



ANNUAL REPORT **2015**



IOB
Institute of Development Policy and Management
University of Antwerp



Rural peasant community in the Peruvian Andes (Huamantanga). IOB student Patricia Velarde doing fieldwork in the framework of her dissertation.

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INTRODUCTION

Crystal clear!

Dear Readers

I hereby present the 15th Annual Report of the University of Antwerp's Institute of Development Policy and Management.

According to wedding anniversary tradition, the 15th anniversary merits a gift made of crystal – in IOB's case we should give this to our two predecessors. Indeed, 15 years ago, the institute was constituted after a merger of two entities from different Antwerp university colleges, and this was in fact the prefiguration of the complete merger of the colleges two years later. We celebrated our 15th anniversary with a series of events organised by various members of staff: the anniversary year was opened by Prof. Frances Stewart, one of the few 'founding mothers' of development studies in Europe. We edited a special anniversary Season's Greetings card, others organised a photo exhibition in the UAntwerp library, we celebrated an honorary doctorate in Development Studies (Prof. Melissa Leach, see further below in our report) and we organised an international conference on development and the private sector, followed by a memorable party for staff and students. The IOB community at its best!

Nevertheless, the 21st-century development challenges remain significant. In September 2015, the international community defined a new development agenda that was more global and more sustainable than its predecessor. From now on, we are all seen as developing countries, particularly those who think they are not. However, in Europe, 2015 will be remembered much more for marking the start of a new wave of forced migration into an old continent reluctant to honour its international commitments. Situated at the interface between Europe, and the Global South and with a mission to stimulate the developing world (all of us!) to rethink itself, we can play an important role in creating new perspectives on improving the human condition. One of the ways in which this idea is given shape is by globalising our Master programmes. Our students regularly highlight the experience of intercultural learning as one of the most important characteristics of our Master programmes – almost an inevitable side effect of bringing 35 nationalities together in one classroom. By exploring the opportunities to organise parts of our Master programmes in close cooperation with our partners in the South, we want to take this experience one step further. This is IOB's own sustainable development agenda for the coming years.

Tom De Herdt
Chair of IOB



For its 15th Birthday, IOB organised a photo exhibition 'Capturing Development'

RESEARCH AND OUTREACH

RESEARCH AND OUTREACH ON DIFFERENT FRONTS

According to the American Evaluation Studies scholar Jennifer Greene, policy-oriented ‘mixed methods’ research is a ‘mash-up’ of “multiple ‘mental models’ into the same inquiry space for purposes of respectful conversation, dialogue, and learning one from the other, towards a collective generation of the phenomena studied. By definition, then, mixed methods social inquiry involves a plurality of philosophical paradigms, theoretical assumptions, methodological traditions, data gathering and analysis techniques, and personalised understandings and value commitments, because they are the stuff of mental models.”¹

This is also expressed in a Ghanaian (Ewe) proverb: ‘Wisdom is like a baobab tree: no one individual can embrace it’.

This mixed methods approach also reflects IOB’s understanding of the socially negotiated nature of the development process as an encounter between the different ‘knowledges’ of the stakeholders involved. The different research lines cultivated by IOB also reflect the multiple levels at which our research feeds into the policy arena.

Conditional Finance for Development (CFD)

This research line focuses on low-income countries (LICs) that have a relatively high degree of dependence on international not-for-profit finance. Such financial transfers (usually falling under the heading of development cooperation, but also increasingly motivated by climate change considerations) are often characterised by a plethora of international actors who, with little mutual coordination, impose burdensome provisions with respect to earmarking, implementation, accountability and conditionalities relating to broader public sector, macroeconomic or political reforms. This research line studies the rationale and the effectiveness of this complex and evolving financial architecture.

The aid landscape is undergoing profound changes: over the past decade climate change and challenges related to other public goods, such as international security, have both moved to the top of the international development agenda. While many countries are decreasing their dependence on aid, LICs are still the most seriously affected by risks related to climate change. Moreover, while many other LICs have now become middle-income countries (MICs), they are still facing serious democratic deficits and difficulties in making development pathways more inclusive. Over time, the aid landscape has also become more diverse, putting coordination and harmonisation efforts into perspective, as well as reducing the leverage of

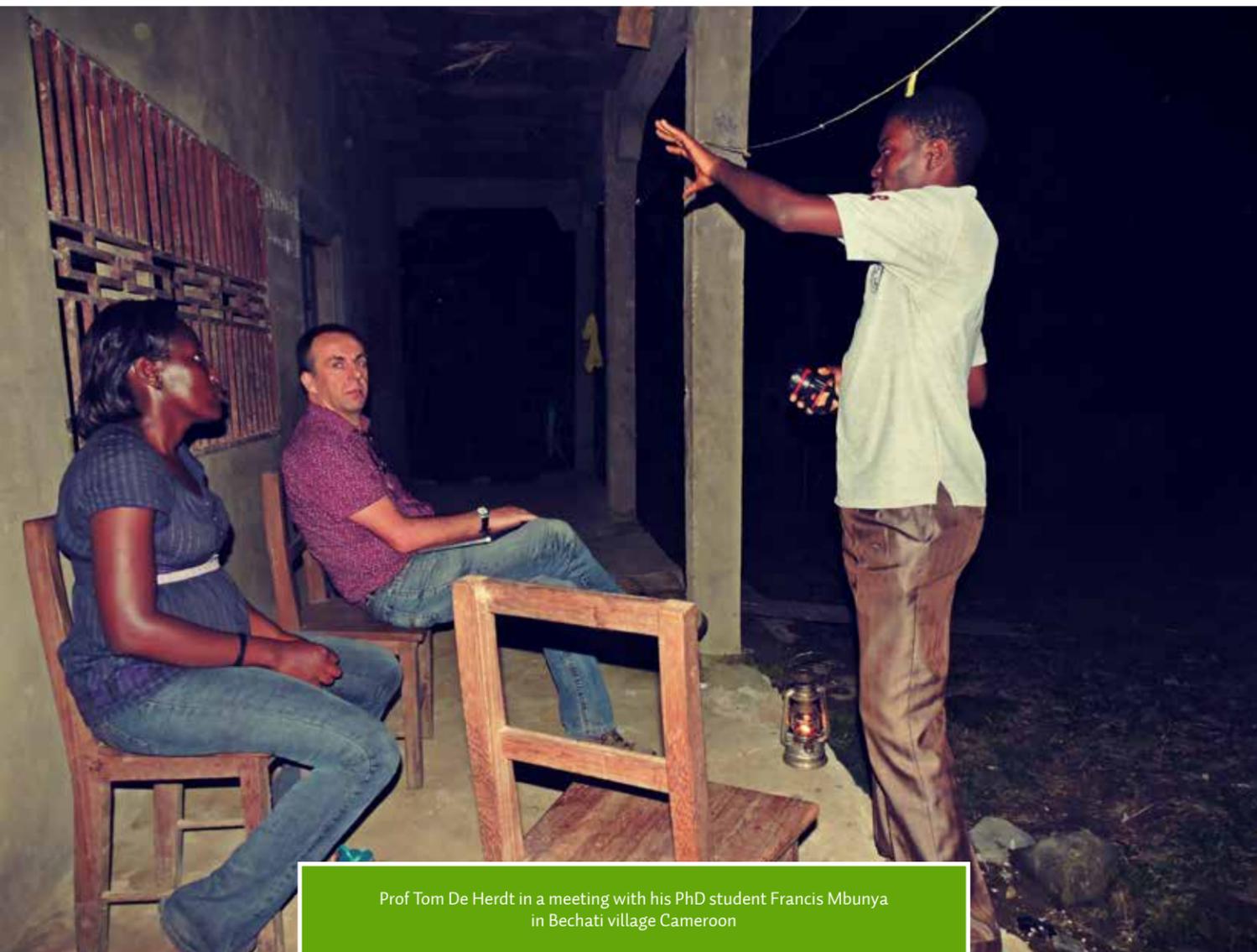
traditional donors. Financial austerity in many European countries and the ‘refugee crisis’ are influencing donor behaviour, putting more emphasis on accountability, results, value for money and the creation of linkages among refugee and development policies. All these changes and challenges have produced a myriad of interesting research questions.

One important dimension covered by this research line, which resulted in a special issue of *World Development* (edited by Molenaers, Faust and Dellepiane), is the research related to political conditionality and EU foreign aid. The special issue mainly argues that a new generation of political conditionalities has emerged during the last decade, requiring an expansion of the original definition of and research agenda concerning aid. Beyond the traditional questions of use and effectiveness, there is a need to dig deeper into the dynamics surrounding political conditionalities, particularly the bargaining processes and outcomes along the aid chain – from domestic donor politics, donor harmonisation fora, and policy dialogue spaces to the political economy of recipient institutional reform and donor-coping strategies – because they influence the setup, use, follow-up, purpose and effectiveness of these conditionalities. One of the articles in the special issue looks into the drivers behind donors offering budget support to push for political reform in recipient countries. An econometric analysis of all budget support suspensions by bilateral donors in the period 2000–2011 found that they effectively reflect downward tendencies in voice and accountability, and in the level of democratic functioning. The larger the in-country budget-support donor group, the more suspensions. Interestingly, the ideological alignment of donor and recipient, as well as aid dependence, decrease the likelihood of suspensions, while domestic donor economic growth increases it. Multilateral suspensions have the largest positive effect of all.

A second strand of research is related to debt relief and how it stimulates public sector reform and contributes to economic growth and development outcomes. Contributions have, more specifically, focused on the use of debt relief schemes and the effect on fiscal space in African Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) and the linkage between public debt, the quality of public sector management and economic growth. A specific case in point is the study of the importance of debt relief for education in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Two cross-cutting themes that remain central to the CFD research line are gender and M&E. In 2015, our gender-related research focused on the gender-sensitivity of European budget support to SSA countries. The use of gender targets and gender-based sector working groups in European budget support aimed at increasing female enrolment in primary education was analysed, with specific attention paid to the study of the gender-sensitivity of EC support to Rwanda’s agriculture sector. Another recurrent theme is the influence of changing

¹ Greene, J.C. (2007) *Mixed Methods in Social Inquiry*, San Francisco, Jossey-Bass.



Prof Tom De Herdt in a meeting with his PhD student Francis Mbunya in Bechati village Cameroon

aid modalities and increasing domestic accountability pressures in donor countries on M&E systems of partner countries and those of various actors in the field of Belgian development cooperation. The degree to which evaluative evidence is effectively used by various actors in partner countries (government and domestic accountability actors), as well as donors, for accountability and learning purposes, and the ways in which use/influence can be triggered, have also received considerable attention. Finally, the increasing importance of climate change is gradually trickling down through the CFD research agenda. Specific contributions have focused on such issues as the determinants of flows of bilateral adaptation-related climate change finance, the analysis of the gender-sensitivity of National Adaptation Programmes of Action, the natural resource curse and the monitoring and evaluation of climate change interventions. Many of the insights from earlier research on changing aid modalities are also applicable to the field of climate change finance and governance, which opens interesting avenues for further research. Additionally, as climate change and natural resource governance are important research topics in the LID and SES research lines, there are various opportunities for cross-fertilisation.

The strong nexus between research and outreach in CFD is exemplified by a substantial amount of policy advisory work on the request of development actors, among other things. IOB staff are part of the Belgian Research Group on Financing for Development (BeFinD), a consortium of four research centres at three Belgian universities (Namur, Leuven and Antwerp) which combine their research experience in the field of financing for development. This project provides policy advice to the Directorate General for Development Cooperation of the Belgian Ministry of

Foreign Affairs.

The overall research is structured around seven research packages: improving tax systems for LICs, illegal money flows, social protection, mobilising private resources for development, global public goods, debt management and ODA, and the latter's relationship with other development-relevant funding flows. IOB's contributions mainly focus on the latter two topics. In addition to the usual academic output, in 2015, IOB researchers published a BeFinD Working Paper and Policy Brief and provided direct advice to the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on ODA accounting of concessional loans, the new measure of Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD) and sovereign debt restructuring.

Other staff have participated in a study on evaluability, commissioned by the Office of the Special Evaluator, reviewing the degree to which a sample of 40 interventions of Belgian development cooperation (spread over different aid modalities and four countries) have the elements in place for a credible and useful evaluation. In the context of this study, immediate feedback on the quality of the existing M&E systems was provided to the different actors involved in development cooperation who participated in the study, while study findings are also being used at the policy level.

In 2015, CFD staff were also involved in advisory boards for large-scale evaluative exercises, and insights from academic research were commonly translated into presentations and policy briefs targeted at actors involved in development cooperation. In addition to outreach activities oriented to policymakers and practitioners, there were also contributions on CFD-related topics in the national and international press (e.g. climate change finance, the response of the international donor community to the Burundi crisis).

International Markets for the Poor (IMP)

This research line focuses on the extent to which globalising markets, production and financing chains, and labour movements provide opportunities for successful interventions in less developed countries, particularly with respect to their more vulnerable income groups. Additionally, it studies the ways in which public actors can effectively intervene to make these processes more inclusive and better targeted to the

more vulnerable. As market formation and dynamics are multi-level and multi-actor phenomena, this research line aims to address these global processes and their related public actor interventions along the entire chain, from the global level right down to the local level.

One main focus of the research line is on the insertion and upgrading possibilities in global value chains and their consequences for macro and micro-level (household) income, vulnerability and other determinants of wellbeing. This research group studied the impact of global value chains and their related public policy interventions on Vietnamese domestic firms in general, on shrimp fishermen in Benin, dairy farmers in Nicaragua, artisanal mining in the DRC and Cameroon, and burley tobacco farming in Malawi. A traditional and continued research focus in this area deals with the impact of government policy interventions – those linked to trade liberalisation and regional integration initiatives – on poverty, with research (usually related to PhD work) focusing mainly on Argentina and Ethiopia. Particular interest in this area is also devoted to analysing land grabbing issues, mainly in Cameroon, Nicaragua and South Kivu. One novel way to assess these public policy interventions entails the application of a 'real option' analysis allowing more explicit treatment of potentially important characteristics, such as uncertainty, flexibility and (through the use of 'compound' real options) the staged nature of interventions. More conceptual analysis of this issue was complemented with applied analysis of public interventions in the field of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) behaviour in this broad global value chain field.

A major outlet for dissemination of the research done in this area was IOB's birthday conference in June 2015, entitled 'Development 2.0 or "Business as usual?" Private Sector, Institutions and Development', where the concept of the global value chain figured prominently throughout the programme. Additionally, research on this prime field of focus is closely linked to policy advice and other societal service delivery work. Research on Benin, as well as some of the real option work – for example, in the context of policy advisory research for Belgian official development cooperation agents through the ACROPOLIS 'Finance for Development' (BeFinD) project – overlaps with the Conditional Finance research line (CFD); other research involves collaboration with international organisations, such as UNIDO in the case of Vietnam.

An emerging research focus area deals with the growing involvement of companies from the South, which are not only investing in other developing countries but also in the North. More specifically, research focused on the link between Chinese outward FDI to the South and trade and export upgrading in African economies, and the characteristics of BRIC's outward FDI to European countries. This

research is linked to policy advisory work for and in collaboration with international organisations such as UNIDO. The research line also continued efforts linked explicitly to measuring the impact of the global financial crisis, and looked at strategies to improve the resilience of low-income countries to such external shocks. One dimension looked at ways in which global financial markets provide new opportunities, such as through tapping into new types of finance, including Eurobond markets, now also becoming accessible to low-income African countries; through the development and internationalisation of local currency bond markets; or through appropriate insurance policies, whether domestic, in the form of adequate foreign reserves policies, or international, through devising more appropriate global emergency financing instruments. For these topics, our research staff collaborate with researchers from international organisations, such as the OECD, and/or provide policy support research to Belgian official development cooperation agents in the framework of the BeFinD project.

The traditional research focus on transnational migration and remittances has also continued. This mainly involved conducting and analysing original large-scale population censuses in Ecuador and the Philippines through international networks, using an extended version of the community-based monitoring system (CBMS). This research is linked to the PhD work of several IMP members, and is also intensively embedded in the interuniversity cooperation project with Ecuador, financed by VLIR-UOS. In parallel, in the context of the research mentioned above on the impact of Chinese outward FDI and trade, Chinese migration flows have also been studied.

Finally, other research focused on improving the use and functioning of market mechanisms to tackle global environmental problems and, more specifically, on the workings of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), again by looking at this issue from a compound real option perspective.

Local Institutions for/in Development (LID)

This research line focuses on the interaction between human agency and the evolving institutional environment (social structure, rules and ideas/culture) which both enables and constrains people's livelihood strategies – particularly among less privileged actors. Our research focus areas in 2015 are outlined below.

The first focus is an actor-oriented understanding of the state and public service delivery. This research, largely relying on in-depth qualitative methods, looked at the formation of public authority and hybrid governance, mainly in Sub-Saharan Africa. The main output of this research line in 2015 was an edited volume on the concept



PhD student Nik Stoop presenting his research at the IOB Research Day

of 'practical norms', published by Routledge. Collaboration on the concept of 'hybrid governance' also continued with the London School of Economics. Field research was carried out on education and the police administration in the DRC. On the latter issue, a number of research grants were obtained, for example, from the International Growth Centre. This year, a new doctoral project also started on the education sector in Somaliland. This research focus was also part of a significant effort to expand outreach to wider society. Concretely, a policy report was written for UNICEF on the education sector in the DRC and presented to a wide range of governmental and non-governmental policy actors in the DRC. On the issue of the police administration in the DRC, there was direct interaction with the donor community in the DRC, for example, through presentations to the responsible donor groups. Finally, blog posts and policy briefs were also written on the issue of practical norms.

The second focus is on the contestation of land and land access, more specifically, using a number of case studies on land grabbing, land conflicts and public authority in eastern DRC and northern Uganda. The latter research is part of an ongoing collaboration with the South, in the form of a VLIR-UOS TEAM project with the University of Gulu in Uganda (on the theme of post-conflict reconstruction). In Nicaragua, PhD research is focused on the problems of land concentration by large cattle ranchers or plantations, and the ensuing loss of access for smaller peasant farmers.

The third research interest is on natural resources research, in which green microfinance and ecosystem services (both in general and Nicaragua) play an important role. A Nicaragua-based FWO post-doc project on these issues is ongoing (specifically about Payments for Environmental Services), as are a variety of other doctoral projects (e.g. on green microfinance in Central America, on REDD+ in the DRC). One of the outputs was a special issue on green microfinance (in the journal of *Enterprise Development & Microfinance*). Two new international peer-reviewed publications on PES were also realised. Other research addressed gender, household decision-making and climate change (Tanzania). Central to the outreach to society under this research topic is the long-standing collaboration in Nicaragua between IOB, Nitlapán and the microfinance institution Fondo de Desarrollo Local (FDL) (see chapter on partnerships). Communication to a non-academic audience also included the publication of an 'MO paper'. Other research has focused on migration, dealing with regional mobility dynamics and the organisation of trans-local family life and care networks in Nicaragua. Micro-level research on how different actors position themselves in the LRA conflict in Central/East Africa is ongoing. Finally, extensive research was carried out on the gold chain and on issues related to gold-mining in the DRC and Ghana.

State, Economy and Society (SES)

This research line devotes its attention to state institutions and the formal and informal actors engaged in the 'field of power' surrounding state institutions. Three distinct subthemes can be distinguished: the dynamics of statehood in relation to the cycle of conflict, peace and attempts at state reconstruction; hybrid governance and state-building in the contested development arena; and the governance of public funds and services.

In the area of conflict and peace studies, contributions were made on the following topics: the institutional legacy of the conflict in northern Uganda; the framing of the role of the LRA in that conflict; the economic and institutional legacies of genocide and other forms of violence in Rwanda and Burundi; the Burundian constitution and its role in safeguarding political stability and accountability; the unresolved local tensions in eastern DRC; and security sector reforms and the role of peacekeeping missions in this respect.

Several studies dealt with hybrid governance and state-building in the contested development arena. One group of studies have made conceptual contributions regarding 'practical norms', 'hybrid orders', 'legal pluralism', 'moral politics of development' and 'the fifty shades of grey of democratic regimes'. These concepts were applied in several case studies that looked, for example, at land rights in Cameroon and the DRC, the mining and education sector in the DRC, the judiciary system in Burundi, and the management of fishery resources in Benin.

The subtheme of governance of public funds and services includes research on local currency bond market developments in Sub-Saharan Africa; on the link between public debt, economic growth and public sector management; and on the fiscal impact of the debt relief initiatives on African Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (e.g. a study on the impact of debt relief and education in the DRC). To govern public funds and services, governments need to be aware of their tax base and the needs of their citizens. Therefore, under this subtheme we also find studies on the quality of national surveys and country statistics, including case studies measuring living standards in the DRC and the measurement of food insecurity in standard surveys. Other studies on the management of public funds look at topics such as monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems in Uganda's education sector, the development of social security systems in Burundi, and the impact of natural resources on education spending.

Given the policy relevance of conflict and peace studies, SES researchers engage in quite a lot of public advocacy, as is testified to by the publication of several IOB *Analyses & Policy Briefs* as well as *opinion articles* in newspapers or blogs on issues such as the political crisis in Burundi, the upcoming Congolese presidential elections, the violations of the constitutional presidential term limits in other African countries, the construction of knowledge about Uganda's Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), and the nature of

the Rwandan state. Policy advice is also given on demand, for example, on the DRC's education sector (for UNICEF and the Ministère du plan), and on the involvement of Rwanda and Burundi in peacekeeping operations (for the French Ministry of Defense).

Furthermore, capacity building in the South is an important pillar of service delivery. For the SES research line, the partnership with the Université Catholique de Bukavu is particularly relevant, and embedded in an institutional cooperation that began in 2011. Its associated project, 'Expertise Center for Mining Governance' (CEGEMI), concentrates on the mining sector, which is critical for South Kivu's economy and often mentioned as playing a key role in the historical and ongoing violence. Four PhD students from Bukavu and two Belgian PhD students are currently doing their doctoral research on the governance of natural resources, and three Master students from Bukavu have completed programmes in Belgium.

Through its **Centre for the Study of the African Great Lakes Region**, IOB has continued to treat this geographical area as a major transversal focus, and this is reflected in the activities of all four research lines. The Centre's yearbook (*L'Afrique des Grands Lacs. Annuaire 2014-2015*, Brussels, University Press Antwerp), published for the nineteenth consecutive year, remains a major international reference, as is *Conjonctures congolaises* (co-edited by Professor Emeritus Stefaan Marysse), now in its fifth edition. ■



FWO research fellow Sara Geenen leading a focus group discussion in BB Salamabila, DR Congo, September 2015

PHD TRAINING

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

At the end of 2015, a total of 35 students were preparing a PhD dissertation on topics linked to IOB's research agenda.

Currently, 29 students are pursuing an interdisciplinary PhD in Development Studies at IOB, including seven junior AAP researchers. Six are working towards a disciplinary PhD in Applied Economics, including one junior AAP researcher.

During 2015, four students were admitted to undertake a

PhD in Development Studies. Seven of the PhDs in progress are joint or double PhDs: three with the University of Ghent (UGent), three with the University of Leuven (KU Leuven) and one with the University of Maastricht in the Netherlands.

In 2015, two students successfully concluded and defended their PhD in Development Studies:

- Tri Ha Minh**
 'An Analysis of Influence of Evaluation in the Context of Socio-Economic Development Plan (SEDP) Implementation in Vietnam - The Case of Hai Lang District, Quang Tri Province'
 Supervisor: Prof. Nathalie Holvoet

PhD Tri Ha Minh

AN ANALYSIS OF INFLUENCE OF EVALUATION IN THE CONTEXT OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION IN VIETNAM, THE CASE OF HAI LANG DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE

On 16 February 2015, Tri Ha Minh successfully defended his PhD thesis. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) information is important for the implementation of a socioeconomic development plan (SEDP) in Vietnam. Ha's dissertation attempts to understand what factors are important and how these factors affect the influence of evaluation in the public sector context of Hai Lang district. Findings from his own survey of 275 staff members and managers of Hai Lang district highlight that three out of the five factors that were identified on the basis of the theoretical framework had a statistically significant effect on the influence of evaluation: (1) evaluation capacity, (2) evaluation plans and methods, and (3) the generation of evaluation reports for partnerships. This was found regardless of the respondents' gender, age, years of education, level of responsibility, level of administration and longer versus shorter exposure to a Finnish-funded capacity-building programme. The qualitative phase of the research unequivocally confirmed these findings as regards the first two factors. More specifically, the 55 participants selected for more in-depth interviews highlighted that evaluation capacity feeds into credible evaluation and the objective and impartial attitudes of evaluators, which are perceived to be essential determinants of the extent of evaluation influence. Evaluation plans and methods are considered important in guiding the evaluation process, deciding on types of information and identifying strategies to obtain the information needed. With respect to the third factor, a difference between the views of the ordinary staff and those of the managers was identified.

While the first group underscored the positive influence of evaluation reporting for partnerships, the managers were more critical in this regard. They perceived no effect of the generation of an evaluation report for a partnership on the influence of evaluation because, according to them, reports often contain unjustified conclusions and recommendations and use report jargon. They also considered that reports are often biased due to the prejudiced attitudes of evaluators towards conducting evaluation. The dissertation led to the elaboration of a conceptual framework that is found valid in explaining the influence of evaluation, the identification of measures capturing the influence of evaluation in the public sector of a Vietnamese district, and new confirmation that the three significant factors affect the influence of evaluation.



- Selmira Flores**

'Gender Dynamics in Dairy Value Chains in Nicaragua. Current Practices, Changes and Challenges'
 Supervisor: Prof. Johan Bastiaensen

Another student successfully concluded his PhD in Applied Economics:

- Dennis Essers**

'Essays on Developing Country Vulnerability to External Shocks in Light of the Great Recession' (see box p. 16)
 Supervisor: Prof. Danny Cassimon

The IOB PhD in Development Studies attracts a diverse range of students, who currently come from Belgium (13), Germany (3), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (3), Uganda (3), Italy (2), Ecuador (1), Cameroon (1), Tanzania (1), Nicaragua (1) and the Netherlands (1) (see list for details).

IOB is continuing to build its PhD training programme. We currently offer six doctoral courses related to the thematic research lines. Additional training initiatives have also been organised, including a workshop on 'Doing Fieldwork' and a seminar on 'Poster Presentations'. IOB also cooperates with the Netherlands-based CERES Research School's (Research School for Resource Studies for Development) PhD network as a full member. ■

PhD Selmira Flores

GENDER DYNAMICS IN DAIRY VALUE CHAINS IN NICARAGUA: CURRENT PRACTICES, CHANGES AND CHALLENGES

The development of the Nicaraguan cattle sector has created an increasing level of dynamism in the national economy, with meat, fresh milk and white cheese occupying second place in exports. Meat and dairy value chains are highly male-dominated, and women's presence, knowledge, experience and contribution are largely neglected. Selmira's research focused on understanding how gender affects and is affected by prevailing ideas and practices in dairy value chains, in particular, how it materialises in production and within the processing node. In line with an actor-structure perspective, the research aimed to understand how the gender roles of women and men tend to be confirmed or modified through their evolving interaction, creating space for potential change. Selmira's thesis is based on extensive empirical data from two case studies in the municipality of Matiguas. Selmira demonstrates that gender relationships in the field of livestock development are embedded in dialectics of continuity and change. Despite key technological innovations, changes in the market, and an explosion of women in politics and economic life as a result of global and national processes, gender norms in the cattle industry, at first sight, seem to have remained static, and are generally seen as such. However, during all of the moments of social interaction, women and men, as milk producers or processors in their farm/household or in milk cooperatives, operate as agents informed by both inherited and newly emerging gendered cognitive patterns. Therefore, they are not simply reproducing, but gradually transform-

ing inherited patterns.

The dissertation contributes to the theoretical framework of gender in value chains, showing how gender materialises in a complex combination of viewpoints about the ideas, tasks and roles of women and men in livestock and milk production, re-enacted by women and men engaged in cattle farming, through which gender conflict and collaboration take place. It also shows that there is a crucial symbiosis in farm/household or household/micro-enterprise relationships, which are the basis of a collective family endeavour rather than the business of an isolated male individual. Selmira continues to follow up on these issues through her research at the Institute of Research on Development, Nitlapán, at the Central American University in Managua.





PhD student Lisa Popelier collecting stories from persons with disability to monitor their human rights in Wakiso, Uganda.

ONGOING PHD PROJECTS IN 2015

ABAINZA Loesel

Return Migration and Entrepreneurship: an Investigation of the Success of Failure of Return Migrants' Entrepreneurial Activities

BAMANYAKI Patricia

Evaluating the impact of outside-government gender budget initiatives at local government level. A mixed methods study focusing on maternal health in Kabale District, Uganda

BURIHABWA Ntagahoraho Zacharia

"Contingency and Continuity:" The CNDD-FDD and its transformation from rebel movement to governing political party in Burundi

CLAESSENS Klara

Access to Land and Social Conflict in South Kivu, DR Congo

DE MAESSCHALCK Filip

Statebuilding Support to Fragile States. A Temporal Analysis of the Interplay between European Legitimation and Internal Legitimacy in Post-Conflict States

DE ROECK Mathias

Global System Dynamics, State Infrastructural Power and the Stability of Hybrid Political Regimes. A Mixed-Methods Analysis. 1965 – 2010

HUYBRECHS Frédéric

Green Microfinance and Payments for Environmental Services: from Market-based Panaceas towards an integrated Approach to sustainable and inclusive Rural Development. Case-studies from Central America

INNOCENTI Demetrio

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

IRAGI Francine

Artisanal mining and local food markets: analyzing the linkages

JACOBS Bert

African regional integration in the infrastructure sector: the case of PIDA

KILOSHO BURAYE Janvier

Dynamics in the South-Kivu mining sector: Modes of production, income diversification and future of artisanal miners

KOCH Svea

Political Conditionality beyond aid – the case of the European Union

KUPPENS Line

The role of education in peacebuilding: An analysis of the impact of Côte d'Ivoire's educational content and practices

KUPPENS Miet

Beyond the blueprint: In search of successful informal M&E arrangements in Uganda

MALUKISA NKUKU Albert

Hybrid Governance and Regulation of Public Transport in Kinshasa

MARTINELLI Rosana

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

MBUNYA Francis Nkemnyi

Making the environment-development nexus: the case of the Tofala Hill Wildlife Sanctuary, South West Cameroon

MEGERSA Kelbesa

Essays on Currency and Debt Crisis in Developing Countries

MERLET Pierre

Revisiting the Agrarian Question: Family Farming and Political Arenas around Land and Natural Resources in the Context of Climate Change and changing Global Food Chains. Evidence from Nicaragua

OLANYA David Ross

Who governs the commons? Seeing the state in politics and public policy: Capitalism and Resistance in Northern Uganda

PETERS Linda

Applications of Real Option Analysis in Global Public Policy'

POPELIER Lisa

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

RENMANS Dimitri

Opening the 'black box' of Performance-Based Financing in the health sector of Uganda

REUSS Anna

Soldiers, elites & political stability. Civil-military boundaries, institutions & identity in Uganda

SENGA Christian Dunga

African Euro-bonds: challenges and prospects for economic growth after the HIPC initiative

SHITIMA Christina

An Analysis of Household Development Strategies and their Linkage to River Basins Resources Degradation in Tanzania

SOBREVINAS Alellie

International Remittances and Poverty Reduction in the Philippines: Evidence from the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) Data Base

SOUAÏ Hakim

Foreign reserve management in developing countries

STOOP Nik

The Impact of Sexual Violence on Social Preferences and Post-Conflict Reconstruction: Evidence from DR Congo

TABARO Robert

New district creation and social service delivery in Uganda. I basically look at the determinants for new district creation and the variations in performance of the new districts

VAN AELST Katrien

The interplay between household decision-making, gender relations and climate variability in the Morogoro Region of Tanzania. Farmers' adaptation behavior

VERDEZOTO Jesenia

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

WAETERLOOS Evert

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

WIEBUSCH Michael

The norms and practices of the African Union on the promotion and protection of constitutional governance

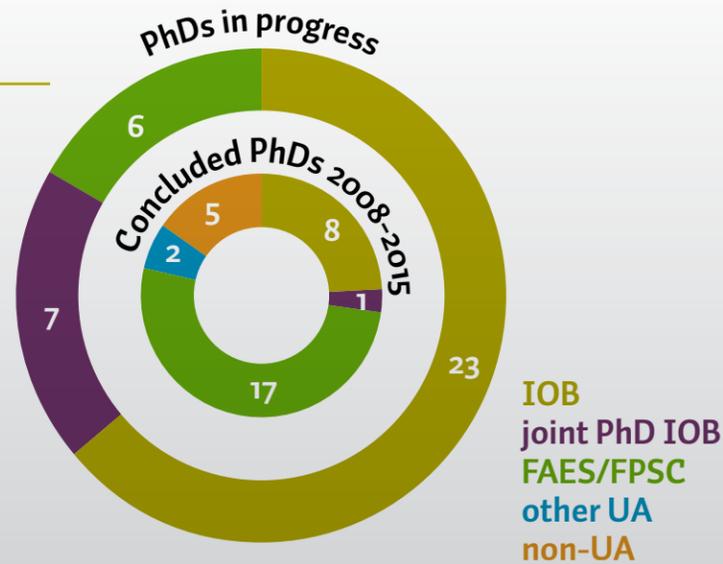
WINDEY Catherine

The Dialectics of the Global and the Local: hybrid socio-economies' and the encounter of different regimes of value in the context of REDD+ in the Democratic Republic of Congo

WINTERS Nanneke

Contested Connections. Mobility and migration as development experiences of translocal livelihoods in Muy Muy, Nicaragua

FIGURE 1. CONCLUDED PHDS 2008-15 (INNER CIRCLE) AND PHDS IN PROGRESS (OUTER CIRCLE)



ESSAYS ON DEVELOPING COUNTRY VULNERABILITY TO EXTERNAL SHOCKS IN LIGHT OF THE GREAT RECESSION

PhD Dennis Essers

On 11 September 2015, Dennis Essers successfully defended his PhD dissertation, entitled ‘Essays on developing country vulnerability to external shocks in light of the Great Recession’.

The global financial and economic crisis, sparked by the collapse of US investment bank Lehman Brothers in September 2008, still reverberates today, most clearly in Europe. Many developing countries were also strongly affected by the deepest and most synchronised crisis in post-war history, later dubbed the ‘Great Recession’. Dennis’s dissertation argues that the global crisis hit the developing world as a series of external shocks, including declines in export demand and sudden breaks in private capital inflows. Devising sensible strategies to deal with vulnerability to such shocks will become increasingly important as developing countries continue to integrate into the world economy. The dissertation’s five essays look into the transmission channels of the global crisis and what these tell us about potential strategies to reduce vulnerability; the factors that explain cross-country differences in economic growth during the crisis; and the lower tier manifestations of the crisis in the case of South African labour markets. Throughout, Dennis switches between a narrative-descriptive approach, applied econometrics and theoretical modelling, and combines insights from various subfields of economics, including international economics and finance, political economy and labour economics. In his first essay, Dennis defines vulnerability to external shocks as a combination of the probability and severity of shocks, exposure and resilience, and shows how this can be addressed using coping, prevention, self-insurance and/or market insurance and hedging strategies. The recent experiences of developing countries

and international financial institutions with these various strategies to reduce vulnerability reveal that while progress has been made in some areas, much more remains to be done. The second and third essays focus specifically on local currency bond market development and on international reserves accumulation, as examples of vulnerability reduction through prevention and self-insurance, respectively. The findings suggest, firstly, that local currency bond market capitalisation in Sub-Saharan Africa has benefited from the greater credibility of bond investors and, secondly, confirm that international reserves holdings should optimally increase when shocks are more frequent and severe. The fourth essay investigates the role of democracy, a potential resilience factor, in explaining growth in a developing country during the crisis. Estimations that correct for omitted variable bias indicate that democracy helped to maintain crisis growth, unlike naive OLS regressions (showing a negative correlation). The fifth and final essay documents how, in spite of the South African labour market’s reputation for being inflexible, many South Africans moved in and out of employment and between different forms of employment/unemployment during and in the aftermath of the global crisis. Higher education significantly increased both men’s and women’s chances of remaining in or finding regular wage/formal sector jobs in South Africa, although less so in the initial post-crisis years. As a post-doctoral researcher at IOB, Dennis is currently engaged in several projects that capitalise on his PhD research, including a mapping of local currency bond markets in Rwanda for the Belgian Development Cooperation (DGD) under the ACROPOLIS initiative, and an evaluation of IMF precautionary lending instruments for the National Bank of Belgium.

FACTS AND FIGURES ON RESEARCH AND OUTREACH

The year 2015 was filled with research and outreach activities. This is clearly shown in the summary figures on research performance below.

First of all, the level of **external research funding** continued to increase (see figure 2). In 2015, we maintained high levels of funding from the academic Research Foundation-Flanders (FWO) and several projects under the VLIR Institutional University Cooperation (VLIR-IUC), while succeeding in gaining two DOCPRO PhD scholarships (BOF/IOB). International project funding also increased significantly, with finance from Ecosystem Services and Poverty Alleviation (ESPA), UNICEF and the International Growth Centre (IGC).

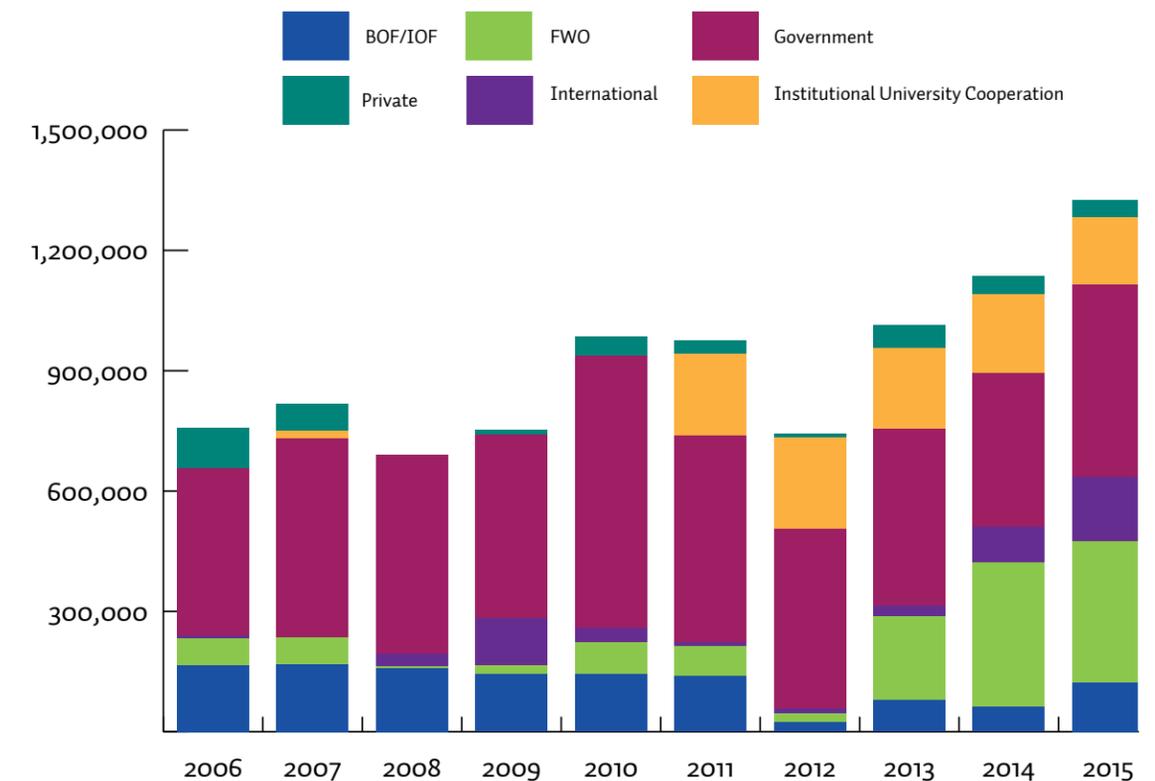
IOB’s **publication output for an academic audience** is shown in Figure 3 (a full list of publications can be found at the end of this report). As a result of the research and publication strategy pursued in recent years, we have seen a steady increase in the quality of publications in particular, as measured by the CERES A and B outputs (i.e. publications in ISI-ranked journals or in academic books of equivalent quality). After a slight decrease in 2014, IOB matched the positive trend in publication growth of the

previous years and produced more A and B publications in 2015 than in any other year.

Outreach at IOB is closely linked to research: the two spheres simultaneously feed and are fed by one another. The Institute has continued this policy in many guises, including: interuniversity cooperation with partner institutions in Burundi, the DRC, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Uganda; research intended to support policy for aid agencies, international organisations and NGOs; and dissemination activities at home. Consultancy work is undertaken only if it complements or reinforces the Institute’s research agenda or its partner programmes, and not merely as a means of generating income.

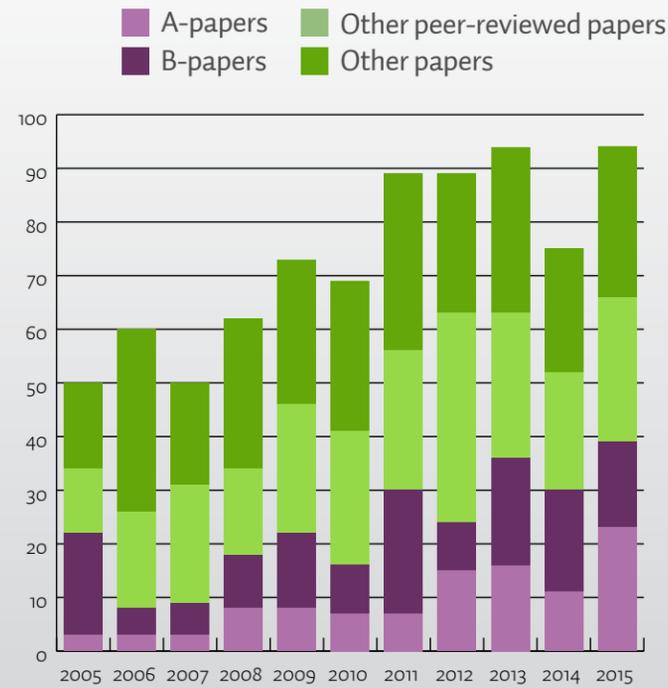
Figure 4 demonstrates the evolution in publications for a non-academic audience between 2005-2015. The figure not only shows a significant increase in the total number of publications of this type, but also an important shift from reports written for on-demand research to contributions in magazines, newspaper opinion editorials and online media. Most publications of the latter category (23 out of 37) appeared in international media. The significant increase in 2015 related in part to an upsurge in media interest in the political situation in Burundi, one of IOB’s focus countries (see box below). ■

FIGURE 2. EVOLUTION OF EXTERNAL FUNDING FOR RESEARCH AND SERVICE DELIVERY



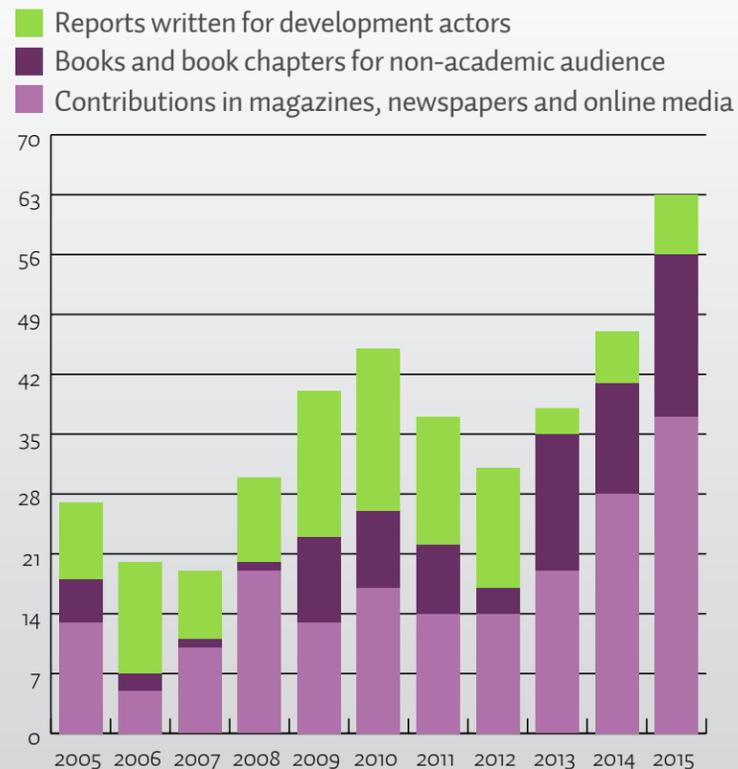
* Source: based on UAntwerp Research Coordination and Administration Department data and own project data

FIGURE 3: IOB PUBLICATIONS FOR ACADEMIC AUDIENCE *



* Data as available in February 2016.
Source: Academic Bibliography University of Antwerp.

FIGURE 4: PUBLICATIONS FOR NON-ACADEMIC AUDIENCE



* Data as available in February 2016.
Source: Academic Bibliography University of Antwerp.

IOB PRESENCE IN THE MEDIA: THE POLITICAL AND HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN BURUNDI

In 2015, Burundi was the scene of the worst political, security and humanitarian crisis since it successfully negotiated the transition to peace after more than a decade of civil war that started in the aftermath of the assassination of Burundi's first democratically elected president on 21 October 1993. Post-conflict elections were held in 2005 and 2010. The 2015 crisis was sparked by incumbent president Pierre Nkurunziza's nomination as presidential candidate by his party, the CNDD-FDD (National Council for the Defense of Democracy–Forces for the Defense of Democracy), in April, despite the fact that he had already completed two terms in office. While the crisis was not solely due to the president's third-term ambitions, this issue had a major impact on the political situation both before and after the 2015 elections. It gave rise, first of all, to a split within the CNDD-FDD and, as a result, also destabilised Burundi's state institutions. Furthermore, it led to unprecedented mass demonstrations in the streets of Bujumbura, culminating in a failed coup attempt on 13 May 2015. In the violence that followed, independent media were closed down and many opposition leaders and civil society activists were forced into exile. Hundreds of civilians were tortured and/or killed, while more than 200,000 people fled to neighbouring countries. The elections were briefly delayed and then won by the CNDD-FDD, with most opposition parties denouncing the absence of a level playing field and several electoral observation missions withdrawing their observers. Rebel movements announced an armed struggle to topple the new Nkurunziza government that was sworn in in August. Burundi was the subject of intense diplomatic activity

throughout the year. A United Nations Security Council mission visited Bujumbura in March 2015 (and again in January 2016). On 17 December 2015, the African Union's Peace and Security Council decided to authorise the deployment of an African Prevention and Protection mission to Burundi (MAPROBU), with an initial strength of up to 5,000 military personnel and police. This decision was, however, rejected by the Burundian government and, as a result, not endorsed by the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government in January 2016. Because of Burundi's failure to comply with certain essential principles of human rights, democracy and the rule of law, the European Union launched a sanctioning procedure under Article 96 of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement, gradually taking steps towards the suspension of financial support directly benefiting the Burundian government. Burundi has been an important country for IOB for a long time. In 2015, IOB staff members authored or co-authored 20 publications on the country. Staff members also offered their analysis and policy advice to a wide range of Belgian and international diplomats and policymakers. IOB staff contributed to the public debate through opinion editorials as well as radio and television interviews related to the Burundian crisis. Throughout the crisis, the webpage *Law, Power and Peace in Burundi* (www.uantwerpen.be/burundi) was frequently consulted. Filip Reyntjens (who was replaced by Stef Vandeginste in January 2016) was the coordinator of the interuniversity cooperation programme with the Université du Burundi.

IOBACK TO THE FUTURE

IOB also reflected on its research and outreach policy in response to the recommendations of its Scientific Advisory Board and of the assessment panel that audited our agreement with the Flemish Community, both in preparation for the upcoming research audit (scheduled for May 2016).

We first discussed IOB's profile as a multidisciplinary and multi-method research institute in the field of development studies on the basis of a paper (already cited above)

on mixed methods enquiry. We then began to reflect more systematically on how to streamline our outreach and societal impact, as the logical complement to our research efforts. IOB has identified five types of related 'synergetic' societal outputs: on-demand policy advice, focused public advocacy, output for a non-academic public, capacity-building in the South and 'developmental spin-offs'. We also created a Communication Commission to articulate a more explicit policy on and support for activities concerning outreach and social service delivery. ■

AN HONORARY DOCTORATE IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES FOR PROFESSOR MELISSA LEACH

In 2015, the University of Antwerp awarded an honorary doctorate to Melissa Leach, director of the Institute of Development Studies (UK). By nominating Professor Leach, IOB has chosen to honour one of the most inspiring voices in the current debate on climate change, sustainability and development.

Climate change, threats to biodiversity, water shortages, epidemic outbreaks, food crises and land grabbing, persisting poverty and inequality, etc. – the list of severe challenges to the sustainability of our current ways of life and our use of the planet's resources is long and worrying. In the face of these challenges, there is a growing recognition of the complexity and the dynamism of the interconnected social, economic and technological systems in our increasingly integrated global, but also highly unequal, world. Many of the problems are indeed 'wicked problems', characterised by inherent uncertainties and the involvement of many interdependent stakeholders with their own ambitions, interests, problem frames and resources. In such a context, expert-based, top-down and piecemeal technological-managerial solutions become very problematic.

Instead, Leach proposes a 'pathways approach' to the understanding of and action on sustainability. This approach recognises inevitable biases and gaps in our knowledge frames in the face of sustainability challenges and tries to take due account of

uncertainty and diversity in negotiating pathways to sustainability that are both more effective and adequate in terms of social and environmental justice. The pathways approach can, in turn, help chart 'green transformations' which are political as much as technical, and must involve new and strengthened alliances between citizens as well as state and market actors.



CONFERENCE DEVELOPMENT 2.0 OR 'BUSINESS AS USUAL?' PRIVATE SECTOR, INSTITUTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT

On 24-26 June, IOB celebrated its 15th anniversary and 50 years of Development Studies at the University of Antwerp with an international academic conference. The conference was co-organised by CERES – the Dutch Research School for Resource Studies for Development, which integrated its annual summer school into the event – as well as the Antwerp Management School, which hosted a number of panels and side events. With 168 registered participants, the collaborative event was a success for IOB, the University of Antwerp and its external partners, and it provided an excellent opportunity for the outreach of IOB research.

Paving the way for new development research in the 21st century, the conference was titled 'Development 2.0 or "Business as usual?" Private Sector, Institutions and Development'. Two keynote speakers and 51 presenters critically reflected on whether, and under which conditions, private sector-led growth can result in sustainable and inclusive development. Private sector development certainly offers great potential, but also significant challenges and risks, as the rapidly changing context, with its increasingly globalised value chains, is opening the way for the involvement of actors from developing countries, including small-scale producers, workers and marginalised groups. As the latter three are the focus of much of IOB's work, many panels looked into how global processes affect their livelihoods.

The conference was opened by IOB chairman, Tom De Herdt, and a representative of the rector of the University of Antwerp. On the first day, the first keynote speaker, Massimiliano Cali, trade economist at the World Bank, talked about 'Using trade to increase resilience in fragile states'. The second keynote speaker was Lindsay Whitfield, associate professor at Roskilde University, who addressed the issue of 'How to build productive capacities for domestic firms'.

Eighty-four researchers responded to the call for panels and submitted an abstract, of which 62 were selected to present their paper in one of the thematically organised panels. Examples of panels include: 'Corporate Social Responsibility and development', 'Small and medium-sized enterprises and development', 'Global value chains: opportunities for inclusion and upgrading', 'Governing nature and development through the market', 'Small and large-scale agriculture under global food regimes', 'Privatisation of public services' and 'Business versus livelihoods in the Great Lakes Region of Africa'.

Four well-attended roundtables on 'Fair Fashion', 'Small business and clusters', 'Opportunities and limitations for small-scale producers in the coffee value chain' and 'Extractive industries, CSR and development' brought together academics and stakeholders from the private sector, civil society and policymaking bodies.



MASTER PROGRAMMES



IOB graduation ceremony at AMUZ, Antwerp.

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

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

The duration of the programmes is 12 months, starting and ending in mid-September. The core programme components run from January to May, at which point students can choose among various tracks according to their personal interests and career path. Each of the tracks has the overall objective of training ‘better professionals’, providing them with effective tools with which to study, interpret and apply current scientific findings to specific development contexts and institutions.

In 2015, the IOB secretariat received 880 applications for the academic year 2015/2016, of which 113 applications were incomplete or ineligible and not considered. Of the 767 complete applications, 434 (57%) were accepted. Subsequently, 69 students (16% of those accepted) actually enrolled in one of the programmes: 27 in Development Evaluation and Management, 25 in Governance and Development and 17 in Globalisation and Development. Of these, 42 received a scholarship: 35 from the Flemish Interuniversity Council, four from Erasmus Mundus, one from Master Mind, one from the Jean Monnet Fund and one from the GET Fund (Ghana

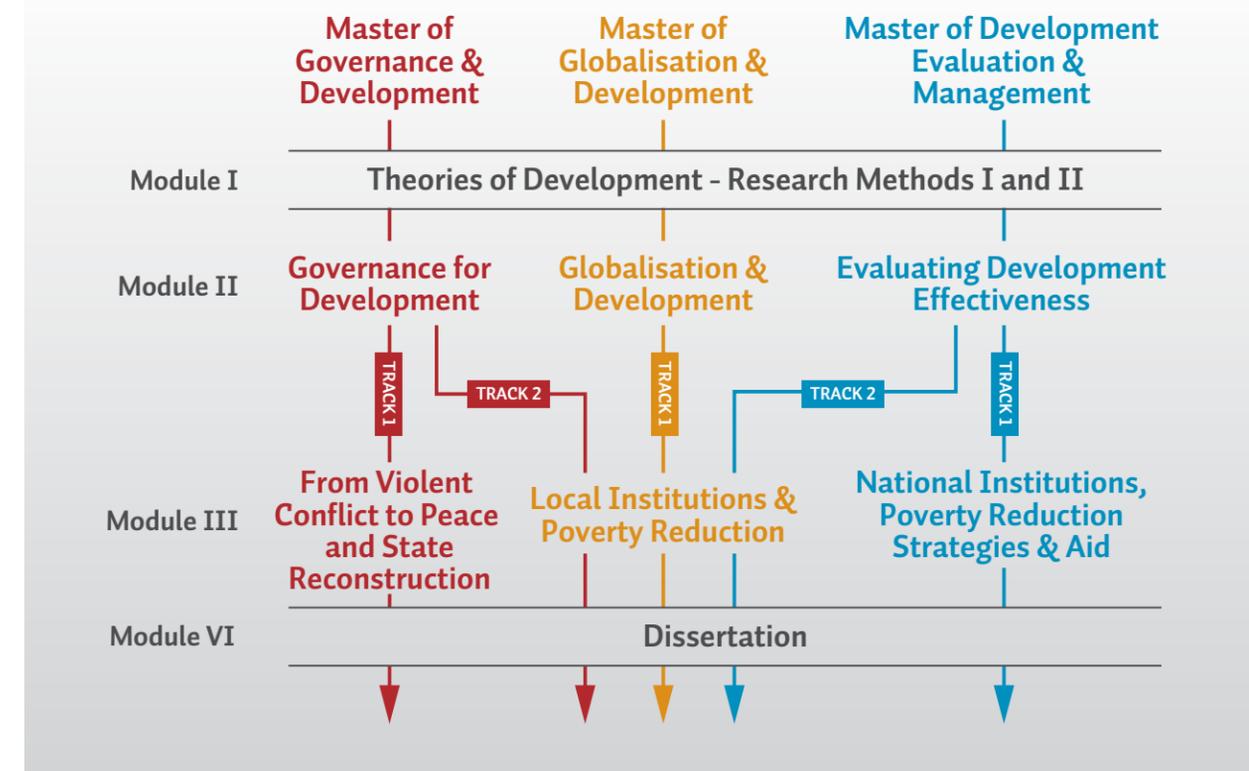
Education Trust Fund). An additional 23 students re-enrolled, which brings the total for the 2015/2016 academic year to 92 Master students (39 in the Development Evaluation and Management programme, 29 in Governance and Development, and 24 in Globalisation and Development).

Our audience remains truly global, with students originating from 35 countries (see map).

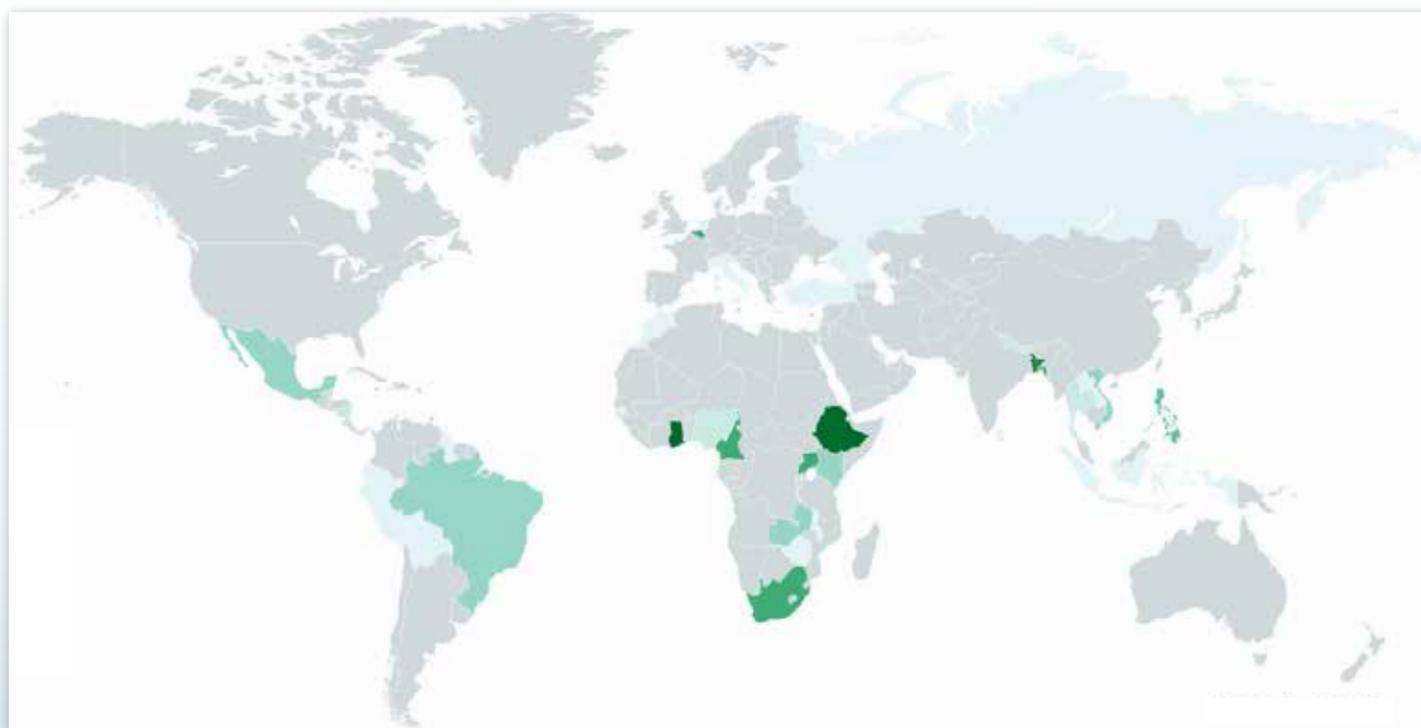
In addition to comprising a wide diversity of nationalities, our classrooms are also home to students from different disciplinary backgrounds within the social sciences (Figure 5) and from diverse working environments (Figure 6). About 41% of our 2015/2016 students hold a degree in political and social sciences, 26% have studied economics and another 16% have a background in agriculture and development studies. Another 17% have an educational background in other disciplines (e.g. Business, Law, Communications, etc.). This mix triggers an exchange of insights grounded in various theoretical and methodological frameworks and neatly aligns with IOB’s multidisciplinary profile.

In 2015, the Master programmes attracted students from government agencies (19%), international organisations (9%), non-governmental organisations (20%) and research institutes and universities (32%). About 16% of our students are young graduates with strong academic profiles and an explicit interest in starting a career in the aid and development sector.

A few key features of the Master programmes worth mentioning are their modular structure, their poli-



The classrooms of our Master programmes remain truly global with students originating from 35 countries



Bolivia	1	Laos	1	Turkey	1	Thailand	2	Belgium	5
Ecuador	1	Malawi	1	Zimbabwe	1	Brazil	3	Cameroon	5
Gambia	1	Morocco	1	Nepal	2	Kenya	3	South Africa	5
Georgia	1	Peru	1	Nicaragua	2	Mexico	3	Uganda	5
Guyana	1	Russia	1	Nigeria	2	Vietnam	3	Bangladesh	7
Indonesia	1	Sri Lanka	1	Palestine	2	Zambia	3	Ethiopia	9
Italy	1	The Netherlands	1	Rwanda	2	Philippines	4	Ghana	9

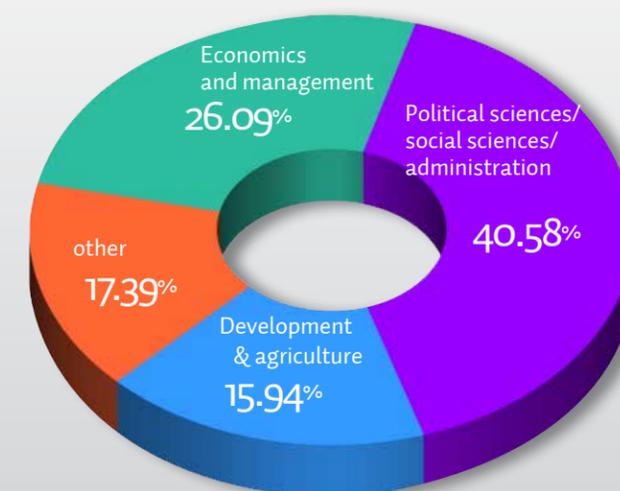
cy-oriented and research-driven character and their focus on student-oriented learning. The three Master programmes all have a similar structure, each consisting of four modules. Module I provides an overview of theories of development and introduces students to the state of the art in research methods and techniques. Modules II and III are highly interactive, research-driven education packages while in Module IV, students carry out an individual research project under the guidance of a supervisor. Modules are taught jointly by different staff members, leading to strong inter-module cooperation and a reduction in overlapping input. The diverse backgrounds of the staff members within one module also triggers a multidisciplinary approach. The modular structure also allows for the invitation of external guest lecturers, who enrich the Master programmes with their specific expertise, while being embedded in a module that is primarily driven by 'in-house expertise'. In 2015, the following guest lectures were organised within the Master programmes:

- Andrew Wardell (Center for International Forestry Research)
- Bram Buscher (Wageningen University)
- Sara Van Belle (Institute of Tropical Medicine)
- Adam Nelsson (an independent development consultant)
- Lodewijk Smets (post-doctoral researcher at LICOS, KU Leuven)
- Sinisa Vukovic (Radboud University Nijmegen's Centre for International Conflict Analysis and Management)
- Paul Harvey (Director of the Secure Livelihoods Research Consortium)
- Kate Meagher (Associate Professor in Development Studies in the Department of International Development, London School of Economics)
- Boris Verbrugge (University of Ghent)
- Morten Jerven (Simon Fraser University, Canada)
- Koen Sips (Point Consulting Group)
- Rosalind Eyben (Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex)

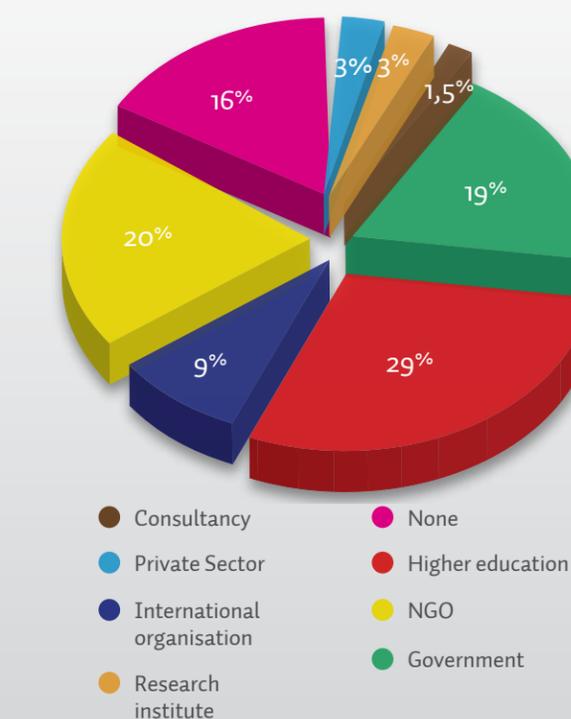
Some of these guest lectures were live-streamed via the internet so that our alumni could also benefit from the insights and discussions. Our Master programmes are all highly research-driven and policy-oriented. Training at IOB incorporates the latest social-scientific insights relevant to the development challenge. Students learn from each other's experiences and from their exposure to living and working in a developed country. We use various teaching methods to stimulate student-centred learning, including traditional lectures, individual and group assignments, discussions, literature reviews, case study analyses and simulation games. IOB also offers a two-week intensive English language course prior to the start of the Master programme to bring the students' level of English to the admission standards of IOB.

Inspired by the importance of internationalisation at

**FIGURE 5
EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**



**FIGURE 6
MASTER STUDENTS' SECTOR OF EMPLOYMENT**



home, a new series of sessions on intercultural communication by Professor Dieter Vermandere (University of Antwerp) started in 2014. Offering the students the opportunity to attend these sessions allows them to capitalise on the wealth of intercultural and international diversity available in the IOB classroom. If the sessions receive positive feedback, they will be extended and made compulsory for all students.

In line with our emphasis on student-centred learning, we also place an emphasis on the individual research project and Master dissertation. This process begins from Module II onwards, where students write papers at the end of the module under the guidance of a supervisor. Dissertations are presented and discussed in a three-day conference organised at the beginning of September. In 2015, three dissertations were selected for valorisation, either as IOB Discussion Papers or as contributions to scientific journals. During the graduation ceremony, three students received the Prize for Development Cooperation from the Province of Antwerp for their excellent dissertations (see box). IOB invests heavily in quality assurance throughout the entire Master programme cycle. Daily management is in the hands of the programme director, ensuring consistency and standardisation across the three Master programmes. Internal quality assurance is guaranteed by a set of evaluation instruments, including standardised written evaluations, focus group discussions and student workload monitoring. In the 2013/2014 academic year, IOB implemented its new assessment policy. The Institute conducted a dissertation benchmarking analysis and optimised the assessment sheet for papers and dissertations. All lecturers were encouraged to invest in the reliability and validity of the assessment methods. In response to students' comments, IOB further optimised the timetable and introduced study and exam weeks. The Institute also invested in structured and timely information on practical and course-related issues to better support students

in planning their work. The 2013/2014 student survey highlighted that students regret the limited opportunity for interaction and the high workload during the first semester (among other things). The students' appreciation of the programmes generally increases from the second semester onwards, when the content also becomes more specialised. Finally, students highly appreciate the intensity of the programmes, the content of the courses and the diverse teaching methods.

In 2015, IOB added another 54 names to the long list of IOB graduates (for the 2014/2015 academic year). IOB increasingly realises that these graduates represent an important source of social capital and therefore it structurally and institutionally invests in this through the employment of a part-time staff member responsible for alumni, promotion and e-learning. IOB believes it is important to invest in sustaining relationships not only between IOB and its alumni, but also among the alumni themselves. Networking among graduates from various professional settings in their countries of origin and beyond can contribute to brokering much needed relationships between different sectors of the development arena (government, donors, civil society, academia, etc.). Starting in 2014, various initiatives and activities were organised to facilitate such relationships.

Several types of communication channels facilitate our keeping in touch with and stimulating networks among alumni members. An online alumni platform is available, where alumni can log in and update their personal information, as well as find the contact details and profiles of over 950 registered alumni and staff members. In addition, IOB alumni can also keep in touch through the IOB Facebook page, several alumni FB groups and/or LinkedIn and can keep up to date on what is going on at IOB with a bi-monthly newsletter and IOB's tri-annual alumni magazine, *Exchange to Change*.

In 2015, face-to-face networking was also organised



IOB student Catalina Chamorro singing Guantanamera at the IOB graduation ceremony.

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AWARDS

In 2015, the Province of Antwerp awarded its Prize for Development Cooperation to three students from the Master programmes run by IOB.

Abiyu Sebsibe Hailemariam (Master in Governance and Development) won the prize for his dissertation, 'Regional organisations as peace mediators in Africa: The role of IGAD in the South Sudan peace process', supervised by Prof. Stef Vandeginste. Abiyu presents an outstanding analysis of the peace process in the youngest member state of the United Nations. His analysis focuses on the role of IGAD, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, as a mediator in the armed conflict in South Sudan. This dissertation pays significant attention to the institutional capacities and weaknesses at the level of IGAD, but also gives due consideration to the interests of member states and the interaction between domestic factors and international dynamics. Abiyu used a wide variety of academic literature, including work in the areas of development studies, international relations and peace and security studies. His dissertation has substantial policy relevance which reaches beyond the particular case study of South Sudan, offering significant insights into the role that sub-regional African intergovernmental organisations can play in conflict resolution and state-building.

Jamie Catherine Robertson (Master in Development Evaluation and Management) also received an award for her dissertation, 'The key determining factors for the flow of bilateral adaptation-related climate change financing to Sub-Saharan African countries', supervised by Dr Nathalie Francken. Jamie presents an outstanding mapping and analysis of the allocation of bilateral climate aid. Although Sub-Saharan African countries have contributed less to climate change in terms of emissions, these countries will be disproportionately affected by the impacts of climate change. There is thus a need to disburse adequate sums of climate-change based funding. Yet, despite rising amounts of climate-based funding, the most vulnerable countries are not receiving the largest share. Jamie delved into the factors that might explain such a discrepancy between the need for climate funding and access to it. In so doing, she drew on a wide variety of academic literature and took an original approach to the study of the bilateral motivations for climate funding. Interestingly, she found that an

already existing aid relationship and the democratic quality of the recipient were more important determinants of climate funding access than climate change vulnerability itself. Bilateral climate funding thus largely follows the same logic as traditional bilateral aid allocation.

Mr Robayt Khondoker (Master in Globalisation and Development) received an award for his dissertation, 'Organisation of cross-border livestock trade in the border area of Bangladesh', supervised by Prof. Kristof Titeca. This dissertation discusses the informal trade in livestock from India to Bangladesh. Given that cattle export is constitutionally banned in India, traders are operating outside the legal framework. Notwithstanding its informal character, this trade is an important lifeline for much of the population in this region. Through qualitative field research, Robayt examined how this informal trade is organised, looking at the different actors and the regulatory dynamics at play. He conducted field research in challenging circumstances, and made an interesting contribution to the field of the informal economy: by engaging with the theories on this subject, he mapped out the different actors and power dynamics in this trade. By studying elite traders, state officials and small-scale traders he demonstrated the ambiguous character of this informal, yet highly organised trade. Robayt provided a rich ethnographic contribution on a subject about which very little has been written, combined with important theoretical insights. ■

through informal meet and greet sessions. One of these, organised for IOB alumni and a visiting researcher, was hosted by Prof. Stef Vandeginste in Bujumbura, Burundi (08/02/2015), and another by Dr Bert Ingelaere in Kigali, Rwanda (27/03/2015). In 2015, IOB also organised a 'Life after IOB' event for the first time. As several IOB students did not have professional experience, or envisaged a change in their professional career, IOB organised an information session on the opportunities available to IOB students after graduating. IOB is committed to ensuring the employability of its students and assisting them to maximise their potential contribution within the development sector. Therefore, the information session included four main topics: research/PhD; internships/jobs at international organisations; internships/jobs at civil society organisations/think tanks; own initiatives & consultancy). Given the heterogeneity of our student

population, the format of the information session was not only based on typical formal presentations for the entire group, but rather allowed for very informal interaction between the students and the alumni. As such, alumni and current students could interact and share experiences, tips and information on how to go about applying for a PhD, an internship, current vacancies, etc.

IOB alumni are the Institute's finest ambassadors and play a significant role in promoting the Institute. They share information about the Master programmes within their personal and professional networks. In 2015, two Filipino alumni (Alellie Sobrevinas and Roma Atabug) represented IOB/the University of Antwerp in Manila once again at the European Higher Education Fair (EHEF), making it the only Belgian university present. ■

OTHER IOB STAFF TEACHING ACTIVITIES

IOB contributes to teaching at other faculties within the University of Antwerp and with IOB's partners:

Debating Development

A series of eight lectures on the topic of 'Urban dynamics in the age of cities' was offered to all students of the University of Antwerp. The series, coordinated by Prof. Danny Cassimon, was co-financed by VLIR and by the University Foundation for Development Cooperation (USOS). Eighty-seven students, mainly from the Faculties of Applied Economics and Design Sciences, attended the course.

Economic and institutional development

Prof. Marijke Verpoorten taught this course in the Advanced Master programme in International Relations and Diplomacy (Faculty of Social Sciences).

International Economy and International Economic Organisations

This course in the Advanced Master programme in International Relations and Diplomacy was taught by Prof. Danny Cassimon and Prof. Germán Calfat.

Topics in development studies

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

International finance

This course was taught by Prof. Danny Cassimon within the Advanced Master of International Relations and

Diplomacy (Faculty of Social Sciences).

Political Economy of Development

This course was jointly taught by Prof. Marijke Verpoorten and Prof. Joachim De Weerd within the Faculty of Applied Economics.

Dissertations

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

Introduction to Rural Development

Prof. Johan Bastiaensen taught this course as part of the European Master in Microfinance, Université Libre de Bruxelles.

Several staff members lectured at partner institutes in the South:

- At the Catholic University of Bukavu (DRC) a course on 'Economic and Institutional Development' was taught by Prof. Marijke Verpoorten.
- Prof. Johan Bastiaensen taught a course on Microfinance at the Faculty of Business Economics and Economics at the Universidad Centroamericana in Managua (Nicaragua).
- Prof. Kristof Titeca taught a course on 'Violent environments' at Gulu University, Uganda.



SHORT TRAINING INITIATIVE 'STRENGTHENING NATIONAL MONITORING AND EVALUATION CAPACITIES AND USE'

The Short Training Initiative entitled 'Strengthening National Monitoring and Evaluation Capacities and Use' took place from 19 October 2015 until 31 October 2015 (supervisor Prof. Nathalie Holvoet). The training programme brought together leading evaluation experts (members of National Evaluation Societies) in developing countries to assist them in taking up the task of developing national M&E capacities and use. More specifically, the training enabled evaluation experts who are members of different national evaluation societies to become driving forces in strengthening their national M&E systems, as well as their own Evaluation Society.

In total, 21 people participated in the two-week programme, of whom 19 participants received a VLIR-UOS scholarship. The training programme attracted evaluation experts from the government sector, civil society, parliament, donor agencies and academia who take an active role in their national evaluation society (NES).

The participants formed nine country teams (Brazil, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Mexico, Uganda and Zambia), each team consisting of at least two M&E experts from different sectors (government, civil society, academia, etc.) who take a leading role in their respective NES.

During the first week, the country teams analysed their national M&E systems and formulated strategies to strengthen them. In the second week, the participants focused on evaluating their National Evaluation Society's strengths and weaknesses. They developed strategies to improve the functioning of

the NES, which in turn could strengthen the national M&E system. At the end of the programme, each country team presented a SWOT analysis of both their NES and the M&E system to the other participants, DEM Master students and other members of their NES, who could watch the livestreamed presentation online. Moreover, each country team drafted a plan of the concrete activities that must be developed to strengthen the NES (future plans). Progress in the implementation of those future plans is being monitored and follow-up interviews are scheduled for May 2016. The country team that has made the most substantial progress in strengthening their NES will be invited to present the progress made in the next edition of the training programme (October 2016).

Overall, the participants evaluated the programme very positively. All of those who responded indicated they would recommend the course to their peers (with 81% strongly agreeing and 14% agreeing).

The geographical mixture, bringing together teams from three different continents, was highly appreciated by the participants. Several participants even suggested that the geographical diversity be further increased to include country teams from North America and/or Europe. The format of working in country teams was also much appreciated, as 86% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed they learned new things about their own NES by working in a team. This would suggest that working in country teams of at least two people increases the quality of the diagnosis of the M&E system as well as the SWOT analysis of the NES. ■

PARTNERS IN THE SOUTH



IOB student Patricia Velarde on fieldwork in the Peruvian Andes. Elder farmers walking to their plots.

Active and intense cooperation with academic and development partners in the South is a long tradition at IOB. Recently, IOB has tried to develop a vision of its long-term future as a Northern-based development studies institute. This vision sees the globalisation of our education, research and societal outreach activities by teaming up with Southern partners and academics in long-term forms of structural cooperation. In time, this should allow us to definitively overcome the heritage of the knowledgeable and capable 'North' implicitly claiming to have answers to development issues faced by the poor and less capable 'South'. As is also witnessed by the shift from the Southern-oriented MDGs towards truly global SDGs, in the face of the current global challenges of poverty, inequality and maldevelopment, it is necessary to construct interconnected platforms of joint knowledge creation and exchange, bringing together and bridging different contexts and perspectives. Our long-term engagement in networks as a development studies institute creates unique opportunities to contribute to such extensive global interconnected networks for joint research and training. This cooperation with partners in the South takes places in a variety of forms and countries.

Long-term Institutional Partners in Nicaragua and DR Congo

On 15 September 2015, after almost 30 years of cooperation between the Universidad Centroamericana (UCA) and the University of Antwerp, a first institutional memorandum of understanding on cooperation between the two institutions was signed. This MoU aims to consolidate and deepen the historical cooperation between IOB and the University Foundation for Development Cooperation (USOS) of the University of Antwerp and UCA (in particular, its main partner, the Instituto Nitlapán), as well as to promote a broadening of this cooperation to involve other faculties and institutes.

Following up on the results of the evaluation process in 2014, a major activity during 2015 was the preparation of the globalisation of the IOB Masters in a Nicaraguan hub, and its alignment with the latest research strategy of UCA through a process of formulation and debate (to be approved at the beginning of 2016). Concretely, this means that we plan to organise three of the four modules in the 'Local Institutions' and 'Poverty Reduction' tracks of our three Master programmes in Nicaragua, thus opening up a parallel Central American version of our programmes, with significant contributions from Central American academics and a high degree of embeddedness in local development

agendas. At the same time, these parallel versions of the programmes will be directly aligned with the research strategy of UCA (and possibly its sister universities in the Central American region), that is, they will contribute to the training of local researchers/professionals and to local research and societal outreach/incidence, while at the same time benefiting from the research expertise of the Central American academics whose knowledge is valorised within the joint Advanced Master programmes. Complementary to this initiative to create joint International Advanced Master programmes in Central America – as a localised academic training programme for researchers (also in view of potential PhDs) – it also remains our intention to promote more systematic cooperation in research, particularly with respect to the existing PhD programmes in several Central American and European universities; however, this idea has not yet been further developed. Through our cooperation with Nitlapán in the local Master programme in Territorial Development, we continue to be informed about and involved in the regional network on territorial development with the UCA of El Salvador and the Universidad Rafael Landívar in Guatemala. This network might also become the platform for more intense inter-regional cooperation around our Advanced Masters and/or the PhD network.



Signing the memorandum of understanding with Rector José Idiaques (UCA), Rector Alain Verschoren (UAntwerp) and Dr Gerlinde Verbist (USOS).

In the meantime, IOB and Nitlapán continued to cooperate in research on rural 'Microfinance Plus' for cattle raising and coffee production from a territorial perspective, in which the main local researcher is IOB graduate Milagros Romero. This joint research project is in cooperation with and funded by the microfinance organisation Appui aux Développement Autonome (ADA) in Luxembourg. At the end of 2015, Nitlapán's research director, Selmira Flores, also successfully defended her PhD thesis on 'Gender in dairy value chains' at IOB (see textbox p. 13). Pierre Merlet

and Frédéric Huybrechs, VLIR ICP and VLIR VLADOC PhD scholars, respectively, continued to write up their PhD research on the agrarian question and green microfinance (in Nicaragua), and both aim to defend their dissertations during 2016. FWO post-doc researcher, Gert Van Hecken, remained stationed at Nitlapán for most of the year and continued his research on Payments for Ecosystem Services. He was also engaged in joint research work with Pierre Merlet and started supervising Rene Rodriguez, a junior researcher at Nitlapán with a scholarship from the USOS-UCA junior researcher fund. Johan Bastiaensen gave the course ‘Agencia y Rutas de Desarrollo en Territorios Humanos Rurales’ within the new version of the Master programme in Territorial Development, the curriculum of which was jointly developed by Nitlapán and IOB. Silvia Martinez, another IOB graduate, is the academic coordinator of this Master programme.

Our long-term institutional partnership with the Université Catholique du Congo (UCC), in Kinshasa, remained on hold during 2015, while IOB shifted its attention towards cooperation in Bukavu (see below).

PARTICIPATION IN INSTITUTIONAL UNIVERSITY COOPERATION

- DR Congo

Our institutional cooperation with the Catholic University of Bukavu (UCB) is part of a VLIR-funded IUS programme coordinated by KU Leuven. The IUS programme includes an interdisciplinary project on ‘Mining Governance’, which was consolidated in 2015 through the formal establishment of the ‘Expertise Centre on Mining Governance’ (CEGEMI) at UCB. In 2015, new research was launched on hybrid governance in mining concessions (FWO postdoc Sara Geenen); the articulation between agriculture and mining (PhD student Francine Iragi); the environmental impact of mining (PhD student Bossissi Nkuba); and mining cooperatives (IOB Master student Jorden de Haan). The network was extended to include researchers from the Free University of Brussels (VUB), the Catholic University of Louvain (UCL) and ISS The Hague. Research on mining sector governance, artisanal miners’ livelihoods, the coexistence of artisanal and industrial mining, and conflict minerals continued and resulted in the publication of several articles, as well as Sara Geenen’s book *African Artisanal Mining from the Inside Out*.

CEGEMI is increasingly reaching out to policymakers and civil society, as well as others, through its new website www.cegemi.com. In September 2015, a national conference on ‘Women in the Congolese Mining Sector’ was funded by the World Bank and organised by CEGEMI in Bukavu. In December 2015, Marijke Verpoorten organised an academic workshop at IOB focusing on mining in the DRC, among other topics.

- Ecuador

Germán Calfat is team leader of the VLIR-IUC project ‘International Migration and Local Development’, an

IOB collaboration with the Universidad de Cuenca, in Ecuador, also coordinated by KU Leuven. The following is a list of the main activities of the joint investigation team for the year 2015:

- Further implementation of the PEACH survey (Problems, Expectations and Aspirations of Children), which covered 90 percent of the school population in the city of Biblian in the province of Cañar, an area with high out-migration rates. Ethnographic field research was conducted and interviews were carried out for a sample of pre-selected families in the municipalities of Biblian and Sigsig.
 - The census (comprising 2,500 households) was implemented in the municipality of Biblian, Cañar province, according to MIMM methodology (Migration Impact Monitoring Mechanism). The completion of the census involved the participation of 35 enumerators, six supervisors and a team of 15 data entry assistants, whose participation occurred at the same time as the census implementation.
 - Presentation of a manual on the implementation of MIMM methodology (203 pages + annexes). This publication aims to inform a broad audience interested in the phenomenon of migration about the methodology used in the project to generate data on both migrant and non-migrant households.
 - María José Rivera, a former IOB Master student, joined the research team in Cuenca, and carried out qualitative fieldwork for the survey based on ‘Carling’s Remittance Scripts’.
 - A study of the possibilities of labour market insertion of Colombian refugees in the city of Cuenca, Ecuador. This study is financially supported by the United Nations Refugee Agency (Ecuador Branch) and enjoys the support of HIAS, an international Jewish non-profit association for the protection of refugees. The activities of this project included the design of the study, and data collection and processing.
- Negotiations on an institutional cooperation agreement between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility of Ecuador and the Universidad de Cuenca (with the academic support of IOB) were completed successfully: the contract was signed in 2015. An agreement was reached on the activities (terms of reference) of the annual operative plan of the Observatory for Human Mobility of Ecuador (Observatorio de Movilidad Humana del Ecuador or OMHE). These will occur along three thematic lines: a) Emigration, b) Immigration and c) Return Migration.

- Burundi

Since 2011, IOB has been acting as the coordinating institution for the VLIR-IUC collaboration with the University of Burundi (coordinator: Filip Reyntjens). This programme has an annual budget of €450,000 and centres around five projects: support for education and research in the basic sciences; community health; rural development and food security in the provinces of Kayanza and Ngozi; support for expertise in the Faculty of Law in the areas of good governance and the rule of law; and new information and communication

technologies. Along with other long-term institutional partnerships in the DRC, this programme enables IOB to strengthen its networks in the African Great Lakes Region.

- Tanzania

Nathalie Holvoet is the northern team leader of one of the four projects being carried out by the VLIR-IUC programme with the University of Mzumbe (Morogoro Region, Tanzania). This six-year programme (2013-2018) called ‘Gre@t’ (Governance and Entrepreneurship through Research, Education, Access and Technology) aims to strengthen the teaching, research and service delivery capacity of Mzumbe staff, while exchange and joint activities also enrich the academic activities and output of the Flemish partner universities (including the universities of Ghent, Brussels, Hasselt and Antwerp). The focus of the project in which IOB is involved is on local governance in the water and education sectors in the rural villages surrounding Mzumbe.

After successfully finalising her first year of PhD study at IOB, Christina Shitima (assistant lecturer at Mzumbe) started her exploratory field research. Using a combination of key information interviews and focus group discussions, she collected data on river basin management and degradation, and household development strategies in villages along the Simiyu River and in the Kilombero valley floodplain. This allowed her to gain greater insight into the topics under study, to select the case study villages and refine her data collection instruments. Katrien Van Aelst, a BOF PhD student at IOB, entered the final phase of her research on the interaction between gender and decision-making processes in the context of climate change in the Morogoro region.

In order to strengthen the gender dimension of the ongoing research at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) and update the content of the gender-related courses offered at IDS, two Mzumbe staff members participated in the IOB course ‘Gender and Development: Local Institutional Perspectives’. Based on the successful pilot in 2014, three students from the Advanced Master in Environmental Sciences (IMDO, University of Antwerp) have been paired with Tanzanian students to conduct joint field research in the context of their Master dissertations. Finally, in 2015, findings from joint research on local education and water governance were analysed and valorised in two research reports and further reworked into publishable articles. As societal outreach is a key dimension of the VLIR-IUC programme, a policy brief was drafted to disseminate the main research findings to stakeholders positioned at different levels of local governance. Additionally, a two-day seminar was organised, targeted at ward and Mvomero district staff. Research reports were also discussed with the Belgian Directorate General for Development Cooperation (DGD) and the Belgian Development Agency (BTC) in order to seek a closer alignment with ongoing and new projects involving Belgian development cooperation in the area of water governance.

VLIR-UOS research platforms in Uganda

The two VLIR-UOS funded research platforms in Uganda, one on Governance and one on Insecurity, were successfully launched during 2014. These platforms aim to bring researchers together in order to enhance the knowledge base and scientific capacity of the academic communities in Uganda and Flanders and to conduct high-standard, policy-relevant research on governance and public policy issues, as well as on food, health and environmental insecurity topics. Four of the Governance platform projects and one of the Insecurity projects have IOB supervisors at the helm.

Kristof Titeca and Ugandan supervisor, Tenywa Aloysius Malagala (Gulu University), continued the ‘Governance and Post-conflict Reconstruction in Northern Uganda’ TEAM project. In 2015, David Olanya successfully finished the second year of his PhD on land conflicts in post-conflict northern Uganda. Moreover, a range of research projects on post-conflict reconstruction in northern Uganda by individual Ugandan researchers from the participating universities were conducted, which are now being finalised in publications. Additionally, in a South Initiative, Kristof Titeca is working with Mesharch Katusiimeh (Uganda Christian University) on the subject of ‘Urban Governance in Kampala’. In 2015, this initiative was concluded after finalising field research, a closing workshop, and a number of academic outputs (papers currently in submission). Meanwhile, Nadia Molenaers and Nathalie Holvoet are joining forces with the Uganda Christian University (supervisor Mesharch Katusiimeh) to learn more about the impact of accountability mechanisms on service delivery and how these mechanisms are affected by local politics. As a PhD student, Robert Tabaro will research sub-questions related to the overall topic. Findings will be broadly disseminated among domestic accountability actors. In 2015, two staff members engaged in the TEAM project obtained an Advanced Master Degree at IOB. Closely linked to this project, another South Initiative started in 2014 – Tom De Herdt as the Flemish supervisor and Pamela Mbabazi (MUST) as the Ugandan supervisor – focusing on effective service delivery and, more specifically, gauging whether decentralisation in Uganda has lived up to its promise of rendering service delivery more efficient.

Within another South Initiative, ‘The need to find durable solutions for old case-load refugees in Nakivale settlement in Mbarara district’ – coordinated by Filip Reyntjens as the Flemish supervisor, and Tom Ogwang (MUST) as the Ugandan supervisor – the detailed research design was refined and further elaborated in a workshop, and the data collection phase was initiated.

Finally, a South Initiative led by Nathalie Holvoet and Viola Nilah Nyakato (MUST) finalised data collection and analysis on intra-household time allocation and the effect it has on food and health security among rural communities.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

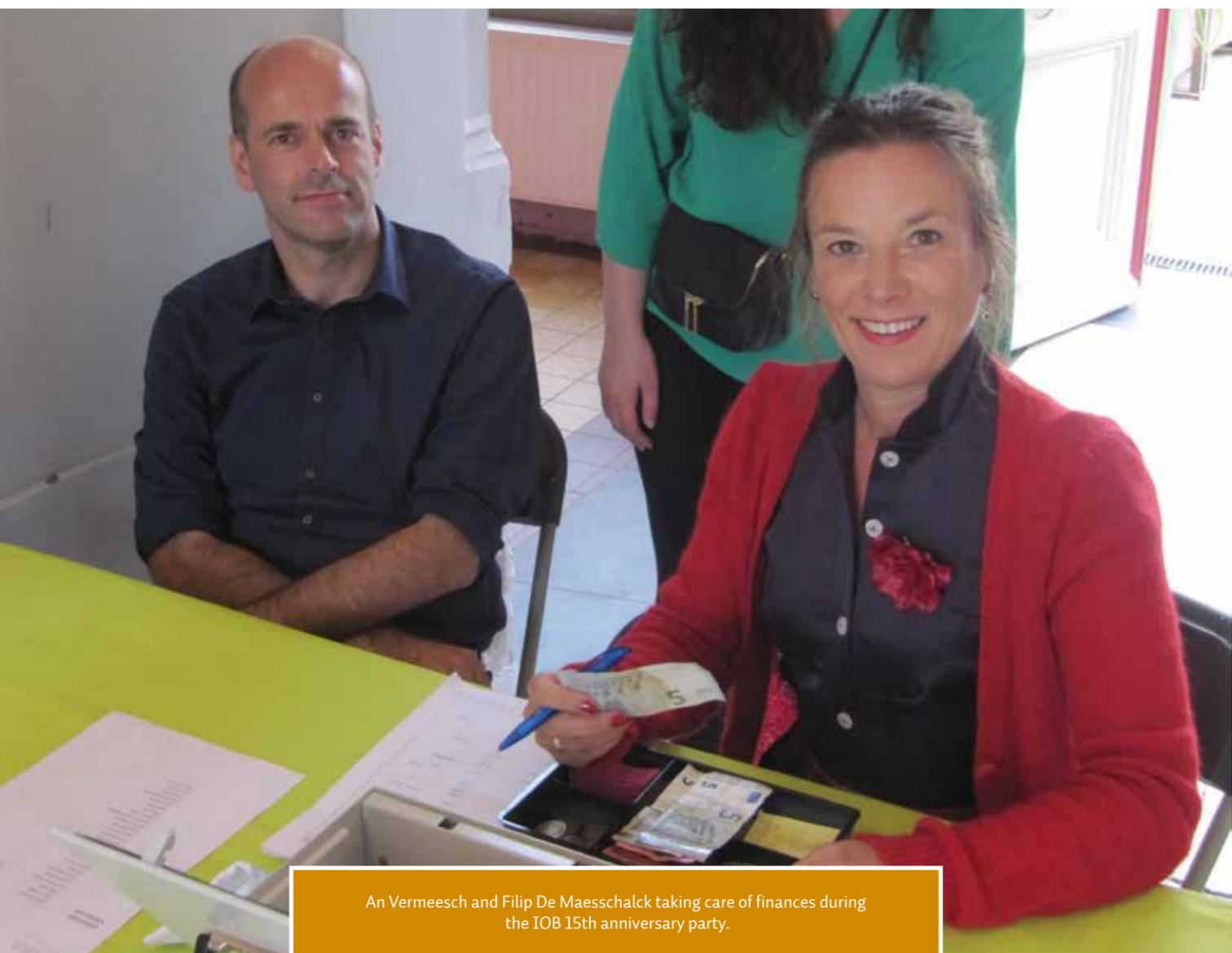
As external research funding is not integrated into the regular budget, the overview of IOB's financial and budgetary performance addresses the two items separately.

The table below provides an overview of the regular budget outturn for 2015, compared to the previous year's results. The basic annual endowment from the Flemish Government provides the lion's share of the regular budget, amounting to almost €2.15 million. The University of Antwerp adds its own annual endowment, as in previous years, totalling €220,000 in 2015. Other miscellaneous regular income sources, including the VLIR scholarship administration fee, exempted payroll taxes, and student tuition fees, add about €295,000. Total actual regular 2015 income amounted to almost €2.67 million, which is very close to budget, and almost identical to last year's figures.

Operating expenses added about €0.5 million, similar to the budget and 2014 outturn.

Overall, effective income and expenditures amounted to a net budgetary deficit of about €115,600 in 2015, about half of the budgeted deficit of €258,000 aimed at reducing reserves. This deficit slightly reduces the substantial historical reserves of the Institute, which still amounted to approximately €2.4 million at the end of 2015.

Apart from its regular income, IOB also attracts additional income from a broad range of external sources. Figure 2 (p17) combines the data on external research funding registered by the University of Antwerp's Research Coordination and Administration Department with the research component of IUC projects in which IOB staff participate as project leaders. As Figure 2 highlights, total additional external finance amounted to more than €1.3 million in



An Vermeesch and Filip De Maesschalck taking care of finances during the IOB 15th anniversary party.

TABLE 1. BUDGETARY IMPLEMENTATION IN 2014 AND 2015 (IN EUR)

	2014		2015		%
	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	
Income:					
Core funding Flemish Government	2,214,000	2,197,000	2,176,000	2,153,000	99%
UAntwerp funding	220,000	220,000	220,000	220,000	100%
Other miscellaneous income	246,000	249,833	261,000	294,712	113%
o/w exempted payroll taxes	120,000	137,017	120,000	159,054	132%
scholarship administration fee	85,000	83,743	95,000	92,488	97%
Total income	2,680,500	2,666,833	2,657,000	2,667,712	100%
Expenditure:					
Personnel costs	2,262,000	2,195,654	2,415,210	2,281,931	94%
Tenured academic staff	968,000	923,049	1,078,294	1,082,120	100%
Other academic staff	892,000	825,640	935,312	888,225	95%
Support staff	402,000	446,965	401,604	311,586	78%
Operating expenses	603,500	489,830	499,800	501,380	100%
Total expenditure	2,865,500	2,685,484	2,915,010	2,783,311	95%
Net result	-185,000	-18,651	-258,010	-115,599	

Total effective expenditures amounted to approximately €2.78 million. Personnel costs represented the main share of regular budget expenditures; in total, these amounted to about €2.3 million in 2015, around €130,000 less than budgeted. This difference between budget and outturn occurred mainly because of a one-time technical correction of the personnel costs of former years for one administrative staff member who transferred to another unit within the University of Antwerp. The increase in personnel costs in 2015 compared to 2014 is due to the planned and budgeted increase in a budgetary allowance that activates some of the Institute's historical reserves in order to provide temporary bridging funds to promising post-doctoral researchers (internal as well as external) who have recently finished a PhD (before switching to more permanent externally funded research positions).

2015, a substantial increase of about €200,000 compared to 2014. Most external research and service delivery funding (historically) comes from the (federal) government in the form of VLIR-UOS projects and programmes carried out with partner institutes in the North or South; however, in recent years we have also witnessed a considerable increase in funding from the Research Foundation-Flanders (FWO) in the form of pre-doc and post-doc scholarships. ■

PEOPLE @ IOB

Bureau:

- Chair: Tom De Herdt
- Chair Education Commission: Nadia Molenaers
- Chair Research Commission: Johan Bastiaensen
- Representative Research Staff: Mathias De Roeck
- Representative Support Staff: Vicky Verlinden

Commissions and committees chair persons:

- PhD commission: Johan Bastiaensen
- Social committee: Nadia Molenaers
- Library committee: Danny Cassimon
- IT commission: Karel Verbeke

Master programmes:

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

Secretariats:

- Institute Coordinator: Vicky Verlinden
- Research secretariat: Joëlle Dhondt, Katleen Van pellicom, Patricia Franck
- Financial secretariat: An Vermeesch
- Flemish Interuniversity cooperation with Burundi: Marjan Vermeiren

Scientific advisory board:

- Leo de Haan - Rector, International Institute of Social Studies in The Hague
- Geske Dijkstra – Professor, Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Thea Hilhorst – Professor, Wageningen University
- Carl Michiels – Director, Belgian Technical Cooperation
- Jan Vandemoortele - Independent Researcher
- Geoff Wood – Professor emeritus, University of Bath

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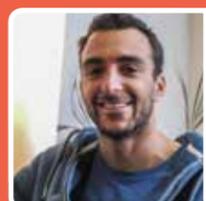
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**DEWACHTER
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Interuniversity
Cooperation

Staff joining in 2015

- 15 February, Mollie Gleiberman as research assistant
- 1 March, Wim Marivoet as support staff education innovation
- 17 August, Ciska De Ruyver as support staff quality assurance in education
- 1 October, Carola Betzold as postdoctoral research fellow
- 1 October, Els Lecoutere as postdoctoral research fellow
- 1 October, Nick Bogaert as research assistant
- 1 October, Sahawal Alidou as research assistant
- 1 October, Sarah Vancluysen as research assistant
- 1 October, Dennis Essers as postdoctoral research fellow

Staff leaving in 2015

- 30 June, Liesbeth Inberg, researcher
- 31 August, Filip De Maesschalck, research assistant
- 30 September, Nina Wilén, postdoctoral research fellow
- 30 September, Rogers Orock, postdoctoral research fellow
- 30 September, Frédéric Huybrechs, researcher
- 30 September, Nathalie Francken, postdoctoral research fellow
- 31 December, Marie Gildemyn, postdoctoral research fellow
- 31 December, Marco Sanfilippo, lecturer
- 31 December, Filip Reyntjens, full professor

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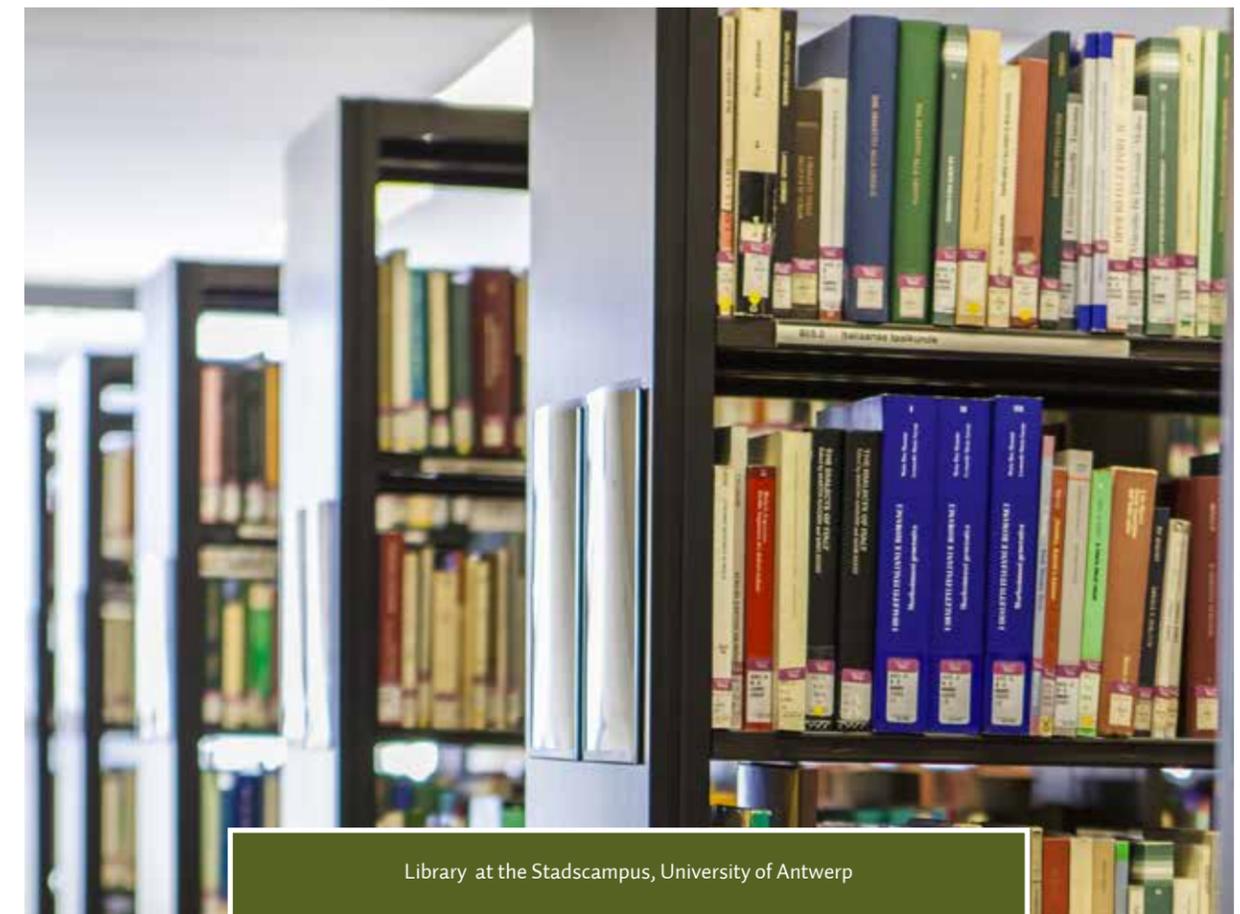
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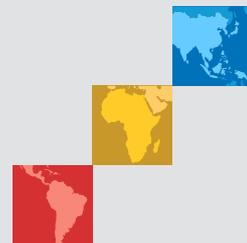
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