Any study of a Biblical Worldview immediately highlights the challenge that we all have in dealing on a day to day basis with the devil’s lie that life is divided into sacred and secular; public and private. In the US and growing here in Australia, is an inaccurate application of the concept of the separation of Church and State. We are often told that religion and politics do not mix.

There are churches everywhere that preach the truth of God’s Word passionately but when we analyse the concepts behind the message they too tend to support the idea of a segmented life. Australian Christian Schools are under pressure from government agencies with regard to teaching Creation in Science. This is a similar problem of presenting life in a segmented form. The government seems to intimate that creation is religion and needs to stay in church and not impose itself on school. The issue is actually the study of origins and all teaching in a Christian school be consistent with a Biblical Worldview. The issue is not one of science verses religion. It is actually more accurately faith verse faith because all views have to believe what happened because no human was there to give an eyewitness account and or make a written record.

The same dichotomy occurs when we talk about ministry and business. It is a widely held belief, by what I hear people saying, that ministry and business appear to be mutually exclusive. We tend to think that because we want our school to be a ministry of the local church then it must be free and all of the workers will be volunteers and receive no regular wages and should just trust the Lord by faith for their daily welfare. When we try to charge appropriate fees and pay appropriate wages we get accused of making God’s work into a commercial business, and yet the Bible makes it plain that the worker is worth of his hire and those who live by the gospel should eat by the gospel. The question has often been posed “Is your school a ministry or business”.

Why can’t it be both? I was recently asked whether ACE has a heart for ministry and the implication was clearly whether we can get the PACEs without having to pay for them. This concept saddens me not because we cannot give the PACEs away free but because the devil’s lie that ministry and business are so diametrically opposed is so entrenched in the hearts and minds of believers today that it generates such a question.

I put to you that to think of ministry and business as two different things is counterproductive to the ministry of the Christian school which like any other Christian ministry must be run on Godly businesslike terms so as to be upright before God and men.

Is there a faith factor in Christian work of course there is. Let me use the staff of the Schools Services Department as an example. Do we pay them a regular wage? Yes! of course together with all of the add-ons that we are legally responsible for. Could all of my staff earn higher wages by working outside this Christian ministry? Yes! Why do they work the long hours and difficult conditions in this department? Because they have a heart for the ministry and believe that serving this way is God’s calling on their lives. Does the fact that we pay our staff wages disqualify SCEE as a ministry? No! Of course not! We are in a service industry after all and as I am sure you are aware service and ministry are synonyms of each other.

In Nehemiah 11 we read about the Levites who had the oversight of the business of the house of God. Would we conclude that these Levites were not serving God? No! Of course not.

It is my view that the word ministry has to do with my attitude to the business that I am in, and the word business has to do with the methodical way I go about this ministry. All Christian ministries need to be run on Biblical business principles and I believe that all believers should see their employment as the ministry to which God has called them.

Roy Savage
From the MD

We watched with horror and fascination as the first vision of Japan’s cataclysmic tsunami streamed live over the web. It was Friday afternoon and the first after-lunch session of the 2011 Indonesian Educators’ Conference was well under way. We needed to determine if the location of our conference, Pluit in North Jakarta, was at risk from this ever widening wall of water racing across the Pacific at some 800kph. Our best advice was that, being shielded by the Philippines, Sulawesi and Kalimantan, it was unlikely there would be significant impact on the north coast of Java. Thankfully, this turned out to be the case, however whilst even the Philippines escaped serious damage, such was not the case for Hawaii and the US West Coast.

Coming so closely on the heels of the devastating floods in Queensland, NSW and Victoria followed by a category 5 cyclone in Queensland and then the shattering earthquake in Christchurch, many people were quite naturally becoming unsettled. Strengthened by the ripple effect of political upheavals across the Arab world including military intervention in Libya, along with the continuing nuclear threat from the damaged Japanese reactors, they began to ask; “Are these signs of the end times?” Others were asking; “If God is in control of the world, why does He allow things like this to happen?”

In addressing the second of these questions first, we recall that Jesus referred to the devil as “the prince of this world;” (John 12:31; 14:30) and also “…the prince of the power of the air…” (Ephesians 2:2). In Luke 4:6, Satan identified himself as having authority; “And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me…” Jesus also said of the devil that: “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy;…” (John 10:10). So if the Word of God describes the devil as one who exercises authority in the world (for what else does it mean to be a prince?) and that his purpose is to kill, steal and destroy, then we would expect to see evidence of this in world affairs.

Certainly we can see the marks of the devil all over the developing crisis in the Middle East. Does this fulfill the prediction of Jesus that there will be wars and rumours of wars? And what about the apparent sudden upsurge in “natural” disasters? Are they also caused by the devil? In Romans 8:20-22 we read:

“For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.”

When God created the Earth and subsequently placed a curse upon it because of the sin of mankind (Genesis 3:17), effectively introducing the second law of thermodynamics into the universe, He knew that the system He created would gradually “wind down” and become increasingly less stable. What we call “natural” disasters today are symptoms of this “winding down” or what the Apostle Paul describes in Romans 8 as “bondage of corruption”.

So we see two possible but perhaps separate causes for the turmoil that seems to be breaking out on planet Earth. But are they linked as being signs of the last days? Let’s read again what the Lord had to say about this in Matthew 24:6-8

“And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.”

Are we seeing the last days coming upon the Earth? If we are, then what we are currently observing is what Jesus called “the beginning of birth pains”. There is, as yet, much more to transpire before the return of the King. If this is so, then, in the words of one of Christendom’s greatest philosophers, Francis Schaeffer, “How Should We Then Live?”

Peter encourages us in 2 Peter 3:11 & 12; “You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.”

In other words, we ought not be frightened or afraid of the things that are coming on the Earth but rather, recognise them as the certain fulfilment of the Word of God and redouble our efforts to ensure that when He does return, He will indeed find faith on the Earth. Faith in our hearts, first and foremost but then faith in the hearts of the students He has so graciously allowed us to minister to.

Seeing that we know what the end will be (even though we do not know precisely when it will come), it encourages us to know that there is a purpose to be fulfilled, a task to be accomplished, a meaningfulness to the long hours and the often pressured circumstances in which we frequently find ourselves. It is the surpassing joy of knowing that we are preparing His children to fulfil His purpose so that when He does return He will find faith on the Earth. Faith in those who have diligently trained young people in the way they should go and faith in those young people.

I commend you in the ministry to which you are called.

Bob Gregory
Managing Director & CEO
I have just returned from Jakarta, Indonesia - George Sears, Bob Gregory and I were there for Educators’ Conference. Just over 105 delegates came from 22 schools. 5 schools from Malaysia joined us and 3 of the Indonesian schools were new to the program so that means that 15 of the current schools in Indonesia were present at Conference. Janto and Ester Djaja, who are our Indonesian Co-ordinators, do a marvellous job in putting everything together to ensure a positive conference experience for everyone. As a result of conference, three new schools are planning to commence and once brother Bob has finished his extended visit to other regions of Indonesia it could be more. The field in Indonesia is quite large and we are asking you to pray for that nation and for the Christians there as they influence a strongly Muslim country. There are mosques everywhere and broadcast prayers over very loud public address systems even at 3:00am! The schools that are there are very keen to get Christians working in their schools and when I was talking to brother Kelvin Tjoeng, who is a board member of Sekolah Wesley Pelita Bangsa, he indicated their need to have quality teachers and speakers of English serving in a mission capacity for significant portions of time. What is most needed at this point in time are qualified teachers who are fully financially supported by their homeland contacts. These teachers could then be serving in a local school in Indonesia where the local school may be able to provide accommodation. Any support of this nature will be helpful. A term, a semester, a year...please pray with me that we can find suitable people that could serve the Lord in the Christian Schools in Indonesia using the ACE program. If you are that person or you know someone who might be interested please contact me on roysavage@scee.edu.au

Prior to going to Indonesia I was in Fiji where we held their Educators’ Conference at Nausori Baptist Christian Academy. Nausori is about 30 minutes drive from Suva. It was a great opportunity to work with local presenters to deliver that conference. My thanks go to Pastor Malakai Rotoduru for his help in organising the conference and getting some consultation done for Fiji Social Studies curriculum. A consultative group was formed in Fiji to advise SCEE with respect to curriculum development. The work that the Educational Services Department is doing through Dr George Sears is rapidly growing and there are Social Studies PACEs now for PNG, Indonesia and soon I believe we will see materials being developed for Fiji. Please also pray for brother George and all those involved in developing local curriculum.

We now look forward to Educators’ Conference in Papua New Guinea commencing on Tuesday 29 March in Lae. Brother Bob Gregory, George Sears, Kathy Fisher and I together with our two PNG Coordinators, William Bandi and Jay Freeman will be ministering to a group of about 200 of the ACE family in PNG.

Invitations have been sent to a select number of people to attend our first Student Convention Summit. All of those who were invited have responded positively and we are looking forward to a positive time together on 9-10 May 2011. You might like to pray for them and us and for Dr George Sears who will be the Summit moderator. As I mentioned in the last SCEELELRATOR we want to fine tune our student conventions to better meet the needs of students. For such a summit to be effective the number of people involved needs to be limited, however I am inviting anyone else in the ACE family who may be interested to send their suggestions to me by email. As I receive emails with suggestions to improve Student Conventions, I will submit them to the summit moderator for inclusion in the report to the SCEE board once the summit is concluded. If you would like to make a contribution please send your email to roysavage@scee.edu.au.

South Pacific Student Convention 2012 is still part of our planning and preparation. We are getting very close to making an announcement, however, there are still some agreements that need to be signed and costs which need to be identified before we can confirm the location. Keep watching the SCEELELRATOR because we hope to have a venue confirmed before New Zealand Student Convention in April. There also may be outcomes from the Convention Summit which will need to be responded to immediately and may influence our decision for South Pac 2012.

International Student Convention is also rapidly approaching and it looks like we may have the first school from PNG at ISC this year. There is also a large group of New Zealanders and some Aussies as well so it could be the largest group that has ever attended from the south pacific. We will be at James Madison University at Harrisonburg, Virginia. After convention the group will be heading to the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky. This is a must visit for any believers who may be going to the US. Take a whole day and experience the history of life on earth from a Biblical perspective. The last time we were there we had a behind the scenes tour with Ken Ham himself which was a real blessing. Ken is a humble man but has achieved a great amount for the Lord from his days as a Science teacher in Queensland.

Roy Savage
Manager
Schools Services Department
What an amazing start to the year, with disasters happening in so many places! What a good time to remember the awesome power and mercy of our God, who has ‘plans and purposes’ for our lives. It is also a great time to remember the importance of preparing our students to be ready ‘in season and out of season’, so that they are ready for any and all circumstances. Student Convention is a great training ground for your students, preparing them to stand in these tough times so make it a part of your school calendar. It’s not too late to plan to come and fellowship with us at Convention this year.

PNG Mega Conference

We are excited to be once again preparing for PNG Mega Conference to be held March 29-31 in Lae, PNG. We have over 160 Educator’s registered to attend the Conference and are expecting that it will be a wonderful time of fellowship, but also a time that will impact the Staff so that they go back to their schools reinvigorated and inspired with an even greater passion to see their students not just educated, but growing in spiritual maturity in their walk with the Lord. Many of those who are attending this Conference do so at great personal cost, so please keep both them and us in your prayers during this time.

NZ Convention

Yes, it’s already time for our first convention of the year, and it should be an exciting time in NZ. I know just how seriously the New Zealander’s take their preparation and we expect to see some wonderful performances and results at this Convention to be held in Rotorua April 11-15.

International Student Convention

Wow! We are taking the biggest team ever from the South Pacific to ISC this year. Indications so far are that there will be a total team of about 60 people! The teams so far are 19 from NZ, Australia 13, Fiji 1, and PNG 21. This is an historic event as it will be the first time that a school from PNG has competed at ISC. ISC this year will be held at Harrisonburg, Virginia from 21-25 May. Maybe you could start planning to take your senior students to next year’s ISC.

South Pacific Educator’s Conference

I am delighted to announce that our keynote speaker for SPEC this year will be Daniel Govender, who is the Director for Policy Development and Government Relations for ACE South Africa. He is also a director on the Board of the Global International Certificate of Christian Education that is involved in groundbreaking work in the accreditation of an international Christian qualification. Your Registration Kit should be in the mail as we speak and will also be downloadable from www.scee.edu.au. I am suggesting that this will be well worth you and your staff attending so set aside June 21-23 in your school planner for this event.

Did you read the Guidelines?

You should have preparation for your next Regional Convention at least planned, if not well underway at this stage of the year, so I just wanted to remind you that the Number 1 comment written by judges at Convention is “Did you read the Guidelines?” This year the Guidelines have been extensively changed, so, if you haven’t disposed of the old Guidelines and downloaded the new Guidelines from the web at www.scee.edu.au do it NOW! Old Guidelines and old Judges Forms will not be accepted at any Convention this year.

Convention Judges

We are looking for people willing to judge early entry submissions as follows: essays, poetry writing, short stories, powerpoint presentations, web site development, music vocal and instrumental arrangements, and music vocal and instrumental compositions. If you have experience in any of these areas and are willing to judge any of these events at either your own or another Regional Convention please email me at kathyfisher@scee.edu.au. I would love to hear from you.

Information / Registration Kits for the South Pacific Educators’ Conference (SPEC) are out now and also available at www.scee.edu.au. Bring all of your staff and be blessed by Daniel’s ministry.

Mrs. Kathy Fisher - Convention Coordinator

Daniel Govender
Keynote Speaker for SPEC 2011
**Bourke Boy graduates as Medical Doctor**

(“The Western Herald”, Thursday, Jan 27, 2011)

Gary Yang, whose parents, Bing and Keith Yang, still live in Bourke and are former owners of the Elysian Cafe, graduated on 14th December 2010 from the University of NSW as a medical doctor.

Gary did his last 8 years of schooling at Koinonia Christian Academy, and graduated with his Year 12 Academic Certificate in 2004.

He entered the university under the Rural Doctor’s Scheme, and six years of studies which required diligent and consistent effort followed.

During that time he met, and married his wife, Geneve.

I caught up with Gary at his old school mate and friend Stephen Cole’s wedding last October. He told me that at the beginning of his studies, 6 years seemed an eternity, and he wondered if he’d make it. However, looking back, it only seemed like yesterday that he was at school.

Gary was always focused on becoming a doctor, and staff of Koinonia, who knew his diligent application to work, along with his academic abilities, had no doubt he could achieve his goals. He is now in general practice at Wagga.

Congratulations, Gary. We are extremely proud of you, and wish you all the best, and God’s richest blessings on the next stage of your life’s journey.

Mrs. Pat Amos
Principal - Koinonia Christian Academy

**ACE Indonesian Educators’ Conference**

11th-12th March 2011

The Indonesian Educators’ Conference was held in Jakarta on 11th to 12th March 2012. This was the fifth such conference held in Indonesia. It was attended by 105 people from 22 schools/institutions of which 5 schools were from Malaysia. Participants came as far as Irian Jaya, Surabaya, West Malaysia, East Malaysia, and Batam. This year’s theme was “Character in Curriculum”. The speakers were Bob Gregory, Roy Savage and George Sears from SCEE. The forth speaker was Ina Saputra, an Administrator of a school in Salatiga, Jawa. Ina is a Mathematics lecturer at Kristen University Satya Wacana, Salatiga, Indonesia, and she spoke on ‘Essentials in Learning Mathematics’.

After a few years of waiting, the Conference finally was able to invite an official from the District Ministry of Education who spoke on schools operational permits. This boosted the confidence of the schools and parents who were concerned if the Learning Centres were able to operate legally, and if students from the learning centres were able to enter local universities.

We thank God for many breakthroughs from these conferences since 2006. From about 8 schools then to what it is now 25 in six years, with nearly 1,800 students today, we are still seeing many interests in new cities throughout Indonesia.

**Australia Day Awards**

(excerpt from “The Western Herald”, Thursday, Jan 27, 2011)

The Young Citizen of the Year for 2011, Jonathan Amos, is described as an excellent representative of the youth of our community.

Jonathan is a dedicated senior member of the Koinonia Christian Academy and peer leader for younger members. He has represented Bourke at a number of Church School Conventions and is a junior volunteer member of the local Rural Fire Service. Jonathan has also regularly participated with his school at local ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day services.

**School Visits**

On 7th March through to 9th March 2011, Roy Savage, Manager of the Schools Services Department, SCEE, conducted the first audit to three schools in Jakarta, Indonesia. Roy visited Beacon Community School, Raising Stars Institute and Christian International School (CIS).

The audit was an important exercise as it gave the schools much positive feedback and insights of their respective ACE operational and procedural practices. Already, other schools are looking forward to having SCEE audit their schools.

Janto Djaja
Coordinator - Indonesia
A radio play is not a DJ introducing music; it is essentially an aural version of a regular play. Radio plays are a very effective (and relatively inexpensive) way to minister to hard to reach areas of the world, even today in this highly technological era. It is not hard to produce a great radio play, however, it does require effort and attention to detail. As there are no visuals, you need to create the scene in the person’s mind with sound.

1. Use a quiet room with NO background noise. Close the curtains, make sure there is carpet on the floor etc. This stops the sound bouncing around and echoing. Even if you want the ‘echoing’ sound, you are better off adding that in as an effect later on.

2. Recording – in the old days, you would use a cassette player, and either do all the recording in one go, or have to re-record onto other cassettes. However, it is simple to use a computer to do this, and saves a lot of work. The program that I use is a free download called ‘Audacity’ – there are others that you can pay for, but this one is quite comprehensive. (Note, if you use Audacity, you will also need to get the ‘LameDLL’ from the same site so that you can convert it to MP3 afterwards).

3. ALL dialogue needs to be even. It is no good having one voice markedly stronger than the others. Even when inflection and volume are supposed to differ (yelling or whispering etc.) make sure that all the parts can be clearly heard. One way to do this is to record each part/person separately. You can then ‘splice’ it together – you can make the characters interact easily. This also makes it easier to use one person for multiple parts – they do not have to change between characters, they just do all the lines for each character, and then you can use your software to cut the lines up and put them in the right place. Make sure that you leave a gap in-between lines so that you can find the end of them! Listen to each part and make sure that there is a voice difference between characters. You will need to practice your lines, and will probably need to record lines more than once and use the best.

4. Make sure that you do not speak too loud – if it distorts, turn your gain down. You can increase the overall volume later.

5. Edit your sounds! Simple things like added footsteps, crickets chirping, music playing in the background, traffic noise, kids playing, all add to the overall effectiveness of your message.

6. Music – when you have background music, it also needs to be even. It is very distracting when its volume rises and falls drastically in-between dialogue. Also, try to make sure that the music fits the scene, or the filler in-between scenes. Music is also a very large part of setting the mood – a piece in a minor key rather than a major key completely changes the atmosphere in your radio play, and when used properly, is highly effective.

There have been some great radio plays across the years – however, it is often seen as a dying art form by many people. The contrary is true – radio waves reach many places that a physical missionary cannot, where TV is not available, and the governments restricts printed literature. If you are finding that it is too expensive to do a video production, or the equipment is too hard to obtain, then perhaps a radio play is more achievable, and just as relevant.

Keep it up! God Bless!

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**PRAYER & PRAISE POINTS**

- Pray for school staff and students as they prepare for Student Conventions
- Praise for great times of ministry and fellowship at Conference in Fiji and Indonesia
- Pray for the safety of travel for everyone attending PNG Mega Conference.
- Pray for the safety of travel for everyone attending PNG Mega Conference.
- Pray for those planning to attend ISC this year. Pray especially for the group from PNG planning to attend for the first time with 22 staff and students.
- Pray for those affected by the recent floods in numerous locations throughout Australia and NZ
- Pray for wisdom for the staff in the schools as they minister to the students each day.
- Praise the Lord that we are a part of this great ministry - reaching the world for Christ, one child at a time.
Meet the schools “Up North”

**Powerhouse Christian Academy**

This is a new school that started this year in Kaikohe. It is actually a corporate homeschooling group but is set up with lovely offices and all the mothers share in running the various classes.

By searching Trade Me and other sales they have used their creativity to develop a lovely, attractive little learning centre in their large church facilities. They are very thankful to God for all that they have and there is a wonderful atmosphere of positivity and cooperation.

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**Otamatea Christian School**

This school will be celebrating their 25th anniversary next year. Although it is just a little school in a little town the school has seen many graduates successfully go on and achieve great results at universities. Students have been involved in Student Convention and Monitor Missions and have hosted several Monitor Missions Students.

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**Tau Te Arohanoa Akoranga**

This school is based in Helensville and celebrated its 20th anniversary last year. They have now come back to their rejuvenated facilities in the local football club that was severely damaged by fire over a year ago. Thanks to the goodness of many in their community they were able to continue the school until the rugby club was repaired.

This year they became a satellite school to Kingsway, a non ACE integrated school, but are able to continue using the ACE Curriculum. The school has a definite Maori cultural emphasis. Their principal, Jan Porter, is one of the longest serving principals we have in New Zealand giving well over 20 years of faithful service.

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**Living Way Learning Centre**

This school is an interesting combination of day school and home school which does mean that parents take a more active role in the education of their children than some other schools. They have a roll of 37 and start introducing ACE at grades 3 –5 and are fully ACE at secondary level.

One of their senior students will be going out on Monitor Missions to Vanuatu later this year—many of the students have expressed interest in becoming pen-pals with some Vanuatu students.

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Principal, Jan Porter, (right) with some of her students. Kneeling in the front is Jeanica Tango, a Monitor Missions student from Vanuatu.
The **SPACE**

If you are interested in purchasing your own copy of the “Collector’s Edition” please contact roysavage@scee.edu.au only a limited number of copies left!

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**Electronic Sceelerator**

The Sceelerator is now available for download from www.scee.edu.au or you can have an electronic copy emailed directly to your email address. If you no longer want to receive a hard copy of the Sceelerator in the mail please let us know.

If you would like to receive the Sceelerator by **email** please send an email to chrislawrence@scee.edu.au and you will be added to the list.

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**2011 Student Convention Guidelines**

The new guidelines are now available for download from www.scee.edu.au These Guidelines **MUST** be used for all Student Conventions in the South Pacific Region in 2011. Please destroy, delete, dispose of any old copies you may have floating around your school or home.

If you need a set of these Guidelines on CD please contact the Schools Services Department as soon as possible.

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**Monitor Mission / Teaching Mission**

As reported in the Manager’s article, the schools in Indonesia are all relatively new to the ACE program and there is a huge need for trained teachers who could help establish the correct procedures within the school. Graduates of the ACE program have also been a blessing to several schools as they use a “gap year” to serve others. Anyone interested in the possibility of a year or even six months as a mission trip to any of the schools in our South Pacific Region should contact the Schools Services Department or have a chat with Roy Savage on the phone (+61 7 3881 5737) or by email (roysavage@scee.edu.au) and we will gladly put you in contact with the schools.

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Leticia Poole (ACE Graduate from VIC) has again taken the plunge and is working in an ACE school in Mexico....

“Being involved in the Educational Assistance program has been such a great experience. After completing the ACE program, I had a great tool with which to serve God in schools around the world. I gained so much through this experience and it was life-changing...I was just a girl from Australia who wanted to serve God in overseas schools through my ACE schooling, but God used that desire to serve Him more than I could have ever imagined or thought.

YOU CAN DO IT TOO!!!”

Leticia, EA (Mexico)