



# 2006-2008

## STRATEGIC GUIDELINES

**C**reated in 2001, IDDRI is a new kind of organization among French institutions dealing with the international aspects of environmental and development concerns. It stands out for the composition of its members, the working methods adopted and the range of fields covered.

IDDRI brings together partners from both the public and private sectors. Its members include research and teaching organizations (CIRAD, CNRS, École Polytechnique, IRD, INRA), public and private economic stakeholders (ADEME, AFD, CNCEP, EDF, GDF, Lafarge, Renault, SNCF, Suez Environnement and Veolia Environnement), and associations (EPE). The institute also has a close relationship with several French ministries. This diversity guarantees IDDRI the independence needed to meet its objectives.

Although its members are mostly French, IDDRI deals with the international dimension of the subjects it covers. It thus ensures better integration of French research and debates in European and international discussions, especially where North-South issues are concerned.

By refusing to remain within the confines of sectors or subjects, IDDRI operates at the interface between research and decision-making.

It involves the different kinds of stakeholders concerned – whose opinions and interests may differ – in order to define the subjects to be developed and to pool resources. The work produced is collective and available to all.

Within the broader field of sustainable development, IDDRI concentrates on issues of common interest that are the object of international coordination. Its goal is to provide the analytical tools needed to assess the challenges for the different kinds of stakeholders.

Global governance of environmental and development concerns, the mitigation of climate change, the preservation of natural resources, the role of science and expertise in public decision-making on environmental issues, and access to basic services are some of the topics that have gradually shaped IDDRI's thematic identity. Following a collective consultation process, one core subject and five focal areas have been identified, two of which are new: hazards, precautions and chemicals; and high seas governance.

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## core subject:

### THE IMPLICATION OF NEW STAKEHOLDERS IN GLOBAL REGULATION

The beginning of the third millennium is characterized by a complete review of the methods and stakeholders involved in global regulation. Emerging countries are playing an increasingly important role, meaning the end of the bipolarization of international economic negotiations, and new stakeholders are appearing in a landscape previously dominated by States. Imbued with the global geostrategic balance of the post-war period, the framework of traditional inter-State global governance has been called into question by the sudden appearance in debates of new political and economic operators that do not identify with the North-South debate.

With regard to issues such as climate change,

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development assistance or intellectual property rights, emerging countries are already playing a decisive role in the construction of the new global governance system. Having sought to reinforce their role in the intergovernmental system by asserting their leadership within

the group of developing countries, they have formed more restricted alliances according to the subject. They have also gained a foothold in new international agreements, such as global funds or processes. They have thus established themselves as key actors in discussions, in the face of a struggling Europe and a United States critical of the multilateral regulation of global issues.

At the same time new stakeholders are taking part – whether formally or informally – in global governance: companies, which have increasingly served as the support for international coordination initiatives over the last decade; civil society representatives and non-governmental organizations; local authorities; and the scientific community, which has developed in such a way as to influence the rhythm and nature of collective responses to global issues.

In order to develop its thematic programs, IDDRI will examine the relationships formed between these groups of stakeholders in international negotiations and other regulations. IDDRI also intends to contribute to research programs by responding to calls for proposals, especially French and European ones, and to receive foreign researchers, especially those from emerging countries.

# 5

## focal areas

GLOBAL GOVERNANCE | TRADE LIBERALIZATION | COMPANIES AND PUBLIC GOODS | CLIMATE CHANGE | NATURAL RESOURCES

### GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

IDDRI has chosen to focus on three areas: international aid, high seas governance and international environmental governance.

► **INTERNATIONAL AID.** Following on from the work undertaken in 2004, IDDRI will analyze the role of development assistance in the management of North-South interdependence, whether in terms of security, trade, migration or the management of public goods (health, environment, etc.). It will also assess the impact of external intervention, especially official development assistance, on State reconstruction and the resulting national and international governance methods.

► **HIGH SEAS GOVERNANCE.** New to IDDRI, this theme will deal with sustainable fisheries

management and the preservation of marine biodiversity, concentrating on areas outside national jurisdiction.

Issues examined will include the legal and political status of the high seas, the correlation between the different acts governing this area, the competent international institutions and the economic tools that may be used. The role of regional fishing organizations in marine governance will also be developed.

► **ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE.** In 2004 and 2005, IDDRI contributed to the French initiative for the creation of a United Nations environment organization. Now European, this initiative is pursuing its diplomatic course; IDDRI will continue, if necessary, to accompany it. In order to transcend the institutional aspect of this issue, IDDRI will analyze the forms of gov-

ernance that are developing in parallel to the decline of inter-State multilateralism and which are particularly dependent on standardization. How are these standards defined? How valid are they? Do they effectively address issues of common interest?

**Pending.** If it can find sufficient funding, IDDRI will examine two further issues: the first concerns monitoring and assessment mechanisms as tools for encouraging decision-making, along with observation techniques as a means of reporting on the respect of commitments; the second concerns the public and private mechanisms and tools aimed at financing environmental protection measures in Southern countries, in order to assess the situation and the role these could play in the debate on international environmental governance.

#### TRADE LIBERALIZATION

With a view to shedding light on the debate surrounding the consequences of international trade liberalization, IDDRI will concentrate on three areas.

► **THE IMPACT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.** While empirical research exists on the impact of opening up trade on several sustainable development indicators, what is missing is a conceptual and normative vision of the expectations of liberalization in terms of sustainable development, establishing the conditions for a positive contribution of the former to the latter. This is notably the case for environmental concerns, which will be given special attention in this program.

► **PROFIT AND LOSS.** How is profit and loss due to liberalization distributed between and within countries? What factors determine the evolution of inequalities caused by trade? How can adjustment costs caused by liberalization be measured? The program will focus on these questions by examining different economic contexts and two negotiation frameworks: trade liberalization for goods and for services.

► **SOCIETY'S CHOICES AND INTERNATIONAL PRIORITIES.** How can a society's preferences - providing these are defined by means of consensus - be reconciled with universal rules and standards, such as mutual trade benefits or reducing imbalances, which pepper speeches about liberalization and largely determine their agenda? After studying how these preferences are expressed (votes, opinion polls, etc.) and their effect on policies implemented, IDDRI will examine whether the concept of 'collective preferences' is truly operational in global trade governance.

#### COMPANIES AND PUBLIC GOODS

Whether they produce public goods or their activities create hazards and pollution, companies are recognized as key stakeholders in sustainable development. What are their responsibilities? What relationships do they have with the public sector? How are these issues regulated?

► **ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES.** In the next 20 years, cities in developing countries will receive 1.7 billion extra people, who will require access to basic services such as water, electricity and transport. What role will national and local authorities play? At what level should these services be organized? How will they be financed? The seminar organized in cooperation with the CERNA / Ecole des Mines de Paris will examine these questions.

► **HAZARDS, PRECAUTIONS AND CHEMICALS.** IDDRI will extend the work undertaken in 2005 concerning the regulation of chemical hazards beyond Reach, the European proposal for regulation of chemicals. Three separate fields of analysis exist: the state of research at the international level and the assessment of needs; multilateral efforts and the interplay of stakeholders; the chemical industry's ability to anticipate and adapt to new constraints.

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

Of growing concern to leaders and citizens alike, climate change has become a key element of international negotiations. IDDRI will approach this theme from four angles:

► **DECARBONIZING THE EUROPEAN ECONOMY.** How can European greenhouse gas emissions be reduced by 75% by 2050 (the Factor 4 scenario)? IDDRI will examine short-term constraints and identify the structural changes needed to achieve this objective.

► **POST-KYOTO.** What kind of climate regime should be established after 2012, once the period covered by the Kyoto Protocol ends? IDDRI will study the legal, institutional and financial dimensions of the options under discussion.

► **ENERGY AND DEVELOPMENT IN EMERGING COUNTRIES.** The energy-intensive model of OECD countries is not sustainable. What are the possible energy scenarios for emerging countries? Based on case studies - beginning with residential trends in China - IDDRI will identify elements of response by concentrating on a sector-based approach.

► **CLIMATE ALERT.** IDDRI will continue efforts undertaken to encourage dialogue between the scientific community and decision-making spheres concerning climate change scenarios and their impact.

**Pending.** Vulnerability and adaptation to climate change are important issues for developing countries, especially in Africa. IDDRI will examine these issues, providing additional funding is found.

#### NATURAL RESOURCES

The preservation and management of renewable natural resources cover many issues, three of which will be addressed:

► **ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL TOOLS.** IDDRI will provide a critical analysis of the economic and financial tools used to finance biodiversity preservation. In tropical forests, for example, asserting the value of services rendered by these biodiversity-rich ecosystems is presented as an alternative to the more classical vision based on the complementarity of management and conservation. What potential do these market approaches to conservation offer? To what extent can they replace agricultural income? How can they be established? This program will be coordinated with research on the importance of forests in terms of their ability to absorb carbon dioxide.

► **TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND BIODIVERSITY.** IDDRI will continue the activities conducted over recent years on local practices and knowledge linked to biodiversity. It will explore the possibilities for international recognition of local knowledge and know-how, although they respond to access regulations, legal systems and conservation and usage practices that vary from country to country. The aim is to revisit

the classical approach of the vertical division of responsibilities: local operators manage local resources, national operators draw up public policies and States negotiate international standards. Experiments conducted in France provide an interesting insight into the situation, although they are not immune to tension and their contribution to biodiversity preservation remains debatable.

► **FAIR TRADE.** Following on from past work, IDDRI will attempt to identify innovative methods – between the improvement of the current intellectual property rights system and the development of complementary tools – that make it possible to acknowledge the social and cultural values associated with biodiversity. The practices and customs of stakeholders concerned will be recorded and discussed, which should contribute to a better appreciation of economic and financial challenges.



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# Four priorities for IDDRI's evolution

**T**he first period, which has drawn to a close (2002-2005), was marked by the priority given to IDDRI's institutional, financial, administrative and scientific construction. This process went hand in hand with a modification of status, with IDDRI changing from a 'groupement d'intérêt scientifique' to an 'association loi 1901'. IDDRI has gradually defined its methods and scope. It has nevertheless remained faithful to the philosophy that governed its creation: acting upstream from negotiations by taking part in discussions and scientific networks, which play a key role in the definition of future international priorities and the emergence of new subjects.

For the second stage of its development, IDDRI will concentrate on four areas: developing outreach activities; strengthening its international links; developing its own means; and confirming its specificity.

### Developing outreach activities

Publicizing its work in France and abroad is at the very heart of IDDRI's ambitions. This objective implies mobilizing skills, means and techniques, and adapting to the public the institute is addressing: members of the association (research organizations, NGOs, unions, companies and other economic opera-

tors); ministries; the scientific community; the major international operators - public, non-profit, scientific and private - that deal with global issues; opinion leaders; and occasionally the general public. In the short and medium term, effort will revolve around several priority actions aimed at the media, IDDRI members and others benefiting from its work, both in France and abroad. This will involve, among other things, redesigning the web site and creating new information tools.

### Strengthening its international links

Forming regular and solid ties with foreign institutes and influential personalities in international negotiations is one of the principal ways in which IDDRI can achieve its objectives. After three years marked by the development of relations with the major European and North American think tanks, priority will now be given to operators in emerging countries, following in the steps of work IDDRI has begun in Brazil and China - receiving foreign researchers, especially from developing countries, is a path that must be explored. In the same sense, priority must be given to furthering links with the World Bank research department, which plays a key role in the emergence of issues that influence international negotia-

tions. Finally, international links imply further developing the policy of publishing in English.

### **Reaching the critical mass needed to achieve its objectives**

When IDDRI was created, it was decided that organization's set-up should be a small, manageable body, with most of its capacities coming from partners, especially scientific ones. Although this format remains suited to the French context, it is tempered by several factors: experience shows that mobilizing scientific communities implies contributing to their work, including at the intellectual level, and that a limited team is unable to exercise any influence, especially in the face of foreign partners supported by far more considerable human resources, such as the American foundations. From nine people in 2002, IDDRI expanded to include 15 people by 2005. The 2006-2008 objective is to develop a whole team for each theme, and thus to create an extra position every year, giving priority to personnel made available by its members.

### **Confirming and shaping its specificity**

With its objective of providing relevant and reliable information on strategic issues of a global nature, IDDRI sits at the interface between three spheres: the scientific community; economic and social operators; and public authorities. It works in cooperation with these spheres and also with foreign and international stakeholders. IDDRI is neither an operator nor a service provider for any of its members or partners; it works by pooling means of action and research findings. The way in which the institute functions is relatively rare in France and still occasionally comes up against procedural or positioning difficulties. As such, it contributes to changing the working habits of public and private stakeholders.

In late 2004, IDDRI's principal economic partners created the FONDDRI research foundation, thus allowing the association to reinforce its working relations with scientific teams in order to identify the subjects justifying research efforts. This foundation also contributes to strengthening and building on the continuum between research and decision-making. Another possibility in this sense is to participate more in the coordination or development of public research programs on sustainable development and to help them to

bear fruit. Furthermore, IDDRI will redefine the objectives and composition of its scientific council in 2006.

In this context, IDDRI will concentrate on relations with its members, especially economic operators, in order to improve interaction between its own work and that of companies. It will mobilize skills in order to carry out information campaigns and discussions within companies. Branching out into new sectors of activity – food, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics, banking and insurance, etc. – is worth encouraging, not only for financial reasons. As representatives of civil society, membership will be offered to international NGOs dealing with the same subjects, as well as to union organizations. The State and ministries have a special role: they are not only financial partners – they grant subsidies and offer the services of civil servants – but also one of the main beneficiaries of IDDRI's activities as a public negotiator and decision-maker. However, the State is not a member of the association and does not therefore contribute to its institutional governance. Consequently, it is essential to assure a regular link via other channels.

These priorities for IDDRI's development for the 2006-2008 period go hand in hand with the progressive establishment of an assessment mechanism. However, assessing the impact of an organization such as IDDRI – whose production is measured essentially in terms of influence, and which was created only recently – is no simple matter. Several paths may be explored in the light of, for example, practices implemented by organizations with similar objectives (qualitative surveys of beneficiaries, identifying relevant indicators and more detailed assessment of the impact of specific work). Quantitative and qualitative indicators have already been set up.

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