

ICAE WORLD ASSEMBLY NEWSLETTER



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The World Assembly of the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE) is a forum that brings together people and organizations working on lifelong learning and adult education around the world. Civil society organizations, adult educators and learners are invited to participate in the 8th edition that takes place 14-17 June 2011 in Malmö, Sweden.

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Making numbers: interview with Alan Tuckett

Alan Tuckett is Director of the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE), having worked previously as an adult education organizer in Brighton and as a Principal in inner London. He started Adult Learners' Week in the UK in 1992, and supported its adoption by UNESCO, and its spread to more than 50 countries. He is a Special Professor in Continuing Education at the University of Nottingham and an Honorary Professor at the Institute of Lifelong Learning at Leicester University. He advises UNESCO on adult learning.



Alan Tuckett is also treasurer of the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE), which is why we consulted

him to know about the financial needs and challenges in the way to the ICAE VIII World Assembly in Malmö, Sweden (14-17 June).

As treasurer of ICAE, it's easy to assume that you play a key role in organizing an event like the World Assembly. How costly is an event like this and how are you working to arrange all the financial needs?

The budget for a World Assembly is a patchwork quilt. ICAE itself spent months fund raising and we have a USD 175,000 budget for the event. That has gone on organising, paying for plane tickets and accommodation for speakers from the global South, helping with the costs of translation, and a thousand other things.

Our key partners in Sweden - who had to put up a guarantee of USD 160,000 to start with in order to secure the accommodation have had to find money to meet a range of costs: website (USD 20,000), Congressbureau (USD 45,000), materials, programmes, logos, etc. (USD 35,000), local group in Malmö (USD 6,000), venue (USD 75,000), technique in the venue (USD 25,000), interpretation, technique and interpreters (USD 80,000, this is extremely expensive), transport with buses (USD 12,000), cultural activities and travel costs for some contributors (USD 35,000), food (USD 165,000), and others (USD, 20,000). In part these costs are shared, because at the same venue as the Assembly, earlier that week the Nordic associations meet. So does the European Association for its annual meeting, and also the GEO.

Folkbildningsrådet is directly contributing with USD 130,000; they expect a contribution from the EAEA of USD 17,000; the city of Malmö is contributing with USD 55,000; the region of Skåne in Sweden will find USD 40,000. The Swedish National Agency for LLL will give USD 30,000 and the Nordic Network of AL USD 8,000. Different Swedish trade unions are contributing with USD 35,000, and some NGOs will find USD 16,000. The EESC and the ALDE group within COR co-finances part of the interpretation with about USD 20,000.

Participation fees were estimated to USD 210,000 but are likely to be less. Then there is the support of agencies like dvv-international that support ICAE to ensure that each region of the global south has at least three representatives. And there is more direct solidarity support between youth and adult educators in the north with their colleagues in the south. Of course, underpinning all this is the core support ICAE gets from its development partners NORAD and SDC.

Given the pressure on budgets, ICAE has asked each participant support for modest co-funding to maximise the numbers who can come.

The Danish Adult Education Association (DAEA) has decided to donate 50,000 DKK (some 9,715 USD) to support participants from the South, as well as other organizations from developed countries. How fundamental is for ICAE to count on this kind of generous contribution in order to secure global participation?

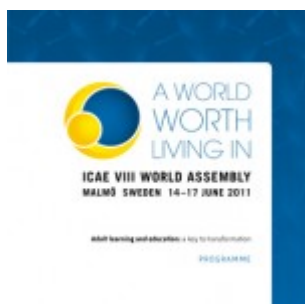
The Danish Association, like its Norwegian and Swedish compatriots makes a vital contribution to the maintenance of a global association. At a time when the funding priorities of many governments is shifting away from adult learning, mutual aid is often the only way we can make sure we really work globally.

How can ICAE members and participants collaborate in order to facilitate participation from all, including those from the South that can not afford their costs?

Every member can help, either through supporting a participant to come to Malmö; contributing to, and promoting the virtual seminars - the papers are all on the ICAE website -; maintaining dialogue through Voices Rising, through social media, and through advocacy for youth and adult learning wherever we live.

By Enrique Buchichio
ICAE

Final Programme for the ICAE World Assembly



The final programme for the ICAE World Assembly is now available as pdf. A printed version will be handed out upon registration for the conference.

Check out information on plenary sessions, keynote speakers, seminars, self-organized activities, mini-seminars, social events, interpretation, sponsors and practical details.

See: <http://aworldworthlivingin.se/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Programme-AWWLI-14-17-June-2011-2.pdf>

Find us and get
the latest updates:



Receive the latest news on the Assembly

If you wish to receive regular updates and key information on how to participate, list of events and other info please write to asambleaicae2011@googlegroups.com with the subject **Subscribe**.

Also join us on **Facebook**, **Twitter** or **YouTube channel**.

Mini-seminars

In the Café of the Exhibition Hall there will be mini-seminars, 25-30 minutes, during the sessions for parallel seminars. See titles and times on the list below and look out for new mini-seminars to be announced in Malmö.

Mental Landscapes – Another Way to “see” the Reality

Promoting theater as a tool for education and communication for young people with disabilities in Cochabamba, Bolivia. Language: Spanish. Organizer: Ivette Mercado Zubieta, Medborgarskolan. 15 June 14.00-14.30

Climate, justice and the difficulty of reaching a meaningful agreement

NGO perspectives on the climate negotiations on the way to Durban, December 2011. Organizer: Kenneth Hermele, economist, Forum Syd. 15 June 14.30-15.00

Education and interculturality in Curpahuasi, Peru

Children and communities in the crossroad of Andean and Western culture. Language: Spanish. Organizer: Gaby Sotomayor Granda, Amorlatino Cultural Center and Medborgarskolan. 15 June 15.00-15.30.

Moomsteatern

From studycircles to world leading professional theatre based on actors with disabilities. Language: Swedish. Organizer: Moomsteatern and Studieförbundet Vuxenskolan. 15 June 16.00-16.30.

Capoeira calls for Peace

How capoeira seeks to promote cultural and human values based on respect and freedom. Language: English, Spanish. Organizer: Abada-Capoeira and Medborgarskolan. 15 June 16.30-17.00

How can active glocal citizens change the world?

The Glocal Think Tank is bold enough to challenge the economic, ecologic and social crises. It is a forum of ideas for citizens who want to live in a just and sustainable world. The motto of the Glocal Think Tank is: Reflect! Debate! Act! Language: English. Organizer: Gunilla Andersson and the Glocal think tank at Glokala Folk High School. 15 June 17.00-17.30.

No right to decent work without decent education – Afro descendants in Uruguay

Language: Spanish. Organizer: Lonjas del Norte- Candombe and Medborgarskolan. 16 June 11.00-11.30.

Sustainability Learners- Interview with Moema Viezzer



Moema Viezzer is Brazilian, sociologist, has a master's degree in social sciences, she is a writer and adult educator. She was the founder and president of the Rede Mulher de Educação in the early 1980's. Since 1978 she has also been working as an educator on issues related to the environment. She was a coordinator in the Treaty on Environmental Education for Sustainable Societies and Global Responsibility during the Rio 92 Conference on Sustainable Development. She is a member of the Gender and Education Office (GEO) - ICAE and she is one the Council's points of reference in Latin America

regarding environmental matters.

During her recent visit in Montevideo where she participated in the Training Institute and Regional Consultation "Strengthening the incidence and analysis of policies on gender, economic and ecological policies in Latin America", organized by DAWN with the cooperation of GEO/ICAE on April 18-21, we were able to discuss several issues she has been working on during all these years.

From your point of view, what has the evolution of the fight for women's rights been like in Latin America during the last decades?

I have been working on this since 1975 when the first International Women's Tribune was held in parallel with the International Women's Conference held in Mexico. I think that many changes have occurred since then. First, many things that remained invisible during thousands of years, as natural events, are being nowadays addressed as issues which caused social problems that affect half the population. I remember that when I was in Mexico there was polarization between the class struggle (it was the time when dictatorships were in force) and feminism, as if they were opposed one against the other. Working on issues that affected women would not allow the fight against the inequality among social classes. At present, as we have accepted to work on diversity the progress of humankind as such is allowed. In that sense, I see there has been significant progress when work on equity is developed. Gender equity helps to understand the various types of diversity, we are men or women and at the same time we are African-descendants, young, adult and everything is reflected in the way we were treated for thousands of years.

For example, when women started to work massively in the labor market the production world was not organized and connected with the universe of life reproduction. Then, as it had occurred for so many centuries, women had to bear the burden of being responsible for not only the natural things that were related to reproduction such as gestating, giving birth, breastfeeding but also for everything which was related to household life. Women had both responsibilities. Men remained in the world of production and also in activities related to social, political, religious, military and administrative life without getting involved in the other aspects. That does not mean that everything which has been done has been to no avail; however, we have not reached that point where women and men may really change the way they are in society. I think there has been much progress regarding the legislation. Nowadays, women's struggle to achieve same pay for same job is improving, but we have not reached total equality. In certain way, all the above mentioned is visible now and that is important.

Another difficult point, at least in my country, is the promotion of women in politics. At present we have a woman president which does not mean that in states, municipalities, what we call a second stage, we really have women in power and decision-making positions. When elections are held at local or national levels, women have always the same difficulty: to be supported by their own parties and create conditions equal to men's in order to have access to power. I think they are points of reference but we have not reached the goal we long for.

I also think there has been a significant progress in the public policies especially aimed at women. At least in my country, it was important the acknowledgement of land ownership for rural women and also programs that have promoted the effective participation of women with economic conditions equal to men's. There have also been other policies such as instances created to fight violence against women, domestic and family violence as well as within workplaces where violence was considered as something almost normal. The same has occurred to moral and sexual harassment. All the measures taken are important so that little by little, there is equal treatment and men and women can become equal at work and in any social environment.

Today two women are presidents in the largest countries in the region. Do you think that this situation may have incidence on the implementation of regional policies committed to economic justice related to gender and climate?

I think it may, at least in my country the President herself is demonstrating it is not enough that a woman is president if she is surrounded only by men. She has been careful enough to place men and women in ministries and she is working in that direction for the second stage. I think she has made an impact on women of different classes. Several interviews we have listened to and watched show women with self-esteem when they see themselves represented by other women in important positions. I think this is going to have an effective impact on other government positions either in municipalities or in states. It is not something taken for granted and that may remain under a symbolic condition. It is the real impact of demonstrating that it is possible for men and women to share power and decision making spaces.

In this regional consultation you are participating in discussions on the formulation of sustainable development alternatives in Latin America.

Yes, above all, I'm doing it from the point of view of education since I am an educator: education for sustainable societies with global responsibility. This is related to the idea that the declarations we already have do not suffice and it seems that when we manage to have the outcome documents, things are already happening. Many of the challenges are related to the way we have to change things we did before, believing it was the right thing to do, and at present, the Earth is showing us we have to change a lot, even the conception of what is to live well, the conception of what is to get organized from the economic, social point of view. Japan is a rather extreme case but that leads us to reconsider what to build sustainable societies is. It seems that high technology is not going to solve problems. Japan was really an example of how everything had been thought even how to protect buildings from the point of view of engineering and architecture in the event of an earthquake. But when an earthquake or a tsunami occurs, as it happened, everything went out of control and it involved a fundamental topic: nuclear power. The most shocking aspect is how the events occurred in Japan forced the whole world to ponder over the nuclear power issue. We do not need to go through so many accidents. Was Chernobyl not enough to ponder over nuclear technology?

Nowadays we face a dilemma. We must really try to learn how to be different, how not to depend on so many things considered necessary for our welfare. In Brazil, for instance, cars: São Paulo has to stop at certain time of the year, year after year, yet, one million cars runs all over São Paulo everyday. Then this new paradigm has to lead us to the meaning of a sustainable society where human and non human beings may coexist and people and the planet will not walk towards destruction. But everything is organized to maintain what exists now and that is shown in world leaders' decisions who take so long to make them in order to transform them into policies to be accepted by countries as it happened at the whole COPs process, especially at the Copenhagen conference which was a scandal of international proportions. Therefore, we have to reconsider our learning. We must ponder over our ways to interact with the environment.

There is a need for going through transforming learning processes derived from the interaction with the environment such as the process proposed by the popular environmental education, by the eco-pedagogy that works more on this interlinkage between statements and demand based on the situation of populations and the environment. In fact, there are no social problems on one side and environmental problems on the other, they are all intertwined. We must accept our status as

sustainability learners, and we cannot teach children if adults have not learnt that before. This is a new way to think on education, even at schools, based on the concept of ecological literacy brought by California Edmund Institute: when we are in front of a class of children, these are not the only ones who learn; their teachers, fathers and mothers and the ones around them are learning too. The same occurs in popular environmental education. All which is obtained through research and participative action helps to demonstrate that adults and youngsters, independently of our academic education and our role in society, we all have to access that status of sustainability learners because it is a paradigm completely different from the one which has guided teaching practices for at least four centuries.

You participated in the Rio 92 Conference. A year after the Rio +20 review, what do you think has been the evolving debate on sustainable development in Latin America, particularly within civil society?

I feel there has been certain progress. I participated in the Global Forum parallel with the 1992 conference and participated as coordinator of the First International Conference on Environmental Education coordinating the ICAE Environmental Education Program. It was very interesting as a process and it proved the above mentioned: the division existing in the universe of organizations and movements and in such a way that if you belonged to an environmental movement you had no place in the universe of NGOs whose work was more oriented to the social field, to the point that those who worked in that field many times did not even want to talk to environmental activists. A very interesting event occurred in my country. During the Rio 92 preparation, after several debates, a Brazilian forum of NGOs and social movements was finally created. It was shocking to see how divided they were in aspects which cannot exist one without the other.

At present I see that NGOs and social movements, including the Landless Workers' Movement, work a lot on the idea of pedagogy of the land and many NGOs that used to work exclusively with social movements have incorporated environmental issues as a part of their daily activity. That progress exists. Nevertheless, I think that in the sphere of education where I work there is still much work ahead. I have been working for CONFINTEA and for the World Social Forum and I have observed that little has been produced and worked or at least, little has been disseminated on socio-environmental education or education for sustainability among young people and adults, for instance. That is why I believe we have still a lot ahead so as to create new paradigms and new practices of socio-environmental education and work on what should be an axis such as socio-biodiversity, as opposed to the model of global colonization. It will only be possible to make a difference as long as we really adopt socio-biodiversity as a new paradigm.

I work on the concept of ethics of care and I think that nowadays what we call socio-environmental education is the formation for the ethics of care of everything, of ourselves, of our families. There exists a movement around all this and as this idea of care becomes clearer, human beings coexistence and the way their connecting with nature become naturally more harmonic.

Do you think that ICAE Latin-American members should take a shared standpoint to the World Meeting which will be held at Malmö?

I am not so active at present but I guess that each division of the Council will have a previous meeting or has already had it. I think that problems are worldwide, what affects us here in Latin America also affects people in Asia or Africa. From the point of view of outlining common strategies with common actions I think it may be very interesting if Latin America can present what is seen as relevant issues on education. I think that ICAE may achieve a lot if they present what has been brought to the last conferences such as the UNESCO's so that all the affiliated centers of ICAE become pioneers in this new way of thinking adult and children's education, connected to the relevant issues which have arisen due to great global crisis, not only the environmental crisis. Perhaps, Malmö will represent a milestone and I think that it would also be interesting for ICAE to participate in Rio+20 with a clear proposal from the civil society together with other organizations. ICAE should be a voice of the civil society and somehow help to gather together people who wish to build a sustainable world. I wish it could contribute, together with other institutions, to have more incidence on United Nations organizations.

We are trying to organize the Second International Conference on Environmental Education together with some international institutions such as ICAE, the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, Siglo XXIII (23rd Century) –which from El Salvador is networking in Central America- and also some European institutions. I hope that during this year previous to Rio+20 male and female educators of the world get mobilized as it happened in the First International Conference on Environmental Education, which for many people was clarifying, above all in the sense of feeling as learners and work under the same conception: to get educated in order to build sustainable societies, respecting ecosystems and cultures with global responsibility. It is clear that what happens in Uruguay is very much related to what happens in other countries, and not only here at the River Plate Basin. It would be good for ICAE to further this cause so that Malmö serves as a stepping stone from the strategic and programmatic points of view to present, jointly with other institutions, this idea before the United Nations. World leaders have much to learn. There are things that should not happen, as common sense says, like the thing that happened in Copenhagen.

By **Enrique Buchichio**
ICAE

Good vibes are contagious!!!

By **Carolina Clavier**



world difficult to define in words, but very easy to describe with emotions.

In 2009 I arrived one day to Montevideo airport, alone, anxious and thinking, what am I doing? I'm going alone to Belém do Pará, to something called FISC, simply because in that year someone had talked to me about IALLA – obviously, didn't know either what was IALLA. I asked for a couple of days off my job - in the worst possible moment - why...? Well, the truth is I have no idea why I did it, I guess by intuition, but I did it. I left in the worst time of work to get inside (almost literally) a university in the city of Belém, that I barely knew on the routes from the hotel to the university ... to discover a

Let me tell you my story chronologically: I arrived to the airport (you know how) and I saw a group of women carrying heavy boxes, I went over and pretending looking in another way I read that the boxes said: ICAE; that was when I breathe for the first time. That's them, they exist, they are going to Belém and the FISC!!! It took me 1/10 of a second to go over and ask who was Cecilia, the only one I knew on the phone and had encouraged me to go, but without giving me many details.

Upon arriving to San Pablo, the poor women (Ana, Irene, Hortencia ...) pretended to be asleep to avoid getting mad with my questions, they just smiled and told me to calm down, that they could not tell me what I was going to do, that I had to live it by myself and I was not going to be sorry.

...poor women, they never imagined that in San Pablo the plane was going to be delayed a few hours...

But it was there that the magic began, yes, and I'm not being poetic, it was magical, people started arriving from all over the world, with posters, shirts, material (and as I had done my homework, I recognized some names: GEO, REPEM, UNIFEM, etc.). They embraced, they remembered the last time they had seen each other, some did not know each other, but we were all going to the FISC. The atmosphere had changed, you could breathe it in the air, the atmosphere was different, how? I do not know, different, nice, encouraging, supportive, I don't know, cool, really cool.

As I already said, I was not sure what for or why I was going to that event, but given that I was going there, I obviously had registered as a VOLUNTEER, what for? You know the answer: I don't know. But the thing is that on the plane the group of women of ICAE had already recruited me for a thousand tasks, and I was happy, at least I was going to do something, what? ... I don't know...

Remember I told you I left for 4 days, and thankfully I was free on Saturday morning to at least visit Belém? well no, at 7:30 am, my long-awaited Brazilian hotel breakfast just started, those kind women I knew the previous day tell me: XXX, they are waiting for you in university to see if you can lend a hand, go NOW with "B" (B is not to hide her identity, we called her B because her name was too difficult to pronounce). So goodbye breakfast, goodbye mini-tour of Belem: to work.

When we got to the university I see a lot of people with shirts of volunteers running up and down and I introduce myself to a skinny woman – who looked already tired - and I said I was going to help. I will never forget Marc H's face of happiness, and as she says, she will never forget that someone felt "to help".

There began the FISC and it was true, the FISC had to be lived, felt, be part of it, I picked a T-shirt, falei meu melhor português and comecei a trabalhar, I joined a group of people and started to run: preparing bags, distributing bags, falar com aquel cara que ta precisando ajuda, ayudar a aquél porque le está hablando un inglés y no entiende nada, merci beaucoup, oui, oui, c'est ici, non, non, reste ici, headphones don't work on channel 1, ¿has visto a Celita? Ou est la toilette?, Where is Ludmila ?, pega-la, cara!! oui, bien sûr, allez manger, je reste avec le bébé, has anybody seen my shoes??? and amid all that, some wonderful, inspiring chats, fighter, convinced people, wanting to do things, idealistic people, people, many, many people with the most "positive Vibrations" I had ever seen.

Why am I telling you this? Because I lived it from the inside, because I was a volunteer, because without volunteers, without people like the one from ICAE (Adelaide, Nicole, Valerie, Marcela M, Cristina and many others) many things would not be possible. This year I'm also going to something I don't know very well what it is (that's not true, I know, when you are touched by ICAE, you become a member of this group of women – sorry, I say of women because ICAE members I know and inspire me are all women) ... I went around the bush, I'm telling you this because this year I'm going to MALMÖ, volunteering, and I hope that many, many people will be touched by ICAE and volunteers will increase day after day. This is the best opportunity to do what we preach: from words to action.

EVERYONE can be a VOLUNTEER.

If you want to be a voluntary interpreter at the ICAE World Assembly please contact:

icaeinterpreter@gmail.com

