



FOCAL

ANNUAL REPORT

2003

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Message from the Chair

The year 2003 was a good one for FOCAL. The organization has become an increasingly recognized and valued part of the region's intellectual architecture. Recognition reflects continued high standards in the Policy Papers series, in FOCALPOINT, in the organization and level of seminars and workshops, and the leadership exercised by the Executive Director Don Mackay. In turn these are qualities that are reflected in an increased level of overall funding.

While our overall numbers are sound, the figures mask a fresh challenge. This is the withdrawal by DFAIT of the "core" component of their contributions. Although the total amount received from DFAIT remained at \$200,000 for the fiscal year, this amount was designated for project funding only—meaning that it could not be applied, as before to paying the rent, telephone, electricity, etc. With small margins on projects, the FOCAL team was able to cover these expenses and to subsidize FOCALPOINT which received no direct funding from DFAIT or CIDA.

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FOCAL receives funding from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and other public and private sector organizations. Project funding is also received from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the Ford Foundation and the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development (CCFPD). Other contributors included Industry Canada, Solicitor General, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. For the latest information about FOCAL's activities and publications, please visit our web site: www.focal.ca



FOCAL

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The strain on FOCAL was exasperated by the protracted negotiations with DFAIT on the new contribution agreement with the first cheque for the 2003/2004 fiscal year arriving only in November 4. I recognize that DFAIT was operating under strict new guidelines from Treasury Board and we are grateful for their perseverance within a new regulatory labyrinth. The good news is that the DFAIT funding has been extended for a 3-year period at \$200,000 per year and that in response to special pleading, DFAIT and CIDA have agreed not to conduct separate but overlapping audits, but to combine them as one audit.

A new development has been a contract with the Inter-American Foundation (IAF) to hire a specialist (or specialists) over a 2-year period. The IAF is a granting foundation established and funded by the U.S. Congress.

The Ford Foundation grant for the study of Cuba, which expired in the summer of 2003, has been renegotiated for a 2-year period from November 2003 at a 25% increase over the previous contract.

As a consequence of its pioneer involvement in Civil Society's approaches to the OAS, FOCAL was asked to participate in a series of Civil Society consultations leading to the Monterrey Special Summit.

FOCAL was heavily engaged in preparations for the FTAA Forum in Miami in November. FOCAL was a member of the core coordinating committee that convened the first meeting of the Americas Trade and Sustainable Development Forum. This was the first time that civil society organizations addressed the 34 Trade Ministers on equal footing as the private sector orientated Americas Business Forum.

For the first time FOCAL was invited to participate in regional elections by sending observers. Claudia Paguaga and myself took part in the first and second rounds of the Guatemala Elections in November and December.

FOCAL's signature product remains its research papers, now supplemented by the monthly publication of FOCALPOINT. In 2003 FOCAL published 10 policy papers. There has been a net increase in sustained website hits in 2003 over 2002, reflecting the continued expansion of interest in FOCAL products.



Chile's President Enrique Lagos examines FOCAL's latest Summit Follow-Up publication

Successfully projecting FOCAL's presence in the region was the internship program which placed 15 interns in 14 institutions in Bolivia, Costa Rica, The Dominican Republic, Belize, Chile, Ecuador, Peru and the United States (Washington). FOCAL appreciates that there is a rich return for Canada and for FOCAL itself on the investment in the internship program or Young Professionals International Program.

The most recent Board member, Michael Bell, received a warm welcome. A former Assistant Deputy Minister for Latin America and the Caribbean and former head of post in Peru, the Soviet Union and the Netherlands, he is a consultant with Justice Solutions Inc. in Ottawa. Michael also agreed to serve on the Board's Executive Committee as Secretary.

On behalf of my colleagues on the Board, I would like to express my gratitude to Don Mackay and to the staff of FOCAL for a first class performance over a challenging year.

John W. Graham

Executive Director's Message

The year 2003 was a busy and challenging year for the Foundation on a variety of fronts. In program terms, we were involved in a number of interesting and at times critical ventures in either a lead or supportive role. FOCAL's annual gathering of Hemispheric Experts was held in June and brought to Ottawa a number of leading thinkers with respect to developments in the Americas. The keynote speaker Dr. Jorge Quiroga, former President of Bolivia, underlined how much remained to be done by Latin American governments interested in addressing the issues of poverty and inequity. Later in the year, in November, FOCAL joined in a coalition of groups of civil society organizations who first sought and eventually gained a direct meeting with the 34 Minister of International Trade when they met in Miami for the FTAA Ministerial. The latter part of 2003 was also spent in preparation for the Special Summit of the Americas that was held in Monterrey, Mexico in January 2004. In particular, FOCAL worked closely with a number of other civil society groups from throughout the Americas to secure a voice for CSOs at the highest level of Summit decision-making. We also collaborated with the Canada's International Development Research Centre to arrange an important conference on hemispheric security issues that was held in Guatemala and which produced an outstanding report that has been favourably commented on by a number of readers. Towards the end of the year, FOCAL for the first time was an official observer and participant in the OAS Electoral Observation Mission for the elections in Guatemala. The experience taught us

some valuable lessons, which we hope to apply to future endeavours of this type. A total of 8 publications were issued under the Policy Paper series, including a growing number of publications issued in Spanish. FOCAL POINT: Spotlight on the Americas, our monthly newsletter filled with news and analysis continued to grow and to draw ever more readers and contributors as well. In addition, two Special Editions dealing with important thematic subjects were also released. The Summit Follow Up series saw the publication of a major piece of research dealing with civil society's engagement in the OAS. On other fronts, FOCAL was successful in negotiating a three-year contribution agreement with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and we also renewed—and expanded—out previous collaboration with the Ford Foundation and other financial supporters.

None of these accomplishments would have been possible without the dedication and hard work of FOCAL's staff—to whom I would like to extend my sincere appreciation. Our tasks are also lightened by the continued engagement of the Board of Directors and especially our energetic and constantly engaged Chair, Mr. John Graham. John's patience, guidance and always spot on advice are things on which I rely greatly. His generosity of spirit is willingly given and we are all the better off as a consequence.

Donald R. Mackay

FOCAL – A Policy Centre Focussing on the Latin American and Caribbean Region

The Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL) is an independent policy centre based in Ottawa that works to develop greater understanding of important issues in the Americas, and promotes hemispheric cooperation and integration. We engage in debate and dialogue with all participants in the policy community in Canada and throughout the Americas. FOCAL's discussions and in-house expertise result in policy papers and research papers that we bring to the attention of governments, international organizations, the private sector, the non-governmental community, the media and individuals at large.

Our policy analysis is focused on six main program areas:

Poverty and Inequality

We are concerned with the rate of poverty and inequity in the Americas. Our research and activities compare the impact and effectiveness of differing responses to the challenges of social development in the region.

Economic Development and Trade Integration

FOCAL examines trade and economic issues including the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and other sub-regional arrangements. The program also examines the impact of financial and trade flows, monetary and fiscal policies.

Governance and Democratic Development

FOCAL works to strengthen democratic governance in the Americas by studying state and institutional reforms, the evolving role of civil society, and the links between social and economic inequality and democratic governance.

Inter-American Relations

The major focus of this program is the analysis of Canada's foreign relations in the Inter-American context.

We pay special attention to the initiatives and activities of the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Summit of the Americas process.

North American Integration

Canada, the United States and Mexico are increasingly integrated across a range of areas beyond those represented by the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). FOCAL examines possible ways to further integration and their possible implications.

The Research Forum on Cuba

FOCAL fosters informed discussion and analysis on the immediate and long-term challenges facing Cuba and Canadian policy towards the island. FOCAL maintains a specialized website containing information on the program, electronic versions of our publications, and an annotated list of web links on Cuba at: www.cubasource.org. An electronic mailing list is available where subscribers can automatically receive all materials produced by the Research Forum on Cuba.

The Year in Review

The 33rd Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS)

The Organization of American States held its 33rd General Assembly in Santiago, Chile, on June 8-10, 2003. The Chilean hosts chose the theme of Democratic Governance in the Americas as the focus for this year's meeting and topic of discussion among the region's foreign ministers. The three-day proceedings also included an open meeting of the Summit Implementation Review Group, during which the Mexican delegation provided additional information on plans for the Special Summit of the Americas scheduled for January 2004. Delegates also participated in elections, appointing new members to both the Inter-American Commission and Court of Human Rights, the Justice Studies Center of the Americas, as well as additional administrative positions. The Chair of FOCAL's Board of Directors, John Graham, and analyst Laurie Cole attended on behalf of FOCAL.

On June 7th, prior to the OAS GA, FOCAL participated in a day-long "Civil Society and Governance" workshop at the FLACSO-Chile in conjunction with the Secretary General of the OAS and additional civil society partners in preparation for the recently formalized dialogue between civil society organizations and the region's foreign ministers to be held as part of the 33rd OAS GA. During this preparatory meeting, civil society organizations from across the hemisphere met to discuss the governance challenges facing the region and to generate a series of recommendations for the foreign ministers related to human rights, the implementation of Summit of the Americas mandates, as well as political party reform and access to information. FOCAL representatives participated actively in the day's events. John Graham, the Chair of the Board of Directors moderated a panel, and Laurie Cole presented a report on the status of civil society participation in the OAS (in Spanish, available at <http://www.focal.ca/english/oasga03.htm>), drawing on findings from Issue No. 2 of FOCAL's Summit Follow-up Series titled "Civil Society Participation in the Inter-American System: The Case of the Organization of American States."

The FLACSO working sessions produced 19 pages of recommendations for the 34 OAS member states, the highlights of which were presented to the OAS Secretary General and a number of the regions' foreign ministers during a two-hour informal dialogue session with civil society on June 8th. Civil society organizations were able to address the ministers on various issues, including the human rights situation throughout the region, the need for reform of political parties, as well as the challenges of civil society participation in the Summit of the Americas process. John Graham made an intervention on behalf of FOCAL, reminding ministers that the OAS faced a major financial crisis and that key programs of the organization valued by member states and NGOs alike are imperilled unless country subscriptions are increased, as requested by the Secretary General.

FOCAL Forum of Hemispheric Experts

FOCAL's Fourth Forum of Hemispheric Experts took place in Ottawa, on June 19, 2003. "A New Agenda for Latin America?" was the title of this year's conference, which was based on the premise that the region is at a turning point in its strategy for economic, social and political development. Discussions at the one-day meeting centred on three panels on "New directions in social policy making: integrating policies to address inequality, poverty and growth"; "Politics, governance and political reform"; and "Future directions for inter-American cooperation". Some of the topics discussed included recent trends in inequality, education and equity, priorities for institutional reform, politics of second-generation reforms, the Special Summit of the Americas (Monterrey, Mexico), the Inter-American Democracy Charter and current Canadian foreign policy towards Latin America.

The distinguished group of participants came from Canada, the United States and several Latin American countries, and included academics, representatives of non-governmental organizations, multilateral institutions, the private sector, and Canadian government officials, as well as FOCAL's Board of Directors and staff.

FOCAL was very pleased to host former Bolivian president Jorge Quiroga as keynote speaker during the luncheon. Mr. Quiroga, currently a Woodrow Wilson Center Public Policy Scholar, addressed our group on key challenges facing the Hemisphere.

A policy report based on discussions and conclusions of FOCAL's IV Forum of Hemispheric Experts is available at: http://www.focal.ca/images/pdf/Forum03_Report.pdf

The IX Annual Conférence de Montréal

FOCAL Panel on "Innovative Thinking and Change in Latin America"

FOCAL organized a panel on "Innovative Thinking and Change in Latin America" on May 7th as part of the IX Conférence de Montréal held May 5-8, 2003. The FOCAL panel included Marta Lagos, Director and Co-Founder of Latinobarómetro, the leading polling agency in Latin America; William F. Maloney, Lead Economist, Office of the Chief Economist for Latin America and Caribbean; Peter Hakim, President of the Inter-American Dialogue; and Barry Featherman, President and CEO of the Inter-American Economic Council. The panel was chaired by FOCAL's Executive Director Donald Mackay, and moderated by Jean-Louis Roy, President of Rights and Democracy. The panelists took on the debate about new directions in economic and social policy-making for a post-neoliberal Latin America. Themes addressed included investment in innovation and technology; public attitudes towards democracy and economic development; future prospects for private sector investment in the region; and the impact of U.S. foreign policy for growth and development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Americas Trade and Sustainable Development Forum

Miami was the focus of attention for Hemisphere the week of November 17 - 21 as it hosted the 8th Meeting of Trade Ministers towards the creation of a Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), the 8th gathering of the Americas Business Forum (ABF) and the first meeting of the Americas Trade and Sustainable Development Forum (ATSDF). It was the first time that a civil society forum was awarded equal status by a host country within a Ministerial Conference security

perimeter, securing a space to enable dialogue among non-governmental representatives, government officials, media, multilateral institutional officials, and private sector representatives. Approximately 300 participants, from 28 countries and representing 128 organizations, gathered for two days of discussions, along nine different thematic lines. The themes included public participation and access, environment, investment, agriculture, sustainable livelihoods, democracy, human rights, and corruption, in so far as their relation to free trade in the Americas.

FOCAL was pleased to be a member of the Core Coordinating Committee that convened the ATSDF, which culminated in a roundtable meeting with the assembled Trade Ministers of the 34 countries. The success of the ATSDF goes well beyond the Ministers' declaration, but it is important to note that there are significant victories in the Declaration that reflect the institutionalization of the ATSDF as a permanent fixture of the FTAA process, as well as the acceptance, with some caveats, of the ATSDF's overarching recommendation that a permanent consultative mechanism for civil society input be created within the institutional framework of the FTAA. FOCAL Executive Director, Don Mackay made a presentation and moderated two panel discussions during the course of the ATSDC, while FOCAL Senior Analyst Florencia Jubany, participated in several panels. A final report of the ATSDF is available at: http://www.focal.ca/images/pdf/atsdf_report.pdf

Meetings and Conferences

FOCAL provided many other opportunities for experts, decision makers and opinion leaders to meet and discuss current issues in Latin America and the Caribbean. Many of these events were undertaken with partners in Canada and abroad, and included the following. You may visit our website (www.focal.ca) for more information on these and other events:

- Meeting with Salvadoran Foreign Minister, January, Ottawa
- Panel with Brazilian Parliamentarians, January, Ottawa
- Brown Bag Discussion on the Political Crisis in Venezuela: Domestic and International Dimensions, January, Ottawa
- Discussion session with students from Upper Canada College, February,
- Cuban National Reconciliation: Presentation of the Report of the Working Group on Memory, Truth and Justice, June, Ottawa
- FOCAL Hosts Sir Fred Phillips (Special Constitutional Advisor to the Prime Minister of St. Kitts and Nevis), July, Ottawa
- Briefing on current developments in Mexico to the 2003 Junior Team Canada group, August, Ottawa
- Discussion Session with Panama's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Nivia Rossana Castrellón, March, Ottawa
- Crime in the Caribbean Basin: Policy Options for Transnational Crime, March, Ottawa
- Speakers Series on Judicial Independence in Argentina, April, Ottawa
- Discussion with Chilean Ambassador on FOCAL's Initiative for Civil Society Engagement at the OAS, April, Ottawa
- Roundtable on Recent Events in Cuba, April, Ottawa
- FOCAL Elected as Member of the Coordinating Group for the Inter-American Democracy Network, April
- FOCAL hosts Deputy Maria Marta Valladares (leader of the FMLN), September, Ottawa
- FOCAL Hosts Assistant US Secretary of State Roger Noriega, September, Ottawa
- FOCAL Speaker Series on Security in Latin America: Regional Priorities & Current Politics of the Colombian Conflict, October, Ottawa
- Roundtable with Dr. Jorge Chapper Pérez, Chair of the Chamber of Representatives of Uruguay, November, Ottawa
- FOCAL an International Observer in Guatemalan Elections, November, Guatemala
- FOCAL Joins Electoral Observation Mission to Guatemalan Second Round of Elections, December, Guatemala

Partnerships

FOCAL's expertise was also sought by numerous other organizations and individuals. Through ongoing collaboration with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), FOCAL was able to consolidate and expand its network of partners in 2003, working with a wide range of Canadian, U.S. and Latin American institutions, including:

Event	Host	Date & Place
From the Bottom Up: Globalization and the Challenge of Rural and Community Development	Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean (CERLAC), York University	January, Toronto
Symposium on "Perspectives on Social Inclusion"	Ryerson University	January, Toronto
The State of Democracy in South America	Ditchchley Park Foundations	January, England
Hemispheric Civil Society Conference	Centre for Developing Areas Studies, McGill University	February, Montreal
NGO Consultation on Human Rights	Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT)	February, Ottawa
Official meetings at the Organization of American States (OAS)	Organization of American States (OAS)	March, Washington D.C.
Latin American Studies Association XXIV Congress	The Latin American Studies Association (LASA)	March, Dallas, Texas
Spring Meeting of the North American Committee	National Planning Association	March, Washington D.C.
"Financing Democracy: Political Parties, Campaigns, and Elections"	The Carter Center, in collaboration with the OAS	March, Atlanta, Georgia
Consultation on Hemispheric Security, March, Ottawa	DFAIT	March, Ottawa
Briefing Session for participants to the Annual Model United Nations	Nicaraguan Consulate	March, Ottawa
Consultation Meeting about the Situation in Mexico	Rights and Democracy and <i>Alianza Civica</i>	March, Ottawa
FOCAL takes part in the first open session of the Summit Implementation Review Group	OAS	April, Washington D.C.
Meeting of the Regional Consultation Group on Migration (RCGM) and the VIII Regional Conference on Migration (RCM)	Mexican Government	May, Cancun, Mexico
Bringing Civil Society Closer to the Free Trade Area of the Americas Process	Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and the North South Center, University of Miami	May, Washington D.C.
Training and Technical Support for Central American Countries (Planning Meeting)	FOCAL, Centre for Trade Policy and Law (CTPL), and DFAIT	May, Ottawa

Event	Host	Date & Place
Inter Parliamentary Forum of the Americas	Canadian Parliament	May, Ottawa
"Investment in Developing Countries: Meeting the Human Rights Challenge"	Rights and Democracy	June, Montreal
Roundtable "The New Brazil"	Alternatives, the Fundação Perseu Abramo and DFAIT	June, Ottawa
"Rise of the New Left in Latin America"	<i>Université de Québec en Outaouais</i>	June, Montreal
<i>Foro Centroamericano sobre Seguridad</i>	Regional Coordination of Economic and Social Research (CRIES) and the Institute of Education for Sustainable Development (IEPADES) with the collaboration of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and DFAIT	July, Guatemala City
Family Remittances and their Potential for Community Development in Guatemala,	International Organization for Migration (IOM)	August, Guatemala City
Conference "Trade Negotiations in Agriculture: WTO, FTAA and a Future Common Agenda for Canada and Brazil"	Centre for Latin American Research of the University of Calgary	September, Calgary
Conflict and Peace in Colombia: Consequences and Perspectives for the Future	Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in conjunction with the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at the University of Notre Dame and <i>Fundación Ideas para la Paz</i>	September, Washington D.C.
Conference on International Migration in the Americas: Emerging Issues	CERLAC and the Latin American Faculty of Social Science (FLACSO-Dominican Republic)	September, Toronto
Working Session on Parties and Campaign Financing in Canada,	Inter-American Forum on Political Parties and Elections Canada	September, Ottawa
Remittances as a Development Tool in Central America: Empowering Micro-finance	Multilateral Investment Fund and the Inter-American Development Bank	September, Guatemala City
Social and Economic Research in Peru: Strengthening International Partnerships	Economic and Social Research Consortium (CIES) in Peru, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and IDRC	October, Ottawa
North-South Institute Round Table on "The Rise of Bilateralism"	North-South Institute	October, Ottawa
Wilton Park Conference on Business Ethics	Wilton Park, a division of the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office	October, London, UK
Multistakeholder roundtable discussion on the FTAA	DFAIT	October, Montreal

Event	Host	Date & Place
Regional Workshop on trade policy consultations	Centre for Trade Policy and Law (CTPL)	September / October, Panama
Regional Forum "Civil Society in the Process of Hemispheric Integration Within the Framework of the Special Summit of the Americas"	OAS Summit of the Americas Secretariat, with the Government of Mexico, PARTICIPA Corporation, CRIES, the Inter-American Democratic Network (RID), Partners for the Americas, <i>Alianza Civica</i> , the <i>Asociación Latinoamericana de Organizaciones de Promoción</i> (ALOP) and FOCAL	November, Mexico City, Mexico
Civil Society Meeting on Ratification by Canada of the American Convention on Human Rights (ACHR)	Amnesty International Canada and Rights and Democracy	November, Ottawa
Analyzing Citizenship in Latin American Democracies	Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars	November, Washington D.C.
Meeting of Experts on Democratic Governance	OAS	November, Washington D.C.
Conference "The World Trade System: Challenges and opportunities from the Development Perspective"	IDRC	November, Ottawa
6th Congress of Argentine's National Political Science Association	<i>Sociedad Argentina de Análisis Político (SAAP)</i>	November, Rosario, Argentina
Conference "Building the Americas"	<i>Université du Québec à Montréal</i>	November, Montréal
Migrants' Remittances from Canada: Developmental Impact and Potential	CIDA, DFAIT and Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC)	December, Ottawa
Roundtable on Colombia with James LeMoynes, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary General on Colombia	DFAIT	December, Ottawa
FOCAL's Presentation at the Summit Implementation Review Group	Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG OAS)	December, Washington, D.C.
Bi-annual Meeting of the Coordinating Group of the Inter-American Democracy Network	Inter-American Democracy Network	December, Buenos Aires, Argentina



Research Forum on Cuba

FOCAL's Research Forum on Cuba (RFC) is a program that fosters informed discussion on the immediate and long-term issues facing Cuba and Canadian policy towards the island. More information on this program and its activities, as well as annotated links to useful websites on Cuba and its international relations, are found on the Research Forum on Cuba's website (www.cubasource.org).

Some of the Forum's activities in 2003 included the publication of two Background Briefing papers on Cuba titled: "The European Union Perception of Cuba: From Frustration to Irritation;" and "Canada's Policy of Constructive Engagement with

Cuba: Past, Present and Future.” The program also released twelve monthly issues of its *Chronicle on Cuba*, which is a monthly chronology of top news items (and related web links) on Cuba produced by FOCAL. News items are grouped by key themes, including: Cuban domestic affairs, the economy, the exile community, foreign relations, security, terrorism and US-Cuba relations. Also, FOCAL launched its Spotlight on Cuba, which is an electronic bulletin designed to raise awareness and clarify developments on key topics related to Cuba as these unfold. The first of these bulletins—“Crackdown on Dissidents”—tracks relevant events since March 18, 2003, when the Cuban government issued an official statement announcing the arrest of a group of dissidents. In April, 75 dissidents advocating for political change through non-violent means were sent to jail for 6 to 28 years, accused of working with US diplomats to undermine the Cuban government. These and other information can be found on the regularly updated program's website.

FOCAL is grateful to the Ford Foundation and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) for supporting this program.

Publications

FOCAL's Policy Papers are concise, analytical pieces on issues and developments in the Latin American and Caribbean region and are provided to decision makers and opinion leaders in Canada and throughout the Hemisphere to contribute to policy development. Available free of charge at our web site (www.focal.ca), FOCAL Policy Papers and other publications in 2003 included:

The European Union Perception of Cuba: From Frustration to Irritation

Author: Joaquín Roy

RFC-03-2

ISBN: 1-896301-95-9

The Summit of the Americas Follow-up Series

Issue No. 2 - Civil Society Participation in the Inter-American System: The Case of the Organization of American States

Author: Laurie Cole

ISBN: 1-896301-93-2

Serie de Seguimiento de las Cumbres de las Américas Participación de la Sociedad Civil en el Sistema

Interamericano: La Organización de Estados Americanos

Author: Laurie Cole

ISBN: 1-896301-96-7

Canada's Policy of Constructive Engagement with Cuba: Past, Present and Future

Author: Cristina Warren

RFC-03-1

ISBN: 1-896301-92-4

Impacto de la emigración en la región del Caribe y de América Central

Author: Manuel Orozco

FPP-03-06

ISBN: 1-896301-91-6

Redefining Hemispheric Security After September 11

Authors: Juan Pablo Soriano and Don Mackay

FPP-03-05

ISBN: 1-896301-90-8

Surplus Values: The Americas at a Crossroads in the Corporate Social Responsibility Debate

Author: Paul Haslam

FPP-03-04

ISBN: 1-896301-89-4

The Impact of Migration in the Caribbean and Central American Region

Author: Manuel Orozco

FPP-03-03

ISBN: 1-896301-87-6

Argentina: Governance in Crisis

Author: Paul Haslam

FPP-03-02

ISBN: 1-896301-87-87

Mexique: l'art de la négociation politique

Author: Jean François Prud'homme

FPP-03-1

ISBN: 1-896301-86-X

"FOCAL POINT: Spotlight on the Americas" - ISSN 1703-7964

In August 2003, the Canadian Foundation for the Americas celebrated the first anniversary of its free monthly electronic newsletter (PDF format) that combines news and analysis about Latin America and the Caribbean: *FOCALPOINT: Spotlight on the Americas*.

Spotlight on the Americas represents diverse perspectives from government, academia, business and the non-profit sector. Using FOCAL's expanding electronic mailing database we distribute the newsletter to over 4000 decision makers, academics, journalists, professionals, students and the interested public at large in Canada and Latin America.

In 2003 FOCAL produced 12 issues of FOCAL POINT, including a Special Edition on the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), in anticipation for the 8th Ministerial that would take place in November in Miami. From time to time, we may issue a Special Edition as a particular topic becomes especially relevant.

We invite contributions (300-700 words) on contemporary events and issues that affect Latin America and the Caribbean. For a free subscription, or to inquire about writing an article, contact FOCAL at focal@focal.ca. All issues can be accessed under publications at www.focal.ca.

These and other publications used by FOCAL to inform decision makers and opinion leaders also include reports, comments and articles as well as past annual reports, all of which are available on our website at <http://www.focal.ca/english/publicat.htm>.

Youth International Internship Program

This was the fifth year of FOCAL's Internship Program, which is financed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) through the Youth Employment Strategy (YES) Program.

In September 2003, FOCAL sent fifteen interns to Washington, D.C. and Latin America to work in 14 intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in nine different countries. Twelve of our participants are now posted in Latin American countries and three are in Washington, D.C. until March 2004.

The interns were placed at several inter-American organizations including, the Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington, D.C.; the Inter-American Human Rights Institute (IHR) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in San José, Costa Rica; *Manos Libres* and, the Andean Community of Nations Secretariat (CAN) in Lima, Peru; the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America (UNDP) in Rocha, Uruguay; *Federación Latinoamericana de Ciudades (FLC)* in Quito, Ecuador; the Centre for Judicial Studies of the Americas and United Nations Development Program in Santiago, Chile; *Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales FLACSO* – in the Dominican Republic; *Centro Para la Participación y el Desarrollo Humano Sostenible (CEPAD)*, in Santa Cruz, Bolivia and the Human Rights Commission of Belize. The most important achievement of this year's project comes from having sent more than half of the participants to Latin American countries. These internship placements have reinforced and supports local entities in creating knowledge and solutions to the difficult environmental, development or human rights policy challenges in Latin America.

These new internship placements have paved the way for next year and are changing the focus of the FOCAL Internship Program. Sending young Canadian professionals to Latin American organizations creates personal ties among the hemispheric policy community and supports local entities in generating knowledge and solutions to tackle the difficult environmental, development or human rights policy challenges facing the region.

Further information about the program can be found on FOCAL's web site, www.focal.ca



Top row, from l. to r.: Gwen Hughes, Peter Murphy, Julia Paulson, Jessica Smith, Jennifer Holden, Tracy Fenwick, Domenic Salotti, Katie Tucker, Victor Chiasson-Lebel, Eric Verreault (FOCAL Intern Coordinator). Bottom row l. to r.: Nathalie Watts, Alexandra Armijo-Fortin, Karla Arias. Missing in this picture: Christian Baldizon, Lucy Gray-Donald, and Denisse Rudich.

2003 Board of Directors

Founded in 1990, the Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL) is an independent, not-for-profit charitable organization that is guided by a Board of Directors.

Executive Committee

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Elizabeth Spehar
Executive Coordinator, Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, Organization of American States

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Associate Vice-President (International), University of Alberta

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Ambassador & Permanent Representative of Canada to the Organization of American States

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Statement of Financial Position

	As at December 31	
	2003	2002
ASSETS		
Cash	\$337,361	\$94,612
Term deposits, 0.9% average rate maturing at various dates in 2004 (2002, 0.8%)	27,335	104,906
Amounts receivable	125,541	234,143
Prepaid expenses	11,691	11,781
	<u>\$501,928</u>	<u>\$445,442</u>
Capital assets	25,515	46,784
	<u>\$527,443</u>	<u>\$492,226</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$36,398	\$33,863
Deferred revenue	214,294	58,270
	<u>\$250,692</u>	<u>\$92,133</u>
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets	25,515	46,784
Unrestricted	251,236	353,309
	<u>276,751</u>	<u>400,093</u>
	<u>\$527,443</u>	<u>\$492,226</u>

Schedule of Project Revenues

	Year Ended December 31	
	2003	2002
Canadian International Development Agency	\$733,603	\$717,262
Centre for Trade Policy and Law	6,045	--
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade	290,371	242,583
Ford Foundation	26,682	64,734
Industry Canada	--	17,105
International Development Research Centre	61,882	61,152
International Institute for Sustainable Development	5,663	--
Organization of American States	--	18,410
Participa	8,386	--
Solicitor General	--	9,000
	<u>\$1,132,632</u>	<u>\$1,130,246</u>

Statement of Revenue and Expense and Changes in Net Assets

	Year Ended December 31	
	2003	2002
REVENUES		
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade - Core Funding	--	\$200,000
EHT Recovery	5,158	7,444
Interest income	2,144	7,884
Contribution in kind	102,016	67,250
Projects--Schedule	1,132,632	1,130,246
	\$1,241,950	\$1,345,574
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Amortization	\$24,493	\$29,745
Board and staff meetings	30,634	*34,541
Communications	8,767	12,274
Insurance	3,675	3,428
Lease and maintenance	79,305	112,169
Office	16,848	17,556
Printing	1,439	918
Professional fees and consultants	28,835	16,948
Salaries and benefits	682,355	684,269
Travel	1,783	726
	878,134	912,574
Less: Allocation to projects	(-715,065)	(-684,202)
	\$163,069	\$228,372
PROJECT EXPENSES		
Communication	\$22,122	\$23,726
Internships	231,517	133,426
Meeting and seminar logistics	18,418	27,619
Office	12,534	4,136
Partnerships	2,000	25,823
Postage and courier	7,572	16,200
Printing	11,106	38,868
Project consulting	67,038	73,607
Travel	114,851	156,013
	\$487,158	\$499,418
Add: Allocation of operating expenses to projects	715,065	684,202
	\$1,202,223	\$1,183,620
Total Expenses	\$1,202,223	\$1,183,620
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	(-123,342)	832

*Note: Restated due to in-kind contribution for the year 2002

These financial statements have been audited by McIntyre and McLarty LLP, Ottawa, Canada and were approved by FOCAL's Board of Directors on June 15, 2004