

EXCHANGE TO CHANGE

ECHANGER POUR CHANGER

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**IMPACT EVALUATION
AND INTERVENTIONS
TO ADDRESS
CLIMATE CHANGE**

**MONITORING AND
EVALUATION IN
VIETNAM**

**TRANSPARENCY IN
POLITICAL FINANCE
IN BANGLADESH**

**L'IOB À BUKAVU:
RECHERCHES ET
FORMATION EN
DÉVELOPPEMENT
POST-CONFLITS ET
GOUVERNANCE
LOCALE / RÉGIONALE**



University
of Antwerp



INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT
POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Alumni survey

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We at IOB continuously try to provide our students with education of the highest standard and quality as well as a life-enriching experience in an international and multicultural environment in which human interaction is crucial. However, we would also like to improve interaction with and among our alumni. Many of our alumni are directly or indirectly active in the development field. In a spirit of respectful and intercultural global co-operation IOB aims to achieve reciprocal capacity-building with its partners in the South, including our alumni.

With a view to collecting more specific information about the careers, needs and concerns of our alumni we are currently conducting an online investigation. The information which this will provide will enable us to acquire deeper insight into ways of assisting you and of improving our services for you. In order to obtain accurate data we need your responses, which is why we would like all our alumni to fill in the online survey.

Please send an e-mail to our Programme Coordinator Nele Dutry at **Nele.Dutry@ua.ac.be** so that she can give you a password which will enable you to access the survey. The closing date of the survey is 30 April and the results will be published in the next Exchange to Change. If you are in contact with other alumni, please inform them of this survey. We thank you for your cooperation and we hope that with your help we will be able to provide even better services for you and all our alumni.

Eva Vergaelen, editor 

Dear Alumni

Global warming is “the mother of all externalities”, as someone has aptly said. I need not explain to IOB alumni that externalities are not spontaneously dealt with by market mechanisms and typically call for public action, in this case on a planetary scale. In December last year Denmark hosted a United Nations Conference on Climate Change. The outcome was disappointing. No binding measures were accepted to keep global warming within the two-degree Celsius limit beyond which scientists foresee environmental damage of an unknown magnitude. Achieving agreement among almost two hundred nations has turned out to be impossible in this round of negotiations. Maybe this is not surprising in view of the circumstances – these countries have different historical responsibilities with regard to global warming, they are affected by it in varying degrees, their capacities are different and, last but not least, their political willingness to respond to the problem varies greatly. To borrow a statement that lecturers at IOB are fond of making, ‘preventing global warming is a global public good’. Or as a T-shirt slogan popular with civil society protesters in Copenhagen poignantly put it: “There is no planet B”. We all need a functioning planet to survive, let alone to progress.

What struck me in the events in Copenhagen is how vividly they illustrate that the old world order has come to an end. Europe overplayed its hand and was completely sidetracked during crucial moments in the negotiations. China and the US were the key players although some developing countries also played an important role. Unfortunately it just did not work out, not this time at least. To address global warming more successfully in the future we need solid research, realistic agendas, good timing and politicians with domestic incentives to hammer out an international agreement. We also need well-informed citizens around the globe. This is yet another good reason for many generations of IOB students and participants in short training courses to keep communicating with each other across national borders on the basis of shared values and scientific arguments.

I hope you will enjoy reading the following pages and continue to exchange ideas with each other and with us.

Robrecht Renard, Chairman 

Together with Birte Snilstveit of the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), Martin Prowse wrote a scoping study on impact evaluation and interventions to address climate change. What follows is a brief review of the study. More information on impact evaluation can be found in the September 2009 edition of *Exchange to Change*. The complete report of this article can be found at: www.3ieimpact.org/3ie_reports.html.



Martin Prowse has joined IOB as a postdoctoral researcher on 'global change and livelihoods' within the Impact of Globalisation theme group. At the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) in London he was the managing editor of the Chronic Poverty Report 2008/09 in the eighteen months prior to publication. Besides persistent poverty Martin's current research focuses on three issues: climate change, value chains and mixed methods. His recent work has, for example, discussed the vital role of assets in adapting to climate change; how producer organisations can bring benefits to both farms and firms within agricultural commodity chains, and the extent to which qualitative methods can be utilised within rigorous impact evaluation methodologies.

BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

As the attendance of 119 heads of state at the Copenhagen conference showed, climate change is at the top of the international policy agenda. But whilst there is broad agreement on the need to tackle the causes and consequences of global climatic change, there is less consensus around the effectiveness of climate interventions.

The 3ie scoping study summarised here assessed the extent to which impact evaluation (IE) has been used to assess a range of climate change interventions in developing countries and emerging economies. As Jos Vaessen outlined in the last edition of *Exchange to Change*, impact evaluation is concerned with attributing change to a specific intervention. The study reviewed the extent to which climate interventions have been assessed using counterfactual IE designs (which compare treatment and control groups through using experimental or quasi-experimental research designs).

Climate change mitigation and adaptation

Climate change interventions are divided into two broad categories: mitigation and adaptation. Mitigation interventions are designed to tackle the causes of climate change (in other words, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and preserve/expand carbon sinks). Adaptation refers to tackling the consequences of climate change (such as sea-level rise and an increase in the frequency and intensity of climate-related natural hazards).

The study looks at six mitigation measures. First, green growth strategies. As international pressure to control carbon emissions increases, countries are adopting greener growth paths. In other words, countries are reducing carbon emissions through decreasing the energy intensity of economic growth

(for example, through improving the efficiency of old machinery).

The second measure is the Clean Development Mechanism. This enables industries or companies in industrialised countries with emission-reduction targets to purchase carbon offset credits from projects in developing countries and emerging economies. Typical offset projects include renewable energy schemes and the reduction of industrial gas emissions. Offset credits are issued to projects which demonstrate a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions above a business-as-usual scenario.

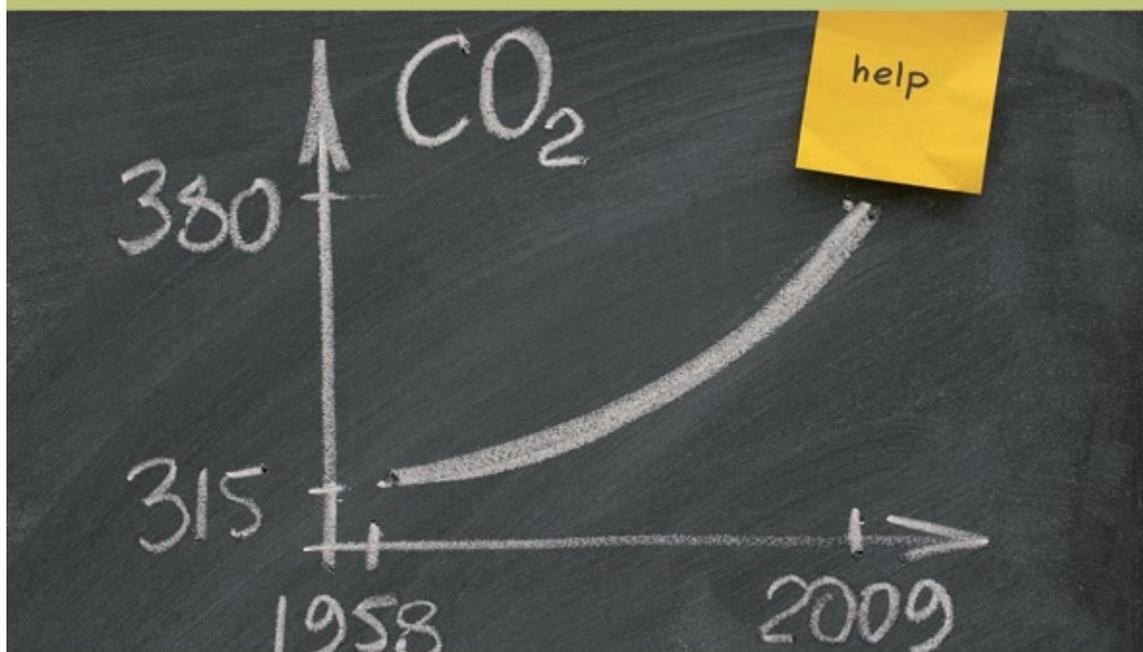
Third, agriculture, which contributes a surprising amount of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere. Mitigation options include organic and low-input agriculture, improved crop rotation and better natural resource management.

The fourth measure is biofuel production. Biofuels either take the form of ethanol fermented from sugar or starchy crops (for example, sugar beet, sugarcane or corn), or biodiesel from vegetable oils (such as rapeseed, soy or palm oil). Following the lead of Brazil, many emerging economies and developing countries are increasing biofuel production (including the production of second-generation biofuels from non-food materials such as jatropha).

Fifth, forest carbon. Forest ecosystems play a vital dual function in the carbon cycle. They act as a carbon sink (storing twice the amount of carbon present in the atmosphere) and also actively remove carbon from the air. But whilst afforestation and reforestation initiatives were included in the Clean Development Mechanism, reduced deforestation was not (mainly due to concerns about deforestation shifting to adjacent areas). However, negotiations in Copenhagen increased the likelihood that reduced emissions from deforestation and degradation (and



International Initiative
for Impact Evaluation
www.3ieimpact.org



Impact Evaluation and Interventions to Address Climate Change: A scoping study
Martin Prowse and Birte Snilstveit
December 2009

The paper highlights some of the challenges faced when conducting impact evaluations of climate change interventions and discuss how these can be tackled. It argues that despite the limited experience so far there are ample opportunities to conduct impact evaluation of climate change interventions. Increased financing of climate change interventions is urgently needed to mitigate global warming and enable countries and communities to adapt to its impact.

the conservation and sustainable management of existing forest carbon stocks) will be included in a post-Kyoto climate regime. Moreover, forest carbon schemes are already included within voluntary carbon markets (for example, see the article on payments for ecosystem services by Gert Van Hecken in the last edition of Exchange for Change).

And last but not least, environmental-labelling initiatives. Concerns about 'food miles' are leading to labelling schemes, such as 'air freighted' labels within supermarkets. Whilst the purpose of such schemes is to allow consumers to reduce their carbon footprint, a reduction in demand for air-freighted products could impact on horticultural and cut-flower imports from developing countries.

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The review suggests that, with the exception of forest carbon measures, there have been few attempts to apply counterfactual IE designs to these mitigation interventions. For example, the review did not highlight any experimental or quasi-experimental studies of CDM projects, biofuel production or environmental-labelling initiatives. Moreover, it highlighted only a limited number of counterfactual studies on green growth strategies and mitigation measures within agriculture. In contrast, a number of experimental and quasi-experimental designs have been applied to interventions which support or enhance forest carbon (such as payments for ecosystem services, decentralised forest management and, of course, forest protection).

The study also reviewed the extent to which counterfactual IE designs have been applied to adaptation interventions. The findings here were more positive. There are plenty of examples of experimental and quasi-experimental methods being used to assess, inter alia, irrigation schemes, agricultural development projects, cash transfers and social safety nets. But this is mainly because there is a considerable overlap between adaptation interventions and conventional development interventions. As Douglas Alexander, the UK's Secretary of State for International Development, stated: "In the climate debate, improving resilience against impacts is of course known as 'adaptation' – but this suggests that it is somehow separate from development. It isn't. Adaptation simply means development under the conditions of a changing climate".

CONSTRAINTS AND CHALLENGES

There are, of course, good reasons for the lack of counterfactual impact evaluations of mitigation measures. First, a number of common challenges faced by researchers when conducting counterfactual IEs – such as a long lag between intervention and measurable impact, and the lack of an appropriate counterfactual – can be particularly pronounced when attempting to evaluate environmental programmes. Second, many climate policies are at a relatively early stage of implementation (which offers an opportunity for future counterfactual de-

signs). And third, it may be difficult to establish baselines, or measure environmental outcomes (although in some cases behavioural change could be used as a proxy).

There is also a further challenge when conducting counterfactual IEs of mitigation interventions: that evaluations need to consider assessing both environmental outcomes and well-being outcomes (when appropriate and practical). For example, it is important to ensure that mitigation efforts do not have cause harm (for example, consider the role of biofuel production in the food price spikes of 2007/08). In addition, we need to maximise any development co-benefits from mitigation (such as within forest carbon schemes). Whilst this is challenging, the review highlights two studies which addressed both issues.

CONCLUSION

Recent estimates suggest that by 2030 the costs of mitigation and adaptation in developing countries will be up to US\$175 billion and US\$100 billion respectively (this latter figure is broadly comparable to current annual development aid). A proportion of these flows will be provided by private sources (such as from foreign direct investment, cap-and-trade schemes or from a variety of innovative finance proposals) and domestic public revenue (such as targeted expenditure and tax relief). But a considerable share will be provided by external public resources such as development aid (especially for adaptation in the least developed countries). However, current flows fall far short of what is required (despite the pledges at Copenhagen). If the estimates for climate finance are to gain widespread support, policymakers need to know what works, what doesn't work, under what circumstances and at what cost. This study suggests that impact evaluation can play an important role in providing additional evidence on tackling both the causes and consequences of global climate change.



By Tri Ha Minh

This article focuses on monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and official development assistance (ODA) in Vietnam. Vietnam is currently facing the challenge of how to implement M&E effectively and accountably in its socio-economic development policy.

BACKGROUND

After reunification in 1975 Vietnam had a centrally planned economy until 1986. When “doi moi” (perestroika) and “cai to” (glasnost) policies were applied and a market economy based on supply and demand was created Vietnam’s economy started growing amazingly with average growth rates of 4.5% (1986-1990), 8.2% (1991-1995), 7% (1996-2000) and 7.6% (2001-2007) (Source: General Statistical Office). Moreover, there is a growing demand for government accountability, i.e. for showing what has been done in the interest of the population. This article aims to provide a brief overview of **monitoring and evaluation** (M&E) and to focus on a number of challenges in the context of effective M&E in Vietnam.

Monitoring and evaluation are relatively new concepts in Vietnam, particularly with regard to government sectors. In these sectors data collection is usually the remit of existing administrative entities. In the case of monitoring and evaluation these are the State Inspectorate and the State Audit Agency, two separate agencies. The Inspectorate is organised at central, provincial and district levels while the Audit Agency is organised only at the central level and has recently been attached to the national assembly so as to enable both entities to be more independent and objective in their work. In practice there are also independent auditing companies which can conduct assignments if and when required, for example, for the government or for the private sector.

The State Inspectorate is a specialised agency which answers to the government and has the following major roles and responsibilities:

- Assisting the state in the management of inspection work and performing duties of administrative inspection;

- Inspecting the implementation of policies, laws and duties of relevant government offices and organisations;

- Performing duties with a view to settling complaints and denunciations in accordance with the law on complaints and denunciations.

- Performing duties with a view to preventing and combating corruption in accordance with the law on corruption.

The State Audit Agency is specialised in financial inspection. It was established to operate independently and to be accountable only to the law. It is responsible for audits of financial statements, audit compliance and other specific audit activities with regard to budgets, funds and state assets. The tasks of the State Audit Agency include deciding on the annual audit plan and reporting to Congress and the Government prior to implementation, deciding - if and when required - to audit Government and National Assembly agencies in the context of the drafting and verification of laws and ordinances, etc.

LOGFRAMES

When international non-governmental organisations (INGOs) such as CARE International, Oxfam, Action Aid, Save the Children, etc. restarted their charity, humanitarian and development operations from the mid-1980s, M&E was introduced into projects using the logical framework approach (LFA). This approach has gradually become more and more familiar to development workers and is now commonly used in the majority of projects and programmes implemented by INGOs. As from about the year 2000 the aid sub-sector managed by the government also started introducing an M&E system in compliance with international norms and standards.



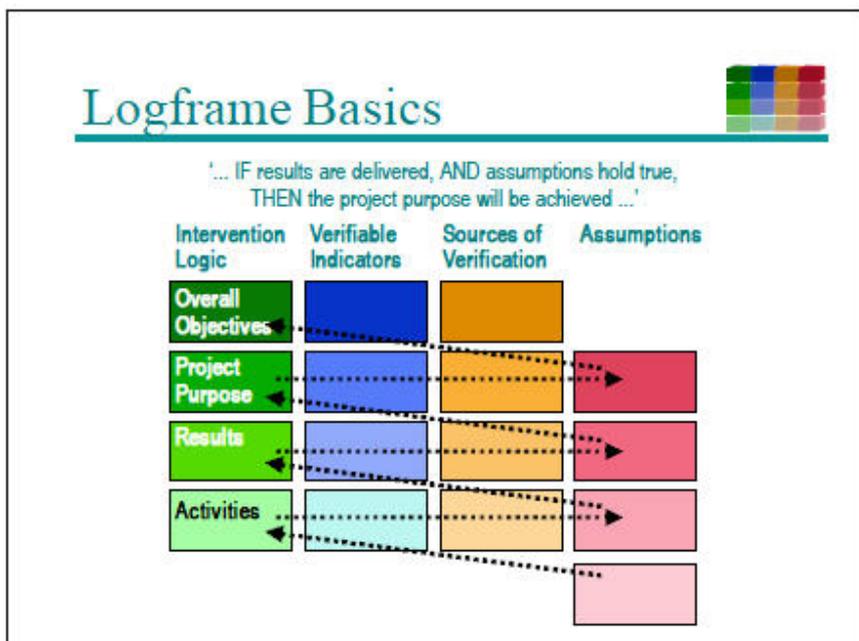
Tri Ha Minh is a PhD student at IOB attached to the Aid Policy thematic group. His PhD research will be on M&E systems for the implementation of Vietnam’s socio-economic development plan at the district level.

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In the early days logframes were introduced by international trainers from both within and outside INGOs. At the time there was little information or material on LFA as Vietnam was only just beginning to open its doors to the world thanks to “doi moi” (perestroika) policies. These days, however, it is possible to obtain a lot of information or material about logframes via the Internet with just a few mouse clicks. LFA is an important tool for planning and management, not just for M&E. One of the key elements when working with logframes is that one has to think ahead and consider the length of the project in relation to its purpose, objectives, output and activities in function of the resources available, which sometimes makes the application of logframes a challenge. But once it has been established it will facilitate work as it makes for more effective communication.

A logframe is described as a matrix of intervention logic, objectively verifiable indicators, means of verification and assumptions underlying a project or a programme, all of which are interlinked in a logical way. Below is an illustration of what a logframe looks like.



Source: Project Cycle Management Training Handbook, EU, 1999

A logframe is described as a matrix of intervention logic, objectively verifiable indicators, means of verification and assumptions underlying a project or a programme, all of which are interlinked in a logical way.

LFA is used not only in development but also in conservation. Although its usefulness is generally recognised, in my experience project partners find working with logframes challenging. The participation of all relevant stakeholders is increasingly being required in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of project activities. This can be a real challenge for those with relatively little time. Most project partners hold several official posts and it takes time to become familiar with the tool and start applying it.

Challenges for monitoring and evaluation in Vietnam

Introducing effective M&E in Vietnam has not been easy in the absence of a typical M&E culture. More action is required so as to raise the awareness of political leaders, policy-makers, managers and the general public about the needs and benefits of M&E work. However, recently there has been growing interest on the part of the public in how to enhance the effectiveness of implementing M&E in many aspects of socio-economic development in terms of accountability, how to improve it and how to avoid mistakes in the future.

At the moment Vietnam still does not have effective civil society organisations but rather mass organisations, semi- or quasi-civil society organisations. Mass organisations in Vietnam are socio-political movements and include the Women’s Union, the Youth Union, the Trade Union, the Farmers’ Association and the Veterans’ Association. There has been a strong drive to promote the effective participation of these mass organisations in monitoring and evaluation activities as well as to provide useful feedback to the government regarding the implementation of socio-economic policies measures to reduce poverty.

in Bangladesh

by Tanvir Mahmud

Political parties throughout the world are perceived as organisations which are not all too transparent, particularly as regards raising and subsequently spending funds (for more details, please see *Corruption Barometer*, Transparency International (TI)). In spite of being key institutions of democracy political parties seldom achieve the desired levels of transparency, disclosure and accountability in terms of managing their finances. This is especially evident in developing countries such as Bangladesh where until recently the matter has been neither a priority on the agenda of the parties themselves or of the Government, nor an issue that has attracted any significant public interest. One of the key reasons why political finance remains almost a taboo in Bangladesh is that politics has become a “winner-takes-all” game and indeed a profit-making investment in which the parties and candidates taking part in elections invest enormous amounts of money so as to gain power. Consequently, transparency and disclosure are about the last items on the agenda of the political parties.

However, the last two years have seen a significant move towards change with respect to transparency in political and electoral financing in Bangladesh. Efforts have been made by the **Election Commission** (EC) and the then caretaker government [1] to bring the financing of political parties and their election expenses under state scrutiny and monitoring through a set of new laws and rules under the amended Representation of the People Order 1972 (RPO 1972) and other relevant regulations. The EC was given greater authority to take strict action, including scrapping the candidacy of a candidate violating the electoral rules and code of conduct. Elections for the 9th Parliament were held on 29 December 2008 under the new electoral system. By making registration of the political parties a pre-condition for taking part in the elections efforts were being made to make both the parties and the candidates more accountable to the state as well as to the citizens.

It is in this context that **Transparency International Bangladesh** (TIB) decided to get involved in the **Crinis Pilot Project** in Asia Pacific, an international undertaking initiated by the Berlin-based Transparency

International (TI), in which in addition to Bangladesh another two countries, Indonesia and Nepal, were involved. ‘Crinis’ is a Latin word meaning ‘ray of light’. In the wake of its successful diagnostic work on political finance in Latin America Transparency International launched the Crinis Pilot Project in Asia Pacific to explore the possibility of replicating the research in these Asian countries (for more details on the Crinis project, please visit www.transparency.org). The Crinis pilot project is a research, benchmarking and advocacy tool and process that aims to trigger a series of debates and reforms on political financing at national and regional levels.

The data to feed the Crinis index comes from both primary and secondary sources. Secondary sources include documents on the legal framework with regard to political finance whereas primary sources include research on practices as verified by the research team, tests of accessibility of information on political finance, and information gathered from professionals and experts in the field of political finance. A number of different tools were used for collecting data and verifying actual practice.



Tanvir Mahmud is a student in the Master of Globalization and Development programme at IOB. Before attending this Master’s programme he worked for Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) as a Research Fellow.

[1] A system of a non-party caretaker government was introduced in 1996 so as to ensure fairness if the capacity and credibility of an incumbent party government to hold free and fair elections became questionable

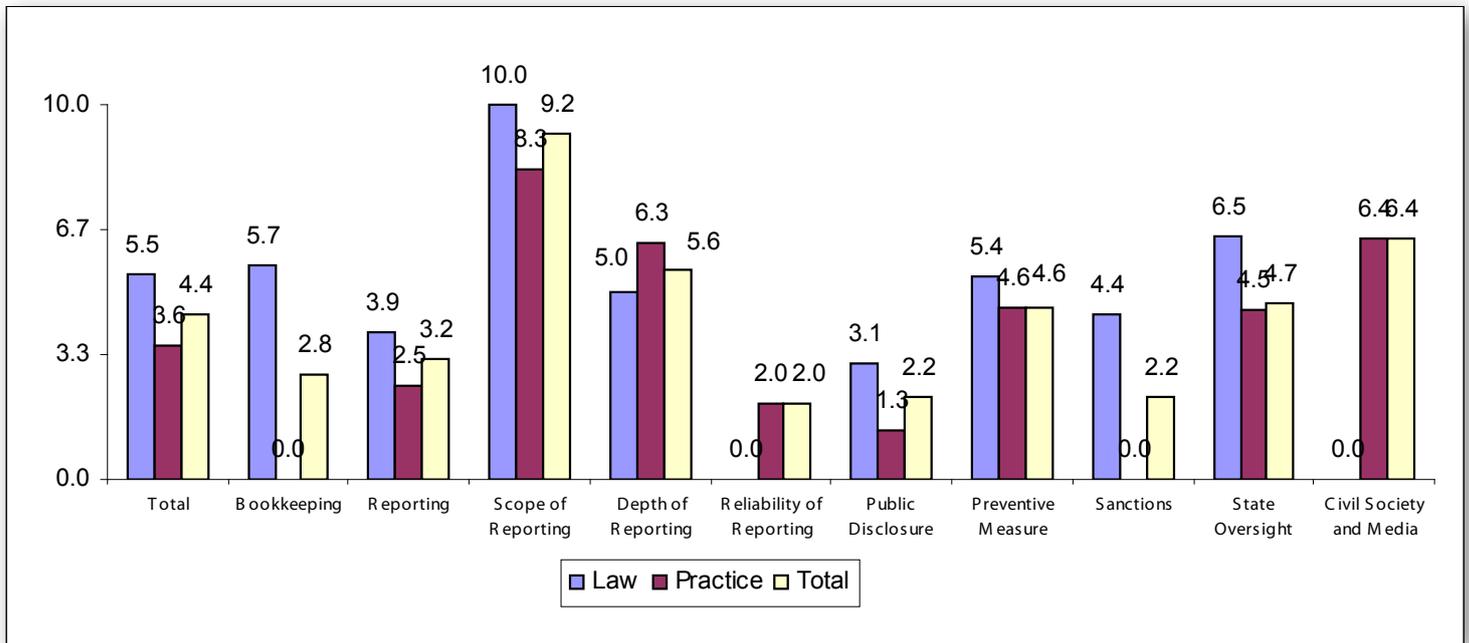


Figure : Crisis Index: Bangladesh
 * Score 0 to 3.3 = insufficient, 3.4 to 6.7 = regular; and 6.8 to 10 = satisfactory

In this report the level of transparency of political finance activities was quantified on the basis of ten dimensions ranging from 0 to 10, where 10 indicates that a country fulfils all expected criteria in terms of transparency and accountability whereas 0 indicates that no criteria have been met. Scores between 0 and 10 are grouped into three evaluation categories: insufficient (0 to 3.3), regular (3.4 to 6.7) and satisfactory (6.8 to 10).

The country report entitled Transparency in Political Finance in Bangladesh was released at a round-table discussion which took place in Dhaka on 25 October 2009. Regional reports will be released by the respective country chapters as well as by TI in the very near future.

The report shows the level of transparency and accountability in political finance in Bangladesh to be 'regular' (the mean score is 4.5). As concerns the ten dimensions, only the scope of reporting of the parties as well as of the candidates is satisfactory. On the other hand, as regards the dimensions bookkeeping, reporting, reliability of reporting, public disclosure and sanctions the scores are 'insufficient'. Finally, the scores for the remaining dimensions, namely depth of reporting, preventive measures, state oversight and civil society oversight are 'regular'.

The study reveals that records of income and expenditure are hardly maintained in an appropriate manner by the political parties. None of the parties have yet had their accounts externally audited. The treasurer and other leading figures such as the party's chairperson and general secretary are usually the custodians of the register. None of the parties have any paid staff appointed for this purpose. Most of the parties maintain simple accounting ledgers which do not always include the names of the donors and the amounts of individual donations, the types of donations, and loans and liabilities. Some of the large donations are made directly to the party's leadership at the level of the individual and are thus not recorded in the books. During party meetings - which take place at irregular intervals - few parties disclose the information on income and expenditure to ordinary members.

After the 2008 election most of the candidates and parties submitted electoral accounting reports to the EC although these had not been externally audited. Another TIB study found that with a view to complying with electoral formalities candidates and their election agents submitted expenditure returns which did not exceed the upper limit set by the EC. There is no appointed auditor in the EC. Only in a small number of cases did the EC launch an inves-

One of the key reasons why political finance remains almost a taboo in Bangladesh is that politics has become a “winner-takes-all” game and indeed a profit-making investment in which the parties and candidates taking part in elections invest enormous amounts of money so as to gain power.

tigation as a result of complaints lodged mainly by contesting candidates and the media and take subsequent action. In a few cases the EC returned the expenditure report on the election campaign to the parties for rectification.

According to the law the EC is responsible for publishing the information on electoral expenditure via its website. After the 9th Parliamentary Election the EC neither disclosed such information on its website nor made it available to the public in any other form.

According to the rules an elected representative may be stripped of his/her status and the registration of political parties may be cancelled due to a failure to comply with electoral regulations. In practice such sanctions are hardly ever imposed. However, the EC has recently instructed all district-level election officers to start proceedings against those who did not submit their returns on time. Moreover, in the 2008 election the EC did implement sanctions against a few individual candidates by not approving their nominations. However, most of them later obtained a favourable verdict from the High Court and were eventually accepted as candidates. The EC also took the initiative to appoint chartered accountants to verify the electoral expenditure reports submitted by both the candidates and the parties.

The following recommendations were offered by TIB in order to make political finance in Bangladesh more transparent and accountable: (i) introducing specific guidelines for political parties with regard to the collection of funds, budget declarations and income and expenditure records; (ii) introducing a software-based accounting and reporting system; (iii) imposing an annual audit of political parties by an independent auditor; (iv) making financial information available to both party workers and the general public via the parties' websites; (v) providing state subsidies to political parties during elections in the form of logistical support, for example, printing posters, providing auditoriums and free broadcasting on state-owned radio and television; (vi) providing rebates on the income tax of private companies for making donations to political parties; (vii) developing a mechanism for monitoring electoral expenditure and taking due legal action in case of any violation; (viii) verifying all the information provided by the candidates who submit their nomination and taking punitive measures if false information has been provided; (ix) disclosing on the EC's website all financial information (income, expenditure, assets) regarding the parties and the statements of electoral expenditure submitted by the candidates; (x) appointing EC auditors to verify the reports and statements of electoral expenditure submitted by the parties; (xi) developing awareness-raising programmes by civil society organisations; (xii) publishing investigative reports on political and electoral financing by the media; (xiii) ensuring that any donations to political parties by individuals or business organisations are made through official channels, for example, by means of cheques.

Following the discussion held on the release of the report the Election Commission took a number of steps. For example, it decided to investigate the tax records of lawmakers who had not submitted any records when applying for candidacy in the 2008 election. The EC took the decision to send the names of these lawmakers to the National Board of Revenue for verification.

* This is an abridged version of the Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) report on “Transparency in Political Party Financing in Bangladesh”. Special thanks to TIB and the co-authors of the report Shahzada M. Akram, Senior Research Fellow and Shadhan K. Das, Research Fellow for giving their consent to the publication of this paper. Special thanks also to Dr. Iftekharuzzaman, Executive Director, TIB, for providing feedback. The full report is available at www.ti-bangladesh.org

Recherches et formation en développement post-conflits et gouvernance locale/ régionale

Par Sara Geenen, assistante à l'IOB

La province du Sud-Kivu en République Démocratique du Congo a été gravement touchée par les différents conflits dans la région, ce qui a entraîné une destruction des infrastructures de base, des institutions, du capital humain et une paupérisation accrue de la population. Plusieurs fois, la ville de Bukavu a été occupée et pillée par des groupes armés. Certaines localités dans la province sont toujours sous contrôle des forces armées, tandis qu'en général, la province se trouve dans la phase post-conflits. La reconstruction et le développement socio-économique de la province constituent donc un enjeu d'importance capitale pour tout le pays.



Sara Geenen est assistante à l'IOB. Elle fait partie du groupe thématique 'Economie politique de la Région des Grands Lacs'. Depuis 2007, elle fait ses recherches doctorales sur la filière minière au Sud-Kivu, plus précisément sur l'exploitation et la commercialisation de l'or. Dans ce cadre elle collabore avec des chercheurs de l'Université Catholique de Bukavu.

HISTORIQUE DE LA COLLABORATION

La collaboration entre l'IOB et l'Université Catholique de Bukavu vise à renforcer les capacités de recherche et l'enseignement académique à l'UCB afin de contribuer au développement au Sud Kivu. Cette collaboration a mûri au cours de différents projets. Depuis 2001, les recherches se sont surtout concentrées sur le développement rural. En 2007, le prof. Stefaan Marysse a entamé un mini-projet VLIR de deux ans, intitulé Gouvernance locale et développement post-conflits. C'était surtout un projet de recherche, constitué autour de trois axes: l'analyse de pauvreté, les conflits fonciers et les filières minières. A Bukavu, la coordination et l'exécution du projet est fait par le LEAD, Laboratoire d'Economie Appliqué au Développement, un centre de recherches au sein de l'UCB.

Les résultats de cette première phase de recherches ont été publiés dans deux éditions de l'Afrique des Grands Lacs, Annuaire (2007-2008 et 2008-2009). On peut y trouver des articles sur la crise foncière et la gestion des terres domaniales (par le Prof. Séverin Mugangu et Innocent Utshudi Ona), sur les

filiales de l'or (par Sara Geenen et Gabriel Kamundala), du coltan et de la cassitérite (par Adamon Ndungu Mukasa et Janvier Kilosho Buraye), et sur la décentralisation (par Christian Balyahmwabo). En septembre 2009, on a organisé un grand colloque à Bukavu, où on avait invité des représentants des gouvernements provinciaux et locaux, de la société civile, des organisations internationales et du monde académique. Pendant quatre jours, à peu près 100 participants ont assisté aux présentations et aux discussions sur la pauvreté, la crise foncière, la filière minière et la décentralisation. Le rapport final du colloque a surtout insisté sur une coopération entre scientifiques, politiciens et membres de la société civile, afin d'orienter le Sud-Kivu sur la voie de la bonne gouvernance.

Les efforts de la collaboration universitaire ont été continués, car en 2009 un nouveau projet a été approuvé : Recherches et formation en développement post-conflits et gouvernance locale / régionale. Par ce projet, on veut former des professeurs et des assistants en anglais, en méthodologie et en gouvernance et développement post-conflit, afin de créer une base solide pour l'organisation d'une Master en



Gouvernance et Développement qui est envisagée dans le futur. L'IOB vise aussi à renforcer un réseau d'universités dans le Nord et dans le Sud, comme l'University of Western Cape en Afrique du Sud et Mbarara University of Science and Technology en Ouganda. La création de ce réseau devra faciliter les échanges des étudiants et des professeurs pour aboutir à des 'joint degrees', c'est-à-dire un système de diplômes reconnus officiellement par les différentes universités du réseau .

LES FORMATIONS

Comme le titre l'indique, le projet Recherches et formation en développement post-conflits et gouvernance locale/ régionale a aussi un volet « formations ». Afin de préparer l'UCB, ses professeurs

et assistants et ses étudiants à l'organisation d'une maîtrise en Gouvernance et Développement, nous offrons des formations en langues (anglais), en méthodologies et en théories de développement, gouvernance et conflits.

Premièrement, puisque l'anglais gagne de plus en plus d'importance pas seulement au niveau mondial, mais également dans la région des Grands Lacs, on veut encourager et aider les chercheurs locaux et les étudiants à bien maîtriser cette langue. Ceci leur permettra de mieux se profiler dans la région et au niveau international (dans le monde académique aussi bien que dans les organisations internationales, institutions multilatérales, relations bilatérales, etc.). Comme le niveau d'anglais de la majorité des cadres UCB est en-dessous du niveau exigé, nous

La filière minière est un des volets dans le projet VLIR. En République Démocratique du Congo, la plupart des exploitations minières se fait de manière artisanale, comme dans ce puits où on cherche de l'or.

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Après que la roche aurifère soit évacuée du puits, elle doit être broyée, puis le sable doit être lavé.

avons fait appel aux professeurs et assistants de l'ISP (Institut Supérieur Pédagogique) qui sont déjà formés en anglais et en pédagogie.

En août, cinq professeurs sont arrivés à Anvers. Ils ont suivi une formation intensive de deux mois, organisé par Linguapolis. Ceci consistait en un cours d'anglais, un cours pédagogique et une assistance individuelle intensive afin de se familiariser avec de différentes méthodes didactiques qui sont utilisées et par cela acquérir une expérience multidimensionnelle. En janvier 2010, les cinq professeurs ont commencé à donner des cours d'anglais aux professeurs et assistants de l'UCB.

Deuxièmement, en septembre 2010, des assistants et de professeurs de l'UCB viendront à Anvers pour suivre un ou plusieurs cours dans notre programme de maîtrise en Gouvernance et Développement. Dans le futur, on espère organiser une maîtrise similaire à Bukavu, afin de donner l'occasion aux étudiants de suivre une formation de haute qualité dans la région, et aux étudiants avec un intérêt dans la région, d'aller étudier sur place.



LES RECHERCHES

Dans le numéro de septembre 2009 d'Exchange to Change, Innocent Utshudi, un des chercheurs partenaires dans le projet sur le développement post-conflits, a écrit une contribution sur la gestion foncière décentralisée au Sud-Kivu. Effectivement, la gestion de la crise foncière est très importante, puisque, s'ils ne sont pas bien gérés, les conflits fonciers peuvent culminer dans des conflits de grande intensité.

Néanmoins, parlant des conflits dans l'Est de la RDC, le secteur minier est plus souvent cité. Pour cette raison, l'analyse de la filière minière est aussi un axe de recherche pertinent pour notre projet. La question centrale est de savoir comment l'exploitation et le commerce en ressources minières peut contribuer au développement de la province. Adamon Ndungu et Janvier Kilosho, assistants à l'UCB et au LEAD, et tous les deux économistes, sont en train d'étudier la filière du coltan et de la cassitérite. Sara Geenen, assistante à l'IOB, étudie la filière de l'or, en étroite collaboration avec Gabriel Kamundala, qui est aussi associé au LEAD.

Les creuseurs vont vendre leur production dans des maisons d'achat, où on pèse l'or et on négocie les prix.

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Les “mamans twangaises” broient les pierres pour y trouver de l’or.

Depuis 2008, je me suis aussi engagée dans ce projet, en étudiant la filière de l’or au Sud-Kivu. Avant ma première visite à Bukavu, en mars 2008, je m’étais déjà informée sur le secteur minier en RDC : l’historique, le rôle des ressources minières dans le conflit, et la gouvernance du secteur. En mars 2008, on m’a proposé d’aller visiter Kamituga, une cité minière à environ 200 km au sud-ouest de Bukavu. A cet époque, la route entre Bukavu et Kamituga venait d’être réhabilitée, donc après presque dix années d’isolation totale (la cité était seulement accessible par avion), on pouvait de nouveau voyager par route.

Puisque les travaux n’étaient pas terminés, ma première rencontre avec Kamituga venait après un voyage de 15 kilomètres dans la brousse, à pied. La cité a tout de suite laissé une forte impression : le bruit des concasseurs, les “creuseurs” avec leur

La question centrale est de savoir comment l’exploitation et le commerce en ressources minières peut contribuer au développement de la province.

bottes et lampes torches dans la rue, les enfants qui cherchent de l’or dans les ruisseaux, les petits colis qui sont marchandés chez les négociants locaux... et surtout les gens avec qui on a parlé. En mars et avril 2008, on a fait (avec Gabriel Kamundala) des dizaines d’interviews avec des creuseurs, des négociants et d’autres gens travaillant dans le secteur minier. En juillet et août 2009, pendant un deuxième séjour, on a interviewé une grande partie des né-



Interview dans une des maisons d'achat à Kamituga.

gociants locaux, afin de comprendre comment ils organisent leur travail et quelles sont les relations entre eux.

Au cours de tous ces entretiens, j'ai compris que l'exploitation et le commerce de l'or est plus qu'une stratégie de survie. A Kamituga, l'activité est enracinée dans l'histoire : des creuseurs artisanaux y travaillent déjà depuis les années 1970. En plus, le secteur offre beaucoup d'opportunités, et surtout beaucoup d'espoir. Le travail de l'or est jugé positivement, car, comme les creuseurs le disent : « Tu peux aller dormir comme un pauvre, et te réveiller comme un riche ». Ce sont des cas rares qui s'enrichissent d'un coup, mais la majorité des creuseurs et des négociants trouve de quoi vivre et entretenir la famille grâce à ce travail.

Naturellement, le travail comprend aussi des risques. Souvent, les creuseurs doivent travailler des semaines ou des mois, sans atteindre la roche qui contient de l'or. Ils doivent alors s'appuyer sur leurs sponsors et accumuler des dettes. D'autres contraintes sont de nature technique : l'eau qui monte dans les puits, le manque d'oxygène, l'évacuation des pierres, les éboulements.

Je pense vraiment que l'exploitation et le commerce de l'or peuvent contribuer au développement local, à condition que les conditions de travail dans les mines soient améliorées et qu'on crée un climat favorable pour les investissements. Finalement, la filière minière artisanale doit être valorisée comme une des voies de développement. Trois choses dont, jusqu'à maintenant, l'Etat congolais n'a pas encore été capable.





Darius Nzabakwiza (Rwanda),
Governance and Development

Darius Nzabakwiza is a true representative of his country at IOB. In a persuasive yet very gentle way he presents Rwanda as a country in full development which is learning from its history. He almost makes me feel homesick for the hills of Rwanda, its cool evening breeze and its fascinating people. I have the distinct feeling that his appointment as a consul or ambassador is just a matter of time.

I worked and studied at the same time. Our government encourages people to study and to contribute to the country's overall development by granting scholarships and facilitating the combination of work and study. As a result I obtained my Bachelor's degree in Economics while working as a director of the human resource development department of the Rwandese Association of Local Government Authorities (RALGA). After seven years in the association I started to feel that I lacked new challenges. However, there is now a trend in Rwanda that you need a Master's degree in order to get a higher-level job. So I was eager to enrol in a Master's programme. Moreover, I felt a need to enhance my knowledge and skills as a manager. I wanted to acquire skills to analyse policies more efficiently, to draw up successful policies and to implement them. While surfing the Internet I discovered IOB and preferred it to other institutes because of its solid curriculum. What I found particularly interesting is the aim of understanding policies and analysing them in a critical way. I also looked at the list of professors and was very impressed by their degrees and relevant knowledge. Although the programme of the first semester is very condensed it gives us a strong basis to proceed successfully to the second semester. I also highly appreciate the interaction between students from different countries and cultures and with a wide range of experiences. Being exposed to different views is enriching and every new insight can be applied to my own context so I regard this interac-

“While surfing the Internet I discovered IOB and preferred it to other institutes because of its solid curriculum. What I found particularly interesting is the aim of understanding policies and analysing them in a critical way.”

tion as a unique learning opportunity. We are given weekly assignments which again contribute to profound interaction between both students and staff. We discuss and share ideas and different views and in the end we usually reach a consensus. This helps us to determine our strengths and weaknesses and to move on.

This kind of analysis also provides a link with my former job. In my thesis I would like to determine the strengths and weaknesses of the Rwandese Association of Local Government Authorities. I want to analyse its impact on improving local government performance with regard to decentralisation and good governance. How do local government authorities deliver services to people in respect of education, health and administration? I hope that my findings will make a positive contribution to the process of capacity building of locally elected leaders. By determining the Association's strengths and weaknesses it will be possible to further enhance the knowledge and skills of these locally elected leaders by means of training and advice. I am quite confident that my recommendations will be taken seriously because there is great openness to development and improvement in my country. I also think that in the near future many more Rwandan students will enrol in IOB programmes because we are eager to work for the future of our country. Being the only Rwandan in this Master's programme I find it both an honour and a challenge to represent my country and to think critically about its development.”



Why does someone who has studied Linguistics enrol in a Master's Degree Programme in Globalisation and Development? Lili Saragih from Indonesia tells us her story. Her sparkling eyes and warm smile make me feel that she definitely seems to have made the right choice! Her enthusiastic story takes me from Nias Island to Aceh Province and finally to Antwerp. What runs through it from beginning to end is her love for interaction.

"Indonesia is a very touristic country. I studied English because I was eager to communicate with people coming from various places in order to explain my culture to them and to learn from them. In 2005 we were severely hit by the Tsunami and I volunteered to help as a translator in emergency operations. I was called to Nias Island to translate for a Korean emergency medical team. I faced a chain of translations involving four different languages before finally establishing some kind of mutual communication. This was more than a linguistic challenge to me, it also was a personal one. I was suddenly confronted with a humanitarian crisis and I felt it was my moral duty to try and contribute to the development of my country. I was also asked to translate for an American medical team as a volunteer. For the first time I witnessed the harsh conditions of poor marginalised communities. Access to public services was limited, complete families were living together in very inadequate housing without furniture, electricity or running water. My decision was easily made.

I entered the humanitarian field, first as a translator for the International Medical Corps and later on as one of their programme officers. I was responsible for liaising between the medical team and the combatants of the Free Aceh movement in the context of the Memorandum of Understanding signed in Helsinki in 2005. For many years these combatants had been fighting a war against the Indonesian gov-

"So I started surfing the Internet and I discovered IOB. I compared the courses with my needs and I just knew that IOB was the right place for me.

It has turned out to be the best choice I could have made because I am learning so much here!

On the one hand, there are the highly qualified staff and on the other, numerous opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and experience with people from different cultures and professional backgrounds."

ernment and in the aftermath of the Tsunami, which was followed by the peace agreement, they suddenly had to rely on the help of state hospitals. You can imagine that this was a very tense situation. As an NGO we encouraged them to seek medical care in these hospitals and we also provided help by means of a mobile hospital. To me it was a very exciting experience, both exhilarating and distressing at the same time. I learned so much more by interacting closely with these ex-combatants than by following media reports. I listened to their terrifying stories about war, I saw the fear in their eyes and I was aware of the trembling in their bodies. I realised that they were human beings who were in dire need of help. This experience convinced me of the fact that direct human interaction can make a



Lili Saragih, Indonesia,
Globalisation and Development

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crucial contribution to peace and development. For a while I worked in the context of a UN-based project to collect data for the Tsunami Recovery Report but I soon found that I am not a data type of person. I missed the interaction with people. In 2008 I joined Caritas Switzerland and was based in West Aceh District as an officer for the partnership department. I was responsible for three community-based projects and had the opportunity to see for myself what we were contributing. Despite all the difficulties to reach the villages these encounters in the field were a blessing for me. I again found myself interacting with people, experiencing their daily life, facing a lot of personal challenges and discovering new places. Thanks to these experiences I learned a lot about myself. I love fieldwork. I enjoy interacting with people and am open to new ideas. However, I realised that I lacked the necessary knowledge with regard to development methodologies and theories. So I started surfing the Internet and I discovered IOB. I compared the courses with my needs and I just knew that IOB was the right place for me. It has turned out to be the best choice I could have made because I am learning so much here! On the one hand, there are the highly qualified staff and on the other, numerous opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and experience with people from different cultures and professional backgrounds. I learn every day from every person and from every course. Practical and theoretical knowledge are well balanced and what is even more important to me, interaction is central to the IOB approach. I am sure that this Master's programme will open new doors in the field of development work, in which human interaction plays such a key role.



ONLINE SURVEY

At IOB we are currently conducting an **alumni survey** so as to know more about the identity, needs and concerns of our former students. We hope that the information we will obtain will enable us to offer our alumni even better service than before. However, for the information to be really useful we will need a lot of responses. This is why we would like all alumni to fill in the online survey.

Please send an e-mail to our Programme Coordinator, Nele Dutry, at **Nele.Dutry@ua.ac.be**.

Nele will then give you your password which you need in order to be able to participate.

The survey will run until April 30th and the results will be published in the next issue of Exchange to Change. If you are in contact with other alumni, please inform them of this survey. We thank you for your cooperation and hope that with your help we will be able to provide even better service to you and all other alumni in the future.

O*PLATFORM

In 2009 VLIR-UOS launched a new programme entitled O*platform, which stands for policy advisory research platforms on development cooperation. These research platforms provide researchers and key players in the field of development cooperation with flexible collaboration arrangements. A platform carries out academic research on the basis of which it supports Belgium's policy on development cooperation through tailor-made scientific advice. The concept of the platforms is based on a pilot project, BOS-PRSP, which was awarded to IOB in 2004 and ran until 2009 (see Exchange to Change 2008).

One of the Platforms has been awarded to IOB: the research platform Aid Effectiveness. The central topic of the Research Platform is the new aid approach and in particular its application with regard to the various implementation channels of Belgian development cooperation (bilateral, multilateral, indirect). The topic is to be studied from various complementary angles (political aspects of aid, monitoring and evaluation, gender, and the macroeconomic and fiscal dimensions of aid). The underlying logic and binding element of these research themes is the concern for aid effectiveness, which currently has a strong impact on the approach to development aid within the OECD/DAC and which is a continual priority of the Directorate General for Development Cooperation (DGDC) of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The members of the Research Platform aim to inform, train and advise Belgian policy-makers and aid managers and in this way to contribute to a more effective development cooperation policy.

The output of the policy advisory research platform will be twofold. On the one hand the work of the team will lead to regular academic output (research and education) inspired by the experience of the program. This output will be made accessible via the platform's website. In the case of the above-mentioned BOS project this has resulted in, for example, various articles published in national and international journals, a book on participation and the new aid approach, a short-term international training programme on the new aid approach and a number of presentations for a broad audience ranging from Belgian civil society to EC and ILO staff members.

On the other hand the team will provide a number of inputs to DGDC, which will be made available to a broader public and other donor agencies in so far as they are not confidential. During the BOS project the team provided, for example, input for informative notes, the budget support vademecum and the DGDC strategy paper on health. At the request of the DGDC a number of missions were undertaken to support field and headquarters staff in their work: missions with regard to policy dialogue, the macroeconomic situation of partner countries, general budget support, joint sector reviews, etc.

The promoter of the platform is Professor Robrecht Renard. The other staff members involved contribute research from different complementary angles: Professor Nadia Molenaers and Linas Cepiskas (politics of aid), Professor Nathalie Holvoet and Liesbeth Inberg (Monitoring and evaluation as well as gender) and Professor Danny Cassimon and Karel Verbeke (macroeconomic and fiscal dimensions of aid).



PHD PROGRAMME

The Institute of Development Policy and Management (IOB) offers a multi-disciplinary Doctoral Programme leading to a PhD in Development Studies. The doctoral programme is run by IOB and the Ph.D. degree is conferred by the University of Antwerp.

In addition to this PhD programme IOB also cooperates with the Faculty of Applied Economic Sciences (FAES) and the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences (FPSC) of the University of Antwerp to offer interdisciplinary PhD programmes in the field of development. The PhD programme offered at IOB is fully integrated into the Institute's main research areas, which are the remit of four thematic groups (TGs), namely:

- Aid Policy (convenor: Nadia Molenaers)

- Political Economy of the Great Lakes Region of Central Africa (convenor: Filip Reyntjens)

- Poverty and Well-Being as a (Local) Institutional Process (convenor: Johan Bastiaensen)

- Impact of Globalisation.
(convenor: Danny Cassimon)

IOB only accepts PhD candidates who submit promising PhD projects which are likely to make a substantial contribution to the hypothesis-driven research programmes of one of the TGs. The TG in question then verifies whether it can ensure the necessary high-quality academic supervision and non-financial support for the candidate. Inevitably, IOB is only able to offer high-quality guidance to a limited number of PhD students and as a result applies strict criteria when considering and assessing applications.

More information on the PhD Programme can be found on our website: <http://www.ua.ac.be>.



NEW STAFF AT IOB

Dennis Essers obtained his Master's Degree in Applied Economics and Commercial Engineering at the University of Antwerp in 2008. While working on his dissertation entitled 'Links between debt relief and microfinance in developing countries' he became interested in development issues. Determined to find out more he decided to do a second Master's Degree, this time in International Development at the University of Manchester. Once again his thesis dealt with microfinance, more specifically, its Islamic variant.

Having started as a research assistant at IOB in October 2009 he is currently working on themes of debt relief and global financing mechanisms. Although his PhD topic has not yet been closely defined he would like to focus on the impact of the current financial crisis on developing countries with reference to both the macro and the micro level and transmission mechanisms in particular. Within the 'Impact of Globalisation' theme group he is also involved in teaching activities and in assisting students as tutor of Module II. He really enjoys being back at his old university, this time standing in front of the class!



Last year (2009) **Bert Jacobs** graduated with a Master's Degree in Political Sciences from the Free University of Brussels (VUB). During his studies he worked as an assistant researcher at the Brussels Institute of Contemporary China Studies (BICCS), a research group at the VUB. He also spent a few months working as a Student Assistant at the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences of the University of Antwerp and teaching a course on International Politics. Moreover, he has been active in VUBMUN, a model United Nations organisation at the VUB which takes part in numerous United Nations simulations around the world. With the team he has vis-

ited many universities in various countries but the highlight for him was Harvard WORLDMUN in Puebla, Mexico, in 2008. In the summer of 2009, just before he started at IOB, he studied Chinese foreign politics and Mandarin at Renmin University of China in Beijing.

Bert is now a member of the Aid Policy group at IOB and although he is still in the early stages of his PhD research he would like to investigate emerging donors such as China and India and how these countries are changing the face of development cooperation, a field which has completely been dominated by the West since the end of the Cold War.





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