

Summary of keynote speakers

- **Sir Richard Jolly**, Chair of the Water Supply and Sanitation. Collaborative Council, will put the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDG) for water and sanitation into an historical perspective. He has a.o. been working for UNICEF, and as author of the Human Development Reports. In 1999 Richard Jolly has been awarded the Rome Prize for Peace and Humanitarian Action for his debt relief work in UNDP.

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- **Sam Pitroda**, information technology guru and chairman and CEO of the London-based WorldTel, will present Seeking a quantum leap: “Tying information technology with development work.” WorldTel is an organisation set up by the International Telecommunications Union committed to developing communications infrastructures on a commercial basis in the Third World. Mr. Pitroda is also founder of several companies in Europe and North America and the first chairman of India's Telecom Commission.

- **Dave Snowden** is Director of IBM's Cynefin Centre for Organisational Complexity, which focuses on the application of complexity theory to organizational issues. A native of Wales, he was formerly a Director in the Institute for Knowledge Management where he led programmes on complexity and narrative. He pioneered the use of narrative as a means of knowledge disclosure and cross-cultural understanding. Subsequently he has worked on the integration of learning and knowledge using models derived from complexity science. This has resulted in pragmatic techniques the simulation of social networks, Just-in Time Knowledge management, oral history as an alternative to Intellectual Capital Management Systems and the integration of complexity and narrative models into advanced decision support tools for strategy formation, scenario planning, innovation, branding and cultural change/integration.

With others, he is currently working on a major research programme under DARPA funding, looking at both policy formation and operational strategy for asymmetric threat as part of a general programme on anti-terrorism. One of the outputs of this work is a radical new approach to strategy in organisations which is now being adopted commercially. The Cynefin model which lies at the heart of the approach has been recognised by several commentators as one of the first practical application of complexity theory to management science and builds on earlier pioneering work in Knowledge Management.

Dave Snowden has an MBA from Middlesex University and a BA in Philosophy from Lancaster University. He is adjunct Professor of Knowledge Management at the University of Canberra, an honorary fellow in knowledge management at the University of Warwick and teaches on the MBA programmes at Warwick, Sophia Antipolis and Piacenza. He regularly consults at the board level with some of the world's largest companies as well as to Government and NGOs. In addition he sits on a number of advisory and other bodies including the British Standards Institute committee on standards for Knowledge Management.

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- **Jasveen Jairat**, SaciWATERS and CAPNET will present a paper on ‘What are capacities and incentives to use information’. She is a Water and Gender Specialist with a Ph.D from the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India (1984). Project Director, since, (2001-) SaciWATERS (South Asia Consortium of Interdisciplinary Water Resources Studies), Indo-Dutch project based in Hyderabad, India but with a South Asia mandate to promote Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). The work

involved starting and establishing the project, designing, overseeing and executing its activities for promoting IWRM in South Asia through advocacy and networking, research, and capacity building with a prominence on gender issues. To promote interdisciplinary perspective on water with an emphasis on social and institutional issues in integration with technical parameters in South Asia is the hallmark of the project. Before that Ms. Jasveen Jairath acted as a Consultant for various international organizations.

[\[read the paper\]](#)

- **Ir. Atem S. Ramsundersingh** is Programme Director of the UNESCO-IHE Partnership for Water Education and Research (PoWER) since 1 January 2002, after having served as Head of the Project Office for 11 years. He is currently responsible for the initiation and management of activities aiming at transforming the UNESCO-IHE institute into a knowledge centre that operates innovatively and in close collaboration with partners in the 'North' and 'South'; this includes the establishment of a well-functioning Partnership governance system, development and innovation of knowledge and learning systems, and connecting collaborative partners through effective and efficient information and communication technologies and protocols.

- **Mr. G.A. (Ton) Boon von Ochssée** is since July 2003 Ambassador for Sustainable Development And Chairman of the inter ministerial Task Force Johannesburg of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Before that he coordinated at the GEF Secretariat efforts with the Implementing Agencies, UNDP, UNEP and the World Bank to strengthen member country involvement in the GEF. He prepared policy conclusions for the GEF Council and conducted consultations with the Implementing Agencies in the formulation of strategies, business plans and action plans. In the period 2000-2002 he coordinated the GEF involvement in the preparation of the World Summit which took place in Johannesburg, September 2002.

From 1995-1999 he was advisor on policies related to Climate Change/ Ozone Depletion at Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He developed at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS) in the Hague a Climate Change Study Programme for Developing Countries. He participated in the negotiations to implement the Climate Change Convention and in the negotiations leading to the Kyoto Protocol in 1997.

Before that he was posted as a foreign service career officer at the Netherlands Consulate- General in Chicago (US), and at Embassies in Kinshasa, Riyadh and Tunis. In 1984-1987 desk-officer at the Ministry at the Directorate for Economic Co-operation. From 1979-1981 he was with UN-FAO, as Environmental Toxicologist involved in applied research program of FAO and WHO, in Zambia and Burkina Faso.

- **Jan Teun Visscher**, MSc (Delft) (Netherlands) Has been with IRC for 20 years in different capacities including being Director from April 1997 to February 2003. Now Senior Advisor, partly on sabbatical leave for PhD work on enhancing the efficiency of knowledge sharing. He is a sanitary engineer specializing in knowledge sharing, environmental issues, community management, monitoring and evaluation, technology sharing, multi-stage filtration (slow sand filtration and pre-treatment of surface and ground water), handpumps (both technical and non-technical aspects), alternative energy for pumping drinking water and capacity building. He has worked in India, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Sudan and the Netherlands. He has published a wide range of articles and is co-author of several IRC publications in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

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