ANNUAL

REPORT 2019

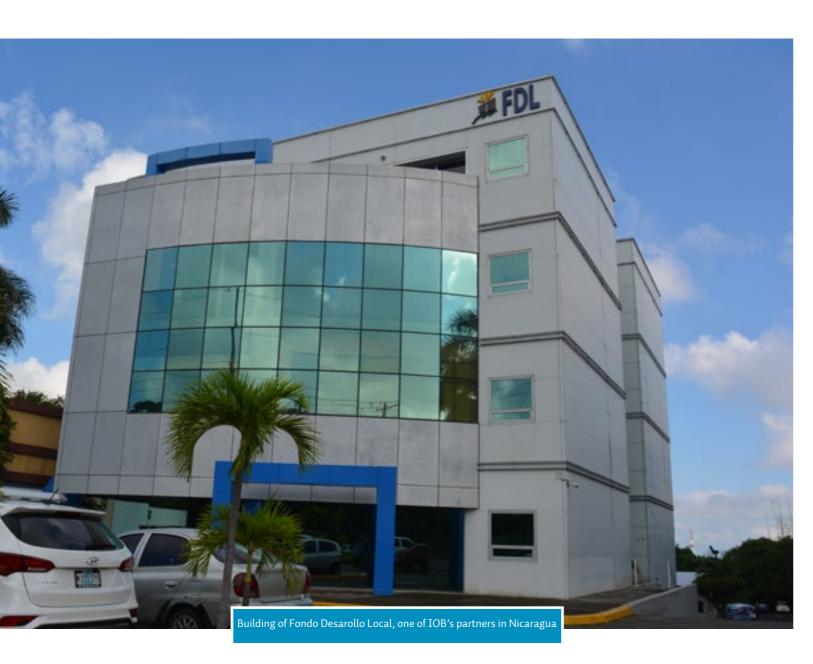






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INTRODUCTION



Dear reader,

Introductions to annual reports are usually written at the very end of its writing process. This introduction is no exception to this rule: I am writing this in the midst of the worldwide corona crisis. Today, this feels like writing from another universe where the normal course of our time has been interrupted. The activities we are informing about in this report seem to refer to another reality, close at hand and all too familiar, but unreachable nevertheless. We are now confined to our homes for most of the day; in-bound and out-bound international travel are prohibited; and we only 'see' and 'hear' our students, colleagues and partners through digital media. We hope to get back to some kind of normality soon, but the route to our lost 'normality' might not be straigthforward. The corona crisis has indeed generated substantial uncertainty both for humanity as a whole and naturally also for a small development studies institute in Antwerp.

Radically shaking up our established ways of doing things, the corona crisis forces us to consider changes that we considered impossible just a few weeks ago. Who would have thought that we would transform all the teaching in our Masters programmes into digital form in just a few days time? And, indeed, even when this fast transformation is far from perfect, it has nevertheless opened our eyes and minds for alternative or complementary 'blended' modes of teaching, which could also open up new avenues for global cooperation with our partners and others. At a more fundamental level, the question is whether and to what extent the current crisis might be a critical moment for humanity to reconsider its current socio-economic, political and cultural model. There is no doubt that the ever-increasing encroachment of humans upon the natural and animal world has increased our exposure to dangerous viruses. Our tremendously interconnected global economic

model and our widespread addiction to cheap flying have certainly contributed to today's problems; humans are confronted with the need for reflection on whether more or less radical adjustments are necessary.

IOB will continue to defend global justice and solidarity. We will continue to defend the idea that only those can be the basis for balanced global pathways out of our current crises, like this public health crisis, but also equally and more severe crises like climate change and inequality.

In this respect, I can only concur with a famous Belgian heart surgeon who recently said: "I hope that the great lesson of corona might be that we are going to fundamentally rethink how we live, travel and pollute." And for the people of the so-called 'developed world' (sic), he added: "We, with our underdeveloped sense of sobriety."

Keep well!

Johan Bastiaensen

Chair IOB

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MASTER PROGRAMMES

IOB graduation 2019

FACTS AND FIGURES

IOB offers three Advanced Master programmes, each with a high degree of specialisation and a distinct focus:

- · Master of Globalisation and Development
- Master of Governance and Development
- Master of Development Evaluation and Management

Within the Master programmes, students can choose from various tracks according to their personal interests and career path.

In 2018, we also started the "IOB Going Global" project. Through the 'Going Global' programme, we aim to globalize our education, research and societal outreach activities, by forging longterm structural cooperation with Southern partners and academics.

Our strategy takes the different situations and contexts

of our partners into account and is based on the following

- Build on existing cooperation
- Tailor-made step-by-step approach
- Build synergies between teaching research service to society.

Different instruments are used to cooperate: student and staff mobility, research internships (mobility window), dissertation mobility,

The Going Global programme enables us to 'globalize' and 'decolonize' our Master education - addressing the recurrent critique of too little (critical) 'voices from the

APPLICATION PROCESS



895 complete applications



388

files academically accepted



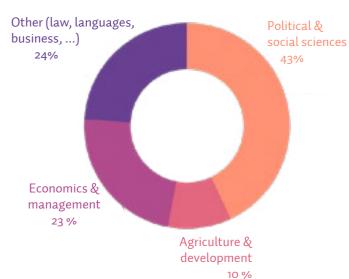
33 Governance and Development enrollments

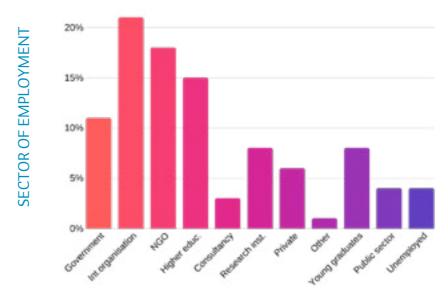


36 scholarships 35 VLIR-UOS

1 GETFund Ghana

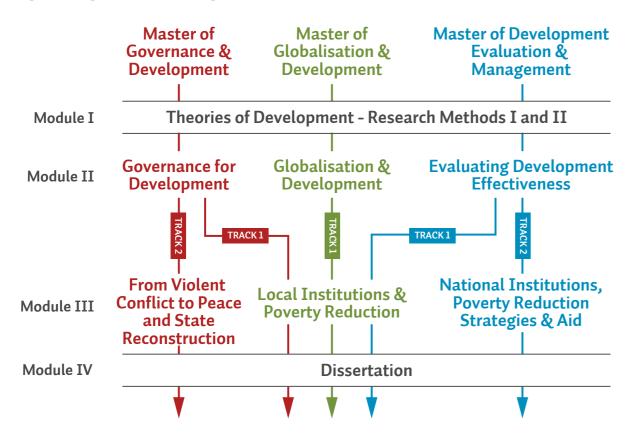
BACKGROUND 40 Development Evaluation and Management 19 Globalisation and Development





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IOB'S MODULAR STRUCTURE





THE MASTER PROGRAMMES: POLICY-ORIENTED, RESEARCH-DRIVEN, COMPETENCE-BASED

A few key features of the Master programmes worth mentioning are their modular structure, their policyoriented and research-driven character and their focus on student-oriented learning.

In 2018-2019, the following guest lecturers were invited within the Master programmes:

- Marco Sanfilippo (University of Florence, Italy)
- Jos Vaessen (World Bank Independent Evaluation Group)
- Andrea Purdekova (University of Bath)
- Nicholas Jacobs (International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems)
- Karen Biesbroeck and Anne Oudes(Oxfam-Novib)
- Fernanda Soto (Nitlapan, UCA, Nicaragua)
- Peter Marchetti (Nitlapan, UCA/FDL Nicaragua)
- Jennifer Casolo (Nitlapan, UCA, Nicaragua)
- Andrew Cummings (UCA El Salvador)
- Pierre Merlet (Nitlapan, UCA, Nicaragua)
- Mo Bleeker (Federal Department of Foreign Affairs DFA, Political Directorate, Human security division, Switzerland)
- Guggi Laryea (World Bank)
- Karen Buscher (UGent)
- Alellie Sobrevinas (De La Salle University, Manila)
- Stephen Brown (UToronto)
- Eva Wuyts (IOB-alumna)
- Aimée Nichols en Olivier Thery (OECD)
- Andrew Fischer (International Institute of Social Studies (ISS))
- Sara de Simone (University of Trento)
- Sigrid Heirman (PhD researcher at the University of Antwerp)
- Our Master programmes are all highly research-driven and policy-oriented. Training at IOB incorporates the latest social-scientific insights relevant to the development challenge. Students learn from each other's experiences and from their exposure to living and working in a developed country. We use various teaching methods to stimulate student-centred learning, including traditional lectures, individual and group assignments, discussions, literature reviews, case study analyses and simulation games.
- IOB also offers a two-week intensive English language course prior to the start of the Master programmes to bring the students' level of English to the admission standards of IOB.







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- Inspired by the importance of internationalisation at home, we set up a new series of sessions on intercultural communication. In 2019 we continued with an 'everyday diplomacy' workshop. The purpose of this workshop is to create a common framework based on discussion, interaction and brainstorming. At the end of the workshop, each student acknowledges the framework and a 'Code of Conduct' is drawn up. Students learn to deal with intercultural group dynamics and are aware of diversity.
- Besides teaching in our Master programmes, many of our lecturers also engage in teaching elsewhere (see below).
- 13 travel grants were awarded as part of the final dissertations, 10 of which were financed by the IOB travel grant and 3 by the IOB Going Global project. These travel grants enable students to perform fieldwork in the framework of their final dissertations.
- We invest heavily in quality assurance throughout the entire Master programme cycle. Daily management is in the hands of the programme director, ensuring consistency and standardisation across the three Master programmes. Internal quality assurance is guaranteed by a set of evaluation instruments, including surveys, focus group discussions, analysis of student and grade statistics, and student workload monitoring. Overall, students are very appreciative regarding the programmes, although a traditional concern revolves around the high workload during the first semester. From the second semester onward, however, students' appreciation of the programmes increases substantially, because the content becomes more specialised, groups are smaller and teaching more interactive. Finally, students highly appreciate the intensity of the programmes, the content of the courses and the diverse teaching methods.

OTHER IOB STAFF TEACHING ACTIVITIES

The University of Antwerp places a lot of emphasis on including development-relevant expertise in the curriculum of its varied bachelor and Master programmes, among others through its VLIR-UOS funded Global Minds programme. IOB contributes to the educational aspect of this effort by teaching a number of courses at our sister faculties. Starting in 2020, we will also provide the course 'Global Justice', which will be open to all graduating bachelor students of the University. IOB also contributes expertise to the research and outreach aspects of the Global Minds programme, as well as chairing the programme at the University-level.

Debating Development

A series of eight lectures was offered to all students of the University of Antwerp. The series, coordinated by Prof. Gert Van Hecken, was financed by the Global Minds programme of VLIR-UOS and co-organised with the University Foundation for Development Cooperation (USOS).

International Economy and International Economic Organisations

This course was taught by Prof. Danny Cassimon and Prof. Jean-François Maystadt in the Faculty of Social Sciences.

Topics in Development Studies

Students of the Faculty of Business Economics and the Faculty of Social Sciences were able to register for this course, which was taught by a team of IOB-lecturers, coordinated by Prof. Marijke Verpoorten.

International Finance

This course was taught by Prof. Danny Cassimon within the Faculty of Social Sciences.

Sustainable development

Prof. Gert Van Hecken and Prof. Kristof Titeca taught this course within the Biology Faculty.

Political Economy of Development

This course was jointly taught by Prof. Marijke Verpoorten and Prof. Joachim De Weerdt within the Master of Political Science, the Master of International Relations and Diplomacy, and the Master of Social and Economic Sciences.

Dissertation

Several dissertations at other UAntwerp faculties were supervised by IOB staff.

...and within Europe

Introduction to Rural Development

Prof. Johan Bastiaensen and Dr. Frédéric Huybrechs taught this course as part of the European Master in Microfinance, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Université de Mons and Université Dauphine Paris.

Several staff members lectured at partner institutes in the South (see the Going Global section in this report on page 14)

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AWARDS

In line with our emphasis on student-centred learning, we also place an emphasis on the individual research project and Master's dissertation. During the graduation ceremony, three students received the annual Prize for Development Cooperation from the Province of Antwerp for their excellent dissertations.

Erin Palomares (The Philippines): "The undisclosed trade-offs of 'moving from billions to trillions': A critical study of donors' use of private sector instruments for development"

Erin Palomares discusses how the use of Overseas Development Aid (ODA) to mobilise private sector resources for development is gaining traction in the donor community, mainly because of its supposed potential to expand the available funds for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Erin does not shy away from asking hard questions and challenging some of the rosier assumptions about the application of business practices and principles to development.

Promotor: Prof. Gert Van Hecken

Janne Bemelmans (Belgium): "Gendered impact of international labour migration on education of children left behind. Evidence from the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) data in the Philippines."

Janne Bemelmans investigates the impact of labour migration on the education of children left behind in the Philippines, a country where migration is actively promoted as a strategy for development, leaving millions of children behind who grow up in the absence of one or both parents. Her results indicate that, ultimately, migration increases the years of schooling completed, but maternal migration carries far more detrimental effects compared to the migration of fathers. The detrimental effects, due to family disruption and lack of supervision, are more pronounced for young children, especially for boys. Janne Bemelmans traveled to de la Salle University, our partner in the Philippines, with a Going Global 'Mobility Window' grant.

Promotor: Prof. Nathalie Holvoet

Natasia Tysmans (The Philippines): "Segregating lives, recycling violence. Examining the local dynamics of Rodrigo Duterte's drug war in Barangay Payatas."

Nastasia Tysmans' dissertation focuses on the localized manifestation of the drug war in the Philippines that started with the presidential reign of Rodrigo Duterte in 2016. Against the background of an analysis of a history of violence, state formation and democracy in the Philippines, key questions driving the inquiry are: What types of violence constitute drug-related violence? Who are the actors that implement the policy locally? What is the government's rationality in manifesting this policy? The result is a creative synthesis that moves beyond the established ways of thinking about the topic and opens new vistas on what it means to monopolize violence.

Promotor: Prof. Bert Ingelaere.







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IOB'S ALUMNI POLICY

We have set up a 'Life after IOB'-track to prepare students during their Master for the opportunities and challenges after graduation. The trajectory consists of a general information session about opportunities for the transition (back into) the professional development sector as well as a number of skills/ application workshops are orgnised (CV screening session, professional LinkedIn profile, network event, how to write a policy brief, make a video about your research, how to write a PhD proposal...). Interested students can get support in finding a meaningful internship after graduation.

We continue to invest in our students after their graduation. Acknowledging the value of sustaining networks with alumni, we invested in a clear alumni policy. As such, we aim to

facilitate networks amongst alumni themselves, between IOB and its alumni and even to act as a broker between our alumni and other (Belgian) development actors. These networks are conducive in promoting South-South cooperation and generating spill-over effects on education, research and service to society... and to enable IOB alumni to become "change

Our alumni policy builds on several communication channels (alumni spaces) and a whole array of alumni activities.



Based on a needs assessment, we created various alumni 'spaces': an IOB Facebook alumni

group (including national and graduation subgroups), LinkedIn groups, IOB newsletter (monthly), alumni magazine 'Exchange to Change' (3/year), online alumni platform, WhatsApp groups. Given that several of the IOB graduates have very interesting profiles and relevant professional experience and scientific insights, we have opted to invite one of the alumni, Daniel Agramont, as key note speaker at the graduation ceremony, presenting his research on the impact of China in Latin America.





A variety of different alumni activities is organized to reach both our North (e.g. students, staff, policy makers) and South audience, while also differentiating in the type of activity ranging from informal networking towards (joint) knowledge sharing/ creation.

In AY 2018-19, for example, we organized an informal meet and greet session in Peru (July 2019) and six incountry alumni seminars or network events in Ethiopia (March 2019), in the Philippines, in Tanzania (April 2019), in Vietnam (May 2019), in Nicaragua (August 2019) and in Uganda (September 2019). These alumni events offered opportunities to attend short refresher seminars, share information about the ongoing and new projects at IOB, while at the same time also facilitating networking among IOB alumni in the country.

Moreover, to allow for more structural alumni networks and to stimulate alumni ownership, we have started with the setup of formal IOB alumni chapters in some of the 'core' countries. After having established alumni chapters in Tanzania, Philippines, Uganda and Nicaragua, in 2019, an Ethiopian alumni chapter was established during the alumni seminar.

IOB ALUMNI ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Results from the IOB alumni survey show that 96 % of IOB graduates report to have (somewhat) contributed to the Sustainable Development Goals in their country. Contributions to reducing poverty (SDG1), inequality (SDG10), gender (SDG₅) and education (SDG₄) are consistently high for all three Masters, while some focal areas like Climate (SDG₁₃), Justice and peace (SDG16) are more Master-specific.

Development Evaluation and Management



SUSTAUMABLE GOALS



Globalisation and Development

IOB graduates are change agents, contributing to development in various impact arenas, through teaching and research, policy work at local and (inter) national level, implementation and own initiatives in the communities where they live.







ARENAS of IMPACT

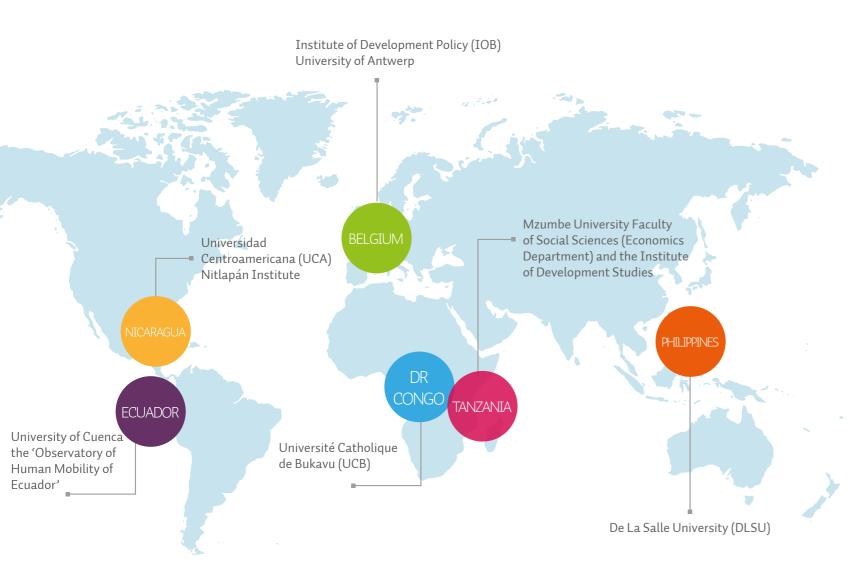






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IOB GOING GLOBAL



IOB has developed a vision of its future as a Northern-based development studies institute with strong global partnerships. Through the 'IOB Going Global' programme, we aim to globalize our education, research and societal outreach activities, by forging long-term structural cooperation with Southern partners and academics. The globalization of our Master programmes involves organizing modules of our programmes in different regional hubs. In this 'Going Global' framework, IOB partners with universities in the DRC, Ecuador, Nicaragua, the Philippines, and Tanzania. In this chapter, we outline the educational component of this effort. In the next chapter you will find how these global partnerships inform and shape much of our research and outreach work as an institute.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

With the Université Catholique de Bukavu (UCB), the 5-year objective is to organize a joint Master module on the Governance of Natural Resources. The initial strategy was to embed this module in the Master in 'Economie et Gestion' at UCB. While discussions about the organization of the module started in 2015, and continued throughout 2016 and 2017, by the end of 2017 it became clear that this embeddedness was not easy to realize at that specific time.

The adapted strategy consisted of organizing a standalone 'Advanced Course in Natural Resource Governance', open to UCB researchers and students, but also to other researchers, students and stakeholders. This course was organized for the first time in February 2019 and again in February 2020.

In the academic year 2020-21 we aim to organize the module as part of the Master, as originally envisaged. We will however leave it open to non-UCB researchers and various stakeholders who are professionally active in the field of natural resources governance

ADVANCED COURSE

This course was organized for the first time in February 2019 and - given the positive experience and evaluation - repeated in February 2020.

The course gives insight into the governance of natural resources, drawing on different disciplines and theoretical approaches. In the 2020 edition, we discussed the management of renewable and non-renewable resources in a globalized world, the associated governance problems (e.g. tragedy of the commons, resource curse, conflict minerals), and the different forms of solutions to these problems that are proposed at the local, national and global level. We payed particular attention to the gender dimension

We developed 4 units within the course, offered by two lecturers from the IOB, and two from UCB:

- Natural resource curses and tragedies: core economic principles (Prof. Marijke Verpoorten, IOB)
- 2. Governance of mineral resources: a global value chain approach (Prof. Sara Geenen, IOB)
- Governance of mineral resources: formalization and conflict minerals regulation (Prof. Janvier Kilosho, UCB and ISP)
- 4. Gender and natural resources management (Prof. Marie Rose Bashwira, UCB and ISDR).

The course took place in the last week of February and was organized at Centre Amani, in Bukavu. Participants who were present during the first four days received a certificate of attendance. Those who completed both the exam and assignment successfully will receive a certificate of successful completion.

PARTICIPANTS

We received 89 applications (which is a strong increase compared to 39 in the previous year), of which 33 were retained. Among the 33 accepted candidates seven came from outside Bukavu, including Butembo, Kinshasa, Kisangani, Goma and Nairobi.

Twenty-two participants are professionally active in a university or research environment (some as consultant), two are students in a Master programme, while five are active in civil society or in an NGO, three work for a private company in the domain of natural resources. The others work for NGOs and civil society or human rights organizations, or in public administration. Participants were highly motivated, and clearly appreciative of the course. This also emerges from an anonymous online evaluation. Based on these evaluations, and on our own observations during the course, we conclude that this second advanced course was successful in achieving its objectives of disseminating knowledge, and increasing capacity. As two lecturers affiliated with UCB were teaching in the course, the initiative also aligned with the objective to build capacity at UCB and forms a good basis for a renewed attempt to integrate the course in the UCB curriculum.

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MOBILITY WINDOW

Each year, several IOB students have the opportunity to embark on a "Mobility Window", a research internship at one of the IOB partner universities in the South. Anil Chaudhary reports from Mzumbe University, Tanzania.

"I had never thought that I would have the opportunity to explore Africa when I joined the Advanced Master in Development Evaluation and Management at IOB, though when I was working in different development organisations in Nepal, I used to imagine working in Africa. During the introductory sessions of the Master program, I came to know that there are opportunities for students through the Mobility Window to go to Tanzania, Nicaragua and the Philippines and gain research knowledge and skills in the field as well as work closely with professors of local universities. Since then, I started thinking this was the kind of platform I was looking for to explore Africa. Then, I applied for the Mobility Window after the call for applications and got selected for Tanzania.

I was anxious and excited to visit and work closely in communities which I believed to be different from where I was born and raised. Over a six-week period, I had the opportunity to closely work in an action research project at Mzumbe University in Tanzania (see page 28). The research project of which I was a part was a joint initiative of IOB and Mzumbe University related to water quality monitoring with the use of ICT. We were two students from our Master programme; Lotte Daens and myself participating in the Mobility Window in Tanzania. During my stay, I worked in primary data collection with the duty bearers who were directly related to water services; both technical and political government officials. At the same time, I worked with the baseline data which had already been collected at the start of the project in March 2019. I had the opportunity to work closely with a 'twin student', a Tanzanian student from Mzumbe University, from whom I learned many things about Tanzanian culture, language and daily life. Both of us worked together in cleaning the data and publishing in the mwater portal (https://bit.ly/mzumbewater), which was later shared with the duty bearers via SMS. The online portal, which consisted of information related to water quality (E.coli), access and issues of different water sources, was critical in order to share the information among the duty bearers. I learnt to use the mwater portal and produce interactive survey results using graphs and maps. Moreover, it was the first time I used the Social Network Analysis (SNA) tool to see how different duty bearers such as district officials and leaders, the ward chair and officials, the village chair, the street chairman and other government officials interacted with each other on topics related to water quality and services. Among many lessons, this was at the top as

I had wanted to learn this skill for a long time, ever since I started working in the development sector. Being able to disseminate information on water quality to leaders and officials was another important milestone of this Mobility Window, in addition to understanding their views and community perspectives on the use of ICT in water monitoring.

Furthermore, this experience did not limit me only to learning research skills, but also gave me the opportunity to observe and learn about social aspects of Tanzania. I got to know the traditions of their society, food habits and cultural practices as well as other struggles related to basic needs like water, health, sanitation and education. Some nights without electricity and clean water made us realize how fortunate we were to have access to those services. The new delicacies like ugali, cassava, chipsi mayai became our favorite food during our stay. In a nutshell, there are many things to take back from Tanzania and this experience of the Mobility Window. Getting to learn new research skills, being able to use SNA, adapting to and learning about a new culture and expanding your network of friends to other continents are key achievements of the Mobility Window."■



TANZANIA

The Tanzanian section of the programme aims to support the development of the Mzumbe Master in De-velopment Evaluation, to stimulate staff and student mobility, to set-up a Tanzanian chapter of the IOB alumni association and to organise a synergy platform with development actors.

STUDENT MOBILITY

In November-December 2018, two IOB students (academic year 2018-2019) stayed at Mzumbe University (Mzumbe campus) in the framework of the Research Methods II Mobility Window. They did field work (on mobile community-based monitoring) in close collaboration with Mzumbe staff and twin students. They both did a seminar presentation and produced a research report and internship report, which were jointly assessed by IOB and Mzumbe staff.

In June-July 2019, one IOB student (academic year 2018-2019) did field work at Mzumbe University related to the action research topic of water monitoring. The dissertation was successfully finalized and defended in September 2019.

ALUMNI & SYNERGY PLATFORM

On 3 March an alumni networking event was organised in Dar es Salaam which was also attended by the staff member from the Belgian embassy who is responsible for alumni. The alumni event also feeds into the alumni barometer research.

This multi-year multi-country study aims at studying the impact of IOB on alumni's knowledge, skills, attitudes and networks. The research involves alumni teams from different countries, which will also increase/refresh alumni's and IOB staff's capacities, further strengthen linkages with our alumni and also provide tools for alumni policy.

MASTER PROGRAMME

The originally planned schedule for the accreditation process has been delayed. While it was originally foreseen for the Master to take off at the beginning of 2019, this has been postponed. The accreditation body introduced a new University Qualification Framework (UQF) and required all universities to adopt the system for both existing and new programs. All existing Mzumbe programs were to be adjusted accordingly and immediately. Since the Department of Economics understandably prioritized the existing programs over new programs such as the Master in Development Evaluation, the application for the approval/accreditation was delayed and rescheduled for 2019.

In 2019 the document of the Master program was discussed and approved by the university senate committee for research and postgraduate studies and sent to the directorate of quality assurance which is responsible for overseeing curriculum development. They

have given comments and the document is being finalized for submission to the university senate and submission to the Tanzania Commission for Universities. The programme is expected to take off in 2020.

STAFF MOBILITY

South - North: in May 2019, one Mzumbe staff member attended the subunit on community based monitoring. This feeds into individual capacity building as well as in the Master at Mzumbe and the action research. From the end of September 2019 onwards, a staff member Doreen Kyando from Mzumbe was at IOB in the context of the PhD programme. The staff member is also involved in the action research and was also involved in the selection of IOB students for mobility window at Mzumbe. North - South: the IOB coordinator for Tanzania Prof. Nathalie Holvoet, was at Mzumbe University in March and September 2019 for the organisation of an alumni event, training of staff/student re-search assistants involved in the action research on community based water monitoring (see interview page 28), training of duty bearers who are part of the action research.

PHILIPPINES

The collaboration with De La Salle University in the Philippines has been broadened from Globalisation & Development to include the Development Monitoring and Evaluation programme. This is related to the fact that the content of the collaboration with the Philippines includes amongst others also a focus on 'monitoring & evaluation' (i.e. community based monitoring) while a number of transversal activities in Tanzania-Philippines-Nicaragua are planned too.

STAFF MOBILITY

South-North: the IOB Going Global coordinator for De La Salle University was at IOB in May 2019 for the participation as co-lecturer (together with Prof. Nathalie Holvoet) in the subunit on community based monitoring.

ALUMNI

On 14 March 2019, an alumni get-together night was organised in Manila, inviting the Filipino alumni to participate. 18 alumni participated in the event, which included both informal networking and the presentation of the alumni barometer research, other IOB research, and the collection of alumni impact stories. After the event, smaller get-togethers were organized for the alumni who could not make it to the main event.

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NICARAGUA

In Nicaragua, IOB' Going Global continues to partner with Nitlapan-UCA, with whom we have a longstanding partnership. Most of the work in 2019 focused on the design and the preparation/piloting of the postgraduate course to be implemented in 2020 and 2021. One IOB student travelled to Nicaragua to conduct research, and an alumni seminar was organized.

STUDENT MOBILITY

One IOB student, Felipe Guevara Merino, travelled to Nicaragua conduct on microfinance and livestock production in the Nicaraguan agricultural frontier. This falls within the scope of the shared research agenda between Nitlapan-UCA and IOB.

Two regional research stays were organized in 2019. The objective of these stays was to pilot the process of integration of students within the Task Force research agendas.

Marco Antonio Alvarado Davila from Guatemala conducted a one-month research stay in Nicaragua in the scope of the shared research agenda between Nitlapan-UCA and IOB on microfinance and livestock production within the Nicaraguan agricultural frontier.

Marlon Howking from Nicaragua conducted a one-month research stay in Guatemala in the scope of the research and activist work implemented by Jennifer Casolo and Peter Marchetti with indigenous communities in Guatemala.

STAFF MOBILITY

In 2019, the Task Force designing the postgraduate course (expected to be implemented in 2020/21) met seven times in preparation for the course, including a visit to IOB in March. During that visit, Nitlapan-UCA staff had the opportunity to actively participate as lecturers at IOB. The Task Force also organised a PhD seminar with Central American IOB alumni and PhD students.

REGIONAL SEMINARS

Several academic seminars were organized in Guatemala and El Salvador, with the aim of sharing Task Force members' research agendas, promoting the IOB Masters and the Central-American courses that we plan to organize from 2020 onwards.

In Guatemala, a two-day seminar took place within the scope of the work of the 'Mesa de saberes agrarios'. In El Salvador, two events were organized. The first seminar was organized within the scope of the 'Red de Gestion de conocimiento para el Desarrollo territorial' and the second one within the scope of the 'Red Interinstitutional para el Desarrollo territorial'.

RESEARCH METHODS PILOT COURSE

In October 2019 we organized a two-week intensive course on 'research methods from the territory' in the community

of Rio Blanco. The course was collectively designed by all Task Force members and was taught in the field by task force members from Nicaragua (Pierre Merlet, Selmira Flores), Guatemala (Jennifer Casolo, Peter Marchetti) and Belgium (Prof. Gert Van Hecken, Dr. Frederic Huybrechs). 17 students participated in the course, including Nitlapan-UCA's junior researchers, several researchers from the indigenous regions of the Nicaraguan Atlantic Coast, several NGO staff members and local community members. The main objective of this course was to coconstruct and propose a different and innovative approach to the existing IOB research methods courses, in which students are embedded in a collective process of cocreation of knowledge between lecturers, students and community members, in order to stimulate collective and personal reflections related to ontology, epistemology and the role of researchers in complex development contexts. A video of this course can be found here (https://bit.ly/

COMMUNITY-BASED MONITORING SYSTEM: PILOT COURSE

promotional purposes for the future courses.

research-methodologies-territory) and will be used for

A pilot course on the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) methodology was organized together with UCA's Faculty of Economics. This one-week full-time course, in which 17 lecturers participated, focused on the history and philosophy of CBMS, the way in which this methodology is implemented, and the use of software to process data and present key finding in attractive (visual) ways (Qgis-Venngage).

During the course, participants also learned about and discussed the particular experience of Nitlapan in using this methodology in Nicaragua, where it is applied to SDGs indicators and credit demands of rural women to enhance their economic activities. Participants also discussed the experience of Universidad de Cuenca from Ecuador, in which the methodology is used to analyze migration process.

ALUMNI SEMINAR

An alumni seminar was organized in Nicaragua. Participants discussed methodological issues in project assessments, based on Nitlapan-UCA's experience with impact evaluation of governmental projects, such as the APAGRO project that was funded by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). Yuri Marin and Selmira Flores (who is an alumni from Nicaragua) from Nitlapan shared their own experiences in conducting impact evaluation of development projects.

ECUADOR

STUDENT MOBILITY

IOB-student Melissa Miranda Herrera went to Ecuador for her dissertation on the right to education in migratory situations.

COMING UP AT IOB

2021 HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND CAPABILITY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE IN ANTWERP

The Institute of Development Policy is joining forces with the faculties of Social Science, Economics and Law to host the Human Development and Capability Association Conference on 13-15 September 2021 in Antwerp, Belgium. For the IOB, the conference will also mark the Institute's 20th anniversary.

The conference will bring together academics and practitioners around the general theme of 'Capabilities and social transformation'. The focus will be on the numerous ways in which people's capabilities are entangled with each other and with wider structures of living together. Institutions, social arrangements, or the structures which emerge from our social living, have been conceived in different ways in the variety of disciplines that have engaged with the capability approach. The conference will be an opportunity to let these various understandings speak to and learn from each other. At the same time, we want the conference to be a bridge between the academic world and society at large. Both academics and practitioners are invited to learn from one another's insights and experiences.

The HDCA conference will be preceded by a two-day summer school on human development and capabilities. IOB is also planning a special anniversary alumni meeting during the conference.



What is a Methusalem grant?

Methusalem is a funding channel from the Flemish government, providing long-term financial support for frontier research. It enables consortia of leading researchers to collaborate through Centres of Excellence, which are flagships that allow them to further strengthen their international leadership positions.

What will the group be called?

We are called AIPRIL, short for "Antwerp Interdisciplinary Platform for Research into Inequality"

What will you be working on?

As you will have guessed from our name, we work on inequality, approaching the topic from various disciplines and angles. We have on board economists, historians and sociologists whose combined expertise covers theory and

empirics, low- and high-income countries, and history and the present. The overall goal of our project is to push forward our understanding of how socioeconomic inequalities are changing, what is driving such trends and what, if anything, can be done. We aspire to make methodological, theoretical, and empirical advances in this rapidly evolving research field and for AIPRIL to become an internationally renowned Center of Excellence for interdisciplinary research on inequality.

Who are you working with within the group?

IOB has joined forces with researchers at the Center for Social Policy Herman Deleeck (CSB) and the Center for Urban History (CSG). To give one example, CSB is at the forefront of multidimensional poverty and inequality measurement and we are working with them to translate these techniques to a development context. The historians share our interest in urbanization and how it links with economic growth and its distribution. There are many parallels to be drawn and lessons to be learnt from the historical urbanization experience in Europe for countries currently undergoing rapid urbanization. Furthermore, current-day inequality patterns have deeper-lying historical roots, which we hope to uncover through the kind of collaborations AIPRIL fosters.

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RESEARCH AND OUTREACH



WISDOM IS LIKE A BAOBAB TREE: NO ONE INDIVIDUAL CAN EMBRACE IT

(Ghanaian Ewe proverb)

We recognise and value the academic pluralism that is typical of development studies, because of the intrinsic complexity of real-world policy problems and their politically contested nature. This is why we embrace many different (mainly social) scientific disciplines and a diversified 'mixed-methods' approach.

Researchers focus on different levels and actors, refer to other disciplines and use their preferred research methods, while having their fundamental philosophical convictions defining the ontological-epistemological nature of their research as well as their values and normative frameworks. But we want to go further than simple diversity, by cultivating the articulation of multi-disciplinary theoretical frameworks and mixed quantitative-qualitative-participatory research designs.

To quote Prof. Jennifer C. Greene: "By definition, then, mixed methods social inquiry involves a plurality of philosophical paradigms, theoretical assumptions, methodological traditions, data gathering and analysis techniques, and personalised understandings and value commitments, because these are the stuff of mental models."

This matches our understanding of the socially negotiated nature of development processes, almost by definition requiring an encounter and mediation of different 'knowledges' of relevant stakeholders.

For us, the multi-disciplinary nature of development studies is not a challenge to be overcome, but the very heart of our discipline. We embrace and encourage the conversation between the varied philosophies, backgrounds and methodologies of our researchers, students, and stakeholders.

As the Ghanaian Ewe proverb goes: 'Wisdom is like a baobab tree: no one individual can embrace it.'

In line with its vision, IOB strives to help build a more just and sustainable world through multidisciplinary academic research in close connection with academic education and political engagement, as well as by forming alliances with different types of partners.

We have a strong preference for policy-oriented research as well as a desire to contribute to real (policy) change through the generation, dissemination and application of our knowledge. We think that, as a development studies institute located in the Global North, we have a comparative advantage in situating development processes in a multi-level and multi-actor governance perspective.

Each of our research lines combines a thematic cluster (environment, global governance, and state formation) with our vision of a just and sustainable world. All three research lines also give concrete shape to the multi-level governance perspective we want to cultivate at IOB, reaching from the global to the local and vice versa. And each of the research lines also combines empirical work with an explicit focus on Central Africa with work carried out elsewhere.

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STATE FORMATION AND RESILIENT SOCIETIES

We examine situations of state underreach (fragile or failed states), state reach (developmental states) or state overreach (such as in state crime or structural violence). All these are situated against a background of processes of state formation and the evolving roles of states in the post-colony form. We aim to understand how state attributes such as government, territory, law, nation or power are articulated or not, and how state actions such as legitimation, economic accumulation or security and services take shape or not.

We take into account a wide spectrum of actors (formal and informal) and factors (ideational, institutional, structural) at different levels (local, national, international). This focus on the changing patterns of

tightening and loosening state reach across space and time implies attention to societal resilience. This is the ability of societies to resist, adapt to or recover from (the consequences of) a lack of state presence and/or performance, sudden man-made or natural shocks or long term social exclusion and adverse incorporation. We particularly pay attention to these issues in connection with the cycle of violent conflict, peace-making and efforts to achieve state reconstruction and renegotiate the social contract.



MAKING REFUGEE INTEGRATION SUSTAINABLE

A sustainable relationship between host and refugees is essential to guarantee the social and political stability of countries and regions. Uganda is known to be hosting one of the largest refugee populations in the world. In 2019, a VLIR-UOS TEAM project was set up with Prof. Bert Ingelaere (IOB) and Dr. Frank Ahimbisibwe (Mbarara University, Uganda) as promotors.

This project aims to contribute to a better understanding and facilitate policy interventions that can ameliorate social relations between hosts and refugees. Project researchers will be developing innovative research approaches studying conflict trajectories (escalation vs. mediation).

Additionally, the project aims to structurally improve and strengthen the research capabilities (e.g. methodological skills) at the Ugandan partner institution. This project will propel Mbarara University and its staff into a recognized leader regarding high quality research on forced displacement. The findings of the project will be translated to policy makers through participation of international and national NGOs and Ugandan authorities on a national and local level.

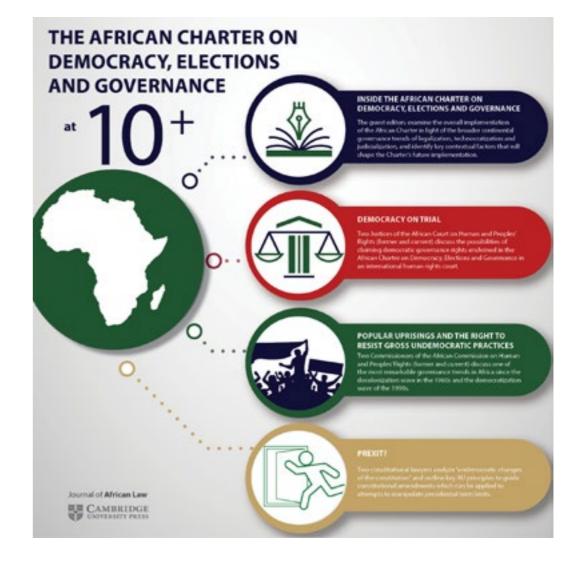
THE AFRICAN CHARTER AT 10

In 2017, the African Charter on Democracy Elections and Governance (ACDEG) celebrated the tenth and fifth anniversaries of its adoption and entry into force, respectively. These milestones offer an excellent opportunity to reflect on the instrument's past, present and future. Bringing together a group of distinguished scholars and practitioners, a research project was launched to commemorate the ACDEG, jointly organized by IOB, the African Union and the Centre for Human Rights Law at SOAS University of London. In 2019, key peer-reviewed papers were published in two special open access issues of prestigious Africa focused journals: Africa Spectrum and the Journal of African Law. IOB invested in reaching out to a wider audience of policymakers, press and stakeholders to publicize the Special Issue of Journal of African Law

and the Special Focus of Africa Spectrum. By using infographics, mailings and book launches, the findings of this research project were disseminated far beyond the academic community. As a result, the articles in Journal of African Law jumped straight into the top ten of most widely read articles of that journal.

A Practitioner Dialogue provided space for a critical appraisal of the progresses, challenges and opportunities presented by the ACDEG and led to the development of critical policy recommendations that will support both the African Union and the Member States in adhering to the provisions of the ACDEG and in effect improving democracy, governance and human rights on the continent.

https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/research-groups/iob/projects/constitution-building-african-union/



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GLOBAL GOVERNANCE AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

The apparent limits of (hyper)globalisation are being revealed in growing inequalities, social exclusion and adverse incorporation. The global economy is increasingly concentrated at the top and fragmented at the bottom. That is why we focus on the poorest countries, as well as on people who are excluded from global development processes or who are adversely incorporated in them.

However, rather than treat them as victims of globalisation, our research studies small-scale producers and workers as agents navigating local-toglobal dynamics. We pay special attention to women, migrants, children and people with disabilities. They are the human faces of the globalisation paradox of simultaneous inclusion and exclusion.

EMPOWERING WOMEN

In 2019, IOB's Dr. Els Lecoutere presented her paper on 'Empowering women in agriculture: with information or role models' at the 6th African Conference of Agricultural Economists in Abuja, Nigeria. For her work, together with her co-authors, Els won the Award for Best Paper at the conference.

Els' work on women empowerment and the impact of participatory intrahousehold decision-making has been shared widely with policy makers from around the world. She presented her research – a collaboration with IFPRI – to USAID. She has also given webinars in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and Hamburg, Germany, including stakeholders such as the EU, embassies, Unicef, UN Women, ILO, UNDP, Catholic Relief Services, as well as private sector share- and stakeholders in particularly the coffee sector.

TAX IUSTICE

Cassandra Vet published the blog post "Getting the short end of the stick again and again" on the Tax Justice Network, in an amazing opportunity to communicate a critique on the distributional imbalance of some of the international tax rules to the wider public.

The Tax Justice Network is a vibrant civil society organization that brings together academic research on global and national tax avoidance and tax justice advocacy. This way, they managed to actually weigh on the changing governance climate of global taxation. Cassandra's blog is based on the working paper she co-authored with Prof. Danny Cassimon and Prof. Anne Van de Vijver. The full paper is available in open access on IOB's publication website (www.uantwerpen.be/ iob-publications)

Global governance (both public and private) should – in theory – be able to solve part of that paradox. Not only should it facilitate market transactions, but it should also regulate negative externalities and compensate for unequal outcomes. Failures to do so warrant a more critical study of the political processes and the normativity underlying the current global governance and aid architecture.

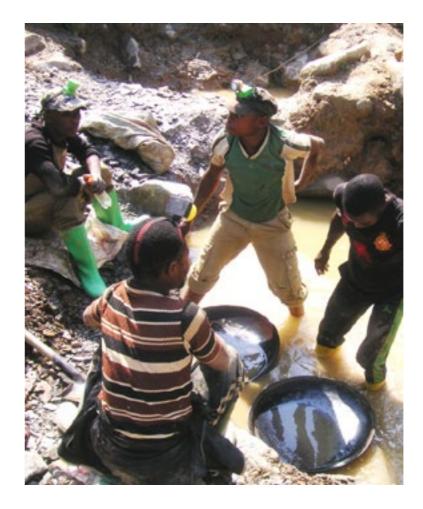
Our research focuses on how policies and programs aimed at reducing poverty and inequalities, at promoting gender equality, equity and decent work, first of all reflect political struggles in the policy arenas they emanate from, and second, interact with sociopolitical dynamics at the local level.

URBANIZATION IN AFRICA

Prof. Joachim De Weerdt and Prof. Bert Ingelaere continued their work on urbanization in Africa with collaborators Prof. Ravi Kanbur (Cornell University) and Luc Christiaensen (World Bank). They mix quantitative and qualitative research techniques to study rural-to-urban migration in Tanzania. They are particularly interested in contrasting migrants from rural areas who end up in small towns to those ending up in mega cities.

This work has received quite some attention from policy makers in Tanzania over the past years, including from the Bank of Tanzania, the Planning Commission and the President's Office Regional Planning and Local Government. One of the main messages coming out of work is that current urbanization policies are overly focused on megacities, while most urbanization action and poverty reduction through urbanization is happening is small towns, which are mushrooming up all over Africa.

In 2019 an article summarizing this research agenda appeared in the book *The Quality of Growth in Africa*, edited by Prof. Ravi Kanbur, Akbar Noman and Joseph Stiglitz. Bert and Joachim have now teamed up with Prof. Danny Cassimon and Hanne Van Cappellen at the IOB to further the urbanization research agenda.



MINERALS AND CONFLICT IN THE DRC

There is strong evidence linking the mining of minerals to local conflict in several African countries, but existing research makes no distinction on how the two main types of mineral extraction – artisanal and industrial mining – affect conflict. Yet making this distinction has an important impact on policy choices. Policy-makers can then better direct interventions towards reducing conflict.

Marijke Verpoorten, Nik Stoop and Peter van der Windt (NYU) join in an FWO Excellence of Science project to study how these modes of production affect conflict in different ways. They will also look at the implications of the arrival of an industrial mining company at an artisanal mining site. Moreover, they are studying the effectiveness – and unintended consequences – of conflict minerals legislation.

Marijke, Nik and Peter have published several articles on the subject in 2019, for among others the Cato Institute and The Conversation. They also authored an IOB Policy Brief Artisanal or Industrial Conflict Minerals, which is available on the new IOB Blog: https://blog.uantwerpen.be/sustainable-global-society/

ASYMMETRY OF INFORMATION WITHIN FAMILY NETWORKS

Joachim De Weerdt, together with co-authors Garance Genicot (Georgetown University) and Alice Mesnard (City University) published an article in the Journal of Human Resources in which they analyze unique network data from Tanzania. They interviewed multiple members of 712 extended family networks, typically with members geographically spread across the country and across rural and urban areas. They verify the degree of asymmetric information across pairs of households in the network by comparing perceived wealth levels to actual wealth levels. They find no evidence of people systematically over- or under-estimating the wealth of their family members. For example, rural dwellers do not systematically overestimate the wealth of their urban family members. Juxtaposing the degree of misperception of wealth with information on pairwise transfers across the different partners in the network, they find that the recipient's perception of the donor's wealth influences the transfer, but not the other way round. This suggests that recipients hold quite some power in the gift-giving relationship.

MARKET DYNAMICS AND CHOICE PREFERENCE IN KINSHASA

Sarah Thontwa traveled to Kinshasa (DRC) for her field work in the summer of 2019. She worked with a team of six enumerators sourced from Dos Africa, a Congolese research firm training unemployed young graduates to conduct data collection and implement research studies for various academic, private sector and development partners. She conducted a market survey covering over 130 markets in the city of Kinshasa where she collected geo-referenced data on markets, prices, origins and measurement units for five products: cassava flour, maize flour, sugar, oil, rice. Her second survey was a choice experiment on selected sites to elicit the preferences of urban consumers when comparing local products to imports and their willingness to pay based on attributes such as point of access, prices, quality and products origins. This DCE followed an experimental approach where 630 respondents were nudged in two treatments groups (local and import), and a control group. Sarah is currently unpacking her results, where she seeks to understand markets dynamics around local and imported food. She also seeks to quantify what factors drive the preference of urban consumers when it comes to local and imported goods, and to measure the willingness to pay across socio-economic demographics.

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ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Environmental/climate change and poverty/inequality concerns are occupying an ever-more central position on the international policy agenda. The urgency of the challenges we face has also provoked heated debates on the appropriate (multi-level) governance structures to secure both poverty reduction and environmental sustainability.

Sustainable development is increasingly being framed in terms of a 'green economy', and a reliance on market-based conservation mechanisms and conditional finance instruments, such as (voluntary) carbon markets, Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES), biodiversity derivatives, and payments for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+).

We focus our research on actors, policies and instruments which aim to tackle climate change and ensure the provision of 'global public goods', and the kind of socio-political dynamics and interactions they trigger at and between multiple levels.

- At the global level we analyse the main trends, actors and factors in the evolving and evermore complex environment and climate governance landscape.
 At the national level we analyse the dynamics of the policy cycle (identification, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation) surrounding the translation of global commitments into national policies.
- At the local level we analyse the (non-) implementation of the environmental/climate change agenda and how it interrelates with local dynamics and struggles of (unequal) access to natural resources.

MICROFINANCE AND THE CLIMATE CRISIS

On Friday 22 November 2019, the Luxembourg
Directorate for Development Cooperation and
Humanitarian Affairs, the European Microfinance
Platform and the Inclusive Finance Network
Luxembourg awarded their 10th European Microfinance
Award. This year's topic: 'Strengthening Resilience
to Climate Change'. One of the finalists was Fondo
Desarrollo Local, a long-term partner of IOB
through our work with Nitlapan-UCA in Nicaragua.
Unfortunately, FDL did not win the award in the end,
but it opened up an international debate about the role
of microfinance in the response to the climate crisis. A
good starting point is the new IOB blog:

https://blog.uantwerpen.be/sustainable-global-society

CONFERENCE ON HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT IN THE MINES (16-17 DECEMBER)

After years of singular attention to the problem of conflict minerals, health and environment in Eastern DRC's mines were seriously discussed for the first time in the region. The conference was organized by the Expertise Centre on Mining Governance (CEGEMI) led by IOB's Sara Geenen and set up at the Catholic University of Bukavu as part of VLIR-IUS. It featured medical doctors from the University of Lubumbashi and the University of Leuven, as well as representatives from the Congolese Environmental Agency. The audience was mixed: academics, policy makers, civil society, leaders of miners' cooperatives and miners who testified about their working conditions. The conference did not only report on some fascinating ongoing research, but also paved the way for truly interdisciplinary collaborations and projects that can make a difference in improving miners' working and living conditions.

Several CEGEMI members and IOB researchers have started to study related problems, such as mineral extraction inside protected areas (Fergus Simpson) and the health impact of air pollution and dust (Simon Marijsse).

INCENTIVE PRIZE FOR CATHERINE WINDEY

IOB's Catherine Windey was awarded a UAntwerp Incentive Prize for young researchers. Six prizes are awarded once every two years by the Research Board of the University of Antwerp. The overall goal of this incentive grant is to support the individual research of the candidate. For Catherine, this support goes to a one-year research stay as a Visiting Research Scholar at Columbia University Department of Anthropology (New York City). Under the mentorship of environmental anthropologist Prof. Paige West, Catherine will deepen her data analysis by better integrating her empirical findings with up-to-date anthropological theoretical insights and ontological/epistemological reflections. Catherine's research focuses on global environmental politics – in particular forest conservation – and how they reconfigure and are resisted by multiple sociospatial identities and socio-ecological relationships. Prof. West has worked extensively on similar topics and issues as her research focuses on societyenvironment relationships, indigenous epistemic practices and decolonizing conservation and environmental science.

TRUEPATH: ACTION RESEARCH PROJECT

The European Microfinance Award also offered a useful opportunity to showcase our action-research project TRUEPATH with FDL, our partner Nitlapan-UCA and the French AgroParisTech. This project investigates the role of microfinance in dynamics of agrarian change in the Nicaraguan Agrarian Frontier and looks for pathways and FDL/microfinance policies that could transform the current unsustainable cattle/agricultural development in deforested areas. In the midst of the adverse Nicaraguan political crisis, we managed to install a network of six community climate monitoring stations in collaboration with the environmental NGO Centro Humboldt. These produce weather and climate forecasts that contribute to production decisions as well as climate/environmental awareness. Staff of Nitlapan-UCA and IOB also facilitated a two-week pilot course on 'Participatory research methodologies for

and from the transformation of territories' in different communities of Río Blanco (see page 18). Throughout the year, we have also been interacting intensely with the microfinance institution Fondo de Desarrollo Local and other related stakeholders, discussing and analyzing their approach to Green Microfinance at different scales. The PhD of Milagros Romero is directly linked to these efforts as well as a Mobility Window research by a Colombian IOB student. Experiences from this project were shared in several conferences and seminars, including the European Research Conference on Microfinance in Paris and the conference of the International Association for the Study of the Commons in Lima. In November, we also published an article in Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability.



TOMASO FERRANDO: TESTIMONIAL

In 2019, Tomaso Ferrando joined IOB as Research Professor. He will be dividing his time between IOB and the Faculty of Law, at the University of Antwerp.

Where were you working

before this, Tomaso?

Well, I obtained my PhD in Law at Sciences Po in Paris, and then I've been a visiting fellow at Harvard Law School, the University of Sao Paolo and the University of Cape Town. I've worked as a lecturer at the Universities of Warwick and Bristol, and now I'm here!

What will you be working on here at IOB?

In a nutshell, I work on the legal construction of the global food system and the way in which law supports or curbs the achievement of social and environmental justice (somehow in line with Kate Raworth Doughnut Economics, a must read if you haven't!).

In particular, I am looking at two interactions: the transformative potential of the right to food as the recognition that states have the obligation to build and strengthen a food system that is accessible and ecological, but also to fight against poverty and inequality that too often keep people away from

healthy and sustainably produced food. The legal considerations are linked with a broader interest in thinking about the food systems as a commons, i.e. imagining the intellectual, paradigmatic, social, economic, ecological and legal implications of no longer considering food as a commodity but as an interaction between people and the planet that must be produced, distributed and eaten in a way that satisfies present needs and respects the future. Why are food and the food system (mostly) treated like any other good or service provided by the market, despite the fact that human beings, animals and the planet are so intrinsically dependent or connected with food and food production? Another area of investigation is Green Finance in the context of finance for development and climate finance, where I ask two 'simple' but provocative questions: what is 'green' in green finance and who decides it? How different are 'green' investments from traditional non-green investments, in particular when it comes to participation, democracy, and fitting within the social and planetary boundaries?

What about outside work? How do you relax?

I love spending time discovering local food producers, cooking, and engaging in long and constructive chats with friends. That explains why I work on law and food systems, doesn't it? (laughs)

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WATER MONITORING IN THE MOROGORO REGION OF TANZANIA

Prof. Nathalie Holvoet and Dr. Sara Dewachter have been doing action research on mobile community based water monitoring in the Morogoro region of Tanzania. The Fuatilia Maji project is a joint undertaking with IOB's Going Global partner Mzumbe University and also part of the VLIR-UOS funded IUC with Mzumbe University (4SITE). It brings together staff and students from both institutions and involves local communities and duty bearers from the start.

When did this project start?

NH: The Fuatilia Maji project started in 2018, when Mzumbe academic staff and IOB and Mzumbe students did a needs assessment among duty bearers and citizens of Mvomero district. Their assessment highlighted the need for more detailed and timely information about rural water sources, and especially about water quality. Water is a highly problematic issue in rural Tanzania; for example, citizens in villages surrounding Mzumbe University consider access to safe water a more pressing need than education or infrastructure.

What is the development goal of Fuatilia Maji?

NH: The aim is to eventually reduce waterborne diseases by improving rural drinking water services, both in terms of accessibility and quality, on the ground. We're focusing on the use of mobile technology in (community-based) monitoring of rural public water points. Can an ICT-enhanced monitoring system contribute to improving rural water services delivery, and how?

We're trying to establish if this kind of monitoring can improve the existing M&E system in the rural water service sector. Can it improve the two-way information flow between duty bearers positioned on different levels and in the rural water service sector between citizens and duty bearers? Can it improve the information use for accountability and learning by different actors? Can it inform citizens about the water quality of the water they use, inform them about the risks of contaminated water and possibly induce behavior change in terms of water treatment?

This is an 'action research' project. What exactly does that mean?

Typically, action research starts from the needs of local citizens and duty bearers. That means outreach is at the heart of these kinds of projects right from the start. Throughout the research you have continuous interaction with the stakeholders involved (citizens,

community monitors, duty bearers, students) and you adjust the research based on the input from the stakeholders.

Usually you also include an intervention. In this case we're doing so by using the social innovation of using mobile community based monitoring.

Normally, this type of research leads to it being used better and having more impact and outreach.

Besides yourselves as IOB staff, who else is involved in running this project?

Well to start with our colleagues from Mzumbe University: Doreen Kyando whose PhD research is linked to the project and Christina Shitima, Mursali Milanzi and Frank Theodory. In this project we're bringing together education, research and outreach – the core activities of academics. In terms of education, we're involving students from both IOB and Mzumbe University. The students are being trained to monitor the access, functionality and water quality of rural water sources using their mobile phones. Mzumbe students are also being trained to do prevention talk meetings, so they're getting communication skills training as well as knowledge about water contamination and treatment.

Not only do they get training, but they get to apply this immediately in the villages . This is part of IOB Going Global (see page 16-17), where we can send students through our 'Mobility Window' to take part in these kinds of projects.

Also, don't underestimate the value of improving students' intercultural skills! We're twinning Mzumbe students with IOB students, creating an invaluable intercultural experience for all of them. Students also indicated the value of getting to know the life in these rural communities much better. Moreover, they have gained confidence and leadership skills from this project, by organizing the data collection of their team or presenting the village meeting prevention talk.

And beyond students?

Besides students, we're also training 'community monitors', members of the local communities, to do the same type of monitoring as we're teaching to the students. And again, they're also getting the communication training for prevention talks, like the Mzumbe students. We're also involving local citizens from ten villages in the Mvomero district. From the very start, students and community monitors have presented the projects and the findings to them.

They've also been highlighting the importance of water quality and ways to prevent water contamination.

And then of course we're actively involving duty bearers on different levels: hamlets, villages, wards, districts. They've been involved right from the start: they were part of the needs assessment that started this project.

Now we're keeping them involved, by sharing the results with them. We've given a seminar on how to use the data. And of course we're sharing the information on the water portal with them and provide them when additional backstopping in terms of interpretation and use of the data.











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GREAT LAKES OF AFRICA CENTRE

At IOB, we host the Great Lakes of Africa Centre (GLAC), which has the mission to stimulate research and policy engagement, linking scholarship in and on Africa's Great Lakes Region.

Contributors to GLAC conduct scholarly research that is data-driven, theoretically informed, while taking context seriously. Approximately 20 IOB staff are working on one or several of the countries of the Great Lakes Region, making GLAC a unique concentration of scholarship on this region.

Apart from IOB staff members with a Great Lakes profile, we at GLAC aim to actively engage other scholars and social actors in our activities, especially people working in the region. We have the aim to become a

platform where multiple partnerships and institutions and a variety of ways of knowing meet through various channels.

We realize these objectives through ongoing academic partnerships in the DR Congo, Burundi and Uganda. These partnerships usually combine activities of research and teaching. We also regularly join efforts to organize international conferences in the Great Lakes Region. In Belgium, we actively support the policy talks organized by CREAC. We also engaged in the Central Africa PhD Days in 2019, which partners joined through the Congo Research Network.

Tom De Herdt, Chairman GLAC

ECA-CREAC | EXPERTISE FOR CENTRAL AFRICA

IOB partners with the Belgian Reference Centre for Expertise on Central Africa (ECA-CREAC) for the yearly publication of the *Conjonctures de l'Afrique centrale* (since 2016) and contributes to CREAC's monthly policy talks in the Belgian Parliament. IOB's Sara Geenen is co-director of CREAC.

In 2019, IOB researchers Mathias De Roeck and Antea Paviotti shared their work at the monthly policy talks. Mathias focused on political regime dynamics in Rwanda and Burundi. Antea talked about ethnic affiliations in contemporary Burundi. The audience for these policy talks are experts on Central Africa from academia, the public sector, civil society and the private sector. IOB researchers also contribute to the yearly Conjonctures de l'Afrique centrale. It is a flagship publication of the Centre, in collaboration with CREAC, the Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL) and the Royal Museum for Central Africa. The publication offers an in-depth analysis of contemporary political, economic and social dynamics in the region. Researchers from the South can also apply for stipends to conduct fieldwork that leads to a publication in the Conjonctures. Previous editions of the Conjonctures are available on the IOB research website and through CREAC.



DENIS MUKWEGE & MARTIN FAYULU

In 2019, IOB and the University of Antwerp hosted two prominent Congolese figures: former presidential candidate Martin Fayulu, and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Denis Mukwege.

Martin Fayulu was interviewed in March 2019 about the state of and prospects for democracy in the DRC after the controversial December 2018 presidential elections, when current DRC president Félix Tshisekedi was officially declared the winner. In a critical academic fashion, Mr. Fayulu was asked about the steps and stages that eventually led to this outcome, in front of a room full of policy makers, civil society and the Congolese diaspora.

In April 2019, the University of Antwerp awarded an honorary doctorate to Dr. Denis Mukwege. Just a few months earlier, Dr. Mukwege had been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize – together with Nadia Murad – for his efforts to end the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war. Dr. Mukwege runs the Panzi hospital in Bukavu, where he witnessed first-hand the results of sexual violence in conflict areas. His activism has brought him worldwide recognition.



Conjonctures de l'Afrique centrale

2019

Sous la direction de Sara Genes, Aymar Nienvezi Bisoka et An Ansoni













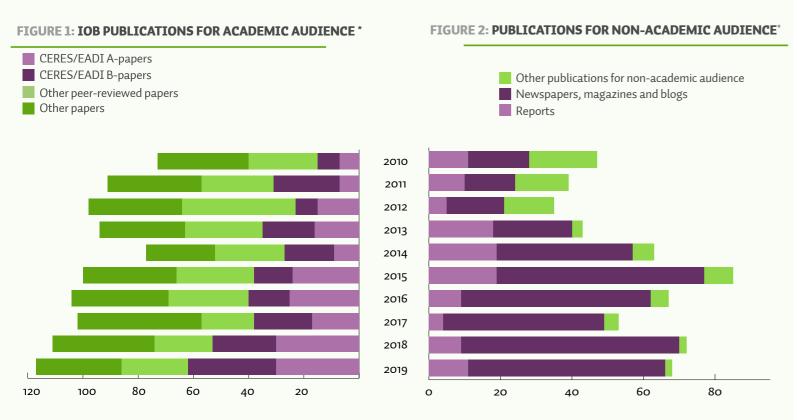
CONJONCTURES DE L'AFRIQUE CENTRALE

The Conjonctures offers a series of high-quality scientific articles – in French or in English. Four countries are directly targeted: the DRC, Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda. Conjonctures de l'Afrique centrale offers an indepth analysis of contemporary dynamics of political, economic and social life in Central Africa. Through this analysis, the relevance and impact of such dynamics on sustainable development and the lives of citizens in the Central African region can be assessed. The articles situate current events and contemporary evolutions within a historical perspective and frame them within the international academic literature.

Topics in last year's edition ranged from the intermediary role of mayors in peri-urban areas in DRC to an explanation of the failure of regional dialogue on Burundi, from gold production in Kamituga to the possibility of local integration of Rwandan refugees in Uganda.

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FACTS AND FIGURES ON RESEARCH AND OUTREACH



^{*} Data as available in February 2020. Source: Academic Bibliography University of Antwerp.

FIGURE 3: SHARE OF IOB PEER-REVIEWED ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS (CO-)AUTHORED BY SCHOLARS FROM THE SOUTH

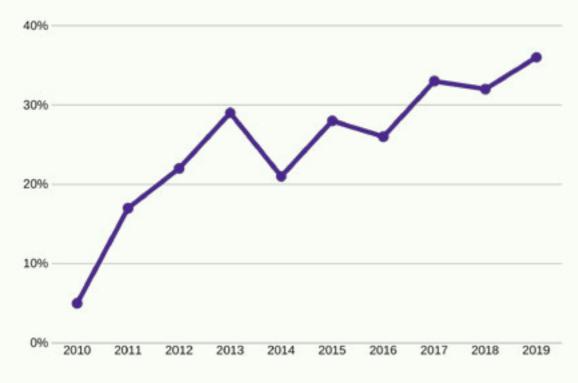


PHOTO EXHIBITION: REBEL LIVES

From June to October 2019, Kristof Titeca had his exhibition 'Rebel Lives' in FOMU, the Antwerp Photomuseum. The exhibition presented images taken by commanders of the rebel movement the 'Lord's Resistance Army', led by Joseph Kony. This rebel movement was active in Uganda from the mid-80s onwards, in a violent conflict with the Ugandan government. During the conflict, the rebels abducted children, and adults, on a large scale. Kristof Titeca has collected the photos taken by the rebel group during his long-term research on the rebel movement. The exhibition, which has also been published as a book, reflects on questions of everyday existence in situations of extreme violence - questions which are relevant beyond the context of the LRA rebel group.

In the context of the exhibition, tours and talks were given by Moses Okello (who was abducted by the LRA, and features in a number of the photos), and Harriet Anena (a Ugandan poet, who grew up in the conflict-affected area).

The book *Rebel Lives* has been presented at a variety of places: the universities of Oxford, Cambridge, Columbia, Uppsala, King's College, Uganda, the Uganda Press Photo Association.

The 'Rebel Lives' exhibition is travelling the world in 2019-2020. In January-February 2020, it was presented at the United Nations in New York. This happened in the framework of Belgium's chairmanship of the 'Children in Armed Conflict' commission of the UN Security Council. In this context, Kristof has given a guided tour to the Belgian King and Queen. After New York, the exhibition travels to Addis Abeba, Geneva, and the Hague.







HRH King Philippe of Belgium visits 'Rebel Lives', Kristof Titeca's foto exhibit

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PHD TRAINING

As part of the Antwerp Doctoral School, IOB offers a multidisciplinary doctoral programme related to its institutional research agenda which leads to a PhD in Development Studies. It also cooperates with sister Faculties of Business and Economics and Social Sciences for disciplinary PhDs on development issues.

During 2019, a total of 39 students were preparing a PhD dissertation on topics linked to IOB's research agenda. Thirty-three were pursuing an interdisciplinary PhD in Development Studies at IOB (nine of them IOB junior researchers), while five were working towards disciplinary PhDs at IOB's sister Faculty of of Business and Economics (two of them IOB junior researchers) and one at IOB's sister Faculty of Social Sciences.

During 2019, five PhD students were admitted, all will pursue a PhD in Development Studies. One IOB PhD student dropped out.

FIGURE 4. CONCLUDED PHDS 2008-19 (INNER CIRCLES)

Six of the PhDs in progress are joint or double PhDs: two with the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven), the

other four with Ghent University, Université Catholique de Louvain, Maastricht University and International Institute of Social Studies in The Hague.

In 2019, four students successfully concluded and defended their PhD in Development Studies.

Mathias De Roeck

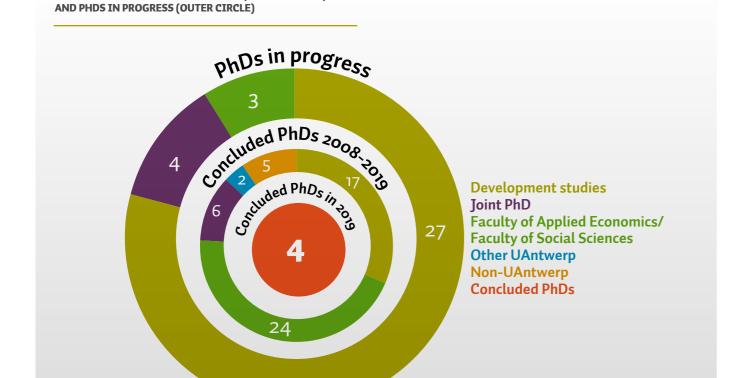
"Power to Decouple. Hybrid Regimes in the International System: A Multimethod Analysis"

Supervisors: Prof. Nadia Molenaers - IOB, University of Antwerp and Prof. Ronan Van Rossem - Ghent University

Clément Crucifix (joint PhD with UCL)

"Les argents de la fin du progrès: une ethnographie du Mexique rural néolibéral."

Supervisors : Prof. Johan Bastiaensen - IOB, University of Antwerp and Prof. Olivier Servais - Université Catholique de Louvain



Vanessa Simen Tachamyou

"Essays on Inequality, Knowledge Economy and Financial Development in Africa"

Supervisors: Prof. Danny Cassimon - IOB, University of Antwerp and Prof. Guido Erreygers - FBE, University of Antwerp

Christian Dunia Senga

"African Eurobonds: opportunities and challenges for sustainable economic growth after the HIPC initiative" Supervisor: Prof. Danny Cassimon - IOB, University of Antwerp The IOB PhD in Development Studies attracts a diverse range of students. In 2019 we had eighteen different nationalities: Belgium (10), Nicaragua (4), DR Congo (3), Italy (3), Uganda (3), The Netherlands and The Philippines (2), UK (2) and one from Benin, Bolivia, Burundi, Cameroon, Denmark, Ecuador, Peru, Switzerland, Tanzania and USA.

IOB is continuing to build its PhD training programme. We currently offer six doctoral courses, thematically related to the Masters programme. IOB cooperates with the PhD network of the Netherlands-based CERES Research School for International Development as a full member.

PhD Mathias De Roeck

"POWER TO DECOUPLE. HYBRID REGIMES IN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM: A MULTIMETHOD ANALYSIS"

My PhD project focused on explaining the rise and stability of hybrid regimes, i.e. regimes mixing democratic and authoritarian institutions, such as unfree and unfair elections. I made use of multimethod analysis, combining large-N statistical analysis with case studies of Rwanda and Burundi, to highlight the geopolitical and strategic origins of hybrid regimes. The PhD showed, on the one hand, that US hegemony towards the end and right after the Cold War and the worldwide pressure to democratize that followed contributed to the emergence of hybrid regimes. Yet, the quick transition to a multipolar world, with declining US power and the rise of the People's Republic of China and other powers (such as Russia, Turkey, Brazil, India) created a balance against the West, undermining pressure to democratize and fostering hybrid regime survival. On the other hand, the PhD also demonstrated the important role of powerful state elites in shaping hybrid regimes. The case studies illustrated that state elites use the state, and state capacity, as a means to pursue political ends. State capacity allows state elites to creatively deal with Western pressure to democratize, because it facilitates the creation of windowdressing institutions, ranging from sham elections, bogus

opposition parties, to false power-sharing institutions and a hamstrung parliament and judiciary. The PhD project contributed to the literature on comparative democratization and authoritarian stability by terming the rise and stability of hybrid regimes as a result of complex interactions between international actors, the state, and society.



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ONGOING PHD PROJECTS IN 2019

ABAINZA Loresel

Return migration and entrepreneurship: an investigation of the success of failure of return migrants' entrepreneurial activities

Supervisors: Nathalie Holvoet - Germán Calfat (em.)

ALIDOU Sahawal

Essays on intra-household resource allocation and decision making in Sub-Saharan Africa
Supervisors: Marijke Verpoorten - Johan Swinnen (KU Leuven)

ASHABA Ivan

Environmental crime as transnational organized crime: a case of wildlife trade in Uganda
Supervisor: Kristof Titeca

COLLADO Carmen

Social innovation in land initiatives as a basis for inclusive rural development

Supervisors : Johan Bastiaensen - Pieter Van den Broeck (KU Leuven) - Constanza Parra (KU Leuven)

DA COSTA Shaun

Development for the poor: Evaluating the multidimensional impact of development interventions with respect for the preferences of the poor Supervisors: Koen Decancq - Joachim De Weerdt

DE MAESSCHALCK Filip

Statebuilding support to fragile states: a temporal analysis of the interplay between European legitimation and internal legitimacy in post-conflict states

Supervisors: Nadia Molenaers - Stef Vandeginste

GANDRUP Tobias

Making schools: primary education, governance and the state in Somaliland
Supervisors: Kristof Titeca - Tom De Herdt

GIEZENDANNER Eliane

From combatant to loyal party member or disillusioned defector? A case study on CNDD-FDD ex-combatants in Burundi

Supervisor : Bert Ingelaere

GLEIBERMAN Mollie

Predict and Control: mobilizing the past and future to shape development policy, planning, and scholarship Supervisor: Sara Geenen

INNOCENTI Demetrio

Evaluation of climate change investments in international finance: achieving the climate paradigm shift through effective resource allocations
Supervisor: Nathalie Holvoet

IRAGI Francine

Artisanal mining and local food markets: analyzing the linkages

Supervisors: Marijke Verpoorten - Nene Morisho (UCB)

KYANDO Doreen

Community and service delivery: analysing the potentiality of Mobile Community Based Monitoring systems (MCBM'S) in water service delivery in rural Tanzania Supervisors: Nathalie Holvoet - Christina M. Shitima, (Mzumbe University, Tanzania)

MANGUNI Grachel

Pantawid conditional cash transfer and intimate partner violence in Filipino households

Supervisor : Nathalie Holvoet

MARIJSSE Simon

Knowledge production and technology adoption in ASM in the DRC $\,$

Supervisors: Sara Geenen and Boris Verbrugge

MARTINELLI Rosana

Institutional innovations for the delivery of social policies for poverty reduction and development – contributions from the South

Supervisor: Nadia Molenaers

MERLET Pierre

Revisiting the agrarian question: family farming and political arenas around land and natural resources in the context of climate change and changing global food chains. Evidence from Nicaragua

Supervisor: Johan Bastiaensen

MILAGROS Romero

Heterogeneities of farmers rationalities and territorial development pathways: perspectives for 'microfinance plus' models in Nicaragua Supervisor: Johan Bastiaensen

MUKENA Jacques

The hydrocarbon sector in the DRC: a political settlement analysis of the sector's role in development and conflict Supervisor: Kristof Titeca

NDAYIRAGIJE Réginas

Institutional engineering in divided societies: powersharing and political representation in Burundi Supervisors: Stef Vandeginste - Bert Ingelaere

PETERS Linda

The application of real options to global public policy interventions

Supervisors: Danny Cassimon - Peter-Jan Engelen

DAV/IOTTI Anton

Perceptions of the self and the other in contemporary Burundi. The salience of ethnicity in everyday interactions in a post-transition context

Supervisors: Bert Ingelaere - Stef Vandeginste

POPELIER Lisa

Uncovering pathways to foster disability-sensitive development: from participatory M&E to disability-inclusive development

Supervisors: Nathalie Holvoet

ROBLES Eugenia

Research project for PhD: InForMining? An in-depth study of informalization processes in global gold production Supervisors: Sara Geenen - Boris Verbrugge

RODRIGUEZ René

Towards a power-sensitive and socially-informed analysis of Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES). Comparative case studies in Nicaragua and Guatemala Supervisors: Gert Van Hecken - Jennifer Casolo (Universidad Rafael Landívar)

SSENNYONJO Aloysius

Coordination of multisectoral action for health in Uganda: mechanisms, actor experiences, motivations and implications for policy and practice

Supervisors: Kristof Titeca - Bart Criel - Sara Van Belle (Institute of Tropical Medicine) - Dr. Freddie Ssengooba (Makerere University, Uganda)

SIMPSON Fergus

Socio-ecological resilience: a new perspective for ASM? Supervisors: Sara Geenen - Kristof Titeca

VAN CAPPELLEN Hanne

The city is not that far: urbanisation, social change and rural labour patterns in sub-Saharan Africa
Supervisor: Joachim De Weerdt - Bert Ingelaere

VANCLUYSEN Sarah

Towards a durable relationship: case-study of South-Sudanese refugees and their host in Northern Uganda Supervisors: Bert Ingelaere - Kristof Titeca

VERDEZOTO Jesenia

The effects of international parental migration on education of children left behind, the specific case of a marginal urban area in Quito – Ecuador Supervisor: Germán Calfat

VET Cassandra

The architecture of profit-shifting: state-power and interest for collective action. An analysis in the production and articulation for global governance

Supervisors: Danny Cassimon - Anne Van de Vijver

WAETERLOOS Evert

'Development Local Government' and rural development in South Africa : brokering integrated rural development across spheres

Supervisor: Nadia Molenaers

WAGANA Margaret

The use of state law and alternative dispute resolution to resolve tensions between refugees and host communities Supervisors: Kristof Titeca - Bert Ingelaere - Frank Ahimbisibwe (Mbarara University, Uganda)

WIEBUSCH Michael

The norms and practices of the African Union on the promotion and protection of constitutional governance Supervisors: Stef Vandeginste - Koen De Feyter

WINDEY Catherine

From geocoded space to socio-spatial multiplicity: forests, REDD+ environmental rule and everyday practices in DR Congo

Supervisors: Johan Bastiaensen - Gert Van Hecken

Christian Dunia Senga

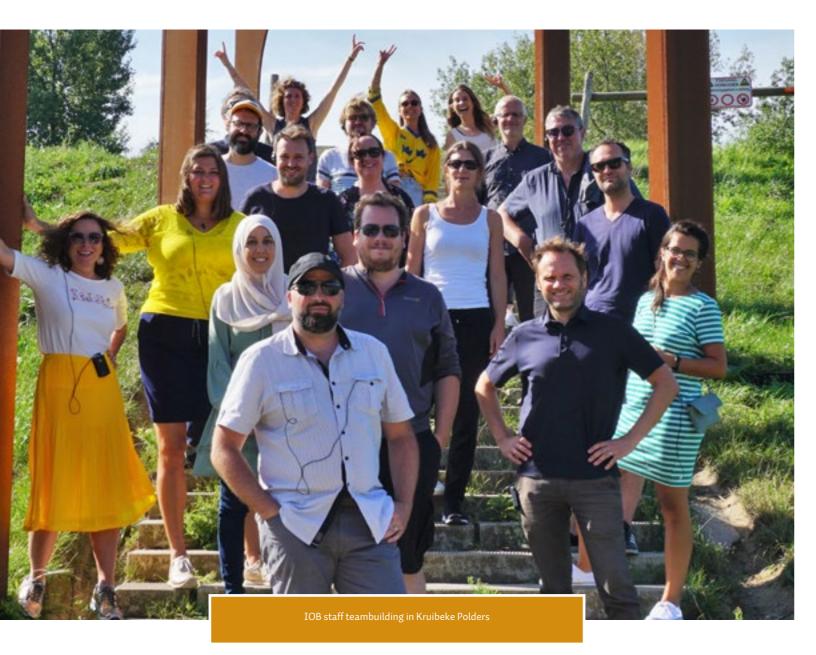
"AFRICAN EUROBONDS: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH AFTER THE HIPC INITIATIVE"

My research investigated the sustainability of the SSA eurobond market and its potential for economic growth and development. It first scrutinized the drivers of these bonds' yields and evaluated their diversification benefits for international investors before answering whether government's borrowing through international capital markets affects investment dynamics in SSA.



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FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



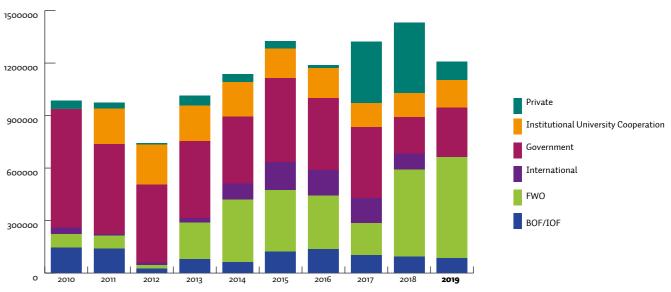
As external research funding is not integrated in the regular budget, the overview of IOB's financial and budgetary performance addresses these two items separately.

The table below provides an overview of the regular budget outturn for 2019, compared to previous year's results

Apart from its regular income, IOB also attracts additional income from a broad range of external sources. Figure 5 combines the data on external research funding registered by the University of Antwerp's Research Coordination and Administration Department with the research component of IUC projects, where IOB staff participate as project leaders.

TABLE 1. BUDGETARY IMPLEMENTA- TION IN 2018 AND 2019 (IN EUR)	2018		2019		
(2012)	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	%
Income:					
Core funding Flemish Government	2,220,000	2,221,000	2,248,000	2,248,000	100%
UAntwerp funding	220,000	220,000	220,000	220,000	100%
Other miscellaneous income	284,000	322,221	294,000	291,211	100%
o/w exempted payroll taxes	90,000	62,320	65,000	77,669	119%
scholarship administration fee	95,000	92,549	95,000	108,671	114%
Total income	2,724,000	2,763,221	2,762,000	2,759,211	101%
Expenditure:					
Personnel costs	2,342,000	2,250,422	2,540,000	2,474,682	97%
Tenured academic staff	1,093,000	1,092,367	1,170,000	1,131,374	97%
Other academic staff	792,000	719,330	894,000	870,415	97%
Support staff	457,000	438,725	476,000	472,893	99%
Operating expenses	475,500	452,404	442,000	440,119	93%
Total expenditure	2,817,000	2,702,826	2,982,000	2,914,801	96%
Net result	- 93,000	60,395	- 220,000	-155,590	

FIGURE 5. EVOLUTION OF EXTERNAL FUNDING FOR RESEARCH AND SERVICE DELIVERY



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PEOPLE @ IOB

BUREAU:

- · Chair: Johan Bastiaensen
- Chair Education Commission: Nathalie Holvoet
- Chair Research Commission: Marijke Verpoorten
- Representative Research Staff: Hanne Van Cappellen
- Representative Support Staff: Vicky Verlinden

COMMISSIONS AND CHAIR PERSONS:

- · PhD Commission: Marijke Verpoorten
- · Social Committee: Nadia Molenaers
- Library Committee: Danny Cassimon

MASTER PROGRAMMES:

- Student secretariat: Greet Annaert, Nicole Dierckx
- Social service: Greet Annaert
- · Quality assurance: Mitte Scheldeman
- Alumni and promotion:
 Sara Dewachter
- · Librarian: Hans De Backer

SECRETARIATS:

- · Institute Coordinator: Vicky Verlinden
- Research secretariat: Joëlle Dhondt, Katleen Van pellicom
- · Financial secretariat: An Vermeesch
- Communication: Michael Domen, Joëlle Dhondt
- Flemish Interuniversity cooperation: Marjan Vermeiren

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD:

- Hannelore Beerlandt (CEO AgriCord, chair Board Enabel)
- · Leo de Haan Professor Emeritus
- Geske Dijkstra Professor, Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Kate Meagher Associate Professor, LSE
- Jan Vandemoortele Independent Researcher
- Geoff Wood Professor emeritus, University of Bath





















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IOB PUBLICATIONS



IOB OPEN ACCESS

Open access as a movement within the academic world is not new, but has been gaining traction over the last few years. One common argument is that research is mostly funded by public money, and therefore should be available publicly.

There is an additional argument that is particularly pertinent to development studies. Locking research on development issues behind high-fee paywalls perpetuates pre-existing (colonial) inequalities.

IOB has been publishing our own series of open access research: peer-reviewed Discussion Papers (since 2010), Working Papers and Analyses and Policy Briefs (since 2013). On our website you will find these publications freely available.

Other open access publications on the IOB website include Political Chronicles of the African Great Lakes Region and the archive of the Yearbook of the Great Lakes Region (1996 until 2016), and working papers.

In 2019 IOB started its own blog 'Sustainable Global Society: Policies and Partnerships', that will offer easy access to research from IOB and its global partners.

Many of our researchers also offer 'ungated preprints' on their ResearchGate profiles. The University of Antwerp library also makes available author copies of articles if and when available.

Finally, IOB researchers often publish on blogs, in newspapers and take part in other media outlets, making their expertise available to a wider audience.

All publications of IOB's open access series are highlighted in yellow.

Articles in peer-reviewed journals

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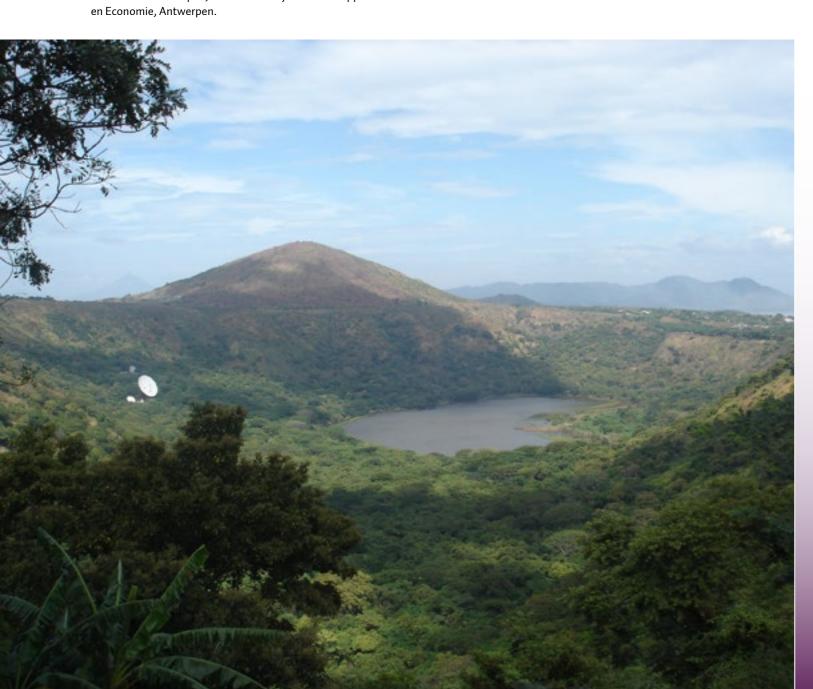
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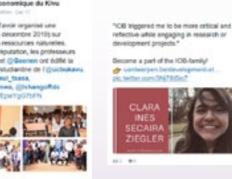






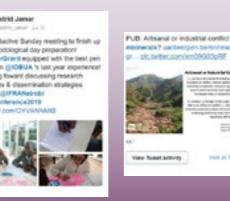
















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