

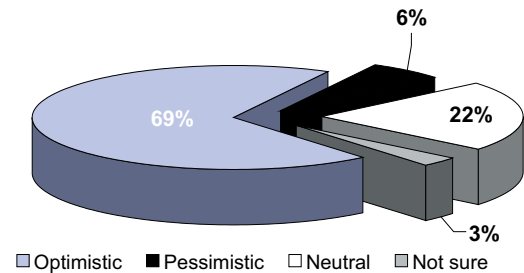
## Iraqi Business Leaders Remain Optimistic About Economy

Iraqi business leaders remain decidedly optimistic about the growth of the Iraqi economy as well as the growth of their own businesses, according to CIPE's second country poll of business attitudes. Released September 28th at a press conference in Washington, D.C., the survey reveals that 77% of Iraqi businesses anticipate growth in the national economy over the next two years and 69% of respondents describe themselves as being "optimistic" about Iraq's general economic future.

Conducted by Zogby International, the poll included interviews with more than 600 Iraqi business owners and managers in five cities: Baghdad, Hilla, Basra, Arbil, and Kirkuk. This complements a similar poll done by Zogby for CIPE in December 2004.

Among other significant findings, 63% of the Iraqi businesses surveyed in 2005 employed women, which represents almost a 50% increase over the previous poll. And despite the many challenges they face, 54% of Iraqi businesses expect increased sales in the next six months, with 38% expecting employment to rise.

Are You Optimistic or Pessimistic About Your Country's Economic Future? (Overall Iraq)



In addition to the optimism they expressed about their country's economic future, Iraqi business leaders' belief in the political future of their country is quite strong. 60% of respondents expressed an optimistic outlook regarding Iraq's political future.

Not surprisingly, the security situation remains the major priority for the business community. When asked

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## Afghan Women Entrepreneurs Join Global Economy

CIPE has been awarded a three-year, \$6.29M cooperative agreement by USAID to implement a Women's Enterprise Development project in Afghanistan. Conceived by a consortium of 15 Afghan women's associations, the project will formally establish a national federation to promote the full integration of women into the market economy. According to Mina Sherzoy, a founding member and acting co-chair of the new Afghanistan Women's Business Federation (AWBF), "Women can play an enormous role in the economic renewal of this country if given the opportunity. The AWBF will provide a network through which women can draw on their collective

strength and experience in pursuit of economic development."

The project will establish the AWBF as a conduit for information, technical assistance, economic development support, and public policy advocacy initiatives. It focuses on an integrated approach that combines technical assistance, practical application, and mentorship to channel economic resources directly to women. The Afghanistan International Chamber of Commerce as well as Afghanistan's Ministry of Women's Affairs and Ministry of Commerce have all expressed strong support for the project.

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## Board Member Column by Amb. John A. Bohn

Public and private sector leaders around the world increasingly recognize that democratic stability plays an important role in influencing investment decisions. Countries seeking to attract investment are realizing that incentives alone don't get the job done and they need to build key democratic and economic institutions such as transparency and accountability – both of which are key principles of good corporate governance.

Investment is all about managing risks. Traditionally, this has meant an analysis focusing on numbers, ratios, and capital. But now, as investors evaluate their opportunities and banks look at loans, a new factor is being injected into the equation – the risk that financial figures alone do not reflect the operating performance of an enterprise. Investors today are also looking at less tangible - but no less important - factors such as the stability and strength of governance practices in the daily workings of the corporation to gauge the soundness of a potential investment.

One can argue, correctly, that governance risk has always been present, and that management has always been a factor in investment to some degree. Today, however, a whole new risk assessment has sprung up focusing on the internal workings of the corporate structure.

As the playing field becomes increasingly globalized, companies in developing countries are facing a new kind of scrutiny from the global community. The numbers are still important, yet investors and bankers are increasingly focused on how the various aspects of the corporation perform relative to its objectives and its shareholders. Is the board of directors competent? Engaged? Is management truly involved in the day-to-day operations? Relying simply on the “hard” numbers is no longer enough. This is where corporate governance comes in.

Corporate governance creates responsible and transparent companies that are better prepared to manage financial risks

and that can be held accountable for their actions. At the same time, it both facilitates and feeds off of the development of key institutions in a society that build healthy and stable business environments. Whether you consider it a trend or an evolution, good corporate governance is increasingly important in developing countries as they compete for capital and investment.

A consensus is emerging on the importance of good corporate governance in the developing world. We saw this reflected in a recent OECD meeting in Paris (November 2003), when experts from emerging markets around the world gathered to review the OECD corporate governance principles and figure out a way to make them more relevant and applicable to the developing world. Several CIPE partners helped generate this effort, which takes into account the local realities of doing business. We saw it again in February 2005, at a CIPE conference in Jordan, when many Middle Eastern private sector representatives, the press, and governments met to affirm that good corporate governance – based on the international experience and fundamentals of local institutions – is essential to the development of their countries.

It is particularly uplifting to see that many developing countries recognize the benefits of good corporate governance and are working diligently to introduce their own governance standards. The ultimate reward in all of this is, of course, increased investment and growth – which produces the wealth in which members of society can then share. ■



**Amb. John A. Bohn**  
Chairman and CEO,  
GlobalNet Venture Partners

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## Chamber in Bangladesh Pursues New Economic Vision

Bangladesh is perhaps best known for its robust garment trade, but it has its eye set on California's biggest industry. No, not high-tech or Hollywood – it's agriculture. More than half of the state's population is employed in the agriculture sector, primarily in the processing, handling, and marketing of food products. Bangladesh has a similar vision for its future. The Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) recognizes that California did not become an agricultural powerhouse simply by having good soil and a favorable climate. It needed sound policies, capable entrepreneurs, and high standards – a model that CIPE partner DCCI is helping its members recognize and emulate.

On June 29, 2005, DCCI organized a workshop with the Agro-based Industries and Technology Development Project (ATDP) on "the Preservation and Packaging of Agro-Processing Products." The discussion targeted a segment of entrepreneurs that DCCI is particularly focused on helping: women. To date, DCCI's Women Entrepreneurs Development project has provided technical know-how on a variety of sectors in more than 30 workshops. With support from CIPE, DCCI has held more than 40 policy roundtables for its general membership on topics ranging from exporting opportunities and small business marketing tips to business and infrastructural development. So far, more than 600 women have participated in DCCI workshops, and local media are taking notice. The workshop was featured on the



Participants package local produce at DCCI agro-processing workshop.

Bandradi Vettar radio station as well as in the *Daily Inqilab*, *Financial Express*, and *Daily Star* newspapers.

Bangladeshi consumers will benefit from access to a local market of high quality produce at affordable prices. However, the country's agricultural entrepreneurs must first gain the skills and technology to be successful. Being able to meet international standards at different stages of preservation, canning, and packaging is especially key for those who wish to reach a wider international market. DCCI workshops help entrepreneurs understand the standards that will make their products desirable and provide hands-on guidance to reach this level of quality. ■

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## Russian SME Advocacy Program Spurs Legislative Change

The Russian business environment has always been difficult to navigate, but through a policy advocacy program supported by USAID and CIPE, Russian small- and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) are for the first time successfully reducing the regulatory burden. A string of significant policy victories has enabled the business community to amend federal laws and improve the business environment at the local level while also strengthening democratic participation in Russia.

The program, 'Small Business 2004,' is an unprecedented national advocacy campaign spearheaded by two CIPE partners – The Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) and the Union of Business Associations OPORA. It aims to improve the regulatory environment and access to credit for SMEs through its unique six-point reform program. Specifically, the program's goals are to: create an improved framework for state support of small business, reduce the administrative barriers to entrepreneurial activity, improve the small business taxation system to foster business development, provide equal access to economic information, develop an SME crediting system, and eliminate corruption to protect entrepreneurs' rights.

RCCI and OPORA have made significant strides since the program was launched in May 2004. In summer 2005, Russian President Vladimir Putin signed into effect several federal laws that incorporate recommendations by the two organizations. The new laws improve the SME taxation system, lower administrative barriers, expand the legal protection of SMEs, and increase access to information and participation in state contracting competitions.

One of the laws introduced amendments to the tax code. The SME taxation system, once a myriad of conflicting regulations, now provides SMEs with the right to use a reduced taxable income base for income tax calculations. In addition, SMEs retain the right to use a simplified taxation system and the ability to purchase a yearly set-price business license in lieu of paying calculated income taxes. These modifications ease the regulatory burden on SMEs and allow businesses to shift the resources formerly expended on accounting to more productive activities.

RCCI and OPORA also influenced the adoption of amendments to three federal laws that regulate the licensing of specific business activities and provide businesses with

## Free-Market TV and Radio Programs Debut in Ecuador

In a country where the media supports government intervention in the economy - and where the principles of market economics run contrary to what many students are taught in local schools and universities - the Ecuadorian Institute of Political Economy (IEEP), a market-oriented think tank based in Guayaquil, is working to educate the Ecuadorian public about the link between market reforms and democratic society.

With support from CIPE, IEEP launched a 30-minute television program, *Tribuna Liberal* (*Liberal Tribune*), in June 2005. The weekly show addresses current economic and policy issues from a free-market perspective.

The program is hosted by economist Carlos Molina, who interviews distinguished political and business leaders as well as civil society representatives. In July, internationally renowned journalist and writer Mr. Carlos Alberto Montaner appeared on the program to discuss his new book *Liberty and its Enemies* and to explore the topic “Where is Latin America going?” The executive vice president of the Chamber of Commerce of Guayaquil, Teodoro Maldonado, appeared to discuss “the cost of doing business in Ecuador.” *Tribuna Liberal* has also featured Dr. Hector Naupari, president of the Research Institute of Human Action of Peru. During the program, Dr. Naupari discussed the role of free market ideas and their relationship to democratic institutions in Latin America.

To complement its television efforts, IEEP launched a “first of its kind” radio program in Guayaquil, Ecuador in August with a similar format. *Contrapunto Liberal* (*Liberal*

*Counterpoint*) is a one-hour original program that tackles economic and political issues affecting Ecuador from a free-market perspective. Business and political leaders are invited as guests to discuss contemporary economic and political issues on the radio program in a way that it is easy to comprehend, which includes listener call-ins. The first two programs discussed Ecuador’s national budget for the 2006 fiscal year.

These new communication programs provide an alternative viewpoint to populist political and economic ideas on the rise in the region. IEEP will continue its efforts so that its message of democracy and market reform will begin to translate into sound economic policies. ■



Host Carlos Molina discusses challenges to reforms in the region with guest Dr. Hector Naupari, president of the Research Institute of Human Action.

## Civil Society Takes the Lead in Kyrgyz Constitutional Reforms

Since the March 2005 Tulip Revolution, civil society groups in Kyrgyzstan have been playing an active and influential role in advocating for legislative reform. Now, CIPE’s partner the Bishkek Business Club (BBC) and other civil society organizations have taken the lead in reforming the Constitution of Kyrgyzstan, which is a crucial step toward achieving democratic consolidation. BBC has emerged as the most influential business group and one of the most active civil society groups working to establish a new legal framework that includes property and civil rights guarantees, a stronger voice for citizens, and an increased policymaking role for the parliament. The constitutional reforms would also reduce the power of the president, which had become too strong due to numerous undemocratic amendments made by former President Akaev.

Instead of a strong presidential system, the reformers advocated for a balanced system that no single branch of government could dominate. According to Asia Sasykbayeva

of Interbilim (an NGO support organization) and the Constitutional Council, “After the revolution of the 24th of March, it was necessary to insert the principle of checks and balances to balance all the branches of power and give courts independence from politics and authorities.”

One of the first steps toward reform was taken by BBC when it organized a national forum on “Steps to Constitutional Development” with the Economic Policy Institute. Businesspeople, civil society leaders, deputies of parliament, human rights activists, executive officials, foreign diplomats, international organizations, and mass media came together to make a resolution on constitutional reforms and elected an initiative group made up of civil society leaders to promote the resolution. Three of the thirteen group members were BBC representatives, and it was then that BBC first presented a proposal to draft a constitution based on a system of checks and balances.

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## Civil Society...

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The initiative group persuaded parliamentary deputies to support constitutional reform and proposed a structure for the Constitutional Council, which would be responsible for drafting a democratic constitution. On April 29, 2005, the parliament voted in favor of reform.

Based on the parliamentary decision and guidance from the initiative group, the Constitutional Council was formed, with equal representation from civil society leaders and government representatives from all three branches. Six BBC members earned seats at the council, and four other BBC members joined a working group that was formed to hear proposals from the public and draft a new constitution.

This spring, BBC organized and financed nine council and 12 working group meetings. BBC took such a proactive role because the council's civil society representatives wanted to prevent unnecessary government influence.

BBC's work did not stop with its involvement in the council and working group. BBC decided to submit its own version of proposed changes to the constitution while the two committees sought public input. In the end, BBC was the only civil society actor to submit a list of revisions to all sections of the constitution. Seven out of nine items in the BBC proposal were accepted in the draft, which is currently being reviewed through public forums.

According to Omurbek Abdrakhmanov, BBC member and leader of the Constitutional Council working group, some of the most important changes to the constitution that will affect Kyrgyzstan's political and economic life include the implementation of a party list system for selecting parliamentary deputies, a one-term presidency, enhancement of local governments' power, and new legislation on the independence and power of courts.

On June 15, the Constitutional Council began seeking public participation in the constitutional reform process by organizing public forums in all regions of Kyrgyzstan. Civil society organizations such as NGOs and business associations have been vital resources in organizing the hearings and roundtable discussions. In addition, BBC has published the draft constitution in Russian and Kyrgyz in the national press, and BBC members have been actively promoting the new constitution and engaging in dialog with the public about new concepts included in the document through appearances on television and radio shows.

Public discussion continued through mid September. The Constitutional Council is expected to convene over the next few months to discuss public opinion and make final revisions before presenting the proposed constitution to parliament for a vote. ■

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## CIPE Partner Takes Stand Against Corruption in Mozambique

Business is frequently perceived to be complicit in Mozambique's corruption problem. A 2004 business survey in the Inhambane Province found that 63.8% of local firms reported being subject to corrupt actions by public officials. The same survey found that corruption costs firms in the province as much as 9.5% of their net revenue each year.

A 2001 survey by *Ética Moçambique*, a local NGO, showed that 45% of those surveyed said they had been victims of corruption in the past six months. Of those, 31% said they had paid an 'unofficial payment' to a civil servant of up to \$6, 45% had paid between \$6 and \$60, and 22% had paid between \$60 and \$600 – this in a country with a per capita GDP of \$1200.

CIPE's partner the Associação Comercial e Industrial de Sofala (ACIS – Commercial and Industrial Association of Sofala), is actively working to address this widespread problem. ACIS has embarked on a project designed to raise awareness of corruption in Mozambique. The program will focus on the causes of corruption, its costs, and how the private sector can work to combat the problem.

During August and September, ACIS held more than 30 meetings with ministers, ambassadors, and business leaders to identify flaws in existing legislation that allow corrupt practices to take hold. ACIS found that there are many weaknesses in

Mozambique's legal code, as many laws are vague or leave too much room for discretion. The association is also conducting research at the district, regional, and national levels to identify how to eradicate corrupt practices.

ACIS plans to release a report that incorporates the findings of its meetings, which will serve as the basis for discussion at upcoming roundtable events. The roundtables are a core component of ACIS' plan to combat corruption and will be attended by representatives from the private sector, civil society, government, as well as anti-corruption campaigners such as the local representative of CIPE partner Transparency International. Eight roundtables are planned.

Expected before year's end, the report is expected to generate a good deal of interest. It will have four major components that will identify the most prevalent types of corruption in Mozambique; provide information on relevant legislation and regulations; offer information on local, regional, and national anti-corruption initiatives; and finally, provide recommendations on how the private sector can effectively combat corruption. According to Carrie Davies, ACIS executive secretary and project manager, "the report... will provide a detailed synthesis of local and international information, opinion and best practice. Nothing of this sort has been done before in Mozambique." ■

## Afghan Women Entrepreneurs...

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The AWBF will be an association of associations, although it will also accept corporate members as well as support from like-minded organizations. In its first year, the AWBF plans to open branch offices in several of the country's key provinces.

The AWBF hosted an event in Kabul on October 2, 2005 to officially launch the project. Attendees included dignitaries such as Minister of Women's Affairs H.E. Dr. Masooda Jalal and First Vice-President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan H.E. Ahmad Zia Massoud, as well as representatives from a broad cross section of the international and diplomatic communities. Over 600 Afghan businesspeople were in attendance. The successful event culminated with the first joint trade exhibition of AWBF's member organizations.

"At present, many women make beautiful products only to lose most of the profit to wholesalers that sell the merchandise on the wider market," says Mahbooba Waizi, who is also a founding member of AWBF and an acting co-chair. "The AWBF will train hundreds of women to conduct business on their own and will give them the practical instruction they need to retain profit for themselves and their families. The AWBF will not be just a training organization; it will be an empowerment organization."

One project initiative will launch a "Made by Afghan Women" program that focuses on the carpet industry. Its goal is to brand high-end Afghan carpets in the U.S. market by working directly with buyers and major retail chains. "Afghan carpets are one-of-a-kind pieces of art," says Mrs.

Waizi. "Currently, the women who make them receive pennies on the dollar for their efforts. The AWBF will help these women get a much higher percentage of the profit."

Another AWBF initiative will form a design center to assist Afghan women in increasing the quality of their textile, furniture, and jewelry products. The AWBF will also establish a retail shop in Kabul that features products made by local women. In addition to producing the goods sold, women entrepreneurs trained by the AWBF will gain experience in other aspects of running a business by assuming responsibility for sales, staffing, and management of the shop's daily operations.

This project is one component of a larger CIPE initiative to facilitate private sector development in Afghanistan. The centerpiece of this approach is to empower local businesspeople to lead the economic and political reconstruction of the country. ■



*Mina Sherzoy, interim co-chairperson and co-founder of the AWBF discusses exhibit with First Vice President Ahmad Zia Massoud at the AWBF launch.*

## Iraq Poll...

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what single action the government could take to help them, 33% of respondents wanted better security, with business leaders in Baghdad rating the highest at 45%. The effective enforcement of laws and regulations, combating corruption, and better education and training – particularly in the areas of computers and English language – also ranked as high priorities for the Iraqi business community.

"One of the survey's key findings is that firms are seeing progress and this progress is building confidence. Nevertheless, Iraqi businesses want this new government to do a better job of providing a secure environment in which to live and conduct business as well as enforcing laws and regulations and fighting corruption," said CIPE Executive Director John Sullivan. "Business people around the world, and Iraq is no exception, want a sense of political stability. The optimism displayed by Iraqi businesses is being driven both by their sense of opportunity and the belief that a stable governmental structure is going to emerge." ■

## Russian SME Advocacy...

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legal protection from illegal inspections. Historically, government agencies that issued business licenses could inspect businesses without justification and would often levy significant fines. Now, fewer licenses are needed to open a business, and businesses are shielded from arbitrary and costly inspections.

Finally, SMEs are now guaranteed a role in state contracting competitions. SMEs have been awarded a set contract quota of 15% in the supply of goods for state and municipal needs.

'Small Business 2004' had a number of important accomplishments in its first year. This success is due in large part to the program's unique structure. 'Small Business 2004' is not a stand-alone program – it builds on the continued success of local advocacy efforts in Russia – and complements CIPE's USAID-funded SME Policy Advocacy Program, which tackles anti-business legislation at the local level in a dozen Russian regions. ■

## News in Brief

### Don Sherk to Lead Africa Program

CIPE has hired Don Sherk as its program officer for Africa. Sherk has an extensive background in economic development, having served as a principal advisor to the OECD, U.S. executive director of the African Development Bank, and as a member of the Bretton Woods Committee advising the World Bank on improving the investment climate in developing countries.



Sherk, who has a doctorate in economics from the University of Iowa, has spent the last six years as an independent consultant working for private firms and multilateral organizations on development projects including a strategy paper to reduce poverty in Nigeria, trade development in Ghana, and a training program for Nigerian officials under USAID's Economic Management and Capacity Building Program.

Sherk will coordinate CIPE's programs in Africa, working with local partners on public policy advocacy, economic reform, good governance, and investment. ■

### Award-Winning *Perspectiva* Magazine Targets Geographic Regions

CIPE's award-winning publication, *Perspectiva*, has been widely acclaimed as the first democratic, market-oriented reform magazine in Latin America. To date, its CIPE-supported publisher, the Instituto de Ciencia Política (ICP), has produced seven issues and has seen its distribution grow to reach eight Latin American countries.

ICP continues to improve its magazine with each issue. In addition to a new layout, *Perspectiva* has for the first time published different versions of the magazine targeted to specific regions in Latin America. Distributed in October 2005, ICP supplemented its eighth publication for the Andean region (Argentina, Uruguay, and Chile) with a section from *Foreign Policy* that addresses how the policies of developing countries can help alleviate poverty.

ICP will formally release the new issue of the magazine at a conference with renowned economist John Williamson, senior fellow at the Institute for International Economics, in Bogota, Colombia on October 26, 2005. ■

### New Corporate Governance Guide Available in Colombia and the Andes

The Colombian Confederation of Chambers of Commerce (Confecámaras), the Chamber of Commerce of Bogotá, the Andean Development Corporation (CAF), and CIPE have published *Keys to Corporate Governance*, which responds to the new challenges of corporate governance in the region. The publication will be a useful tool for Latin American companies working to implement principles of transparency, efficiency, and accountability in their organizations.

*Keys to Corporate Governance* includes useful articles and case studies that give practical advice on how a company can implement best practices. The book includes chapters by CIPE's regional corporate governance partners Eugenio Marulanda and Andrés Bernal of Confecámaras, and Daniel Córdova of the Peruvian University of Applied Sciences (UPC). The topics covered address a range of issues such as: "Corporate Governance in Closely Held and Family Companies," "Directors and Best Practices," and "Corporate Governance in Latin America: Beyond Sarbanes-Oxley." ■

## Iraq Updates

### Economic Files Continues Focus on Business

CIPE partner Aldiyar Production Center has produced and aired 9 episodes of *Malaffat Iqtisadiyya (Economic Files)*, a weekly business-oriented television program. The 75-minute Arabic-language program is the first in Iraq to focus solely on economic and business issues and it has been very effective at stimulating conversation on economic reform among the Iraqi public. ■

### Kurdish Leaders Explore the Links Between Democracy and Market Institutions

The American Society for Kurds and the Popular Aid Organization held a training program in Arbil in August. Kurdish decision-makers, academics, and members of the media and private sector attended a four-day program to discuss such concepts as democratic governance, civil society, rule of law, and transparency in a democratic system. Over 30 participants attended the program including many members of the Kurdish Parliament and the Arbil Governing Council. CIPE will publish a program report to disseminate the final findings. ■

The Center for International Private Enterprise is a non-profit affiliate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and one of the four core institutes of the National Endowment for Democracy. CIPE has supported more than 800 local initiatives in over 90 developing countries, involving the private sector in policy advocacy and institutional reform, improving governance, and building understanding of market-based democratic systems. CIPE programs are also supported through the United States Agency for International Development.

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# Philippine Think Tank Works to Strengthen Local Governance

The Institute for Solidarity in Asia (ISA), a Philippine think tank, has created a new governance program that challenges local governments to meet the same standards expected of the private sector. Although it has been in place for just a year, the Public Governance System (PGS) has already produced results in eight Philippine cities that elected to participate in the program.

On August 10th, ISA held a conference in Manila to showcase the success of its inaugural year of work promoting good governance and corporate citizenship at the local level. More than 200 people came to hear representatives from the eight participating cities (six mayors and two city administrators) discuss their efforts to improve public governance and reach milestones agreed upon last year when they adopted ISA's Public Governance System (PGS).

The PGS is a public sector performance measurement tool adapted by ISA from the corporate "balanced scorecard" principle used by companies to track milestones and achievements in governance reform over a given time period. ISA works with the mayor, other city officials, and various other sectors of the economy (business, youth, the media, academia, etc.) to help each city create a unique Public Governance Roadmap committed to improving local governance standards.

The cities of San Fernando (La Union), Tagbilaran, Calbayog, Iloilo, Naga, Samal, Cebu, and Marikina presented their scorecards, which evaluated each city's efforts to address the key aspects of their chosen roadmap. The scorecards apply to various departments of city government as well as major sectors of the economy, including business

*"I think the big mistake that we have in [the Philippines] is that when we think about governance, we think of government, and that is wrong. When we think of governance, it has to be the responsibility of the citizens to participate, to contribute - not just to criticize - and serve as the watchdog of people in public office."*

- ISA Chairman Jesus Estanislao

and civic associations. Each group has a part to play to achieve the goals outlined for their city. The scorecards are made public to encourage local citizens to get involved in the governance process and add to the accountability of public officials in eliminating corruption at the city level.

The conference adjourned by inducting the participating mayors and sectoral representatives as the first ISA Fellows who renewed their commitment to advance the sustainability of ISA's public governance program.

The ISA conference was rated "excellent" by participants and received front-page coverage in the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* newspaper. The August 11th article, "8 Cities Shine Amidst Gloom," featured the eight governance roadmaps presented at the event and highlighted that this was cause for optimism in a country often embroiled in turbulent national politics. ABS-CBN News (a national news program) also aired a special piece showcasing ISA's work to fight corruption and cronyism in local government. ■



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