The Network



The Australian Development Studies Network seeks to provide a forum for discussion and debate of development issues, and to keep people in the field up-to-date with developments and events, publications, etc. The Network does this through its publications program and by conducting or co-sponsoring seminars, symposia and conferences. The Network produces three publications:

Development Bulletin is the Network's quarterly Newsletter. It includes short articles (normally 500 to 1,500 words); reports on conferences and seminars; announcements of forthcoming events; details of courses, research and work related to development or development studies; articles on the centres pursuing these activities; and information about development education materials, recent publications and other news.

Briefing Papers address a wide variety of development-related issues. They are concise (normally 2,000 to 5,000 words) and accessible to the non-technical reader, and may include implications for Australia's foreign/development assistance policy.

The Register of Development Research & Expertise (2nd Edition, 1988) contains the names, institutions, research, project experience and publications of people in Australia who are working in development-related research or who have first-hand experience of Third World development issues. Their expertise covers a broad range of disciplines and geographical areas. The Register is indexed by name, institution, discipline, country of expertise and keywords. To obtain the Register, please send a cheque for AS25.00, made out to Bibliotech, to Bibliotech, ANU, GPO Box 4, Canberra, ACT, 2601.

Correspondence



You may have information you wish to share with others in the development field: conference announcements or reports, notices of new publications, information about the work of your centre or courses you offer; or you may wish to respond to articles or briefing papers. If so, please write to the Editor.

If you wish to obtain Network publications or enquire about membership, subscriptions, seminar sponsorship, etc., please write to the Network Director. The address is:

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Australian Development Studies Network
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Tel: (06) 249 2466 Fax: (06) 257 2886

Deadlines 4

Closing dates for submissions to *Development Bulletin* are mid-November, -February, -May and -August for the January, April, July and October issues respectively.



Editor's notes

Dear Friends

We've been busy at the Australian Development Studies Network preparing this edition of the *Development Bulletin*. Unlike previous *Bulletins* it focuses on a specific issue—the Australian aid budget. As you are probably aware the 1991–92 aid budget has just been announced. We expect an interesting response to the papers presented here.

The next *Bulletin*, to be published in January 1992, will also include discussion on a specific issue—in this case the role of health in development. It will include a critique of Aboriginal health care initiatives, comment on AIDAB's health policy, and a review of health infrastructure needs in developing countries.

As usual, this *Bulletin* covers conferences, book reviews, development organisations and development resource materials.

Keep your letters flowing in, we appreciate your comments on the *Bulletin's* content.

Jo Victoria

Editor

Aid comments column

In the next issue of the *Development Bulletin* we will run a special Comments Column on the aid situation. If you have an opinion, a comment, a critique, or a positive suggestion please share it. Network members include politicians, public servants, academics, mass media, aid workers and educators. A sentence or two, a paragraph or two, or a page or two from you would add to this important debate. For the first 50 comments received we will send a free copy of the latest UNICEF publication *The State of the World's Children* 1991.

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Discussion series

Australian development assistance: are we a mean country?

The Australian aid budget for 1991–92 has just been announced raising questions about the levels and directions of assistance. The new budget shows an increase of \$56 million over that of 1990–91—a one per cent increase in real terms. Our official development assistance however remains at 0.35 per cent of GNP, reinforcing the downward trend of the last 20 years. The situation prompted Professor Helen Hughes, executive director of the National Centre for Development Studies, to name Australia the 'mean country' and to call for aid levels more commensurate with our GNP.

This issue of the *Development Bulletin* focuses on the quantity and quality of Australian aid and the theme of the 'mean country'. It includes an AIDAB summary of the 1991–92 budget, a National Centre for Development Studies briefing paper on aid policy, and five differing opinions on appropriate levels and future directions for development assistance.

Contributors are the Right Honourable Malcolm Fraser, former Prime Minister of Australia, 1975–1983, and now President of CARE International and chairman of CARE Australia; John Langmore, Member of Parliament for Fraser and chairman of the Trade Sub-committee of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade; Janet Hunt, Director of Campaigns and Education, Australian Council for Overseas Aid; Dr Joe Remenyi, Associate Professor, Development and Economics, Deakin University and Dr Grant McCall, Director, Centre for South Pacific Studies, University of New South Wales.

Australia's self interest in foreign aid

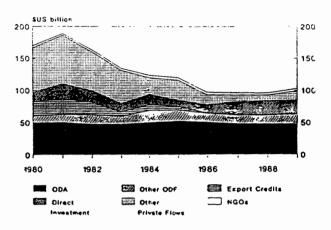
J.V. Remenyi, Deakin University

Global trends in foreign aid

Recent trends in global overseas development assistance (ODA) and other net resource flows to developing countries have been negative. During the 1960s, ODA flows to developing countries increased at a respectable five per cent per annum. In the 1970s this rate leaped to 30 per cent per annum, a rate that has proved non-sustainable in the 1980s. The 1980s ushered in 'aid fatigue' which saw ODA

barely hold its own in real terms, with recent global ODA flows showing signs of absolute declines. Net ODA from Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members fell as a per cent of GNP from 0.36 per cent in 1988 to 0.33 per cent in 1989.

Figure 1 Net resource flows to developing countries, 1980–1989 (1987 current prices)



Source: OECD, 1990.

The Australian aid experience

At first glance, Australia's record in development assistance seems to be creditable. Australia's foreign aid vote has, on average, risen at an increasing rate for more than a generation. Relative to GNP, Australia's aid commitments match the average of DAC members.

In the earliest years, following the end of the second world war, Australia's commitments to foreign aid rarely exceeded \$13 million annually. Soon after the Korean War, however, ODA quickly doubled and then tripled so that \$50 million was reached during 1959. Foreign aid had doubled again by 1964–65, reaching almost \$100 million. It has been doubling at approximately six year intervals ever since.

Table 1 Trends in Australia's net ODA

Year ending 30 June	Net ODA (A\$million)	Interval (Years)	ODA/GNP* (Per cent)
1945-46	13		0.39
1964-65	98	18	0.51
1971-72	201	7	0.58
1977-78	426	6	0.46
1983-84	82 8	6	0.44
1989-90	1174	6	0.33
1990-91	1267	1	0.33
1991–92	1300**	1	0.32**

Including the education subsidy for foreign students studying in Australia for 1989–90 and 1990–91 only.

Sources: Australian International Development Assistance Bureau; Australian Budget Related Papers.

^{**} Personal estimate.

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From Table 1 it can be seen that Australia's CDA doubled to 5200 million in only seven years, then doubled again to over \$400 million over the next six years, exceeding \$800 million by the end of the calendar year 1983. If we project these trends, ODA should reach \$2 billion in 1995. However, growth trends in GNP in 1991–92 notwithstanding, ODA as a percentage of GNP will decline if increases in aid are not accelerated above this rate.

The United Nations target rate for ODA of 0.70 per cent of GNP is clearly irrelevant and unattainable by Australia in the foreseeable future. Apart from the performance of Australia's ODA, two other factors stand out. First, the dominance of Papua New Guinea in Australia's aid budget. As Australian commitments to Papua New Guinea decline this ought to release ODA resources for use in other countries or in other parts of the aid program. Second, the increasing importance, since the immediate post Bretton Woods years, of Australia's contributions to multilateral aid agencies, including the regional development banks and the United Nations agencies. On average the growth rate of Australian contributions to multilateral aid is in excess of 20 per cent per annum (Table 2).

Table 2 Australian's net ODA as a percentage of GNP, 1945–91 (annual averages)

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Year ending 30 June	Total ODA	Multi- lateral	Total	PNG	Other
1945–50	0.47	0.36	0.11	0.11	
195060	0.28	0.03	0.21	0.14	0.04
1960-70	0.52	0.05	0.40	0.35	0.07
1970-80	0.53	0.06	0.40	0.32	0.07
1980-90	0.44	0.07	0.26	0.15	0.11
1990–9 1	0.33	0.07	0.19	80.0	0.07

Sources: Australian International Development Assistance Bureau, Australian Budget Related Papers.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, growth in Australia's bilateral aid program has not kept pace with growth in its multilateral contributions. The Australian bias in favour of aid delivery via multilateral channels should be critically examined. It may well be justified, but one ought to be confident that the net marginal benefit from ODA delivered in this way is not less than the net marginal benefit from ODA delivered through the bilateral program or other forms of Australian aid.

Goals, governments and mandates

Ultimately the mandate for increases in the foreign aid vote is approved or disapproved at the ballot box. In times of high unemployment and mountainous budget deficits the cry, 'charity begins at home' seems less callous and is difficult to ignore. Record numbers of Australians are unemployed, immigration is being cut back, governments are marching for ways to reduce their expenditure without exacerbating unemployment, and politicians seem to think that 'there are no votes in foreign aid'. Consequently, the prospects for doing more than 'holding the line' on foreign aid seem bleak.

For almost two decades, both Labor and Conservative governments, have expressed Australia's commitment to achieving the United Nations target of 3.7 per cent of GNP for foreign development assistance. In 1970, when the goal was set, Australia was contributing 0.59 per cent of its GNP to ODA disbursements. This figure has persistently fallen since, irrespective of the government in office.

Under the Whitlam Government ODA averaged 0.53 per cent of GNP. During Fraser's leadership the average declined to 0.50 per cent. So much for the Whitlam Government's commitment to the United Nations target and even less for Mr. Fraser's loudly proclaimed pursuit of the Harries Report recommendation 'to prevent any further diminution in the proportion of our GNP going to development aid' 1979:189). Nonetheless, this failure pales into insignificance compared with the performance of the Hawke Government. Mr. Hayden, then the Labor spokesman on foreign aid, commented in November 1981, that 'the Labor Government which assumes office in 1983 will attain the United Nations target of 0.70 per cent within its first term' (Langmore and Peetz, 1983: 117). In the intervening decade the Labor Government of Mr Hawke has not once begun to bridge the gap. ODA as a percentage of GNP has declined from 0.50 under the Liberal Coalition to only 0.33 per cent under Labor.

There are apologists who would explain the decline in ODA under Labor, but it is important to focus on more constructive matters. In the post Jackson era, AIDAB has been restructured and administrative reform has re-ordered the manner in which Australian ODA is managed and delivered. However, for present purposes we must focus on the qualitative change that has been introduced into Australia's ODA program. This change, which involved a shift toward aid that stresses the benefits to Australia, was first recommended by the Jackson Committee's review of Australian aid.

The concept of a 'win-win' scenario in aid is attractive. It makes sense to consider that ODA can and should be of benefit to the donor and the recipient. In Australia's case, however, the significance of ODA for our own benefit is so overwhelming that it is amazing that ODA is not seen as an essential element in the promotion and support of Australia's



long term economic growth. There are several compelling points that can be made in this respect.

First, Australian agricultural output is in many important respects complementary to the food needs of the Third World. Two-thirds of the world's population live in countries in which rice is the staple food. As these economies prosper the demand for rice tends to fall as a proportion of the budget spent on food. However, the proportion spent on other foods, especially wheaten-based foods, meats, fish and horticultural products rises more than proportionately. Australia is ideally placed to supply these foodstuffs.

In coming decades more of Australia's markets for these commodities will be the countries to which we now give foreign aid. Their success will be our gain as their increasing demand for Australian agricultural exports brings new life to our traditional economic markets.

Second, the statistics of aid and trade already indicate that the balance of resource flows with respect to the countries to whom Australia gives aid is greatly in Australia's favour as shown in Table 3.

Table 3 Annual average aid and trade flows, 1987/88–89/90 (A\$million)

Recipient	ODA from Australia	Balance of Trade	Ratio BofT/ODA
Papua New Guinea	310.2	639.3	2.1
Indonesia	91.7	309.0	3.4
Malaysia	44.5	126.7	2.8
Thailand	33.6	42.7	1.3
Philippines	30.7	236.3	7.7
Bangladesh	28.2	45.3	1.6
Fiji	23.7	82.3	3.5
People's Republic			
of China	22.9	186.7	8.2
Vietnam	17.5	18.0	1.0
Egypt	14.4	400.7	27.8
Vanuatu	13.8	24.7	1.8
Solomon Islands	13.0	47.7	3.7
Sri Lanka	5.2	9.3	1.8

Sources: Australian International Development Assistance Bureau; Australian Bureau of Statistics Composition of Australia's trade.

The conclusion to be drawn is that the countries to which Australia gives aid also tend to be those that import from Australia. ODA is a trade promoting boomerang!

It does not follow, however, that trade promotion ought to be a higher priority in the aid program than it is already. The statistics merely support the view that ODA which promotes broad based economic growth in developing countries also encourages growth of imports by these countries. The priority must be for quality, growth-focused aid.

The thirz factor which ought to convince policy makers that ODA is an investment in Australia's own future is the support that the Australian public has clearly expressed in favour of humanitarian aid. Growth through poverty targeted ODA, which meets this humanitarian goal, is not only a viable strategy for giving ODA effectively (Remenyi, 1990 and 1991), but also promotes the very sort of broadbased growth that will rebound in Australia's favour. In time, the consequence will also be a firmer and more popular mandate for ODA in Australia.

Conclusions

There is almost no debate in Australia on the question of foreign aid. Both the Liberal and Labor governments of the post second world war period have expressed an on-going Australian commitment to ODA. Despite this commitment, Australia's record on ODA has not risen above the rhetoric of 'motherhood'. If the United Nations target for ODA is to be reached, we must overcome the psychological barrier that prevents our political decision makers from seeing that ODA is indeed a viable strategy in support of our own long term economic growth, and is consistent with the humanitarian commitments of the Australian electorate.

No amount of public debate will help if the present levels of public misinformation about ODA are not rectified. This will require more effort than AIDAB has had the wherewithal and willingness to show thus far. In Australia the education of the public on matters relating to foreign aid has been primarily left to the private and non-government sector. As a result, public perceptions of foreign aid have come to be too closely identified with humanitarian actions to relieve the immediate sufferings of the under-neurished, the sick and the dying in poor countries. ODA as a means of providing long-term assistance for non-humanitarian but legitimate developmental purposes has, therefore, been passed over. Those in Australia who stand to gain most directly from ODA have failed to lobby for aid. Private enterprise, including Australia's farmers and farmer organisations, are major culprits in this respect.

There is a supportive base for aid on which a firm but flexible mandate for ODA from Australia can be built. Australians are not averse to an ODA program that goes beyond humanitarian responses, makes the most of our self interests in giving foreign aid, and utilises the foreign policy role that ODA can play. These are characteristics of Australian's attitudes to foreign aid that can be nurtured to dispel fears and justify the increases in ODA that will be necessary if Australia is ever to meet and maintain the United Nations target of 0.70 per cent of GNP.

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Nowhere will this message be more effectively heard than through our own local members of parliament. Those who support an expanded Australian aid programme must enlist their support.

Joe Remenyi is Associate Professor in Development and Economics at Deakin University and Director of the Centre for Applied Social Research, Faculty of Social Sciences.

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Notes

DAC members include all OECD members excluding Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Portugal, Spain and Turkey, plus the EC Commission.

The decline in Australia's overseas aid

Malcolm Fraser, President, CARE International, Chairman, CARE Australia

The decline-what it means

The decline in Australia's overseas aid programme is serious, long term, and unopposed. It is not simply the result of pruning the budget.

With impunity the Government has steadily cut aid, until it is now a meagre 0.35 per cent of GNP (despite this year's marginal increase in real terms). Worse, the rate of fall has accelerated sharply. In 1986–87, the fall was a record 11.8 per cent. These figures, however, mask the true size of the fall in aid. Recent accounting changes relating to overseas students and aid administration have inflated the size of official aid. If the current aid to GNP ratio was calculated on the same basis as in the peak year of 1965–66, this year's figure would be significantly lower.

For the first time since the second world war, Australia has a government which can do what it likes about aid. The Opposition has let the Government get away with it, and has even foreshadowed greater cuts. Its main contribution has been to carp about some aspects of aid to Africa. This is a unique situation.

Without public debate, or policy announcements, the political position of overseas aid has been undermined. All of this has happened while Australians' personal incomes have consistently grown. Australia was a more generous nation when it was poorer. As Australia has become meaner it has also lost the foresight which led it to correctly attach importance to overseas aid. Something fundamental has changed.

Modern foreign aid had its origins in the period after the second world war, when the international community perceived the need to reconstruct a shattered world. It was given impetus in the period of colonial liberation, which had its peak in the 1960s as African colonies regained their freedom. When socialist ideology spread to these countries international cooperation by Western nations increased, even if motives became more confused.

Aid was one of the central instruments for fashioning a new and better world. Australia was then at the forefront of this enlightened approach. Its participation is reflected in the steady growth in overseas aid throughout the 1950s and 1960s and was at its highest during the prime ministership of Sir Robert Menzies. Australia was then proudly amongst the highest per capita aid denors. In 1990, for the first time, the ratio of Australian aid to GNP slipped below the average for Development Assistance Committee (DAC) donors.

The meanness of recent aid budgets, means that Australia is, by default, abandoning its historic role as a constructive partner in world affairs.

Good reasons for good aid

It is reasonable for a democratic society to periodically ask itself why it should give away its own resources to benefit others.

The arguments in support of aid are only valid if it helps achieve defined objectives. These considerations cannot be assumed, but must be continually validated. The proponents of more aid must be able to demonstrate the value of that aid. Recourse to arguments based on ideology or morality does not, of itself, provide a sufficient basis for asking the nation to make the sacrifice entailed in contributing to someone else's economic growth.

The aid discussion in Australia has been blighted by purist notions of moral imperatives. Aid had to be separated from trade. In part this has contributed to the collapse of the political will to provide overseas aid and, in turn, to the decline in the aid vote.

There is no good reason for divorcing aid from the overall national interest. If aid continues to be unrelated to issues which the ration perceives as important, it will never regain its former position. This is simply recognition that the motives for giving aid are, and always will be, mixed. The important moral

dimension of aid must be accommodated, but not to the exclusion of the other realities. Aid should be a very practical instrument for serving Australia's interests.

Working from this starting point, the basic question which must determine Australia's attitude to overseas aid is, are we going to retreat into smug, self centred isolation, or are we going to be a significant and compassionate participant in world affairs? The unheralded but steady erosion of foreign aid suggests that Australia has embarked willy nilly upon a policy of closing its mind to some of the most persistent issues in the world. Forging links with the 'tiger' economies of East Asia is held to be a sufficient basis for a sustainable foreign policy. That is a one dimensional view of the world of the 1990s.

The first and most prominent reason for a renewed aid effort is that in recent years the world has undergone remarkable changes. These present new opportunities and new pitfalls. A relieved world has seen a marked easing of global tension resulting from the historic changes in Eastern Europe. In Southern Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe have become independent, and the foundations of apartheid have been so shaken that there is a real prospect for majority rule in South Africa. In many places, people's power movements have forged a new democratic ethos. Some Asian economies have achieved high levels of economic growth and industrialisation.

There is the opportunity for the world to seize the moment to work cooperatively to eradicate poverty and under-development. Overseas aid has the potential to help realise this new opportunity.

The pitfall is that the rich countries in Europe and North America will turn their backs on poor countries in the 'South'. Changes in international affairs will not translate into a better world without the constructive engagement which characterises good aid.

It is always difficult for Australia, as a middle-level power, to make its voice heard in international councils. The foreign aid program represents a legitimate and effective means of raising Australia's international profile. That, in turn, enhances international trading opportunities and diplomatic influence. As a result of the changes in Europe there is now a greater, not a lesser, need to be heard. We need an effective overseas aid program more than ever.

Whether for good or bad, global changes will impact on Australia's place in the world. Australia needs the benefits of easing world tensions to flow to its own region. As the principal donor in the geographic 'South', it needs to be in a position to articulate the case for maintaining and increasing aid flows to the political south. A major foreign policy objective for Australia should be to ensure that the industrial rations do not neglect the needs of poor countries in the southern periphery. While its own aid declines, Australia is in no position to be a credible advocate for its own region.

Australia neglects at its peril the great potential for the events in Eastern Europe to sharply accentuate the 'North-South' divide. Even more than before, Australia will be on the periphery of world affairs, as primary producers are already discovering. Australia's strategic significance to the United States has lessened. There is a danger that the wealthy world will become more selfish and that their foreign policy will centre on the new, free 'North'. The demand for capital to modernise production in the former Eastern Bloc could well divert resources from nations like Cambodia, sorely in need of reconstruction after the destructive effects of cold war rivalry.

In the 'South' vast numbers of the world's people still live in wretched poverty. A compassionate society cannot turn its back on the humanitarian obligation to help these people.

The Australian people consistently express their own interest in providing aid for this purpose. In the midst of our greatest recession, giving to voluntary aid agencies has gone up. In fact, in recent years, there has been considerable growth in NGOs which should be seen as a direct response by Australians to the plight of so many people around the world. This phenomenon is reflected in public opinion. A 1987 survey found that the great majority (73 per cent) of the Australian population approved of foreign aid, while 65 per cent believed aid to be a moral duty.

There is a real possibility that in quietly cutting aid the political parties have misjudged the will of the Australian people.

The remedy

Before aid is increased aid programs it need to be revitalised. It is important not merely to increase the quantity of aid, but to increase its value as an investment for promoting the well-being of the world's people.

Arresting the decline in the quantity of aid, first and foremost, requires re-establishing the relevance of aid to the contemporary world. Mindless calls for more aid, as if it is a self-evident good, are likely to be futile, especially in economic systems which properly measure benefits against costs. Nor can there be a return to the naive arguments of the past.

In 1984, Australia broke new ground by publishing a full-scale, independent review of its overseas aid program, the Jackson Report. No other donor *

country had ever attempted such a thing. It was an intelligent way of approaching an important national issue. Now there are compelling reasons for a similar review.

As if to mock its own initiative, the Government began its accelerated reduction of the aid program the moment the Jackson Report was published. Jackson was based on one set of assumptions about the importance attached to the aid program, but its recommendations had to be implemented while the Government's actions undermined those assumptions.

The years since 1984 have seen important new understandings about the forms of aid. There is an appreciation that collectivist ideologies deaden individual initiative which is necessary to achieve economic growth and relieve world poverty. The role of NGOs has become more prominent, along with the acceptance of the pivotal role of communities in development. NGOs are now a major channel of development assistance. They not only diversify the aid delivery mechanisms available to governments, but also facilitate direct engagement with communities where critical development functions take place. Jackson did not reflect these insights.

Foreign aid is a vital component of Australia's relations with the world. It is ultimately an investment in our own future which contributes to our own prosperity. The quantity of aid is properly a matter for public discussion. To restore the level of aid, and put it onto a reliable growth trajectory, it is necessary to re-focus policy deliberation by conducting a thorough-going and independent review of the aid programme and the many critical issues it embraces.

Foreign aid and the Hawke Labor Government

John Langmore, MP, Chairman Trade Sub-Committee of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade.

Aid and the Australian Labor Party

The Australian Labor Party (ALP) has always shown concern for the poor, both at home and in the Third World. The Whitlam Labor Government established the Australian Development Assistance Agency to strengthen our development cooperation activities in the third world.

The main focus of attention among those in the ALP has been to lift Australia's aid as a proportion of our GNP. We have been successful in incorporating ODA/GNP targets into ALP policy. Most recently

the ALP's 1991 National Conference passed a resolution reaffirming our commitment to achieve the United Nations target for ODA of 0.70 per cent of GNP. We have been less successful in translating these targets into reality.

The 1991 Conference resolution also included an interim goal of achieving 0.40 per cent of GNP by 1995. The 1991–92 budget for an ODA/GNP percentage of 0.35 is unchanged from 1990–91, but is considerably below on the first Hawke budget in 1983–84 which managed 0.51 per cent. It will require strong, sustained efforts to ensure that even the modest interim target is achieved.

It would be unfair to place too much blame on the ALP for Australia's falling ODA/GNP level. The reality is that the ODA/GNP level has been falling since the late 1960s. The principal reason for this is declining assistance to Papua New Guinea. This is a welcomed and natural consequence of Papua New Guinea's increasing economic independence.

Viewed this way, the falling ODA/GNP ratio is not so much a deliberate and mean spirited cut back as an unwillingness to compensate by more rapidly expanding the non-Papua New Guinea parts of our aid program. Perhaps we have focussed too heavily on an important but simplistic ODA/GNP target and not enough on arguing well for increased aid for specific purposes. Perhaps we have spent too much effort in criticising the parts of the aid program we do not like and too little seeking to expand those areas most developmentally beneficial.

Within the ALP some of us have worked to expand the best parts of the aid program. The 1991 ALP conference resolution called on the Labor Government to:

- support development cooperation which focuses on the most vulnerable people;
- increase the focus on eliminating poverty; and
- make a substantial contribution to improving the life chances of the billion people who live in absolute poverty world wide.

This focus on poverty is the basis of our struggle for a larger and better Australian aid program, but to achieve this goal we need to argue for high priority projects which AIDAB can undertake. This is not easy. AIDAB's own study on poverty alleviation contains little in the way of real projects which the Bureau can undertake. Within the ALP and in the non-government groups, much more work needs to be done to promote specific poverty oriented projects to AIDAB.

Increasing the aid budget

Existing aid programs are partly protected by precedent and vested interest. It is the new programs that

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require our strongest support. These are also the best means for increasing the total ODA/GNP ratio. The environmental groups, with support from others, have successfully applied this principle. Much of the 1991–92 aid increase comes from an \$80 million (over four years) Environmental Assistance Program which itself is a quadrupling of a 1989 initiative.

The other major increases in the 1991–92 budget are 10 per cent increases in funding for both NGOs and the Development Import Finance Facility (DIFF). These programs are strongly supported by community groups and business. This demonstrates that the Government is willing to act on pressure from outside, and should encourage us in our efforts to improve the aid program.

DIFF is also a good example of the efficacy of calling for specific projects. DIFF projects are proposed by Australian businesses seeking finance for developmentally sound projects. There are many more projects proposed than can be funded. This backlog provides a continuous pressure on the Government to increase funding. NGOs would find much community and political support if they spoke about projects being delayed by a lack of funding. Precious public attention might be better directed to this more positive criticism than to the unfortunate but inevitable failings in funding our total aid program.

We should be preparing funding increase requests for specific and realistic projects which meet our poverty alleviation objectives. More basic preventive health projects, primary and vocational education projects, revolving credit schemes and so on, in locations with the greatest poverty problems will not naturally grow out of AIDAB as it is currently structured. It is up to the proponents of poverty alleviation to make very practical proposals which Ministers can take to the Expenditure Review Committee of Cabinet and win funding for in the face of opposition from Finance Department officials.

Lobbying for aid

Looking more broadly, as lobbyists for poverty alleviation, we have had considerable success in improving the development models used by Australian and international decision makers. The 1990s are clearly becoming the decade of poverty alleviation and environmental protection in development models and development rhetoric. While these are only words they can, with judicious lobbying, become actions.

The 1991 ALP conference resolution notes the impact of high levels of indebtedness, deteriorating terms of trade, and structural adjustment programs in the worsening conditions of many people in the Third World. It also recognises that structural ad-

justment programs promoted by the IMF and World Bank frequently hit hardest at the most vulnerable groups particularly women and children, and have led to a decline in low cost health and education services.

It is calls like these which are pushing the World Bank to reconsider its hard economic development model and to incorporate poverty alleviation measures in some of its structural adjustment loans. This is still at the level of bandaids for cuts promoted by the Bank. But it is a step forward which we can follow up.

Australian NGOs have been very successful in promoting their poverty alleviation and environmental protection message to Australia's representative on the World Bank's Board of Executive Directors. Australia is now actively working in the Board to expand poverty alleviation components of the Bank's structural adjustment lending and to require environmental impact assessments on Bank projects.

Our emphasis on poverty alleviation was central to oursuccess in convincing the Government to reverse its decision to stop funding the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD). This agency has an excellent record in assisting the poorest people in rural areas to better their living standards and this played the major part in our lobbying on IFAD's behalf. We have also finally been successful inconvincing the Government to reverse its decision to stop funding the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation. This very positive decision will assist the developing countries to produce the many industrial goods they require to raise their standard of living.

A good example of the Government's willingness to respond to specific NGO requests is the recent cyclone in Bangladesh. The Government's initial response exhausted the funds set aside for emergency assistance. Largely in response to NGO requests substantial additional funds were made available by Cabinet.

Conclusion

Our objective for a bigger and better Australian aid program is achievable under the Hawke Labor Government. Our focus on poverty alleviation and environmental protection is correct and can be effective

It is possible to achieve real improvements in the Labor Government's development cooperation record. What we require is more constructive criticism and pragmatic project proposals. But concerned people should not only focus on the ALP. The Liberal Party ran in the last election on a platform of



The Australian Development Studies Network

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reducing Australia's aid program by \$100 million. In contrast, since then the Labor Government has added nearly \$50 million in real terms to the aid budget. Without doubt some lobbying work on the Liberal Party is also required.

Where is Australia?

Grant McCall, University of New South Wales

People kept asking me the question: 'Where is Australia?' at a recent conference on Maui, a developing island in the Hawai'ian archipelage. The week-long conference, called 'Cultural values in the age of technology', was organised by the Kapalua Pacific Center and was attended by fifty Pacific Islanders from government planning departments and over one hundred Americans. I was the only person from Australia present. There was no New Zealand participation.

The conference was extremely stimulating, with field visits to showcase institutions on Maui, such as the electricity commission, an agricultural development station, an innovative hotel using native Hawai'ian cultural values as management concepts and several other government and private institutions. We were shown planning procedures, how interactive television and satellite technology can aid distance education.

The Americans were showing the Pacific Islands what they had to offer and the Islanders were listening intently. Representatives from all Pacific islands were invited and only the Solomon Islands and Niue did not attend.

I kept getting asked: 'Where is Australia?'.

What was meant by that was not just attendance at the conference. Constant reference was made to the meeting between US President George Bush and eleven leaders of Pacific Island countries on 27 October 1990 at the East-West Center in Honolulu. Apart from effectively disposing of the Johnston Atoll waste dumping issue (which Bob Hawke had failed to do at the Forum a short time before), the Americans offered to 'The Aquatic Continent' (get used to the phrase!) five new and very specific initiatives:

- A Joint Commercial Commission (JCC) to identify and address commercial opportunities and trade concerns;
- The establishment of two new funds of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, for private sector and natural resource development;
- Extension of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Treaty

- The addition of AID private sector assistance programs to enhance agriculture and marine resource development
- Three new programs, educational exchanges and an extension of the APEC partnership for education initiative.

What do these initiatives mean? First, I think, that with the JCC we can say that SPARTECA is on the way out. Australia is questioning the scheme, in face of internal pressures from trade unions and the growing complexity of the CER (Closer Economic Relationship) with New Zealand. Apart from Australian rethinking of SPARTECA, will the Islanders be interested when the JCC offers them the even bigger North American market and better terms? Probably not.

Second, the OPIC development ultimately means American interest in developing Pacific Ocean seabed resources. Third, the briefing document prepared by the East–West Center for the Bush talks contains a section on the Law of the Sea and the American view of it. As part of this resource development, taking Oceania as a 'continent', there is the sensitive issue of fisheries, long a stumbling block in relations between island states and the US.

The fourth initiative reinforces growing control of those marine resources.

Finally, as Australia restricts its immigration of Pacific Islanders generally, and curtails tertiary access with its greedy pursuit of the overseas student dollar, the fifth initiative means that more influential Islanders will be having their training and degrees from North American institutions, rather than the costlier and more restrictive Australian ones.

The people of Hawai'i, particularly their powerful Senator Daniel K. Inouye, are pushing hard for a concept that we are going to hear more about in the next few years. Hawai'i is to be the 'Geneva of the Pacific'.

Where, then, is Australia and how is this reflected in the aid budget?

The Islander planners at the Kapalua Conference had not seen any Australian initiatives even remotely comparable to the American October announcements, and some found it odd that our Foreign Minister should give a large grant to a controversial and distant African organisation, while cutting back on programs closer to home.

Perhaps the answer is to be found in the brutally honest comments of the newly appointed Minister for Trade and Overseas Development, Dr. Neal Blewett, in contrast to earlier statements on the purposes of the Australian aid program. The conventional objective of the Australian program usually



runs something like this: "To promote the economic and social advancement of the peoples of developing countries in response to Australia's humanitarian concerns, as well as Australia's foreign policy and commercial interests'.

This view, which we might call the public face, is common to the stated objectives of many development policies of our OEC partners, where agencies enunciate humanitarian matters first, the self interested features being placed discretely later on the list of goals.

For some time studies of development have analysed foreign aid programs in terms of self-interest, pointing out that most aid funds never leave the so-called donor country, enriching its citizen consultants, aid bureaucracy and subsidising its industry suppliers. Dr. Blewett seems to have been reading our literature, for in an official statement in his own publication, he declares:

The goals of trade and overseas development assistance are complementary and mutually supportive with over 90 per cent of goods and services provided under the aid program originating here in Australia. (Focus 5(1):6, AIDAB, 1991.)

Recently, the Pacific Islands have not been seen as a source of trade and business opportunity, although there was considerable trade in the past. Sandalwood, copra and a host of other products were extracted from the islands. The Colonial Sugar Refinery in Fiji did very well for over a century. Burns Philp, known as 'BP' (for 'bloody pirates', some said) built a considerable fortune from their island trade, although they are now withdrawing from the region.

When it suited Australia tens of thousands of Kanak labourers were brought in to work on plantations in Queensland. Nauruan and Banaban (Ocean Island) phosphate, extracted cheaply and with devastating environmental consequences, fertilised the fields of Australia for much of this century. Papua New Guinea continues to be a quarry for raw resources for Australian based companies.

Now, Australia seems to be turning towards Asia, in the hopes of making better money there than is apparent in the Pacific Islands. In the rush to cash in on what our business leaders think are the lucrative Asian markets, Pacific Island markets are being ignored. This may lead to unpleasant surprises like having our options reduced. An example is Fiji's recent ban of petrol imports worth \$121m.

Remember the rubric 'Asia-Pacific'? If you go back to the mid-1980s, Australia's role in 'Asia-Pacific' was a matter of considerable debate and study, including several parliamentary enquiries. In the last few years 'Pacific' seems to have been eliminated

from 'Asia Pacific'. The Hawke Government sees itself increasingly involved in Asia, particularly as a junter partner in Japan's revamped concept of a co-prosperity zone.

I do not suggest that we should maintain our Pacific Islands ties because the Islands were exploited by our ancestors. Association and assistance through guilt never lasts very long. Rather, I suggest that our best associates are those of the Pacific Islands with whom we share so much in common, both historically and in terms of our common, dependent place in the world. With the peoples of the Pacific Islands, particularly those south of the equator, we share a common colonial heritage, a largely Judeo-Christian culture and a love of mutually intelligible sport. Moreover, whilst we extracted from the Pacific Islands, there were others who did so as well. We continue to be a source of raw materials and, like the Pacific Islands, dependent upon commodity export. Our populations are small. Therefore, we have difficulty in developing a local manufacturing industry in many areas.

Whilst we might be loathe to admit it, we are also dependent upon larger economic and political powers for our prosperity and security. To our masters we send raw materials and from them we obtain the bulk of our manufactured goods, including defence products. For many years, it was Britain who protected us. After the 1940s, the USA took over that role. The economic and cultural consequences are evident in any cinema, television program or other mass media.

But, we are just that bit better off. We can afford to help our neighbours and to do this on the basis of mutual respect and common understanding in an empathetic way that larger countries cannot do convincingly.

The Pacific Islands do not think that they are anybody's 'back yard' and we should not continue to use that big brother rhetoric with peoples with whom we have a natural association. But, perhaps we have been told to leave somebody *else's* back yard alone; told to go back to our own island and behave ourselves?

Am I making too much of the fact that it was the US and not Australia (or New Zealand) that provided the overflow accommodation for those attending the July 1991 Forum meeting in Pohnpei, in the Federated States of Micronesia and that it was the USS Racine, a tank transport, that took over from the ANZAC ships of previous meetings? When Bush visits Australia, for two or three days at the end of November of this year, will he whisper a little note in Bob's ear? 'Thanks for looking after the Pacific for us; we'll take over now!'

Only once before has an American Procident in office visited. Australia and that was Lyndon Baines Johnson, in 1966, when Australia was persuaded to enter the Vietnam quagmire. Australia went 'All the way with LBJ'. This time, will we get the push from Bush? Where will Australia be then?

Trends in Australian aid: an NGO perspective

Janet Hunt, Australian Council for Overseas Aid (ACFOA)

In 1968 Australians provided \$82 per capita to developing countries in Official Development Assistance (ODA). Today, we provide 543 per capita. Australia has certainly become a meaner country. Over the same period we have become considerably richer as a nation. Our GNP per capita has increased from \$14,600 in 1968 to \$20,950 in 1990 (all figures are in constant prices).

Due to slow GNP growth, the expected 0.33 per cent ODA/GNP ratio last year actually increased to 0.35 per cent by the end of the financial year. The level of aid will remain the same for 1991–92. The Labor-Party National Conference held in June this year resolved that aid should reach 0.40 per cent of GNP by 1995. To achieve this greater increases will be needed in future years than were achieved this year.

This year's one per cent real increase in dollar terms was a step in the right direction at last—but a very small step. As GNP growth is expected to be about two per cent this year, and aid is only growing at one per cent, we may well find that the aid level has dropped back to 0.34 per cent of GNP by the end of this financial year.

But the level of aid is not the only concern. The cuts in aid have affected the quality of the aid program as well. This is of great concern to ACFOA.

Despite the cuts, two areas of the program have grown considerably in recent years. These are contributions to the World Bank and Asian Development Bank (ADB), and the Development Import Finance Facility (DIFF). In a declining aid budget, growth in these areas has squeezed other areas which non-government organisations value. For example, the Women and Development fund, has remained at \$700,000 for the past five years, its value therefore declining due to inflation. Yet DIFF had a \$9m increase in this year alone, bringing it to a total of \$93m. DIFF has grown from a mere one per cent of aid in 1983–84 to around seven per cent now.

The outcome of such changes in the balance of the program are encapsulated in what has happened to

Australia's aid to Bangladesh. In 1990–91 Australia's contribution to a family planning and mother/child health program was cut; however, in the previous two years considerable aid had been provided to Bangladesh under the DIFF scheme to build an aircraft for their national airline. NGOs see that DIFF is distorting aid priorities.

The growth in contribution to the banks has also been of concern. In 1985-86 the banks accounted for about eight per cent of the program. That proportion is growing is dramatically so that by 1994-95 they will account for some 10 per cent of all Australian aid. There are three problems with this. The first is that the Banks provide loans, not grants, to developing countries. As the rest of Australian aid is grant aid, the change in balance means that more of our aid ends up as loans which countries eventually have to repay. The second is that some 25 per cent of World Bank aid has been used for loans associated with structural adjustment programs which have caused enormous hardship to poor people in many countries, particularly in Africa. A group of NGOs meeting at a United Nations Conference in New York in September lay much of the blame for Africa's failure to achieve development on the structural adjustment programs which have diminished the role of African people in charting their own future. Third, World Bank and ADB projects have been subject to international criticism for their environmental destruction and for the way they displace and impoverish local people in the name of development.

Unless the aid program grows considerably in the next three years, there will be further cuts to those areas of the program which ACFOA believes are more beneficial for the poor, to meet the commitments made to the banks. The Treasury Department bears much of the blame for this, because it is responsible for the increased commitments Australia has made to the Banks while at the same time opposing increases in total ODA. Aid policy is being made by the economic rationalists of Treasury, not AIDAB.

ACFOA has placed priority on several areas for increased aid. First priority must be the one billion people who live in absolute poverty in South Asia and Africa. Of these, Africa's needs are the greatest as it is the only region in which poverty is growing, rather than declining. Africa will have at least one third of the world's poor by the year 2000. Africa has a total debt of US\$270 billion, and for every dollar of aid flowing in, a dollar is flowing out in interest repayments. At the September United Nations conference on Africa, Australia opposed debt relief for African countries, showing that we are not only mean with our aid but mean in other ways too. Some 60 per cent of Africa's debt is to governments or

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multilateral institutions and has been derived through aid. Australia, as a country which prides itself on giving grant aid, should have no problems supporting debt write-offs by others.

In Asia, the focus of Australian aid should shift to the poorer countries of the region. In particular, there is an urgent need for Australia to restore bilateral aid to Vietnam and Cambodia. Aid to Vietnam was cut in 1979, when Vietnamese troops went into Cambodia. Nothing stands in the way of restoration of aid now, as Vietnamese troops are out of Cambodia, Cambodian peace talks are well underway, and the key to Cambodia's future lies increasingly in US policy. It seems that Australians are happy to trade with Vietnam, (Senator Button has already led a trade delegation there), but the Government still holds back on providing much need aid. Aid for Cambodia is also urgently needed to begin rebuilding a country torn apart by war. Australian non-government organisations have been very active in the country and Australia enjoys a high reputation there. A starting point would be the opening of an aid office in Phnom Penh.

Most critical of all, though, is that all aid should focus more effectively on combating poverty. This means a shift in the sectoral focus of aid, whatever country it is in, and an emphasis on people's participation. Too often aid promotes a strengthened state against the very people whom we claim aid is to benefit—the poorest. Aid must address people's basic needs, engage them in defining their priorities and assist them to strengthen their human rights.

The UNDP Human Development Report 1991 shows that Australia rates very low by international standards on the proportion of its aid which goes to what it calls 'social priority' areas, such as primary health care, basic education, family planning and water supply. Only some 7.5 per cent of Australian aid is spent on these areas.

Similarly, Australia ranks low by international standards on the proportion of its aid channelled through non-government organisations. This is particularly true where support is for NGOs' own priorities, rather than NGOs implementing Government programs, or providing emergency relief in areas where the Government would have difficulty. For example, while only about four per cent of Australian ODA goes through NGOs, some 13 per cent of Canadian ODA is channelled through NGOs.

Finally, the commitment to development education in Australian ODA remains pitifully small. Although this year's budget of \$1.1m shows a small increase over 1990–91 the minimum recommended by the Jackson Committee in 1984 was \$1m.. The real value of \$1m has declined significantly since then.

Not surprisingly, Australians by and large remain shamefully ignorant about the developing world. The task of educating the community is an urgent one if Australia is to become the country of the global fair go'.



Conference reports

The Demographic and Health Surveys World Conference, Washington DC, August 5–7 1991

Chris McMurray, National Centre for Development Studies, Australian National University

Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) is a major data collection project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and managed by the Institute for Resource Development, a division of the Westinghouse Electric Corporation. DHS is a successor to the World Fertility Survey (WFS) project of the 1970s. Like the WFS it has the objective of assisting governments and private agencies in selected developing countries to implement surveys of social and demographic characteristics, child health and health care behaviour. The datatapes are available to researchers who submit an acceptable research proposal. The success of the project is demonstrated by the fact that the 30 surveys completed in phase 1 have yielded comprehensive, high quality data which usually represents the best available demographic and health data for the country concerned. Phase 2 has just commenced, with surveys planned for 27 more countries. This phase incorporates revisions and improvements to the questionnaire modules in light of experience from the first phase.

The DHS World Conference in Washington was the first major international forum for participants and researchers to meet. It was indeed a conference worthy of the description 'world'. USAID flew representatives from each of the countries participating in the project, and provided simultaneous interpretation in Spanish, French and English. This ensured a strong showing of delegates from South America, Asia and Africa, to counterbalance the large numbers of Americans, and smaller numbers of British, Canadians and others.

The emphasis of the conference was on presentation of research based on DHS datasets. A total of 110 papers were presented, including the overviews presented at the three plenary sessions on

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'demographic trends in the 1980s', 'the components of demographic and health patterns' and 'policy issues for the 1990s'.

Papers ranged from those dealing with very specific topics within a single country to those comparing data from several countries, or from most of the countries surveyed so far. Overviews included that of Ronald Freedman and Ann Blanc which reported substantial regional differences in the rate of fertility decline in recent years, with Africa the slowest. In another overview Jeremiah Sullivan reported that DHS surveys indicated differentials in the pace of infant mortality decline, with the slowest again in the African region. Other comparative studies focussed on contraceptive acceptance rates, breastfeeding, and the links between socioeconomic factors and fertility.

It is hard to summarize a conference which included such a wealth of information from such a wide range of countries. I cannot remember a three day period in which I learned more. The high quality of the papers presented, the contacts made, the specific and vital pieces of information gathered, the inspiration and enthusiasm generated were all invaluable. It was not possible to obtain copies of all the papers presented, but participants have been promised a conference volume by the end of 1991. There is no doubt that it will be in a volume of great interest to demographers throughout the world.



Conference calendar

Human Rights and Environmental Protection Workshop: The Vital Link

Sydney, October 12 1991.

This conference is presented by the Centre for International Environmental Law in conjunction with Environmental Defender's Office, Human Rights Centre, University of New South Wales, the International Commission of Jurists, and Macquarie University Law School. The discussion topics include:

- the concept of ecological sustainability: scientific dimensions
- the evolution of environmental policy
- environmental rights at international level
- international human rights
- existing environmental rights (implicit and explicit)

- creating new environmental rights under international law
- desirability and feasibility.

The registration fee is \$85.00. The concession rate is \$60.00.

For further information contact:

Jackie Wurm Conference Organiser Environmental Defender's Office 280 Pitt St Sydney NSW 2000

Development Strategies for the 1990s: Breaking the Hunger Trap

Sydney, October 18-22 1991

This conference, on overcoming hunger, will focus on four major themes:

- the use and ownership of land
- economic systems and democracy
- militarisation and violence
- law and education.

The issues arising from each theme will be addressed in light of NGO experience. The conference will include special interest working parties, group activities and four major plenary sessions.

The major speakers at the conference will be Justice Elizabeth Evatt, Vandana Shiva, an Indian nuclear physicist and author of Staying Alive: Women, Ecology and Development; Sithembiso Nyoni of Zimbabwe, Kamla Bhasin, FAO, India and Walden Bello, executive director of the Institute for Food and Development Policy, San Fransisco.

For further information contact:

Australian Freedom from Hunger Campaign PO Box 1379

Darlinghurst NSW 2010 Telephone: (02) 281 2188

Vietnam 1991: an update

Canberra, October 25 1991

This conference is organised by the Department of Human Geography, the Division of Pacific and Asian History and the Department of Political and Social Change. The 1991 Vietnam Update will bring together researchers, policy-makers, business people and consultants to discuss current events. The meeting will review recent developments in the economy, political system and society of Vietnam, with experts from Australia and Vietnam presenting papers of approximately 30 minutes duration, followed by time for questions and comments.



The afternoon session will address the serious challenges facing Vietnam in the education and training of a rapidly growing labour force.

Further information contact:

Dr Dean Forbes Human Geography Australian National University Canberra ACT 2601

Telephone: (06) 249 2817

Dr Terry Hull Political and Social Change Australian National University Canberra ACT 2601

Telephone: (06) 249 2817

Global Assembly of Women and the Environment

Miami, USA, November 4-8 1991

Organised by the Senior Women's Advisory Group of the United Nations Environment Programme.

For further information contact:

Project Director Global Assembly 1889 F Street NW Washington, DC 20006, USA

Telephone: 1 (202) 347 1514 Fax: 1 (202) 347 1524

Multilaterals in the Nineties: More Dollars than Sense?

World Development Forum, Australian National University, 6–7 November 1991

Multilateral agencies like the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations agencies now receive more funds from Australia than ever before.

Australians are divided in their reaction to this shift towards multilateral aid. Some believe development funds directed through multilaterals represent good value for money. Others argue that multilaterals are too big and bureaucratic to be effective, or that they cause more harm than good.

These and other issues will be discussed by Australia's foremost speakers on aid and development.

For information and registration forms contact:

Expert Conferences PO Box 150 Lyncham ACT 2602

Telephone: (%) 257 697.) Fax: (%) 257 4038

Managing International Economic Relations in the Pacific in the 1990s

Australian National University, 16-17 December 1991

The Pacific Rim has been the most dynamic region of the world economy in the last two decades. It is here that many of the new trends in the international economy are most visible, and where the inevitable tensions that accompany these developments are most obvious.

This symposium will bring together the world's leading experts on international economic cooperation and strategic trade theories.

The major topics will be:

- managing international monetary relations in the Pacific region
- Pacific trade in theory and practice
- multilateralism and regionalism in international trading
- Japan's relations with the region in the 1990s
- institution building in the Asia–Pacific region
- Asian newly industrialising countries
- Australia and the Asia–Pacific region

For further information contact:

Conference Secretary
Department of International Relations
Research School of Pacific Studies
Australian National University
GPO Box 4
Canberra ACT 2601

Telephone: (06) 249 2166 Fax: (06) 257 1893

Inaugural Joint Conference, New Zealand Geographical Society and Institute of Australian Geographers

Auckland, New Zealand, January 27-31 1992

In January 1992, the first joint conference of the New Zealand Geographical Society (NZGS) and the Institute of Australian Geographers (IAG) is being hosted by the Department of Geography, University of Auckland. The response to the first announcement of the conference has been very encouraging. Almost 200 people have signalled an intention to participate and there have been offers of

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approximately 115 research papers, covering most of the major systematic fields of the discipline.

All correspondence should be sent to:

The Conference Coordinators Department of Geography University of Auckland Auckland 1 New Zealand.

Fax: 649 3020259

African Environment—Toward Sustainable Management

January-Feburary 1992

Sponsored by the African NGOs Environment Network.

For information contact:

African NGOs Environment Network Tom M'Boya Street PO Box 72421 Nairobi, Kenya

Telephone: 2542 747 960

Trade, Investment and Economic Prospects in Mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan: An International Conference

Monash University, February 24-26 1992

The conference, jointly hosted by the Faculty of Economics, Commerce and Management at Monash University and the Chinese Scholars' Society for Economic Studies, will be held at the Clayton campus of Monash University, Melbourne, Australia.

China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan are of increasing importance in Australia's external economic relations. The potential for developing mutually beneficial trade, investment, and other forms of cooperation cannot be overestimated. By bringing together academic, business, and official experts and representatives from Australia, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the United States, the conference will offer an excellent opportunity to explore important economic problems and establishing useful connections both for the academic and the business worlds.

The aims of the conference are:

- to bring together well-known economists and the representatives of relevant organisations from mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, US, and Australia to share knowledge and experiences:
- to discuss Chinese economic reforms especially with respect to its implications for Sino-Australian economic relations;

- to discuss economic relations and prospects between mainland China. Hong Kong, and Taiwan.
- to analyse the investment environment in the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in China.

The conference will be conducted over three days including specialist sessions and the following plenary sessions. Acceptance of conference papers will be based on blind review by a panel or academic peers. Travel support will be given to the submitters of the top papers. The general procedure for submission and selection of papers will be conducted in three stages.

Submit abstracts and papers to:

Mr Heling Shi 173 Department of Economics Monash University Clavton VIC 3168

Telephone: business hours (61) 3 531 6904

Fax: (61) 3 565 5499.

Islands '92: Islands of the World Conference

Nassau, Bahamas, May 18-21 1992

This conference builds on themes developed at the Islands of the World conferences held in Victoria, British Columbia and Hobart, Tasmania.

'Islands'92' will provide a forum for the discussion of issues of vital importance to the islands of the world, especially small island developing countries. Contributions are anticipated from specialists in academia, government, and industry, and also from individuals with a specific or general interest in the unique challenges faced by island regions.

Although the mandate of the conference extends to insular regions throughout the world, specific attention will be given to the islands of the Pacific, Indian, and Atlantic Oceans, the Mediterranean Sea, and the Caribbean. Participants interested in presenting papers are invited to submit abstracts (no more than 250 words) on any relevant topic.

Paper sessions are planned in the following areas:

- shipping and trade
- soils and agriculture
- environmental management
- conservation and historical preservation
- economic development
- social change
- art and culture.

This conference will also constitute the first general meeting of the International Small Island Studies Association (ISIA).

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For further information contact:

Islands Conference c/o University Expeditions—Travel Cuts 180 MacEwan Student Centre University of Calgary Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2N 1N4

Telephone: (403) 282 7687 Fax: (403) 282 9233/993

International Congress on Economic Advancement of Developing Countries

Singapore, November 9-14 1992

The main theme of this conference is 'Development and Growth'. The conference is supported by the Netherlands International Institute for Management; Educational Research Development Assistance Foundation Inc. (Philippines); France Liberties—Foundation Danielle Mitterrand (France); Ernst and Young, and the Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce.

The key topics include:

- policies for economic development
- private investment and trade opportunities
- manufacturing and industrial promotion
- agriculture productivity and rural welfare
- regional cooperation—roles for private sector
- overcoming poverty, corruption and improving social development
- managing mineral and energy resources for long term economic development
- managerial excellence and productivity.

The closing date for presentation of papers and posters is August 15 1992.

Registration Fees: participants \$\$1,000 if paid before August 15 1992 or \$\$1,200.

For further information contact:

Ms Irene Wee International Congress on Economic Advancement of Developing Countries 112 East Coast Road #03-14 Katong People's Complex Singapore 1542

Telephone: 4408790 Fax: 3440472

Derek Overton Humanities University of Tasmania PO Box 1214 Launceston Tasmania 7250

Telephone: 003 260297

Call for papers

In 1993, Public Administration and Development is to publish a special issue on institution building in developing countries. It will be edited by Peter Blunt and Paul Collins. Submissions are invited which describe and analyse single or multiple cases of institution building in developing countries, or processes of introducing effective change. Articles should be around 5,000 words and should conform to the style guidelines set out in Public Administration and Development.

Manuscripts should be sent to:

Professor Peter Blunt Foundation Chair in Business Faculty of Business Northern Territory University PO Box 40146 Casuarina NT 0811

Fax: (61) 89 466513



Courses

Health education and promotion for primary health care in developing countries

Liverpool, UK, 6 January-27 March 1992

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Department of International Community Health, Pembroke Place, Liverpool L3 5QA, UK. Tel: 051 708 9393.

Graduate Diploma in Development Studies

Murdoch University, Perth

Murdoch University is offering a Graduate Diploma in Development Studies with specialisation available in any one of three streams:

- economic and social change
- women and development
- change in the Asian region

Courses in the Graduate Diploma are drawn from Murdoch and Deakin Universities. The Diploma is intended to provide an integrated perspective on social, political, economic, environmental and



educational aspects of development issues. It can be completed full-time in one year or part-time over two years and may be studied on campus or externally.

Applications for 1992 close on November 29 1991.

For further information contact:

Dr Carol Warren Asian Studies Programme Murdoch University Perth WA 6150

Telephone: (09) 360 2345 Fax: (09) 310 6285

Diplomacy training: a specialist training program for developing nations: how to utilise the United Nations and other international forums

University of New South Wales, Sydney, 6-31 January 1992

The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) aims to train human rights defenders of the developing world, in particular the Asia–Pacific region, to better utilise the United Nations and other international forums

It provides a unique introduction to the practicalities of 'peoples diplomacy' including training in international law and human rights law, human rights procedures of the UN, lobbying and negotiations, utilising the media.

The DTP is an independent non-government organisation affiliated with the University of New South Wales (UNSW). It is completely independent of government and is not an advocacy group. Based in Sydney, Australia, the DTP has tapped resources among Australian and International NGOs to build a unique program. It is an official program of the Law Faculty at UNSW. This Faculty also includes the Aboriginal Law Centre, the UNSW Human Rights Centre, and the Communications Law Centre. It is well known for its work with indigenous peoples in Australia and the Pacific.

The four week January session is the main DTP session of the year. Shorter in-country sessions, organised in cooperation with local organisation can be more specialised, concentrating on local issues and strategies.

By using UN models, the DTP gives practical skills in the presentation of human rights issues, whatever the forum may be. The techniques of legal and factual argument, assessing the politics of the situation, knowing of cases which can be given as precedent, are important for all human and regional forums.

Selection of participants

Priority g es to representatives of indigenous peoples and national minorities, women, and grass roots activists from non government organisations in developing countries. Formal educational prerequisites are not required as the course is essentially a practical one.

Fees

Participants are usually sponsored to attend the session by international aid agencies and educational foundations. The DTP can supply a list of potential sponsors. A fee of AS3000 per person covers all tuition and accommodation for the four week course. Special arrangements can be made for high priority participants lacking resources or contacts with potential.

For more information contact:

Diplomacy Training Program Law Faculty University of New South Wales Kensington NSW 2033

Telephone: (61 2) 3136563 Fax: (61 2) 3137209

Bachelor of Arts (Community Development)—Asia Pacific Stream

Social and Cultural Studies Department, Victoria University of Technology, Western Institute

The Victoria University of Technology, Western Institute currently offers a three year Bachelor of Arts degree course in community development. In 1992, it will offer a new Asia Pacific stream of the course for both Australian and overseas students who intend working in community development roles in Asian and Pacific countries.

The vocational fields for which the course is relevant include:

- coordinators and extension workers in community-based agencies (health, urban and rural development, community education, youth or women's services);
- youth and youth accommodation workers;
- research and policy workers in the community services;
- environmental workers;
- field staff and project workers in nongovernmental development agencies.

Knowledge and skill areas covered in the Asia Pacific stream of the course include analysis of models of community development relating to the region; understanding of regional and national social, economic and political structures; interpersonal



and group work skills; project management and budgetary skills; human and community services structures and processes; and research and policy skills. Specialist fields of practice available in the course include: community health; community education; women's services and programs in the Pacific; development studies in Southeast Asian and South Pacific contexts; youth issues; environmental issues; and appropriate technology.

There is a strong emphasis throughout the course on participatory and democratic styles of community work and social action, and maximum utilization of case studies and resources relating directly to the Asian and Pacific regions.

Entry to the course requires demonstrated interest or experience in community work; personal selection interview; written exercise; and English language proficiency (e.g. IELTS Bank 6–7 subject to individual profile or TOEFL score of 550). Applicants under 21 also need to demonstrate successful completion of an equivalent to the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE).

For further information contact:

Dr Michael Hamel-Green Faculty of Humanities Victoria University of Technology Western Institute McKechnie St St Albans VIC 3021

Telephone: 61 (3) 3652139 Fax: 61 (3) 3652242

Master and PhD in Economics international trade and development

Monash University

The MEc is a two year program which combines a solid foundation in economics with a specialisation in international trade and development. Subjects include: economics of developing countries, economic development of East Asia, international economics, agricultural economic development, international economics and development, contemporary economic systems, aspects of trade and development benefit—cost analysis and international trade policy. Students can also study tax policy, public goods and public welfare, welfare, labour or health economics and economic growth.

Development courses are also available from the departments of Geography, Politics, Anthropology and Economic History.

Students with a good first degree but little background in economics can enrol initially for a Graduate Diploma in Economic Studies.

Qualified students completing the MEc can transfer to a PhD program with no additional coursework.

Monash University is well equipped to support graduate studies on Asia as it includes the Centre of Southeast Asian Studies, Development Studies Centre and Institute for Contemporary Asian Studies. The library has excellent collections on Japan and Southeast Asia. Monash also offers Chinese, Korean, Thai, Indonesian-Malay, Spanish and French language courses.

For further information, please contact

Dr Ian Wills Department of Economics, Monash University Clayton VIC 3168

Telephone: (03) 565 2371 Fax: (03) 565 5499

Peace studies

University of New England

The Peace Studies program at the University of New England, Armidale, aims to help people understand both the causes of conflict and effective ways of resolving conflict.

Many people want to make a contribution to a more peaceful world at a number of levels—within themselves, in their personal relationships, in relationships between groups and between nations.

Students can study either full time or externally at undergraduate (Bachelor of Arts) or postgraduate (Master of Letters) levels. BA students choose from over 30 units, taught by many different departments, which contribute to an understanding of peace and conflict. There are currently ten students, all external, studying for the MLitt. They normally take three units of coursework and write a 25,000 word dissertation.

Three themes have been identified for 1992:

- peace education
- peace, justice and development
- peacemaking and conflict resolution.

Further information is available from:

Geoff Harris
Department of Economics
University of New England
Armidale NSW 2351

Telephone: (067) 73 2414

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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Australia's education and training activities assist developing countries to strengthen their human resource base. Includes the Equity and Merit Scholarship Scheme (EMSS), the Spensored Training Program and various education and training activities in individual countries.

- EMSS will receive \$54.4m
 - 3,030 students from more than 30 countries will be on EMSS scholarships in 1992
 - women are targetted to receive half of all scholarships
 - most scholarships are for students from Asia/Pacific region, but some African countries are included
 - covers full tuition fees and usually, fares to and from Australia and a living allowance
 - equity scholarships are for students from disadvantaged backgrounds and merit scholarships are for exceptional students from any section of the community
- \$20.8m for the Student Subsidy
- \$5m for the Australian Development Cooperation Scholarship Scheme, a once off program commencing in 1991-92

COMMONWEALTH

Australia provides \$12.2m for the work of Commonwealth organisations, including:

- Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation
- Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan
- Commonwealth Youth Program

DEVELOPMENT BANKS

Australia's contributions to the International Financial Institutions go mainly to the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank. Most funds are provided to the concessional lending arms of the banks, namely:

- International Development Association --\$109.5m
- Asian Development Fund \$49.9m
- \$3m for the second replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, which targets rural poverty.

UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES

United Nations agencies can undertake development activities on a scale that is not possible for Australia as a single donor. The Government supports a variety of these organisations, including:

- World Food Programme \$45.4m. Provides food for development as well as for relief. Strong poverty focus.
- UN Development Programme \$16.6m. Provides technical assistance to developing countries and coordinates policy activities in many of the least developed areas.
- UNICEF (UN Children's Fund) \$4.1m. Increase of \$400,000.

1990-91	
	1991-92
322.7	323.2
88.1	91.9
160.9	165.4
89.7	103.0
72.3	85.6
733.7	769.0
64.3	64.3
273.9	266.5
107.3	118.2
445.5	449.0
31.3	33.8
17.0	18.9
33.5	43.2
1261.0	1313.9
1210.2	1220.8
3.1	0.9
0.35	0.35
	88.1 160.9 89.7 72.3 733.7 64.3 273.9 107.3 445.5 31.3 17.0 33.5 1261.0

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AIDAB

BUDGET SUMMARY 1991-92

Sustainable development through international cooperation

BUDGET OUTCOME

Australia will provide \$1314 million in international development assistance in 1991-92.

- \$53 million more than last year
- an increase of one per cent in real terms
- maintains our ratio of ODA (aid) to GNP at 0.35 per cent, about the average for OECD countries

Australia's objective: to promote the economic and social advancement of the peoples of developing countries in response to our humanitarian concerns, as well as our foreign policy and commercial interests.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

\$80M MORE FOR ENVIRONMENT

A new comprehensive Environment Assistance Program has been announced. The EAP will total \$80m over four years and will involve a range of initiatives. Expenditure of \$20m in 1991-92 will cover:

- S5m for a range of activities in PNG and South Pacific, including tropical forest conservation and sustainable management programs
- S4m for World Bank's Global Environment Facility - cofinancing for environment projects in Asia/Pacific
- \$700,000 for South Pacific Environment Program (up \$500,000)
- \$4m for South East Asia, focus on forestry, sustainable agriculture, watershed management and environment education
 - \$700,000 for Tropical Rainforest Management Program
 - assistance for Indonesia's new environment protection agency
- further contribution of \$2.5m for the Montreal Protocol to help protect the ozone layer
- contributions to international agencies supporting environment programs, sustainable tropical forestry and preparation for international meetings on global environment issues

INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH TO GROW

International agricultural research promotes sustainable systems of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, as well as the rehabilitation of degraded lands. The Government has increased its support for this work.

- \$1.9m increase to \$18.9m for the Australian
 Centre for International Agricultural Research
 - emphasis on forestry projects, particularly in South
 Fact Asia
- \$1.1m increased support for other international agricultural research activities

PROFESSOR HOLLOWS TO BUILD LENS FACTORY IN ERITREA

\$270,000 will assist the Australian of the Year, Professor Fred Hollows, to establish a factory in Eritrea which will produce tiny plastic lenses for use in blindness prevention programs. Factory will produce 100,000 lenses per year.

DEVELOPMENT IMPORT FINANCE FACILITY REOPENS

DIFF assists Australian firms to win important development contracts in the face of stiff competition from foreign firms supported by their government's own aid programs.

increase of \$9m to \$93m

HIV/AIDS FUNDING INCREASE

The World Health Organisation estimates that by the year 2000, 90 per cent of AIDS victims will be in developing countries. Australia is supporting action to lessen the impact of HIV/AIDS on the families and communities of developing countries.

- funding increased by \$700,000
 - support for education and information activities in South East Asia and the South Pacific

INCREASED FUNDING FOR NGOS

In recognition of their important role in targetting the poorest of the poor in the developing world, Australian non government organisations will cooperate with AIDAB in implementing around \$60m of activities through the official Australian aid program.

- direct funding for NGOs Increases by nearly 10 per cent to \$17m
- activities include overseas development projects, volunteer programs, emergency relief assistance and some development education activities
- core funding provided for volunteer programs of Overseas Service Bureau (Australian Volunteers Abroad program) and the Australian Executive Service Overseas Program

Issued by the Australian International Development Assistance Bureau 62 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra. For further information contact:

Ali Gillies (06) 276 4960, David Jones (06) 276 4967, or Wendy Levy (06) 276 4966.

For full Budget information, see Budget Related Paper Number 4, available from Government bookshops or from AIDAB.

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EMERGENCY AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

Each year, millions suffer the consequences of natural disasters and many more live in long term emergency situations. The poor are especially vulnerable. Australia aims to assist the alleviation of suffering as well as to promote sustainable and equitable long term solutions.

- Australia responded to more than 40 emergency and refugee relief situations last year.
- an extra \$7m was provided in response to the scale of emergencies
- funding continues at the same high level of \$64m this
 year, due to famine in the Horn of Africa and the
 growing numbers of refugees and displaced people
- core contributions are made to United Nations relief and refuge agencies such as UNHCR (S6.2m) and UNRWA (S2.6m) and to the International Committee of the Red Cross (S600,000)
- funds are also channelled through Australian NGOs
- almost S8m was provided last year in response to the Gulf crisis, mainly for displaced people, including the Kurds

WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

The Government acknowledges that special care must be taken to ensure that women benefit equally from the development process. Increasingly, gender analysis techniques are applied when planning and evaluating projects. The needs of women are addressed in a number of ways in the aid program.

- about \$700,000 for the Women in Development Fund, to support non-government organisation programs
- additional funding for corporate strengthening activities such as staff training in gender analysis processes
- country programs support projects such as rural water supply and primary health care which benefit women
- \$300,000 for the UN Development Fund for Women
- a Women's Information/Communication Network Project will establish national information officers in Pacific Island countries

FOOD AID

Approximately \$101.5m is provided for food aid. It is used in developmental programs as well as being a vital means of assistance in emergency situations. Much of the developmental food aid is channelled through the World Food Programme (\$45.4m), with \$24m for food provided through country programs.

- \$31.1m has been estimated for emergency and refugee food aid
- mostly grain wheat, rice, wheat flour. Faba beans, rolled oats, high protein biscuits, vitamin enriched skim milk powder and edible oils are also provided.

HEALTH

Improving health is one of the keys to successful development. Last year, some \$30m was allocated for activities in the health sector, focusing on women and their children's health. Australia supports international health programs and health related projects in individual countries.

- S4m in direct funding (an increase of \$200,000) for international health programs, including the World Health Organisation
- Australian non government organisations are funded for health related activities, such as primary health care, health education, water and sanitation and health worker training

POPULATION

Australia will continue to provide core support for key population agencies.

- \$1.7m for the United Nations Population Fund, an increase of \$200,000
- around \$1.2m for other global population agencies including the International Planned Parenthood Federation
- \$1.5m for population programs under the environment assistance program

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: \$323.2m, almost one quarter the total Australian development cooperation program. The size and importance of the program reflects the significance of the relationship between the two countries.

- programmed activities total almost ten per cent of the allocation (up from three per cent in 1987-88)
- most funds are still provided in the form of untied budget support - \$275m
- programmed activities include:
 - 50 new education scholarships (a total of about 600 PNG students will benefit from education opportunities in Australia)
 - Royal PNG Constabulary Development Project S29m over 5 years
 - coffee and cocoa research and development S3m
 - PNG Customs Branch and Taxation Office \$3m to improve operations
 - PNG Department of Civil Aviation \$2.5m to upgrade operations

SOUTH PACIFIC

Country programs to the region will total \$92m: \$60.5m direct to programs in individual countries, plus \$31.4m to regional organisations and programs. Australia maintains a strong commitment to assisting the countries of the South Pacific, paying special attention to the needs of small island economies.

- trade and economic planning, transport, health, energy, fisheries and the environment are targetted
- regional organisations supported include:
 - South Pacific Commission \$4.6m
 - South Pacific Forum Secretariat \$2.5m
 - Forum Fisheries Agency \$1.1m
 - University of the South Pacific S3m
 - South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission \$600.000

Fiji: \$14m

- focus on education and training in Australia and Fiji
- Levuka Fisheries Project aims to increase self reliance and provide employment for villagers
- program monitored to ensure benefits reach all communities

Solomon Islands: \$10.5m

- school construction, provide educational equipment
- increased emphasis on income producing activities
- forestry conservation and management

Vanuatu: \$10.5m

- teacher training, curriculum and institutional development
- agriculture
- infrastructure

Western Samoa: S9m

- · focus on income generation
- developing public utilities
- human resource development

The Green Fridge Quest

In April, 1991, the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) launched The Green Fridge Quest (GFQ), an innovative quest for an energy-efficient, greenhouse and ozone safe refrigerator. The GFQ will involve tertiary students of science, industrial design and engineering in designing practical environmentally-friendly solutions to problems in small household refrigerators.

By involving students from both Australia and other countries in our region the GFQ will not only develop a practical solution to ozone depletion and greenhouse warming but will educate young engineers and scientists about the interrelated nature of technology, trade, development and environmental concerns.

Refrigerators currently used and promoted contain ozone-destroying chemicals, CFCs. These are powerful greenhouse gases. Appropriate refrigeration technology is one area that can make a contribution to the reversal of ozone depletion and greenhouse warming. This is particularly important in light of the growing demand for domestic and commercial refrigeration from developing countries.

The Green Fridge Quest was conceived as a response to this demand in the South Pacific and South East Asia. The transfer of appropriate technology is vital. The choices people in less developed countries make will determine global success or failure at reversing the atmospheric changes already occurring due to greenhouse warming and ozone depletion. It will also determine if environmentally damaging technology is dumped on developing countries, effectively locking them into dependence on expensive chemicals and equipment from the industrialized world. Cooperation with NGOs, tertiary institutions and professional organizations in developing countries will be integral to the GFQ success.

The results of the GFQ will be presented at the Montreal Protocol talks and the United

Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) to be held in Brazil in 1992. The Montreal Protocol is an international agreement to phase out ozone-destroying chemicals. It is the first convention of its kind on environmental protection. Commercial partners will be sought for any successful designs.

The GFQ provides developed counties with the opportunity to show their commitment to working with developing countries towards environmentally-friendly technology and trade. The project will involve people and organizations with a wide range of skills and concerns including environment, aid and development, industry, engineering, tertiary education, appropriate technology, consumer issues, and government.

The GFQ has the support of the Australian Institute of Engineers, the National Science and Technology Centre, Canberra, the Department of Engineering, Melbourne University, and the Australian Council for Overseas Aid.

The Australian Conservation Foundation is currently seeking input to the Green Fridge Quest. Contacts with relevant NGOs/tertiary institutions/professional groups in developing countries; student/inventor participation and technical information are invaluable. If you can offer any or all of these please contact:

Carrie Sonneborn The Australian Conservation Foundation PO Box 2699 Canberra ACT 2601

Telephone: 06 247 2472 Fax: 06 247 5779

Dallas Kinnear, The Australian Conservation Foundation 340 Gore Street Fitzroy VIC 3065

Telephone: 03 416 1455 Fax: 03 416 0767

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Organisation profiles

The Centre For Our Common Future

This Swiss charitable foundation works as a focal point for follow-up activities on the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED). The Centre's principal functions are to assist the WCED report *Our common future* in taking its appropriate place as an agenda for national and international action and to help catalyse a global movement for sustainable development.

For further information contact:

The Centre for Our Common Future Palais Wilson 52 Rue des Paquis CH 1201 Geneva Switzerland

Telephone: (022) 732 71 17

Kanak Agency for Economic and Cultural Development (AKDEC)

AKDEC was established in December 1986 by the Front de Liberation Nationale Kanak et Socialiste following discussion with Australian NGOs. The Sydney office serves to encourage commercial as well as development assistance contacts between Australia and Kanaky. Some of the activities facilitated to date by the office include the following: technical training programme for journalists and technicians through APHEDA (Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad); English language training programmes followed by technical and professional training in Australia for 12 Kanak students; two study tours to Kanaky; visits for Kanak activists to Australia; the visit of the joint NGO delegation to New Caledonia; media contacts.

For further information contact:

Jacques Boengkih AKDEC PO Box 60 Sydney NSW 2000

Ideas Centre Library/Resource Centre

Action for Environment (AWARE) Educational Fair

A new educational initiative which brings together Third World development and environment themes has been coordinated by the Ideas Centre in Sydney. Titled 'Action for the World And a Renewable Environment', the fairs are stazed in prominent public places (e.g. Bondi Beach) and in schools. The facus of the fairs is on the practical personal actions that improve the local environment and the positive effects for the Third World countries flowing from these actions.

The fairs have proved to be very popular. Teachers how look to the Ideas Centre for ideas on how to implement the NSW K-12 Environment Education initiative produced by the Education Department in 1990.

Core funding for AWARE for 12 months has been provided by AlDAB through the various local councils. There is also a small student charge for fairs conducted in schools. Individual programs are worked out for each school, depending on the age of the students and what curriculum area the fair is to fit into.

This exciting new program compliments the other information services of the Ideas Centre. The *Third World Bulletin* summary service will soon be available on CD-ROM through RMIT in Victoria. Photocopies of articles summarised are provided for study purposes for schools, government departments and academics around Australia and throughout the Pacific region.

Finally, the issues highlighted by the NGOs in the AWARE fairs can be studied at a deeper level using the more than 400 book titles which the Ideas Centre sells.

For further information contact:

The Ideas Centre PO Box A100 Sydney South NSW 2000

Centre for Women's Studies in Pakistan

The Centre of Excellence for Women's Studies was established in 1989 by the Ministry for Women's Development in Pakistan. The Centre, which is part of the University of Karachi, has been established to ensure that women are integrated into the mainstream of development through the investigation and evaluation of the status of women throughout history. The centre will focus on research, teaching and the publication and dissemination of education materials.

For further information contact:

Dr Tahera Aftab Centre of Excellence for Women's Studies University of Karachi Karachi-75270 Pakistan

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Third World Resources

Third World Resources gathers, catalogues, annotates and publicizes education and action resources from and about the Third World. Twelve directories are being compiled on these subjects: General development issues; Africa; Asia and Pacific; Latin America and Caribbean; Middle East; women in the Third World; food, hunger, agribusiness; human rights; militarism, peace and disarmament; native peoples and natural resources; nuclear arms and energy.

All resources are catalogued and integrated into the library collection of the Data Centre where they are accessible to Centre library users and search service clients. Bibliographical data are stored in a computerized data base to facilitate identification and retrieval of cross-referenced resources.

Third World Resources is a financially independent project of the Data Center which is non-profit-making and tax exempt. Contributions to Third World Resources are tax deductible.

For further information contact:

Third World Resources 464 19th Street Oakland California CA 94612.

Philippines-Australia Support And Health Action Network (PASAHAN)

PASAHAN provides support and assistance to Filipino health workers in non-government community organisations through links with health workers in Australia. Approximately 350 health NGOs operate at community level attempting to restore responsibility for health care to the hands of the communities themselves.

As in many Third World countries, Filipino health graduates do not work in the Philippines. Fifty per cent of medical graduates and at least 70 per cent of nurses now work outside of the Philippines. Health studies do not prepare students for work with poor urban and rural communities.

PASAHAN contributes to a sponsorship scheme established by the Philippines Council for Health Development to support trainers and fund community worker's attendance at courses.

Community and worker-oriented educational materials and basic technical information are needed. Australian materials can be modified for use.

Australian health workers can assist through:

- sponsorship of training programs.
- collection of training and education materials.
- exchange visits between health workers.
- research in environmental and community health.

For further information contact:

PASAHAN PO Box 654 Glebe NSW 2037

Telephone: (02) 331 6125

The World Conversation Union (L'union Mondiale Pour La Nature)

IUCN—The World Conservation Union provides the means by which governments, government agencies and the non-governmental environment movement can debate, analyze and coordinate their actions to deal with the world's crucial environment problems.

Sixty sovereign states, 88 government agencies and 450 non-governmental bodies are linked in IUCN membership, which spreads over 119 countries. Three thousand individuals, drawn from member organizations and the professions, form the Union's network of Commissions, expert groups and task forces. Their collective interaction and debate is orchestrated by a staff of about % at the Union's Swiss headquarters and a further 10% at expert Centres and Regional and National Offices around the world.

In 1991, the Union will embark on a new three year programme. Particular emphasis will be given to strengthening its presence in the developing world. On October 21, 1991, 'Caring for the Earth: A Strategy for Sustainable Living' will be launched, in partnership with the World Wide Fund for Nature and the United Nations Environment Programme. This document supplements and extends the World Conservation Strategy published in 1980.

IUCN will host the fourth World Congress on National Parks and Protected Areas in Caracas, Venezuela, from 10–20 February, 1992. The goal of the Congress is to promote the effective management of the world's natural habitats so that they can make their optimal contribution to sustaining human society.

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy Programme will be launched to compile a defining the values of species, genetic resources, and ecosystems in terms of their importance to people and to biosphere maintenance, as well as identifying the options and opportunities for action at local and international levels.

IUCN's Programme for the Asia-Pacific Region for 1991–1993 will focus on assisting IUCN members and partners in the region, to pursue national development policies that are based on sustainable natural resource use.

The South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) together with IUCN and other

institutions working in the region, initiated the establishment of a Pacific rim association of environment institutions.

IUCN networks coordinated by the Asia-Pacific Programme will assist governments, members and development assistance agencies, through policy advice, technical advice, project services, and training.

For further information contact:

Joanna Boddens-Hosang IUCN Communications Avenue du Mont-Blanc CH-1196 Gland Switzerland

Telephone: (022) 64 91 14 Telex: 419 605 iucn cn



Book reviews

The political economy of hunger

Jean Dreze and Amartya Sen (eds). volumes 1 and 2, Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1990, AS105

In 1985, 26 papers were presented at the World Institute of Economic Research (WIDER) in Helsinki. Each dealt with some aspect of the nature of hunger or famine and the public action that could be taken to mitigate these scourges. Sixteen of these papers comprise the first two volumes of *The Political Economy of Hunger*. A third volume containing the remaining ten papers is to be published. These two important books should be read by anyone deeply interested in the more fundamental issues associated with the political economy of development in poor communities.

As the title of these books indicates, an interdisciplinary perspective was adopted. This perspective is reflected, in particular, in the first volume which deals with a wide range of political, nutritional, economic and social topics which influence famines and hunger. The second volume focuses more narrowly on how famines may be prevented. The number of relevant topics covered is considerable but it is the breadth and depth of coverage which is the major strength of the books.

These two volumes provide a truly interdisciplinary understanding of famine and hunger. A political scientist, for example, can gain knowledge of how the application of general equilibrium models, now commonly employed in economics, can assist in understanding how various policy actions influence

the degree of hunger. This is discussed by Kirl Parikh. Sobhanh and Ram provide information on how political science and journalism influence the political action that is required to induce governments to implement policies which reduce the risk of famine.

However, the volumes do pose problems for the reader. As so many issues are discussed, and the tools of analysis are drawn from so many academic disciplines, it is sometimes difficult to determine how these issues relate to one another. To some extent this is overcome by the provision of a detailed summary of each of the chapters and by a lengthy interpretative survey by Dreze and Sen in an accompanying volume entitled *Hunger and Public Action* published by Clarendon Press.

In *The Political Economy of Hunger* (Volume 1) Sen provides a detailed statement of his theory of famines and how to anticipate famines and provide effective famine relief. Kanbur provides an aggregated, but not global, analysis of the relationship between food supplies and total population. Political factors which may influence the ways in which hunger and famine may be mitigated are discussed in chapters 4 and 6. An applied general equilibrium model is employed in chapter 5 to determine how a range of policy actions may influence the degree of hunger in developing countries.

Chapters 7, 8 and 9 are concerned with deriving reliable measures of the extent and location of hunger in the world. The final two chapters consider the ways in which economic systems may operate to the detriment of women in developing countries.

In Volume 2 Dreze and Kumar deal with the historical and institutional factors relating to famines and famine prevention in India and Africa. They provide two important insights. The first is that state governments in India and some governments in Africa have demonstrated capacity to mount timely and effective famine mitigation policies. There is, therefore, much to be learned from the famine-mitigation policies followed by these governments. The second insight is that there is no need to apply sophisticated technical forecasting techniques when attempting to predict drought-induced potential famines. What is required is an observant press and a government which is accountable for its actions. This last point should be taken in conjunction with Desai's discussion on the complexities of devising refined famine forecasting techniques.

How food and credit markets perform in times of severe economic stress is discussed by Ravallion who gives important insights into the structure of famine mitigation policy. Finally, Platteau demonstrates that even if food and agricultural



markets in Africa operated more efficiently this would not solve Africa's food crisis. Over the last decade access to food for the majority of the population south of the Sahara has been steadily declining. The economic problems that African agriculture face are far more deep seated than just 'getting prices right'.

These two volumes contain important and original insights into how hunger-mitigation policies should be structured and implemented. These insights, it is hoped, will have a lasting influence on relevant public action.

Reviewed by Alan Martina, Department of Economic History, Australian National University

Ethics of environment and development: global challenge, international response

J.R. Engel and J.G. Engel (eds), The University of Arizona Press, Tucson, 264pp, US\$29.95

It was customary until recently to assess development projects only on technological and economic criteria. Feasible development was felt to be unquestionably good, and no ethical or social appraisal was thought necessary. Any practical social decision of this type implies agreement on goals, values, and norms and specifies appropriate and inappropriate means of achieving them. These will be deeply embedded in the culture of the people whose country is to be developed. Moreover, some types of development may have enormous impacts on the life opportunities of individuals, their relationships with each other, and with the rest of the ecosystem of which their society forms a part. It is therefore not surprising that development based on technology transfer from techno-scientific to 'less developed' cultures has often resulted in unintended social and ecological problems.

It is now realised that many 'advanced' technologies are ecologically unsustainable in their country of origin. One of the tasks identified in the 1987 Brundtland report, Our Common Future, was 'elevating sustainable development to a global ethic'. Ethics of Environment and Development is an attempt to begin this process. The book contains 21 chapters by different authors, with an introduction by Ronald Engel who is chairman of the Ethics Working Group of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, and member of the Eco-Justice Working Group of the World Council of Churches on the ethics of sustainable development.

It is a timely and heartening book in a number of ways, not least in that it recognises the central importance of ethical thought in combining and balancing the goals of ecological sustainability, development and social justice. It achieves dialogue between people of widely different faiths and philosophies in the search for common ground. Not (filly do authors who are secular conservationists atknowledge the importance of regional religious maditions in development which is sustainable and just, but these of different religious faiths at least temporarily ignore their differences to work tigether on urgent global problems. The response to these problems is at last moving out of the stage of rhetoric and the search for a scapegoat into constructive dialogue, and there are healthy signs in this book of criticism within many secular and religious traditions. This is resulting in revision of quite basic assumptions to build a pluralistic ethic that is ecologically as well as socially responsible.

The range of topics and viewpoints in this book is diverse, but it is well edited and forms a coherent whole. The reader should gain a broad understanding of the current moral debate on sustainable development in various cultural settings. Some contributions are outstanding. I particularly appreciated Engel's introductory essay on The ethics of sustainable development', Martin Palmer on the encounter of religion and conservation, Holmes Relston on Science based versus traditional ethics, Arme Neess on sustainable development and deep etology, and Simon Suicheong Chau and Fung Kam-Kong's thoughtful chapter on ancient wisdom and sustainable development from a Chinese perspective.

The last two chapters by Hilkka Pietila and Ariel Salleh are on the experience of women. However, the Salleh chapter seems exaggerated and lacking in ecological wisdom. Ecofeminism is an important voice in contemporary environmental ethics, but its proponents might be more effective if they listened to the messages of the Middle Way of Buddhism, the 'not-striving' of Zen, the 'cutting with the grain' of Taoism, or the shared platform of deep ecology mentioned in other chapters. Confrontation is not always the best way to draw others into dialogue about cooperative social change.

A number of issues have been identified in Ethics of environment and development. One of the most important is the insistence that ethical as well as technological and economic goals be included in any definition of sustainable development. Equally important are recognition of the roles of women, local culture and social structures in sustainable development. Valuation of nonhuman life and place for their own sakes, and not just for their short term usefulness to people, is another theme that is receiving increasing attention. In real decisions these principles and other social and economic goals have to be balanced, and priorities assigned.

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There are no easy or universal answers, but Ronald and Joan Engel have produced an excellent account of the ethical issues in environmentally and socially responsible development from many points of view. As they say in the introduction, 'Ethics can help in such conflicts, not by proving one side right and the other wrong, nor by providing a merely theoretical resolution removed from the real world, but by redefining the issues so that the values in each position that are worthwhile, yet which are perceived to be in opposition, may be seen as potentially reinforcing and achievable in concert'.

Reviewed by Alan Bellett, Research School of Biological Sciences, Australian National University



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R. Attfield, Second Edition, University of Georgia Press. 1991, 280pp, paperback ISBN 0 8203 1344 0, US\$15.00

Examines traditional attitudes toward nature and the degree to which these attitudes enable us to cope with modern ecological problems. Attfield looks particularly at the Judeo-Christian heritage of belief in man's dominion, the progress to determine the extent to which these attitudes underlie ecological problems and how far they embody resources adequate for combating such problems. He then examines conterns of applied ethics and considers our obligations to future generations, the value of life, and the meral standing and significance of non-humans.

Economic development in the Republic of Korea: a policy perspective

Lee-Jay Cho and Hyung Kim (eds), University of Hawai'i Press. 1991, 680pp, ISBN 0 86638 1317, US\$49.99

During the rapid growth period of 1961–1979, the South Korean government, under the leadership of the late President Park Chung Hee, intervened extensively in the economy. This study provides a detailed analysis of the major economic policies formulated and implemented during the Park years. Each of the eighteen policy case studies illuminates the government–business relationship in formulating and implementing policy, the objectives and actual effects of the policy measures, and the role of planning in economic development.

Enterprise support organization for the South Pacific: problems and proposals

R. Briscoe, S.N. Godwin and A. Sibbald, Research Support Series No.13, University of Hawai'i Press, 1991, 96pp. paperback ISBN 0 86638 129 5, US\$8.00

This publication goes beyond an analysis of problems to identify specific strategies for developing the entrepreneurial potential of the people of the South Pacific.

Hope for South Africa?

L.H. Gann and P. Duignan, Hoover Institution Press, 1991, 180pp, paperback, ISBN 0 8179 8952 8, US\$9.95

Gann and Duignan have consistently argued that the ruling Afrikaner establishment would, in and of itself, initiate far-reaching political, economic, and social change without a breakdown in the economy. This volume examines the country's power structure, armed forces, police, arms industry, economy, and politics and the ways in which the various branches of government and the private sector interact.

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R.D. Staar. Hoover Institution Press, 1991, 340pp, paperback. ISBN 0 8179 9102 8, US\$18.95

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presidential council and explores the increasing importance of the Foreign Affairs Ministry in the exercise of presidential power.

Two societies in opposition: the Republic of China and the People's Republic of China after forty years

R.H. Myers (ed.), Hoover Institution Press, 1991, 441pp, paperback, ISBN 0817990925, US\$25.95

The Republic of China Taiwan and the mainland People's Republic of China have developed as two distinctly different societies over the last forty years. The island nation of Taiwan has moved swiftly toward modernization and economic stability, while Chinese society on the mainland has become stratified according to privilege and power and has regressed socially and economically. Comparing the tow societies, the book discusses how and why the two Chinese political parties created such widely dissimilar entities.

Indian Country, LA: maintaining ethnic community in complex society

J. Weibel-Orlando, University of Illinois Press, 1991, 288pp, ISBN 0 252 01759, US\$32.50.

Weibel-Orlando describes and analyses in various ways dimensions of community among American Indians in Los Angeles County, enormous tasks due to the heterogeneity and highly dispersed nature of the population.

American Indian water rights and the limits of law

L. Burton, University Press of Kansas, 1991, 221pp, ISBN 0 7006 0481 2, US\$22.50

Burton traces the history of American Indian water rights and examines methods of managing disputes in contemporary cases and offers original policy recommendations that include establishing an Indian Water Rights Commission to help with the paradoxical task new facing the federal government—restoring to the tribes the water resources it earlier help give away.

International law and pollution

D. Barstow Magraw (ed), University of Pennsylvania Press, 1991, 384pp, hardcover, ISBN 0812230523, US\$37.95

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World Bank, World Bank country study, Washington DC, 1988, ISBN 08213 15925 (YYq363.9609598 141)

Population growth and policies in mega-cities

United Nations, Population Policy Paper No.18. Jakarta, New York, 1989 (ST/ESA/SER.R/86. YYpf304.60959822 P831)

Development, demography, and family decision-making: the status of women in rural Java

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ZED Books

Biotechnology and the future of world agriculture

H. Hobbelink, 1991, 192pp, paperback, ISBN 0 86232 837 3, £8.95, US\$15.00

Recent advances in biotechnology are already being put to practical use. What does it all mean for the food we eat and for agricultural production in poor countries? As this investigation makes clear, the question is not whether biotechnology will reach the Third World, but how? Who will develop it, who will benefit from it and what will be the consequences?

The IMF and the South: the social impact of crisis and adjustment

D. Ghai (ed.), 1991, 320pp, paperback, ISBN 0 86232 951 5, £11.95, US\$19.95

The future of Third World countries will be determined largely by the changes taking place in the relative political and economic power of social groups within their societies. This book examines

how these change are affected by IMF structural adjustment programmes in Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa. The contributors, many of who are highly original social thinkers, review the socio-political changes occurring in entire regions, as well as in particular countries. Although important differences emerge, one tendency common to all is the general weakening of the state, which historically has been an essential partner in economic development. Another is the role urban working classes are playing in defending their living standards and criticising the inappropriateness of IMF policies to longer-term economic interests.

Social origins of poverty and food strategies

S.L. Barraclough, 1991, 320pp, paperback, ISBN 0 86232 993 0, £12.95, US\$19.95

How can public policy and collective action end mass poverty and hunger? How are the poor to feed themselves when they are out-bid by market forces in the course of development? Drawing on new information from ten UNRISD investigations on three continents, this book explores the factors determining food security at household level. These include the questions how do government policies affect agriculture; how responsive the political system makes government to the pressures of the poor; and structural issues, including land tenure and international terms of trade. The author argues that the first condition for any solution to hunger has to be political, whereby the people organise to protect their interests and pressurise governments into the policies required locally.

From feast to famine: official cures and grassroots remedies to Africa's food crisis

B. Rau, 1991, 208pp, paperback, ISBN 0 86232 927 2, £8.95, US\$15.00

This is a major new account of African history and development prospects. Rau focuses on Africa's current food crisis, tracing its origins back to the colonial exploitation of the 19th century. Echoing many of the themes in Walter Rodnev's classic study, he provides a radical overview of African history and an analysis of post-independence strategies attacking the response to the World Bank and international development agencies as well as African initiatives like the Lagos Plan of Action. Rau sees a revolution underway in both the rural areas and urban slums. It is here, he argues, that the most creative response to the African crisis is to be found. The poor have largely withdrawn from the formal market and are developing highly innovative and informal networks of trade and production, as well engaging in radical political struggles.



Maldevelopment: anatomy of a global failure

S. Amin, 1990, 256pp, paperback, ISBN 0-86232-931-0,£9.95, US\$17.50

Amin interprets the confusing realities of international politics in the 1990s. The West is riding on the crest of new technologies, but its materialist goals are increasingly questioned by movements such as the Greens. The Soviet Union, China and Eastern Europe are haunted by their past undemocratic attempts to build socialism. The third World is still with no direction of its own and is unable to meet the basic needs of its people. Samir Ami holds out the prospect of a united, green and democratic Europe, linking itself with the Third World in new ways to solve the problems of poverty in the South, US supremacy in the North, and an environmental degradation that threatens us all.

Women and the world economic crisis

J. Vickers (ed), 1991, 192pp, paperback, ISBN 0 862 232 975 2, £9.95, US\$15.95

The impact of the debt crisis upon the world banking system still receives more consideration than the effects of economic adjustment policies upon the poor in the developing world. This book looks at the special impact of these policies on women, and the role that women can play in resolving the crisis. The book covers the trade and financial policies which have led to the debt crisis, and the national adjustment policies that attempt to deal with the problem. It also shows the consequences—unemployment, hunger and homelessness. Together with details of policy-responses to the crisis, it offers case studies on the situation of women, and examples of what women are doing to solve their own problems. It also lists definitions of the terms to be found everyday in our newspapers about the debt crisis.

Making women matter: the role of the United Nations

H. Piettila and J. Vickers, 1991, 208pp, paperback, ISBN 0 86232 969 8, £8.95, US\$15.00

What does the United Nations do to further the advancement of women? This book shows what the international community has pledged on women's behalf, and how women themselves can support its efforts for greater social and economic justice. The UN Charter adopted in 1945 and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 both recognized the principle of equality between men and women. Over the last two decades this principle has become elaborated into practical plans and policies. From International Women's Year and the UN Decade for Women in the 1970s and 1980s to the 1990–95 system-wide medium-term plan for women and development, UN member governments are making

far-reaching decisions regarding the advancement of women and the integration of their interests into the development process.

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Monographs

Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Australian National University

Aborigines in the economy: a select annotated bibliography of policy-relevant research 1985–90

L.M. Allen, J.C. Altman and E. Owen (eds), Research Monograph No. 1, 1991, ISBN 07315 1199 9, ISSN 1036—6962, A\$20

This study annotates a selection of research on Aboriginal employment and economic development issues published in the period 1985–90. The focus is on the relevance of published research for policy formation with an emphasis on labour market issues and research relevant to the Aboriginal Employment Development Policy and its goals. The bibliography provides detailed annotated entries for 133 selected studies. These annotations provide a summary of major research findings. All annotated entries are listed alphabetically and the means to identify subjects and locations of research are provided via key works, cross-references and indexing of all selected items under specific subject headings and geographic regions.

Aborigines in the Economy was commissioned by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission. It outlines important subject and regional areas requiring further research. The bibliography is written for a wide audience including Aboriginal communities, regional councils and Aboriginal organisations, as well as academics, students and policy-makers involved in Aboriginal affairs. The

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monograph is an invaluable research tool which will be updated at regular intervals.

Aboriginal employment equity by the year 2000

J.C. Altman (ed), Research Monograph No.2, 1991, 177pp, ISBN 0-7315-1215-4, ISSN 0-7315-1215-4, A\$20

This selection of papers was presented at an Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia workshop in March 1991. The papers examine the employment status of Australian Aborigines and assess the prospects of meeting the target of Aboriginal employment equity by the year 2000 set by the Federal Government's Aboriginal Employment Development Policy. The workshop was sponsored by the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia as its contribution to the Association of Asian Social Science Research Council's biennial symposium on 'Human Resource Development'. The workshop was jointly organised by the Academy and the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Australian National University, and brought together academics from a wide range of social science disciplines, as well as Aboriginal people and senior bureaucrats.

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C. Dixon (et 177pp. £3

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P. Blaikie and T. Unwin (eds), 175pp, £4

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Asian HRD Network

Education, training and employment: what can planners do?

Asian Human Resource Development Network, 1991, ILO-ARTEP, New Delhi

This monograph forms part of a series of investigative studies prepared under the Asian HRD Network. Using Indonesian data the study shows what questions the manpower requirements approach to human resource development can and cannot help planners to answer. The issue of quality of education and its impact on employment neglected by the manpower requirements approach, is then raised and its implications for policy and planning are explored. Finally the study attempts to define what planners of education, training and employment can most usefully do through an alternative approach.

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Working papers

Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Australian National University

From exclusion to dependence: Aborigines and the welfare state in Australia

J.C. Altman and W. Sanders, Discussion Paper No.1, 1991, ISBN 073151159, ISSN 1036-1774

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Geographic variations in the economic status of Aboriginal people

H. Tesfaghiorghis, Discussion Paper No.2, 1991, ISBN 07315 1160 3, ISSN 1036-1774

Aboriginal socio—economic status: are there any evident changes?

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Indigenous economic development in the Torres Strait: possibilities and limitations

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Centre for Resource Management, Lincoln University, Canterbury, New Zealand

Indicators of sustainable energy development

J.C. Wright, Information Paper No.28, 1991, ISSN 0112-0875, ISBN 1 86931 081 0

The social and environmental inadequacies of conventionally defined economic growth have led to the advocacy of 'sustainability' as a more appropriate goal for national development. The concept has been placed on the international agenda by the World Commission on Environment and Development. In New Zealand, 'The sustainability of natural and physical resources' is part of the long title of the Environment Act 1986. More significantly, the purpose of the proposed Resource Management Act is 'to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources'. The broad goal of 'sustainable development' is not easy to translate into practical strategies. A promising approach to firming up the concept is via the formulation of 'indicators of sus-

tainable development'. The discipline of measurement should lead to more rigourous analysis. This publication is an attempt to formulate indicators of sustainable development for energy.

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International Planned Parenthood Federation

Assessing the quality of family planning services in developing countries

S.J. Kumar *et al.*, Population Council Programs Division Working Paper No 2, New York: Population Council, 1989, 41pp

Quality assessment and assurance in primary health care

M.I. Roemer and C. Montoya-Aguilar, World Health Organization Offset Publication No 105, Geneva, 1988, 78pp

Quality care in commercial and social marketing family planning programs in Latin America and the Caribbean

W. S. Skidmore *et al.* Paper presented at the conference on Quality of Care in Latin America and the Caribbean, Mexico, 12–16 August, 1990, 34pp

Seminar proceedings: Regional seminar on essential clinical standards for contraceptive delivery and innovative technology in vasectomy, Chengdu, Szechuan Province, China, 4–10 December 1989

International Planned Parenthood Federation, East, South-East Asia and Oceania Region, London, 1990, 79pp

Helping managers to manage: work schedules of field-workers in rural Bangladesh

M.A. Koblinsky et al., in Studies in Family Planning, Vol. 20, No. 4, 1989, pp225–233

Beyond supply: the importance of female family planning workers in rural Bangladesh

R. Simmons *et al.*, in *Studies in Family Planning*, Vol. 19, No. 1, 1988, pp257–268

Selection change and discontinuation of contraceptive methods in Trinidad and Tobago

N. Abdulah, Institute for Resource Development, Columbia, 1991, 51pp

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Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies, Australian National University

Engendering the debate: women and ecologically sustainable development

A. Brown, and M.A. Switzer, Prepared for the Ecologically Sustainable Development Working Groups by the Office of the Status of Women, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

This discussion paper provides an approach to ensuring women's perspectives and needs are incorporated into the formulation of ecologically sustainable development strategies. The paper uses Australian Bureau of Statistics data on workforce, income, education and health, economic analyses of the household sector, and an analysis of national survey data. Women's uses of the environment prove to be sufficiently different from those of men to represent a distinctive habitat, in the ecological sense. The female environment includes 'female' industry sectors and the unpaid household sector.

The paper shows that 'female' industry sectors contribute 46 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP) and provide 59 per cent of the paid labour force. Unpaid household labour has been estimated as equivalent to 52–62 per cent of GDP, of which women contribute 65 per cent. To be effective, a national strategy for ecologically sustainable development will need to encompass both female and male uses of the environment.

The paper develops five policy principles for sustainable development, taking into account women's environmental risks and responsibilities, and their concern with human, social, and economic development.

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Telephone: (06) 2492479 Fax: (06) 2575688

Human Resources Development Network, ILO-ARTEP

Industrial restructuring and implications for human resource development

R. Amajd and M. Mohanty, 1991

This working paper analyses structural change in ASEAN economies and its impact on future growth strategies. It argues that technology absorption levels must be increased considerably if the ASEAN economies are to stay on a high growth path.

The potential for trade liberalisation between major SAARC countries and the impact on output and employment

M. Mohanty, 1991

The paper forms part of ARTEP's research on structural change and employment. It is based upon a series of country studies conducted in each of the major SAARC member nations to review the possibilities of trade liberalisation and its impact on employment generation among SAARC countries. The present paper sets out an analytical framework within which the possibilities of liberalisation of trade among major SAARC countries is examined and integrates into that framework the major findings of the country studies conducted by ARTEP.

The implications of rural labour market analysis for generating rural employment in South Asia M. Mahmood, 1991

The paper suggest an alternative framework to analyse the problem of surplus rural labour in South Asia. It emphasises the need to radically improve access to inputs for small farms. By emphasising increasing use of hired labour, it posits that the large landless labour population can be taken into account when formulating employment policies. The paper contends that land reform policy is severely limited because it takes into account the land and labour markets but does not consider other inputs. It examines some empirical characteristics of rural labour markets in South Asia. The empirical findings show that non-labour inputs lead to higher cropping intensities, higher value cropping patterns, and higher output which in turn generate a higher demand for labour. The paper concludes that land reforms on their own cannot be expected to generate an increasing demand for labour. To increase the demand for labour inputs per hectare, land reforms must be accompanied by an increased access to nonlabour inputs.

Monitoring of vocational training programmes in Pakistan

R. Butt and K. Hayat, 1991

This study was conducted by the Pakistan Manpower Institute, Islamabad, to monitor and evaluate the progress of the national vocational training project phase 1. It presents valuable insights into the problems faced in the implementation of the project and comes up with findings which have important implications for upgrading and expanding technical training programmes in Pakistan and making them more responsive to the needs of the labour market.

Human Resources Development Bibliographic Series

A series of annotated bibliographies is being prepared by ARTEP's Asian HRD Network in collaboration with member institutes in the Asian region. They comprise a selection of recent literature on HRD planning available at country level and are intended as acquisition guides for specialised collections in this area. The records in each bibliography contain full bibliographic details and informative abstracts.

Human resource development planning: the Philippines—a select annotated bibliography

Asian HRD Bibliography Series, ILO-ARTEP Institute for Labour Studies, New Delhi, 1991

This selection has been prepared jointly with the Institute for Labor Studies, Manila. It contains over

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350 records available in English of recent literature on HRD Planning in the Philippines and focuses on development policy, education and training rural development, industrial policy and impact on the labour market, employment, population dynamics, women workers and migrants.

Human resource development planning: Thailand—a select annotated bibliography

Asian HRD Network Bibliography Series, ILO-ARTEP Thailand Development Research Institute, New Delhi, 1991

This bibliography has been prepared jointly with the Thailand Development Research Institute, Bangkok. It comprises 180 records available in English in Thailand.

A vailable from:

The Editor, HRD Newsletter Asian Network of HRD Planning Institutes ILO-ARTEP PO Box 643 New Delhi-110001

Society for International Development

Reforming the United Nations for the 1990s

Report of the North-South Roundtable Session on Future Roles of the United Nations, Uppsala, Sweden, September 1989

Economics of peace

Report of the NSRT Session in San Jose, Costa Rica, January 1990

A vailable from:

Society for International Development Palazzo Civilta del Lavoro 00144 Rome Italy



Journals and newsletters

Development

The Society for International Development (SID) is the world's largest organization devoted to international development. The Society was established in 1957, as an association for people with an interest in international economic, political and social development. Since then SID has become a worldwide forum for the exchange of development experience, Information and ideas. The 1990/91 publications of Development include a special focus on sustainable and human-centred development as well as papers presented at the SID twentieth world conference One World or Several: Towards a Strategy for Growth, Sustainability and Solidarity in the 1990s'.

A vailable from:

Society for International Development Palazzo Civilta del Lavoro 10144 Rome Italy

ACFOA News

The Australian Council for Overseas Aid is the coordinating body for some 90 Australian non-organisations working in the field of overseas aid and development. *ACFOA News* includes development news and views, development education notes, conference information, NGO briefs and resources. *ACFOA News* is AS5.00 and is printed five times annually.

Available from:

ACFOA GPO Box 1562 Canberra ACT 2601

Telephone: (06) 247 4822 Fax: (06) 247 5536

Third World Resources

This newsletter contains notices and descriptive listings of organizations and newly released print, audio-visual, and other educational resources on Third World regions and issues. Inquire for subscription rates. Each 16 page issue contains a unique 4 page insert with a comprehensive listing of resources on one particular region or subject. Sample copy US\$1. Inquire about discounts for bulk purchases.

Available from:

Third World Resources 464 19th Street Oakland CA 94612 USA

The Network is compiling a directory of courses in development studies available in Australia.

For further information:

The Australian Development Studies Network Telephone: (06) 249 2466 Fax: (06) 257 2886

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Other development resource materials

Ronin Films

The film *Night Cries* is an insightful comment and depiction of the relationships between mother and daughter, Aboriginal and white Australian culture. The relationship between realism and imagary make the film one of the most impressive Australian productions in recent years. It is an excellent audiovisual resource for courses in Aboriginal studies, film and media studies, women's studies, visual and fine arts, politics and history. *Night Cries* was directed by Tracey Moffatt and produced by Penny McDonald.

A\$60 for secondary schools, TAFE colleges, public libraries and community groups.

A\$160 for universities, institutes of advanced education and private sector.

A\$360 for Federal and State Government departments, film and video libraries. Prices include postage and packaging.

Available from:

Sarah Timms PO Box 1005 Civic Square Canberra ACT 2608 Australia

Telephone: (02) 281 2455

CIRDAP Videos

The Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific is a regional, inter-governmental and autonomous institution. It has the following videos available.

Deedar

This 18 minute video shows how a successful cooperative society transformed the inhabitants of two Bangladeshi villages into a vibrant self-reliant society where each member contributed to the growth and prosperity of the community. The project was started in 1960 in two adjacent villages at Comilla, 100 kilometers south of the capital Dhaka, with an initial capital of 'nine annas' (14 Australian cents) by eight richshaw-pullers and one tea-stall man. Their small but regular saving built up

a large capital to provide strength to the poor to fight abject poverty. Over the last 30 years Deedar has accumulated a capital equivalent of well over US \$100,000 through thrift deposits and other income generating activities of the members. With the accumulated capital the society was able to buy several tractors, and brick-field, install deep and shallow tube-wells: establish a cooperative market, cooperative shops, rice and wheat mills, and set up several schools in the village. The tea-stall man is the chairman of the society and the man behind its success. He received the Magsaysay Award in 1988 for his outstanding contribution to community leadership.

Binh Tay Cooperative, Vietnam

This 15 minute video tells the story of an agricultural cooperative established Thanh Nhat village in Vietnam. In the Mekong river delta the village was easy prey to floods and droughts and suffered serious economic crises. But through the collectivization of productive resources, they can now afford additional farm machinery, cotton weaving plants with looms, pig farms, fish ponds, warehouses, a creche and kindergarten, and a clinic. The video was produced in collaboration with the International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, Hanoi.

Rice Bank For The Poor, Thailand

This 15 minute video focuses on the rice bank project in Prachin Buri province in Eastern Thailand. The project was established in 1977 to stimulate the growth of cooperatives to help poor farmers. The rice bank allows the farmers to deposit and borrow rice for consumption, cultivation and sale. It also acts as a buffer against any disaster.

The bank is entirely managed by its members. Each member deposits one baht a day to form a working capital as a backup fund for selected activities and volunteer the construction of rice storage units. The operation of the bank can be adapted to the structure of each village and to community groups in any rural context.

Copies of these videos are available in PAL, VHS or U-Matic for US\$50 including postage.

Available from:

CIRDAP Chameli House 17 Topkhana Road GPO Box 2883 Dhaka-1000 Bangladesh

Telephone: 256704 Fax: 880 2 833321

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International Planned Parenthood Federation

Calidad,

Cin-Mjuer, a women's film collective in Colombia, collaborated with the Pathfinder Fund to produce a 21 minute video on the provision of family planning services. The video uses skits, caricatures and interviews with clients to show family planning providers how they can improve services and make clinics more comfortable for clients. It points out that clients served with care are more likely to respond positively to family planning.

Operations Research: an approach for improving family planning services

This 12 minute video produced by the Population Council, New York, describes the systematic application of basic research methods to develop effective solutions to service delivery problems. It

discusses the Population Council/USAID Operation Research Program for Family-Planning and Maternal and Child Care in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Reproductive health and dignity: choices by Bangladesh women

This 15 minute video produced by the International Women's Health Coalition describes the work of the Bangladesh Women's Health Coalition and how a high level of quality care was provided using limited resources.

A vailable from:

Information Services
International Planned Parenthood Federation
Regent's College, Inner Circle
Regent's Park
London NW1 4NS UK

Telephone: 071 0486 0741

Fax: 071 487 7950

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Whatever happened to the New World Order?

Six Radio Programs on the Indian Pacific Program, ABC Radio National

The war in Iraq was repeatedly justified by politicians in the United States and Australia as an unfortunate but necessary precursor to a 'new world order'. As the first anniversary of the Gulf war approaches some kind of 'new world order' has clearly arrived. During this year we have witnessed the collapse of the Soviet empire and the cold war and civil war in Yugoslavia.

But what kind of order is this? Does a world with only one superpower make wars any less likely? Where do the refugees of armed conflict, famine and environmental disaster fit? What are the moral and spiritual values underpinning the idea of a new world order? Who gives the orders and who takes them?

Six provocative and engaging speakers discuss and challenge the notion of a new world order on *Indian Pacific*, ABC Radio National.

The programs will be made available on cassette with an accompanying booklet of transcripts.

Indian Pacific ABC Radio GPO Box 9994 Melbourne VIC 3001 Week One: Professor Robert Scalapino
The new world order rhetoric or reality?
Saturday 4 January at 7:30 am and
Monday January 6 at 9:30 pm.

Week Two: Professor Andrew Mack
'After the Gulf war and the cold war,
what next?'
Saturday 11 January at 7:30 am and
Monday 13 January at 9:30pm.

Week Three: Dr Susan George
'Who gives the orders in the new
world order?'
Saturday 18 January at 7:30 am and
Monday 20 January at 9:30 pm.

Week Four: Dr Chandra Muzaffar
The new world order: Gold or God?'
Saturday 25 January at 7:30 am and
Monday 27 January at 9:30 pm.

Week Five: Dr Vandana Shiva

Does the new world order have trees?'

Saturday 1 February at 7:30 am and

Monday 3 February at 9:30 pm.

Week Six: Professor Benedict Anderson
'The new world disorder: the
challenge of new nationalist ethics
and religious identies'
Saturday 8 February at 7:30 am and
Monday 10 February at 9:30 pm.

More information in the next Development Bulletin.

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The Australian Development Studies Network

- The Network offers a forum for discussion and debate of development issues.
- It provides members with up-to-date information and notices of forthcoming events.
- It helps members to inform each other about their work.
- It gives extensive, often annotated, listings of written and other information and education resources.
- Membership is open to anyone interested. Members come from fields as diverse as health, economics, agriculture, administration and human rights.

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