender at Risk “Pakistan: Overcoming Threats for Women’s Rights”
- UN Women has launched a major campaign in the lead-up to the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the historic Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing
• Women's Rights Campaigning Info-Activism Toolkit, Tactical Technology Collective

JOBS/INTERNSHIPS

• Association for Women’s Rights in Development: Economic Justice And Financing For Women’s Rights Manager

EVENTS

• The Third International Conference on Human Rights and Peace & Conflicts in Southeast Asia, 15-17 October, Malaysia

AWARDS

• The Equator Prize is awarded every two years by a UN-led partnership that recognizes “local sustainable development solutions for people, nature and resilient communities.” The 2014 prizes for the Asia Pacific region have been awarded to Alliance for Integrated Development – Nepal; Chhattisgarh Traditional Healer Association – India; Conservation Area Management Committee, Parche – Nepal; The Pendeba Society of the Tibet Autonomous Region – China; Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program – Papua New Guinea; Tulele Peisa – Papua New Guinea

NEW PUBLICATIONS/WEB/BASED RESOURCES

• Some months ago WITNESS and Amnesty International put together a multi-media Forced Eviction Advocacy Toolkit
• Institute for Human Rights and Business launches new website on human rights risks and emerging good practices related to mega-sporting events
• Advocacy Toolkit: Influencing the post-2015 Development Agenda

HUMAN RIGHTS – GENERAL NEWS

• Jordan diplomat Prince Zeid Ra’ad Zeid Al-Hussein will replace Navi Pillay as United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
• Article: “The U.N.’s new human rights chief has a pretty tall task ahead of him. Is Prince Zeid up to the job?”
• Front Line Defenders launches World Cup campaign in Brazil and Worldwide

Treaty Bodies

• Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights scrutinizes China regarding extra-territorial obligations

UPR

• A reminder that submissions on the reviews of Mongolia, Maldives and the Marshall Islands at the 22nd session of the Council will need to be sent by 15 September 2014: On-line UPR submissions systems
• Laos will appear for the second review in October. Human Rights Watch has submitted a critical report.

Human Rights Council
• Strengthening the Human Rights Council’s Response to Reprisals
• High Commissioner in her final address to the Council: “We must speak truth to power”
• Working Group on business and human rights calls for States to ensure protection for defenders

Development
• Center for Economic and Social Rights on the Sustainable Development Goals: “Human rights, including the right to development, must have real operational significance in guiding sustainable development policy and practice this time around”

HUMAN RIGHTS – REGIONAL NEWS
• ASEAN MPs call for immediate halt to arbitrary detentions and human rights violations by Thailand’s ruling military junta
• ‘ASEAN Corporate Social Responsibility Vision 2020’ Initiative Launched
• The Asian Federation Against Involuntary Disappearances (AFAD) calls on the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) to ACT NOW against increasing human rights violations in the region

HUMAN RIGHTS – COUNTRY SPECIFIC NEWS

Australia
• CHRAC: Press statement on Cambodia’s refugee resettlement agreement with Australia
• Queensland passes first Australian voter ID laws despite lack of evidence of notable amount of electoral fraud
• Tamil asylum seeker dies after self-immolating in Geelong

Bangladesh
• Sexual violence in Chittagong Hill Tracts

Burma/Myanmar
• UNHCR concerned about growing abuse as more people sail from Bay of Bengal, the majority Rohingya
• The Kaladan Movement has submitted a Questionnaire to ESSAR Company Ltd and released a Press Release regarding the human rights abuses and the environmentally impacts during the implementation of the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project in Arakan and Chin state

Cambodia
• CSO Perspectives: Partnership Arrangement and Ways of Implementation On Cambodia Post-2015 Development Agenda
• Human Rights Watch: US Training of Abusive Military Exposed
• CHRAC Joint NGO Statement: The decision not to acquit the 25 workers, protesters and activists arrested during demonstrations in November 2013 and early January 2014 is an injustice.

India
• Ravi Nair, South Asia Documentation Centre: Indictment of the lower echelons of the Indian judiciary in Gujarat case demonstrates the need for reforms in the criminal judicial system
Foreign-aided NGOs are ‘stalling development’ says Intelligence Bureau report to Prime Minister Modi

Malaysia
- HRW: Return of 3 At-Risk Tamils Violates Malaysia’s International Obligations

Pakistan
- AHRC: Sindhi political and human rights activists targeted by intelligence agencies

Philippines
- Commission releases major study on forced eviction

Sri Lanka
- Reports on Mass Graves in the latest issue of “Torture: Asian and Global Perspective” now available

Thailand
- Pillay condemns military coup and urges prompt restoration of rule of law in Thailand
- FIDH: Military coup condemned in the strongest possible terms
- Foreign Correspondents’ Club of Thailand: Statement on the detention of Thai journalists

May 2014 E Newsletter compiled, edited and designed by André Frankovits and Patrick Earle