

## FOREWORD

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This edition of *From Conflict to Negotiation* is 'special' in two ways. In the first place, it is special for the technical reason that it is more than a second printing yet less than a second edition. The text has not been fully revised as befits a second edition; however, the book has not simply been reprinted. Apart from this foreword there is a substantial postscript that advances the narrative of Dwesa-Cwebe's development to June 2002. Secondly, the new edition is special because its launch coincides with the second 'Earth Summit' (the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa: 26 August to 4 September 2002).

Besides its South African setting, *From Conflict to Negotiation* has a further relevance to the concerns of the WSSD. In significant ways the book links a major concern of the Rio Summit of 1992 and the new issues tabled for the Johannesburg Summit. Among its other aims, the Rio Summit, as we recalled in the preface to this book, 'provided the first public, international support for an alternative approach to the relationship between PAs [protected areas] and residents, insisting that considerations of social justice and ecological health should be priorities in all aspects of environmental planning'. In the 1990s, the PA-resident interface became an important nexus and test-bed for sustainable development in its translation from philosophy and policy to application, but in the challenging PA-resident context sustainable development as policy was seldom successful in delivering meaningful development to the rural poor (Ashley & Roe 1997; Fennell 1999).

The Johannesburg Summit continues the theme of sustainable development, but with the accent on poverty eradication and the replacement of the donor-recipient model of the relationship between developed and developing countries with a new model that takes account of the unfair terms of trade between North and South that underpins the failure of many local development initiatives. Although this radical approach is already encountering resistance from Northern participants in the run-up to the Johannesburg Summit a more radical approach to sustainable development is needed to halt escalating environmental depredations in the South.<sup>1</sup> ●f all the developing countries, those in Africa are in the most urgent need of development, and the Johannesburg Summit, given its location and leadership, should focus more attention on Africa's plight than hitherto.

Focusing on the conservation and development area of Dwesa-Cwebe on the Wild Coast of South Africa's Eastern Cape province, *From Conflict to Negotiation* explores the relationship between a PA and the adjacent resident communities from before colonialism to the present, and through a major environmental crisis to its resolution. Endemic local poverty and natural resource dependency intensified conflict between the residents and the conservation authority, but after the crisis it also motivated the search for a sustainable solution. Given Dwesa-Cwebe's natural and cultural assets, the chosen path to local sustainable development lies through community ownership, community-based natural resource management and community tourism. ●f all the global markets, however, international tourism is probably the one most skewed in favour of the North (Moworth & Munt 1998; McLaren 1998). South Africa in general and

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1 *Mail & Guardian*, 28/6 – 4/7 2002, supplement: World Summit 2002: 'It is actions, not words that count'.

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the Wild Coast in particular are newcomers to this industry. The future success of poverty eradication through community ecotourism at Dwesa-Cwebe, along the Wild Coast, and in the rest of South Africa, thus depends very directly on the outcome of the 2002 WSSD.

Through a heavily embedded and detailed examination of Dwesa-Cwebe's problems and prospects, *From Conflict to Negotiation* bridges the two Earth Summits and provides a pertinent justification of the continuing quest for sustainable development at the grassroots.

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