

No Word For Worry



Runar Jarle Wiik

Runar Jarle Wiik is an established Norwegian film director. His two latest films on indigenous issues (White Canvas – Black Hyena and Suddenly Sami) have won international awards. Runar had exclusive access to the Moken community in the Mergui and developed the documentary “No Word for Worry” as part of the Project Moken: this project lasted about seven years.



Oriol Freixa Matalonga

Oriol Freixa Matalonga is an independent expert in international cultural cooperation, Oriol Freixa Matalonga has 20 years of experience in the management of development cooperation programmes in international organizations of the European Union (EU) and United Nations (UNESCO and UNDP). At present, he collaborates as UNESCO expert in the UNESCO Office in Brussels.



Niels Engelschiøn

Niels Engelschiøn was appointed Deputy Head of the Mission of Norway to the EU in 2010 and became Ambassador of Norway to Belgium in 2011, after having served as Minister Counsellor at the Embassy of Norway in Stockholm for two years. Before this, he was a Seconded Diplomat in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden. Prior to Stockholm, he served at the Ministry of Foreign affairs in Oslo for five years.



Cristina Gallach

Cristina Gallach will take up the post of UN Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information on 2 February 2015. Currently, she is the Head of the Public Relations Unit in the Council of the European Union, Directorate General for Information and Communication. During her career she has worked for more than 15 years as a journalist.

JOIN US ON TWITTER AT @CINEONU AND TWEET ABOUT TONIGHT'S EVENT USING THE HASHTAGS
#CINEONU AND #NoWfW

Our next screening will take place in February! More info at www.unric.org/en/cine-onu

Check out our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CineONU>

The Moken People

The Moken are thought to have migrated to Thailand, Burma and Malaysia from Southern China approximately 4,000 years ago. Spending eight months of the year at sea, the Moken have traditionally roamed in small flotillas of kabang – boats fashioned from a single tree and shared by a nuclear family – and return to land only to barter fish and shells for essentials such as rice and petrol, or to wait out the monsoon season in temporary shacks. It is a way of life that has existed, unchanged, for centuries.

Apart from a handful of researchers who had studied their language and customs the Moken were relatively unknown until the 2004 tsunami, when headlines described the mysterious "sea gypsies who saw signs in the waves". Keenly aware of the sea, the Moken in some areas knew the tsunami was coming and managed to preserve many lives. But the Moken did not escape severe devastation to housing and fishing boats, and severe depletion of the ocean's array of seafood—the only source of the Moken's livelihood.

Those Moken who have moved ashore are often forced to take dangerous jobs for menial pay. Often they return to land after months afloat only to find their huts destroyed and luxury tourist resorts built in their place. Surin island, home to a large Moken settlement, was turned into a national marine park by Thailand in 1981, rendering illegal traditional Moken activities such as fishing and logging (in order to make boats). Those who stay at sea are sometimes arrested for lacking papers or permits and most are stateless. Claiming full-blown citizenship is a complex task, especially for a nomadic people who hardly use numbers and mark the date according to the tide, not the Gregorian calendar.

Indigenous People - Cultural and Linguistic Diversity

Indigenous peoples live in all regions of the world and own, occupy or use some 22% of global land area. Numbering at least 370-500 million, indigenous peoples represent the greater part of the world's cultural diversity, and have created and speak the major share of the world's almost 7000 languages. Many indigenous peoples continue to be confronted with marginalization, extreme poverty and other human rights violations. Through partnerships with indigenous peoples, UNESCO seeks to support them in addressing the multiple challenges they face, while acknowledging their significant role in sustaining the diversity of the world's cultural and biological landscape. UNESCO places the needs of indigenous peoples amongst its priority areas for response.

UNESCO is leading the way in education with two angles of action – first, to promote the use and survival of indigenous cultures, languages, knowledge, traditions and identity, and second, to provide knowledge and skills that enable indigenous peoples to participate fully and equally in the national and international community. UNESCO's Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems programme is the spearhead of its action – to advance respect for indigenous peoples' rights to maintain, control, protect and develop their traditional knowledge, and to participate in environmental decision-making. To this end, UNESCO works to promote the role of indigenous knowledge in major intergovernmental environmental processes.

For more info about the movie, please visit: www.projectmoken.com

