

EXCHANGE TO CHANGE

ECHANGER POUR CHANGER

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**ACCÈS À LA TERRE
AU NICARAGUA**

**AN INTERVIEW
WITH PROFESSOR
PHILIP NAUWELAERTS
ON THE EVE OF
HIS RETIREMENT**

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THE LAKE KIVU WATERSHED:
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MISSING THE POINT?**

**FINANCING THE
MILLENNIUM
DEVELOPMENT GOALS
IN ETHIOPIA**



University
of Antwerp



INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT
POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

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Interpersonal Exchange

Thirty-seven years ago three professors started the 'College for Developing Countries', which was later to become IOB. From the very start Philip Nauwelaerts was involved in the Institute. Today he is saying goodbye so as to be able to focus on other projects in his retirement. What he has appreciated most throughout his career at IOB is the opportunity for interpersonal exchange - exchange among students, among alumni and between staff and students/alumni.

From the very beginning IOB has attracted students from a wide range of countries, backgrounds and professional experience, offering them a place to meet each other with respect for their diversity, to improve their knowledge and to hone their skills. This is also what Cristina Rotaru, featured in this issue, feels: "We are given enough space to combine who we are and where we come from with our long-term goals of furthering the development of our respective countries." Roberto Cana, another student who is featured in this issue, also stresses this respect for diversity within IOB: "In the end you get a beautiful picture, a mosaic of impressions. It is exciting to see how IOB welcomes all of these perspectives and opinions."

IOB wishes to continue this tradition of interpersonal exchange and invites you to participate by visiting the Institute's Blackboard, keeping us updated about your career moves and sharing your views.

Eva Vergaelen, editor 

From the Chair

The year that lies behind us has revealed the importance of global public goods. Reading this, most of you will probably think of a smoothly working and stable financial system. And how right you are. The crisis that hit the US housing market and subsequently infected the global financial system clearly illustrates the serious trouble we risk finding ourselves in if we fail to keep the global financial market functioning properly by means of appropriate national and worldwide governance structures. The health of planet earth is another worry. Leading scientists convened by the United Nations in 2008 warned that the world's climate is being affected by human activities in a major way, causing among other things a massive loss in bio-diversity and changes in key climatic variables with potentially disastrous consequences, both for us and for future generations. There are other global public goods which require attention as well. In fact, I would suggest that development in low-income countries, the major area of interest here at IOB, is also a global public good. Development benefiting the poor in low-income countries is of course in the first place highly desirable for the populations directly concerned, but I am convinced that it is also important for the more affluent parts of the world. This is what I mean - if we do not make development happen, there will be dire consequences for those of us living in rich countries. It is in this sense that a few years ago the influential American political scientist Francis Fukuyama argued that socio-economic development in the poorest continents and regions of the world should be the top priority on the foreign policy agenda of the United States, not primarily out of generosity or solidarity but because it is a pre-condition for sustained welfare in the US. In my opinion, this may be a sensible way for us in the North to consider development aid, namely as something we have to do in order to safeguard the future for all mankind.

The financial crisis is now starting to affect the real economy in a major way and we must brace ourselves for the consequences whether we are living

in Africa, the Americas, Europe, or anywhere in the East. This is not a pleasant prospect for the year that has just started, but forewarned is forearmed. However, let me not only dwell on the woes of the world. One side-effect of the financial crisis has been that it has helped the Democratic candidate, Barack Obama, win the US elections. Undoubtedly like most of you, I am looking forward to the leadership that he may bring in relation to some of the issues described here.

Turning our gaze from the world stage to our immediate surroundings, the year that lies behind us was a good one for IOB and the prospects for 2009 look bright enough. The Institute is doing well and continues to attract motivated and talented students. Professor Philippe Nauwelaerts took early retirement at the end of 2008 but he remains actively involved on a part-time basis. We are greatly indebted to him for all he has done for IOB as well as for its predecessor, the College for Developing Countries, during his long career. IOB has also continued to recruit new staff, especially junior research and teaching assistants. We are happy with our activities during 2008 in the fields of education, research and policy advisory work, the three tasks that constitute our core business. Our order book for 2009 is well-filled too. We are well into the academic year 2008-2009 and on January 15th a group of 14 participants started a short training programme on Governing for Development at IOB. Please visit our website for more information on these activities as well as on our on-going research and what is being done in the field of policy advisory work.

I hope that you will all do well in the New Year and that you will keep in touch by occasional visits to the website of the Institute where you spent crucial months of your academic training.

All the best for 2009.

Robrecht Renard, Chairman



Après 6 ans d'expérience professionnelle dans une ONG, j'ai suivi la maîtrise en gouvernance et développement en 2004-2005 qui a contribué à mon intérêt pour les problèmes fonciers dans les pays en développement. Dans le cadre de cette année d'étude, j'ai eu l'occasion d'approcher le problème de l'accès à la terre au Nicaragua. En particulier, j'ai réalisé la thèse de maîtrise sur l'identification des arrangements institutionnels locaux liés à l'accès à la terre à Quilali au Nicaragua. Par la suite, j'ai été amenée à travailler au Pérou pendant deux ans pour le Fonds de Population des Nations Unies, pour ensuite commencer un doctorat au sein du groupe de recherche sur la "pauvreté et le bien-être comme un processus institutionnel local" de l'IOB. Cette recherche s'inscrit donc dans l'agenda de ce groupe thématique.



Cécile Famerée *, Belgique/Canada, Gouvernance et Développement, IOB, 2004-2005

* Sur ce sujet Cécile Famerée a aussi co-écrit avec Johan Bastiaensen et Ben d'Exelle : "Political arenas around access to land: a diagnosis of property rights in the Nicaraguan Interior".

** La version étendue de cette note inclut les références complètes qui pour des raisons éditoriales ont été éliminées de cette plus courte version. Le lecteur intéressé peut contacter par e-mail: cecilefamerée@yahoo.es

Cette étude** porte sur la problématique de l'accès à la terre au Nicaragua. L'objectif est d'identifier des domaines où l'intervention de l'état sur le marché de la terre pourrait être plus inclusive vis-à-vis des populations vulnérables dans un contexte de pluralisme légal et d'inégalité. Pour répondre à cet objectif, l'étude prend comme point de départ, un programme de titre foncier qui a été implémenté dans trois départements au Nicaragua. Deux sous-questions ont été définies pour opérationnaliser la recherche. 1) Quels sont les processus d'exclusion de l'accès à la terre pour les populations vulnérables dans les zones où le programme de titre foncier a été mis en place? 2) Comment ce programme de titre foncier a-t-il été traduit au niveau local en termes de pratiques et de relations?

Ces questions semblent pertinentes quand on considère la situation du Nicaragua. En effet, dans ce pays la pauvreté est concentrée dans les zones rurales où 68,5% de la population vit en dessous du seuil de pauvreté. Le marché de la terre se caractérise par une concentration de la terre dans les mains de quelques propriétaires. Comme l'indique le coefficient de Gini de 0,86, la distribution de la propriété de la terre est très inégale. Or la terre reste l'atout essentiel des communautés rurales. La terre fournit du capital social et politique. C'est une source d'emploi et de sécurité alimentaire. Son accès est donc primordial pour l'agriculture de subsistance et comme mécanisme de sortie du cercle vicieux de la pauvreté.

Premièrement, cette recherche veut contribuer à nuancer la domination d'un courant de pensée sur le domaine foncier. La littérature sur les droits de propriété de la terre est dominée par l'ETLR (Evolutionary Theory of Land Rights) qui suppose que l'octroi d'un titre foncier à un propriétaire augmente automatiquement sa sécurité foncière. Cette théorie assume quatre effets positifs majeurs induits par le titre foncier et l'hypothèse centrale de la sécurité accrue via le titre. Premièrement, une allocation de la terre plus efficiente et équitable est attendue. Deuxièmement, davantage d'investissements seraient consentis. Troisièmement, la terre présenterait les caractéristiques essentielles pour jouer le rôle de caution sur le marché du crédit et ainsi rendre ce marché plus accessible. Finalement, la paix sociale est aussi prévue en finalisant les conflits liés à la terre. De nombreuses études empiriques ont montré que ces effets positifs ne se sont pas produits alors que d'autres études ont principalement questionné l'hypothèse de base selon laquelle un titre foncier entraîne la sécurité foncière.

En effet, un nombre croissant d'études montrent que ce mécanisme ne peut pas se vérifier partout. D'autres facteurs jouent un rôle important dans la sécurité foncière, en particulier dans les pays en développement. Dans ces contextes, il n'y a pas vraiment de monopole du pouvoir (par l'état). Au contraire, ces environnements sont caractérisés par une pluralité de "sources" fournissant des règles. On assiste alors à des relations de pouvoir et de né-



Fermier pulvérisant un champ de maïs dans le cadre d'un programme expérimental de la FAO. Pays Nicaragua.

Photo: ©FAO/15962/
L. Dematteis

gociation comme processus clé de sécurisation de la propriété. Malgré l'avancée de ces travaux, ils n'ont pas réellement permis d'influencer les politiques sur le marché de la terre et davantage d'études sont nécessaires pour connaître l'impact réel de programmes fonciers pour les populations locales.

Deuxièmement, cette étude cherche à contribuer à combler ce manquement en ce qui concerne le programme de titre foncier implémenté dans trois départements du Nicaragua. En effet, il nous semble essentiel qu'une étude qualitative puisse nous renseigner sur l'impact de ce programme. D'une part il est censé être nationalisé, d'autre part, il fait partie d'une politique "pro-pauvre" initiée par la Banque Mondiale. Ceci signifie que des sommes d'argent importantes sont investies pour réformer le cadre législatif du régime de propriété en supposant que cela ait un impact positif pour les populations pauvres à travers la sécurité accrue fournie par le titre foncier. Comme indiqué plus haut, ces réformes sont remises en question. Davantage de travaux ont été réalisés en Afrique, où il a été possible de démontrer que l'intervention de l'état sur le marché de la terre

a eu des effets contre-productifs ou au mieux est restée lettre morte.

Par conséquent, les réformes agraires restent une priorité politique tant au niveau national que pour les agences de développement. Cette recherche vise à participer à ce débat en identifiant les zones où l'intervention de l'état sur le marché de la terre pourrait être inclusive pour les populations vulnérables.



“La terre fournit du capital social et politique. C'est une source d'emploi et de sécurité alimentaire. Son accès est donc primordial pour l'agriculture de subsistance et comme mécanisme de sortie du cercle vicieux de la pauvreté.”



An interview with Professor Philip Nauwelaerts

on the eve of his retirement

For many alumni Professor Philip Nauwelaerts is the man who opened their eyes to the link between human rights and economics, for others he is the person who helped them to find accommodation in Antwerp, for some he is the godfather of their child. Philip Nauwelaerts witnessed the birth of the Institute 37 years ago and now – on the brink of retirement – he is saying goodbye. He will continue his activities in the field but no longer as a member of the IOB staff. IOB thanks him warmly for his invaluable contribution to the Institute and wishes him many more fruitful years in the development field. A few weeks before his official retirement Exchange to Change interviewed him in his office at IOB where the walls are adorned with African masks and musical instruments. “Many of these are gifts from alumni. I will cherish my memories of them”, he says in his gentle voice.

How did you become involved in the Institute? And could you briefly describe the major changes that IOB has undergone?

After having worked in Cameroon for two years for the UNDP I wanted a more permanent job that would allow me to keep in touch with the field. In 1972 three professors started the College for Developing Countries for which they needed three assistants. I was one of those assistants and as such witnessed the establishment of what was later to become IOB. I worked for professor Dralans, who had gained experience as a financial expert in many countries. In those first years the courses were taught from the perspective of sharing experience, not so much of sharing academic knowledge. From the start ‘the College’ attracted foreign students, in the beginning mostly from Latin-America and DR Congo. All courses were taught in French. As an economist I gave seminars on the economics of export and import and on export credit opportunities. In 1988 professor Van Herbruggen took over and started a new programme in cooperation with the Flemish Inter-University Council (VLIR) and the Directorate-General for Development Cooperation (DGOS). The focus of the programme changed from economics to good governance and poverty reduction. In the nineties Asia showed growing interest in

our programme and so we started offering courses in English too. Two years ago we stopped providing the long-term programmes in French, which I really regret. After all, our main region of interest is the Great Lakes Region of Africa, which is mainly French-speaking. I am afraid that we are now excluding many students from that specific region because of the language barrier. On the other hand I do see a huge improvement academically speaking. Today we work in an international context and cooperate with other international organisations and universities. In terms of educational qualifications we have also become much more demanding. As a result we now only accept students with the best degrees in a limited number of specialised domains and with at least a few years’ experience in the development field. Members of every theme group within IOB are involved in the selection process, which guarantees diversity and strong profiles in the student population.

As a professor, how do you see your role in society?

In the early nineties I became a professor specialising in the economics of the arms trade and defense expenditures and their impact on developing countries, companies and human rights. I organised several conferences in cooperation with the Province of



Antwerp which resulted in the publication of three books. In comparison with other IOB staff I have not published a lot of books but I have always written articles for newspapers and the mass media so as to contribute to raising awareness among all citizens, not just academics. Perhaps this sets me apart from many of my colleagues but I do consider it my moral duty to make my research accessible and to discuss its findings with the man in the street, so to speak. I also feel that the students greatly appreciate this kind of practical knowledge. It goes without saying that academic knowledge is very important but there should be a fair balance. I find it a pity that from a career and promotion perspective only one's publications in international academic reviews are appreciated because as experts we also have a great moral responsibility to society as a whole.

What has IOB meant to you?

Even though I have never been the most academic researcher or the most scholarly member, I have always enjoyed working here. I very much appreciated the practical events that I was in charge of for many years, such as organising student visits to companies, to EU institutions and to The Hague or trips to Eastern-European countries or to impressive capital cities such as Paris and London. These visits were anything but mere touristy excursions. We always met very interesting people and also got to know each other much better. I still receive e-mails from alumni who fondly remember our tours of the port of Antwerp or our exploration of Berlin. Despite the fact that not all of my colleagues appreciated these trips I feel that for many students they meant a lot

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in terms of interpersonal exchanges. Many alumni tell me that IOB taught them how to deal with people of varying backgrounds. In Antwerp a Chinese student would for the first time talk to a Kenyan fellow-student and both of them would exchange ideas and experiences and get a more concrete picture of a part of the world that previously might have been as alien to them as another planet. To me the exchanges between students and staff on the one hand and among students themselves on the other have always meant the most. I am convinced that this is IOB's key asset and I hope that those who manage the Institute in the future will cherish it. I hope they will also invest more in alumni relations. For alumni IOB means international networking and exchanges and for IOB alumni mean promotion.

That brings us to the next question. What is your own contribution to IOB?

As an assistant I was mainly responsible for practical matters such as arranging visas, permits and housing for our students. Since foreign students need more day-to-day assistance than Belgian students it was often difficult to combine this work with my academic research. As a professor, I have tried to raise awareness of human rights in the field of economics. Human rights used to be a topic for lawyers whereas now it is generally accepted that there is a clear link between economics and human rights. It is not easy to say goodbye to IOB after 37 years, but I expect to keep in touch with staff and alumni. I shall continue my work outside the IOB context.

What are your future plans?

My former 'secondary' activities will become my main ones, which means that my academic research will be limited, but that I will be more engaged in awareness raising at both the local and the global

level. I am the vice-president of the Flemish Peace Institute, which reports to the Flemish Parliament and aims to create a broad-based awareness with regard to both the international and the Belgian arms trade. In the Belgian context this topic is very sensitive as it also includes dual-use trade. Flanders exports a lot of highly sophisticated computers for use in arms so it must be considered an arms trader, something people do not like to admit. Apart from conducting research and raising awareness we also support and organise peace sessions in schools. In addition, within Amnesty International Flanders I am a member of the theme group "companies and human rights". Also at the Flemish level I am a member of the board of Pax Christi Flanders. At the international level I am involved in Economists for Peace and Security, which was created in the United States by a number of Nobel Prize winners and has become an international organisation.

What will you miss the most after your retirement?

I will definitely miss the interaction with students. Actually, this is also often mentioned by visiting professors. This form of interaction makes us, members of staff, change or adapt our perceptions of development policies and helps us to acquire a more realistic view of development aid. Thanks to exchanges with students I have gained a better understanding of the problems their countries face in practice. We learn about these via our research, which is a good basis, but they feel them through experience. By combining both we can get the whole picture. Even when I was living in Cameroon it was not by conducting field research there that I understood what it meant to be part of it all. That I learned was thanks to close interaction with local families. Students can offer us these real-life insights while we can offer them the tools and theories they will need to underpin their work in the field.

Eva Vergaelen 

Eduquer pour transformer

par Yasmine El Rifai *

“Asl el hekaya” est une expression du dialecte égyptien, traduite littéralement par “l’origine de l’histoire” mais souvent utilisé dans un contexte explicatif... C’est une expression équivalente au “c’est que...” en langue française.

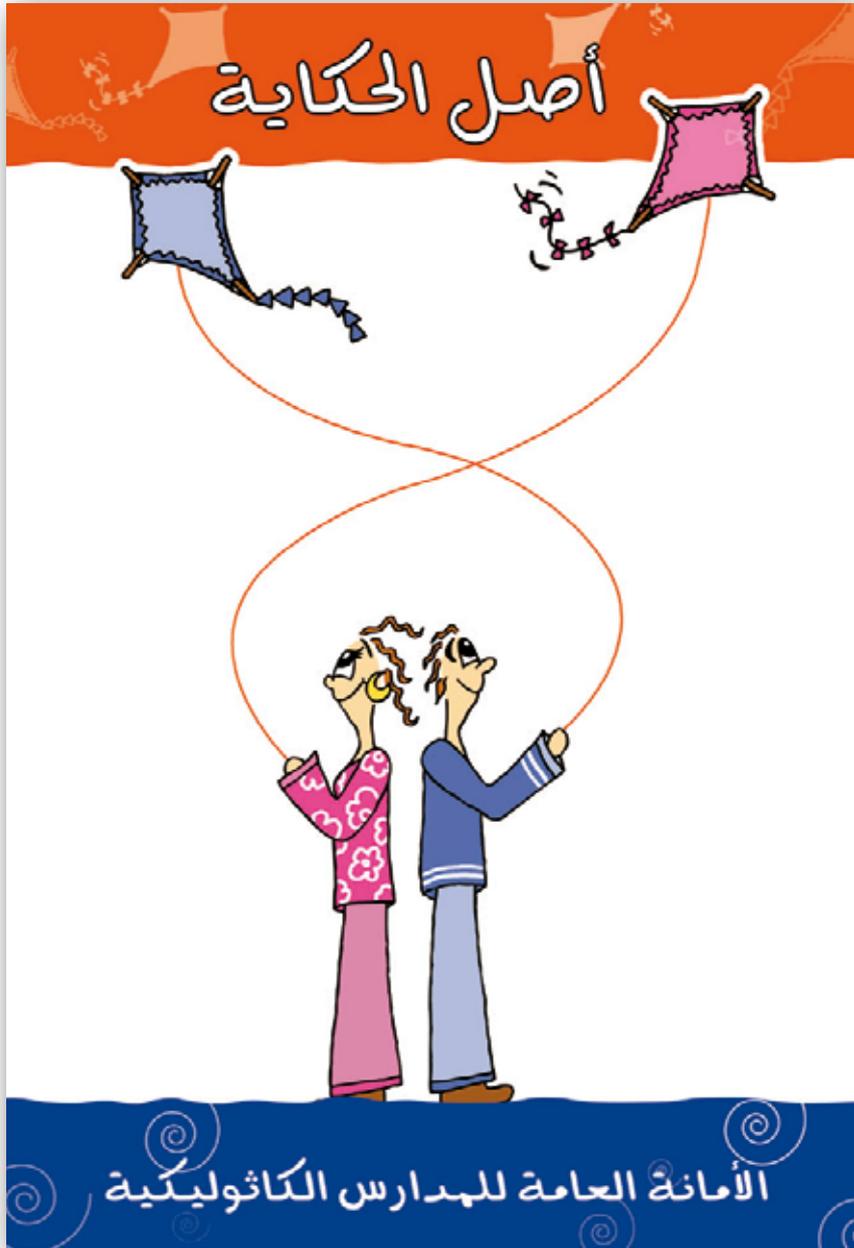


* En 2002 Yasmine El Rifai a obtenu sa maîtrise en Gouvernance et Développement à l’IOB. Elle est membre de l’équipe “Cours de Vie” du Bureau de Formation du Secrétariat Général des Ecoles Catholiques en Egypte

Ce double sens de “Asl el Hekaya” en fait un titre original pour le nouveau kit pédagogique d’éducation sexuelle publié par le Secrétariat Général des Ecoles Catholiques d’Egypte (SGEC). Ce kit est le quatrième à être publié par le SGEC dans le cadre du projet “cours de vie” qui vise à créer du matériel pédagogique égyptien et en langue arabe pour les éducateurs et animateurs travaillant sur le développement personnel des enfants et adolescents, que ce soit au sein des établissements scolaires ou dans diverses activités extra-scolaires. Le nouveau-né, “Asl el Hekaya” vient juste de voir le jour après quatre ans de gestation, d’essais-pilote et de révision.

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Couverture du kit pédagogique d'éducation sexuelle "Asl el Hekaya"

Les origines de "L'origine de l'histoire" se trouvent dans le besoin exprimé par maints éducateurs concernant l'éducation sexuelle. Dans la société égyptienne et particulièrement dans l'école égyptienne, le sujet est tabou. Et pourtant, le besoin d'accompagner les jeunes se fait de plus en plus pressant et les défis à relever de plus en plus lourds dans une société où la lutte entre les valeurs traditionnelles conservatrices et les valeurs libérales découlant de l'ouverture médiatique et culturelle est loin d'être tranchée. Les éducateurs se trouvent malheureusement démunis et mal à l'aise pour ac-

compagner les enfants et les jeunes dans leur développement sexuel.

C'est de là que découle l'importance et la valeur de ce kit pédagogique : il offre non seulement des outils pratiques et un contenu recherché, mais surtout une approche pédagogique émanant de la réalité de diversité et de changement. Il accueille cette réalité et la travaille. A travers le développement et la transformation personnelle, c'est le développement et la transformation sociale que l'on vise.

Un survol du contenu

Trop souvent l'éducation sexuelle est comprise par une transmission d'information concernant la sexualité humaine, y inclus les transformations physiologiques, l'anatomie, les maladies sexuellement transmissibles, la contraception... tous des sujets touchant à l'aspect physique de la sexualité. Les débats portant sur les différentes approches en matière d'éducation sexuelle (prévention, abstinence...) sont aussi surtout focalisés sur l'aspect physique. En arabe, la confusion est encore plus facile vu le fait que le mot « sexualité » est traduit par le même mot que « sexe », ne différenciant donc pas la dimension sexuelle de l'homme et l'acte sexuel. Ceci contribue probablement à la mauvaise réputation de l'éducation sexuelle.

L'objectif primaire du kit est d'aider les jeunes à développer un regard positif sur leur développement sexuel. Ceci passe par l'acceptation de ce développement, mais aussi par la capacité de la personne à lui donner un sens, et à l'intégrer dans son quotidien.

De là découle une des caractéristiques de ce kit, le fait de travailler la sexualité humaine dans ses différentes dimensions : physiologique, affective, intellectuelle et sociale. En approchant la sexualité à travers les situations et les choix du quotidien, le tabou et les craintes se dissolvent petit à petit, et laissent place à plus de liberté, plus de sens critique et plus de choix. Lorsque le dialogue porte sur des sujets aussi divers que l'expression de l'amour, la prise de décision, l'analyse des médias, les rôles masculins et féminins, les traditions liées au maria-

“Une expérience éducative qui va en profondeur permet à des personnes de casser leurs chaînes et de se libérer un petit peu, pas nécessairement en adoptant des valeurs libérales, mais plutôt en adoptant des valeurs choisies librement par soi et en vivant ces valeurs.”

ge, la mode, etc, on peut se permettre de critiquer, de s’opposer, et surtout de changer... L’idée est d’aider le jeune à agir et se comporter en cohérence avec ses propres valeurs, qui évidemment diffèrent d’une personne à l’autre.

Clé du jeu : la méthode

C’est la méthode qui fait la richesse du travail. Les activités proposées suivent toutes une certaine dynamique qui engage la personne dans un processus (1) de prise de conscience (de ce qu’elle vit, des défis, de ses valeurs, des enjeux...), (2) d’expression (orale, écrite, artistique...), (3) d’ouverture aux autres à travers l’écoute, pour en arriver (4) au discernement et à l’engagement.

Cette dynamique pédagogique présente dans chaque activité est aussi proposée aux éducateurs pour faire face aux situations difficiles auxquels ils sont confrontés. A cause de sa lourde charge de valeurs, les situations touchant à la sexualité provoquent souvent une réaction moralisante ou de jugement de la part des adultes. La méthode proposée invite au contraire les éducateurs à prendre de la distance et à accompagner le jeune vers et dans un processus de développement et de maturation à court et à long terme.

Ainsi, le rôle de l’éducateur se voit transformé, il n’a plus à transmettre les réponses, les vérités et les valeurs, mais à créer des expériences éducatives et des conditions qui permettent à la personne de construire ses propres réponses, vérités et valeurs.

Voici quelques principes essentiels qui sous-tendent cette méthode :

- La réalité est le point de départ, et non les idéaux et les valeurs morales. La réalité inclut la réalité personnelle (besoins, caractéristiques, expériences passées...) et la réalité sociale (culture, traditions, valeurs religieuses...).
- La diversité : Les valeurs, les choix, les styles de vie sont divers. Ce qui est « juste » est relatif. Au sein d’une même culture, les familles, les individus peuvent encore être différents.
- Lier l’information au sens et à la vie : quelle que soit l’information, il est important de lui donner un sens et de la lier à la vie et au quotidien. C’est dans la vie que les idéaux sont confrontés à la réalité, et le résultat de cette confrontation n’est pas le même pour tous.
- La responsabilité individuelle : chacun est responsable de développer ses propres valeurs et priorités, et de faire les choix correspondants.
- La responsabilité sociale : parce que les maux sociaux sont le résultat de comportements individuels, cette prise de conscience est le premier pas vers une transformation sociale.

Conclusion

L’utilisation pratique de ce kit durant cette dernière année avec des éducateurs et animateurs a démontré qu’il suffit de peu pour effectuer une révolution ...personnelle bien évidemment. Les chaînes (inhibitions, limitations, contraintes...) érigées par soi peuvent être très fortes, mais il revient alors au soi de les casser. Une expérience éducative qui va en profondeur permet à des personnes de casser leurs chaînes et de se libérer un petit peu, pas nécessairement en adoptant des valeurs libérales, mais plutôt en adoptant des valeurs choisies librement par soi et en vivant ces valeurs. C’est la transformation personnelle, case de départ pour une transformation sociale.





Management and restoration of the Lake Kivu watershed:

Win-win institutional arrangements for conservation and livelihoods?



About the author:

Tata Precillia Ijang was awarded her Master's degree in Governance and Development in Sub-Saharan Africa in 2008. She is now a researcher into politico-social economics and institutional issues related to natural resources in general and forest ecosystems in particular.

The Lake Kivu watershed is the hydrological nexus of many micro-watersheds in Rwanda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Both conflict and concord are the result of a mix of the historical, social, family, ethnic and tribal relations that exist across country boundaries. The study entitled 'Management and restoration of the Lake Kivu watershed: Win-win institutional arrangements for conservation and livelihoods?' is the result of field work carried out in the districts of Nyamasheke and Rusizi in Rwanda and Goma in the Democratic Republic of Congo as part of the Master's degree programme of the Institute of Development Policy and Management of the University of Antwerp.

The study examines the challenges which complicate institutional processes in the management and use of the resources of the Lake Kivu watershed by focusing on the interplay between the various socio-economic and political arenas that may undermine a more sustainable (and equitable) utilisation of resources. Its main objective is therefore to show the complex nature of stakeholders, the views associated with them, and the tension between livelihoods and conservation in order to propose some guidelines for a better management strategy. This is an exploratory field study using document analysis and the hermeneutic cycle of qualitative research to verify explanations given and tendencies observed and to clarify the various perspectives with regard to resource management and use.

As a macro-watershed the Lake Kivu watershed covers many micro-watersheds such as forest land, swampy areas and marshland, agricultural and pasture land, volcanoes, national parks and a variety of water bodies which are national and transboundary in nature. Finding ways to institutionalise social equity, poverty reduction and ecosystem sustainability is critical in the Lake Kivu watershed because of, firstly, transboundary and intraboundary complexities which are difficult to reconcile, secondly, the multiple identities of users representing multiple realities and thirdly, the muddled institutional arrangements between and across stakeholders.

In view of these realities attempts to reconcile the demands of conservation and livelihoods face many difficulties. Local livelihood systems depend on wa-

ter resources, agriculture, animal rearing, degrading forests and small-scale trading. 43,89% of the available land is used for the production of food but nevertheless 8% of the population suffers from acute malnutrition and between 20 and 30% are affected by chronic food insecurity. The main asset is natural capital, i.e. land and related resources. It goes without saying that these resources are becoming ever more scarce. Although 8.69 % of the total area is covered by water, over 45% of the population do not have access to clean water. 72.30 % regard vegetable crop production as a main source of income but land holdings are small and more than 8% of the people do not own land. In addition, as a result of the many years of violence many people have lost their livelihoods and are now encroaching



on the natural environment in a desperate effort to survive. For instance, the fishing of Sambaza (*Limnothrissa miodon*) is reported to have increased exponentially and exploitation has become unsustainable. Moreover, water-based livelihood systems have been affected by the unequal interdependence of related livelihoods whereby people used the water of Lake Kivu in their own ways and for diverse and conflicting purposes, partly as a result of the high population influx due to the effects of war and natural growth. Consequently the water of the lake is reported to have become more polluted, with diminishing aquatic resources.

All of this clearly shows that the problems faced when attempting to reconcile the demands of conservation and livelihoods are numerous - the ef-

fects of war, dwindling food stocks, shrinking land holdings, the population explosion and the many forms of poverty. For instance, income poverty has now been exacerbated by mental and psychological conditions (shame, fear, insecurity) which in turn reinforce income poverty. Consequently people see little or no hope for the future. Thus their main priority is to survive by whatever means, including the increased exploitation of any natural resources they can find. In some cases, they venture into protected areas such as the Virungga National Park and exploit resources in unsustainable ways. Needless to say, this makes the environmental balance even more precarious for future generations as the pressure on natural resources increases.

In spite of these tensions between the demands of

Sambaza fishing

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Field interviews in Kibumba community

conservation and livelihoods there are some positive factors such as the high biodiversity potential of some ecosystems in the Lake Kivu watershed which attract diverse stakeholders. Furthermore, there are large-scale ongoing conservation and restoration initiatives such as the activities of HELPAGE to promote agro-forestry and soil conservation through tree-planting and terracing techniques. Finally, there are a large number of key players and consequently opportunities to take action and launch activities at various levels. Unfortunately the fragile livelihood systems and the increasing pressure on natural resources continue to slow down conservation efforts.

To conclude, this study demonstrates how political and social processes as well as various institu-

“It is obvious that in order to be effective the policies underlying management and restoration processes need to focus on people and institutions (their ways of doing things, their mentality and perceptions etc) rather than on resources.”



tional arrangements shape the tensions between conservation and livelihoods. It also shows that although efforts are made in the field to try to achieve a balance between the two, there are other factors at work, such as the changing forms and extent of poverty, which undermine the progress that is being made. The effects of war, the population explosion and the geographically scattered and poorly coordinated actions in the field also exacerbate the situation.

It is obvious that in order to be effective the policies underlying management and restoration processes need to focus on people and institutions (their ways of doing things, their mentality and perceptions etc) rather than on resources. This is because the available resources are scarce and it will be difficult to

increase or even preserve them without changing people's mindsets. In addition the changing forms of poverty peculiar to this region need to be addressed more critically. Particular attention should be paid to poverty as the result of mental and psychological conditions with a view to refocusing policies, resources, targets and people's perceptions of life and of the future. Finally, there needs to be sufficient political will to provide active support for sustainable management and restoration processes.



Nursery production and agroforestry systems.



or is the world missing the point?

In December 2008 Jan Vandemoortele gave a lecture at IOB about the way the MDG agenda is being handled at the global level. There seem to be some misgivings which can broadly speaking be summarised in the question “Is Africa missing the targets or is the world missing the point?” While it is justifiable that high priority be given to Africa, it is not acceptable to constantly single out the region for its poor performance with regard to the MDGs. In Jan’s view there are two reasons for this:



Jan Vandemoortele is a former UN staff member. He co-chaired the group of UN staff who formulated the millennium development goals (MDGs) in 2001.

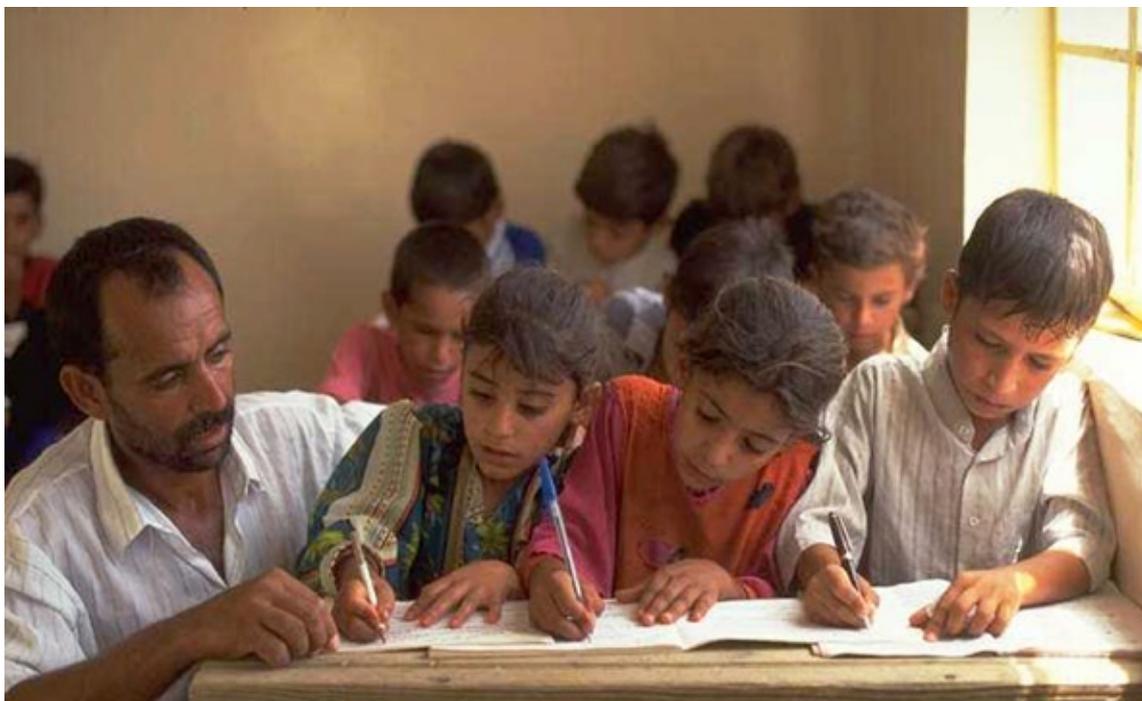
First and foremost, the MDGs are global targets that were set on the basis of the premise that global trends in human development would continue in the next 25 years as they have been doing over the previous 25 years. To try to assess whether a specific country or region is on track for achieving the MDGs is pointless because the numerical targets were set on the basis of global trends rather than trends for that particular country or region. Trying to track progress with regard to the MDGs only makes sense if it is done at the global level. It cannot be achieved for any specific region or a particular country. Nevertheless, there is a widespread misconception that all countries – including those in Africa – must meet the same global targets if the world is to reach the MDGs by 2015. Global performance is the sum of country-specific performances. Some countries will contribute more than others towards achieving the global MDG targets. The only fair way to interpret the MDGs is to consider them from a ‘one-world’ perspective. They are meant to encourage all countries to strive for accelerated human development but their applicability can only be assessed in the context of what is realistically achievable under country-specific circumstances. To be meaningful, national target-setting requires adaptation, not mindless adoption of global targets. The majority of countries have indeed already tailored the global MDGs to the reality of their own national context.

The second reason why Africa should not be singled out for blame because of its slow progress towards the MDGs is that the ways in which the targets have been formulated make them particularly difficult

Unless the unreached are reached and the excluded are included, progress towards the global MDGs will continue to slow down...

to achieve in the poorest and the least developed countries. Most targets are expressed in relative terms – for example, halving extreme poverty, reducing the under-five mortality rate by two thirds and cutting maternal mortality by three quarters. Proportional changes tend to be inversely related to the initial level from which the country starts. Reducing the under-five mortality rate from 10 to 5 per 1,000 live births, for instance, implies a 50 per cent reduction whereas lowering it from 250 to 200 yields only a 20 per cent reduction, although the latter is 10 times greater in absolute terms. In other words, reaching the global MDG targets would be more difficult for Afghanistan than for Australia, more challenging for Benin than for Belgium and more demanding for Chad than for Chile.

It is therefore a real tragedy when respectable progress in Africa is reported as a failure because it does not match a global target that is mostly expressed in relative terms. It is not uncommon to see the region coloured in red on a ‘traffic light’ map that shows the countries that are off-track with regard to a particular MDG target. In fact the



region has witnessed encouraging progress in areas such as primary education, especially for girls, measles vaccination and malaria prevention. Polio and guinea worm disease are on the verge of elimination and some two million HIV-positive patients in the region are now on anti-retroviral therapy. Yet the repeated lamentation that Africa will not meet the MDGs has led to the misunderstanding that the world will fail to meet the 2015 targets because of Africa's poor performance. The implicit 'afro-pessimism' is unwarranted and begs the question as to whether Africa is missing the targets or whether we are missing the point - the point being that Africa does not need to meet the targets in order for the world to achieve the MDGs. Africa will not, cannot and need not meet the global targets!

In addition the MDGs are largely overlooking the matter of equity. The world will fail to meet the MDGs not because Africa is lagging behind or because growth is too slow or foreign aid is too low but because the disparities within countries are growing. Survey after survey confirms that the gap in well-being between a child born in a poor family

and one born in a rich family in the same country has been widening in the majority of countries. Unless the unreached are reached and the excluded are included, progress towards the global MDGs will continue to slow down – as it has been doing since the 'roaring' 1990s. It can no longer be ignored that a little equity will go a long way towards achieving the 2015 targets. It would seem that the actual meaning of "MDGs" is gradually shifting from 'Millennium Development Goals' to 'MinDing the Gaps'. Unless the trend of growing inequity is reversed the global targets will remain elusive, no matter how much aid is promised or economic growth is achieved.





Financing the Millennium Development Goals in Ethiopia

Since their formulation in September 2000 the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have gained wide support and acceptance among both developing and developed countries. This is because they target the most daunting problems facing developing countries such as halving extreme poverty and hunger, providing universal access to primary education, promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women, improving health, combating infectious diseases, improving environmental sustainability and building up a global partnership for development.



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Ethiopia is one of the countries that adopted the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) when the Millennium declaration was signed in September 2000. Following the adoption of this Millennium declaration by Ethiopia there has been an increase in the inflow of foreign aid in the form of General Budget Support (GBS) and Programme Aid. According to figures from OECD/DAC 2007, in recent years Official Development Assistance (ODA) has increased to USD 1937 million in 2005 up from USD 686 million in 2000. Despite these increased aid flows there are concerns about the feasibility of achieving the MDGs in Ethiopia because of doubts about the absorptive capacity of Ethiopia with regard to managing the additional aid received as a result of commitments in respect of MDGs. The existing literature on aid effectiveness argues that aid enhances growth and consequently reduces poverty. However, the impact of aid on growth depends on the quality of the recipient country's institutions and policies. It is also feared that the larger and faster the increase in aid inflows, the greater the decrease in returns on aid, which means that the potential role of aid in achieving the MDGs is limited. Similarly, large inflows of foreign aid may reduce the need for aid-recipient governments such as Ethiopia to create and maintain incentives to generate domestic taxes, thus undermining the development of a sustainable revenue base.

There are also concerns about aid sustainability and volatility. Specifically, while developing countries such as Ethiopia were encouraged to adopt the MDGs, most donor countries do not increase the financial support necessary for attaining MDG targets. This in turn negatively affects the macro-economic stability of aid-recipient countries by triggering inflation as well as interest and exchange rate volatility. For instance, according to the Human Development Report 2005, aid volatility has doubled since 2000 causing a huge "aid shock". These shocks harm poor countries by slowing down their economic growth and reducing government revenue because the livelihoods of poor people are being destroyed. The unpredictability of budget support also causes problems for aid-recipient governments trying to develop stable revenue streams and financial management systems or to make long-term investments in infrastructure and basic services, all of which has adverse implications for achieving MDGs.

As has been well documented (Overseas Development Institute, 2005 and Human Development Report 2005), the way in which aid is delivered (aid modality) and the behaviour of donor governments can also be a source of absorptive capacity constraints. Uncoordinated interventions with "too many donors and too little coordination," whereby aid-re-

“Uncoordinated interventions with “too many donors and too little coordination,” whereby aid-recipient countries have to deal with many donors, each imposing conditions, tying aid and insisting on burdensome practices through project support rather than budget support, have been shown to reduce the effectiveness of aid.”

recipient countries have to deal with many donors, each imposing conditions, tying aid and insisting on burdensome practices through project support rather than budget support, have been shown to reduce the effectiveness of aid. Such uncoordinated practices impose heavy transaction costs on scarce government means, taking time and resources away from the governments' main tasks.

Recent shifts towards programme aid such as sector and general budget support are believed to address some of the concerns, albeit with the “Dutch disease” problem of programme aid. Seemingly beneficial foreign aid inflows may generate undesirable effects in the economy including a decline in traditional export performance and manufacturing production caused by the appreciation of the real exchange rate and resources moving out of the tradable sector into non-tradable sectors. The more

general concern with regard to achieving MDGs is whether the weighted average growth and poverty trends of the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s were appropriate for indiscriminate use in the MDG projections for all countries.

Although the above concerns hold true, the scope of the problems which Ethiopia is facing in respect of achieving MDGs is far greater. In fact, they began when the Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Program (SDPRP) was designed in 2002. A systematic investigation of the Poverty Reduction Program today reveals that the Ethiopian government has only pretended to implement reforms and donors have only pretended to finance the programmes, which has resulted in Ethiopia failing to achieve MDGs. In the SDPRP document the Ethiopian government promised to allow citizens to participate in the development programmes, to address corruption, to deliver basic social services for all, to mobilise more domestic resources, and to manage its public programmes more effectively and with accountability. However, the May 1997 election and the World Bank report have shown that the Ethiopian government has done little to control corruption, improve governance and strengthen the rule of law. Political stability, regulatory quality, voice and accountability also remain major problems.

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Simulation 1

	NEFt	Y growth %	ICOR	i	s	i-s	Yt	(i-s)Yt	PRt	r	Dt	rDt	UT	Dt/Yt	NEFt/Yt
Base Y	1094.31	0.00	0	0.16	0.05	0.11	10342.59	1137.68	29.51	0.03	6029.00	110.51	183.39	0.58	0.105806
2007	2644.32	6.00	4.97	0.30	0.05	0.25	10828.69	2687.68	28.11	0.03	6576.15	120.54	192.01	0.61	0.244195
2008	2787.17	6.00	4.97	0.30	0.05	0.25	11337.64	2814.00	29.43	0.03	7898.31	144.78	201.04	0.70	0.245833
2009	2936.91	6.00	4.97	0.30	0.05	0.25	11870.51	2946.26	30.81	0.03	9291.90	170.32	210.49	0.78	0.247412
2010	3093.85	6.00	4.97	0.30	0.05	0.25	12428.42	3084.73	32.26	0.03	10760.35	197.24	220.38	0.87	0.248934
2011	3258.35	6.00	4.97	0.30	0.05	0.25	13012.56	3229.72	33.78	0.03	12307.28	225.59	230.74	0.95	0.2504
2012	3430.75	6.00	4.97	0.30	0.05	0.25	13624.15	3381.51	35.37	0.03	13936.45	255.46	241.58	1.02	0.251814
2013	3611.43	6.00	4.97	0.30	0.05	0.25	14264.48	3540.45	37.03	0.03	15651.83	286.90	252.94	1.10	0.253177
2014	3800.78	6.00	4.97	0.30	0.05	0.25	14934.92	3706.85	38.77	0.03	17457.54	320.00	264.83	1.17	0.25449
2015	3999.22	6.00	4.97	0.30	0.05	0.25	15636.86	3881.07	40.59	0.03	19357.94	354.83	277.27	1.24	0.255756
Total	29562.78														
Annual average	3284.75														0.250

Source: Own computation based on data from various sources.

Donor governments have also failed to provide the aid required to achieve MDG targets in Ethiopia. This is reflected in the large and ever-growing financing gap that we have identified in our study. Based on our estimates the external financing required to achieve the goal of reducing poverty by half would be between USD 3.3 billion and USD 4.0 billion at growth targets of 6 and 7 percent respectively. The country's overall resource gap (savings-investment gap) with regard to these growth targets ranges between 25 and 30 percent of GDP. Given the fact that domestic savings are currently financing 5 percent of GDP, the remaining 20 to 25 percent has to come from foreign aid, FDI and workers' remittances (See simulation results 1 and 2).

Our simulation results reveal that the current aid flows into Ethiopia remain below the levels required to meet the poverty reduction target of the Millennium Development Goals. The policy implication is that donors should grant Ethiopia significant debt relief and increase development assistance and access to external markets in order to bridge the "financing gap" and to enable Ethiopia to achieve the required growth and poverty reduction. The Ethiopian government should also implement policies that benefit the poor population. However, growth alone is not sufficient to achieve a faster reduction in the level of poverty. To reduce poverty in Ethiopia, non-income poverty targets such as human well-being should be given due consideration. In addition to increasing the incomes of the poor, this requires substantial investment in pro-poor sectors such as health, water supply, sanitation, agriculture, roads and education.

Simulation 2

	NEFt	Y growth	ICOR	i	s	i-s	Yt	(i-s)Yt	PRt	r	Dt	rDt	UTt	Dt/Yt	NEFt/Yt
Base Y	1094.31	0.00	0	0.16	0.05	0.11	10342.59	1137.68	29.51	0.03	6029.00	110.51	183.39	0.58	0.105806
2007	3182.50	7.00	4.97	0.35	0.05	0.30	10828.69	3225.87	28.11	0.03	6576.15	120.54	192.01	0.61	0.293895
2008	3355.58	7.00	4.97	0.35	0.05	0.30	11337.64	3377.48	29.43	0.03	8167.41	149.71	201.04	0.72	0.295968
2009	3537.01	7.00	4.97	0.35	0.05	0.30	11870.51	3536.22	30.81	0.03	9845.20	180.46	210.49	0.83	0.297966
2010	3727.19	7.00	4.97	0.35	0.05	0.30	12428.42	3702.43	32.26	0.03	11613.70	212.88	220.38	0.93	0.299892
2011	3926.52	7.00	4.97	0.35	0.05	0.30	13012.56	3876.44	33.78	0.03	13477.30	247.04	230.74	1.04	0.301748
2012	4135.44	7.00	4.97	0.35	0.05	0.30	13624.15	4058.63	35.37	0.03	15440.56	283.03	241.58	1.13	0.303538
2013	4354.41	7.00	4.97	0.35	0.05	0.30	14264.48	4249.39	37.03	0.03	17508.28	320.93	252.94	1.23	0.305262
2014	4583.89	7.00	4.97	0.35	0.05	0.30	14934.92	4449.11	38.77	0.03	19685.48	360.83	264.83	1.32	0.306924
2015	4824.38	7.00	4.97	0.35	0.05	0.30	15636.86	4658.22	40.59	0.03	21977.42	402.85	277.27	1.41	0.308526
Total	35626.92														
Annual average	3958.55														0.302

Source: Own computation based on data from various sources.

Recurrent government expenditure should also play a key role in addressing the non-income part of poverty in Ethiopia, but again, this requires financing. In order for the government to be able to finance additional recurrent expenditure, an increase in domestic savings and the generating of greater tax revenue are recommended. The Ethiopian government should also promote remittance flows into the country by designing appropriate investment opportunities and migrant-specific business consulting.

Our review of the existing literature clearly demonstrates that the goal of halving poverty in Ethiopia by 2015 cannot be achieved solely by means of foreign aid and targeted economic growth. Thus the following are essential: a development strategy that combines growth with the redistribution of income, further institutional and civil service reforms, effective fiscal and administrative decentralisation, accountability and good governance. Only then can the economy grow and can basic social services be guaranteed – key conditions for attaining the MDGs by 2015.





Cristina Rotaru (24), Moldova,
Globalization and Development

From the first moment Cristina warns me: “I love talking but I am a bad listener. You will have to stop me and repeat your questions several times.” Energetically and passionately she starts talking. She is unstoppable until she has to rush off to her next seminar.

“I studied international economic relations, not so much because of the economics, but because of the relational aspect. I like people and I like contributing to society. After my studies I worked for two years on two projects for two different donors. The first project was an EU funded project in which I assisted the National Coordination Unit for the Ministry of Economic Affairs. This unit aimed to improve the way the ministry operated and to help it to adjust to new and more EU-oriented policies. The second project was an USAID-funded project in which I assisted the human resource manager in national health programmes. It was a very interesting experience because health was a completely new domain for me. Our programmes focused on the prevention of hepatitis B and C and HIV/AIDS. We worked successfully in close cooperation with the Ministry of Health, something which is necessary but not always easy in developing countries. Together we managed to provide all sections of the population with information and knowledge about these diseases. We opened thirty visiting centres that offered counselling and testing and were visited a lot by people from all walks of life. This enabled us to make a detailed analysis of the situation regarding hepatitis and HIV/AIDS in Moldova and at the same time to increase awareness. The reasons for the success of this project were manifold. Firstly, the project director was very experienced and was eager to work with national experts who were familiar with the situation. As a result he gained the trust of ministry officials. Secondly, the components of the project were clearly defined, ranging from behaviour and communication changes to information and awareness spreading, all on a local basis and with respect for existing societal rules. We sent local doctors to rural areas instead of having a foreign doctor wait for patients somewhere in a city. Sharing this experience with my African colleagues at IOB, I began to understand that often the problem with these kinds of projects is that they are imposed upon people from outside without sufficient understanding of existing cultural habits. After all, there is no point in driving a fast car on a bumpy road - a four-by-four is more useful.

I am very happy to be at IOB. Sharing experiences with people from different backgrounds is so enriching. Our cultural and educational differences are regarded as assets here. We are given the space to combine who we are and where we come from with our long-term goals of furthering the development of our respective countries. The most popular way to start a sentence here is: ‘For example, in my country ...’. We all have the tendency to compare what we know from back home with the new knowledge we acquire here. IOB challenges us to think in different ways and at the same time to share our experience. I really like this approach of combining experience with knowledge. That way we travel all around the world during our courses. I feel like a sponge at the moment, getting prepared to clean up the mess back home. I want to work as a field expert and to try to understand and then improve the real-life situation. Before enrolling in this Master’s programme I intended to return to Moldova immediately after this year but because of my encounters with students from all around the world I think I would prefer to gain more experience somewhere else first, for example, in Africa. Africa used to be an abstract concept for me but at IOB I got to know African people personally and now I am eager to learn from them and spend some time in an African country. The main asset of this Master’s programme for me is the group work. Through group assignments we learn so much from each other. We share so many ideas, we enrich each other’s personal experience constantly and we grow ever more tolerant in the group work we carry out.”

Rushing to and fro between IOB and the offices of the European Commission in Brussels Roberto is a busy man. Surprisingly relaxed and at ease he listens attentively to my questions and replies carefully and accurately.

"I first studied engineering and later on political sciences. I am currently working for the European Commission where I am in charge of putting together and analysing a database to handle the financial side of the European Development Fund 2001 - 2005. I had previously worked for a Danish company on a pilot project monitoring the finances of projects implemented by the European Commission in ACP countries, after which I did the same job for a different company, so all in all I already had 6 years of experience in the development field before enrolling in the Master's programme. During those years I had worked in close collaboration with development experts and that is how I became interested in the development field. A colleague of mine in my former job told me about IOB after having studied there herself and it sounded interesting. The highly specialised courses taught in English particularly appealed to me. The fact that IOB is located close to Brussels was also an asset since I had been working and living in Brussels for the previous eight years. I applied for the Master's programme in Development Evaluation and Management and was accepted. At the same time I applied for my current job at the European Commission and I was also accepted. As a result, I have to push myself to the limits for one year so as to be able to combine my studies and my job.

The programme itself is the most intense academic programme that I have undertaken. It is highly motivating and involves a lot of group work. Interacting with colleagues from varying backgrounds, countries and perspectives is very challenging. I expect a lot from this programme - I expect it to provide me with a more profound understanding of the development field and to give me the opportunity to get in touch with organisations and companies involved in major development projects. I also hope to keep in touch with my fellow students and IOB staff later on because we can learn so much from each other. Views on development will certainly change in the next 5 to 10 years and we will need each other to share ideas and keep each other updated so as not to lose touch with everyday reality.

Having to combine my studies and a job means that I am unable to attend all courses, which I really regret. I am truly grateful to my fellow students who share their notes with me and I am very happy with Blackboard, which is an essential tool for me. A website reduces physical distances, which is of course ideal for me. I can download all documents from it and submit my assignments online instead of coming all the way here. I would not advise other students to combine this programme with a highly demanding job because it assumes a one-year commitment that is extremely intense. On the other hand, combining the two is also a challenge. I attend courses, discuss with my fellow students and IOB staff and then go to work. There I again focus on ACP countries, but this time from a more practical perspective.

In my opinion, the level of interpersonal communication is the most interesting aspect of this programme since we all acquire our knowledge within certain traditions, experiences and societal rules. For example, when I ask my Asian colleagues a question the answer does not come immediately and you wait for a reaction. Then you think that you have to ask again, which I have often done, whereas they are just taking their time for a proper and polite answer. I have also had to get used to the African way of communicating, which involves more body language. Although we all communicate in English we do not always understand each other. Certain words or concepts may be understood differently in other cultures. Apart from these communicative differences there are of course the academic differences. Some of us are more grounded in statistics, some are experts in the field, some are more analytical and some are more politically oriented. In the end you get a beautiful picture, a mosaic of impressions. It is exciting to see how IOB provides sufficient space for all of these perspectives. I really appreciate the fact that the policy is not to let the groups be formed by the students themselves because that way it would always be the same students who got together on the basis of shared regional backgrounds or language. The groups are randomly put together, which enables you to get to know all of your fellow students and to hear a wide range of views and opinions. After all, that is what increases our knowledge."



Roberto Cana, Romania,
Development Evaluation and
Management



An Ansoms with some girls on the hills in Rwanda

Faces of rural poverty in contemporary Rwanda: Linking livelihood profiles and institutional processes.

In January **An Ansoms** successfully defended her PhD at IOB entitled “Faces of rural poverty in contemporary Rwanda: Linking livelihood profiles and institutional processes”. The dissertation reflects on how dynamics of rural change relate to differentiation and the increasing polarisation in the livelihoods of Rwandan peasants. The introductory chapter sets the stage by analysing “Evolutions of growth, poverty and inequality” in post-1994 Rwanda. The next two chapters consider the policy-makers’ perspective with regard to rural development. The first chapter, “Striving for growth, bypassing the poor?”, provides a critical review of

Rwanda’s rural sector policies, which aim to modernise and ‘professionalise’ the rural sector. The chapter points to the risks that this involves for the large group of small-scale peasants. The second chapter, “Re-engineering rural society: The visions and ambitions of Rwandan elites”, highlights the Rwandan government’s misplaced belief in the potential of social engineering with regard to rural development. The third chapter offers “A quantitative analysis of rural livelihood profiles” prevalent in the Rwandan post-conflict rural context. The fourth chapter focuses specifically on the country’s land resources and concludes that there is an “inverse relationship between farm size and productivity”. This finding is of particular relevance in the current context given that policy-makers aim to move away from small-scale farming. The fifth chapter considers the “Views from below on the pro-poor growth challenge”. It adopts a qualitative approach in order to focus on local livelihoods and rural class differentiation at the micro-level. It considers peasants’ views regarding the (potential) impact of specific policy measures included in the Rwandan government’s ‘pro-poor’ rural strategies. The five chapters illustrate how the ongoing institutional processes stimulate the kind of rural change that leads to increasing polarisation between the rural classes and their livelihood profiles. On the basis of these findings, the conclusion of the PhD stresses the need for an alternative rural policy that promotes the combination of broad-based agricultural growth in which small-scale peasants are given a key role and the activation of the potential of the (almost) landless rural population in the local off-farm sector. Only in this way will economic growth adequately benefit the poor. 



Stef Vandeginste

Law as a source and instrument of transitional justice in Burundi

Stef Vandeginste has successfully completed his PhD research on ‘Law as a source and instrument of transitional justice in Burundi’. His supervisor was Prof. Dr. Koen De Feyter.

In recent years a growing number of countries have tried to come to terms with a past of large-scale human rights abuses by means of processes of transitional justice. Among these Burundi stands out as a case that is largely unexplored in international academic literature. After decades of political violence and civil war an internationally brokered peace process guided Burundi to democratic elections in July

and August 2005. United Nations Security Council resolution 1606 (2005) was adopted shortly before the 2005 elections. This resolution requested the UN Secretary-General to initiate negotiations with the Burundian government with a view to establishing ad hoc mechanisms (a Truth and Reconciliation Commission and a Special Court), “convinced of the need for the consolidation of peace and reconciliation in Burundi, to establish the truth, investigate the crimes, and identify and bring to justice those bearing the greatest responsibility for crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes committed in Burundi since independence, to deter future crimes of this nature, and to bring to an end the climate of impunity in Burundi and in the region

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of the Great Lakes of Africa as a whole". This doctoral research analyses how, after the various cycles of violence that have profoundly affected Burundi's history, national and international key players have rendered (or failed to render) justice for the injustices suffered. In particular, it seeks to understand to what extent and under what conditions law has been a value-loaded source of Burundi's transitional justice policy and/or an instrument that was shaped in accordance with the desired end of the political transformation and with the balance of power among its main population groups. One of the conclusions of the dissertation is that one of the dimensions of Burundi's transition process is the result of a transformation in the conception of law. Initially, transitional justice law (but presumably this also applied to other legal fields) predominantly constituted an instrument at the hands of those exercising political power. Shaped in accordance with the desired end, it was formulated and arbitrarily enforced with a view to serving objectives of political expediency. While that remains, in part, the current conception of law, Burundi has also witnessed the emergence of another view of law. Law has gradually been 'discovered' as a source of basic rights and freedoms of citizens as well as of

duties of the State and as a constraint on excessively discretionary or arbitrary governmental action. Both the procedural and substantive dimensions of the notion of the rule of law are increasingly being invoked, also by civil society players, to challenge past or existing transitional justice legislation and to put forward alternative options. There is growing awareness of the fact that neither the process nor the outcome of transitional justice should be left solely to the discretionary power of a dominant political party and that international and constitutional norms impose substantive and procedural barriers. Not surprisingly, this growing awareness – and the activism resulting from it – generates resistance, most notably on behalf of those for whom (in particular democratically legitimated) political power equals total control of the creation and enforcement of State law. This resistance has taken different forms but is based on a common fact: ruling elites try to prevent those theoretically in a position to invoke international and constitutional law as a source of basic rights and a constraint on governmental discretion from actually doing so. At the time of completion of this doctoral dissertation Burundi had not as yet put in place the above-mentioned transitional justice mechanisms.



Public sector coordination and the underlying drivers of change: a neo-institutional perspective

Eva Beuselinck (IOB 2001) has successfully defended her PhD thesis on 'Public sector coordination and the underlying drivers of change: a neo-institutional perspective'. The dissertation examines the issue of public-sector coordination for a number of OECD countries and seeks to clarify the concept of coordination on the one hand and the decision-making process underlying new coordination initiatives on the other.

The issue of coordination

Sound public-sector coordination remains a major challenge for many OECD countries. Trying to make public-sector organisations act in a coherent, coordinated way raises several questions about the appropriateness of certain instruments to foster coordination practices and about realistic levels of expectation regarding the actual outcome of coordination processes. The primary objective of the dissertation is to contribute to the clarification of both the concept of

coordination and the drivers of change that impact on the form and content of new coordination initiatives. As regards the delineation of the empirical framework, the dissertation approaches this topic through the prism of coordination at the level of central government. More particularly, it adopts a comparative approach and uses empirical data relating to New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Sweden and France. After a contextual exploration of the dissertation's topic two chapters present the conceptual and theoretical framework employed in the empirical part of the thesis. More specifically, the concept of coordination and an analytical approach rooted in the tradition of neo-institutional theories are discussed. As regards the conceptual delineation of the thesis, the multiple dimensions of coordination are emphasised as well as the importance of distinguishing between the various components of a coordination strategy (needs, barriers, mechanisms, instruments and resources) and the link with related concepts such as specialisation, autonomisation and interdependency. As regards the theoretical framework, the thesis covers the traditional strands of neo-institutional



Eva Beuselinck

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theories - such as historical, sociological and rational choice neo-institutionalism - as well as more recent developments in this area, including the process or ideational approach. This theoretical analysis results in an analytical framework which provides the basis for an examination of the decision-making processes underlying new coordination initiatives and which combines aspects related to the 'logic of consequence' on the one hand and the 'logic of appropriateness' on the other.

The empirical approach

The empirical part of the dissertation consists of three components. The first is a longitudinal analysis covering coordination initiatives over a period of 25 years for New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Sweden and France. The analysis adopts a descriptive-comparative perspective but also examines the importance of taking into account the politico-administrative and cultural contexts in order better to understand observed coordination tendencies.

Secondly, coordination initiatives for the sector of development aid (intra-donor coordination) are investigated for New Zealand and the United Kingdom. This second component makes it possible to explore both the importance of sector-specific coordination tendencies and the similarities and differences between the sectoral and national levels. The latter focuses on the major tendencies for a particular country and regroups a number of sectors, as presented in the first empirical chapter.

The final empirical chapter offers a detailed analysis of the decision-making processes underlying some specific coordination initiatives. In particular, this chapter focuses on two recent New Zealand case studies, 'Strategic Result Areas' and 'Review of the Centre'.

Relevance for developing countries

The concluding chapter of the thesis focuses amongst other things on the most salient drivers of change of new coordination initiatives (such as the politico-administrative system and the key players' strategic goal maximisation) as well as on opportunities to strengthen coordination practices on the basis of the conceptual analysis presented in the thesis.

While the empirical focus is obviously oriented towards the OECD countries, Eva hopes that the research project will in one way or another positively affect her current work as governance expert for the Belgian Technical Cooperation Agency (Belgium's bilateral aid agency). Firstly, sound public-sector coordination is a major challenge for many developing countries as well as it is often a cross-cutting issue for major sectoral reform strategies in the public sector. Although developing countries obviously operate in a particular context, the basic challenges of 'better value for money' thanks to a well-coordinated service delivery system remain the same in both developed and developing countries. Secondly, the thesis' focus on the methodological approaches of institutional and policy analysis will, it is to be hoped, contribute to Eva's work for Belgian aid cooperation. Awareness and a better understanding of the complexity of policy-making processes is considered essential when designing realistic public-sector reform strategies, a process in which she participates through her work for the Belgian Technical Cooperation Agency.



NEW STAFF AT IOB

Griet Steel obtained her Master's Degree in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Leiden (The Netherlands) in 2003 with a thesis on llama pastoralists in the Bolivian Andes. The same year she began research on tourism and street vendors for her PhD at CEDLA (Centre for Education and Documentation Latin America) in Amsterdam. In October 2008 she defended her PhD dissertation entitled „Vulnerable Careers, tourism and livelihood dynamics among street vendors in Cusco, Peru“ at the University of Utrecht (The Netherlands). In the same month she was appointed to a post-doctoral position at IOB. As a member of the PIP group (the thematic group called *Poverty and Well-being as a Local Institutional Process*) she will conduct ethnographic research into the processes of poverty among rural youth in Nicaragua. With this research she aims to participate actively in the VLIR project called “Generating knowledge and synergies for rural development in Muy Muy, Matiguás, Rio Blanco” in Nicaragua. In addition she will carry out some of the PIP group's teaching duties.

Kristof Titeca worked in Israel and at the European Parliament in Brussels before doing a PhD in Political Sciences at Ghent University. His dissertation examined the political role of civil society organisations in North-Western Uganda. Kristof is now a postdoctoral fellow at IOB and is working on a project on state reconstruction in Congo, which specifically focuses on the education sector. In addition he does post-doctoral research into criminal organisations and the smuggling of contraband in the border area between eastern Congo/northern Uganda and southern Sudan. He will also be teaching various classes.

Nele Dutry works part-time as programme coordinator at the secretariat for teaching activities at IOB. Her main responsibilities are (international) promotion, coordinating the issues concerning course manuals and organising extracurricular activities for the students. She also works as Diversity Management Coordinator at Mechelen University College. Nele is a graduate of Latin American studies at the University of Leiden in The Netherlands and obtained a postgraduate degree in Intercultural Management and International Communication from CIMIC (Centre for Intercultural Management and International Communication) in the Belgian city of Mechelen, where she is now in charge of the module on Latin America.

Marie Gildemyn is a research assistant within the Aid Policy group at IOB. As she has just started work on her PhD thesis her topic is still loosely defined but it will focus on monitoring and evaluation in the context of the New Aid Approach. For the moment her teaching duties are limited to the courses on Monitoring and Evaluation but they will probably be extended over time. Marie's academic background is not a very usual combination. After having completed her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology she worked with a local NGO in Mexico. This experience resulted in a redefinition of her career choices. She subsequently completed a Master's Degree in Development Studies and has spent the past 2 years working with local and international organisations in Ecuador. Although it has taken her some time to re-adapt, she is happy to be at university again, especially because she finds it such a stimulating environment where learning and exchanges with people from different backgrounds are possible on a daily basis.

IOB CONSULTANCY PROJECTS

Strategic Conflict Assessment Burundi

In order to develop a better and shared understanding of the risks of further conflict in Burundi and to design well-informed policy and programming strategies which reduce these risks, the Department for International Development (Dfid) and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) of the United Kingdom have requested the IOB to carry out a Strategic Conflict Analysis on Burundi. This involves, first of all, a conflict analysis on the basis of in-depth research into the long-term factors and structures underlying the conflict, the capacities, motivation and strategies of key players and the short-term political dynamics that may have an impact on political stability in the country, in particular in the run-up to the elections which are expected to take place in 2010. Secondly, the policies and development programming of Burundi's international partners are analysed and practical recommendations will be drafted for policy or programme actions which the UK (and possibly other partners) could undertake to reduce the level and risk of violence.

The Strategic Conflict Assessment is being carried out by consultants Stef Vandeginste and Leen Nijs under the supervision of Professors Nadia Molenaers, Robrecht Renard and Filip Reyntjens.



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