

One World Trust Report to the WFM Council

This year has been an exciting year for the Trust. We launched the first in January 2003 to widespread interest. The report has been picked up by a number of the organisations we surveyed and a number outside. There is evidence that the report is being used to promote change from within many of these organisations.

The Trust recently, 23-24th October 2003, held a on the fifth accountability dimension, Stakeholder Engagement. This brought together people with experience of different types of stakeholder engagement from around the world; from the World Bank, OECD, Nestle and Rio Tinto through Amnesty International, WWF to an Indian based disability organisation. This disparate group of organisations left the workshop having given the Trust a clear idea of what the principles for a good stakeholder engagement are. The majority of the participants left asking to continue to work with the Trust as we turn this work into indicators.

The Trust has submitted a strategic plan to the Ford Foundation as part of our next funding bid to them. The plan sets out how the Trust will develop a series of modules of work around each of the accountability dimensions.. At the core of each module will be a workshop similar to the one held in October. The Trust expects to hear back from Ford by the end of November whether its application has been successful or not.

This global accountability work aims to strengthen the routes by which individuals and communities have their views represented at the global level and so is central to our role within WFM. In addition to attempting to strengthen these direct routes, the Trust will develop a project to examine the role that national parliaments can play in holding their national governments to account when they operate on the global stage.

The Trust, working with other organisations, is undertaking a project to promote the idea of a where Northern and Southern governments will work in partnership to both contract and converge their carbon dioxide emissions. The first stage in this project is a conference at Wilton Park in the UK this November.

The Trust continues to provide information to Parliamentarians and supporters though its email bulletin and its parliamentary lectures. For example, in December George Monbiot will speak in Parliament on the subject of a world parliament.

We are feeling very excited about our work, that we are making a difference and broadening the network of people who have come in contact with our ideas.

Simon Burall
October 2003