

iAM e-Magazine: ideas, actions, movements

PERSPECTIVES ON GLOBAL CHANGE

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Ontario Council for International Cooperation (OCIC) is inviting submissions for its e-magazine on international cooperation issues to be published in March 2011. Join OCIC in its vision to promote global social justice, human dignity and participation for all. This is your opportunity to share your experiences, ideas, tools and have your voice heard by future practitioners in the international cooperation sector.

iAM is an e-magazine published by the Ontario Council for International Cooperation (OCIC) that promotes an increased awareness and understanding of global issues. *iAM* encourages critical thinking and presents new perspectives from a variety of actors, through articles, photo essays, podcasts, music, videos and more. The e-magazine examines how theory and action intersect, looks at how to put reflection into practice, and brings marginalized voices from around the world to the fore in the name of global social justice, human dignity and participation for all.

The e-magazine will provide OCIC members, key stakeholders and the public at large with a platform to share and disseminate information that encourages broader audiences to become aware and active in global issues. It is primarily intended to enrich the learning of post-secondary students.

SUBMISSIONS

We are looking for thought-provoking, challenging and engaging submissions for potential future international cooperation practitioners. Submissions should inspire critical thinking and reflective practice and represent diverse perspectives.

OCIC highly encourages submissions that are creative in approach, style and presentation including a variety of formats from creative writing to case studies and photo essays to video interviews. Contributions should be accessible, meaningful and useful to post-secondary students interested in global issues and international cooperation. Examples of themes include, but are not limited to:

“SMALL VOICES”

OCIC is seeking to explore the concept of “small is beautiful” in international development work. We are looking for real world stories and examples where small means lead to extraordinarily satisfactory results in international development work. This could be in contrast to “bigger is better”, and it could be through unconventional means. Some sample questions to consider:

- What are some meaningful development outcomes that were achieved through small, appropriate inputs?
- When grassroots initiatives are effective, what happens when they are taken large-scale?
- When is small most effective vs. large development initiatives?
- Unconventional ideas to development (i.e. how can the rest save the west? development initiatives for the developed world?)

“CONNECTING VOICES”

This theme will investigate the ideas of how development projects contribute towards connecting people and communities—whether this is through technology or more traditional means. Some sample questions to consider:

- What does meaningful “connection” look like in international development?
- Does technology contribute to or detract from people and communities connecting with each other?
- In our globalized societies with modern technologies, how do traditional forms of communication exist alongside of modern technology such as social media?
- What is social media’s effect on social change?

“EMERGING VOICES”

We would like to hear about the questions, concerns, thoughts – voices – of young people on international development and cooperation. What are some real world examples that youth are most concerned with in the world today. Some sample questions to consider:

- What global issues are youth around the world working on?
- What messages do children and/or youth want adults to hear, to understand regarding their future?
- What are priorities for children and/or youth by children and/or youth?

“VETERAN VOICES”

What do people who have been involved in and/or working in international development and cooperation for quite some time want to share? Insights, best practices, experiences, etc.

- What are the biggest challenges that you’ve faced in your experience and how did you overcome them?
- What would you have done differently in your international development career, if you were given a chance to start again?
- Who or what were the most significant influencers in your international development career?
- What are some of the tools that you’ve used as a development practitioner that you value the most?

“OPPOSING VOICES”

In this space we would like to explore more contentious issues from different and perhaps opposing perspectives. The kind of topics we are looking for include the following:

- Militarization of aid or development
- Corporate social responsibility – involving corporations in development projects
- What is peacekeeping in this century?

OTHER IDEAS?

Please feel free to query us for more information. If you have an idea or media form that doesn’t fit within the above parameters, please feel free to pitch your idea to us.

HOW TO SUBMIT

Please send ideas and/or full-length submissions along with a brief bio of the author(s) and/or organizational profile(s) if applicable to public.engagement@ocic.on.ca.

Idea pitches should be a maximum of 200 words describing the proposed content for the piece including main ideas and arguments. Please submit idea pitches well in advance to the final submission deadline of Friday, October 15th, 2010. Visual submissions can include descriptive text as well as links to existing works to be included in the proposed submission. Please note that video submissions are welcomed in the form of YouTube links; however, for technical reasons we cannot accept Vimeo links.

All submissions will be accepted and responded to by e-mail on a continuous basis until the date of final submissions of full pieces on Friday, October 15th, 2010. Submissions will be reviewed by OCIC's Journal Editorial Board for approval. To see detailed submission guidelines please [click here](#).

OCIC works within an anti-oppression framework. We strongly encourage submissions from all persons regardless of age, race, colour, culture, ethnicity, language, ability, socio-economic class, ancestry, gender identity and expression, sexuality, family or marital status, number of dependents and residency/migratory status.