



SESI APPOINTMENTS

Rashad Pollard has been appointed as the new Coordinator for SESI, thanks to a unanimous confirmation through testing by the International helpers. Our thanks go to the four other members who volunteered to be tested for this position. Rashad takes over from Ruslan Morris who has played a major role in the development of SESI since the World Congress and who now will be able to concentrate his time on developing the major enterprises that SESI has worked to help set up in Kalimantan. Ruslan remains on the Board of SESI to ensure continuity. Rashad has recently retired as a consultant to international development programs, and is based in Virginia, USA. Before moving to the USA in 1984 Rashad was the Marketing Manager of the S.Widjojo Centre project in Jakarta; Director of the team that initially developed the Subud Township in Kalimantan, and Manager of the Pamulang housing development in Jakarta. In 1970 he founded what became the largest advertising agency in Indonesia after working in Singapore, Thailand, Iran and the UK in international marketing consultancies. He joined Subud in Bangkok in 1964. He has been on the SESI Board since the last World Congress and has both UK and USA nationality.

Rosetta Narvaez has been asked to join the SESI Board with her special expertise in banking. Stuart Cooke has joined SESI as an Advisor with specific reference to the work he is doing for the WSA Fundraising Initiative. This collaboration is important because we, at SESI, believe that the long-term financial sustainability of our Association and its Affiliates is very much dependent on the development of Subud Enterprises that are dedicated to that support.

Rashad is now seeking further project managers to support Communications initiatives and our new Enterprises Business Market Place Initiative (see below).

KALIMANTAN DEVELOPMENTS -- PALM OIL

Mursalin New has prepared an interesting document about palm oil plantations that we share here:

Palm Oil - Story at a Glance

Palm Oil is the world's largest traded vegetable oil crop and will play a major role in the doubling of the global food supply over coming decades to cater for population growth and improved human nutrition. Research has shown palm oil to be a healthy choice within a balanced diet, particularly as it minimizes the formation of dangerous trans-fats. Palm oil is the richest natural source of carotene and E complex vitamins.

Palm Oil cultivation provides a very significant economic and social development tool for the developing countries of the humid tropics. Palm, unlike alternative oil crops, is labour intensive, bringing increased employment opportunities to poor and landless families. The plantation industry delivers housing, schools, clinics and infrastructure services to remote rural areas. Furthermore, Palm is a pathway to prosperity for small farming families. Over 40% of palm production is carried out by small scale farmers – the fastest growing segment of the industry.

For indigenous communities in the humid tropics, the traditional forest based slash and burn/hunter gatherer economy is no longer sustainable. The changes resulting from global economic forces combined with national and local government development plans and land conversion policies, leave these communities particularly exposed. Appropriately designed Palm smallholder schemes and integrated cooperative models provide these communities with an option to achieve land security and a real stake in the benefits of land-use change.

As global agriculture expands, and as we enter the age of increasingly disruptive climate change, human society faces the challenges of balancing the need to maintain global food security, while minimizing the impact of land-use changes on the

environment, biodiversity and the global carbon cycle. The humid tropics will be the major focus for the future expansion of global agriculture - and this includes the expansion of the palm industry.

There is an immediate and ongoing need to minimize the impacts of the expansion of tropical agriculture on rainforest biodiversity and species habitat - for the orang-utang of SE Asia - as well as in central African and the Amazon. Much more needs to be done in setting aside and protection of large scale reserves of High Conservation Value forests and native animal habit. On the agricultural side there needs to be ongoing improvements in productivity of tropical crops, widespread implementation of sustainable farming practices, reduced irrigation water requirements, minimal use of agricultural chemicals and synthetic fertilizers, combined with better use of unproductive farmland and appropriate selection of undeveloped land for new crop planting.

Within this context, palm is in fact a very appropriate choice. Unlike most of the world's annual staple food crops, which require a constant cycle of plowing leading to erosion and soil fertility loss. Palm is a non-irrigated rain-fed perennial crop grown over a 25-30 year cycle. Palm cultivation forms a closed canopy over nitrogen fixing ground covers, helping to protect and maintain the land. The palm agro-ecosystem is more sustainable and has more on-farm bio-diversity than most other cropping systems.

Palm cultivation requires much less land and is far more cost effective in providing the same volume of oil or food equivalent compared with alternative crops (*1 Ha of palm provides the average daily calorific requirement of more than 60 persons*). The main alternative to palm for the future global supply of edible oil needs is soybean oil – but it requires 10 times the area of land to grow soy compared to palm.

In terms of carbon footprint, Palm has a mixed history. Palm – or any other crop grown on drained tropical peat soils - results in huge Green House Gas emissions as the drying carbon-rich peat soils decompose and release carbon dioxide. This fact is now increasingly recognized by the industry and the governments of palm growing countries with increasing restrictions being applied. Similarly, growing Palm on land cleared from primary or mature secondary rainforest results in a significant release of carbon dioxide from degradation of the fallen trees.

On the other hand, since Palm itself is a tree crop, it can form a significant carbon store when grown on mineral soils and when replacing scrubland or immature regrowth. Palm roots also sequester carbon in the soil as the palm plantations go through their long term crop rotation cycle. Palm is a far better tropical agriculture carbon store option than annual crops or grasslands for cattle grazing.

Another very significant role for palm is its potential to become a major global source of biomass. Vegetable oil production from palm is less than 10% of the total biomass produced by palm plantations. Palm biomass is now being developed to replace fossil fuels either as solid fuel to replace coal for power generation, or through the new biomass-to-liquid technologies which provide not only liquid biofuels to replace petroleum, but also a whole range of bio-chemical feedstocks for the low-carbon global economy of the future.

The palm industry, through the multi-stakeholder Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) was in fact the first global agricultural commodity industry to establish voluntary sustainability criteria for the production, supply and marketing of palm oil products. These criteria include commitments to:

- Transparent reporting to stakeholders
- A commitment to Free, Prior and Informed Consent in all negotiations with communities affected by palm oil development
- No clearing of cultural heritage/religious sites or High Conservation Value forests or critical slope land for plantation development, and maintenance of any remnant HCV land within the concession area

- Full respect for worker's safety, rights, wages and conditions in accordance with legal mandates, international treaty obligations and contractual commitments
- No use of fire in land clearing operations and adoption of best agricultural practices to protect soil fertility, reduce erosion, minimize use of agricultural chemicals and environmental impacts, and to implement integrated pest management systems

The Palm Oil industry presents a prospective enterprise opportunity in Kalimantan. Our Palm Plantation project is committed to achieving industry sustainability standards and best agricultural managements practices.

For a current assessment of palm oil prospects and issues by the World Resources Institute see:

http://www.wri.org/press/2012/10/release-two-new-online-mapping-applications-launched-support-sustainable-palm-oil-indo?utm_source=twitter.com&utm_medium=worldresources&utm_campaign=twitterfeed&utm_source=HCV+Network+-+November+2012+&utm_campaign=HCV+Newsletters&utm_medium=email

For an industry viewpoint go to:

<http://theoilpalm.org/>

For more information on the RSPO:

<http://www.rspo.org/>

SESI LAUNCHES THE ENTERPRISES BUSINESS MARKET PLACE

SESI is launching a new initiative to assist members with their own enterprises who may be seeking support, whether technical or financial. Our **ENTERPRISES BUSINESS MARKET PLACE** works to bring together those seeking support with those willing to provide it. We first circulate requests for support through our list server at sesinternational@yahoogroups.com; then through our Newsletters that reach about 5,000 members worldwide.

All enterprises. Go to: www.subudenterprise.com. If not registered, do so, then go to: SERVICES -- ENTERPRISES and enter information in the SUBUD PROJECTS WEB SITE you will find there.

Enterprises seeking support. Also register at SERVICES and SPRINGBOARD.

Enterprises seeking to promote their services. Also register at SERVICES and SubudB2U.

Stay tuned. Our web site will soon be upgraded with added features!

FOCUS BUSINESS MARKET PLACE ENTERPRISES FOR NOVEMBER

La Cultivada, Spain -- La Cultivada is a veritable fresh juice of olives from the Santa Ana Mill Estate located in the southwestern countryside of the Andalusian province of Cordoba, Spain. A high quality, organically produced, single variety extra virgin olive oil whose value lies in the impeccable traceability of its production and selection. Our emblem - the Cultivated Owl - represents wisdom. As such our communication focuses on the importance of true human development by means of opening up our awareness. Hence our great interest in collaborating with our Subud brothers and sisters worldwide. We are looking to expand La Cultivada internationally - either through overseas distribution & sales channels or in conjunction with partners who share our vision - in order to be able to make a significant contribution to SDIA's social projects. www.lacultivada.com/en
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Proofreading offered by Ilaine Lennard, UK. Rates according to quality of original text. Will consider worldwide and adapting payments requested, according to the exchange rates in a particular country. Many of you may speak English but need help to improve the written word. This is where I could help. Contact me at: ilaine.l@blueyonder.co.uk -- tel/fax +44 (0)1242 707701

Sonorex Oil & Gas Ltd, UK. Sonorex holds petroleum exploration and production licenses awarded by the UK Department of Energy, covering an area of 109 square kms (270.8 acres) in the UK. Following extensive Geological and Geophysical (seismic) surveys over the area and acquiring gravity, magnetic data and bore-hole data, a decision has been made to drill a borehole to a depth of 4,000 feet. Local Authority Permission to Drill has been granted. Extensive Environmental and Ecological issues have been researched and safeguards to local wildlife and the environment have been approved by the Authorities. £1.5m now being raised to construct a site and drill this exploration borehole. (A commitment to invest £400k received from a London based company).

Business plan available on request to any qualified and interested investors. www.sonorex.co.uk

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IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR ENTERPRISE INCLUDED IN OUR FUTURE NEWSLETTERS SEND A SUMMARY OF WHO YOU ARE AND WHAT YOU NEED TO: pollardrr@aol.com

Note: SESI provides communications services to Subud enterprises. SESI does not endorse or recommend investments in any enterprise. It strongly recommends that any prospective investors seek professional advice.