Development Research Centre on Citizenship, Participation and Accountability

Annual Report

September 2003

Institute of Development Studies
(University of Sussex, UK)

Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies
(Bangladesh)

Centro Brasileiro de Análise e Planejamento
(Brazil)

Society for Participatory Research in Asia
(India)

Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México / **Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana – Xochimilco**
(Mexico)

Theatre for Development Centre
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Centre for Southern African Studies / **School of Government**
(University of the Western Cape, South Africa)

Table of Contents

Development Research Centre on

Citizenship, Participation and Accountability

Annual Report 2003

1   Introduction and General Overview

The Development Research Centre on Citizenship, Participation and Accountability (Citizenship DRC) is a consortium formed by the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) with partners from the South. It is supported by funding from the UK Department for International Development (DFID), with additional funding from the Rockefeller Foundation for linking North-South experiences and research.

The concerns of this Centre are critical ones. If poverty is to be alleviated, new attention must be paid to the relationships between poor people and the institutions which affect their lives. To do so requires re-examining in differing contexts contemporary understandings of rights and citizenship and their implications for related issues of participation and accountability.

The Citizenship DRC addresses these issues through a combined approach of research, capacity building, dissemination and policy influence. In so doing, the Centre brings together a network that involves researchers from the Participation, Governance, Environment and Social Policy teams within the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex, as well as from key research institutions in six countries. These include:

- Bangladesh - Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)
- Brazil - *Centro Brasileiro de Análise e Planejamento* (CEBRAP)
- India - Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA)
- Mexico - *Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México* (IIS/UNAM), with partners from the *Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana* (UAM) and the NGO network *Coalición de Organizaciones para el Desarollo Sustentable del Sur de Veracruz* (CODESUVER)
- Nigeria - Theatre for Development Center at Ahmadu Bello University (TFDC/ABU)
- South Africa - an interdisciplinary group from the University of Western Cape (UWC), convened by the Center for Southern African Studies (CSAS), within the School of Government (SoG).

The Centre's research programme emphasises collaborative work across national, institutional and disciplinary boundaries. In all, some 50 researchers are directly involved in DRC projects, and many more academics, activists and policymakers participate in consultative groups or capacity-building and exchange programs.

Funded initially for a five-year period (2000-2005), the Citizenship DRC has based its planning on a series of two-year cycles of activity and reflection. The first of these cycles, DRC Phase II, formally began in July 2001, and built upon the inception period (DRC Phase I) which began in October 2000.

This report covers the second year of Phase II, focusing on the period August 2002-July 2003. During this period, in addition to completing the projects for Phase II of the work, the Citizenship DRC carried out an intense planning process for Phase III of its work, from 2003-2005. The plans for Phase III are presented in a separate document.

1.1   Goals and Strategy

In general, the Citizenship DRC aims to analyse and explore three core concepts of a rights-based approach - inclusive citizenship, participation, and accountability - across differing contexts, types of rights, and levels and arenas of citizen engagement. The involvement of researchers from six countries - each of which is a site of important debates around the Citizenship DRC themes - and involvement of four different teams from IDS offers a rare opportunity to approach these questions across countries, disciplines, and sectors. By taking a multidimensional and multidisciplinary approach, and by starting with the perceptions of poor people themselves, it is hoped that the Centre's work will help to make the rights-based framework more robust and relevant. By exploring these themes through conceptual and empirical work, the Centre also aims to contribute to a practical understanding for how a rights-based approach can best be used to contribute to the elimination of poverty through constructing new relationships between poor people and the institutions and policies that affect their lives.

During this second half of Phase II, the agenda has moved forward in a number of ways, each of which shall be described more in depth in the following report. The following are some highlights.

Research programme: Work continued, and in most cases was completed, on over 20 research projects in partner countries and at IDS. These are clustered in three Working Groups around:

1) Meanings and Expressions of Rights and Citizenship (Working Group 1)
2) Spaces, Places and Dynamics of Citizen Participation (Working Group 2)
3) Changing Accountabilities and Responsibilities (Working Group 3)

In addition, a separate group linked to the first theme has focused on issues of Science and Citizenship. Each of these Working Groups has met at least once over the last year in international workshops to share and consolidate findings, to synthesise the results, and to think about future directions in Phase III (see timeline on the following page).

Through all of this work, the Citizenship DRC works to bring empirically grounded research on how rights and citizenship are experienced by the poor into the debate on how to reduce poverty. By examining what citizenship and rights means for the poor, the spaces and places marginalised and excluded groups create and/or employ to participate in governance, and the accountability relationships necessary to realise rights, the Citizenship DRC has identified some important lessons for effective development practice.

Much of this work will come together in a five or six volume special series on citizenship, to be published by Zed books, with John Gaventa, DRC director serving as series editor. Each Working Group will coordinate a volume, with the convenors serving as editors. (See Section 3.3.2).

In addition to preparations for the Zed series, other research outputs during the last year have been numerous. These include a draft book length manuscript in Nigeria, five peer reviewed journal articles, 14 Working Papers published by IDS, UWC (South Africa) and in Spanish by IIS/UNAM (Mexico), and some two dozen research reports, conference presentations, newspaper articles, and videos (see Annex 1: Output mapping).

DRC Key Activities Timeline (August 2002 – July 2003)
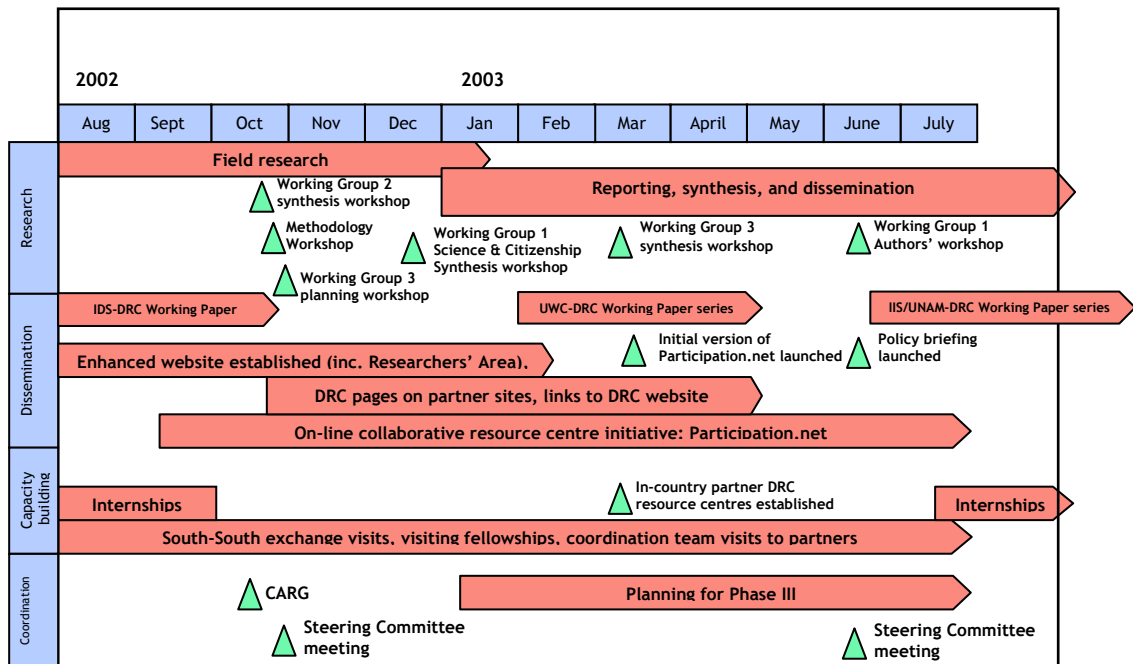
Mutual capacity building and research support: Closely related to the research objectives of the DRC, other initiatives serve to strengthen the research capacity of all of its researchers. An active research support team based at IDS has worked facilitated the following endeavours; resource centres have been supported in each partner country; a pass-word protected area on the website provides searchable bibliographic services for all researchers; and information and support with readings and translation in English, Spanish and Portuguese are offered. Through our ongoing programme of exchange visits, during the year we supported four visiting fellowships by Southern researchers to IDS, seven visits of Northern researchers to dialogue with and support partners, and seven research internships which allowed IDS students to work with southern partners in researching topics which they, the partners, had identified as important to them. In addition, special attention has been paid to reflecting on the methodological and ethical issues involved in researching citizenship and on how equitable partnerships are built and sustained.

Dissemination and policy influence: During the latter part of Phase II, increased attention was paid to dissemination of research results and policy influence strategies. Key activities included:

- Launch of the new public DRC website in February of 2003, which received almost 40,000 hits in its first six months;
- Pilot development of Participation.net, an innovative and broad-based on-line resource on citizenship, participation and local governance, developed in collaboration with Logolink, the Participation Resource Centre and ELDIS at IDS.
- Publication of a policy briefing on rights based approaches, 'The Rise of Rights', prepared by Rosalind Eyben. Printed copies have been distributed to some 6,000 people in English and a Spanish version is currently being printed.
- Consultations to share research results with multiple audiences, ranging from the UK Parliament, the Cabinet Office and international donors, to national and local officials.

2 Centre Management Strategy

2.1   New Initiatives

In general, the progress in each of the above areas has helped to achieve most of the milestones provided in the May 2001 proposal for Phase II. However, there have been some important strategic changes, many of which have arisen from direct input from our Centre Advisory Review Group (CARG) in October 2002, from Steering Committee meetings, from partner requests, and from our own experience in learning to manage a large and complex programme. These changes have included:

- *More emphasis on synthesis and common questions*: Following advice from the October CARG meeting, much more emphasis has been put on programmatic work in the next phase which is structured around common questions, deepening the work begun in the previous phase, and leading to more opportunities for synthesis. The core ideas for Phase III were developed in a six-month iterative planning process, in which each working group and individual researcher had the opportunity to reflect upon key questions and to make proposals for future directions. This led to the evolution of three research programmes for the next phase made up of projects situated in DRC countries, but guided by common sets of intellectual questions developed by all programme researchers (see Phase III workplan).

- *South-North exchange and comparisons*: Following requests from Southern partners, additional funds have been raised to allow more comparative understanding of how issues of rights, citizenship, participation and accountability are understood in marginalised communities of the North as well as the South. A $100,000 grant from the Rockefeller Foundation enables inclusion of Northern participants in DRC events, allows Southern researchers to visit the North to compare their experiences and work, and supports Northern dissemination of findings. Researchers working on issues in the North have, for instance, participated in key workshops this year, and will also contribute

chapters to the Zed volumes, offering a rare opportunity for comparative North-South experiences.

- *More strategic dissemination:* Following the CARG's advice to adopt a more strategic and proactive approach to dissemination, work has begun to develop a more robust dissemination strategy, as well as to distribute findings to policy makers at a number of levels and in a variety of forms. In addition to broad electronic dissemination and development of the Zed book series, Citizenship DRC researchers are reaching local and national audiences through a diversity of ways, including local-level participatory and feedback workshops as well as newspaper articles and radio interviews.

2.2   Partnership Building

Throughout all of our work, we have put a great deal of emphasis on building collaborative partnership arrangements, at various levels, including between IDS and our Southern partners, as well as amongst the partners themselves. Partners are consulted at every stage in the planning process, and, through the Steering Committee, on all major decisions. In addition, we have taken time within our processes to reflect together on ways of strengthening our communication, on how research partnerships are built amongst ourselves, as well as with those involved with and participating in research. Partners also participate with each other through peer review of work, Authors' workshops and South-South exchanges. International meetings are now largely hosted by partners, with meetings thus far held in Bangladesh, India, South Africa and Mexico, with Brazil and Nigeria to participate in the next phase. These rotating meetings have been a valuable way to build participation in the network.

Evaluations and feedback at each meeting seem to suggest the gradual emergence of a strongly collaborative network, in which a high degree of trust has been achieved. Perhaps the best indication of this was the unanimous support and approval by the Steering Committee of the plans for the next phase, and a high degree of support for the Coordination and Research Support Team in how it was using and allocating resources, all of which is shared with the partners in a transparent way. Every partner was keen to participate in the upcoming phase.

Two areas of the partnership building have been of particular interest:

- *South-South exchanges:* In the previous phase, resources were set aside for partners to visit other partners in order to share experiences and develop collaborative projects. Surprisingly, these were not called upon, largely because of the busy schedules of all partners, and because it has taken time for cross-partner collaboration to emerge. Such South-South collaborations are now being proposed by the partners for the next phase, however fewer resources are available to facilitate the exchanges.

- *Reflections on our own practice*. At the previous CARG meeting, one of the members encouraged us to see this process as a "microcosm of deliberative democracy that is worth reflecting upon and documenting". This has led to a cross-cutting theme of work on 'Researching Citizenship and Democratising Research', in which themes such as partnership building are explored. Partnership has included not only how the DRC institutional partners work

together but also the larger question of how researchers engage with practitioners, and with what ethical responsibilities. In February 2003, PRIA, for instance, sponsored a half-day forum as part of a larger conference on governance and citizenship on the theme of practitioner–researcher engagement in citizenship research.

2.3   Governance

There are three main elements contributing to the governance of the Citizenship DRC's. The Steering Committee, consisting of one representative from each of the seven partner organisations, is the primary forum through which partner organisations participate in the governance of the DRC. Partner representatives were also invited to attend the first CARG meeting – the advisory review group - in October 2002. Furthermore, the Coordination Team has continued to ensure continued long distance two-way information flow and discussion of internal DRC governance issues with partners through visits, as well as electronic and telephone communication.

2.3.1 Steering Committee

The Citizenship DRC's Steering Committee met twice over the course of the year. In October their discussions centred around guidelines on DRC publication policy and on accessing North-South exchange funds for comparative research. The IDS-based and in-country resource centres, the Centre's electronic communication strategy and more broadly, its overall dissemination strategy and policy influence were also discussed during this first meeting.

Discussions on Phase III planning continued into the Cape Town Steering Committee meeting in South Africa, in June 2003. Iterative, long distance dialogue between DRC partners culminated in successful and fruitful discussions that led to the establishment of three comparative research programmes guided by common questions that define Phase III. (See Phase III workplan).

Table 1: Governance milestones and progress

Governance Milestones	Progress activity	Organiser, location	Date
CARG	Annual review and report to CARG completed	Coordination Team, IDS	July-October 2002
	Meeting of DRC partners and CARG members	Coordination Team, IDS	October 2002
Steering Committee	Steering Committee meeting at IDS, UK	Coordination Team, IDS	October 2002
	Steering Committee Phase III Planning meeting in Cape Town, South Africa	Coordination Team, IDS, UK and UWC, South Africa	June 2003

2.4   CARG

The Citizenship DRC's Centre Advisory and Review Group (CARG) has served to advise the Centre's intellectual development, its capacity building and partnership

processes, and its efforts at linking research concepts with practical on-the-ground work and/ or policy influence. The CARG's meeting on 21 October 2002 at IDS was seen as an opportunity to unite and hear perspectives from academics and practitioners from a diverse range of institutions internal and external to the DRC, and from both the North and the South. In addition to DFID representatives Paul Spray and Jennifer Leith, external advisors, Citizenship DRC Country Convenors and the Centre's Coordination Team also participated in the meeting.

A number of suggestions from the CARG meeting in October 2002 have been incorporated in the work this year and the plans for the next phase. These have included more attention to synthesis; deepening common questions in a more comparative framework; development of an overall dissemination strategy; and reflecting on the DRC itself as a microcosm of building partnerships (see section 2.1). As seen in the accompanying Phase III Work Plan, each of these suggestions have been addressed more fully.

Table 2: Citizenship DRC CARG Members and meeting participants

Name	Institutional affiliation	CARG role
Members		
BK Joshi	India	External advisor
Jennifer Leith	Social Development Department, DFID	DFID advisor
Ruth Lister	Loughborough University, UK	External advisor
Mark Robinson	Governance Team, IDS	External advisor
Paul Spray	Social Science Research Unit, DFID	DFID advisor
Neil Stammers	University of Sussex	External advisor
Participants		
Oga Steve Abah	TFDC, Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria	Country convenor
John Gaventa	Citizenship DRC Coordination Team, IDS	Director
Alexandra Hughes	Citizenship DRC Coordination Team, IDS	Coordination and Research Assistant
Harsh Jaitli	PRIA, India	Acting country convenor
Simeen Mahmud	BIDS, Bangladesh	Country convenor
Luisa Pare	IIS/ UNAM, Mexico	Country convenor
Vera Schattan	CEBRAP, Brazil	Country convenor
Alex Shankland	Citizenship DRC Coordination Team, IDS	Research Manager
Lisa Thompson	SoG/UWC, South Africa	Country convenor

3   Annual Objectives and Outputs

Overall, as mentioned earlier, the milestones and outputs anticipated for Phase II of the research have been successfully completed. In this section, this report will look more closely at the specific outputs related to the research programmes, the capacity building agenda and the dissemination and policy influence initiatives.

3.1 Research Objectives and Outputs

3.1.1 Working Group 1: Meanings and Expressions of Rights and Citizenship

While a great deal of conceptual work has been done on the nature of rights and the definitions of citizenship, there has been little work within development that explores how poor people perceive their citizenship rights, and how they act on these perceptions in different settings.

Working Group 1 drew upon empirical findings on the meanings and expressions of rights and citizenship by the poor to challenge existing conceptual debates on these issues.

One of the key findings emerging from this working group is that real citizenship and rights are not goal posts at which the poor arrive, but a process of becoming through struggles over the meaning and the implementation of rights and citizenship. As the poor struggle to make their citizenship real, they recast both formal definitions of rights, and the lines of accountability that ensure these rights are implemented.. A better understanding of the perceptions of poor, marginalised and excluded groups of their citizenship—and the space for these groups to participate in how rights and citizenship are defined—is essential to formulating development policy that has a lasting impact on poverty.

> **Redefining citizenship for women in Bangladesh**
>
> *Neither political parties nor development programmes spoke to our needs as women or our expectations as citizens...nor...to our visions and aspirations as human beings and people...We mattered only in so far as we were potential voters or only in our role as mothers and carers of families and households…, the unofficial paramedics, and the non-formal educators…But in either case our issues and problems were subsidiary to the more important issues at hand—of state power and rule and of the problem which had been assigned a top priority in a country like Bangladesh—poverty 'alleviation'.*
>
> *Naripokkho's [a Bangladeshi NGO] starting point was the assertion of women as individuals. The sharing of experiences of discrimination, of neglect, and of violence enabled a sense of ourselves not only as individuals, but as persons deserving respect, dignity, and fair and just treatment. In demanding fairness and justice, we learnt to see ourselves as citizens with rights that form the basis for our claims on the state, on our communities, and on our families.*
>
> — *Shireen Huq, Citizenship DRC researcher, Naripoko, Bangladesh*

Table 3: Working Group 1 projects on 'Meanings and Expressions of Rights and Citizenship'

Project	Lead researcher(s)/ institution/ country	Objectives	Key Activities/ Output(s) to July 2003*
Theme convening: Meanings and Expressions of Rights and Citizenship	**Naila Kabeer, IDS, UK**	**To convene and support processes of conceptual and comparative exchange within the thematic working group**	*Publications*: **Zed book V.1, Editor (drafts)** *Workshops*: **Authors' workshop 06/03**
Towards an actor-oriented approach to human rights	Celestine Nyamu, IDS, UK	To review the existing human rights literature and explore an alternative approach based on the perspectives of actors involved in rights struggles	*Publications*: IDS Working Paper Chapter in Zed Book V.1
Encountering citizens: Perceptions, realities and practices in Nigeria	Oga Steve Abah & Jenkeri Okwori, TFDC, Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria	To draw out issues that underlie questions of citizenship in Nigeria, primarily through the use of Theatre for Development in Kaduna and Benue States	*Publications*: Chapter in Zed Book V.1 Edited volume *Other media*: Video on field activities
Identities and meanings of citizenship among	Nandini Sen, PRIA, India	To investigate meanings and identities of citizenship among tribal people in the newly created state of	*Publications*: Chapter in Zed Book V.1 Research report

Santal people in Jharkhand		Jharkhand	

Meanings and expressions of rights and citizenship amongst nomadic communities in Rajasthan	Mandakini Pant, PRIA, India	To explore meanings and expressions of rights and citizenship amongst marginalised nomadic groups in Rajasthan	*Publications*: Chapter in Zed Book V.1 Research report
Processes of empowerment in PRIA's work	Mandakini Pant, PRIA, India	To synthesise insights into the nature and process of empowerment emerging from PRIA projects over the last two decades	*Publications:* Original ouput substituted for Chapter in Zed book V.1 above
Collective actions for economic and social rights	Simeen Mahmud, BIDS, Bangladesh	To examine cases of collective action to understand how different groups define and articulate their rights to education and health	*Included in Naila Kabeer's outputs for project below*
Defining citizenship in the margins: exercising electoral rights	Ahmed Kamal, Dhaka University, Bangladesh	To explore understandings of citizenship and political rights amongst women voters in strongly Islamic communities and indigenous people in the Chittagong Hill Tracts	*Publications*: Chapter in Zed book V.1
Citizenship, rights and collective action in Bangladesh	Naila Kabeer, IDS, UK	To explore identities, organisations and collective action around economic rights among different urban and rural groups in Bangladesh	*Publications*: 3 IDS Working papers (2 published, 1 forthcoming)
Collective actors and the structure of popular representation in Brazil	Peter Houtzager, IDS, UK / Adrian Gurza Lavalle, CEBRAP, Brazil	To identify who organises, how, around what issues and based on what identities in peri-urban areas of São Paulo	*Publications*: IDS Working paper
Meanings and dynamics of citizenship, participation and associational life in post-apartheid South Africa	Steven Robins, Bettina von Lieres & John Williams, UWC, South Africa	To explore the implications for citizenship of marginalisation, minority rights, NGO mediation and interaction with the state through case studies in Cape Town and the Northern Cape	*Publications*: 2 UWC Working papers 2 Chapters in Zed Book V.1
Rights Based Approaches and rights and power in donor relations in Peru	Rosalind Eyben, IDS, UK	To review rights based approaches in development and to examine how donor relationships in Peru reflect informal power structures and to assess the success of implementing a rights-based approach to development	*Publications:* IDS policy briefing Chapter in Zed book V.1
Event/ Participants	**Organisers/ Location**	**Objectives**	**Outputs**
Authors' Workshop for Zed book V.1: 'Meanings and Expressions of Rights and Citizenship'	Coordination Team and UWC, South Africa	Provide feedback and comment on all preliminary draft chapters Discuss common questions and themes Discuss dissemination strategy	Finalised chapters for Zed book V.1 Detailed transcript of discussions Agreement on common themes and insights for book Dissemination strategy agreed

*For a detailed description of outputs see Annex 1

Participants in these projects came together in June 2003 in South Africa for an Authors' workshop, in which authors shared draft papers, received comments from other participants, and had an opportunity for discuss common themes and synthesis. Many of these papers will contribute to Volume 1 of the Zed Books series.

Science and Citizenship

Within the broader debate on meanings of rights and citizenship, a sub-group on 'Science and Citizenship' is exploring the ways that different types of knowledge, and the rights related to knowledge, affect citizenship in scientific, environmental and technological arenas. This group has specifically considered issues related to how access to and uses of knowledge in complex scientific debates are linked to citizenship rights.

Today's world is one of technological change and shifting science-society relationships. Citizens are becoming sceptical about the accountability of formal science and their relationships with experts and expert institutions are consequently changing. Local knowledge is being re-presented as 'citizen science' as citizens take on research and critique the experts on environmental, health and technological issues. This group's findings echo the broader Working Group's nuanced understanding of diverse rights as they relate to one another, and to citizenship as an engaged practice. In the context of science and technology, the notion of 'knowledge rights' might imply further legitimisation of more protection-oriented, precautionary science that reflects the struggles and articulations of previously marginalised citizens now engaging in discussions with experts on environmental, health and technological issues.

> **Citizens Demanding Knowledge Rights**
>
> *Citizens movements in the context of science and technology are demanding what might be termed 'cognitive justice' – the demand 'for the right for different forms of knowledge to coexist and to carry weight in the decisions that affect people's lives.*
>
> *[Knowledge rights] would encompass rights to pursue particular ways of life, knowledge, perspectives and practice; rights to use these as ways of building solidarities with others, and rights of cognitive representation in processes of scientific experimentation and decision-making around science and technology issues... [A] perspective on knowledge rights, grounded in the conception of citizenship as practiced engagement, could serve to enrich innovation-oriented science and the setting of science and technology agendas, as well to render protection-oriented, precautionary science and risk assessment more socially inclusive and legitimate.'*
>
> *— Ian Scoones and Melissa Leach, Citizenship DRC Researchers, IDS, UK*

> *'Something really significant was going on, as I think will become apparent over the coming months/ years…it was consistently stimulating and full of riches, '*
>
> *— Chair of an international NGO, current UK government commissioner and University professor describes the Science and Citizenship in a Global Context conference*

The 'Science and Citizenship in a Global Context: Challenges from new technologies' international conference was made possible in December 2002 through collaboration with the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)'s Science in Society Programme. Leading on from themes raised at the Citizenship DRC's October 2001 workshop, 'Citizenship, Science and Risk', the workshop focused on the implications of new technologies in the life sciences (e.g. biotechnologies in health, agricultural or environmental arenas). A number of leading international researchers came together totalling 50 participants and 25 submitted papers. Alongside Southern DRC researchers, Northern researchers' participation at these events was also made possible thanks to funding dedicated to North-South learning, secured from the Rockefeller Foundation. Many of the papers presented will contribute to the forthcoming Volume 3 of the Zed book series. These events generated much discussion

between participants and served as a new arena for the sharing of ideas on science and citizenship.

Table 4: Working Group 1 projects on 'Science and Citizenship'

Project	Lead researcher(s)/ institution/ country	Objectives	Key Activities/ Output(s) to July 2003*
Theme convening: Science and Citizenship	**Melissa Leach and Ian Scoones, IDS, UK**	**To convene and support processes of conceptual and comparative exchange within the sub-group**	*Publications*: **Zed book V.3, forthcoming** *Workshops*: **Synthesis workshop 12/02**
Citizenship, science and risk	Melissa Leach & Ian Scoones, IDS, UK /	To explore how citizenship and knowledge rights are being renegotiated in the light of environmental and technological change, and the associated shifting relationship between science and society	*Publications*: IDS Working Paper 1 discussion paper at international conference
Citizenship, risk and environment in Southern Africa	Lisa Thompson, UWC, South Africa	To explore global and local discourses on the environment and their implications for rights and participation in South Africa, Mozambique and Zimbabwe	*Research:* Field work *Publications*: 2 UWC Working papers *Conference presentations:* 2 papers presented at CSAS/UWC conference
Event/ Participants	**Organisers/ Location**	**Objectives**	**Outputs**
'Science and Citizenship in a Global Context: challenges from new technologies' Synthesis workshop	Environment Team and Coordination Team, IDS	Provide feedback and comment on all preliminary draft chapters Discuss common questions and themes Discuss dissemination strategy	Draft chapters for Zed book V.3 Detailed transcript of discussions Agreement on common themes and insights for book Dissemination strategy agreed

*For a detailed description of outputs see Annex 1

3.1.2 Working Group 2: Spaces, Places and Dynamics of Citizen Participation

Many development actors see participation as the key to increasing citizens' influence over the institutions and policies that affect their lives. In some places, spaces for citizen participation have been created by the state. In others, citizens have created spaces for participation themselves.

Working Group 2 has carried out empirical research focused on both state-created and popular spaces for participation. It explored the dynamics of participation in these spaces, and the relationships between different kinds of local institutions, actors and sectors affiliated with them. The empirical data this Working Group gathered generated a more nuanced understanding of the opportunities, constraints and limitations that these spaces offer citizens to truly influence the institutions and policies that affect their lives.

Comparative analysis of Phase II work on 'spaces and places' for citizen engagement in different political and cultural contexts suggested a need to look not only at the 'rules of the game' and dynamics *within* intermediary spaces, but also at relationships between these and *other* spaces, in which agendas, strategies for engagement and priorities may come to be articulated. This analysis highlighted the significance of networks, alliances and linkages across different spaces - whether those of the formal political system or of civil society. It drew attention to the

> **Spaces for Participation: a look at Brazil's Health Councils**
>
> *'...[health] councils are political institutions that can come to play an important role in the democratisation process of health policy as well as in providing a voice for the demands of the poor. To fulfil this role, it will be necessary to invest in their institutional framework, clarifying the political principles that make up their composition and fine tuning the every day rules for working and making decisions. It will also be necessary to guarantee their place in the political process, since without a legally guaranteed space it will be very unlikely that the state and the market will recognise them as legitimate actors.'*
>
> —*Vera Schattan P. Coelho, Citizenship DRC Researcher, CEBRAP, Brazil*

problems of defining collective identities ('women', 'the poor', 'the community'), not least the intersection of identities, and potential conflicts of interests. It highlighted the challenges of inclusive participation and responsive governance. And it underlined the importance of context, of setting participation in particular cultural, historical and political settings and with regard to the experiences of those who are invited to participate, as well as of those who do the inviting. From this analysis, a series of further problematics arise. These will be addressed through Phase III research programme on Inclusion, Voice and Representation in Public Policy.

Table 5: Working Group 2 Projects on 'Spaces, Places and Dynamics of Participation'

Project	Lead researcher(s)/ institution/ country	Objectives	Key Activities/ Outputs to July 2003*
Theme convening: Spaces, places and dynamics of citizen participation	**Andrea Cornwall, IDS, UK and Vera Schattan Coelho, CEBRAP, Brazil**	**To convene and support processes of conceptual and comparative exchange within the thematic working group**	***Publications*:** **Co-editors for Zed book V.2, forthcoming** **IDS Working paper (AC)** ***Workshops*:** **Synthesis workshop 10/02**
Policy processes for environment and health issues in Brazil	Vera Schattan Coelho & Ângela Alonso, CEBRAP, Brazil	To examine the functioning of deliberative planning arenas and mechanisms, the nature of participation they involve, and the outcomes they generate in the context of specific environmental and health policy processes in São Paulo.	*Publications:* Journal article Chapter for Zed book V.2 *Conference presentations:* 2 papers presented at national conferences 2 papers presented at international conferences *General media:* National radio interview

Human development, sustainability and local power in Southeast Mexico	Luisa Paré, IIS-UNAM, Carlos Cortez, UAM-X & Carlos Robles, CODSSV, Mexico	To explore the dynamics of participation in three protected areas in the Southeast of Mexico and in Zapatista autonomous municipalities in Chiapas.	*Publications:* Chapter for Zed book V.2 Chapter for Zed book V.1 2 journal articles, forthcoming 2 DRC/ISS-UNAM Working papers, forthcoming 1 paper presented at national conference
Making councils real	Jutta Blauert, IDS, UK	To understand how and why multiple stakeholder institutions within the environmental policy arena in Mexico are or are not effective spaces for articulation of citizenship rights, and for influencing policy processes.	*Publications*: IDS Working paper, forthcoming Chapter for Zed book V.2
Linkages, Conflicts and Dynamics between Traditional, Development and Statutory Decentralised Local Bodies.	Ranjita Mohanty, PRIA, India	To explore linkages, conflicts and dynamics that exist between traditional, statutory and project-based decentralised 'participatory' spaces within the context of forest management in Uttaranchal, India.	*Publications*: Findings report Chapter for Zed book V.2
Participation in policy processes: environment, health and education	Andrea Cornwall, Ian Scoones, Melissa Leach, Ramya Subrahmanian & Alex Shankland, IDS, UK	To carry out a comparative review of mechanisms, models and dynamics of public involvement in environment, health and education policy processes, exploring issues of knowledge, representation, agency and legitimacy.	*Publications*: Co-authored IDS Working paper Chapter for Zed book V.2
Event/ Participants	**Organisers/ Location**	**Objectives**	**Outputs**
Spaces, Places and Dynamics of Participation Synthesis workshop	Coordination team/ IDS	Provide feedback and comment on all preliminary draft chapters Discuss common questions and themes Discuss dissemination strategy	Draft chapters for Zed book V.2 Detailed transcript of discussions Agreement on common themes and insights for book Dissemination strategy agreed

*For a detailed description of outputs see Annex 1.

In the first Working Group 2 workshop in October 2002 researchers shared work in progress, identified cross-cutting themes and developed a framework for comparative analysis across the different places in which they work. The workshop enabled DRC researchers to engage in debate and deepen their understanding of the issues at stake, to generate outputs for broader dissemination and to build

plans for prospective comparative work in the third phase of the DRC. Over the last year papers presented have been developed further, and will be presented as drafts for Volume 2 of the Zed book series in an Authors' Workshop planned for this October.

3.1.3 Working Group 3: Changing Accountabilities and Responsibilities

Changing understandings of citizenship and new spaces for participation have brought changing responsibilities and relationships of accountability. This Working Group examined what these new relationships look like and how poor people can demand accountability from institutions that affect their lives.

As research unfolded in the other thematic working groups during this phase, it raised and sharpened other issues of accountability as they relate to rights and participation. These issues will be explored in more depth under the new research programme on 'Claiming Rights and Demanding Accountabilities' in the next phase.

> **Some factors influencing corporate accountability struggles**
>
> - *multi-pronged strategies (i.e., media, direct dialogue with companies and government officials, public hearings, and the use of law);*
> - *broad-based alliances with sympathetic elements within government at all levels (…), as well as with groups within civil society;*
> - *mobilising early in order to shape discussions about a proposed investment is vital…*
> - *sharing information and experience…[w]hile communities often feel alone in their struggle, it is often the case that others have experiences similar things and their insights and advice can be usefully passed on to others…*
> - *the importance of rights (to land, compensation, and information)…Having rights is not enough, however. Being aware that you have those rights and knowing how to use them is what makes a difference.*
> - *party politics and relations with the state in general…*
> - *A final factor which may shape the future course of these struggles but which, as yet, is not a key dimension, is the importance of global connections.'*
>
> — *Peter Newell, Citizenship DRC Researcher, IDS, UK*

Table 6: Working Group 3 Projects on 'Changing Accountabilities and Responsibilities'

Project	Lead researcher(s)/ institution/ country	Objectives	Key Activities/ Output(s) to July 2003*
Theme convening: Changing accountabilities and responsibilities	**Peter Newell, IDS, UK**	**To convene and support processes of conceptual and comparative exchange within the thematic working group**	***Publications*:** **1 overview paper, forthcoming** ***Workshops*:** **Planning and synthesis workshops 10/02, 03/03**
Multi-Party accountability for environmentally sustainable industrial development	Harsh Jaitli, PRIA, India	To carry out an action-based research process designed to promote new processes of multi-party accountability for sustainable industrial development in the Lote-Parshuram Industrial Area of Chiplun, Maharashtra	*Publications:* 1 journal article 2 Findings Reports

Accountability and participation in sustainable development processes: experiences from Southeast Mexico	Luisa Paré, IIS/UNAM & Carlos Robles, CODESUVER, Mexico	To examine multi-stakeholder accountability issues in local sustainable development initiatives in the context of the Plan Puebla Panama (PPP) regional development megaproject	*Publications:* Findings Report 1 book chapter (Spanish)
Whose accountability? Indigenous organisations, corporations and geopolitical interests in the arena of bioprospecting	Jutta Blauert, IDS, UK	To examine accountability issues with respect to recent cases of 'bioprospecting' in Mexico and Central America.	This project was amended and was carried out by Alexandra Hughes, leading to article in IDS Bulletin Vol. 33/2
Corporate accountability: bridging theory and practice	Peter Newell, IDS, UK	To map competing conceptual notions of citizenship and accountability as applied to the private sector, and to identify strategies that might be adopted by the poor themselves to create mechanisms of answerability regarding investments which affect their livelihoods.	*Publications:* 1 DRC-IDS Working Paper published; 2 forthcoming 1 DRC-IIS/UNAM Working Paper (Spanish)
Event/ Participants	**Organisers/ Location**	**Objectives**	**Outputs**
Changing Accountabilities and Responsibilities Working Group one-day planning meeting	Coordination team/ IDS	Provide feedback and comment on all preliminary outputs Discuss common questions and themes Discuss Synthesis workshop	Dissemination strategy agreed Agreement on common themes and insights for Working Group Transcript of discussions produced
Changing Accountabilities and Responsibilities Working Group workshop and write-shop, March 2003	Coordination team/ IDS with assistance from local consultant	Review papers and outputs Discuss dissemination strategies Explore cross-cutting themes in preparation for the next phase of the DRC Stage a `write-shop', where researchers prepared the group's proposal for the next phase of the DRC.	Draft outputs for DRC-IIS/UNAM and IDS Working Papers, forthcoming (Spanish and English) and for *Revista Mexicana de Sociología* (Spanish) special edition on Accountability in Processes towards Sustainable Development, forthcoming Agreement on common themes and insights for Phase III Transcript of discussions produced

In both 'Changing Accountabilities' Working Group workshops, researchers shared their work and identified cross-cutting themes to allow for future comparative analysis. The workshop and write-shop in March enabled Citizenship DRC researchers to engage in debate and deepen their understanding of the issues at stake, coming closer to generating outputs for broader dissemination and building

plans for comparative work in Phase III. A further workshop of this group will be held in Mexico in September 2003. Obvious intellectual linkages emerged from Working Group 1's examination of rights and this Working Group's look at accountability struggles. Consequently, many researchers are coming together to pursue collaborative research on rights and accountabilities in Phase III. They will meet to plan their research programme in Mexico in September 2003.

3.2 Building Research Capacity and Providing Coordination Support

Exchange of conceptual and comparative research takes place through a variety of fora including international working group meetings, working group email lists and a shared password protected 'Researchers' Area' website (see Section 3.2.4). These processes enable an exchange of insights across linguistic and disciplinary boundaries, and have contributed to the development of common conceptual reference points that underpin comparative analysis and joint publications.

3.2.1 International Capacity Building Workshops

One important innovation during the last year was to hold in-depth opportunities for commenting on each others' work at international workshops, such as in the Working Group 1's Authors' workshop held in June in South Africa, and the other Working Groups' synthesis workshops. These events appear to have provided all authors with critical feedback and support in thinking about how to communicate findings effectively to an international audience.

> '*The ideal type of participatory research requires that the 'community' take the lead—defines the research problem, develops the approach, invites the 'researcher', gathers and analyses the data, disseminates the information, and if it is desired, continues with the process of the research afterwards. Most real projects are collaborative action research—a combination between our knowledge and other people's knowledges. In this we try to take away the hierarchies of the collaboration to create a more equal and two-way dynamic between the 'researched' and the researcher.'*
> — *John Gaventa, at 'Researching Citizenship' Methodologies workshop, Citizenship DRC Director, IDS, UK*

In addition to offering spaces for capacity building in terms of communication, the Methodologies workshop on Researching Citizenship in October 2002 offered Citizenship DRC researchers an opportunity to exchange experiences on the use of participatory methodologies in action research and to discuss the ethical and political dilemmas faced by researchers engaged in fieldwork on citizenship, participation, and accountability. As such, this event was experienced as a place where DRC researchers came together to think about ethics, methods, and the impact of such research – a step towards becoming more reflexive in our practice.

3.2.2 Exchanges, Visits and Internships

Mutual capacity building and research support also included four visiting fellowships to IDS and seven research exchange visits, seven internships and on-going sharing of information and bibliographic resources. These are all aimed at multi-directional strengthening in which all partners learn from and help to develop the knowledge and skills of one another.

Table 7: Citizenship DRC exchange visits and visiting fellowships

Researcher (institution, country)	Date	Destination	Activities
Jutta Blauert (IDS, UK)	August 2002	Mexico	Discussions on accountability work Field visit
Peter Newell (IDS, UK)	August 2002	Mexico	Discussions on accountability work Field visit
Carlos Robles, (CODESUVER, Mexico)	October – December 2002	IDS, UK	Discussions on accountability work Writing up research Seminar
John Gaventa	February 2003	India	General discussion on DRC strategic direction Participation at PRIA Annual conference
Peter Newell (IDS, UK)	February 2003	India	Discussions on accountability work Field visit Participation at PRIA Annual conference
Andrea Cornwall (IDS, UK)	March 2003	Brazil	Discussions on spaces and places of participation work Discussions on phase III research
Ian Scoones (IDS, UK)	March 2003	Brazil	Discussions on science and citizenship work Discussions on phase III research
Steve Oga Abah (TFDC, Nigeria)	April – June 2003	IDS, UK	Discussions on rights and citizenship work Writing up research Seminar Discussions on phase III research
Lisa Thompson (UWC, South Africa)	May 2003	IDS, UK	Discussions on science and citizenship, and spaces and places of participation work Discussions on phase III research
John Williams (UWC, South Africa)	May 2003	IDS, UK	Discussions on citizenship and governance work Seminar Discussions on phase III research
Naila Kabeer (IDS, UK)	February 2003	Bangladesh	Discussions on rights and citizenship work Field visit

The Citizenship DRC Internship and Dissertation Support programme is also an important means of mutual capacity building. It is aimed to support IDS post-graduate students who wish to undertake research, networking or capacity building or advocacy/ dissemination work around the DRC's core themes alongside DRC partners.

Table 8: Citizenship DRC internships and student research grants

Student intern	Date	Destination	Activities/ outputs
Oriol Mirosa Canal	June-August 2002	Mexico	Research assistance on UAM-X participatory evaluation of government development policy in Chiapas conflict area Research activities report
Niamh Garvey	N/A	PRIA, India	Due to personal and health reasons, the student intern was unable to travel to India. Her dissertation is currently being adapted and will be published as a DRC-IDS Working Paper.

Barbara Pozzoni	June-July 2002	Brazil	Research on capabilities for citizen participation in deliberative processes
			Research activities report and MPhil dissertation
Emma Williams	July-Sept 2002	BIDS, Dhaka	Research on social rights and political participation
			Research activities report
Ram Niwas Arya	August-Sept 2003	UWC, South Africa	Research on inclusion and participation
			Report and paper forthcoming
Georgina Blanco Mancilla	August-Sept 2003	TFDC, Nigeria	Research on citizenship and identity
			Report and paper forthcoming
Ana Ortiz Monestario	August-October 2003	PRIA, India	Research on gender issues and participation in the context of watershed projects
			Report and paper forthcoming

3.2.3 Citizenship DRC Resource Centres

In working towards building the Citizenship DRC's collective research capacity in its thematic areas, the IDS-based resource centre has been developed to include over 900 bibliographic resources. So as to ensure accessibility on the part of all DRC researchers, these resources have been abstracted and entered into a database that is accessible on-line via the password protected Researchers' Area website (see section 3.2.5 below). More recently, this bibliographic resource has been made available to the public through Participation.net –a collaborative on-line electronic dissemination initiative (see section 3.3.1)

In-country Resource Centres

In response to partners' concern for lacking bibliographic resources in their organisations, the Citizenship DRC has supported the development of in-country resource centres. These satellite resource centres have been established in DRC-partner countries in order to serve DRC partner local networks and partnerships working in areas related to citizenship, participation and accountability. With direct access to any resource

> **In-country resource centre**
>
> *'The Citizenship Resource Centre at the BIDS Library was initiated in March 2003 with the objective of making current literature on rights and citizenship available to a wider audience within Bangladesh. Situating this Resource Centre within the well respected BIDS library was considered the most cost effective way of reaching a wide academic audience, including students. Its IDS publications are complimented by material published in Bangladesh, including unpublished material. It is now being expanded through an active search for reports and documents from various research and activist organisations in Bangladesh – material that would otherwise not be available, as they are rarely published or disseminated. Illustrative of such a document is Ain-O-Shalish Kendra (a legal aid and research NGO) 'Rights and Realities' document that attempts to bring together current literature on rights and citizenship, including Citizenship DRC research. Placing it in the Resource Centre makes it easily accessible to a wide audience.'*
>
> *— Simeen Mahmud, Citizenship DRC Researcher, BIDS, Bangladesh*

catalogued in the IDS-based Citizenship DRC Resource Centre and given the challenges in attaining bibliographic resources often faced by Southern researchers, these in-country Resource Centres have the potential to develop into well-respected mini-libraries on Citizenship DRC themes.

3.2.4 Providing Coordination Support

The Coordination Team provides support in organising, facilitating and documenting all international workshops. These efforts have resulted in successful events that not only provide a space where research can develop substantially, but also serve to strengthen partnerships and help to remind all researchers that they are part of a broader international endeavour.

> **International Workshops**
>
> *'These events give me, as a country convenor, an overall picture of what the Citizenship DRC is about, where we fit in, and how we're related to the rest of the partnership. The workshops clarify the overall research programme and processes; they clarify our respective roles, responsibilities, timeframes, and our means of relating to the Coordination Team. They're also moments to socialise with other researchers who share similar passions and interests – a good mix of work and fun!'*
>
> *— Steve Oga Abah, Citizenship DRC Researcher, TFDC, Nigeria*

3.2.5 Communication

Generally speaking, the continued focus on transparency and participation in the organisation of events, development of initiatives and in the area of finance – all essential requirements for maintaining strong partnerships – have meant the dedication of considerable time and resources in ensuring continued two-way information flow and discussion of internal DRC governance issues with partners.

Researchers' Area

> **Local dissemination: Indigenous women and rights in Chiapas, Mexico**
>
> *In a mural created through participatory consultations with local communities, indigenous women expressed their perceptions of rights: 'All of us have rights, as indigenous women. I am a woman and I have the right to speak, and to democracy and justice—to participate and work together. We don't want this to be imposed by the government, we want to organise ourselves….We want an education related to our history to recover our own culture…We want education, food, housing, the autonomy to make decisions for ourselves, freedom and dignity….We know we have these rights; rights are not just for the rich...*
>
> *— Carlos Cortez, Citizenship DRC researcher, (UAM-X, Mexico)*

Electronic discussion lists continue to be hosted in the Researchers' Area, a password protected area of the DRC website where general DRC news, contact information and documents/ on-line resources sent by DRC researchers or identified by the Coordination and Research Support Team are posted.   Since a new upgraded version was launched in February, it has received 759 hits by DRC partners.

Portuguese and Spanish Support Services

Coordination and communication support have been provided in English, Portuguese and Spanish in an effort to facilitate communications between researchers and to strengthen overall DRC partnerships. Translation support is offered on an as needed basis at international workshops, and for outputs produced by Mexican and Brazilian DRC researcher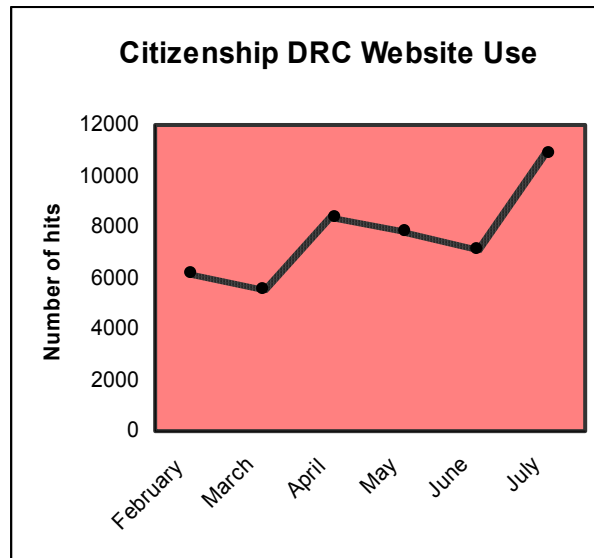s. Furthermore, Mexican partners are producing a IIS/UNAM – UAM DRC Working Paper series aimed at Spanish speaking audiences in Latin America. This series is evolving to include translated IDS Working Papers as well as Mexican Working Paper outputs. Overall, this language support coincides with the DRC's gradually shifting need to focus on the strategic and comprehensive dissemination of its findings.

3.3   Dissemination and policy influence

In addition to a strong record of peer-reviewed publications and engagement in academic debates across its researchers, the Citizenship DRC has also developed a broad-based dissemination strategy that combines locally-based action and research with more national and global influencing strategies.

3.3.1 Electronic dissemination

The Coordination Team has undertaken a range of electronic based dissemination projects. These include an interactive public web site on the Citizenship DRC www.drc-citizenship.org, that has seen a steady increase in numbers of hits per month (now more than 11,000 per month) since its launch in February 2003 (see graph below). This website has also proved an effective dissemination tool for key DRC documents, with significant numbers of downloads, including nearly 800 downloads of the 2001 annual report (see chart below).

Citizenship DRC Website Use

Number of hits (y-axis: 0, 2000, 4000, 6000, 8000, 10000, 12000)

x-axis: February, March, April, May, June, July

Another facet to the electronic dissemination of the Citizenship DRC is Participation.net, an on-line centre for resources on participation, citizenship, and local governance. In partnership with LogoLink, the Participation Resource Centre, and Eldis, a draft version of Participation.net was launched in July 2003. This site brings together a range of resources including on-line bibliographic databases (including the Citizenship DRC's Resource Centre database), teaching and learning guides, events databases, and on-going on-line discussion lists. In addition, the site will provide theme guides on a range of topics from rights-based approaches to development to citizenship and local governance. These guides, contributed by Citizenship DRC researchers and other members of the partnership, will provide an entry point for policy-makers, donors, practitioners, and students seeking to understand key debates around participation in development. For a draft version of the Participation.net, focusing on rights and participation, go to www.eldis.org/rights/rba.htm.

Table 9: Selected DRC Publications, downloads and sales breakdown

Publication/ date	Author(s)	Title	Downloads to date (August 2003) from DRC and IDS website	Sales and subscribers to date (August 2003)
Annual Report	Coordination team	Citizenship DRC Annual Report 2001-2002	742	n/a
IDS Bulletin 33.2, 2002	Edited by John Gaventa, Alex Shankland and Joanna Howard	Making Rights Real: exploring citizenship, participation and accountability	*n/a*	909
Dev Bibliography 19, 2002	Emma Jones and John Gaventa	Concepts of Citizenship: a review	1621	201
Working Paper 169, 2002	Celestine Nyamu-Musembi	Towards an Actor-oriented Perspective on Human Rights	2195	415
Working Paper 168, 2002	Peter Newell and Shaula Bellour	Mapping Accountability: Origins, Contexts and Implications for Development (*Spanish Translation downloaded from DRC website*)	2461 (*327*)	416
Working Paper 170, 2002	Andrea Cornwall	Making Spaces, Changing Places: Situating Participation in Development	2569	448
Working Paper 171, 2002	Naila Kabeer	Citizenship and the Boundaries of the Acknowledged Community: Identity, Affiliation and Exclusion	4324	425
Unpublished Conference Paper, 2002	Melissa Leach and Ian Scoones	Science and citizenship in a global context: challenges from new technologies	503	*n/a*
Total			**15,015**	**2,814**

3.3.2 Zed Book Series

As previously mentioned, another key element to the dissemination strategy for the Citizenship DRC is an agreement reached with Zed Books to publish between five and six edited volumes on citizenship, participation, and accountability over the next two years, with John Gaventa as series editor (see table below). This agreement, finalised in June 2003, will provide the opportunity for the full range of Citizenship DRC partners to publish the results of their work—and reach a wide audience. Zed Books is well-known as a publisher that not only has a broad distribution base in the South, but also reaches a wide audience of researchers, policy-makers and practitioners. As part of the series agreement, the Citizenship DRC will provide significant subsidies to Zed Books to ensure the distribution of the volumes in the South.

Table 10: Zed Books Citizenship DRC series plan

Volume	Publication dates	Title	Editor(s)
Volume I	Jan. 2004	Meanings and Expressions of Rights and Citizenship	Naila Kabeer
Volume II	Late 2004	Space for Change? Participation, Inclusion and Voice in Public Policy Institutions	Andrea Cornwall & Vera Schattan Coelho
Volume III	Late 2004	Science and Citizenship in a Global Context: challenges from new technologies	Ian Scoones & Melissa Leach
Volume IV	Early 2005	When the World's Not Watching: making accountabilities count	Peter Newell
Volume V (pending additional funding)	Late 2005	Researching Citizenship and Democratising Research: Reflections on Methods, Ethics and Praxis	John Gaventa (series editor)
Volume VI (pending additional funding)	Mid 2006	Claiming Citizenship: Rethinking Democratic Participation	Author: John Gaventa

In order to ensure the consistent high quality of each volume, and common themes throughout the chapters, the editors of each volume will organise, in conjunction with the Coordination Team, an Authors' Workshop. These workshops bring together all contributors for each volume, and provide the opportunity for the editors and other contributors to read and comment on each others' work, as well as provide dedicated writing time. Very successful Authors' Workshops have been held for Volumes 1 and 2, leading to draft papers for each.

To maximise the impact of each volume, the Coordination Team is organising a series of launch events over the next two years designed to raise the visibility of each volume with respective target audiences. For example, Volume 1, *The Meanings and Expressions of Rights and Citizenship*, will be launched at the World Social Forum in Mumbai, India in conjunction with a workshop on the same theme.

3.3.3 Policy influence

As the dissemination activities of the Citizenship DRC over the past year have been very broad, similarly the Citizenship DRC has sought to influence policy at multiple levels. Key events over the past year include the release of an IDS Policy Briefing, 'The Rise of Rights', on the rights-based approach to development that has had over 6,000 copies distributed. This briefing has also been translated into Spanish and will be distributed both to DFID offices in Latin America and to Citizenship DRC's Latin American partners. Linked to this briefing is a training workshop scheduled for November 2004 on implementing a rights-based approach to development, facilitated by Rosalind Eyben, John Gaventa and Patta Scott-Villiers. This training workshop, the first in a series, will target representatives of donors, multi-lateral institutions, and international NGOs.

However, the Citizenship DRC has also achieved policy influence across a range of other levels (See Annex 1: Outputs table). Oga Steve Abah, the country convenor for the Nigeria DRC team, organised a series of local workshops in Nigeria for newly elected officials. These workshops focused on the results of DRC research on the challenges to policy makers in making citizenship real in Nigeria. Vera Schattan, the country convenor for the Brazil DRC team, has been involved with health policy

in Brazil, and was invited to organise a seminar focusing on DRC work on health councils by the national Health Department. In India, PRIA organised a national conference on citizenship and governance, bringing together over 100 researchers, practitioners and policy makers. Regionally, the Mexico DRC ream worked with indigenous communities to create murals about citizenship and rights as part of the dissemination strategy working with local groups (see text box below). Peter Newell, a DRC researcher based at IDS, had his work on accountability taken up by the Global Accountabilities Project based at the Houses of Parliament in London (see the box below).

Dear Peter

Thank you so much for the working paper on Mapping Accountability – it is of great help, especially as you look at all three types of accountability. We are currently doing work on the participation aspect of our framework, looking at how organisations engage with their stakeholders. We have also convened a meeting for NGOs in response to the current debate about NGO accountability recently hitting the headlines here and across the water in the US…. We feel this is a great opportunity for NGOs to really explore their own accountability and complexity of issues that arise around it…

Thanks again,

Hetty Kovach

GAP Manager

The One World Trust

Houses of Parliament, London

John Gaventa, director of the Citizenship DRC, has been invited to provide training and advice to the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit for the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in the UK, and will be using lessons taken from DRC research to inform emerging strategies for community participation and empowerment in the UK context. These activities are a few examples of the range of policy influence that the Citizenship DRC has achieved over the past year—and will continue to build upon throughout the next phase of research.