

JAN McHARRY

Biographical Summary

Jan is an independent consultant on sustainable development, local sustainability and waste and recycling issues. She has a diverse breadth of experience and contacts within this field and currently concentrates on research and information provision. Born in Dorset in May 1957, Jan holds a BA (Hons) in English and Geography (Oxford Polytechnic 1979) and a MSc in Rural and Regional Resources Planning (Aberdeen 1982). Prior to self-employment, Jan worked for Friends of the Earth UK as Information Officer (1987-1990) and FoE Recycling Information Officer (1985-1987). She is an Associate of the Community Development Foundation (CDF).

Project Evaluation – Sustainability and Environmental issues

Relevant experience in reviewing and evaluating local sustainability projects includes:

- **Project Associate**, Community Development Foundation. Project evaluation work contributing to 1) Evaluation of Barclay's SiteSavers Programme, for Groundwork UK (2003) and 2) Evaluation of the SEED Programme, New Opportunities Fund for RSNC (2003);
- **Independent external assessor** for the CRED (Community Recycling and Economic Development Programme), managed by RSNC as part of the New Opportunities Fund;
- **Project Associate**, Quest Environmental Development Ltd to the Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA) & DETR's (sic) Local Agenda 21 Case Studies Project Final year 2001. Work included selection, evaluation and writing up of 'good practice' local sustainability projects using specifically devised assessment criteria and sustainability checklists;
- **Steering Committee member** for above project 1997-2000, helping develop evaluation for case study identification;
- **Consultant** to the 1993-96 UNED UK / New Economics Foundation project for the Local Government Management Board (LGMB) / DETR on Sustainability Indicators. Jan played a leading role in this team, which undertook the UK's first project on local sustainability indicators. Work included devising criteria for measuring sustainable communities, trial sustainability indicators, assessment factors for pilot local authorities, and research on international indicators. Jan worked with 2 pilot authorities on baseline 'benchmarking', on devising local indicators, community consultation, testing indicators, and data analysis. Jan has subsequently worked on indicator projects, including urban sustainability and Gender Sensitive indicators; and
- **Project Assessor** for the Department of the Environment Environmental Action Fund (1997-98).

Research and Information

Jan is an experienced researcher with an ability to write for a wide range of audiences. Work has ranged from feasibility studies and local sustainability research projects to information and communications work. Examples include:

- **Co-ordination of technical enquiry unit** and preparation of 7 briefing sheets for Television Trust for the Environment 'City Life' multi-media initiative on the impact of urbanisation and globalisation upon people's lives. Topics included community participation and stakeholder involvement in decision-making processes. 2001;

- **Co-author & editor** (with Chris Church) One Small Step - A guide to action on sustainable development in the UK. Published by the Community Development Foundation. Dec. 1999;
- **Project Consultant**, BioRegional Development Group: Research for Graphics Paper Recycling Feasibility Study. Desk and field research into potential of increased recovery, surveys of key stakeholders, good practice procurement guidelines, data collation and report preparation. 2001-2.
- **Project Consultant**, United Nations Environment and Development Forum (UNED Forum UK) and co-author, Multi-Stakeholder Processes for Governance and Sustainability: Beyond Deadlock and Conflict (Earthscan Books, 2001). Project evaluation and preparation of good practice case study material from questionnaires and telephone interviews.
- **Project Consultant**, Stakeholder Forum for our Common Future. Work on a joint book project with the Commonwealth Secretariat focused on a plain language guide to the UN Johannesburg Plan of Implementation from the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development. Co-author of the forthcoming book to be published by Earthscan Books, early 2004.

Project Development

Jan has been involved in the development of relevant local sustainability projects mentioned throughout this CV and has direct experience of running a Government grant-funded project. Examples include:

- **Project Development Consultant** to Thames and Central Energy Efficiency Advice Centre on fundraising and development of new work programmes (2002 - ongoing);
- Development Consultant, National Recycling Forum (1992-1998) & Buy Recycled **Programme Co-ordinator** (1995 -1998) & Co-author of NRF & Waste Watch's 'UK Recycled Products Guide' (1998) and Buy Recycled Web Site;

Other work on sustainability and environmental issues in the UK

Jan's experience covers a diverse range of projects linked to Local Agenda 21 programmes, greening the environment, and sustainable resource management and consumption issues, including:

- Research on identifying and mapping sustainability and environmental networks for the Improvement and Development Agency (local government) 2003;
- Contribution of a research paper and presentation, including facilitation for an EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council) seminar on waste and recycling (2003);
- Managing the UK Habitat Conference 2001 for the Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions;
- Local Agenda 21 work for authorities including Brentwood BC, LB Hammersmith and Fulham, Haringey and Redbridge;
- Editing a quarterly newsletter for the Environmental Bodies' Council (ebco, User Group for Landfill Tax Credits Scheme);
- Co-author of a handbook for Going for Green/ENCAMS: on making communities and neighbourhoods more sustainable;
- Project Co-ordinator and Editor for 'Recycling Works!', A compilation of case studies and commentary highlighting the employment, economic and environmental benefits from improved resource use, for Community Recycling Network/Friends of the Earth(1998);

- Researching and writing a Waste Education Pack for Hertfordshire County Council & Districts; Writing the Local Authority 'Buy Recycled Campaign' material 1998;
- Co-authoring 'Good Practice in Sustainable Development Manual' for W.S. Atkins (for a Romanian audience) 1999; and
- Editorial work on translated material for TACIS on 'Saving our Planet, Fixing our Home' – case studies from NIS non-governmental organisations 1999.

In the run up to the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development Jan was a consultant to Stakeholder Forum for Our Common Future (formerly UNED UK). Work included: drafting briefing papers on Health, Food and Sustainable Tourism and moderating a one month online international debate on 'Disaster Reduction and Sustainable Development' for the UN International Secretariat for Disaster Reduction, in collaboration with Stakeholder Forum. She is a co-author of a forthcoming book – a Plain Language Guide on the Summit's outcomes (to be published by Earthscan early 2004).

Other information

Jan McHarry lives in Hackney, East London. As a local citizen, Jan has been involved in practical environmental / sustainability initiatives since the mid 1970's. She is author of 'Reuse, Repair, Recycle' (Gaia Books 1993 + international editions) and 'The Great Recycling Adventure' (Marshall Editions 1994, for children).

At various times Jan has been a Trustee of StudentForce for Sustainability, the ECO Information Trust, and the Women's Environmental Network (WEN).

She is a practising Western Buddhist with a particular interest in the links between Buddhist practice and ecology in action. She is a founder member of the PS Buddhist Ecopractice Network.

Contact details: Jan McHarry. PO Box 893, London E5 9RU.
 Tel: 020 8806 3299 Fax: 020 8806 1836 Mobile: 07947 661108
 Email: jmcharry@earthsummit2002.org (also: jmcharry@stakeholderforum.org)