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Overseas Development Institute
annual report 1998/99

The Overseas Development Institute

ODI is Britain's leading independent think-tank on international development and humanitarian issues. Our mission is to inspire and inform policy and practice which lead to the reduction of poverty, the alleviation of suffering and the achievement of sustainable livelihoods in developing countries. We do this by locking together high-quality applied research, practical policy advice, and policy-focused dissemination and debate. We work with partners in the public and private sectors, in both developing and developed countries.

ODI's work centres on four research and policy programmes: the Humanitarian Policy Group, the International Economic Development Group, the Forest Policy and Environment Group, and the Rural Policy and Environment Group. ODI publishes two journals, the *Development Policy Review* and *Disasters*, and manages three international networks linking researchers, policy-makers and practitioners: the *Agricultural Research and Extension Network*, the *Rural Development Forestry Network*, and the *Relief and Rehabilitation Network*. ODI also manages the *ODI Fellowship Scheme*, which places up to twenty young economists a year on attachment to the governments of developing countries.

As a registered charity, ODI is dependent on outside funds and is supported by grants and donations from public and private sources.

ODI Council

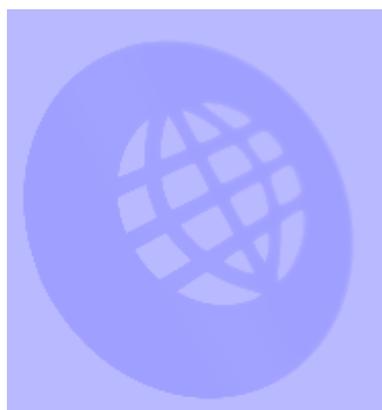
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ODI Annual Report 1998/99



This Annual Report covers the period April 1998 to March 1999 and was published in June 1999.

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♦ as at 31 May 1999, * left during the period of this report, • Maternity cover, + Visiting Research Fellow

Chairman's Statement

'The ODI cannot stand still. As Chairman, my concern is to ensure that the Institute's programme, structure and management respond to contemporary needs and standards.'



'Innovate or evaporate' is a good maxim for any organisation, and one which applies with force in the fast-moving world of development research and policy. ODI is a leading participant in this world, with a substantial portfolio of projects, generating new thinking and contributing to policy and practice on the ground. The ODI cannot stand still, however. As Chairman, my concern is to ensure that the Institute's programme, structure and management respond to contemporary needs and standards.

From that perspective, this has been a busy year for ODI. In early 1998, the Council approved a strategic review, prepared by the incoming Director, Simon Maxwell, and his colleagues. In the past year, we have worked with Simon to implement changes affecting many aspects of ODI work: a new mission statement, a streamlining of Council work, better financial and management systems, and, as Simon reports overleaf, new Research Fellow appointments. We have also reviewed the Fellowship Scheme, a jewel in ODI's crown, and here we have set the stage for some exciting innovations in the years to come. For example, we are committed to exploring the possibility of extending the scheme beyond its traditional role, to encompass South-South and even South-North exchanges. The Fellowship Scheme is managed by Adrian Hewitt, who stood down this year as Deputy Director after 11 years: our thanks to him.

In the process of renewal, we have turned our attention to Council itself. I am particularly pleased to report that Professor Amartya Sen has agreed to join us. In addition, our Council is

strengthened by the arrival of: Bowen Wells M.P., currently chairman of the International Development Committee of the House of Commons; Tess Kingham M.P., an experienced member of the same committee; Lord Holme, until recently Chairman of the Liberal Democratic Party; and Dianna Melrose, Policy Director at Oxfam, currently on secondment as Deputy Head of Policy Planners at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. I believe this list illustrates both our commitment to the quality of our academic work, and our determination to make research count in the real world.

Our Council is an active one. It was good to see three Council members come together on a public platform at ODI, to launch a new programme of work on global governance. Lords Judd and Desai, and Sir John Thomson spoke at ODI in October on the subject 'Global Governance: Yes, but what, who and how?'. As always, their contributions are summarised on the ODI website - a remarkably rich source of material, which currently attracts over 4000 visitors every day.

That level of interest in ODI's website reflects the quality of thinking that underpins our work, and our concern to make it widely accessible. The pages that follow summarise a remarkable wealth of output, produced within our limited financial resources. In the year 2000, ODI celebrates its fortieth birthday. We are in good shape to meet the new challenges that milestone will present. I am proud of the contribution made by all our staff.

Earl Cairns

ODI exists to change policy and practice which support the poor in developing countries. We know that. It says so in our mission statement. But how does policy change happen? That is a question we need to answer for ODI to fulfil its mandate.



'Think of the power – the policy impact – of past narratives about structural adjustment, or current ones about primary education, social capital, or the "post-Washington consensus".'

As a group of researchers, you might expect us to go to the library in order to find out how policy works. We can learn from the literature, and apply its lessons. However, we can also contribute to thinking on the subject, dissecting our own success stories.

Policy narratives

Three strands of thinking in the writing on policy resonate in ODI. The first is about the importance of simplifying stories, or 'narratives', to help policy-makers find manageable solutions to complex problems. Sometimes narratives over-simplify and mislead. But think of the power – the policy impact – of past narratives about structural adjustment, or current ones about primary education, social capital, or the 'post-Washington consensus'.

In the last analysis, ODI lives by the quality of its analysis and its ability both to build new narratives and reconstruct old ones. Our Annual Report offers many examples, but let me cite just two by way of illustration.

The first is the work of our Humanitarian Policy Group on 'smart sanctions'. There is a narrative abroad that unsavoury regimes can be brought to their knees by trade sanctions, and that the impact on their populations can be mitigated by exempting humanitarian aid. The humanitarian crisis in Iraq has blown that narrative out of the water. Can we do better? One option may be better targeting of sanctions, whether military, economic, financial, or psychological (as in targeted restrictions on travel). Many experts outside ODI have been working on this, but Koenraad Van Brabant and colleagues in HPG have made an important contribution this year, especially on the humanitarian side. There is much work still to do, but smart sanctions is a promising new narrative.

A second example comes from our work on trade, and particularly on the narrative that says regional free trade associations are the way forward for developing countries. This is a narrative promoted with great vigour, but, as Sheila Page and colleagues have shown, it is problematic when regions contain countries at different levels of development and with different economic structures. 'Differentiation of trade preferences by level of

development' is a stronger narrative, and a more robust policy, in this case.

Policy communities

A second idea from the policy literature is that policy change is often initiated within a network of people involved or interested in a subject: a policy community or an epistemic community. No doubt it is possible for researchers to change policy from outside, but it is certainly much easier if the right connections are in place – and those are easier for some to build than others. How easy is it for researchers in under-funded environments in poor countries to participate fully in international policy communities? And how can ODI help their voices to be heard?

ODI Networks play an important part here, linking researchers, policy-makers and practitioners around the world, and doing so in a way which greatly improves communication between them. Our networks on relief and rehabilitation, agricultural research and extension, and rural development forestry currently have more than 5500 members between them, 70% in developing countries. They are more than simply vehicles for dissemination. They allow quality-controlled conversations between professionals, which in turn help develop new agendas. Of course, all three networks run active websites.

Much of ODI's other work also helps to build or strengthen epistemic communities. Sometimes, our involvement is on a one-off basis, as with our contribution to the efforts of the Working Group on Poverty of the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD. Aidan Cox led a team which, in only four months, heroically completed 26 donor and recipient case studies on aid for poverty reduction. The Working Group was able to build shared concepts and vocabulary, and clear the decks for collective action – the key first steps in building an epistemic community.

In other cases, ODI's contribution develops an institutional life. This is the case with ALNAP, the Active Learning Network on Accountability and Performance in humanitarian assistance, which brings key agency actors together twice a year at ODI. John Borton's work here helps to maintain momentum in a

Review

rapidly-evolving field. The Forest Policy and Environment Group also has a continuing association with forestry donors, building on the success of the Tropical Forestry Sourcebook, launched in September 1998, and providing the first comprehensive overview of European donor activities in this sector. Anand Madhvani's work on the TROPICS information system helps to service that particular policy community.

Street-level bureaucracies

A third lesson is about the importance of what are known as 'street-level bureaucracies' in creating and modifying policy. It is not that practitioners necessarily amend policy – though that may happen. But managing and effecting change is hard, and there is many a slip 'twixt cup and lip.

That is why ODI puts such great emphasis on working with policy-makers. Our funding environment drives us to carry out a good deal of practical advisory work. We recognise the benefits, however, and value the opportunity both to learn about real world problems, and help practitioners make the link between research and practice.

A good example has been the work we have undertaken with the UK's Department for International Development, on rural livelihoods, helping DFID advisers to interpret and operationalise new concepts. A sustainable livelihoods approach offers a new solution to the problem of how to tackle poverty in rural areas, and provides the 'political technology' (another piece of policy jargon) needed to reach targets set in the DFID White Paper. The Department has this year rethought its policy and launched field work, for example in Orissa in Eastern India. ODI has been involved from the beginning, helping with the theory, but also participating in Indian fieldwork: Diana Carney, John Farrington, and Cate Turton, have all worked side by side with the street level bureaucrats, in both the UK and India.

In pulling out of the literature three

key concepts – narratives, policy communities, street-level bureaucracies – I have just begun to mine the rich vein of material on policy. For example, there is much to learn from public administration and management. These offer insights into the management of change, and stimulate new thoughts. How can ODI Research Fellows be helped to become change agents?

This is a question for another time, however. I want to end by making the point that no clever theory is of any help unless the quality of our ideas and our people remains high. Fortunately it does. In particular, we have undergone a significant renewal of the Research Fellowship this past year. Four valued colleagues have left (Alistair Hallam, Diana Carney, Michael Warner) or taken leave of absence (Roger Riddell), though Roger and Diana continue to work with us from other locations. We have made up for this loss with a string of excellent new appointments. David Booth and Lucia Hanmer have joined us to create a new Poverty and Social Policy Unit (and have already established a busy programme). Mick Foster has recently arrived on secondment from DFID to establish a new Centre on Aid and Public Expenditure, concerned especially with sector programmes; he will soon be joined by Andy Norton. Margie Buchanan-Smith has been appointed to lead the Humanitarian Policy Group. And others have joined existing programmes: Maurizio Bussolo (trade); Caroline Ashley (rural livelihoods and rural tourism); Kate Longley (seeds and biodiversity); Alan Nicol (water); and Rachel Houghton (as Deputy Coordinator of the Relief and Rehabilitation Network). In addition, we have a new Librarian, Kate Kwafo-Akoto, and a new Public Affairs Officer, Caz Marshall.

These are very good appointments, and will ensure that ODI continues to fulfil the role we lay out in our mission statement: as Britain's leading independent think-tank on international development and humanitarian issues.

Simon Maxwell

'How easy is it for researchers in under-funded environments in poor countries to participate fully in international policy communities? And how can ODI help their voices to be heard?'

'We recognise the benefits of practical advisory work and value the opportunity both to learn about real world problems, and help practitioners make the link between research and practice.'

International Economic

Three components contribute to successful development: a conducive international environment, especially with regard to trade and investment; well-managed and well-directed aid; and, most important, national policies which reduce inequality and foster growth.

IEDG Staff

David Booth
 Maurizio Bussolo
 Edward Clay
 Aidan Cox
 Harriet Dudley
 Mick Foster
 Joanna Gill
 Lucia Hanmer
 John Healey
 Adrian Hewitt
 John Howell
 Tony Killick
 H.-B. Solignac Lecomte
 Ana Marr
 Lucy Morris
 Jane Northey
 Sheila Page
 Nita Pillai
 Roger Riddell

ODI is committed to work on all three of these. We greatly strengthened our research capacity this year, creating a new Poverty and Social Policy Unit, and a new Centre on Aid and Public Expenditure. We also added to our team on trade.

Trade and investment

Openness to the international economy is both an opportunity and a risk for developing countries. ODI research shows that they did not benefit as much as they might have done from the Uruguay Round, mainly because their interests were not represented strongly enough in the negotiations. For example, agricultural trade policy reforms did not take into account the consequences of reduced preferences, nor of increasing food costs. (Sheila Page)

ODI is now working with the multilateral agencies to ensure that these issues are recognised in advance of the new Rounds, that developing countries identify their interests and their objectives, know how to participate and have the institutional capacity to do so.

For example, we are developing new ways of using general equilibrium models to enable countries to explore the effect of alternative trade regimes on key economic variables, such as growth, employment, and income distribution. (Maurizio Bussolo)

Environmental aspects matter here. How can environmental interests be kept in harmony with the role of trade in promoting growth and structural change? Where developed countries are using trade policy to protect

environmentally damaging processes, switching production to a developing country where the processes may have less impact could have clear benefits. Sheila Page has identified some products and policies for which such a strategy could be implemented, including fish, meat and clothing, coal, ethanol, jute and non-ferrous metals.

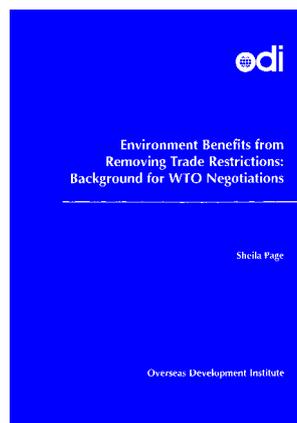
This may open new investment opportunities. We have examined how to encourage foreign investment flows to Africa. The arguments of some developed countries for a Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) may conflict with the interests of developing countries (and their companies); investment needs a strong legal framework.

This is one of a range of wider issues of regulation. An ODI Meeting Series on global governance pinpointed the need for the interests of poor countries to be represented more effectively in a wide range of decisions about international finance, trade and investment – and in so doing identified an important agenda for UN reform.

Is regionalism the future?

On trade issues specifically, the EU and the African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries are seeking a new arrangement to govern their trade and aid relationship after the Lomé Convention. ODI, in collaboration with the European Centre for Development Policy Management (Maastricht), has been actively involved in the debate. Through specific publications and specialised workshops targeted at decision-makers, as well as advice and information supplied directly to European and ACP negotiators, we have helped to identify a range of options extending beyond those originally proposed, suggesting that the EU needs a new approach, if it is to help the ACP and other developing countries to integrate in the world economy. (Henri-Bernard Solignac Lecomte and Sheila Page)

The European Commission's proposals have envisaged that ACP countries will join together in regional groups to form 'Regional Economic Partnership Agreements' with the EU.



Development Group

But how feasible is this, and would it benefit the countries of southern and eastern Africa and the Caribbean? For Southern Africa, our findings, in conjunction with a team of Zimbabwean economists, are that the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries would only achieve small gains which could be offset by potentially large losses from trade diversion and reduced tariff revenue. SADC and East African countries may benefit more from general trade liberalisation, either unilaterally or in the context of a new WTO Millennium Round of negotiations. (Sheila Page, Henri-Bernard Solignac Lecomte and Maurizio Bussolo)

ODI's analysis of EU proposals for other regions, notably MERCOSUR in Latin America, indicates similar practical difficulties, even though the region's current trade relations are less favourable. This work builds on an ODI comparative study of developing country regions, which concluded that the world is not dividing into regions; only about a third of world trade takes place in these groups. The successful regional groupings we observe all have an origin in strong political commitments. This suggests that there is neither urgency nor inevitability in driving the ACP countries into regions. (Sheila Page)

In the Caribbean, there is a strong regional identity, but the future trade prospects for the commodities with

special arrangements with the EU – sugar, rice, and rum – are crucial. In conjunction with regional decision-makers, ODI is supporting the Caribbean countries in their negotiations not only with the EU, but in the WTO and other multilateral negotiations. (Adrian Hewitt, Maurizio Bussolo, Sheila Page)

More generally, the present world trading system was severely tested by the spread of the Asian crisis to Latin America, South Africa, and Russia. ODI has tried to step back from the short term financial problems to identify the underlying weaknesses in the trade and production structures which have contributed to the intensity of the crisis in some countries. As some manufactures become as 'standard' as primary commodities, traditional policy recommendations, to diversify economies and markets, become more complex. (Sheila Page, Adrian Hewitt, Henri-Bernard Solignac Lecomte)

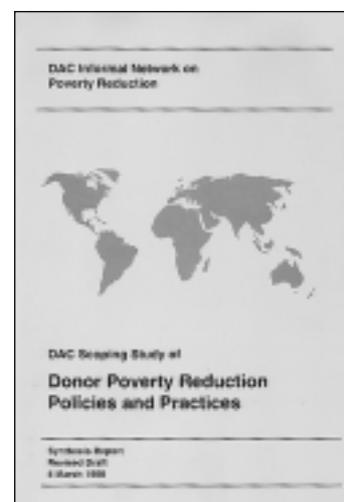
Aid effectiveness

Debates about the effectiveness of aid continue. The World Bank has recently argued strongly, using econometric analysis, that aid does work if the right policies are in place.

But does aid work specifically for poverty reduction? Its impact on growth is at the heart of the question, but growth usually has to be achieved in a structural adjustment context. Structural adjustment programmes

(SAPs) are often assumed to have a negative impact on poverty, but Tony Killick has found that while they have done little to protect the vulnerable, there is little evidence that SAPs have actually made poverty worse. However, assessing Africa's recent economic performance, Tony Killick has also argued that there is not yet enough evidence of a turnaround in economic 'fundamentals' to encourage confidence that recent improvements in growth rates will be sustained. Growth is essential to meet international development targets: halving extreme poverty, reducing under-five and maternal mortality rates by two thirds, achieving universal primary education by 2015.

At a project level, there is more encouraging news. An ODI study looked at over 70 recent poverty-focussed projects, finding some real gains for the poor, through increased access to resources and knowledge, though there has been less progress on empowerment. (Aidan Cox)



Are aid donors learning the lessons? ODI examined the programmes of the 25 donor agency members of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee, and found an increased commitment to poverty reduction goals, improvements in conceptualisation of poverty and some efforts to reach poor people, mainly through individual projects. However, development agencies have not fully 'mainstreamed' poverty reduction objectives in their management and

The term 'poverty' is used in a bewildering variety of ways. An ODI Poverty Briefing provides a historical perspective on ideas like basic needs, income poverty, vulnerability, capability, and social exclusion; and identifies nine fault lines in the current debate. There is no single 'right answer' to the meaning and measurement problem, but donors should beware of over-simplification.



incentive systems. Not enough has been done to specify pro-poor strategies and policies, nor to monitor and evaluate their effectiveness. (Aidan Cox and John Healey)

Of course aid should be appropriate. The long term effectiveness of food aid has been widely questioned, and Edward Clay with Nita Pillai and Charlotte Benson argue for radical changes in the institutional arrangements for the organisation and supply of food aid. They propose replacing minimum physical commitments to cereals aid with qualitative commitments to assist disaster and conflict-affected people, limiting the developmental use of food aid to situations of extreme food insecurity.

Finally, there are methodological issues still to be resolved in evaluation. An ODI study of country-level programme aid evaluations summarises the state of the art of this most complex form of evaluation. It advocates: standard indicators and approaches; increasing the level of stake-holder participation; and encouraging more comprehensive, multi-donor country programme evaluations. (Simon Maxwell and Tim Conway)

National poverty reduction policy

How can we measure poverty reduction?

How can national governments and donors monitor the impact of policies and economic growth on poverty reduction? Defining the cost of a basket of minimum basic needs, establishing the proportion of the population that can meet them, and examining how this indicator changes over time, demands data which often simply do not exist. And it fails to capture many non-monetary dimensions of poverty. David Booth and Lucia Hanmer have examined ways of combining poverty-line findings with non-monetary but quantifiable indicators of human deprivation (such as infant mortality rates) and the results of more 'contextual' investigations of the conditions in which poor people live (such as case studies of

marginalised groups or communities, and Participatory Poverty Assessments (PPAs)). Combined approaches not only provide richer insights into poverty and its possible remedies, but their results are more robust, thanks to increased opportunities for cross-checking.

Infant and child mortality rates have long been considered good indicators of social progress, including poverty reduction, although they also require large, well-designed sample surveys. Factors influencing under-five mortality include the quantity of health services actually reaching the poor (not health expenditure as such). About a fifth of the adult population in Zambia and Zimbabwe are HIV positive and, as HIV positive mothers can pass the disease on to their children, infant mortality in both countries has been rising. HIV/AIDS interventions are critical to poverty-reduction efforts. (Lucia Hanmer)

By getting a hearing for poor people's own 'voices', and involving a range of interested parties in public debate about poverty, PPAs increase the chances of real changes in policies and institutions, to allow resources to reach those at the bottom of the social scale. To what extent is this effect increased when PPAs are undertaken by a coalition of governmental and non-governmental organisations within the country, rather than commissioned by external agencies? Early indications are good. Factors working in the right direction include commitment to

poverty reduction as a central policy goal, and the willingness of NGOs to work in partnership with government in a way that does not compromise their critical advocacy role. (David Booth)

Can the targets for reducing poverty be met?

A study by Lucia Hanmer emphasises the need to target intervention if international poverty reduction targets are to be reached. The effect of a 1% rise in per capita GDP on poverty reduction is twice as great when income is more equally distributed than when it is unequally distributed. Initial findings also indicate that rapidly increasing agricultural productivity contributes to a high-growth plus high-equality economic environment. Efforts to curtail the spread of HIV/AIDS and increase the quantity of available health services are critical for the achievement of the under-five and maternal mortality rate targets.

But even the most effective poverty reduction programmes can be jeopardised by the impact of natural disasters, as studies by Edward Clay and Charlotte Benson continue to show.

Effectiveness also depends on good administration within developing countries. ODI has now established a Centre for Aid and Public Expenditure, in association with DFID, with the objective of improving public expenditure policy and management in developing countries, particularly emphasising better co-ordination



Participatory Poverty Assessment team in Uganda

Poverty and Social Policy Unit

The analysis of poverty and design of poverty-reduction strategies is the central focus of IEDG's new Poverty and Social Policy Unit. This is an interdisciplinary grouping with both quantitative and qualitative skills, and interests that span economic, social and political aspects of poverty and anti-poverty policy.

The Unit's initial work programme has been based on four areas: the uses of poverty indicators and implications of the adoption of International Development Targets; gender issues in the evaluation of anti-poverty programmes; the place of participatory and contextual approaches to poverty assessment and monitoring; and the role of social and political institutions in effective poverty reduction.

This work is closely integrated with the other concerns of IEDG, especially in the areas of aid, macroeconomic policy, public expenditure, microfinance and NGO-government relations. Collaborative research is also being developed with other Groups within ODI, notably in the areas of sustainable rural livelihoods, nutrition and local governance.

'Donors have not "mainstreamed" poverty reduction: they need to specify strategies and monitor effectiveness.'

between governments and donors. Mick Foster, whose experience is in budget reform issues, has begun with participation in the Tanzania Education Sector Programme Appraisal.



Effective local financial institutions have the potential to make a significant impact on poverty. Yet in practice they have not performed this function well. Our research (in Bolivia, Colombia, Peru, Bangladesh and Thailand) has found that the dominant process is of NGOs converting into formal financial institutions, and the real penetration of banks to the poorest has been negligible. Linkages between banks and informal financial institutions have been short-lived and problematic; the extent of their outreach has largely been concentrated in the urban and periurban areas and in trading and commerce activities. (Ana Marr)

Making research effective

Our objective in IEDG is to make our results known as soon as possible to those who can use them. On the project examining the aid agencies, for example, we have taken opportunities throughout the year to publicise our messages on what the agencies need to do to improve their performance through a series of presentations to individual agencies and independent workshops, as well as written briefings and papers. Our work on individual countries is presented to those countries, often in local workshops. Within the UK, it is presented in reports to DFID and also informs our work supporting the International Development Committee and APGOOD in Parliament. Through our collaboration with ECDPM, we also brief the European Parliament and Commission. We work with the major multilateral organisations including the WTO, World Bank, UN, and UNCTAD.

We also present our results both as conference papers and articles to the European, North American, and developing country research communities, participating in special subject workshops as well as networks such as the African Economic Research Consortium and the European Association of Development Institutes and its affiliated organisations in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. We try to inform public debate by briefing journalists and responding to media requests.

'In Zambia and Zimbabwe, a fifth of the adult population is HIV positive: HIV/AIDS interventions are critical to poverty reduction.'

'ODI has established a Centre for Aid and Public Expenditure, to improve coordination between governments and donors.'

This was a year which saw famine in southern Sudan, floods in Bangladesh, a hurricane in Central America, and the refugee crisis in Kosovo: the size and complexity of the humanitarian caseload shifted sharply upwards. The challenges the caseload poses are both theoretical and practical, in an era in which the humanitarian aid response is perhaps more exposed, visible and under scrutiny than ever before.

As the largest independent research group on humanitarian policy in Europe, HPG's primary focus is on learning lessons from practical experience – and using these to strengthen humanitarian policy and practice. Collaborating closely with a range of humanitarian actors, HPG's work addresses some of the more challenging and pressing issues currently facing the humanitarian community.

Humanitarian principles

In response to growing concerns about widespread human rights abuses and the manipulation of humanitarian aid in complex political emergencies, there has been a growth of interest in the concept of humanitarian principles. This concept embraces both rules for the behaviour of warring parties, such as respect for non-combatants, and rules for humanitarian agencies, for example on neutrality and impartiality. How to promote respect for humanitarian principles by warring parties, regional powers and humanitarian agencies, has become a key policy issue for the humanitarian community. Over the past year HPG has been researching the development of such principles and particularly how they have been applied in Sudan (in

the Ground Rules of Operation Lifeline Sudan) and in Liberia (in the Joint Policy of Operations).

In order to promote respect for humanitarian principles by warring parties, agencies have developed various strategies, including: imposing conditionalities on humanitarian assistance, strengthening the capacity of elements of 'civil society', public and private advocacy for human rights, and disseminating the rights and principles contained in the Geneva Conventions and other human rights instruments. This is a relatively new domain for many agencies. It is complex, politically sensitive work and catch-all prescriptions are unlikely to succeed. However, HPG research indicates that humanitarian agencies are most successful in building respect for principles by capitalising on existing political processes which promote accountability between factions and civil populations. This means that, in some circumstances, human rights advocacy may be a more effective strategy than humanitarian conditionality. But for some agencies this is a step too far into the political arena.

Inter-agency agreements, or joint codes of conduct, have proliferated in recent years (e.g. the NGO/Red Cross

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Disasters: the journal of disaster studies, policy and management

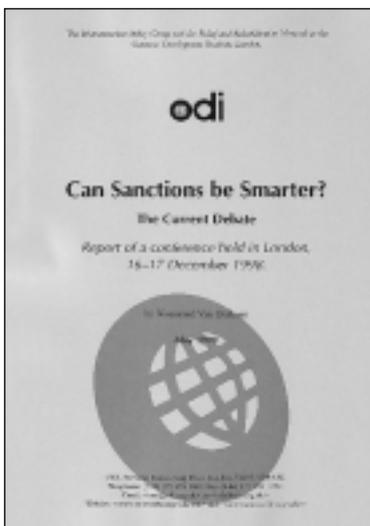
Disasters, the quarterly, peer-reviewed journal produced in HPG and published by Blackwell Publishers, has attracted high quality papers from a diverse range of disciplines and countries, and has expanded its readership. In December 1998, the journal produced a special issue entitled: 'The Emperor's New Clothes: charting the erosion of humanitarian principles'. The issue included papers from a meeting organised by the Disasters Emergency Committee and the RRN, which sought to analyse the challenges and threats to the provision of humanitarian aid in complex political emergencies.

Policy Group

Code of Conduct, SPHERE, the Joint Policy of Operation in Liberia, and the Strategic Framework in Afghanistan). Our analysis shows that they have a variety of different objectives. Some attempt to regulate agency conduct. Others, such as the Ground Rules in south Sudan, attempt to regulate the conduct of warring parties themselves. Some attempt only to set minimum technical standards, whilst others try to ensure common principles. Furthermore, HPG research shows that many field staff still have only a poor understanding of principles, there is often dispute over how to apply them, and the system as a whole does not consistently reward principled behaviour by agencies. Thus codes which do not have the backing of compliance mechanisms are unlikely to work where the mandates and institutional interests of agencies are in conflict with a principled approach. (Nick Leader and Joanna Macrae)

Sanctions and conditionality

There is a widespread consensus that trade sanctions have many undesirable humanitarian side effects, which relief operations have failed to compensate. There is growing interest in finding ways of making trade sanctions more humane and effective. A major conference was convened by ODI in December 1998 on 'smarter sanctions', bringing together financial experts, government representatives, humanitarian actors, human rights



Relief and Rehabilitation Network (RRN)

As the only network of its kind, the RRN continues to provide a critical forum for debate and learning between the field and agency headquarters, and across a range of humanitarian organisations. Its position within HPG provides a link with research and gives it access to policy-makers. Its network of members, many of whom are field-based practitioners, offers insights about humanitarian crises in many countries around the globe, as well as practical learning.

RRN publications now reach 400 organisations in over 80 countries; readership is estimated at over 3000. RRN literature is accessible and relevant, and is receiving ever more positive feedback; it is increasingly referenced and used in training. The RRN website (www.oneworld.org/odi/rrn/) is regularly updated and hot links to over 150 key websites related to humanitarian assistance. The RRN has also organised seminars on internally displaced people, and on



the politics of food aid in North Korea.

Having expanded the network in East, Central and West Africa, the RRN is now actively reaching out to the Balkans, Afghanistan and the Caucasus. It works in close collaboration with other networks, notably the French agency network Groupe Urgence-Réhabilitation-Développement (Groupe URD) and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), with its headquarters in Geneva. Close contacts continue with People-in-Aid, the Sphere project, and the US PVO network InterAction.

analysts and researchers. Drawing on the experience of a number of case studies, the conference concluded that: sanctions should be made more humane; they should be better targeted (with particular use of psychological and financial sanctions); arms embargoes should be better designed and more effectively enforced; active, political dialogue and engagement should be maintained with the target regime; and sanctions policy should be made more accountable. More far-reaching humanitarian strategies are needed to mitigate the consequences of comprehensive trade embargoes. (Koenraad Van Brabant)

HPG is now involved in an ongoing study on the experience of aid incentives (both negative and positive) in Afghanistan. Our findings indicate that imposing negative conditions on aid will not influence the key

protagonists in the conflict if their domestic political concerns outweigh their need for assistance. (Koenraad Van Brabant and Tony Killick, IEDG)

Security

One of the consequences of an ever increasing number of humanitarian agencies working in war zones, where respect for the safety of civilians and relief workers has sharply deteriorated, is the increased risk for aid personnel. In response, HPG members have continued to work closely with other individuals and organisations to promote improved security management in violent environments, through a combination of research and training. A training course has been piloted in the USA and across Europe, including Albania, testing the course concept and curriculum. Feedback has been positive, with the approach and

content taken up by other trainers and incorporated into the security manuals of a number of NGOs. The RRN intends to publish a Good Practice Review on operational security management during 1999. (Koenraad Van Brabant)

Linking relief with development

HPG has continued to explore the difficult challenges posed by linking humanitarian relief and development aid in countries involved in protracted conflict or in its aftermath. The conclusions of a series of research studies on the role of international assistance in the rehabilitation of public health systems have implications for aid policy in general and for public health policy in particular. The instruments of aid resemble those of relief rather than those of development. Confined within short project cycles, delivered through the highly decentralised and privatised mechanism of NGOs, and focused primarily on the delivery of material supplies, rehabilitation aid is ill-adapted to serve as a basis for the rebuilding of functioning public services such as health. Measures to improve the effectiveness of rehabilitation aid policy have been identified, including:

- clarification of the objectives of rehabilitation aid: whether it is to maintain/increase coverage of public services or to emphasise

sustainable provision;

- a move towards policy-based approaches linked to conditionalities, particularly regarding demilitarisation and public finances;
- reform of parallel economies and re-establishment of public finances;
- determining principles for engagement with national political authorities and professional groups to negotiate the process of political transition. (Joanna Macrae)

Evaluation, learning and accountability

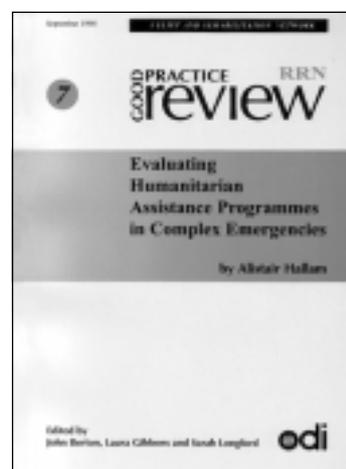
HPG has long advocated the greater use of evaluation in humanitarian operations, to improve learning and accountability in the international humanitarian system; the proportion of operations being evaluated is now increasing.

Earlier work by HPG during the reform of the UK Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) resulted in the adoption of the principle that all DEC Appeals should be evaluated independently and the reports made public. In response to the four major emergencies mentioned above, there were no less than four DEC Appeals in the UK during the year, and thus the start of an unprecedented cycle of evaluations, which should result in

improved learning, accountability and performance among the 15 member agencies of the DEC.

HPG efforts to improve the quality of evaluations of humanitarian assistance, reported in last year's Annual Report, resulted in the publication of an RRN Good Practice Review (*Evaluating Humanitarian Assistance Programmes in Complex Emergencies*) and the completion of work for the DAC Working Party on Aid Evaluation of Guidance for Evaluation Managers. (Alistair Hallam and John Borton)

Meanwhile, HPG has continued to develop and apply its own evaluation



expertise, for example for OXFAM in north-eastern Kenya, where a large-scale and effective drought relief operation evolved into a flood relief operation in late 1997/early 1998. The Group is currently involved in a major



Kabul, Afghanistan: Evaluation of DANIDA's humanitarian assistance during the 1990s



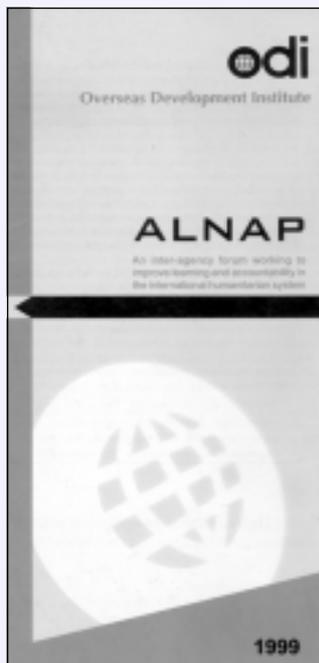
Active Learning Network on Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Assistance (ALNAP)

ALNAP (which emerged from the Joint Evaluation of Emergency Assistance to Rwanda in 1996) has grown in strength and is now established as a valued component of the international humanitarian system. ALNAP provides a unique forum in which operational, evaluation and policy personnel from the donor, UN, NGO and Red Cross communities are able to focus, as equal partners, on learning, accountability and performance issues within the system. ALNAP's secretariat is provided by ODI staff, guided by a Steering Committee of eight full members elected from within the four communities.

During the year, two highly successful meetings were held for the 40 full members, and studies were undertaken or begun on: the participation of affected populations in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of humanitarian programmes; learning in the food and nutrition sector; ways of increasing commonality in monitoring and reporting requirements of humanitarian funding agencies; and a synthesis of evaluations of peace-building programmes.

To facilitate discussion among full members between the six-monthly meetings, an email discussion network has been established. The database of evaluations of humanitarian assistance programmes has been expanded to 250 reports, with key sections of 170 reports on the website in fully searchable format (www.oneworld.org/odi/alnap/database.html). The value of the database was demonstrated during the Bangladesh flood emergency, when findings of the evaluations of the response to previous floods were emailed to full members and local agencies, and were subsequently used by them in designing relief and recovery programmes.

The ALNAP structure holds enormous potential for promoting innovative thinking and activities within the humanitarian system, which would otherwise be difficult or impossible to achieve.



evaluation of DANIDA's humanitarian assistance during the 1990s, focusing on Sudan and Afghanistan. During 1999, HPG plans to expand further its evaluation capacity, ensuring that the work of the group is firmly rooted in practical realities. (Margie Buchanan-Smith)

In order to maximise its impact, HPG is now working towards an integrated programme. This will

strengthen the coherence between the different components of HPG's work, whilst still preserving the identity of ALNAP and the RRN. A key component of HPG's work in the future will be a package of research and advisory work on 'Aid Policy, Politics and Practice in Unstable Situations', seeking to address many of the key policy and practical challenges that aid agencies are facing today.

'Human rights advocacy may be more effective than humanitarian conditionality: but for some agencies, this is a step too far into the political area.'

'Joint codes of conduct without compliance mechanisms are unlikely to work.'

'Current rehabilitation aid is ill-adapted to the rebuilding of functioning public services.'

Rural Policy and

For most countries, achieving poverty reduction targets means reducing poverty in rural areas – but that should not be taken to mean exclusive reliance on agriculture or natural resources.

In the past year, ODI has helped to develop and implement a sustainable livelihoods framework. This is people-centered and helps to reveal other, often less obvious, sources of income or well being. It does so partly by identifying the types of capital asset on which the poor draw – financial, human, natural, physical and social – in order to generate their livelihoods. For donors, it clarifies how these assets can be built up and made more secure.

Sustainable livelihoods frameworks

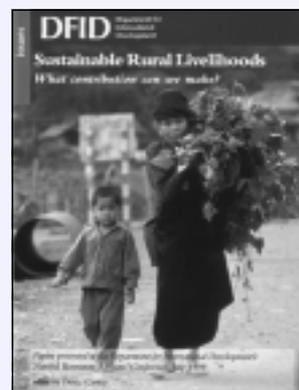
As part of the new poverty focus of the UK's development policy, detailed in the 1997 UK Government White Paper on Development, the Department for International Development (DFID) has developed a sustainable livelihoods (SL) framework to help in designing projects and programmes targeting poverty.

ODI has helped to pioneer the use

Promoting sustainable livelihoods approaches

ODI provided support at key points in the development of DFID's livelihoods approach: in, for instance, preparing the keynote paper for the July 1998 DFID Natural Resources Advisers' Conference, guiding the preparation of other papers, and editing the proceedings ('Sustainable Rural Livelihoods – what contribution can we make?') of which 6000 copies have now been distributed. (Diana Carney)

RPEG is also supporting DFID's poverty focus by coordinating two information series, both focusing on decision-takers. **The Key Sheets series**, funded by DFID and Netherlands Development Assistance, aims to provide an accessible and up-to-date point of reference on issues relating to agricultural service delivery,



resource management and policy planning and implementation. Each also lists relevant centres of expertise. (Diana Carney)

The Sustainable Livelihoods Guidance Sheets are an evolving series. The Sheets are one product of an extended process of consultation about livelihoods approaches among donors, NGOs, consultants and research centres. The Sheets aim to set the livelihoods approach in the context of current DFID policies, suggest how it can be implemented in practice, pinpoint 'gaps' requiring future attention and indicate relevant expertise, projects and literature. They also aim to stimulate feedback and reflection. (Diana Carney)



RPEG Staff

- Caroline Ashley
- Roger Blench
- Charlotte Boyd
- Kate Burke
- Sylvie Cordier
- Alana Coyle
- Elizabeth Cromwell
- Elizabeth Drake
- John Farrington
- Kate Longley
- Zoë Marriage
- Alan Nicol
- Patsy de Souza
- Helen Suich
- Robert Tripp
- Cathryn Turton
- Melanie Woodland

Environment Group

of the SL framework in designing projects in India, where DFID is expanding its support for rural development, particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. This framework has provided insights into the range of poor people's livelihood strategies; in Orissa it revealed that migration is much more significant than had previously been thought and suggested ways in which migration strategies might be supported. Experience in both States emphasised the importance of achieving a balance between the comprehensive approach needed to address livelihoods, and the practicalities of developing effective and sustainable partnerships with government institutions which are often sectorally-based. (Cathryn Turton and John Farrington)

A livelihoods perspective can also be very useful for monitoring and evaluating existing projects. A methodology developed by ODI for use by NGOs in Africa assesses the impact of wildlife enterprises on livelihoods (Caroline Ashley). Some practical problems were encountered: measuring changes in livelihoods is difficult, precisely because the SL framework aims to capture the complexity of how people live and respond to their own priorities. Nevertheless, its application in two case studies has highlighted the strengths of this approach. It can help to ensure that evaluations go beyond a narrow assessment of output or income, and improve understanding of how projects 'fit' with livelihoods, and how the fit can be enhanced, particularly for poor groups.

Resource degradation is an underlying threat to livelihood sustainability. Initial findings from a DFID-funded study in sub-Saharan Africa demonstrate that, if soil and water conservation initiatives are to succeed, they must be based on a much more sophisticated understanding of households' livelihood strategies. The poor draw on a range of activities within and beyond agriculture to support themselves. It is within this context that any 'strategy' of investing in soil and water conservation must be

assessed. (Cathryn Turton, Roger Blench and Liz Drake)

Tourism is one of the world's largest industries and is significant in many poor countries. Yet existing case studies of impacts on local people rarely consider poverty issues, nor do they explore how different tourism strategies would enhance impacts on livelihoods of the poor. New research for DFID highlights the potential for 'pro-poor tourism', emphasising that this requires more inclusive policies at national level combined with concerted action and partnerships at destination-level (Caroline Ashley, Charlotte Boyd, and Sheila Page of IEDG, with Deloitte and Touche, and IIED).

Detailed analysis of tourism initiatives in Namibia demonstrates the wide range of positive and negative,



direct and indirect impacts which tourism has on rural livelihoods. These impacts can be enhanced where

The Agricultural Research and Extension Network

AGREN has evolved to fill an important niche for those working in rural development. In a recent survey over 90% of respondents replied that AgREN performs a valuable role of 'linking policy makers, practitioners and researchers in the agricultural sector and providing its members with up-to-date information and the opportunity to maintain a dialogue with others'. The coming year will be an exciting one for AgREN as, through intensive consultation with members, it seeks to develop a strategy for the next decade. It will build on an already lively dialogue between members on future options and directions:



'Perhaps there is a case for AgREN to increase its role as an internet database/library'

'I think a wider focus towards ways and means of supporting agriculturally-based livelihoods would strengthen the network'

'It would be great if the network could go electronic'

'It would be great if ODI could share with southern partners its expertise in networking'

'There is potential for collaboration between AgREN and Latin American organisations to make outputs available in Spanish'.

tourism plans are influenced by local livelihood priorities. (Caroline Ashley)

The conservation agenda has been dominated until recently by exclusionists, seeking to keep people out of Protected Areas. This has acted against the livelihoods of pastoralists in both East Africa and Central Asia and now both park authorities and international agencies are seeking options for more effective integration of livestock and wildlife, through benefit-sharing and other strategies. An ODI team (in conjunction with ERGO, Oxford) have recommended a more integrated sustainable livelihoods approach to these issues. (Roger Blench, Elizabeth Drake and Charlotte Boyd)

Institutionalising approaches – watersheds and livelihoods

In India, fostering more participatory approaches to the rehabilitation of watersheds is a major government

priority. ODI has been exploring how small scale successes can be replicated on a wider scale by government agencies. Part of the solution will be for donors to shift their focus from ‘enclave’ projects towards promoting improvements in the effectiveness and efficiency of state and national government programmes; supporting capacity building, and cross-learning; and strengthening monitoring and strategic planning. New DFID initiatives at central and state level are now working to strengthen the impact of government watershed programmes, with a particular emphasis on livelihood and equity aspects. (John Farrington and Cathryn Turton)

Managing biodiversity

The need to develop locally-focused strategies for using agricultural biodiversity sustainably is now widely recognised. In conjunction with the Intermediate Technology Development

Group, ODI is addressing this through action research in Zimbabwe, Kenya and Peru. Using a variety of field methods this project is exploring the community dynamics of crop diversity conservation and use, and the implications for national and international action. Important findings include the role of specialist ‘seed keepers’ in maintaining crop diversity, the need for external change agents (agricultural research, extension, etc.) to acknowledge publicly the importance of crop diversity, and the alarming loss of local knowledge about traditional cultivation and processing techniques for different crops and varieties in recent years. The results will feed into participatory actions for conserving and using agricultural biodiversity at community, national, and international level. (Elizabeth Cromwell)

To support DFID in revising its approach to biodiversity in line with the White Paper, ODI has contributed issues papers on agriculture (Elizabeth Cromwell), and livestock, rangelands and insects (Roger Blench) to the DFID project ‘Linking Policy and Practice in Biodiversity’. The project is identifying ways in which biodiversity can contribute to sustainable livelihoods, and the entry points for DFID in supporting this. In addition, there are important biodiversity elements in work on seed security following emergencies being proposed by Catherine Longley, and in research on the scope for farmers to plant indigenous trees for income generation. (Charlotte Boyd in collaboration with ODI/FPEG)



National Workshop on Watershed Approaches for Managing Degraded Lands in India



Brick-making – tank conversion results in water availability throughout the year



Watershed usergroups meet to discuss future activities

Seeds and Genetically Modified Organisms

Current debates on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) generate more heat than light. A review by Robert Tripp has helped to draw out some of the main implications for developing countries of the various technical and regulatory challenges. Whilst there are real concerns about the environmental impact and commercial control of technology, most dimensions of the GMO debate have to be informed by careful case-by-case analysis: there are few hard-and-fast rules.

The Natural Resource Perspectives

The NRP series continues to provide accessible information on NR policy and institutional issues by mailing its four-page briefing papers to some 5,500 persons worldwide. These papers are accessed by many more via the ODI website. Recent topics have included: climatic uncertainty and NR policy; participatory biodiversity conservation; conflict management; participatory watershed management; and the contribution of forest product activities to rural livelihoods.



'A livelihoods approach reveals that the poor draw on a range of activities within and beyond agriculture.'

This review is underpinned by pioneering work by RPEG on policies and institutions in the seed industry: early work on regulatory reform has recently been followed through by studies of farmer decision-taking in Rajasthan and of the conditions for small-scale seed supply in Africa and Latin America. (Robert Tripp)

in a form that is useful to service delivery agents and farmers presents a new challenge, especially as the predictive models are constantly in flux. ODI staff (Roger Blench and Zoë Marriage) have been involved in the preparation of background papers, reports and studies in relation to this new approach to drought, most notably in giving presentations to Early Warning meetings in South Africa and Côte d'Ivoire, in managing an electronic conference on Drought in Semi-Arid Regions for FAO, in a study of drought preparedness in Zimbabwe as part of a larger IBRD/DFID strategy in Eastern and Southern Africa and finally preparing a report and in giving evidence before an EC committee on the implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification. These approaches harbingers a major re-orientation away from relief towards the management of fluctuations in rainfall.

'New research highlights the potential for "pro-poor" tourism.'



Drought and early warning

The drought that has affected many of the semi-arid regions of the world in the last quarter-century has essentially been treated as a humanitarian issue. Recent research and new modelling techniques have opened up the way for improved early warning both of drought and of unusual weather phenomena, notably El Niño. The interpretation of new scientific findings



'Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) present new technical and regulatory challenges to developing countries.'

Forest Policy and E

Advances in policy and practice for tropical forests depend on reconciling the livelihood interests of forest-dependent populations with national and international forestry, economic and environmental concerns.

FPEG members harness interdisciplinary skills to research and strengthen the complex interrelationships between social equity, sustainable forest management and conservation. FPEG has also this year been involved in research on the policy process in tropical forestry in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The challenge posed by sustainable tropical forest management is considerable. ODI's research has targeted three particular aspects: constraints and incentives for forest management, including co-management with forest-dependent populations, biodiversity conservation and international policy processes.

Constraints and incentives for forest management

Economic tools for participatory forest management

We do not understand enough about how forest-based (and other) communities make livelihood decisions, and socially differentiated micro-economic data have not been available to allow equity impacts to be monitored. 'Livelihood economics' can help us understand why farmers do what they do, and, through participatory economic tools, empower communities by improving their own quantitative analysis of the opportunity costs of livelihood

alternatives.

Drawing on previous experience and the literature, we have developed an 'Economic Stakeholder Analysis' approach, which has been tested in DFID financed case studies in Nepal, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Mexico and Bolivia, where participatory economic tools are being used to compare forestry's returns with those of livelihood alternatives. A manual for the economic analysis of stakeholder incentives in participatory forest management is being prepared. (Michael Richards and Research Associate, Jonathan Davies)

Co-management of tropical forests

Co-management is now a major component of many internationally-supported forestry sector development programmes in the tropics, and a significant part of forest policy and practice globally. Case studies in the high forest zones of Ghana and Cameroon have examined the potential of co-management for poverty alleviation and forest conservation in areas where the timber industry dominates, concluding that the major challenges facing the movement concern broad questions of land use management with important inter-sectoral dimensions, not amenable to resolution solely within the forest

Forestry Staff

David Brown

Anand Madhvani

Michael Richards

Kate Schreckenber

Gill Shepherd

Cathy Waterhouse

Caroline Wood



Nepalese participants deliberating the worth of community forestry

Environment Group

sector. (David Brown)

In Nepal, where co-management has been practised for longer than in any other developing country, the focus now is on who benefits from better forest protection, and how forests fit into broader livelihood strategies. FPEG has been commissioned by DFID to undertake a study of Community Forestry and Sustainable Rural Livelihoods in Nepal, to inform the design of a more targeted sustainable rural livelihoods programme which contains, but is not bounded by community forestry. (Gill Shepherd with Research Associate, Gerry Gill)

Economic incentives

Sustainable forest management (SFM) and conservation is not always viable, given prevailing market incentives, partly because some of the main benefits of SFM are not marketed and those which are, most obviously timber, are undervalued. What mechanisms can be devised to counteract these problems? Arguably the main need is not for additional finance, but for policy measures to combat underlying market and policy failures and



contribute to positive incentives for forest managers. Many of the possible mechanisms involve creating markets for the global externalities of tropical forestry, such as carbon offset trading

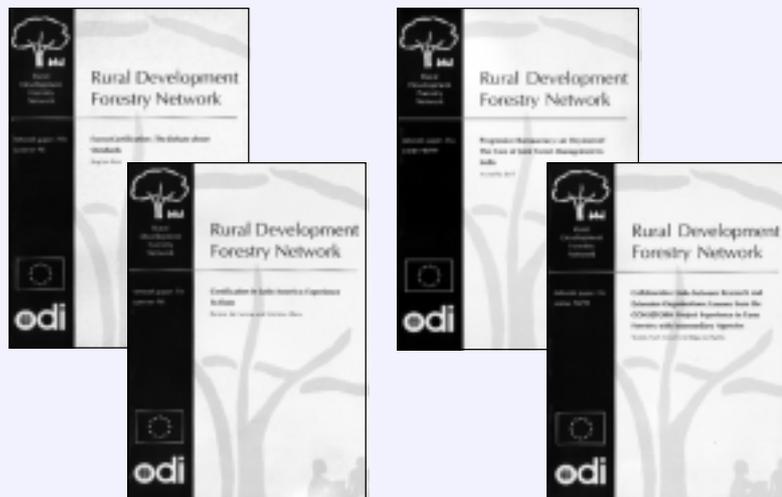
The Rural Development Forestry Network: a research and dissemination network for policy change

RDFN Mailing 23 – Criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management

C&Is emerged from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at Rio in 1992, and have proved to be a particularly successful tool for going beyond debate to problem-solving action, bringing different stakeholders together, and arriving at agreed definitions of what is meant by sustainable forest management. The process throws up problems for further research, and highlights areas where policy and legislative change may be needed. The key challenges now lie in developing criteria and indicators of social sustainability and biodiversity, above all at the local level to enable communities to monitor the management of their resources over time.

RDFN Mailing 24 – Institutional change in forestry

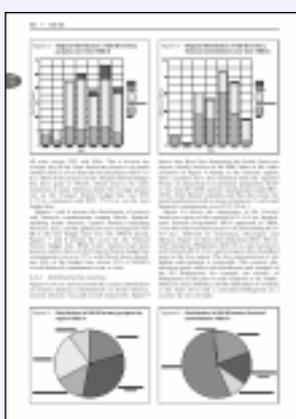
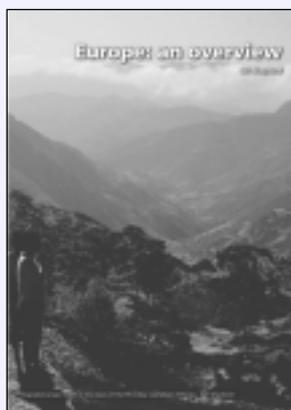
In response to the frequent inefficiencies and inequities of existing single agency management (by government forest departments), institutional change has become a major issue in the forest sector. Change is driven both by internal pressures and by donors, who are increasingly trying to involve a wider number of partners and delivery agencies, by working not only with public bodies but also with the private and non-governmental sectors, and with other civil society institutions. Decentralisation of control from central to local governments is occurring in various forms in many countries. Yet there is little understanding of the consequences of this for the livelihoods of forest-dependent peoples and for the conservation of the forest resource. This mailing illustrates some of the approaches both national governments and donors have taken and highlights the fact that institutional change should not be seen as a cheap or easy option, but must be undertaken as a genuine attempt towards finding a better solution to current problems of forest resource management.



initiatives. While most options face a range of political and technical difficulties, if SFM is to become an attractive alternative to forest exploitation these must be tackled through international as well as national processes of regulation and negotiation. (Michael Richards)

Biodiversity conservation From the forest to the farm

Non-timber forest products (NTFPs) are important in maintaining biodiversity by providing an incentive for the conservation of the forests in which they grow. What happens,



The Tropical Forestry Sourcebook

This was successfully launched in Brussels in September 1998 to a large audience of Commission staff, representatives from the European Parliament, European Member States and partner developing countries, NGOs and others. The Deputy Director General of DGVIII wrote to ODI afterwards:

'The European Commission is extremely pleased with the results of this collaboration, a product that is not only appreciated by the EC, but is also a great asset to numerous institutions and governments working with forestry issues. In this context, the European Commission is keen to support projects such as the Tropical Forestry Sourcebook where resources have been used efficiently and effectively. It is a successful example of consistency, coordination and complementarity, which is the form of collaboration the EC is keen to pursue.'

though, when the NTFPs concerned are moved out of the forest and on to the farm? A joint project undertaken with the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, ICRAF, CIFOR and various national partners, examines this issue in Cameroon, concentrating on two species at opposite ends of the domestication spectrum, to gain a better understanding of the process and of its implications for the environment and for the livelihoods of different groups of local people. (Kate Schreckenberg with RPEG Fellow, Charlotte Boyd). This work complements ongoing research with the University of Oxford Department of Plant Sciences investigating the biodiversity implications as well as the costs and benefits to farmers in situations in which most (S. Mexico) or all (S. Honduras) of the remaining tree resource exists only on-farm. (Kate Schreckenberg and Michael Richards, with Research Associate, Adrian Barrance).

Livelihoods enhancement

How successful has been the involvement of local communities in biodiversity conservation projects, particularly in areas of low tourist potential? Attempts to provide positive incentives through alternative income-generating strategies, seeking to draw communities out of the forest and to lessen their dependence on forest products, have not worked very well in non-tourist areas. But support for existing livelihoods, as a basis for conservation efforts, has been more effective. (David Brown)

There is a continuing need for greater awareness of the politics of biodiversity conservation in the context of competing national and international processes; and there is a danger that local people will be excluded for relatively minor infractions in protected areas while those having much greater impacts, such as private companies and government bodies will escape. (Gill Shepherd and independent consultant Michael Wells)

International policy processes Forest Sector Development Cooperation

ODI led the forestry sector component in Finland's recent major evaluation of success in responding to environmental commitments, across its entire aid programme. It concluded that these commitments would be very difficult to meet without improvements in aid delivery concepts and methods, both within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and at country level.

Key findings included the need for field projects to be complemented by inputs to national level policy-making, and effective collaboration with other donors. The ODI evaluation noted that embedding environmental considerations into forestry must move beyond choosing conservation projects; that higher environmental standards are required in all tropical forestry interventions; and that field staff need more guidance on criteria for prioritising environment or poverty

reduction in particular cases. Longer-term Country Partnership Agreements were seen to have great value in the forest and environment sectors, to deal with major sustainability issues. (Gill Shepherd with Research Associate, Jonathan Davies)

Studying aid flows in the forest sector

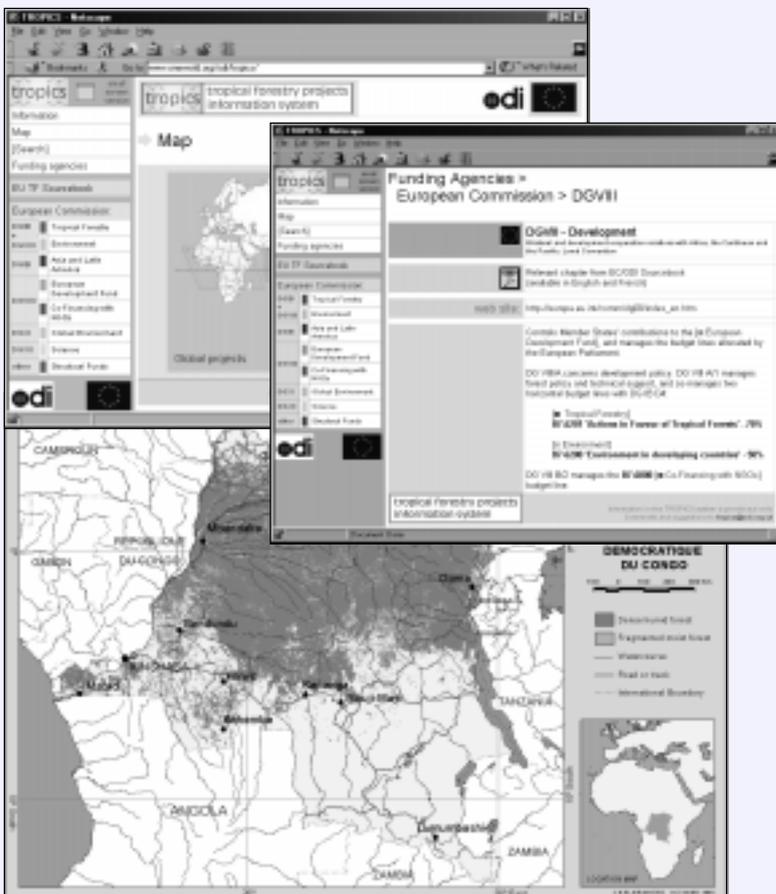
While there has been much debate about the changing definition and focus of tropical forestry development assistance, relatively little data have been available on the overall levels of recent aid flows in the sector. FPEG was asked by the UNDP to carry out a survey of global ODA flows in the forest sector, which revealed that global

commitments peaked in the 1990–2 period at close to US\$2bn but have fallen back to less than US\$1.5bn more recently. It also highlighted the difficulties of obtaining, classifying and interpreting donor information on forestry development assistance. (Anand Madhvani)

To help address some of these constraints, TROPICS, an important information system for the European Union's tropical forestry activities is being developed at ODI. (Anand Madhvani)

“Livelihood economics” can help us understand why farmers do what they do, and through participatory economic tools empower communities’

The TROPICS system provides for the first time a clear overview of all European Commission tropical forestry projects, as well as those of a growing number of EU member states. Working closely with existing management processes, TROPICS has low maintenance costs and a close dialogue with policy and project personnel to determine key information needs.



‘In Nepal .. the focus now is on who benefits from better forest protection, and how forests fit into broader livelihood strategies’

‘embedding environmental considerations into forestry must move beyond choosing conservation projects’

This year ODI has made a major new commitment to public affairs. We have taken on new staff and prepared a wide-ranging public affairs strategy for ODI, aimed at communicating the insights of our research programme to policymakers at all levels: in government and political institutions; to the broader development community in the UK and internationally; and to the press and broadcast media.

Public Affairs Staff

Peter Gee
Pippa Leask
Caz Marshall
Helen Lewis

Library Staff

Kate Kwafo-Akoto
Chris Pescud

ODI's website

At the centre of this public affairs programme is our website, now in its fifth year (www.oneworld.org/odi). Worldwide use of the Internet is growing at a phenomenal rate, and visits to our site have continued to grow rapidly, with monthly hits exceeding 100,000 in April 1999, more than double the total a year ago. We expect this rate of growth to increase even more.

During the year, we have redesigned and redeveloped most of the site, in recognition of the need to ensure that the full range of ODI's output is represented. The home page, updated at least once a week, features ODI news, and links to all the main sections of the site, which now include 'home pages' for each of the four research groups and associated networks. These now include informative summaries of major research projects, and much more research material which can be downloaded, in addition to the full text of Briefing Papers, ODI Poverty Briefings, and Natural Resource Perspectives. The long established

sections of the Relief and Rehabilitation Network, Rural Development Forestry Network and the Agricultural Research and Extension Network have now been joined by a revived Pastoral Development Network.

The on-line publications catalogue section, with its secure internet ordering facility, is being used increasingly, and there has been a rapid increase in email orders and requests to join ODI's mailing lists. Further expansion of the website is planned for 1999/2000.

Publications

We have, of course, continued to develop our conventional publishing programme. ODI published fourteen new books in the course of the year, four in collaboration with external publishers - see the list at the end of this report. The widely appreciated Briefing Paper series, mailed free of charge to over 5,000 recipients has been supplemented by a special series of ODI Poverty Briefings. Both are available from our website.

The screenshot shows the ODI website interface. At the top, it reads "Overseas Development Institute" and "The Overseas Development Institute is Britain's leading independent think tank on international development and humanitarian issues." The main navigation menu on the left includes: ODI Home, Mission Statement, Search, Research and Policy Programmes (with sub-links for Food Policy, Agricultural Policy, International Economic Development, and Rural Policy and Environment), Publications (with sub-links for Studies, Cases, and Policy Issues), Library, Networks (with sub-links for CIDA, ECFR, EEA, ALUAF, and ECR), and Meetings. The main content area features a "Current Activities and News" section with a highlighted article: "Pastoral Development Network now online". Below this, it lists "Just published: 2 new ODI Natural Resource Perspectives" with titles like "Rural Livelihood Security in Developing Countries: Evidence and Policy Implications" and "Competitive Agricultural Technology: Evidence in Developing Countries Implications". To the right, there is a "ODI Job Opportunities" section titled "Research positions" and a "WTO" section mentioning a high-level symposium on Trade and Environment in Geneva.

Affairs

ODI's two quarterly journals, the *Development Policy Review* and *Disasters*, published in association with Blackwell Publishers, continue to flourish. Nine new Working Papers, presenting preliminary findings of ODI research, have been published, many in a new large size format.

The media

To influence policy-makers, it is certainly necessary for research institutes and think-tanks to publish as widely as possible. But simply publishing the research is not sufficient to guarantee influence. It is also essential to work with the print and broadcast media to encourage and shape current debate on development issues, communicating ODI's work to much wider audiences, and thereby influencing the policy agenda.

Offering authoritative briefings, background material, experts for on-the-record interviews and quotes on all aspects of international development, ODI has plenty to contribute to the current development agenda. Over the past twelve months ODI has appeared in a variety of print and broadcast media, ranging from the *Guardian* and the *Sunday Times*, to Radio 4, Radio 5, the World Service, and Channel 4 news.

Meetings, seminars and conferences

Meetings are another key element in ODI's public affairs programme. This year, there have been three very successful series of lunchtime meetings: Natural Resources, Poverty and the Environment - Synergies and Trade-Offs (Summer 1998), Global Governance - Yes - but what, who and how? (Autumn 1998) and A Rights-Based Approach to Development: From Theory to Practice (Spring, 1999). Texts of presentations and meeting reports are available on the website.

Throughout the year, we organised many other events, exploring a wide-range of issues and bringing together a diverse group of policy-makers, academics, NGOs, consultants and commercial interests: a two day

European Roundtable Meeting for the World Bank on the theme of Partnerships; a discussion meeting presented by Dr Hans Herren, Director General of ICIPE, on bio-technologies for sustainable agricultural production; and the major international conference on 'Smart Sanctions' organised by ODI in December 1998. The EU Tropical Forestry Sourcebook was launched in Brussels in September 1998.

Parliament

ODI fulfils its role in supplying specialist advice to relevant backbench committees, as well as maintaining the momentum of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Overseas Development (APGOOD), now in its fourteenth year.

We have continued to support the work of the International Development Committee, by providing advice on the menu of topics for their inquiries and on their scope and content. In addition, the Humanitarian Policy Group provided a formal submission to the Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Reconstruction inquiry, as well as oral evidence to the Select Committee.

The wide-ranging programme of APGOOD activities included meetings on the proposed Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI), addressed by Trade Minister Brian Wilson MP and World Development Movement Director Barry Coates; a presentation by David Dollar of the World Bank on its report 'Assessing Aid: What works, what doesn't and why'; and Transnational Bribery and Ethical Business, with Hugh Bayley, MP and Laurence Cockroft of Transparency International UK. Other eminent visiting speakers included Louise Frechette, the Deputy Secretary General of the UN, on 'Economic and Social Reform: the Contribution of the UN' and James Michel, retiring chair of the OECD's DAC.

In the January 1999 government reshuffle, APGOOD's Chair Hugh Bayley MP was promoted to Junior Minister for Social Security (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State).

Library

A long term development plan has been prepared for the library, featuring a shift away from a predominantly document-based collection to an information centre combining document supply with information provision from other electronic sources.

As part of the plan, an extensive weeding of the collection was undertaken during the year and the library now holds about 4,000 books and working papers and 250 periodical titles, together with statistical data, annual reports, government publications, publications from the United Nations, World Bank and World Trade Organization. It also has an extensive collection of agriculture and forestry grey literature received mainly from developing countries. The Library boasts a unique collection. The subject coverage includes macroeconomics, international trade, economic policy, poverty, aid, disaster relief and rehabilitation and rural resource management.

The library's database, now accessible on line, is hosted by the Electronic Development Information System (ELDIS) gateway at the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex at <http://nt1.ids.ac.uk/eldis/odionly.htm> contains about 40,000 records, of which 20,000 are for journal articles.

The Library networks with other development institute libraries all over the world and is active in the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI) Information and Documentation Working Group.

The ODI Fellow

Over 450 economists have passed through the ODI Fellowship Scheme in its 35-year history. Demand remains high, and 36 Fellows are working at present in 17 countries around the world. We strive continually to improve the scheme, and were pleased this year to have an external review, funded by DFID.

'ODI Fellows bring the dynamism of youth, enthusiasm, commitment, dedication, good organisation, and hard work. They are highly motivated self-starters with good analytical skills, who can construct an argument, put theory into practice and work with a minimum of supervision. They collaborate as part of a team, building a rapport with their colleagues, and helping to foster inter-agency collaboration.' – External Review

The Review confirmed the value of the scheme, and encouraged us to continue looking for ways to make it even better.

Past achievements

The main purposes of the Fellowship Scheme are to help developing country governments fill gaps in the technical expertise needed for policy analysis, and to bring on a corps of development economists. The Review found that there is 'still an extremely high demand' and praised the 'high quality, branded product' that ODI provides. There is more to the job than technical skill, however. Talking to government officials, the Review found that Fellows bring a work ethic that can be even more valuable when transferred (see Box).

The Scheme's second function is to equip young economists for professional careers in development. The Review describes the Scheme as 'unique' in this respect, citing the level of responsibility Fellows enjoy, and their early experience of working with senior people. More than two thirds of Fellows stay in the development field. DFID currently employs 22 ex-Fellows, and two more recently joined the IMF. Indeed the Review concludes that 'if the ODI Scheme did not exist, DFID would need to devise a replacement'. However, it remains firmly ODI's scheme.

The Fellowship Scheme also focuses on poverty reduction. Over 90% of recent placements have been in low or lower-middle income countries. We respond to the requests of some richer countries like Namibia, Papua New Guinea and Montserrat, because they have particular problems that they know the ODI Scheme can successfully address.

Future challenges

The Review has helped us to identify three main areas where the pace of innovation needs to accelerate.

Poverty postings

The number of ODI Fellows working on poverty-related issues has increased sharply, in both the traditional finance and planning ministries and sectoral ministries. For example, most economist postings in poor countries have had a strong poverty focus. Good macro-economic management, and a sound budget process, are also essential for poverty reduction. We are increasingly responding to demands to place economists in health and education ministries and planning departments.

Better capacity-building

ODI Fellows occupy established positions in government ministries, and do not act as somewhat lofty technical assistants providing advisory services in the classic sense. Nevertheless, Fellows

Fellows in post*

Africa

The Gambia

Catherine Porter, Economic Research Department, Bank of The Gambia

Lesotho

Jennifer Barugh, Ministry of Finance

Malawi

Tim Ruffer, Ministry of Finance
Georgina Rawle, Planning Department,
Ministry of Education

Mozambique

Magnus Lindelöw, Ministry of Planning and Finance

Alessandro Marini, National Sugar Authority,
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

Nicola Pontara, Poverty Alleviation Unit,
Ministry of Planning and Finance

Namibia

Ben Groom, Ministry of Agriculture, Water
and Rural Development

Graham Hobbs, Ministry of Finance
James MacGregor, Ministry of Environment

Rwanda

Srahan Spencer, Ministry of Finance and
Economic Planning

Swaziland

Patricia Clancy, Financial Planning, Ministry of
Finance

Tanzania

Vanessa Head, Policy Analysis Division,
Ministry of Finance

Uganda

Ashok Bhundia, Bank of Uganda
Philip Courtnadge, Ministry of Finance and
Economic Planning – Debt/HIPC

Jorge Gallego-Lizon, Ministry of Finance and
Economic Planning – Planning

Anne-Marie Ainger, Ministry of Finance and
Economic Planning – Education

David Lawson, Ministry of Finance and
Economic Planning – Financial Institutions

Tim Williamson, Ministry of Finance and
Economic Planning – Poverty Action Fund

Zambia

Matthew McCartney, Internal Revenue
Mobilisation Department, Ministry of
Finance

Fellowship Scheme Staff

Susan Amoaten

Adrian Hewitt

Adrienne Watson

Fellowship Scheme

do need to think about how to work themselves out of a job. Most already pass on their skills, some formally in local universities, but almost all through on-the-job training of colleagues. Some have direct counterparts where the governments can afford it.

In addition, we will work with governments to provide more opportunities for training; encourage Fellows to take those opportunities; and make sure that we equip Fellows with the skills and resources they need to carry out this part of the job.

We have already extended our selection procedure and our pre-departure training programme.

A wider partnership

A feature of the Scheme has been the increasing number of Fellows from developing countries, qualified by virtue of possessing a Master's degree from a British university. Our intention now is to widen our partnership with developing countries.

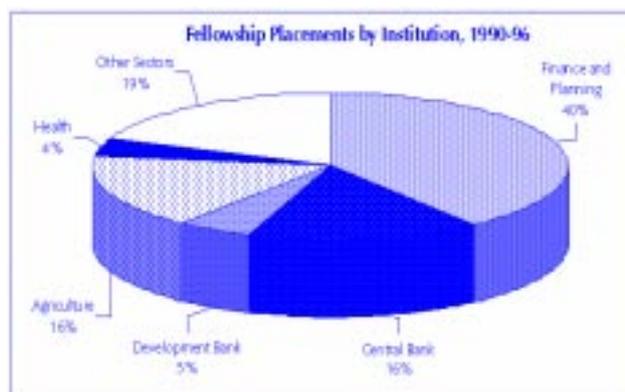
In particular, we have started exploring two possibilities: The first is South-North exchanges, bringing expertise and understanding from the developing world to bear on the problems of the North - for example, in the area of micro-credit, utility regulation, trade and development policy and partnerships with donors. The second is South-South Fellowships, facilitating the exchange of specialist economists from developing

countries to another developing country, and giving them the career boost the Scheme offers their counterparts from the developed world.

The Review has encouraged us to develop these ideas, and DFID has provided seed money to help us research them further.

The coming year

The coming year will therefore be a time of exciting change for the Fellowship Scheme. In addition to the changes highlighted here, we are expanding into new countries. Tanzania, the Gambia, Rwanda and Zambia are in the Scheme this year. In 1999, we hope to add South Africa to their number, at the request of that government. We intend to place greater numbers of Fellows next year and use more diverse sources of funding, especially contributions coming from developing countries themselves and from multilateral bodies.



Caribbean

Barbados

Christopher Crowe, Economics and Programming Department, Caribbean Development Bank

Guyana

Francesca Colombo, Ministry of Health
Emily Fripp, Guyana Forestry Commission
Emily Sinnott, Ministry of Finance Debt Management Unit
Lindsay Chalmers, Privatisation Unit**
Andrew Keith, Agricultural Project Cycle Unit, Ministry of Agriculture

Montserrat

Joanna Wilkes, Development Unit, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development

Pacific

Fiji

Helena McLeod, South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC)/Mineral Resources Department

Susan Matheson, Economic Analysis Unit, Ministry of Finance

Papua New Guinea

Matthew Morris, Department of Commerce and Industry
Paolo De Renzio, Department of Planning and Implementation
Tarun Brahma, Research Unit, Bank of Papua New Guinea
Rob Rudy, Internal Revenue Commission

Solomon Islands

Loga Gnanasambanthan, Ministry of National Planning and Development

Tonga

Dan Huynh, National Reserve Bank of Tonga
Tom Wilson, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

* at May 1999, ** at June 1999

Finance

Balance sheet summary

| | <i>31 March 1999</i> | <i>31 March 1998</i> |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Fixed Assets | | |
| Tangible assets | 73,351 | 63,101 |
| Investments (Market Value) | 1,189,680 | 1,104,389 |
| Current Assets | | |
| Stocks | 14,389 | 16,382 |
| Debtors and cash | 558,670 | 626,042 |
| Current Liabilities | | |
| Creditors and accruals | 628,684 | 711,862 |
| Net current liabilities | (55,625) | (69,438) |
| Net assets | 1,207,406 | 1,098,052 |
| Reserves | 1,207,406 | 1,098,052 |

Income and expenditure account summary

| | <i>1998/99</i> | <i>1997/98</i> |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Income | | |
| Grants and project finance | 4,880,933 | 3,942,134 |
| Investments | 5,509 | 3,719 |
| Donations | 7,140 | 8,788 |
| Other operating income | 82,330 | 87,555 |
| Total income | 4,975,912 | 4,042,196 |
| | | |
| | <i>1998/99</i> | <i>1997/98</i> |
| | £ | £ |
| Expenditure | | |
| Staff Costs | 1,837,147 | 1,724,122 |
| Depreciation | 60,665 | 70,895 |
| Research expenditure and other direct costs | 1,697,175 | 1,142,148 |
| Other operating expenses | 707,114 | 647,673 |
| Meetings, conferences and publications | 80,619 | 33,714 |
| Professional and audit fees | 7,462 | 6,583 |
| Fellowship supplements | 561,667 | 495,485 |
| Total expenditure | 4,951,849 | 4,120,620 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | 24,063 | (78,424) |

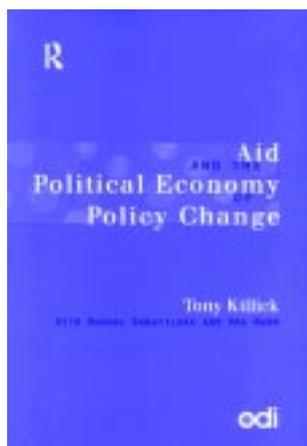
The complete accounts are available from ODI on request.

Funders

Action contre la Faim, Sierra Leone
 ActionAid
 Asociación Nacional de Instituciones
 Financieras (ANIF), Colombia
 Association pour le Développement de
 l'Enseignement du Perfectionnement
 et de la Recherche à l'Institut
 National Agronomique
 (ADEPRINA), Paris
 African Development Bank
 African Economic Research
 Consortium
 African Wildlife Foundation
 Aide à la Décision Economique
 British Council
 British Red Cross
 Brown University, Providence RI,
 USA
 Canadian International Development
 Agency (CIDA)
 CARE International
 Carnegie Corporation of New York
 Center on International Cooperation,
 New York University
 Centre for Arid Zones Studies,
 University of Wales
 Centre for Development Research,
 University of Bonn (ZEF)
 Centre for Development Studies,
 University of Bergen
 Centre for Economic Analysis, Oslo
 Centre for Environmental Technology,
 Imperial College
 Centre for International Forestry
 Research
 Centre for Land Use and Water
 Resources Research
 Centre for Plant Breeding and
 Reproduction Research (CPRO-
 DLO)
 Centre National de la Recherche
 Scientifique
 Centro Studi di Politicà Internazionale
 (CeSPI)
 Comic Relief
 Commonwealth Secretariat
 Conflict Prevention Network
 Corporación Financiera del Valle SA,
 Colombia
 Crown Agents
 Department for International
 Development (DFID)
 Disasters Emergency Committee
 The Environment & Development
 Group
 Environmental Research Group
 Oxford Limited (ERGO)
 Eurolatina
 European Centre for Development
 Policy Management
 European Commission
 European Community Humanitarian
 Office (ECHO)
 European Court of Auditors
 Food and Agriculture Organization of
 the United Nations
 Foreign and Commonwealth Office
 Forestry Research Programme, Natural
 Resources Institute
 GIS Economie Mondiale Tiers-Monde
 Développement (GEMDEV)
 Imani Development (International) Ltd
 Institut Français de Recherche
 Scientifique pour le Développement
 en Coopération (ORSTOM)
 Institute of Development Studies,
 University of Sussex
 Institute of Development Studies,
 Helsinki
 Institute of Management Consultants
 InterAction
 Intermediate Technology Development
 Group
 International Agriculture Centre
 International Centre for Research in
 Agroforestry
 International Crops Research Institute
 for the Semi-Arid Tropics
 (ICRISAT)
 International Development Committee
 International Federation of the Red
 Cross and Red Crescent
 International Food Policy Research
 Institute
 International Institute for Environment
 and Development (IIED)
 International Labour Office
 International Maize and Wheat
 Improvement Center (CIMMYT)
 International Plant Genetic Resources
 Institute
 Irish Aid Advisory Committee
 Japan International Cooperation
 Agency
 Leventis Foundation
 Living Earth Foundation
 London School of Hygiene and
 Tropical Medicine
 Marine Resources Assessment Group
 Ltd (MRAG)
 Médecins Sans Frontières, The
 Netherlands
 The Meteorological Office
 Ministère des Affaires Étrangères,
 République Française
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Eire
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The
 Netherlands
 Minority Rights Group
 National Centre for Development
 Studies, Australian National
 University
 Natural Resources International
 Limited
 Norwegian Institute for International
 Affairs (NUPI)
 Organisation for Economic
 Cooperation and Development
 (OECD)
 Oxfam GB
 Oxford Policy Management Ltd
 Planistat, Europe
 Post-War Reconstruction and
 Development Unit
 Price Waterhouse
 RedR
 Refugee Studies Programme
 Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign
 Affairs
 Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
 Norway
 Ruhr-Universität Bochum
 School of Agriculture and Forest
 Sciences, University of Wales
 School of Oriental and African Studies,
 University of London (SOAS)
 School of Public Policy, University of
 Birmingham
 Shell International
 Shell South Africa (Pty) Limited
 Smits Engineering SA
 Swedish International Development
 and Co-operation Agency (Sida)
 Swiss Agency for Development and
 Cooperation
 United Kingdom Foundation for the
 South Pacific
 United Nations Children's Fund
 United Nations Development
 Programme (UNDP)
 United Nations Administrative
 Committee on Coordination
 United Nations Conference on Trade
 and Development
 United Nations Office for Project
 Services
 Universidad Complutense de Madrid
 Université de Genève
 University of Capetown
 University of Uppsala
 University of Wolverhampton
 The World Bank
 The World Conservation Union
 (IUCN)
 World Health Organization

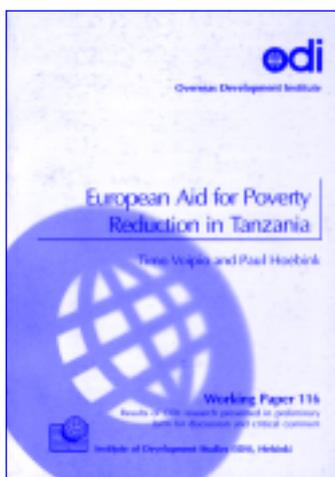
ODI Books

- Blench, R. (ed.) (1999) *Natural Resource Management and Socio-economic Factors in Ghana*. London: ODI
- Blench, R. with T. Driver, A. Haour, and B. Hendrie (1998) *Resource Conflict in Semi-Arid Africa: An Essay and Annotated Bibliography*. London: ODI
- Carney, D. (1998) *Changing Public and Private Roles in Agricultural Service Provision*. London: DFID
- Carney, D. and J. Farrington (1998) *Natural Resource Management and Institutional Change*. London: Routledge
- Chalinder, A. (1998) *Temporary Human Settlement Planning for Displaced Populations in Emergencies*. London: ODI
- Clay, E., N. Pillai and C. Benson (1998) *The Future of Food Aid: A Policy Review*. London: ODI
- Cox, A., and J. Healey, (1999: forthcoming) *Promises to the Poor: the poverty reduction policies of European development cooperation agencies and their effectiveness*. Basingstoke: Macmillan.



- Hallam, A. (1998) *The Evaluation of Humanitarian Assistance Programmes in Complex Emergencies*. London: ODI
- Killick, T. (1998) *Aid and the Political Economy of Policy Change*. London: Routledge
- Mosse, D., J. Farrington and A. Rew (eds) (1998) *Development as a Process: Concepts and Methods for Working Complexity*. London: Routledge
- Nissanke, M. and E. Aryeetey (1998) *Financial Integration and Development: Liberalization and reform in sub-Saharan Africa*. London: Routledge
- Page, P. (1999) *Environment benefits from removing trade restrictions and distortions: background for WTO negotiations*. London: ODI
- Page, S. (1999 forthcoming) *Regions and Developing Countries*. Basingstoke: Macmillan.
- Shepherd, G., D. Brown, M. Richards and K. Schreckenber (eds) (1998) *The EU Tropical Forestry Sourcebook*. London: ODI

- Shepherd, G. (1998) *Managing Africa's Tropical Dry Forests: A Review of Indigenous Methods* Reprinted with an Index. London: ODI
- Turrall, H. (1998) *Hydro Logic? Reform in Water Resources Management: Lessons for Developing Nations*. London: ODI



Working Papers

- Baumann, P. (1998) *Panchayati Raj and Watershed Management in India: Constraints and Opportunities*. Working Paper 114. London: ODI
- Blench, R. and Marriage, Z. (1999) *Drought and Livestock in Semi-Arid Africa and Southwest Asia*. Working Paper 117. London: ODI
- Clay, E., Pillai, N. and Benson C. (1998) *Food Aid and Food Security in the 1990s: Performance and Effectiveness*. Working Paper 113. London: ODI
- Farrington, J., Cox, A. and Gilling, J. (1998) *Reaching the poor? Developing a Poverty Screen for Agricultural Research Proposals*. Working Paper 112. London: ODI
- Hoebink, P. and Schulpen, L. (1998) *Netherlands Aid Policies for Poverty Reduction*. Working Paper 115. London: ODI
- Killick, T., Carlsson J. and Kierkegaard, A. (1998) *European Aid and the Reduction of Poverty in Zimbabwe*. Working Paper 109. London: ODI
- Loquai, C., Van Hove, K and Bossuyt, J. (1998) *The European Community's Approach towards Poverty Reduction in Developing Countries*. Working Paper 111. London: ODI
- Schulpen, L. and Hoebink, P (1998) *Poverty Reduction and Aid: Changing Perceptions and their Influence on Aid Allocation*. Working Paper 110. London: ODI
- Voipio, T. (1998) *Finnish Aid Policies for Poverty Reduction*. Working Paper 108. London: ODI
- Voipio, T. and Hoebink, P. (1998) *European Aid for Poverty Reduction in Tanzania*. Working Paper 116. London: ODI

Poverty Briefings

- This series summarises contemporary debate, insights and experience on ways of more effectively reaching and benefiting the poor. New thinking on and recent experience of poverty reduction measures and emerging approaches to poverty alleviation by donor agencies as well as natural resource, finance and trade aspects are covered. The analysis, evidence and insights are drawn from ODI's recent research and reviews of wider contemporary research, issues being debated and observation from the field. The papers are available free of charge.
- Carney, D. (1999) *Approaches to Sustainable Livelihoods for the Rural Poor*. 2: January.
- Cox, A. and J. Healey (1998) *Promises to the Poor: the Record of European Development Agencies*. 1: November.
- Marr, A. (1999) *The Poor and their Money: what have we learned?*. 4: March.
- Maxwell, S. (1999) *The Meaning and Measurement of Poverty*. 3: February.

Briefing Papers

- These papers on topics of current development interest are available free of charge and are mailed to around 5,500 recipients in the UK and overseas. They are on ODI's website.
- The Debate on Genetically Modified Organisms: Relevance for the South*. 1999 (1) January.
- Mainstreaming Public Participation in Economic Infrastructure Projects*. 1998 (3) July.
- The UK White Paper on International Development - and Beyond*. 1998 (2) May)

Natural Resource Perspectives

- These short papers summarise research and are mailed to over 4,000 recipients in the UK and overseas. They are on ODI's website.
- Adams, M., S. Sibanda and S. Turner (1999) *Land Tenure and Rural Livelihoods in Southern Africa*. No. 39.
- Arnold, M. and I. Townson (1998) *Assessing the Potential of Forest Product Activities to Contribute to Rural Incomes in Africa*. No. 37.
- Blench, R. (1998) *Biodiversity Conservation and its Opponents*. No. 32.
- Brown, D. (1998) *Participatory Biodiversity Conservation - Rethinking the Strategy in the Low Tourist Potential Areas of Tropical Africa*. No. 33.
- Turton, C. and J. Farrington (1998) *Enhancing Rural Livelihoods through Participatory Watershed Development in India*. No. 34.
- Warner, M. and P. Jones (1998) *Assessing the Need to Manage Conflict in Community-Based Natural Resource Projects*. No. 35.
- Whiteside, M. (1998) *Encouraging Sustainable Smallholder Agriculture in Southern Africa in the Context of Agricultural Services Reform*. No. 36.

ns 1998/99

Williams, T. O. (1998) *Multiple Uses of Common Pool Resources in Semi-Arid West Africa: A Survey of Existing Practices and Options for Sustainable Resource Management*. No. 38.

ODI Journals

Development Policy Review

Editor: Sheila Page

Co-editors: John Farrington, Adrian Hewitt

and Henri-Bernard Solignac Lecomte

Associate Editor: Margaret Cornell



Disasters: The Journal of Disaster Studies, Policy and Management

Editors: Joanna Macrae and Helen Young

Assistant Editor: Corwen McCutcheon

ODI Network Papers

Agricultural Research and Extension Network (AgREN)

Bentley, J.W. and D.Vasques (1998) *The Seed Potato System in Bolivia: Organisational Growth and Missing Links*. AGREN Paper 85.

d'Souza, M. (1998) *Watershed Development – Creating Space for Women*. AGREN Paper 88b.

Floyd, F. and colleagues (1999) *The adoption and associated impact of technologies in the western hills of Nepal*. AGREN Paper 90.

Floyd, S. (1999) *When is quantitative data collection appropriate in farmer participatory research and development? Who should analyse the data and how?* AGREN Paper 92b.

Hall, A. and S. Nahdy (1999) *New methods and old institutions: The 'systems context' of farmer participatory research in national agricultural systems. The case of Uganda*. AGREN Paper 93.

Lawrence, A., J. Barr and G. Haylor (1999) *Stakeholder approaches to planning participatory research by multi-institution groups*. AGREN Paper 91.

Lyon, F. and S. Afikorah-Danquah (1998) *Small-Scale Seed Provision in Ghana: Social Relations, Contracts and Institutions for*

Micro-Enterprise Development. AGREN Paper 84.

Pangare, V. L. (1998) *Gender Issues in Watershed Development and Management in India*. AGREN Paper 88a.

Pound, B. (1999) *The appropriate use of qualitative information in participatory research and development. What are the issues for farmers and researchers?* AGREN Paper 92c.

Smith, P. (1998) *The Use of Subsidies for Soil and Water Conservation: A Case Study from Western India*. AGREN Paper 87.

Sutherland, A. (1999) *Linkages between farmer-oriented and formal research and development approaches*. AGREN Paper 92a.

Tripp, R. and S. Pal (1998) *Information exchange in Commercial Seed Markets in Rajasthan*. AGREN Paper 83.

Turton, C. with M. Warner and B. Groom (1998) *Scaling Up Participatory Watershed Development in India: A Review of the Literature*. AGREN Paper 86.

Warner, M., P. Bezkorowajnyj, R. Rana and J. Witcombe (1999) *Matching livelihood needs to tree selection in high potential farming systems: Lessons from participatory research in Nepal and India*. AGREN Paper 89.

Rural Development Forestry Network (RDFN)

Arnold, M. (1998) *Trees as Out-grower Crops for Forest Industries: Experience from the Philippines and South Africa*. RDFN Paper 22a.

Bass, S. (1999) *Forest Certification – The Debate about Standards*. RDFN Paper 23b.

de Camino, R. and M. Alfaro (1999) *Certification in Latin America: Experience to Date*. RDFN Paper 23c.

Fuller, J. (1999) *Participatory Monitoring of Forest Resources: Current Methodologies Being Developed in Thailand*. RDFN Paper 23e.

Geilfus, F. (1998) *From 'Tree-haters' to Tree-farmers: Promoting Farm Forestry in the Dominican Republic*. RDFN Paper 22d.

Grundy, I. and G. Le Breton (1998) *The SAFIRE MITI Programme – A New Approach to Natural Resource Management in Communal Areas of Zimbabwe*. RDFN Paper 22e.

Langoya, C. D. and C. Long (1998) *Local Communities and Ecotourism Development in Budongo Forest Reserve, Uganda*. RDFN Paper 22e.

Maharjan, M. R. (1999) *The Flow and Distribution of Costs and Benefits in the Chuliban Community Forest, Dhankuta District, Nepal*. RDFN Paper 23e.

Mather, R., M. de Boer, M. Gurung and N. Roche (1999) *Aerial Photographs and Photo-maps for Community Forestry*. RDFN Paper 23e.

Mejia, R. and R. Benitez (1998) *Community Banking in the Regional Forestry Programme for Central America (PROCAFOR)*. RDFN Paper 22e.

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Boudreau, T. (1998) *The Food Economy Approach: a framework for understanding rural livelihoods*. RRN Paper 26.

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Sharp, K. (1998) *Between Relief and Development: targeting food aid for disaster prevention in Ethiopia*. RRN Paper 27.

Key Sheets for Sustainable Livelihoods

The purpose of these is to provide decision makers with an easy and up-to-date point of reference on issues relating to the provision of support for sustainable livelihoods. The sheets address three broad sets of issues: Service Delivery; Resource Management; and Policy Planning and Implementation. They are available on ODI's website.

Service Delivery

1. Agricultural Research
2. Agricultural Extension
3. Seed Supply
4. Rural Finance
5. Livestock Services
6. Fertiliser Supply
7. Agricultural Marketing

Resource Management

1. Land Tenure
2. Tourism
3. Integrated Coastal Management
4. Aquaculture
5. Participatory Watershed Development

Policy Planning and Implementation

1. Agriculture Sector Programmes
2. Integrated Pest Management

Other significant publications by ODI authors

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- Ashley, C. (1998) 'Tourism, Communities and National Policy: Namibia's Experience'. *Development Policy Review* 16 (4).
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- Cromwell, E. and van Oosterhout, S. (1999) 'On-Farm Conservation of Crop Diversity: Policy and Institutional Lessons from Zimbabwe' in Brush, S. (ed) *Genes in the Field: Conserving Plant Diversity on Farms*. New York: CRC Press and Ottawa: IDRC.
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- Hanmer, L. (1998) 'Human Capital, Targeting and Social Safety Nets: An Analysis of Household Data from Zimbabwe'. *Oxford Development Studies*, Vol. 26 No. 2.
- Hanmer, L. with H. Akram-Lodhi (1998) 'In "The House of the Spirits": Towards a Post-Keynesian Theory of the Household?'. *Journal of Post Keynesian Economics*, Vol. 20 No. 3.
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- Maxwell, S. (1998) 'Saucy with the Gods: Nutrition and Food Security Speak to Poverty'. *Food Policy* Vol. 23 No. 3/4.
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- Shaw D. J. and E. J. Clay (1998) 'Global hunger and food security after the World Food Summit'. *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*, Vol. 19.
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- Solignac Lecomte, H.B. (1998) *La combinaison des facteurs de production dans les PME en Afrique: is small beautiful?* Document spécial n° 10. Dakar: CODESRIA.
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- Warner, M. (1999) 'Which Way now? Choices for Mainstreaming 'Public Involvement' in *Economic Infrastructure Projects in Developing Countries*. Development Policy Review, 17(2).
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Meetings

Natural Resources, Poverty and the Environment – Synergies and Trade-Offs

- 'Climate Change, Trade and Development'. *James Cameron, Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development.* (20 May 1998)
- 'Reducing the Environmental Costs that Cities Pass on to Their Surrounds'. *David Satterthwaite, IIED.* (27 May 1998)
- 'Global Environmental Agreements – Do They Work? The Case of Deserts'. *Camilla Toulmin, IIED.* (3 June 1998)
- 'Poverty, Environment and Forests'. *ODI/IIED Panel Discussion.* (10 June 1998)
- 'Access to Plant Varieties: Intellectual Property Protection and Farmers' Rights'. *Jeremy Davis, Plant Breeding International and Patrick Mulvany, ITDG.* (17 June 1998)
- 'Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Livelihoods: Conflict or Complement?'. *Christo Fabricius, IIED, Elizabeth Cromwell, ODI and Glyn Davies, EUDGVIII/IUCN.* (24 June 1998)
- 'Meeting Poverty and Environmental Challenges Through Microwatershed Rehabilitation in India'. *John Farrington and Cate Turton, ODI.* (1 July 1998)

Global Governance – Yes, but what, who and how ?

- 'Global Governance – Yes, but what, who and how?'. *Lord Desai of St. Clement Danes, Lord Judd of Portsea, Sir John Thomson.* (21st October 1998)
- 'UN Reform – A UK Perspective'. *Dr Rosalind Marsden, Head, UN Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office & Greg Toulmin, Head, UN & Commonwealth Department, DFID.* (28th October 1998)
- 'Global Governance: What can the WTO teach us?'. *Gary Sampson, Director, WTO.* (4th November 1998)
- 'Globalisation and Social Policy: International actors, discourses and governance'. *Bob Deacon, Director of the Globalism & Social Policy Programme based jointly in Sheffield & Helsinki.* (11th November 1998)
- 'Global Peace-making: How do we link the political and the humanitarian?'. *Sir Marrack Goulding, Warden of St. Antony's College, Oxford.* (17th November 1998)
- 'Global Warming and Global Governance: Who manages the market?'. *Rt. Hon John Gummer MP.* (25th November 1998)
- 'Global Governance and the UN: Beyond track 2?'. *Louise Frechette - Deputy Secretary-General, UN.* (8th December 1998)
- 'Should capital flows be regulated?'. *Stephany Griffith-Jones, IDS.* (16th December 1998)

A Rights-Based Approach to Development: From Theory to Practice

- 'Basic Needs as Basic Rights: Practical Policy-Making in Kenya'. *Salil Shetty - Executive Director, ActionAid.* (10 February 1999)
- 'How to Make a Rights-Based Approach to Development Work: A DFID Perspective'. *Rosalind Eyben, Head, Social Development Division, DFID; Roger Wilson, Head, Government and Institutions Department, DFID; Sarah Beeching, Conflict and Humanitarian Affairs Department, DFID.* (17 February 1999)
- 'Appropriate Institutions for World Food Security. Two Years After the World Food Summit – What has Changed?'. *Dr Edward Clay - Research Fellow, Overseas Development Institute and panel.* (3 March 1999)
- 'Can International Law Provide Effective Sanctions for Violations of Economic and Social Rights? Lessons from the Creation of the International Criminal Court'. *Professor Christine Chinkin, Professor of International Law, LSE.* (10 March 1999)
- 'Performance Standards and Accountability in Realising Rights: The Humanitarian Case'. *Nick Stockton, Director in Emergencies, Oxfam.* (17 March 1999)
- 'Solutions Outside the Box: Can We Finally Implement the Human Right to Food?'. *Simon Maxwell, Director, Overseas Development Institute.* (24 March 1999)
- 'Can We do Anything Sensible with a Rights-Based Approach to Development?'. *Julia Häusermann, President, Rights and Humanity and Jeremy Swift, Fellow, Institute of Development Studies.* (31 March 1999)

Other Meetings

- ODI/ECHO Conference 'Principled Aid in an Unprincipled World'. (7 April 1998)
- ODI discussion meeting 'The DAC 21st Century Strategy: Where Do We Go from Here?' addressed by *Clare Short, Secretary of State for International Development* (9 April 1998)
- ODI hosted a workshop, chaired by *Simon Maxwell, with Dr Norman Borlaug, President, Sasakawa Africa Association* (20 April 1998)
- Launch of ODI report 'The Future of Food Aid: A Policy Review' prepared for DFID by *Edward Clay, Nita Pillai and Charlotte Benson.* (June 1998)
- Discussion meeting for the World Bank 'Rethinking Aid – what works, what doesn't and why'. (16 June 1998)
- 'World Bank Partnership Roundtable'. (1/2 July 1998)
- Koenraad Van Brabant* chaired a Seminar on Internally Displaced People jointly organised with the Global IDP Survey. (20 July 1998)
- HPG seminar on *Mark Duffield's* paper: 'Aid Policy and Post-Modern Conflict'. (23 September 1998)
- 'The wish of the rich versus the need of the poor: what biotechnologies are appropriate for sustainable agricultural production in the tropics'. A discussion meeting addressed by *Dr Hans Herren, Director-General of ICIPE and chaired by John Farrington.* (30 September 1998)
- ODI/DFID seminar on Smarter Sanctions. (16 – 17 December 1998)
- World Bank/ODI discussion seminar on World Bank 1998 Annual Review of Development Effectiveness. (1 February 1999)
- OECD Launch of the OECD/DAC 1998 Development Cooperation Report 'Staying the Course toward Development Results through Partnership'. *James Michel, Chair, Development Assistance Committee.* (4 February 1999)
- Information, Research and Development: EU Perspectives and Opportunities – EU/ODI consultation. (8 March 1999)
- ILO seminar 'World Employment Report 1998 – a discussion meeting. (30 March 1999)

Research Specialisations

- Caroline Ashley** (RPEG): sustainable livelihoods and natural resource management; pro-poor tourism; wildlife and biodiversity; community-based natural resource management; environmental economics; Southern Africa.
- Roger Blench** (RPEG): natural resource conflict; animal traction issues in sub-Saharan Africa; climatic issues (especially drought) in relation to policy (e.g. El Niño); ethno-science and the domestication of the wild in sub-Saharan Africa; emerging policy issues in Central Asia.
- David Booth** (IEDG): pro-poor economic management and donor strategies; economic adjustment and the micro-macro interface; institutional and socio-cultural perspectives.
- Charlotte Boyd** (RPEG): incentives for conservation; wildlife; soil and water; trees on farm; community-based natural resource management and tourism.
- John Borton** (HPG): complex emergencies; humanitarian programmes; institutional learning and issues surrounding evaluation and accountability practices.
- David Brown** (FPEG): community based forest management and biodiversity conservation; institutional dimensions of participatory development; environmental governance and accountability; Francophone perspectives.
- Margie Buchanan-Smith** (HPG): famine early warning systems; food security; Africa.
- Maurizio Bussolo** (IEDG): international trade; regional integration and trade policy; environmental and labour market interactions with trade liberalisation; numerical simulation models.
- Edward Clay** (IEDG): economic and financial aspects of natural disasters; food and nutrition policy, especially food aid and food security.
- Aidan Cox** (IEDG): poverty reduction; aid management issues; aid impact and effectiveness in India; EU aid, policies and programmes.
- Elizabeth Cromwell** (RPEG): seed delivery systems; agricultural biodiversity conservation; farm level economics; economic policy and agriculture/environment.
- John Farrington** (RPEG): government/private sector interface in research and extension; biotechnology.
- Mick Foster** (IEDG): manager of Centre for Aid and Public Expenditure; public finance; aid policies, especially sector wide approaches and budget support.
- Lucia Hanmer** (IEDG): micro-economics; gender relations and the household; quantitative methods and econometrics.
- John Healey** (IEDG): aid policy and practice and poverty reduction aspects; governance and the politics of economic policy-making in developing countries.
- Adrian Hewitt** (IEDG): EU/South relations; foreign aid (UK, Japan); international trade; commodities; GSP; Africa and the Caribbean; WTO; Parliament; development strategy.
- John Howell** (IEDG): agricultural development in Africa (especially South Africa) and South Asia; UK aid policy.
- Tony Killick** (IEDG): international economic policy; World Bank and International Monetary Fund; structural adjustment and conditionality; African economic problems; aid and poverty.
- Nicholas Leader** (HPG): emergency management; aid policy in unstable situations; humanitarian principles and food distribution during conflict.
- Catherine Longley** (RPEG): farmers' management of crop diversity; the effects of war and natural disasters on seed systems; and seed security and agricultural rehabilitation.
- Joanna Macrae** (HPG): humanitarian principles, aid policy in unstable situations, relief-development aid linkages.
- Ana Marr** (IEDG): financial markets development; microfinance; private capital flows and foreign direct investment; international trade; IFIs' conditionality; Latin America and South East Asia.
- Simon Maxwell** (Director): development theory and policy; poverty; food security; economic, social and cultural rights; aid.
- Alan Nicol** (RPEG): water resources management at all levels; water policy development; global water resources management issues; and international hydropolitics.
- Sheila Page** (IEDG): international and regional trade: the WTO; comparative trade and development performance; capital flows and foreign investment; tourism; Southern Africa and Latin America.
- Michael Richards** (FPEG): economic analysis of participatory forest management and trees on farms; innovative financing and incentive mechanisms; forest policy and institutional change in Latin America and West Africa.
- Roger Riddell** (IEDG): aid and development issues; aid and ethics; the future of aid; technical assistance; aid evaluation, including approaches and methods; industrialisation issues; foreign investment; human rights and minorities; NGOs and development; southern Africa.
- Kathrin Schreckenber** (FPEG): RDFN Coordinator; on-farm tree resources; non-timber forest products; participatory forestry; curriculum development.
- Gill Shepherd** (FPEG): international forest and environment policy processes; community based forest management and biodiversity conservation; institutional dimensions of participatory development.
- Henri-Bernard Solignac Lecomte** (IEDG – joint appointment with ECDPM): future of ACP-EU co-operation; industrial growth in Africa; trade policies and trade agreements; regional cooperation.
- Robert Tripp** (RPEG): seed systems; agricultural research and extension; natural resource management.
- Cathryn Turton** (RPEG): AgREN Coordinator; sustainable rural livelihoods; institutional dimensions of participatory development; common property management; farmer participatory research and extension; policies for sustainable land management.
- Koenraad Van Brabant** (HPG): RRN Coordinator; security management; organisational learning, coordination, sanctions and aid conditionality for conflict management and war economies.



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