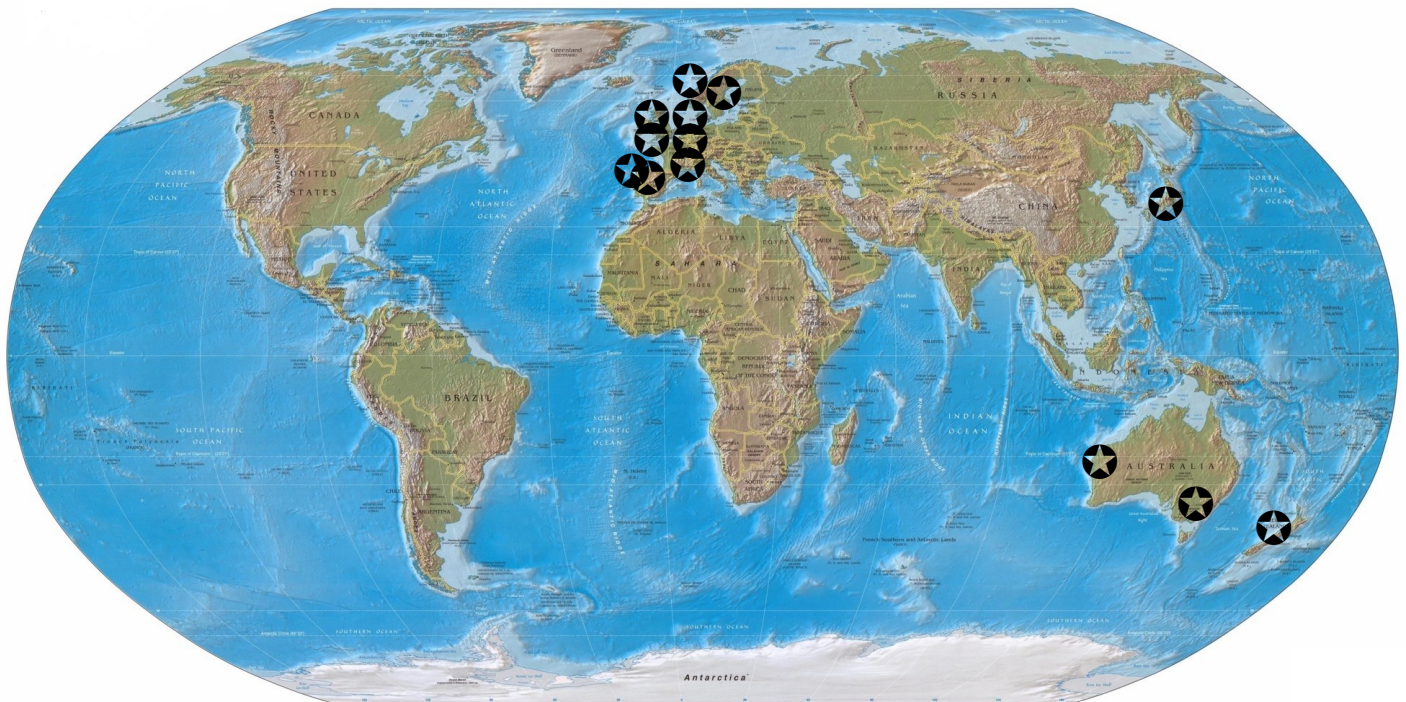


Bank Swirled



The Global Bank Implementation Team Announces the Short-List of Potential New Office Locations

26 Years IS Enough!
Bank Swirled's FINAL EDITION!

Bank Swirled

Vol. 26, No. 1 April 1, 2010

Analyzing humor is like dissecting a frog. Few are interested, and the frog dies. — E. B. White

New “Bank Network” To Replace IDA-16

Under tight security, the Development Committee met secretly this morning to approve a plan for radical changes to the Bank’s Articles of Agreement. The plan, adopted unanimously, dismantles the International Development Association, and replaces it with a new network-based development agency.

At a carefully scripted news conference, U.S. representative Timothy Geithner explained the decision. “The IDA Replenishment process has become overly complex, similar to computing self-employment tax for U.S. employees of international organizations. The process is unsustainable. Henceforth, all Bank costs, save those incurred by this Board, shall be funded by direct appeal to the taxpayers of our member states. This represents a victory for economic efficiency.” In accordance with the Board’s plan, on July 1, the Main Complex will be converted into a television studio. All staff will be fired, and must then reapply for new positions within the new “World Bank Network” or WBN.

On September 1, WBN’s “Channel 1818” will launch on 128 digital television systems in 109 countries. Its sole purpose will be to motivate the world’s cable television viewers to pledge contributions to fund IDA operations. “We believe the level of contributions that will flow to IDA will be proportional to the level of good will and prosperity this Board has generated over the past 60 years,” said Geithner, “especially if we use pornographic images from our 2003 tape backups of the W-drive. And to reach the all-important youth demographic, Channel 1818 will air between MTV and Comedy Central. It’s the perfect place for it.”

Programming originating from the WBG Studios will consist of *Beverly Hillbillies* reruns and IDA “success stories” to enable global viewers to see the results of past contributions. The success stories will feature project images as well as testimonials from employees in special *1818 Cribs* segments filmed along River Road in Potomac, Maryland.

“The challenge is enormous,” said the newly appointed 1818 Network CEO, Shakira. “We shall rely heavily on computer-generated landscapes, flora, fauna and local inhabitants to enhance dramatic impact and save on travel costs.” Aulikki (who now goes by only one name) added that in accordance with the Board’s plan, HRS has created criteria for the new Dev-Jockey job streams. “Dev-Jockey screen tests have already begun,” said her spokesperson Shigeo. “To our surprise, current Bank senior managers polled poorly with test audiences, scoring the lowest Q-ratings in television history. Some audience members physically attacked the screen. In contrast, we’ve had a spectacular response to every female JPA that auditioned, especially among male test viewers over age 50. The future of international development apparently depends entirely on these telegenic young women.”

Other new job streams include Executive Producer (one vacancy), Producer (two vacancies), Key Grip (10 vacancies), Gaffer (10 vacancies) and “Assistant” (9,194 vacancies).

Apocalypse Now

IFC has undertaken an internal restructuring to prepare its clients and staff for the demise of the world as foreseen by the ancient Mayans, whose calendar ends on December 21, 2012. The ground-breaking initiative — known as “IFC 2013” — provides a real-life simulation of the nightmare sure to follow the end of life as we know it.

IFC CEO and Executive Vice President Lars Thunell, addressing IFC staff this morning at his 4,732nd Town Hall, said “I am impressed by everyone’s efforts to get behind this exciting new way of growing our business. And I am even more pleased that the video link-up to the field offices is working better than in my first Town Hall.”

IFC VP for Human Resources Dorothy Berry explained the basic premise behind the new initiative. “We are poised to change the rules of the game. Feedback from staff and clients has illustrated that one of the frustrations in doing business with IFC is the lack of accountability engendered by our consensus culture. By establishing operations centers around the globe, moving Vice Presidents to the field and creating new Director jobs, we are not just decentralizing. We are pushing decision-making authority to our people on the ground and layering our inefficient matrix and poorly-designed industry clustering with decentralized decision-making, not to mention several new, overlapping directorships to confuse staff and blur accountability. We’ll create a post-apocalyptic landscape in which central authority is vaporized and countless chieftains roam the earth with bands of zombie warriors scavenging for scarce resources and fighting for their own survival.”

Reached for comment, Staff Association Chair Rachel McColgan Arnold responded “I-F-what? What is this ‘IFC’ of which you speak?”



QAG consultants arrive on-site to evaluate the construction of a primary school as part of the Yemen Education Project. Credit: Jamil Sopher

The Biodiversity Agenda (1)

Stung by recent QAG reports that nearly 200,000 bed-nets procured for tropical health projects were made of defective material that did not prevent mosquitoes from entering sleeping areas, the HD Network has embarked on an ambitious program to genetically modify insects to create bugs that are too big to penetrate existing bed-nets, much less windows and doors. Working in conjunction with trust-funded ENV biogeneticists, the project has already yielded its first 1.5-meter, 11 kg *Anopheles* anthropophilic mosquito, which will be introduced into six sub-Saharan countries next week. The scientific name is *A. holycraprunforyourlife*.

TTL Prai Ying-Mantis said that the project is risky, because when one of the genetically-modified female mosquitoes ingests a blood



ENV Sr. Biodiversity Specialist Ying-Mantis soils himself in this undated photo. Credit: EPA

meal, she extracts over three liters of human blood, a fatal volume. “We may have incorrectly crunched the mortality projections when we compared species introduction fatalities against malaria fatalities,” said Ying-Mantis, “but we are proceeding with this project nonetheless so I can use my last spouse points trip before my wife bites off my front tarsus and consumes me alive. Just to cover all the bases, we are also developing a dragonfly with a 7-meter wingspan so the new mosquito has a natural predator.”

meal, she extracts over three liters of human blood, a fatal volume. “We may have incorrectly crunched the mortality projections when we compared species introduction fatalities against malaria fatalities,” said Ying-Mantis, “but we are proceeding with this project nonetheless so I can use my last spouse points trip before my wife bites off

Around the World Bank

HSD, in partnership with the Staff Association and WBFN, now requires a mandatory soy-based option in all lactation facilities.

Luther Campbell, noted 1980s hip-hop pioneer and obscenity defendant, will perform his classic opus *Face Down, Ass Up* as part of the new policy requiring coach class mission travel.

Effective today, the HD Network moves to the J-building to reflect its current organization location within the Africa region. In unrelated news, a security checkpoint will be installed in the J-building tunnel to stem the tide of staff members fleeing to the Main Complex with all their possessions.

Vinh Nguyen, HR Systems Unit manager, announced today that to better reflect reality, the value of “N” in any field in HR’s PeopleSoft database will decode as “Not Sure” instead of the traditional “No.” The HR Service Center had strongly argued for even deeper reforms, according to Acting Manager Karen McDonald. “We would prefer all information in all PeopleSoft tables decode to ‘Not Sure’ as this is how we process transactions.”

Bank Swirled © Copyright April 1, 2010 by EXC Publications, Inc., a joint venture of the World Bank Group, Bob Zoellick and Shakira. Unauthorized duplication of this document will disable the photocopier, so make sure your JPA is around to fix it! Printed on paper manufactured from original growth virgin mahogany trees clear-cut from Amazon basin rainforests. Do not recycle. Deposit this document directly in a landfill (after soaking it in polychlorinated biphenyl), or litter it from your SUV window. This publication was written and typeset on company time using an ED5 Lenovo laptop with a pirated version of Microsoft Publisher (thanks, Nag!). Our Internal Orders are 2013135 and 2012980.

Bank Swirled was designed, written and produced by the World Bank Group’s 132-person Offshore Humor Team (Chennai) during the first quarter of CY10 at a total cost of \$214 (labor, materials and depreciation) plus \$36,707 (mission from HQ). This publication employs over 150 stunt doubles. No animals or actual World Bank Group managers were injured during document production.


Visit our webpage (and 25 years of back issues) at

www.bankswirled.org

E-mail us at editor@bankswirled.org

Please direct all negative comments and complaints to Graeme Wheeler if you can find him.

facebook Find People and More


 [View My Profile](#)

News Feed Top News · Most Recent



What's on your mind?

Bob Zoellick, Tiger Woods and Tony the Tiger are now friends with **Shakira**


Josette Sheeran is looking forward to the Ban Ki-Moonbounce at the UN Heads of Agency meeting. Bring shorts and a T-shirt, Bob, along with the IDA begging cup I gave you when W picked you!

 [Axel von Trotsenberg](#) and [Kemal Dervis](#) like this.
[Ban Ki-Moon](#) Thanks so much so much, Josette, for reminding me to wear something casual. Lunch at Per Se afterward?

Bob Zoellick wrote on Pascal Lamy's Wall Things are grim at the Doha Dude Ranch you recommended. They gave me a horse named Go-Pat-Crik which seemed to have a mind of his own, much like Nankani, Patel and Poortman. Wolfie was right about them. Horrible ride. Would rather be running around Lac Léman with you. Hope I don't run into Paul Blustein, with or without Cuban cigars from Dubai Duty-Free.

Tanya Bricovna wrote on Bob Zoellick's Wall My name Tanya. I am 29 years, Russia government official, former ballerina, very thin with good English and pretty. Not smoke. I hear you need Russian lady VP for finishing BRIC set. You make world-wide search and then select me? Need visa.
[Hasan Tuluy](#) I'm on it, Bob.
 [1818 Society](#) would like to be on the interview committee.
 [169 people](#) like this.


Caroline Anstey to Bob Zoellick I hear worrying things from GWU. Looks like Danny Leipziger may talk after all. Recall he and Michael Klein were the only ones not to sign the post VP Agreement #830. Should your bodyguards pay them a visit? We don't want the 8:30 outbursts to become public.
[Bob Zoellick](#) Thanks for the warning. Go ahead, but starting tomorrow have Leonard confiscate all BlackBerrys at the door. I'll check with Hillary what the rules are at State's Situation Room.
[Hillary Rodham Clinton](#) In your dreams, Bob.

Shelley Liebowitz to Bob Zoellick Bank archivist reports successful removal of all pre-RBZ presidential papers. They will be sent to Hanging Chad, Florida for disposal at the Baker Funeral Home.
 [Dick Cheney](#) likes this.

Yifu Lin to Bob Zoellick Will miss the 8:30. At a retreat for structural transformation. Told everyone it's at Oxford, but really it's an acupuncture spa and take-out in Chinatown. The 點心 is delicious. I see great application for LAC. Send Oby and Pammie after you're finished with them. Place gives good deals on retirement parties, too.
[Pmj Cox](#) can't make it, Shakira and I are getting Swedish massages.


Vincenzo la Via had a name plate added to his chair for the 8:30 Meeting so he does not have to arrive at 8:05 just to get his rightful seat between the MDs and Anne-Marie.

Kathy Sierra and the girls want to take [Bob Zoellick](#) out for his birthday. Hangar Club a possibility but Shakira said he wouldn't go. What might he like?

Van Pulley got the hidden microphones and cameras installed in the big offices in the C-Building before the furniture arrived, and is having the wires pulled to the little room next to Caroline's office.
 [Caroline Anstey](#) and [Wayne Nardolillo](#) like this.

Chat with Friends
Go Online

Suggestions

 [Barack Obama](#)
0 mutual friends

Sponsored



We Hired a JPA!

For more than a decade, and with good reason, this publication has ridiculed JPAs, who remain perpetually young and attractive as we grow older and fatter. So, we decided to hire one! We interviewed a brilliant, hilarious and ripped candidate named Ulrich. Unfortunately, he accepted a €120,000 job at a Frankfurt investment bank, so we settled for the next guy who walked through the door: a dork named Jorge who barely knows how to program a photocopier to staple and collate. The following is a transcript from Ulrich's interview on July 17, 2009.

Bank Swirled: Can we humiliate you in the workplace?

Ulrich: Sure – and if my direct supervisor is an attractive MILF who ritually degrades me, I'll save \$300 a week in cash, plus a drive to East Baltimore.

BS: Can you count high enough to calculate an annual net pension?

Ulrich: With my MS in econometrics from the University of Chicago, I'm really comfortable at making up numbers and pretending things will be fine in the long run.

BS: Good – although the ability to fetch coffee from Starbucks would have sufficed. We see from your extensive experience... uh, um, ok, hmmm. Look, do you actually know anything?

Ulrich: I may lack the core skills of forced resettlement and the structural adjustment-era "Hoovernomics" that made the World Bank great, but if you can get me on the IFC global transaction team, I'm confident I can lend to every high-polluting beef farm in the developing world, at least until I get a large enough bonus to pretend I am a real investment banker when I am getting loaded at lunch at Camelot.

BS: Do you have any scandalous information that we don't know already?

Ulrich: I have a cell phone video of Bob singing *Dancing Queen* into a hairbrush at a dwarf-throwing party in Doha.

BS: (yawn) Already got it. Anything else? Have you slept with any managers? Did you keep the photos?

Ulrich: Sorry, no. I do write Level GH-above erotic fan fiction and my illustrator is a perky level GG with a fascinating birth mark.

BS: Are there any other JPAs who think you're funny? What is your favorite Pokémon?

Ulrich: JPAs don't laugh. All they do is talk about their time in the Peace Corps, how they understand The True Nature of Poverty and how cool it is to live in Adams Morgan. I won't tell you my favorite Pokémon so I am not disadvantaged when we duel.

BS: Can you write anything longer than 140 characters?

Ulrich: R u srs? The Vietnam War is over, grandpa. LMFAO!

BS: Yes. Well, ah...good. Last questions: what do you want to be when you grow up, and where do you want to be in five years?

Ulrich: A Young Professional, and in Paris on a rest stop, staying at the George V, en route to Jakarta.

BS: (rising) You're hired. By the way, what's a "Facebook"?



An image from the concluding slide of HRS Vice President Hasan Tuluy's April 1 PowerPoint presentation to the Board's Personnel Committee, depicting HR's strategy to contain costs by "ring-fencing" benefits entitlements. Credit: Declan Henry



Responding to staff suggestions for increased culinary diversity, the H-Cafeteria will offer a "Field Maneuvers Breakfast Special" this morning for only \$3.49 including a small coffee. Credit: Restaurant Associates

WE ARE THE WORLD BANK HOPE FOR IDA

Music and Lyrics by Antonella Bassani

Bob There comes a time
 When we heed a certain call

Ngozi
and
Oby When the World Bank comes together as one
 There are air miles for flying
 For it's time to lend \$60 billion
 plus IDA -- the greatest gift of all

Hasan
and
Fayez We can't go on
 Pretending day by day
 That internal reforms will ever make a change

SA
Delegate
Assembly We are all a part of
 A great bureaucracy
 And the truth is that ice cream's all we need

Network
VPs We are the World Bank
 We act like children
 We are the ones who complain each day
 So let's start whining
 Spouse points are phasing out
 And mobility is ending
 It's true we want a raise
 And a few more JPAs

Shakira Well, well, well, well, well
 I guess Bono was booked
 So I'll stand here next to Bob
 In front of the oldest audience I've ever had

Sector
Directors Nous sommes la Banque Mondiale
 We act like children
 We are the ones who complain each day
 So let's start whining
 We are earning far too little
 And we need a promotion
 It's true we'd like more pay
 And the old pension

Managers When you're down and out
 Because you've had your OPE
 Just remember that it means almost nothing
 Your career depends much more
 On whose butts you kiss
 So let's ignore performance, just you and me

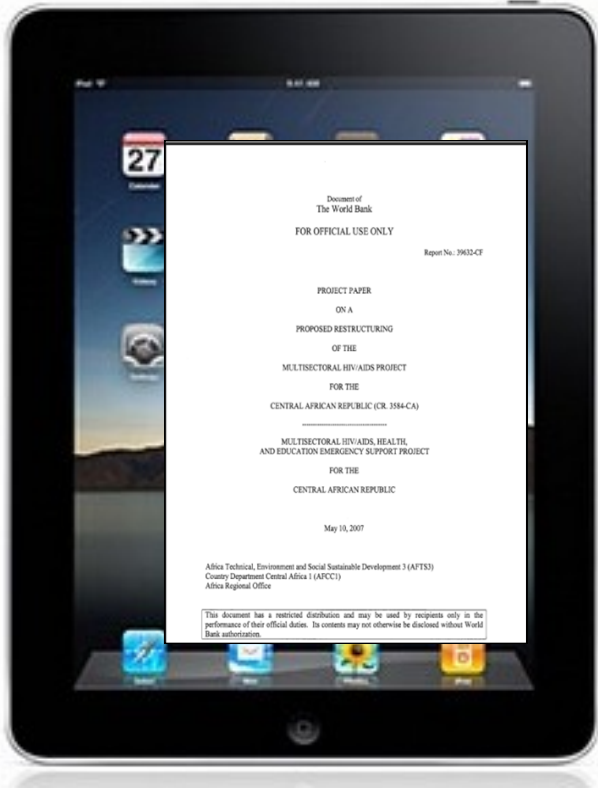
All We are the World Bank
 We act like children
 We are the ones who complain each day
 So let's start whining
 We are the World Bank
 We are smarter than the Fund
 It's true we'd like more benefits
 And first class travel would be nice too



Ngozi, on mission to Kenya to interview for the Elephant in the Room Director vacancy, is surprised by an unsuccessful applicant. No one was injured in the incident, although four workers compensation and two disability claims were filed. Credit: National Geographic

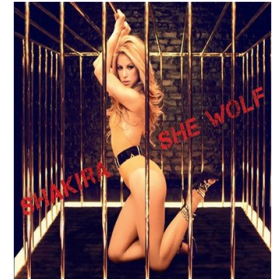


A magic and revolutionary product at an unbelievable cost.



“There’s an IO for that”

“I wish I could afford one”



“Good functionality but too expensive on a CIO’s salary”

Safari

Just because it’s 2010, don’t think the Country Director is unburdened enough to carry his own bags or drive his own car. iPad gets you there.

Mail

See and touch your email in ways that make you feel dirty, but in a good way. iPad simplifies a TTL’s life by automatically deleting all incoming correspondence, so you can be as surprised as you pretended to be.

Photos

With its crisp, vibrant display and unique features, iPad is an extraordinary way to remember your forgotten loved ones at home while you travel the world ending poverty. Are you surprised how old your children look? iPad isn’t.

Push-Button Restructuring

Are your DOs and IPs not being met? Are you in a hurry? With iPad, you can restructure your project at the flick of your thumb.

PCN, QER and Board Package sold separately. Not compatible with iFA, iCA, or iCAS. Now for sale in Albania.

Today on B-Span

5:30 a.m. *Your Daily Leak*. Full transcripts of Tribunal cases find their way to the *Wall Street Journal*.

8:30 a.m. *The 8:30 Meeting*®. Carly Simon sings the opening theme song, *You're So Vain*.

9:48 a.m. *I, Graeme* (Episode 9,434). Run-up to the season finale, the Managing Director replaces the retired "OK Pannenberg" with "Outstanding Pannenberg." Chuckling HD managers help themselves to another trust fund.

10 a.m. *Kathy!* Kathy tries on guest Shakira's spiked heels, but declines performing a duet.

1 p.m. *I, Graeme* (Episode 9,435). The Managing Director's usual MC-Cafeteria table is occupied by the Staff Association's Diversity Working Group. Julie and Oby invite him to sit anyway. (Violence, profanity)

2 p.m. *Iron Chef*. HD sector managers are split into teams and given the ingredients to make a cake. Halfway through, donors demand pie. Each team makes both cake and pie, satisfying no one. (Peanuts, trust funds)

5:30 p.m. *Anne-Marie Times Two*. The two Anne-Maries explain to three Directors that precedent is not a valid excuse to take money from BMGF even if you want to work for them after retirement.

7 p.m. *I, Graeme* (Episode 9,436). The movers and the archivist arrive. (Violence, profanity)

7:05 p.m. *The Mentalist*. Patrick Jane helps Pamela Cox and the StAR team hypnotize the Duvalier family as they travel by limousine from Zurich Airport to the donor pledging meeting on Haiti at the UN.

8 p.m. *Everyone Loves IDA*. Axel bricks over the J-building front door, solving intractable problems with operating in sub-Saharan Africa and meeting a 'non-negotiable' condition of IDA donors. Building occupants use donor trust funds to flee.

10 p.m. *World Bank Voice Idol*. Quarterfinals between the Mongolian throat-singers and the Tanzanian Ululators to determine who will advance to the 0.2% Voting-Shift Sudden Death Semifinal with the Belgian Wafflers.

11 p.m. *CCTV5 News*. Exposé of the new BlackBerry, which emits a fatal shock if the user types, blogs or tweets "Taiwan" instead of "Taiwan, China."

11:30 p.m. *I, Graeme* (Episode 9,437). The Managing Director exits by rope-climbing into a helicopter hovering over the Atrium skylight.

11:55 p.m. *I, Ngozi* (Episode 1). Catch the Fever! Malaria Fever! Live from the MC Atrium.

Now Playing at the World Bank Gigaplex

Avatar. A man trades in his humanity to become a JPA, joins a self-perpetuating perch in the sky, and seeks unobtainium (gainful employment after Bank).

Inglourious Basterds. A documentary of "mission babies" fathered by TTLs on operational travel.

The Hurt Locker. Chief Ethics Officer Anne-Marie Taylor delivers a tough message to TTLs.

The Blind Side. Adapted from the HR policy that allows G4 gross pension plan retirees to "resettle" outside the U.S. (and receive the full separation grant) and apply for a green card.

Up. Untold stories of promotion to GH.

Precious. The heartwarming story of the old Staff Retirement Plan.

Up In the Air. The Global Bank decentralization initiative after three years and \$152 million in consultant fees.

Zombieland. YouTube upload of AFR Region TTL Town Halls.

An Education. A day in the life of an Ethics Officer.

Green Zone. Terrified by the notion of permanent deployment outside the wire, grizzled IFC veterans and new recruits alike scramble to be mapped to a DC-based Global Industry Group. Explicit language, violence, sexual exploitation.



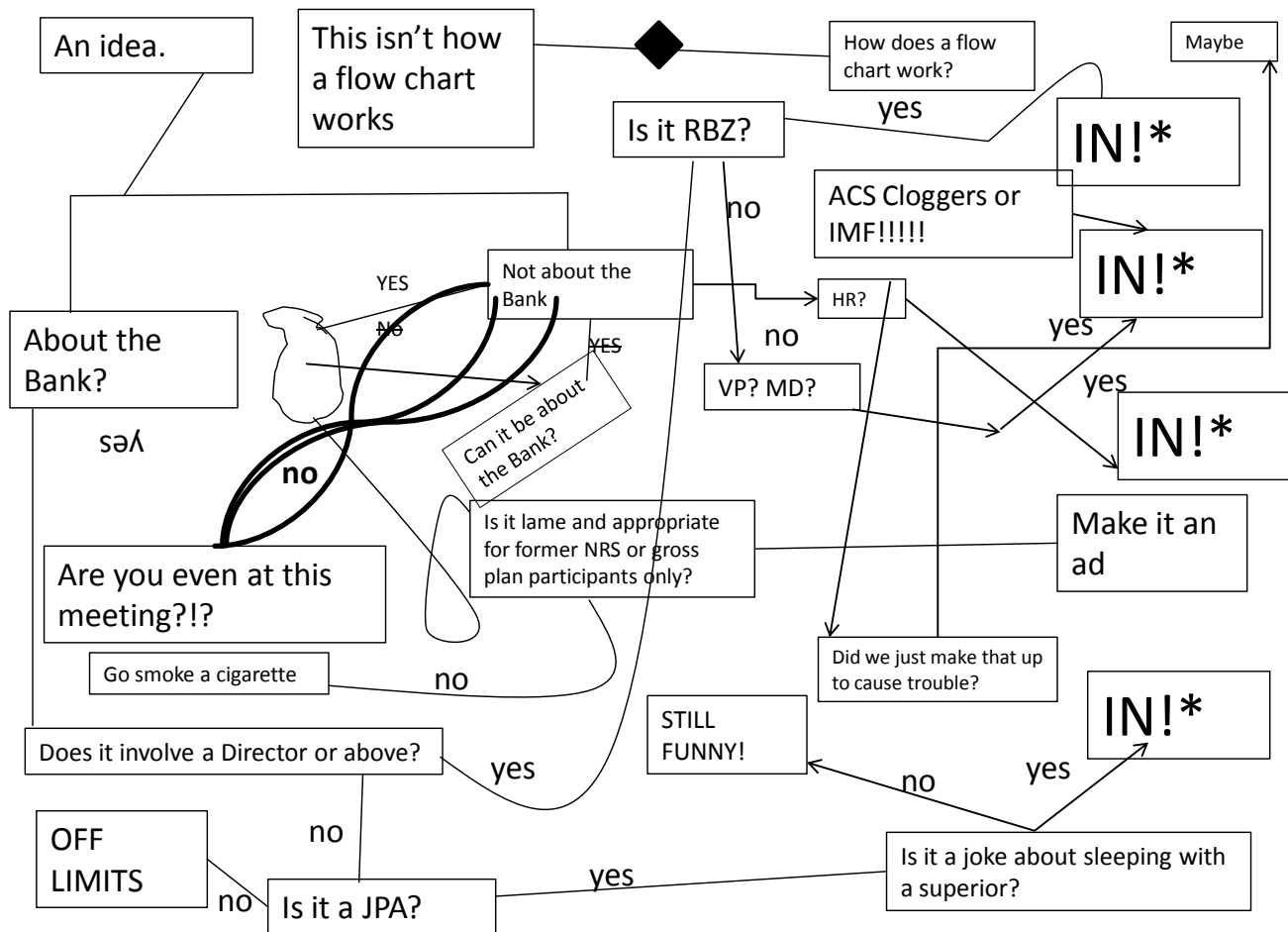
The first Zoysiagrass XR4 sedan rolls off the assembly line in Kaliningrad, Russia. The project, hailed by Bob Zoellick as "best practice in inter-agency cooperation within my sphere of management control," is a joint venture among ENV, Toyota, IFC and the U.S. executive branch. A hatchback model is expected in early 2018. Credit: Ansel Adams

Inside *Bank Swirled*

According to EXT feedback surveys, if you are reading this publication, you are asking yourself, “Sweet Mother of All That Is Holy! This is pure crap! Why aren’t these people fired?” Well, we at *Bank Swirled* felt the same way when we read your 2009 performance evaluation! Zing! Yes, we went there! We just flew in from Kinshasa, and boy, are our arms tired! Seriously, folks, we’ll be here all week — don’t forget your waitresses!

So, this year we are jumping on the Access to Information Bandwagon, which is the primary method of transportation between the F-building and the Main Complex and now runs on clean, efficient natural gas. We asked our new JPA to record the satirical evaluation process used to determine what ideas become *Bank Swirled* articles each year. We supported him with a \$1.6 million sole-source contract to Deloitte, who kindly agreed to kick-back \$800,000 to our numbered Cayman Island bank account per standard procurement guidelines. Much appreciated, guys!

By the way, our JPA insists that no staff member has ever slept with a JPA, including another JPA. Our JPA should know.



EDITOR’S NOTE:
 THE STARK SIMILARITY BETWEEN THE ABOVE CHART AND THE NEW IFC “FAST-TRACK” APPROVAL PROCESS IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL.

Fantasy-Loving Managers Take Over Evoke

According to anonymous sources (thanks, Van!), the entire World Bank Group Senior Management Team has abandoned all high-level meetings on Internal Reforms and instead devotes the time to playing WBI's addictive new online children's fantasy game, Evoke. HRSVP Hasan Tuluy confirmed the rumor, adding "I prefer a world of fantasy over a reality that includes Internal Reforms. Don't you?"

Evoke uses the web to empower the world's youth, especially in Africa, to "creatively solve urgent development problems on their own." However, Bank managers, using false Gen-Y identities, are the game's only players. Most African children are unable to participate due to lack of internet access, an urgent development problem they have yet to creatively solve. The few children with internet are also incapable of accessing the Evoke world. "Originally this wasn't the case," said WBI Lead Systems Designer Avi Tars-Rule. "Then we got a list of new requirements from an 8:30 Meeting discussion. Now you need 4 GB of high-speed RAM just to log in. The new 8:15 a.m. *Odyssey to Sit Next to Bob* fantasy alone requires 329 GB of disk space."

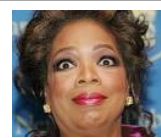


Avatar Shell-E is a savvy opponent who employs many skills including hacking into the accounts of other players.



Avatar N-Go-Z embraces the Elephant in the Room strategy better than anyone.

The Bank has essentially suspended operations as addicted managers devote all waking hours to the game. Game analysis offers a rare insight into the internecine rivalries that dominate World Bank decision making. According to game logs stored on encrypted Evoke servers (thanks, Hinda!), Bob Zoellick (who initially led the fantasy world) has been outflanked by Ngozi, who formed an alliance with Kathy to use an MDG Potion to immobilize the President with a fantasy "atomic wedge." During Episode 3, all managers briefly agreed to keep a Big Secret for over 36 seconds – an impossible accomplishment in the real world. And WBG CIO Shelley Leibowitz has provided fantasy high speed lines to Oby, Anne-Marie, Ngozi and Kathy, while squeezing Bob, Juan Jose, Lars, and Graeme painfully by their bandwidths.



Avatar O-Be's withering gaze can disorient allies and foes alike.



Avatar Lar-Z has bet everything on scoring 2,013 points before the end of FY12.

According to another senior manager, also speaking on condition of anonymity (thanks, Caroline!), staff need not worry. "The Evoke world ends at midnight on April 1. Darn! I just let the old tiger-eeno out of the bag. But we're all going to be winners in the end. See you in Heaven — fantasy Heaven, that is!"

Tired of Van jacking up the cost of space?
Need room for your Trust Fund consultants?
Want a bigger sofa for "aerobic conditioning"?

MOVE ON UP TO THE NEW C-BUILDING

**PRIME OFFICE SPACE
IN THE HEART OF DC!**

**Leased to you by
Treasury, Inc. & Kenron®**

Where you'll enjoy:

- Free iMacs, iPhones and iPads!
- Zagat-rated restaurants!
- Free iMax 3-D Theatre tickets (now showing: *Alice in Collateralized Debt Obligation Land*)!
- 1 minute commute (from Bethesda)!
- Day spa, Jacuzzi, steam room!
- Steps away from the Diplomatic Duty Free Store!
- A short 45-minute walk to the MC!
- YMCA and Washington Sports Club nearby!
- Secure, secluded parking for your out-of-state ranch vehicle!
- Autonomous, on-site OIS function flexible to your every business need!
- Deluxe Culpeper Cloud Data Center support!

PLUS: dine daily in the Wolfgang Puck Cafeteria, serving free range organic prime Wyoming beef.



Moo-ve here and eat me!

Subsidized by RAMP and SIP

The Absurder by Boris Summor

I do not often go to the 8:30 meeting (should that be capitalized?), but everyone above me in the Anchor was eating pastries in Alexandria at the Fiduciary Forum, so I arrived early to get a good seat in the back row. Not knowing all of them (either ex-YPs or friends of Paul or Bob), I was glad that Shelley had let me pilot her new Augmented Reality ED5 iPhone, which will be rolled out later this year as part of “IT Reform.” As I scanned the room with it, I was impressed with how it identified the assembled senior managers with their career highlights: India DIR, relocated toads, Albania, South African trials, Nam Theun 1, hoping to work for Bill Gates, Pakistani hawalas, telecom worker disappearances, big Pentagon welcome, Wyoming bison burgers, speechwriter for Jim, Vatican Bank. Apparently the EBC and INT live feeds of current achievements and the live OIS records of web searches (“tax-free Bank pension countries” is very popular, Ken tells me) weren’t ready yet, so as with all good iPhone apps I will wait for CareerEmbarrassments 2.0 before I order any for the rest of the Sector Board. The new sponsored link to Yelp will be particularly useful, so that newcomers know what to expect from the meetings they attend, and in ‘real-time’ as the IDA Controls people in Chennai would say.

Bob’s review of one-pagers took awhile due to the spelling and grammar mistakes. After the daily beating about Sudan and a tiger update, there was a long discussion of DEC’s recent report that while the BMI of World Bank presidents from 1968 to 2010 had followed an inverted-U shape (now safely back in the ‘eating disorder’ range), the average height of VPs had dropped while their average weight had increased beyond the bounds of what even QAG would consider a random occurrence. As I surveyed the room, I can’t say I was surprised. Under tough questioning from Vinod, Justin apologized that the charts had been inverted and the labels misplaced, and that in fact what had been circulated was Otaviano’s latest musings on the global recovery, correlated with MC-Café latté

prices and time spent in the Atrium debating crisis and response. We were all relieved, though Bob did say that some of the VPs had clearly been drinking too much merlot in the Tower Lounge at Frankfurt before boarding first class. He pronounced the morning run before the meeting therefore would resume, so I am glad I don’t have to attend every day.

Speaking of OIS, I agreed to be one of the pilot trainees (or is that “learners”? — I can never remember what Christian’s knowledge nomenclature taxonomy modernization calls me this decade) for the Access to Information rules that will be inflicted upon us July 1. The session got off to a bad start, as we debated the new classification categories: *Strictly Confidential* means that I look bad. *Confidential* means that you look bad. So far, so good, but I don’t see *For Official Use Only* meaning “it’s going to be leaked so just call it ‘public’,” as Peter Stephens argued before he departed on his first visit to Africa (I warned him to take his malaria pills, and drink his whisky neat). After all, the choicest stuff finds its way nicely to Whistleblower.org already, so why are we going through this? Since the Disclosure Handbook is disclosed, the negative list (shhhh) is hiding in the classification rules, which aren’t. Clever. We gave the training a ‘5’ in the WBI evaluation, and not just for the braised lamb and the spectacular 2006 Armand Rousseau Mazis Chambertin pinot noir. I suggested that adding at least one trainer that previously had worked for the Bank would be an ‘enhancement’ for the real roll-out, now scheduled for May and June, in time for the ‘other’ BS (bunching season).

One perk of my long and senior service is first choice of the finest DAIS assignments without the ambiguous indignity of PA999. Kristalina’s hasty decampment to Bruxelles and Ellen Degeneres’s even better-paying job meant Natalie could give me a spot judging *World Bank Voice Idol*. After two years of rehearsals, the finale will be just before the Spring Meetings. Working with Susanna and Samy is a challenge, each

trying to channel Simon Cowell. (FYI, Carlos agrees that it’s close, but Susanna — better accent — has it even if Samy’s hair looks more like Susan Boyle’s.) Unlike French figure skating judges, I have refused bribes, although one offer of 175 spouse points and a Restaurant Associates Coffee & Tea Card with seven holes punched was tempting. I do have to say that it’s a tough choice between the Mormon Tabernacle Choir with guest divas Celine Dion and Carla Bruni versus The Beijing No. 7 Opera Company, backed up by a Bollywood troupe doing a War and Peace hat dance on the Mariinsky Opera’s set. Each has his voters lined up (or is that *Los!*?) but on numbers and money, the MICs have it, for sure.

Well, maybe not quite yet. We are still arguing (slightly off-key, but you did not hear that from me since Ngozi maintains we are all right behind her, just like Bob and the VPs) over internal reforms of every sort. Having survived five reorganizations, designed by both consultants and Bank amateurs (I gained more weight during the latter), I have been active on the internal blogs (I go by “Anonymous”) and, having recently made a voluntary contribution to the Staff Association even without receiving the virus-invested thumb drive, I was asked to serve on the reforms steering committee. I thought Fadia’s template for risks made the VC with the country director more interesting when my last project was ‘conceived,’ though the idea of making up a rating for all 11 risks (including ‘bad food’ and ‘no airport lounge’) during implementation support, or whatever we now call an *aide-memoire* to omit “the dog ate the accounts before KPMG arrived,” just shifts the world-class story-telling downstream. Correlation does not equal causality, I told Peter before he escaped from OPCS. Paolo’s competency templates are even less compelling. Hiring Satan on a trust fund to work out the implementation plan might be a good thing: the Devil is far more into details than the designers. I hear many in HR would want to sign that appointment letter. I’m glad I’ll be on home leave.

👐😊👐 **“Visit Yourself at Work” Program Launched** 👐😊👐

Tired of sitting at your desk, staring at your computer? Does continuously trolling the Atrium coffee bar in search an important development discussion wear you down? Are you afraid your G-5 has finally learned that you are only paying her \$70 a week, and it is only a matter of time before Anne-Marie’s R&R (rock-and-roll?) investigators kick in your front door? Or are you simply feeling overwhelmed without any “me” time, unable to release that pent-up development-related stress in a meaningful and positive way? You are not alone, and your Staff Association has heard you.

Nothing re-focuses your energy better than a good visit — by you and for you. The Staff Association, in conjunction with HSD and the Transcendental Meditation Group, is pleased to launch the “Visit Yourself at Work” program. Once relegated to the showers in Fitness Center locker rooms (prior to the installation of surveillance cameras), the Staff Association has recognized these visits as a key component to Work-Life balance, and convinced senior Bank management to make “Visiting Yourself at Work” an officially-sanctioned Bank activity. Record visiting time in TRS under “Administration.”

Join your Staff Association in the MC Atrium today for the official kick-off of the “Visit Yourself at Work” program. Activities include: face painting, “Visit Yourself at Work” demonstrations from different cultures by fellow staff members (with a prize for the most relaxing technique), the ACS “Visit Yourself at Work” Mime Troupe, special “Visit Yourself at Work” massages and everyone’s favorite: Peace Pops!

👐😊👐 **“Visit Yourself at Work” FAQs** 👐😊👐

Question: Does “Visiting Yourself at Work” cause river blindness?

Answer: No. This is an urban legend perpetuated by the HD Network. “Visiting Yourself at Work” is generally harmless, although it can cause acne.

Question: I can’t “Visit Myself at Work” unless I think about other people “Visiting Themselves at Work.” Am I creepy or simply inclusive with regard to the Bank Group’s diversity agenda?

Answer: You are being inclusive and engaging in a “best practice.” Give yourself a hand.

Question: Are there any Bank-endorsed websites to help me “Visit Myself at Work”?

Answer: No. Currently, Bank guidelines prohibit such web access, but BlackBerry internet access does bypass the ISG filter.

Question: Do I earn spouse points during extended visits?

Answer: Yes, for married staff only who visit themselves at work outside their duty station country.

Question: Since I am so busy, can I delegate aspects of “Visiting Myself at Work” to my JPA while I focus on core development results and Board deadlines?

Answer: No, but you can ask another JPA that you do not supervise, as long as you disclose the visit to your manager.

Question: My “visitation drive” is very high, so I “Visit Myself at Work” several times a day. I am experiencing difficulties getting any other work done. What should I do?

Answer: While a small percentage of staff members do run the risk of over-visitation (which generally is harmless), some employees can become addicted to visitation. Please contact your health care professional.

Question: If I develop carpal tunnel syndrome from “Visiting Myself at Work,” am I eligible for short-term disability?

Answer: Yes.

Question: I share a cubicle with someone who “Visits Himself at Work” twice a day. I wish to be supportive, but these visits can be disruptive. What should I do?

Answer: “Visiting Yourself at Work” should not be disruptive to others. Please visit your Staff Relations Officer. If you are not a Staff Association member, join now and receive a free Staff Association umbrella!



The Staff Association

Our dream is a world free of accountability, with free ice cream.

QAGAT

Ratings & Reviews of Quality Enhancement

This tasty little project can't be beat for a big appetite for development results! But deep-frying is the only way to make the PAD more palatable.

Haven't we heard this one before, especially with a PAD so phony it would make Holden Caulfield's head explode? The rationale for performance-based grants used to be great, but now it's just grating. This project has big dreams of being awesomely average.

So edgy, it fell off! Even its really bad ideas deserve better treatment.

Calling this project mediocre insults mediocrity. The lessons learned from this project rival "Don't Eat Yellow Snow." Yet, surprisingly, it has a great reputation among people who have never been to Uganda. In addition to lacking any development effectiveness, the PAD lacked developmental effectiveness.

True innovation has never been so effectively stifled. What the project lacks in quality, the TTL makes up in hubris. This project is a beacon for Bank staff in mid-career crisis.

We loved the concept until we read the PAD.

"Development with a Grudge" – this project is charming in an invasive, totalitarian kind of way.

If working on this project doesn't get you laid, nothing will. Outstanding mission travel but be prepared for lots of drunk economists screaming 'Falafel!' during supervision missions. Still, when reviewing this project's inexperienced staffing, we are reminded that there is just something odd about toddlers being around you in a wine bar.

The project is good on paper, but better in the TTL's imagination. It tries too hard to make waste management pretty.

Even the GPS on your Mercedes GLK350 won't find this lost cause. With less than meets the eye, the spectacularly unspectacular PAD suffers from delusions of adequacy. "Implementation capacity" has never been more perfectly faked.

If they ain't using the disbursement trigger matrix as the key mode of reform in heaven, then I don't wanna go.

The Biodiversity Agenda (2)

The World Bank has announced new measures to prevent the Kihansi spray toad from becoming extinct. The toad (*Nectophrynoides asperginis*) was discovered in 1996 within a spray zone around the Kihansi waterfalls in the Udzungwa Mountains in Tanzania during the construction of the Bank-funded Lower Kihansi Dam hydroelectric project. According to Inspection Panel reports, the toad population's decline began in 1999 due to the disturbing presence of large, multi-wheeled construction vehicles. Subsequently, encasement of the toad's natural habitat within 500,000 cubic meters of concrete accelerated the decline.

An emergency loan condition, approved by then-World Bank President Jim Wolfensohn, involuntarily resettled the small surviving toad population to the U.S. With a \$6.3 million IDA credit in 2000, Tanzania established Toad Town, a new car-free neighborhood at the Bronx Zoo, with tiny schools, churches, mosques, toad-friendly townhouses and a Toad Town Center anchored by Whole Foods, allowing the toads access to imported organic Lower Kihansi gnats, a toad diet staple.

In 2001, based on an appraisal mission's recommendation, a massive spray irrigation system was constructed over flat ground several miles from the Kihansi Dam, with the goal of resettling the toads back to Tanzania. However, another Inspection Panel report criticized the lack of "meaningful consultation with the toad voice" prior to implementation which rendered the area suitable only for sports matches. "We did not wish to be repatriated to what is essentially a football stadium," said Lord Mayor Tommy Toad of Toad Town, croaking from the steps of Toad Hall. "But Toad Town is fast becoming overpopulated. As defenseless amphibians, our survival depends on rapid reproduction — our mature females lay 200,000 viable eggs each week. With the help of Jim, we seek construction of many new settlements all over the world. Only France, with its poor amphibian rights record, will be excluded."

ENV's study confirms that at their current rate of reproduction, Kihansi spray toads will cover the surface of the Earth (excluding France) to a depth of two meters by 2020, leading to the extinction of all other life forms. "That's not our problem," said Lord Mayor Toad. "We didn't start this."



Despite Inspection Panel reports concluding that the resettlement of the Kihansi spray toad from its native habitat in Tanzania to the Bronx Zoo was not biologically harmful, the 1996 (left) versus 2010 (right) appearance of the toad reveals very slight differences that may suggest a subtle genetic impact. Credit: ESPN

A Day In the Life...

...is an occasional look at the day-to-day activities of our colleagues.
Today: an IEG evaluation officer.

8:14am: Arrive, log in, and eat remaining pizza thoughtfully left by an ACS who worked until midnight.

9:06am: Write email to manager, begging for the rewrites of the evaluation reports I sent nine months ago.

10:21am: Write email to manager, begging for the rewrites of the ICR reviews I sent four months ago.

11:32am: Lunch with ECA Principal Agronomist, whose project I am evaluating. Order the grilled salmon with steamed asparagus. When I question the project outcomes, she starts to cry, and tells me that I just don't understand management pressure for satisfactory results. I pat her on the hand and buy her ice cream.

12:45pm: Write justification for ICR downgrades ordered by manager.

1:30pm: Personal time. Use the restroom; my urine smells funny. File Peer Review action based on the job rejections I got after I downgraded EAP's project ratings. Apply for four jobs outside IEG.

3:18pm: Extend the contract of my STC assistant for the 13th year at \$235 per day after manager refuses to increase the fee.

3:34pm: Extend the contract of a Bank retiree STC and increase the fee to \$1,400 per day at manager's request.

4:03pm: Join the weekly IEG Support Group Sametime session to further contemplate the true meaning of "Independence."

4:16pm: Attend mandatory IEG Prayer Session called by Vinod to beg the Board for his term extension as Director General.

5:06pm: AFR Principal Agriculturalist (whose project I am evaluating) offers a ride home so he can use I-66. When our chitchat turns to work issues and I question the project outcomes, he starts to cry, and tells me that I just don't understand management pressure for satisfactory results. We stop at the Baskin Robbins in Centreville, and I buy him ice cream.

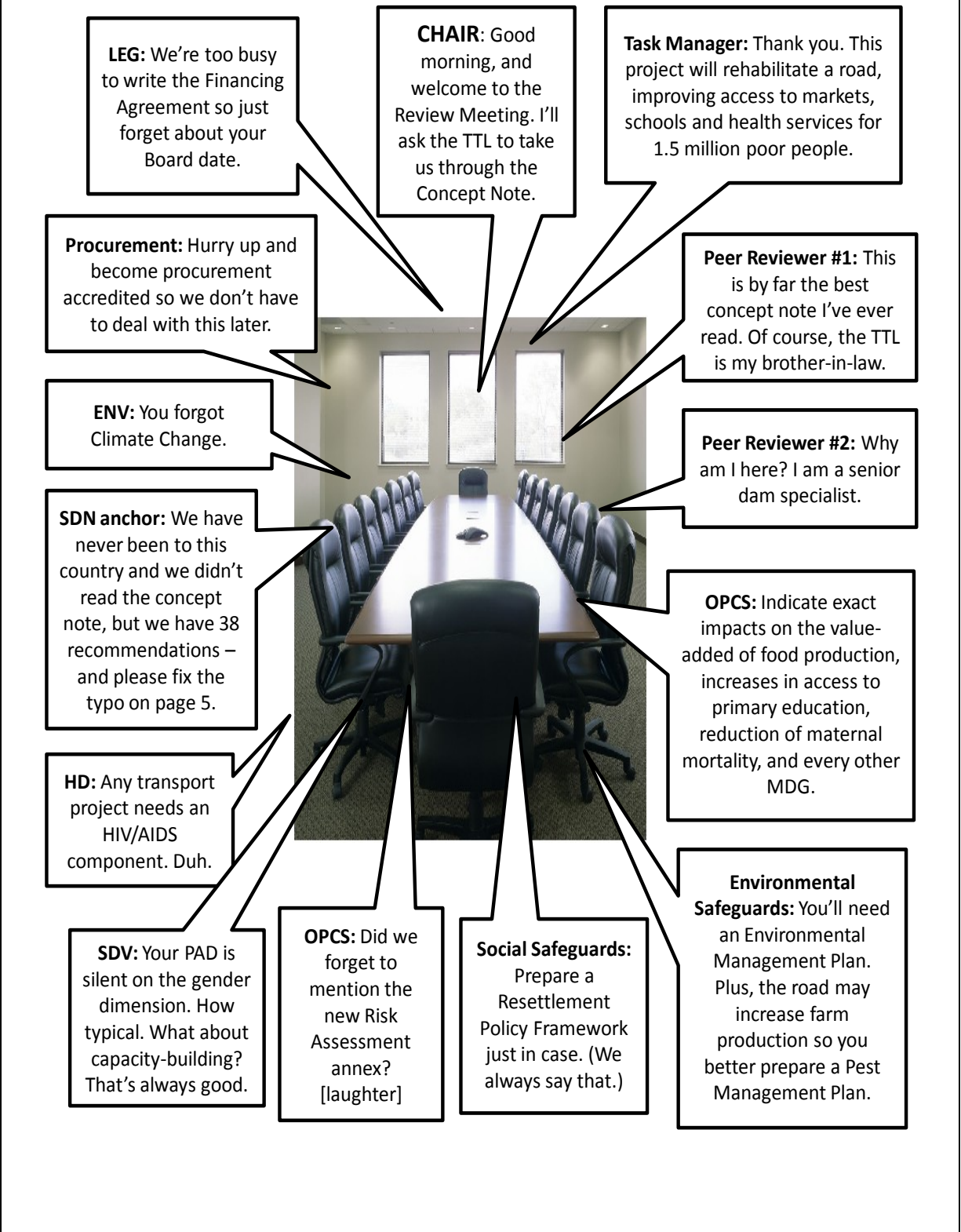
7:15pm: Dinner. Skillet Gnocchi with Chard & White Beans from <http://www.eatingwell.com>. Delicious.

8:15pm: Verify that the Bank retiree STC was in the same YP class as manager.

9:00pm: Watch *Lost*.

10:03pm: Marvel at the similarity between *Lost*'s plot line and IEG strategic objectives. Take two Xanax and go to bed.

The Fast Lane for Investment Lending



DO YOU SUFFER FROM MULTINATIONAL MYOPIA (BRETTON WOODS BLINDNESS)?

A new disease has emerged, affecting World Bank Group employee long range vision. Onset begins shortly after participation in a “10-Year Recognition of Service” ceremony, and intensifies after prolonged contact with a 20-year anniversary Movado watch. A full outbreak is characterized by any of the following symptoms:

*Floater*s: Objects drift across the field of vision, including but not limited to Swiss chalets and managers’ heads on pikes.

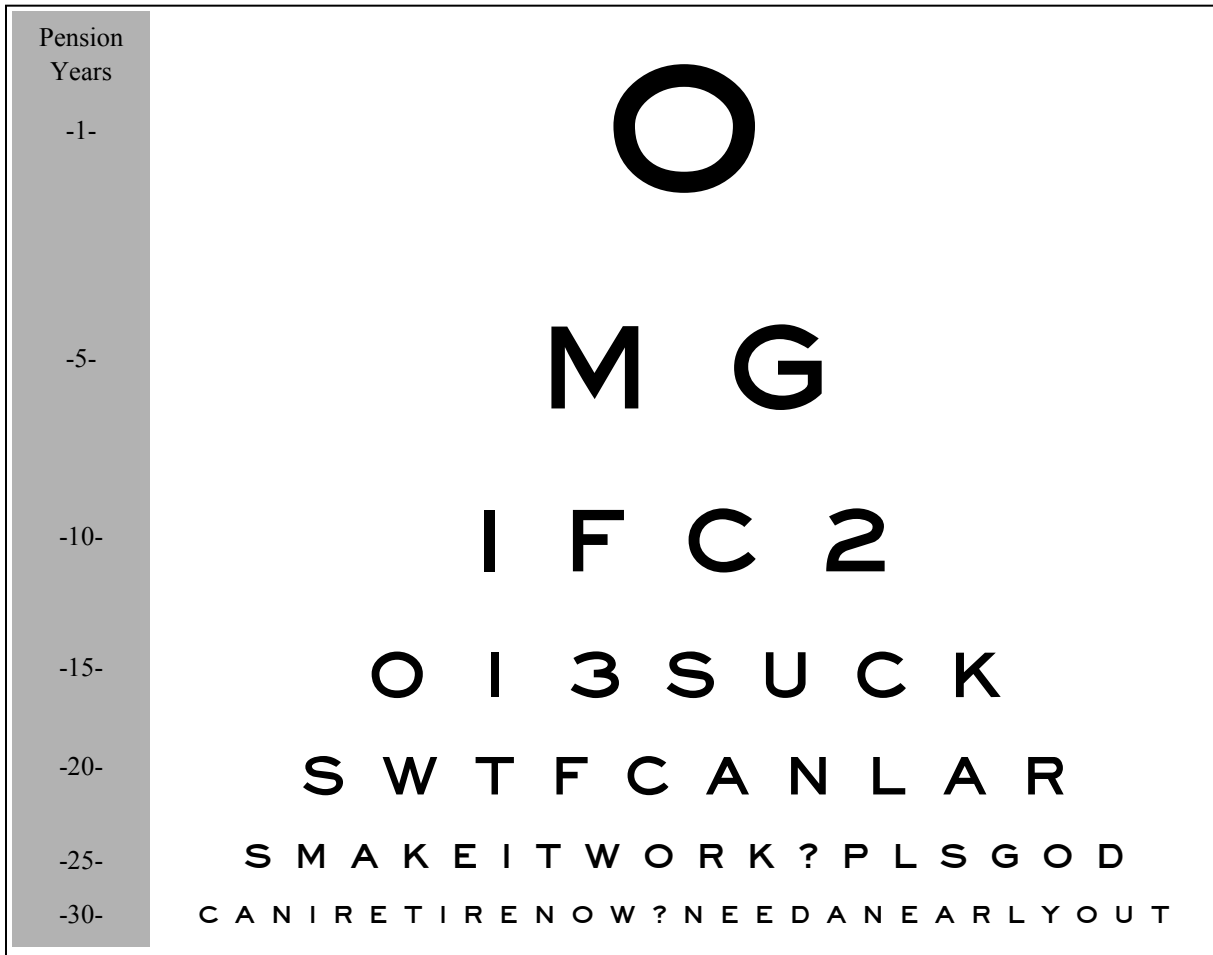
Detached Retinence: A blind spot renders corrupt and unethical behavior completely invisible, even at extremely close range. Most commonly detected in Country Directors and Country Managers.

Thunell Vision: Blind in one eye, and 20:13 vision in the other.

MacUser Degeneration: ED5 Vista workstations appear to swarm with insects.

Dry Eye: Inability to cry for Argentina. (Also commonly detected in IMF economists.)

If you experience any of these symptoms, please seek immediate treatment with a dose of an Early Out suppository (now available without a prescription from your local HR Officer). Take this simple self-test to determine if your long term vision has been affected. Simply remove your wristwatch, apply the Early Out as directed, and read the chart from a safe distance.



Revised Revised Reality

On April 1, the Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) will implement a new system for rating Bank projects. The current Revised Realism Index (RRI) is being replaced by the Revised Revised Realism Index (RRRI).

“The need for a new tool was urgent,” said one IEG evaluator. “Reality was catching up with us.”

IEG’s first evaluation tool, President Wolfensohn’s Mass Delusion System (MDS), rated projects on a scale from “Excellent” to “We’re Making You a VP!” The MDS was terminated by President Paul Wolfowitz, who, quid pro quo, was terminated shortly thereafter. MDS’s successor, the RRI, rated projects on a scale that included “Rubber-Stamp Satisfactory” to “Likely Less Than Highly Satisfactory So Let’s Have Lunch at Kincaids to Talk It Over – Your Treat.”

Relying on a \$16.2 million sole source KPMG study, the new RRRI corrects all previous deficiencies, and will measure projects against the Bank’s own internal standards for reality, which incorporate factors typically overlooked by conventional reality. “This time, we’re going to get reality right,” said an IEG spokesperson.

IEG relies on retired Bank specialists to evaluate projects, favoring those who have demonstrated an unwavering detachment from reality throughout their careers. Once rehired by IEG, evaluators are ensured isolation from all forms of political pressure and from income tax on their gross pension plan payments as their G4 visa status is retained while they serve IEG “with complete impartiality.”

The Bank Group has long been recognized as a global leader in reality revision, with experience dating back to its first large dam project



Even this 1969 urban project received high marks from evaluators. Credit: NASA

in 1947. Evaluators had initially assigned the project a low rating due to the use of substandard concrete combined with the primitive in-flight entertainment in BOAC First Class, which on multiple occasions, featured dancing bears whose choreography eschewed the traditional paradoxical mix of regimented *tours chaînés déboulés* and kinetic *furioso* of the 18th century Weimar School of Terpsichorean *Ursidae* for a haphazard pastiche of postmodern baroque *Rigaudon* entirely unsuited high altitudes. [Editor’s Note: a tragic incident involving a dancing bear named Shirley and a jet-lagged Bank VP led to the 1959 travel ban on airlines that offered live animal acts as entertainment. This policy is now codified in AMS 14.05.]



Shirley disembarks in Ceylon in better times, circa 1957. Credit: Annie “Shelley” Leibovitz

Fortunately, just prior to going public, the dam project’s rating was revised to “Highly Satisfactory,” with the blame for catastrophic failure placed on the upstream indigenous population’s “inability to survive underwater, despite the Bank’s retroactive pledge to sponsor tribal, though not individual, aquatic skill-building sessions at a sensible discount.” A robust reality revision component has been considered best practice for all Bank projects since.

To raise the awareness of the new RRRI, all staff will be required to complete the on-line course, *I Can’t Believe It’s Not Truth*, which explains the limited role that reality plays in evaluating Bank projects (and running the Bank in general).

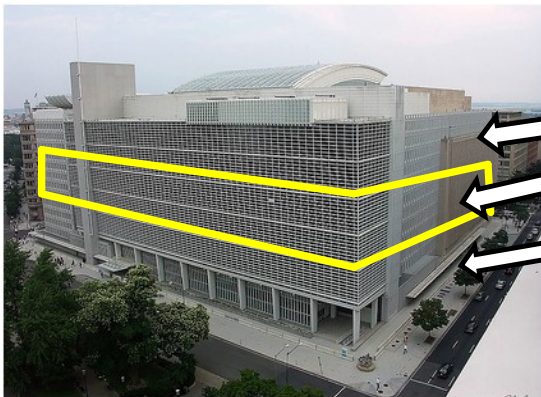
The new RRRI will be implemented using the Operational Risks All-Fudged (ORAF) template. The Executive Directors will continue to use their own secret tool, ensuring they maintain a concept of reality unto themselves.

Starting in 2011, the Bank Group will begin revising surrealism as well. Implementation is expected to be smooth as most staff members are already innately familiar with this subject.

April 1 also marks the start of “Revised Revised Realism Awareness Week.” Free key chains, ice cream and key chains made of ice cream will be offered in the MC Atrium at 4 p.m. today. Entertainment will be provided by the ACS *You Can’t Handle The Truth* Cloggers, none of whom is a bear.

CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

"Greening the Bank by Persecuting Consultants"



Regular staff

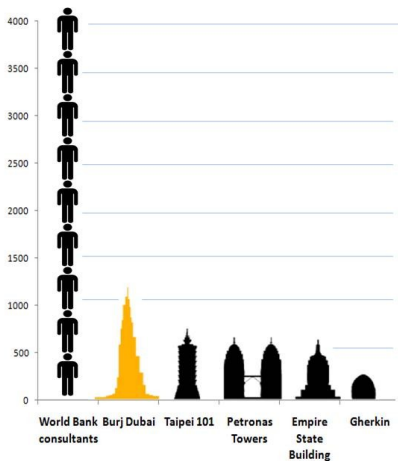
Consultants!

Regular staff

FACT: Currently, there are more than 2,700 STCs, STTs, and contingent staff who work fewer than 190 days per year, yet are assigned **year-round workspaces** in our downtown campus — the equivalent of 4 full floors of the MC building! That's a lot!



FACT: At two cups a day, these consultants consume almost \$6 million worth of gourmet coffee each year. Wasteful? Yes – and just think of the rainforest devastation!



FACT: If you stacked those consultants up, one on top of another, they would reach a height of 4 km. That's four times higher than the Burj Dubai tower!

FACT: Compared to regular staff, consultants are 1.8 times more likely to leave their lights on when they leave the office!



FACT: The average person passes about half a liter of gas per day, meaning that our consultants produce almost 500,000 liters per year, including methane, a powerful greenhouse gas!



BUT GSD IS TAKING ACTION! By moving consultants to dark, damp basement cubicles and elevating stress levels through abuse and bad coffee, we can harvest enough methane to heat the Main Complex AND offset the Bank's carbon footprint. Who says Going Green can't be fun?

*GSD Security reminds all staff members to update their ID photo at least once every five years. Safety is everyone's business.

And finally...



We've reached the Rule of 85, accepted an Early Out, retired, joined the 1818 Society, "resettled" to Europe, received the full separation grant and applied for a green card. Who knows what might happen in 2011, if we get an STC appointment...

But we aren't counting on it, so we end with the first serious sentence in our 26-year history: "We hope you've enjoyed reading *Bank Swirled* as much as we've enjoyed writing it."

Now, get out there and end poverty, you knuckleheads.

— BS Editor editor@bankswirled.org