

# ***SSEN NEWSLETTER***

## ***SUBUD SCIENTISTS & ENGINEERS NETWORK***

*No 1, april 2010*

### **Background**

Subud member scientists and engineers in the natural sciences (including students) have not met as a group in many years. In the eighties there was an effort to start up a Science and Technology Group as part of SES activities with the main aim to start enterprises. But it never got blossoming.

Still there are many scientists and engineers among us who would like to share: present work, opportunities for cooperation, general discussions to do with the nature of scientific development.

The format of a network was proposed to keep it open and flexible, rather than an association: the Subud Scientists and Engineers Network, SSEN.

### **Reports on SSEN meetings in Christchurch**

#### *Introduction to the workshops*

At World Congress in Christchurch scientists in the natural sciences and engineers will meet to set up a network. They will discuss the needs, requirements and resulting actions. The discussion will be open, it is not a priori a continuation of the former Subud Technical Specialists effort, but parts of that activity could be included. The underlying principle will be to share: ideas, worries, research and development that could result in cooperation and/or commercialization, ethical and societal aspects of scientific research, etc .

Salman Rodgers from Subud Britain has developed a wiki website, that is in the air, and that could grow into the contact medium for SS&EN. Visit and enter your details, or at least have a look and give your comments: [subudwiki.com/ssen](http://subudwiki.com/ssen)

There will be a workshop for scientists and engineers in the first days of congress to discuss needs and requirements and a second one late in congress to decide on actions. There will be another workshop on the wiki site in general, not only on the SS&EN part.

In the second half of congress there will be a Forum meeting with a break-out session on 'New technologies and societal impact ' .

#### *Network meetings*

Two workshops were held, on Friday 8 and Friday 15. Altogether some 30 scientists and engineers participated. At the first meeting after a round of introductions, the general discussion was mainly on science and the latihan, what we want out of this group, and our communication needs.

Those interested in the first topic were referred to a meeting later at Congress on science and society in the framework of the Forum. On communication Samson Rogers gave a short introduction on The Subud Wiki site, referring to a later workshop concentrating on this new

initiative. The site can be used to place profiles and contact information, to host discussions, and to post ideas for cooperation.

Then the group split in two to go into more detail: environmental issues and enterprises.

The second meeting went into more detail on the site as a medium for cooperation. There was a discussion on intellectual property as related to publication. It was agreed that the site could only be used for first introductions, although it was password protected. Further in-depth discussions between interested parties should be in the private domain.

Further it became clear that considerable publicity should be made for the site as a medium for communication, to make it successful.

### Forum meeting

Following an meeting of Subud scientists in the natural sciences and engineers, where general topics of cooperation and sharing were discussed, a meeting in the context of the Forum was organized, basically for the same target group to talk about more ethical and societal issues related to the work of scientists and engineers who have experienced the latihan.

17 Participants turned up with varied backgrounds from organizational expertise to research physicists, IT specialists and policy makers. The meeting was held as a round table. In a nutshell, the topics discussed were:

- Receiving in your work
- Science and the world, and our relation to it
- Science in Subud

#### *Receiving in your work.*

Originality is often based on receiving, both for Subud members and for non-members, which was recognized. Though in the last case it would be called intuition.

There was a story that a top class Subud scientist often had a problem to translate his insights into the scientific language necessary to communicate them with his peers. In the meeting this was not generally acknowledged.

#### *Science and the world, and our relation to it*

The world is complex, all actions have an inbuilt duality, large systems are being developed where human control is unclear, new products are put on the market mainly for commercial reasons without a clear need, there is a growing trivialization of values, a loss of depth.

What is needed is a change of paradigm. Can we play a role there?

We want to do the good thing, but as participants in the general society we are not completely free to make our choices. We have to at least partially adapt. As Subud member and scientist we should trust our receiving/intuition, and aim at a kind of work that is beneficial. If we cannot realize that completely in our 'job', then we can put energy in it in our spare time.

There are interesting activities in the world where we could get involved, like the open source project, or the development of a new economy. There are opportunities in policymaking, open consultations and special research programs. We can partake in the public debate.

We can bring parties together, starting from a neutral playing field.

There are opportunities for new projects particularly in developing countries, where there is more flexibility.

We can test the public debate/discourse in our Subud community.

Through our latihan we can develop best practices, demo projects for new ways of working, a change in the system of innovation.

#### *Science in Subud*

Subud could benefit from technical development, as for instance in the efficient use of IT. The Subud organization could be an interesting test ground, as it is worldwide, covering different cultures and economical environments. If we are able to develop an efficient use of IT to communicate internationally, we could overcome blockages of the past, where we have many talents but thinly spread. Technology could also play a role in bridging the gap between developed and undeveloped.

#### *Concluding:*

Subud Scientists and Engineers through following their inner guidance :

- Can influence the public debate by participating in events, by answering consultations, by working in NGOs, by bringing groups together
- Can do projects

Our means of communication is the Subud wiki:

- Ideas for projects can be posted
- Experiences can be shared on societal issues encountered in the work, which might motivate others
- Opportunities can be posted for meeting the world.

#### **Wiki News**

This will in next issues be a fixed item with subheadings with the aim to refer to the wiki site: general, offers, requests, forum topics

Forum discussions:

Bapak on enterprise, Farlan Hateley

Looking for business partners, sales and marketing in internet industry, Hubert Talib

How to make money from Photovoltaic solar panels, government support in Germany, Elias Urrejola

Networking for business, new ways in networking, Oliver Waite

Ideas for a new enterprise, suggestions, Oliver Waite

#### **Invitation**

**If you are a Subud member scientist or engineer in the natural sciences, please enter your short cv and interests on [www.subudwiki.com](http://www.subudwiki.com) , and send an email to [reinbrandvisman@kpnmail.nl](mailto:reinbrandvisman@kpnmail.nl) to subscribe to the SSEN quarterly. In that mail you can also give specific needs and expectations of the network.**

#### **News**

ENERGY GLOBE” World Award is Looking for Cutting-edge Projects for the Environment

**Can Subud members help to identify some?** Is support needed to enter applications? The WSA Forum is interested in reaching Subud members and associates involved in Sustainable Human Development in the broadest sense, including technology and science. Contact: [external-relations@subud.org](mailto:external-relations@subud.org)



ENERGY GLOBE TV Gala 2008, European Parliament, Brussels: Kofi Annan honors Energy Globe winner/category water from Mozambique, Antonio Vasco

Put your project in the limelight! From now on sustainable projects for the environment from the whole world can be sent in for the “ENERGY GLOBE” Award 2010! We invite you to participate and put your outstanding accomplishment for the environment in the limelight! If you have realized a project which focuses on energy efficiency, the use of renewable kinds of energy or the sustainable use of our resources, then this is your chance! You might even win the ”ENERGY GLOBE” World Award and appear on the international stage on television! Sending in an entry is free and is possible in the following categories: Earth, Fire, Air and Youth. The International “ENERGY GLOBE” Award comes with € 10.000 for each category. All the information and details about the conditions for participation and the entry form (with a detailed list of possible projects in each category) can be downloaded on [www.energyglobe.com](http://www.energyglobe.com). Entries must be sent in by 15 June 2010.

*The “ENERGY GLOBE” World Award for Sustainability is one of today`s most renowned environment prizes and every year 100 countries participate with about 800 projects. Every year the television gala is broadcast worldwide. The laudatory speech is made by prominent people such as Kofi Annan, Michail Gorbatschow, Hollywood-Schauspieler Martin Sheen, Bollywood stars like Aamir Khan, pop legends like Robin Gibb, Dionne Warwick, etc. who also present the prizes. The previous locations for the international “ENERGY GLOBE” television events were, among others: the EXPO 05 in Japan in 2005, the environment and technology exhibition Globe in Vancouver in 2006, the plenary hall of the European Parliament in Brussels in 2007 und 2008 and the Veletrzni Palac in Prague during the informal meeting of the EU ministers for the environment under Czech chairmanship in 2009. For 2010 we have an invitation once again from the European Parliament in Brussels.*