This issue of the Newsletter reports on the changing role of non-government organisations (NGOs) in aid delivery and provides guidelines on the Australian International Development Assistance Bureau's (AIDAB) Development Research Grants Scheme. The Newsletter provides summaries of a number of recent national and international conferences including the 19th World Conference of the Society for International Development, the Pacific Regional Women's Conference, the 1988 Conference on Sustainable Energy for Rural and Island Communities, the Papua New Guinea-Australia Colloquium and the 26th Congress of the International Geographical Union. The Newsletter also includes information on new degree courses and fellowships in Development Studies available in Australian and New Zealand universities as well as information on new research programmes, new development-related organisations, and recent publications and newsletters concerned with social and economic development.

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NOVEMBER 1988

CONFERENCE REPORTS
Society for International Development 19th World Conference, March 25-28 1988, New Delhi

(Report from John McKay)

The ghosts of SID conferences past stalked the halls of Ashok Hotel in New Delhi resurrecting some important issues on the theme of "Poverty, Development and Collective Survival". At the 11th SID World Conference, also held in New Delhi, in November 1969, Dudley Seers presented a paper on "The Meaning of Development" and asked "why do we confuse development with economic growth?". He argued that development means creating the conditions for the realisation of human personality, therefore its evaluation must take into account three linked economic criteria: whether there has been a reduction in poverty, in unemployment and in inequality. At the 1988 conference many speakers and commentators called for a return to these criteria. Although the world economy and public opinion have changed dramatically since 1969 and most pleas for a return to more human values in development were tempered with economic realism, the mood of the conference was unmistakable. The domination of economic "rationality" in development thinking which has characterised policy making in the 1980's would appear to be coming to an end.

The conference was opened by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi who pointed out that while important advances have been made in Asia in the last decade, Asian countries bear a significant burden of poverty. He called for a two-pronged strategy, with national self reliance on the one hand and closer international cooperation on the other, to reach a just and sustainable world order. "But development is much more than growth" he said, "what is needed is quality education for the entire population. Bad education can often be worse than no education, as illustrated by India's own experience, but good education is the key to the development of that most valuable of all..."
resources, human resources." Mr Gandhi also called for a global approach to world problems, suggesting that the present world system is incapable of reviving and renewing the global economy. More importantly, the present international economic system is neither just nor efficient.

The Prime Minister drew attention to the problem of Third World debt. At a time of depressed commodity prices, many people in power and in important policymaking organisations do not appear to have learned the lessons of the 1930's. There is little will to reconstruct and reform institutions to make them relevant to new challenges and realities. Rather than wait for the entire international community to come to its senses, the developing countries should act now. Prime Minister Gandhi recommended. The establishment of the South-South Commission is an important initiative in this direction, as is the movement towards regional cooperation in South Asia.

Prince Claus of the Netherlands, in a keynote address stressed the dangers inherent in protectionist policies within the international community. He predicted that the world may soon be dominated by eight economic giants - the European Community, North-East Europe, North America, South East Asia, Japan, China and India. The real concern was that these economic heavyweights would shut themselves off from countries that did not belong to their group, rather than involving others in their growth. He suggested that institutions like the World Bank, IMF, GATT and the regional development banks should play an active role in encouraging more South-South cooperation and integration.

Inga Thorsson, the Swedish Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs stressed that a major obstacle to both development and collective survival is the continued growth in expenditure on armaments. She reminded the conference of the UN Declaration on Disarmament and Development:

*Our small planet is endangered by the arsenals of weapons which could blow it up: by the burden of military expenditure which could sink it under; and by the unmet basic needs of two-thirds of its population which subsist on less than one-third of its resources. We belong to a near universal constituency which believes that we are borrowing this Earth from our children as much as we have inherited it from our forefathers. The carrying capacity of Earth is not infinite, nor are its resources. The needs of security are legitimate and must be met. But must we stand by as helpless witnesses of a drift towards greater insecurity at higher costs?*

She pointed out that the level of global military spending is now close to US$1,000 billion - funds which could be used for more productive investment. Research for military purposes also absorbs a large share of world R and D effort, expertise that could be useful in other areas.

Military spending in the Third World is also increasing and it has been estimated that for an average developing country with a population of 8.5 million, the first $200 million of arms imports would add 20 infant deaths per 1,000 lives, decreasing average life expectancy by 3 to 4 years and result in a 14% reduction in literate adults. Arms imports are responsible for some 25% percent of the debt burden of the South. What is urgently needed is a redefinition of the concept of security, for at the moment we appear to be "global citizens with tribal souls".

There was also considerable discussion on the degradation of the global environment. While the threat of super power conflict appears to have eased, the evidence of environmental risk is now overwhelming and it was pointed out that unless major changes take place in our lifestyles, large portions of the Earth may well be uninhabitable within the next decades.

Richard Jolly and Frances Stewart discussed "Adjustment with a Human Face" and the potential role of the NGOs in such an approach. Luis Lopezillera Mendez of Mexico argued that orthodox schemes for development and even for revolution, have been imported at great cost to the people of Latin America. Weariness and frustration are growing as the orthodoxies seem incapable of giving convincing results. Thousands of NGOs in Latin America are trying to redefine their character and function by attempting to become more self-reliant, relying on human resources rather than money, sharing information and ideas, combining local goals with regional and national priorities.

A special session of Gender and Equity provided strong evidence that poverty is not gender neutral. Despite the UN Decade for Women, women still remain largely invisible in their struggle against poverty. There are also signs that researchers in the Third World countries are beginning to develop their own research agenda, indepenently of priorities set for the industrial world. There were interesting reports on a project organised by the United Nations University on research programmes developed by local academics.
Islands '88 Conference of the Islands of the World, University of Tasmania, May 16-20, 1988

This conference, run concurrently with the Fifth Annual Conference on Energy in Rural and Island Communities had as its theme "Towards Self Reliance". The conferences covered a wide range of social, economic, political and environmental issues that pertain to small island communities around the world. The keynote address for the combined conferences was given by Sir Sridath Ramphal, the Commonwealth Secretary General. Two plenary sessions addressed the issues of "Insularity: Prospects for Self Reliance" (Dr. David Lowenthal, University of NSW) and "Islands as Sovereign States" (Professor James Crawford, University of Sydney).

Sir Sridath Ramphal in his paper titled "No Island is an Island", pointed out that most small island states face a wider range of self reliance issues than other small states. These include economic isolation, management of large marine spaces, vulnerability to natural disasters, and political, economic and public administration problems of multi-island states. More recent concerns of small island states, he said, were associated with climatic change and rises in sea level.

Sir Sridath reminded the conference that the difficulty small islands states have in achieving self reliance has important implications for their sovereignty. In the 1960s, before many small states moved to independence, much attention was given to their prospects for economic viability as independent entities. Very little attention was paid to their vulnerability in security terms. Today, Sir Sridath pointed out, the security issue looms large and poses problems of sovereignty for many small island states. Vulnerability should not mean that small states should be prepared to sacrifice sovereignty to achieve development and security. Sir Sridath called for a more enlightened attitude to sovereignty within the world community. "A greater readiness is required to undertake genuine cooperation and coordination and to share management in cooperative activities. Some progress is being made at the regional and sub-global levels; but at the international level in recent years there has been retrogression in the evolution of multilateralism".

"Small island states", he said, "have to make special and sometimes ingenious development efforts to achieve viability and security". These include tax haven status, becoming centres for financial and shipping services and special cooperation arrangements with other states. Being small, however, penetration from outside can easily disturb or destroy valuable social and cultural values which have provided stability. On the other hand, continuing poverty, weakness and fragility have their own dangers. Sir Sridath warned of "the strong cultural impact of large-scale tourism or cable and satellite television; the attractiveness of small states as transit points in drug trafficking; the encouragement of corruption associated with tax havens, casinos, and the provision of financial services, which all highlight the dangers and require careful consideration".

Sir Sridath highlighted the problems small island states have with external markets. While market access problems have been eased to some extent by fairly free access to EC markets, access is not as open as it appears. Even though the level of import penetration from island states is small in the huge EC and US markets restrictions remain. "In the case of the Lome Convention, safeguard clauses permit the introduction of restrictions when exports to the EC from a particular source increase at a rapid rate even if volumes are small. The implementation of these safeguard provisions against Mauritius, a small island state, in connection with her garment exports, indicates the restrictive way in which the safeguard provisions are being applied. In the case of the CBI, products of significant export interest to small Caribbean states, such as garments, footwear, sugar and rum have either been excluded or remain severely restricted."

Because of their high dependence on external markets and in order to reduce
exposure to market fluctuations small island states need to extend preferential access. However, their relative weakness as partners in such arrangements carries long-term dangers for their freedom of action and sovereignty. It is important, Sir Sridath suggested, that small states join with other developing countries in combatting protectionism globally. The Commonwealth is providing assistance to small member states to encourage their participation in the Uruguay Round.

Regional cooperation, Sir Sridath recommended, has been an important approach to ameliorating disadvantages that arise from smallness. While regional integration movements have had problems, they have also had a number of solid achievements.

In conclusion Sir Sridath returned to the problem of security and asked how most small island Pacific states could gain benefits from their exclusive economic zones without developing a naval capacity to assert sovereignty over their resources. "Efforts should be directed at working for the realisation of a global environment safe for small states".

Professor James Crawford in his paper "Islands as Sovereign Nations" considered the position of island nations in international law. "Small island states", he said, "benefit from the rules of international law, in some cases disproportionately, but their formal benefit is not always matched by corresponding real advantages. Statehood, Professor Crawford said, has never been authoritatively defined and the definition usually cited is that in the Montevideo Convention on the Rights and Duties of States of 1955 which provides: a state must possess a permanent population, a defined territory, government, and capacity to enter into relations with other states. There are two essential elements to statehood: the existence of a separate territorial community with its own system of government, and the independence of that territorial community from all others. A distinguishing feature is its independence from other States. This involves some degree of capacity for self-government, and also, and in the case of small States most importantly, an acceptance by other States and by the international community of the territory as a separate State. With regard to the equality of States, Professor Crawford said that rights under international law are equally attributable to all States. For example, in the absence of express provisions to the contrary, the voting rules in international organisations are based upon an equality of votes. If the United States is entitled to claim a continental shelf, so too is every other State in the world irrespective of their lack of that capacity. This requirement is viewed by some world powers with alarm. "The equality of States is said to lead to a numerically large group of States representing a mere fraction of the world's population and resources can determine "important" questions in the United Nations General Assembly through sheer voting power. This has been said to lead to irresponsible decision making and budgetary arrangements in international organisations. The danger in the principle of equality is not that of crass arithmetical weighting which it is often accused of producing ... it is the risk that small States, possessing the formal indicia of sovereignty and the equal rights that sovereignty entails, will be led to act as if their formal equality is necessarily accompanied by an actual or even relative equality or parity in power, influence or resources. Since the doctrine of equality operates independently of these, it plainly carries no special implications for them".

The idea of formal equality has been modified by claims that certain categories of States, especially the least developed States, have special rights by virtue of their lack of development. The category "least developed countries" has achieved a degree of recognition both in the United Nations resolutions and in international treaties. Like affirmative action in employment and education, these international provisions are temporary measures aimed at alleviating real disadvantages. But they also constitute stipulated exceptions to a regime which is one of formal equality, and great care is needed in pursuing the idea of special rights lest it come to be seen (as it has been seen by some in the area of racial and sexual equality) as undermining the cardinal and salutary principle of equality itself".

Professor Crawford, speaking of statehood and individual rights, said that the process of decolonization was intended to ensure the basic right of collective self-determination and individual participation in self-government. One consequence of independence is that the principal responsibility for the maintenance of individual rights is transferred to the government and legal system of the new State. Unconstitutional or illegal changes in that system of government are protected by the principle of non-intervention. It is thus possible for quite small groups within a small community to assume governmental control, and thereby to acquire the capacity to violate the human rights of the people, protected by the principle of non-intervention. While there are certain
minimum international standards of human rights to which many countries subscribe, in the Pacific region, the degree of acceptance of these human rights instruments is limited and the degree of acceptance of any international or regional machinery for the protection of rights is nil”.

The island States, Professor Crawford pointed out, have been the principal beneficiaries of the Law of the Sea of 1982. Offshore islands which are part of a larger continental or Island State have been treated in boundary delimitations and arbitrations in a distinctly less favourable way than separate island States. The combination of the expansion of maritime zones together with the principle of equality of States leads to an unusually favourable situation in the case of island States. In addition the 1982 Convention recognized a special category of island State, the archipelagic State, with its own category of maritime zone, the archipelagic sea, which has a complex set of rules. Over archipelagic waters and their superjacent air space the archipelagic State has sovereignty. “Thus the Convention endorses one of the largest extensions of maritime jurisdiction in the history of the law of the sea (and certainly the largest extension applicable to a minority of States (in this case, Island States,) on grounds of the "special circumstances"). However, in practice small island States have been unable to defend their legal rights and distant-water fishing fleets ignore jurisdictional and resource boundaries. Enforcement problems are severe, even for wealthy States.

In conclusion Professor Crawford said that while small island States had legal jurisdiction in many areas, including sovereignty over their exclusive economic zone, the reality of their situation calls into question their formal rights and status. On the other hand that status and those rights do exist, and await effective implementation, which regional and international cooperation, combined with determined efforts of the people of the island States themselves, are certainly capable of achieving”.

Professor Pierre Maurice of Universite de La Reunion, discussing "Insularity, Autonomy and Development", called into question the usual parallels made between insularity, remoteness and isolation and small-island economies and their political and economic autonomy.

"Obviously the "independence" granted to a large number of small territories, particularly islands, in the last 30 years, has no real meaning other than a political one. They have acquired political, internationally recognised sovereignty, but remain economically dependent upon various international monetary and financial organisations (IMF and World Bank) which can impose on them the conditions of economic recovery or strategic choices concerning their development. More attention is given to those islands which are politically independent but economically dependent, while less attention is paid to those islands, which while remaining an integral part of a nation-state, have achieved a certain degree of "autonomous development".

Dr Chris Kissling of the Australian National University speaking on "Air Transport, Tourism and Economic Development in South Pacific Microstates" said that while tourism and aviation were no panacea to cure the economic problems of the Pacific, these two complementary industries offered better prospects than standing in the dole queue for aid as they offered a chance to "trade with dignity". He stressed air transport is a powerful development tool. Besides generating significant amounts of foreign exchange earnings which accrue to the controller of the air services, there are additional benefits including employment and skills development in technical, clerical and managerial areas. In addition aviation strengthens internal national cohesion by reducing isolation; assists in surveillance of national resources; assists with regional development through spreading the benefits of tourism and providing air cargo services; assists economic diversification; hastens the spread of new ideas and techniques; increases access to medical and educational services and permitting reductions in inventory and storage costs. Dr Kissling said that governments should give tourism promotion higher priority and that there were numerous ways by which the promotional dollar could be extended riding "piggy-back" on foreign airline advertising budgets and through interlining of aircraft painted in island colours. Imaginative airline management and sympathetic institutional regimes for aircraft registration and granting of commercially viable traffic rights could see better integrated services. These could be tuned to meet the needs of island destinations as their first priority rather than as incidental and ancillary to the networks of foreign carriers now serving the region.

For further information: Dr R Chapman, Department of Political Science, University of Tasmania, Hobart TAS 7001.
The Energy for Rural and Island Communities, 5th Annual Conference, organised by the Centre for Environmental Studies, University of Tasmania, considered a variety of technologies for providing sustainable energy sources for small island communities. These included innovative projects based on wind, solar, wave, and biomass as the initial source of power.

Mrs N Ali and Professor A Mathur of the Rajasthana Agricultural University spoke of the use of aquatic weeds, terrestrial weeds, agro-industrial wastes, night soil and cattle waste as sources of power. In India aquatic weeds such as water hyacinth and duck weed algae cause serious problems of pollution and water loss and adversely affects fish farming. Disposing of the plants through burning or composting cause pollution. However, anaerobic digestion of these materials through biogas plants can give a double benefit of fuel and fertiliser. About 370 litres of biogas can be obtained from 1 kilogram of water hyacinth.

Professor G. Ambalavanan of Annamalai University, India, discussed the use of rice husk as a viable alternative energy source. The husk is made into briquettes for easy transport and for use in furnaces, stoves and boilers.

Garaioa Gafiye of the University of Technology, Lae, outlined the attempts of the Institute to overcome some of the energy problems in remote areas of Papua New Guinea. Projects under trial are a photovoltaic battery for replacing kerosene and dry cell powered lanterns and a small micro hydro project has been initiated for remote aid posts with no cold storage facilities. The system is incorporated into a simple water supply system which can be installed by unskilled workers. This powers a fridge, several fluorescent lights and charges portable lanterns for village use. Waterwheel power is also being developed for agro-processing, including coffee pulping, coffee hulling, water pumping.

Addressing human energy resources, Vineeta Hoon spoke of labour saving technologies for women agriculturists. In India, Ms Hoon said, 91 per cent of women have been classified as "non workers". "It is therefore considered by planning authorities that they have a large women's work force to mobilize their development plans". In fact, Ms Hoon said, most rural women "non workers" work an 18 hour day. Not only do women do the bulk of the agricultural and house work, using higher levels of energy than their male counterparts, but because it is assumed that women are "non workers" they receive less food than men and their food has only half the calorific value of that eaten by men. The long working hours and the poor nutrition of Indian women were important considerations for development planning in India, Ms Hoon said.

Sunendra Prasad of the Australian National University, discussed the cogeneration of electricity and heat from biomass fuels in Fiji. In Fiji, he pointed out, less than 40 per cent of the population has access to grid electricity, however there is tremendous potential for electricity generation through biomass fuels such as sawmill and crop wastes. One system discussed was a low cost furnace, fuelled by sawdust or other biomass to generate high temperature steam, which powers a uniflow, reciprocating steam engine. The engine is coupled to a single phase alternator via a free-wheel coupling. In Fiji, Dr Prasad said, a 30 KW steam power station, consisting of a coconut husk and shell-fuelled boiler and a steam engine has been generating thermal (for copra drying) and electrical energy since 1979.

The papers from the Energy for Rural and Island Communities conference are available from:

Dr John Todd, Centre for Environmental Studies, University of Tasmania, P.O. Box 252C, Hobart, TAS 7001.

Papua New Guinea-Australiia Colloquium, James Cook University, 9-12 August 1988

This colloquium organised by the International Development Program of Australian Universities and Colleges, was arranged to apply the Joint Declaration of Principles signed by the Prime Ministers of Papua New Guinea and Australia in December 1987, outside the political arena where they had been negotiated. There were two major objectives: to provide an opportunity for broadening and strengthening dialogue on commercial, technical, and social issues of mutual interest to both countries and to address selected areas of mutual interest with a view to strengthening or establishing appropriate forms and means of collaboration. Participants from both countries discussed five issues: trade and commerce, mining, the tropical environment, tropical health and rural development.

The major findings from the five panels included:

1. Trade and Commercial Interaction: PNG's concern over the current imbalance of trade between PNG and Australia was strongly voiced. An economic consequence of
the imbalance is that Australian ships return empty from PNG. The trade imbalance has improved in recent years, and with expected increases in PNG gold sales to Australia is expected to improve further. When oil production is established the imbalances will probably disappear, or be reversed. Australia and PNG are minor players in the world market and both have a vested interest in collaborating to break down barriers. With respect to mining, PNG is currently experiencing an exploration boom rather than mining boom. When the exploration phase is past there will be an increased need for trained PNG personnel. More could be achieved through the exchange of students and teachers between institutions e.g. Curtin University of Technology and the PNG University of Technology, Lae.

(2) Mineral Resources Development and Management: It was recommended that research should be undertaken into the possible impact on the national economy of PNG of "Dutch disease" resulting from a prospective minerals boom. It was also agreed that mining areas should be rehabilitated and studies be undertaken into the mining supply manufacture potential and comparative studies of mining projects in Australia and PNG.

(3) Understanding and Protecting the Tropical Environment: Cooperative projects in monitoring and pollution control should be established in order to develop environmental projection techniques. It was recommended that an environmental plan for the establishment of a protection zone of the Torres Straits be developed and that it should establish priorities in resource protection with reference to community involvement, environment and conservation and drilling and mining development.

It was recommended that combined studies be undertaken on the redevelopment of waste lands and these should be concentrated on land near cities, where there is large scale land degradation, on grassland rehabilitation, and on mine sites, and degraded logged forest lands. Studies of rainforests should be undertaken through partnership between Australian and PNG institutions to develop long-term management of rainforests and to promote agroforestry.

(4) Tropical Health: It was pointed out that there are some important collaborative efforts in health sciences including the Malaria Collaborative Research Program. The health panel discussed the Medical Officers Training Project (MOTP) which includes three-week visits to PNG by Australian specialists in basic medical sciences, clinical science and public health, hospital attachment program which enables PNG trainee specialists to spend between three and twelve months in Australian teaching hospitals and a program of registrar exchanges. The health panel strongly recommended the continuation of the program.

The continuation of the PNG Medical Journal was discussed, together with the continuity of funds for medical research in PNG. Lack of funds is placing both in jeopardy. This is occurring at a time when there is a great need for research into changing disease patterns caused by demographic and socio-economic change.

(5) Rural Development: The problems of the narrow focus of rural development was discussed in this panel and it was suggested that rural development should be seen in the wider context of agriculture, health services, appropriate education, the advancement of women, the preservation of traditional knowledge, the maintenance of technical and artistic skills, better hygiene and sanitation, better communication, the introduction of appropriate foods to improve nutrition, family planning, rural power supplies, improved leisure and sporting facilities, the creation of new opportunities for young people, business development, the registration of customary land ownership and the maintenance of low and order in rural areas. It was agreed that population growth and ecological effects of agricultural intensification were fundamental to rural development, together with health and primary education. With regard to agriculture, the separation of extension from research was recognised as a serious handicap to extension and information dissemination in PNG. It was recommended that women's groups in PNG should be funded through Australian NGOs to investigate the best means of communicating rural development information to rural women.

The proceedings and recommendations of the colloquium are available from:

International Development Program of Australian Universities and Colleges, Churchill House, Northbourne Ave., Canberra ACT 2601.

26th Congress of the International Geographical Union, University of Sydney, August 21-26, 1988

This very large international conference was attended by leading geographers from around the world. A particular feature was the participation of a large number of delegates from the Soviet Union, China and
Japan. The conference included a number of symposia and plenary sessions on aspects of Third World development with particular reference to the inter-relationship of first and third world political, economic and ecological systems. These included the topics "Can metropolitan growth in the Third World be sustained?", "The Pacific century", "Malthus and the 21st Century", "Environmental management, national interest versus international responsibility", "Marginal lands, development or exploitation?". The conference gave particular emphasis to global climatic change and its physical and human impact and recognised that Third World countries and marginal areas were likely to be most adversely affected by climatic change.

Professor Harold Brookfield of the Australian National University in his paper "Human Response to Global Change: A Review, A Critique and a Proposal", addressed the problems of making adequate human responses to approaching climate change and present resource degradation and spoilage. Professor Brookfield pointed out that the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP), an organisation established to research the physical facts of change, was unlikely to be involved in human causation or response. A new international social science programme, "Human Response to Global Change" has therefore been planned to complement the work of IGBP in the areas of human dynamics of causation and the problems of making an adequate response. Professor Brookfield pointed out that there were, however, important tasks that neither programmes were addressing and that these were areas for which geographers should be responsible. Most important was the definition of areas most sensitive to environmental change of any kind, and understanding the society and economy of the people who live in them.

"Work should be done", Professor Brookfield said, "on the actual process of environmental change and human adaptation. Geographers, who study the interaction between human activity and natural process, have a major role to play, whether as providing the foundation of a "human response" programme or independently. Scientists are the ones who must provide information on which decisions can be taken to ameliorate the harsher consequences, obtain benefit from the more advantageous, and adapt the use of environment to obtain better outcomes in the longer-term future.

While the larger issues at global scale and at national scale fall on a range of natural and social scientists, global change ultimately comes down to change at regional and micro-scale. Here geographers, along with climatologists and ecologists, agronomists and agricultural economists, environmental historians and prehistorians, urban and regional planners and all others concerned with the people-environment interface, have a key role to play, and a central share in the total burden of scientific responsibility".

Professor Brookfield called for more interdisciplinary research and suggested that effective work on global change demands that both natural and social scientists take new views of both temporal and geographical scale. "Change in the natural environment has to become a central consideration, with the present viewed as a time-band over which such change is taking place, in different ways in different areas. Social scientists accustomed to think over only short time scales must think over longer time. Natural scientists, must ... adjust their thinking in the opposite direction. The definition of areas and people sensitive to environmental change is not only basic to any programme on the nature and consequences of global change; it would also provide the focus 'in place' around which a focus 'in time' could more readily develop. This is a central task, one that links process to response and natural science to the study of decision-making. It is one in which the contribution of geographers is fundamental, and is both challenge and opportunity for our profession".

In the symposium Marginal Lands in Developing Nations the major question was "is exploitation inevitable?" It was agreed that marginal lands are those most susceptible to over-exploitation and degradation and that almost everywhere in developing countries there has been an increase in human pressure on such lands. The symposium raised several important issues including whether programmes could be implemented to sustain existing levels of use while minimising degradation; whether less developed countries have any realistic options in averting damage; and whether there is any prospect for intensifying use of non-marginal lands as a means of reducing pressure on marginal lands.

Dr Joan Hardjono, Padjadjaran University, Indonesia, speaking of transmigration and the utilisation of marginal land in Indonesia said that while Indonesia's effort to utilize poor quality and often degraded land through transmigration have been stimulated by growing population pressure in Java, transmigration is certainly not a solution to demographic problems, nor would it appear to be the answer to the development of marginal land. Food crop production on marginal lands has proved to
be neither profitable nor sustainable in the long-term. On the whole, Dr Hardjono said, spontaneous settlers have been more successful than government-supported transmigrants, as they are more resourceful and are not tied to a pre-determined pattern of land use. However spontaneous transmigration has negative aspects including ecological damage. In the 1950s widespread felling of trees by spontaneous settlers was causing floods in Lampung, while illegally occupied forest land was leading to substantial erosion. Dr Hardjono argued that with respect to the utilisation of marginal land outside Java, a Department of Land Development rather than a Department of Transmigration was needed if further marginalisation of land and populations was to be avoided.

Dr Elspeth Young, of the University of New South Wales (ADFA) in a paper "Marginal Lands for marginalised people", compared the impact of marginalisation on Canadian Inuit and Indians with that of Australian Aborigines. Marginal lands and marginal people are frequently associated. Marginal lands, she explained, are conventionally understood to be lands beyond the acceptable limit of comfortable human habitation, while marginality when applied to people, has economic, socio-cultural and political elements and usually suggests conflict between cultures arising from the imposition of ideals of the dominant culture on people in a subordinate position. "Such a situation destroys social and political structures, and inhibits economic activity to such an extent that poverty is a common result. The Interaction between European-based cultures and those of indigenous minority peoples such as the Inuit in Canada and the Australia Aborigines has clearly been of this type and these groups, can, at present, be described as marginalised".

Marginalisation in both instances not only reflects incompatibility of their lifestyle and aspirations with those of European settlers but can also be attributed to loss of land, and the implementation of policies deliberately designed to force them to assimilate into European ways. The official replacement of assimilation by a policy of self-determination theoretically allows people to establish their own priorities. "The granting of land rights", Dr Young said, "has been of prime importance in allowing this to occur. It is in the marginal lands of Canada and Australia, the far north and desert, that native and Aboriginal land rights have made the greatest impact. They exert an important influence on marginal land development, not just on a local scale, but also nationally and even globally. It is vital that discussions on the future of marginal lands include an assessment of the potential contributions of these people, the original owners".

Dr Young pointed out that land rights legislation varied between the two countries and between states within these countries. "In general the amount of land which could be claimed outside the marginal areas of Australia and Canada has been extremely limited, and has mostly been restricted to existing Indian and Aboriginal reserves on the periphery of small towns. Marginal lands therefore play an extremely important role in the process of Aboriginal, Indian and Inuit land rights".

In a symposium on Health and Development, Dr Emmanuel Vigneron, Orstom, France, considered the relationship between health status, health services and service demand in French Polynesia. Over the last 30 years, he said, the pathological landscape of French Polynesia has undergone major changes. The level of health has improved and the infant mortality rate has dropped from 86 per 1,000 live births to 27, while life expectancy has increased from 54 years to 67 years. The rate of infectious diseases, most particularly tuberculosis, has dropped dramatically. In common with some other Pacific Island countries, French Polynesia has a morbidity ratio typical of developed countries with high levels of diabetes, gout, cancer, road accidents, alcoholism, and nicotine poisoning, together with a pathology of less developed countries, where health problems include diarrhoea, chronic childhood otitis and intestinal problems. The high rate of morbidity does not reflect the health services provided, he said. "The health services today are characterized by over-medicalisation". In French Polynesia there are 255 medical doctors (a ratio of 1:698 persons), 34 pharmacists (1:5235), 85 dental surgeons (1:2094), 460 nurses (1:387) and 1052 hospital beds (1:169) and the 1986 budget allowed 300 million French francs for health, or 1,630 francs per capita. In addition to heavy public health funding, there is a large private sector, including 115 medical doctors. The growth of services is associated with growth in the use of services both in the urban areas but also on the outer islands. For example, in Rurutu in the Austral Islands, the number of consultations has risen from 4.7 per inhabitant per year in 1959 to 9.4 in 1983. Dr Vigneron concluded by saying that improvements in health were the result of improved access to health services and the very widespread coverage of free services. The people in French Polynesia, even on the outer islands, have developed a modern lifestyle and this includes new patterns of
behaviour towards utilisation of health services.

A plenary session and a symposium were devoted to issues of Famine, Food and Population in Africa. In his paper "Famine in Africa" Professor John Caldwell of the National Centre for Epidemiological Research and Pat Caldwell discussed the impact of famine on demography. Referring to past and present work on the impact of famines in Africa they said that there has been strong support for the suggestion that "the main check on population growth has not been the great famines but the normal levels of mortality and fertility". However new work in China, Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka provide conflicting evidence. "The Chinese information makes it clear that contemporary famine can still cause major demographic disaster and the extent of that disaster can be greatly underestimated by eye-witness reports at the time...The Chinese censuses revealed a gap of around 60 million persons in the age structure, or the equivalent of around four years' natural increase at levels prevailing immediately before the famine. By 1960 the death rate had doubled from 20 per thousand only two years earlier to nearly 40- per thousand, and annual natural increase was minus 1.4 per cent.

Several aspects of the Chinese famine demographic experience should be sought in Africa also. These are: (1) Only half the check to population growth can be attributed to excess mortality, for fully half was caused by a collapse in the birth rate from around 38 per thousand in 1958 to 22 per thousand in 1961. (2) The reduction in the birth rate resulted both from a decline in marital fertility in a population with little access to modern family planning at the time and a fall of 20 per cent in marriage rates with a consequent impact on first birth rates. (3) Ultimately the check on population growth was less than four years because in conditions where there had been an unusual number of married women neither pregnant nor lactating and where there had been an unusual number of young women of marriageable age still single, there occurred marriage and baby booms. The second reason is that immediately after the famine the death rate fell to a level not only two-thirds below the peak famine level but at least one-third below the pre-famine level presumably because of excess famine deaths among the old, sick or weak. (4) Proportionally the greatest rise in the death rates was among the very young and the very old. In the first year of the crisis the infant mortality rate rose 60 per cent, while, during the whole period of famine, deaths to persons under 10 years of age almost doubled compared with a rise of less than two-thirds among persons over that age.

Many societies have strategies for dealing with famine. In southern India families resisted famine by cancelling ceremonies, including religious ones as they could not meet the expected dowry payments or pay for wedding celebrations in hard times. A study of the area showed a rise in weakness and sickness with hunger, a greater reliance on the market for food in spite of rising prices, the most severe impact on the poor and landless, and the importance of having migrant members of the family elsewhere - especially in the towns - to send remittances for the purchase of food. But the impact on mortality was minimal.

In considering the African situation the Caldwell's concluded by saying that there was no evidence of a close association between the frequency of famine and mortality levels in sub-Saharan Africa. Famine-prone areas tended to be poorer because of their lower levels of resources. In famine prone countries the annual per capita income is $200 and is getting worse. Population growth is 2.3 per cent and fertility remains constant with women having on average 6.2 children. The lower levels of income and education account for the fact that mortality is moderately higher in famine countries. For example life expectancy in the 10 sub-Saharan famine prone countries is 47 years and 51 years in 22 countries that are arid but not famine prone. In fact, the Caldwells pointed out, this is a small margin given the differences in economic and educational status. The only long-term answer to improving the situation is general economic development. In the last two decades incomes have not been growing in the famine-prone countries. Nevertheless, it does appear, rather unexpectedly, that mortality has improved in these countries as rapidly as in less arid lands.


The theme for this conference, organised by the South Pacific Commission Women's Bureau, was "Pacific Women: Challenge to Change".

The week-long conference was attended by over 300 women representing almost all north and south Pacific island countries. It was widely noted however that while official participation of ethnic Fijian women
was high, participation of Indian Fijian women was almost non-existent. The conference dealt with the major issues facing Pacific island women in an era of rapid social and economic change. The more general aspects of women and development were dealt with in plenary sessions while ten one-day workshops provided the opportunity to discuss specific issues in depth and to formulate practical recommendations. An important focus of the conference was information sharing and finding practical Pacific island solutions to problems facing women. The three issues that were widely discussed both in workshops and open forums were domestic violence and its impact on women and children, sexually transmitted diseases and women's health, and communication.


The two plenary sessions dealt with the role and future of the Pacific Women's Resource Bureau (PWRB) and the South Pacific Commission's Community Education Training Centre (CETC), and the theme of the conference - Pacific Women Challenge to Change.

In discussing the role of the PWRB it was suggested that better communications be established between Pacific Island governments, the PWRB and women; that NGOs liaise with the PWRB; that annual subregional conferences be held; that there should be regular cost-effective evaluation of the PWRB; the PWRB should assist in securing funding for women's development programmes at national levels; that an NGO officer be located within the PWRB and that each country should contribute to the funding of the PWRB. It was pointed out that current funding for the PWRB was due to cease at the end of 1988 and it was recommended that funds be urgently sought to continue the Bureau.

With regard to the Community Education Training Centre (the Suva-based SPC training programme for women) it was agreed that the Centre should cater for the changing aspirations of women in urban, regional and international contexts; it should be regularly evaluated for relevance; that the curriculum be broadened to include the value of womanhood and women's search for their traditional identity.

In the plenary session Pacific Women: Challenge to Change, Mrs Bungtabu Brown of Papua New Guinea said that women must work with men to ensure that development was relevant to the society and that women should take the initiative rather than relying on government. Mrs Brown called for Pacific Island governments to give young women opportunities for equal participation and called for women to work towards positive change rather than being afraid of it and being overtaken by it.

Women's Health Workshop: The women's health workshop discussed AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases, alcohol and drug abuse, and women's nutrition. Ms Denise DeRoek of SPC discussed the rapid rise in sexually transmitted diseases in Pacific Island societies and their impact on women's and children's health. Among young people, she said, syphilis has increased rapidly, most particularly in the urban areas. While AIDS was as yet unknown in most Pacific Island countries she warned that women must institute procedures now to prevent it. It was important, she said, for women to ensure that their governments did not ignore the AIDS threat. It was recommended that the SPC organise or collaborate with other regional agencies to mount training courses for health and laboratory personnel so accurate testing for AIDS virus is available in the Pacific and that the SPC coordinate and seek funding for a wide distribution of audio visual AIDS/STD education material development specifically for the Pacific.

Drug abuse, with particular reference to alcoholism and smoking, was widely discussed in the workshop. It was recognised that the current levels of alcohol and tobacco consumption in the Pacific, most particularly among Pacific Island women were causing serious physical and psychological problems. It was pointed out that in some Pacific Island countries over 50 per cent of young women smoked and that this affected birth outcomes. It was recommended that women initiate alcohol-free community activities; request SPC to assist in the development and dissemination of culturally appropriate alcohol and drug abuse information and educational materials; and assist parents teach their young children about the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse.

Women and the Law Workshop: This workshop, addressed by Judge Janet Weeks of Guam, Janet Agar, of the New Zealand Human Rights Commission and Patricia Jalal, a Fijian lawyer working in the Family Law Courts raised the growing problems of domestic violence and rape.

Ms Jalal, who is working on an anti-rape campaign said that in Fiji rape cases
have increased 200 per cent in the last eight months. She explained that laws in Fiji and other Pacific countries were still based on British laws and tended to be less progressive and more discriminatory towards women than those based on American law.

The main points raised were the increase in real terms of violence towards women; the problems in overcoming domestic violence when it is culturally condoned; the problems associated with women getting a fair hearing in divorce courts, in property settlement and custody of children because of cultural barriers to the use of the law; the problems of attempting to reduce the incidence of incest, which contrary to widespread belief, is common in the Pacific.

It was recommended that governments and NGOs take all possible measures to give women access to, and understanding of, the laws and legal processes, particularly those relevant to women's interests and problems; that governments of all member countries review their laws and legal systems to ensure that victims of domestic violence can receive legal protection; that women's groups should immediately initiate awareness programmes to inform the public of the harm caused by domestic violence; that relevant workers both in government and non government organisations be trained in understanding domestic violence issues; and that women's groups should ask churches to formulate a clear statement on their views on the use of violence in marriage, to clarify the concept of the man as head of the family, and to emphasise companionship, communication and equality between partners in marriage.

It was also recommended that in cases of rape and child abuse that it be compulsory for counsellors and supporters to be available to work with rapists and victims and for such counsellors to be with the victim through medical examination, interrogation and court proceedings; that women police officers be trained to deal with rape cases and that a women officer attend all reports of rape; that rape be handled as a major crime; that incest cases be given first priority and be heard in a closed court; and that there be more severe penalties for rape if the victim is under 14 years of age.

For further information on the conference proceedings and recommendations contact:

Pacific Women's Resource Bureau, South Pacific Commission, B.P.D5, Noumea Cedex, New Caledonia.
included the World Bank receiving increased funds and double its lending; the rapid expansion of the Japanese aid programme; the decrease in US aid; increased protectionism; the centrality of structural adjustment policies within LOME 4; and the Third World debt of $3 trillion.

"We Americans", he said, "have created a mess. US multilateral aid has failed to help the poor because it was established to support other agendas. USAID, created in 1961, promoted US security interests in Asia and short-term policy objectives. The programme came under pressure from industrial and commercial interests as these interests have a massive aid lobby. Although the World Bank was expected to facilitate the flow of capital to the TWCs, it has never been so obvious as now that it is a "banker's bank". Funding has almost never addressed basic human needs and although the Third World situation has changed, in some areas, drastically, the World Bank has never changed its methodology. The poor have been made to pay the price of bad loans from which the elite benefitted. People have been forced into survival mode while structural adjustment policies remain sacrosanct."

"We have always determined what the needs of the poor are and we have created developed sectors. Our expertise is now part of the problem because we created a monster which rejects reality. There is now a multi-million dollar aid industry tied in to "do" development work. This merely reinforces the syndrome that "outsiders know best". As a result the more the aid industry has prospered, the more the poor have suffered. Too much money has gone through the wrong channels so the elite have benefitted.

Addressing the question of the debt crisis Mr Hellinger said that if the debt was wiped out now in ten years time the same thing would happen again if policies remained the same. The medium term future looks dim. If World Bank policies don't change there will be an even larger disaster because the Bank pushes people out of subsistence farming to export crops.

In future, he suggested, we must be more responsive to what the poor actually do; we must give aid programmes more autonomy. "How can you have a good aid programme if it is not separated from short-term foreign policy demands?". "There is a need for institutions to reach the local level and there needs to be more consultation and communication between policy-makers, the World Bank, NGOs and Government".

John Langmore, speaking of actions that could be taken within the Australian government to improve the debt situation in TWCs, outlined some legitimate criticisms of World Bank and IMF policies. These included their "political bias which forces deflationary policies onto debtor developing countries, but not onto the biggest debtor of all, the US; the political bias of lending to military dictatorships such as Chile and Zaire while failing to reach agreement on loans with governments committed to maintaining social services including education and health, such as Zambia and Tanzania; the loss of sovereignty involved in the excessive intrusiveness of conditionality - and paradoxical reluctance to propose reduced military spending; the ineptitude of Bank recommendations for expanded production of the same crops and minerals in many countries, pushing up supplies further than demand, and contributing to the fall in commodity prices; disregard for environmental destruction caused by dams, uncontrolled logging and agricultural projects".

"Australia", he said, "could play a valuable mediating and advocacy role in negotiations for resolving the debt crisis and reforming the Fund and the Bank. Many sound and feasible policies have been proposed - what is required is the political will to implement them. Most important would be an immediate conference between creditors and debtors, sponsored perhaps by the UN Secretary General. The agenda should include widespread debt forgiveness for the poorest countries; payment of interest in debtor currencies; establishment of a debt management authority to buy discounted debt and pass benefits on to debtor countries; permanently changing the conditions of IMF and World Bank to remove current deflationary preoccupation and ideological bias; and preparation for a global conference on reform of the international financial system".

The proceedings of the conference will be available soon. For further information contact:
World Vision of Australia, GPO Box 9944, Melbourne, VIC 3001.

Proceedings of the Network Symposium "Full Fee Courses in Australian Education: The Australian Experience" will be available soon. $10. Contact the Network.
Over the last three years the development efforts of non-governmental organisations (NGO's) have achieved a much higher profile than in the past. In the UK especially, increased public awareness of the role of NGO's has produced a surge in private donations at a time when official aid was being cut back. In addition donor governments around the world are channelling an increased proportion of official aid through NGO's. It is widely accepted that NGOs are more effective than official aid organisations in reaching the poor and in promoting community and grass roots level development. However it is also argued that the goals of NGOs are quite distinct from those of government agencies and that their work is not comparable. As a result of their higher profile many NGOs in Australia are currently re-assessing their developmental role, their relationships with Third World NGO partners, their sources of funding, and their ability to undertake more and larger projects while retaining their effectiveness. Major NGOs are also re-assessing their evaluation processes and their overall effectiveness.

This report, summarised from an ODI Briefing Paper, August 1988, provides background information on current trends among NGOs, with special reference to Europe.

The NGOs and Funding

Worldwide, the number of NGOs has increased substantially in the past five years. Currently over 2000 are based in the OECD countries and engage in development-related activities. Approximately 500 are based in the United States while over 200 (approximately 5 per cent of the total) are based in Britain, where in 1986 they raised 130 million pounds, or about one-tenth the amount the UK Government spends on aid. About 50 per cent of British NGO funds are disbursed to sub-Saharan Africa.

NGOs in the UK and the USA (Private Voluntary Organisations - PV/ Os) receive the bulk of their funding from voluntary private sources, and engage in one or more of the following activities: channelling aid to projects in less-developed countries (LDCs), sending volunteers to work in LDCs, and promoting development education in the North.

Not all countries in the North conform to this pattern. In Germany, for example, church-based development organisations derive a large proportion of their financial resources from special taxes levied on church members by the government. The German political foundations (Stiftungen) maintained by each of the major political parties blur the distinction between government and non government activity even further. Although much of their activity is domestically oriented, they also have a significant involvement in the Third World and their activities in LDCs are similar to those of the conventional British and United States NGOs. Stiftungen obtain much of their finance through their parent political party and therefore fall within the non-government category.

In France the relationship between NGOs and government differs from the UK/US model with a major distinction between confessional (usually Catholic) and secular (linked to trade unions or political parties) organisations. Although French NGOs may be more active abroad in criticising governments and supporting dissident movements, there is considerable inconsistency of approach with official French development policy. As a result, criticism by domestic NGOs of aid policy and performance is probably more muted in France than in any other European country.

Japanese NGOs have not figured prominently in the provision of development aid until recently, but their numbers have grown rapidly in the 1980s, in association with a significant growth in official Japanese aid.

Trends in NGO Aid

Statistical measurement of NGO aid flows is difficult, but the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD produces regular annual figures which are a starting point for making broad comparisons.

Figures for 1980 and 1986 show that in real terms the increase in NGO disbursements from DAC member states exceeded the small rise in official development assistance over this period. Proportionally NGO disbursements were equivalent to about 9 per cent of total ODA in 1986. DAC figures show that aid from US and German NGOs far exceeded that of other countries in 1986. The increase in spending from 1980-1986 was
NGO AID IN RELATION TO OFFICIAL AID DISBURSEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1 NGO Aid* (US$m) 1980</th>
<th>2 Official Aid (US$m) 1980</th>
<th>3 as % Share of 2 1980</th>
<th>4 % Change in NGO Aid in real terms 1980-86</th>
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<td>421</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3,338</td>
<td>27,257</td>
<td>36,677</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Grants by Private Voluntary Agencies.
† Deflated by UN index of dollar export unit values of developed market economies.
= not available.

Source: Derived from data provided by the Development Assistance Committee, OECD.

Much higher for Italian and Japanese NGOs than in other countries.

Over the last five years governments have become important providers of funds to NGOs particularly in three areas:

. Co-financing development projects

. Contributions to the cost of volunteer projects

. Grants for disaster relief work.

Private contributions, however, still constitute by far the largest single source of NGO income. It is for this reason that NGO fund-raising is generally directed at increasing the volume of individual donations.

Major Issues for NGOs

NGOs are now involved in a wide variety of activities. These include relief to the destitute of famine-stricken, support for community development projects and measures to promote the 'empowerment' of oppressed social groups. Given the range of these activities, NGOs have been vigorously questioning their most appropriate role.

Some British NGOs, for example, have attempted to move into more overtly political campaigning which has brought them into conflict with UK charity laws and drawn some outside criticism. A fairly conservative French NGO, Comite Catholique Contre la Faim et Pour Le Developpement, has twice been sued in the French courts for allegedly promoting revolution in its normal NGO activities in Latin America and in the Philippines.

A number of NGOs active in the Third World still retain a focus on individual welfare but many have shifted the emphasis of their work away from the provision of immediate relief towards assisting communities to develop their physical and social infrastructure, and to enlarge their productive assets. This shift in emphasis by some NGOs may not yet be recognised by many contributors. In practice, most NGOs have directed part of "relief" funds towards productive, income-generating activities in or near disaster zones. At the same time they have attempted to counter a prevailing view of the poorest groups in developing countries as inert victims unable to help themselves.

Some NGOs have further extended the shift away from relief. In countries where they believe development is blocked by inequitarian land ownership and political oppression, they have been concerned with the need for representation and reform. They have also sought alternative means of addressing balance of payments problems and focused on the failings of the international economic system. Many of the larger NGOs are now involved in discussions with...
international institutions such as the World Bank, and run their own development education campaigns to highlight practices arising from OECD countries' policies which hinder development, and to influence public opinion and government policies. At international level, northern NGOs have created a joint forum (ICDA) to co-ordinate their educational/representational activities.

**Government Funding**

In recent years there has been a large increase in government funding for most northern NGOs. This is the result of both practical and political factors. Politically, the NGOs have been the beneficiaries of a broad shift of public opinion in favour of private initiative rather than public sector activity. Accordingly, there has been some shift in emphasis from government-administered projects to NGO-run projects. NGOs are perceived as able to operate in areas where governments have regarded direct action by themselves as inappropriate, eg Kampuchea, the Gaza Strip, and Ethiopia. The UK government has co-financed projects in Nicaragua with CAFOD and Christian Aid, despite having terminated bilateral project aid. Similarly, NGOs have undertaken work with EEC assistance in contexts where their own government considered direct aid to the inexpedient.

At the practical level, NGOs are seen to be more effective executors of project aid on the grounds that they are more likely to be sensitive to the needs of the poor and closer to the grass roots in their operating style. However evidence on the comparative effectiveness of NGO and official aid is inconclusive and inadequate.

**NGO Reactions to Government Funding.**

The increased availability of public funds for NGOs has provoked considerable internal discussion. Some organisations have seen co-financing schemes as a means of continuing their work on a larger scale. Others believe that the acceptance of government money might divert NGO efforts towards the sorts of projects they would not otherwise undertake, and might also compromise their independence. Some US NGOs refuse to accept any government funding and many in the UK maintain ceilings. There are clearly some risks to NGOs in accepting government funds. In the USA for example, attempts have been made by the US government to stop NGOs using private funds in various countries including Cuba, Kampuchea and North Korea. The Swedish government refuses to support most NGO activities that have not received the formal approval of the host government, while the Netherlands government has clauses in its co-financing agreements with the four largest agencies which prohibit the use of funds for activities aimed to undermine a government by unlawful means.

NGOs can become vulnerable to government change as in France where during the first five years of President Mitterand's administration, the French government rapidly increased funds to NGOs which gave a high priority to development education and the need to alter relations between the North and South. The Chirac administration subsequently shifted the focus towards the more technical project-oriented NGOs.

Complaints have been made that relationships between NGOs and aid recipients are becoming increasingly similar to that of their governmental counterparts. As the supply of government project finance increases, Northern NGOs are seeking more "fundable activities" from their southern partners. But as northern NGOs have to account to their governments for how money has been spent, they have to impose reporting and accounting requirements on their southern partners, few of whom have the administrative structures or expertise to undertake.

Some northern NGOs believe that they might be bypassed altogether as some southern NGOs have advocated the direct transfer of grants, thereby circumventing their northern counterparts, but becoming, as a result, more directly dependent on official backing.

The European Court of Auditors has suggested that the EC should consider direct funding of southern NGOs, arguing that some northern NGOs merely act as forwarding agents and are not involved in the design and monitoring of projects. Some donors, however, have regulations precluding direct financing of NGOs in other countries, and it is not yet clear how far this trend is likely to develop.

**NGO Effectiveness: The Unanswered Questions**

Currently, questioning and self-criticism are features of most NGOs, and both within and without there is growing uncertainty over assertions that the efficiency of aid is enhanced by channelling funds through NGOs. The counter view is that NGOs are failing to establish a distinctive identity as a 'development alternative' and that they are often not as effective, in development terms, as claimed.

The lack of NGO identity, it is argued, is because NGOs are often either compelled to adopt, or are willing to adopt, the
objectives and procedures of official agencies because of their growing dependence on public funds. On the other hand, increases in public funding allows NGOs to promote their own work with resources previously regarded as unattainable.

Many NGOs are ambivalent about evaluation as it is often done under difficult circumstances and among the most disadvantaged social groups, so their 'success rate' is bound to be modest. Also, their funding is to some extent dependent on an image of development success.

Despite the ambivalence, NGO evaluation is growing in number and sophistication. Yet few studies have attempted to compare the effectiveness of NGOs to official donor/government intervention where development objectives are shared and similar resources are applied. Most NGOs would reject such a comparison claiming that they often do not share objectives with official donors.

Although most multilateral and bilateral agencies now endorse the important developmental role of both northern and southern NGOs, this role may be under threat from the encroaching embrace of governments and official donors.


For a copy of the full text contact the Network.

TRENDS IN AUSTRALIAN NGOs

Background

Co-operation between the government and NGOs has a relatively long history in Australia. Regular monetary support started in 1965 when the government began funding the Overseas Services Bureau and Australian Council for Overseas Aid, as well as providing other ad hoc support. In 1974 the Australian Development Assistance Agency was established and the NGO Project Support Scheme was approved. It was administered by a new body, the Project Assessment Committee, subsequently the Committee for Development Co-operation (CDC), which was made up of representatives from ADAB (now AIDAB) and the NGOs. The PSS administered by the CDC remains the principal avenue of government funding for NGOs.

The NGOs which receive government subsidies fall into three main categories:

Category 1 are those organisations which receive subsidies of 3 government dollars for each organisation dollar. These organisations must have satisfied government requirements for several years before being put into this category;

Category 2 is reserved for organisations concerned with development education; and

Category 3 are those organisations which have recently entered the programme and receive a subsidy of one government dollar for every organisation dollar.

The PSS provides money principally for development projects but the second most significant form of monetary support for the NGOs is emergency relief and food aid. In addition, AIDAB also provides some support for projects which it wholly funds. Several organisations which send volunteers overseas also receive partial funding from AIDAB.

The Australian Council for Overseas Aid (ACFOA) is the umbrella organisation for Australian NGOs and is largely funded by AIDAB.

In Australia NGOs are seen as directly reflecting the humanitarian concerns of the Australian community and their desire to see basic needs met in developing countries. Generally, NGOs emphasise local participation at all levels and are often able to give assistance where governments find it politically difficult to do so.

Current Trends

Since 1980 there has been a significant increase in the proportion of Australian ODA assigned to NGO's (Table 1). This increase is in line with trends in other donor countries. In 1986/87, 2.2 per cent of ODA went to NGO's which is comparable to the New Zealand figure of 2.6 per cent but lags a long way behind Canada where in 1985/86 10.3 per cent of the total aid budget was assigned to NGO's.

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<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
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<th>Funding for NGO's $Am</th>
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<td>25.5</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985/86</td>
<td>1031</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986/87</td>
<td>1007.6</td>
<td>21.8</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE 1:

AIDAB Funding as a Percentage of Annual NGO Budgets

The NGO's which receive government subsidies fall into three main categories:
In addition the proportion of NGO funds provided by the government compared to those from other sources, including private subscriptions, is increasing.

The increase in NGO funds has not been due solely to an increase in government subsidies but also the fact that many NGO's are attracting more private subscriptions and support. In the calendar year 1987 Australian NGO's raised an estimated $72.2m from the Australian community. AIDAB provided an estimated $15.8m in subsidies, emergency assistance and funds for special programs, bringing the total income for NGO aid activities to $88.8m. Between 1982 and 1987 the estimated total budget of NGO's in Australia rose approximately 80 per cent of which 27 percent is accounted for by the increase in AIDAB funding. Government funding has increased at a much slower rate than private subscriptions.

The pattern of increase is particularly apparent in the larger NGO's who are expanding at a greater rate than smaller organisations. Most government money distributed to NGO's goes to a few large organisations. In 1986, 68 per cent of funding went to 10 per cent of the 76 NGO's who received money from AIDAB. For example, 16.7 per cent of development project subsidies and 24 per cent of all other official subsidies went to World Vision, the most heavily funded NGO in Australia. With a couple of exceptions (Compassion and Save the Children Fund) the level of subsidy is directly proportional to the overall budget of the organisation.

By country, Africa receives by far the largest proportion of total NGO funding. In 1986 it received A$19.2m, 33 per cent of Australian NGO funds. Ethiopia was the largest single recipient ($5m) followed by Kenya ($3m).

The total funding sent to Africa is not reflected however by the size of government subsidy. While 33 per cent of NGO funds were spent in Africa, it was subsidised at only 14 per cent. On the other hand the Pacific, which in 1986 received 8.55 per cent of NGO money was subsidised by government at a rate of 33.17 per cent.

This uneven pattern is repeated in the sectoral allocations of funds.

Community Development projects far outweigh any other sector in their receipt of NGO funding followed by Health and Emergency Relief. The sectors favoured by AIDAB in their distribution of funds, however, are Health followed by Agriculture and Education.

While an increase in government funding means more money is available to the NGOs it also opens the possibility of a decrease in autonomy and one may see private funds ending up following government dollars. Concern about this has been expressed in other countries where ODA is becoming an increasing source of NGO funding.

Currently, the Australian NGO's are re-assessing their situation and re-evaluating their effectiveness. The establishment within ACFOA of an Evaluation Unit is evidence of new thinking within the NGO community and a willingness to improve their effectiveness.

DEVELOPMENT STUDIES - NEW COURSES AND FELLOWSHIPS

Fellowships

The Centre for Pacific Island Studies at the University of Hawai'i invites applications for Rockefeller Residency Fellowships in the Humanities. Within the broad theme of "Identity and Change in Contemporary Pacific Cultures" three topics have been chosen: 1) contemporary social, political and religious movements in the Pacific; 2) indigenous Pacific literature; and 3) the interplay of Pacific art and politics.

Fellow's primary responsibility will be to work on an original book-length manuscript or several major articles. Fellowships are open to academic and independent scholars as well as other qualified writers in Pacific Islands studies. Applications are welcome from any country. Each Fellow will receive a stipend of $30,000 plus some moving expenses. Applications must be in by December 31, 1988 and application forms are available from:

The Director, Centre for Pacific Island Studies, School of Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Studies, 1890 East-West Road, Moore Hall 215, University of Hawaii', Honolulu, Hawaii 96822.

Awards

The Hunger Project will again be offering the 'Africa Prize for Leadership for the Sustainable End of Hunger'. The prize is awarded annually to honour a distinguished African who has exhibited 'exceptional leadership in bringing about the sustainable end of the persistance of hunger at a rational, regional or continent-wide level.'

Nominations may be lodged at the Australia office of the Hunger Project: Suite 6, 3rd Floor, 154 Elizabeth St., Sydney 2000. (02) 2671055.
Postgraduate Studies

M.A. in Development Studies - Monash University

Starting in 1989 the Monash Development Studies Centre will be offering an M.A. by coursework in Development Studies. The M.A. will consist of some courses which are interdisciplinary, while others are centered in particular disciplines. All students must take interdisciplinary core courses on the nature of development studies and current issues in the field, but part 2 of the program allows specialisation in a number of vocationally oriented courses.

Enquiries about the course should be directed to: John McKay, Development Studies Centre, Monash University. Clayton, Vic 3168. (03) 565 2925

Master of Public Health - University of Sydney.

The Master of Public Health Degree is conducted by the Department of Public Health of the University of Sydney which is a multidisciplinary group of health professionals and researchers. The department has an extensive range of research activities, particularly in epidemiology, health promotion, disease prevention and health services research.

Courses are intended for both health practitioners and other graduate professionals who are interested in population-based or community health issues. Advanced training is available through a variety of courses including the Master of Public Health degree, which may be completed by a year of coursework followed by a research treatise or by research thesis provided relevant introductory coursework is completed. Opportunities also exist for proceeding to a Doctor of Philosophy degree.

The Master of Public Health coursework is organised to give a choice of options: Theory and Practice of Public Health, Research Methods, Health Promotion and Disease Prevention and International Health.

For further information contact:
General Enquiries, Department of Public Health, A27, University of Sydney, NSW 2006. (02) 6924367 or (02) 6924368.

Graduate Diploma in Development Studies - Murdoch/Deakin Universities.

Murdoch and Deakin Universities are jointly offering a Graduate Diploma in Development Studies to begin in 1989. It is an interdisciplinary program offered through an inter-university exchange of external courses. This diploma provides an additional formal qualification for graduates of other disciplines who wish to acquire an understanding of development issues, without completing a further undergraduate degree.

It offers a broad analysis of the economic, social, political and educational aspects of development and allows some degree of specialisation in economics, education or Asian studies.

It is expected that graduates of this program will find employment as teachers with the Ministry of Education and as development experts with companies, aid and trade agencies and public service departments which are involved with the flow of trade, capital and personnel between Australia and the Third World.

Students may complete the program of 24 points in one year or part time over three years. It may be taken entirely externally or in a dual mode, both externally and internally.

For further information contact either:
Dr Jan Currie at Murdoch University (09) 332-2377 or Dr Joe Remenyi at Deakin University (052) 47-1111.

Rural Development Administration and Management - Diploma in Agricultural Studies and Master of Agricultural Studies - University of Queensland.

Both private industry and local and overseas departments of agriculture have indicated a strong need for middle level managers with an understanding of rural development and of the special problems involved in the administration and management of resources in the rural sector. The faculty of Agricultural Science at the University of Queensland has attempted to respond to this need by developing a broadly based, multidisciplinary programme in Rural Development and Management (RDAM).

Two postgraduate coursework awards are available in RDAM: a one-year Diploma in Agricultural Studies; and a two year Master of Agricultural Studies. There is a strong emphasis on the social sciences and the problems of rural development as well as the organisational and institutional aspects of rural development. It is also possible to undertake studies in RDAM leading to a Master of Agricultural Science or a Doctor of Philosophy degree. Both these awards are essentially by research of thesis, though they may include some coursework.

For further information contact: Dr Robert Crouch or Dr Shankariah Chamala, Department of Agriculture, University of Queensland, St Lucia, Queensland, 4067.
Litt.B. in Development Studies - Australian National University

The Faculty of Arts at the Australian National University is offering a Litt. B. program in Development Studies which is intended to provide an interdisciplinary approach to development processes in the Third World. It draws on the extensive experience of staff in the Departments of Economic History, Economics, Geography, History, Political Science, Prehistory and Anthropology and Sociology and well as expertise in the National Centre for Development Studies, the Faculty of Asian Studies and the Research School of Pacific Studies. The program requires eighteen months study for full-time students and up to three years for part-time.

Candidates for admission should have one of the following alternative qualifications; 1) a Pass degree with a major in one of the social sciences and with at least six advanced points at Credit level; or 2) a Pass degree without a social sciences major but with additional academic qualifications. Students lacking full academic qualifications may be required to pass preliminary undergraduate courses in relevant subjects at an appropriate level on a non-degree enrolment basis.

Coursework for the Litt.B. in Development studies consists of a compulsory full-year interdisciplinary seminar, Development Processes, and a selection of four semester courses drawn from the Faculties offerings in Development Studies. Normally two of the semester courses must be drawn from the core Development Studies courses - the Anthropology of Development, Development and Change, Development Geography, Development Poverty and Famine and Sociology of the Third World. The other two must be drawn from area courses, relating to Southeast Asia, South Asia and the Pacific. On successful completion of the coursework component, students prepare a sub thesis of 15-20,000 words.

The Litt.B. program is particularly suitable for graduates engaged in, or preparing for, work in a variety of government and non-government organisations concerned with broad aspects of Third World Development.

For further information contact: Dr John Ballard, Department of Political Science or Dr Caroline Ifeka, Department of Prehistory and Anthropology, Faculty of Arts, Australian National University, GPO Box 4, ACT 2601.

Major in Development Studies, Footscray Institute of Technology

The Urban Studies Unit of Footscray Institute of Technology will introduce a major in Development Studies in 1989. The major will comprise a composite of existing subjects in Geography, Politics, History and Urban Studies.

For further information contact: Stephanie Fahey, Footscray Institute of Technology, P O Box 64, Footscray VIC 3011.

Master and PhD in Community Nutrition - University of Queensland

The Master of Community Nutrition, offered by the University of Queensland is a one year interdisciplinary course that involves academic training and fieldwork in Australia and rural or urban areas of Southeast Asia. Fieldwork can be undertaken in Thailand or Malaysia between January and June. The course is run in collaboration with institutions in Australia, Malaysia and Thailand.

The aim of the course is to produce nutritionists who can assess the nutrition situation in communities and who can formulate, implement and evaluate programmes to alleviate and prevent malnutrition. The course is aimed at professionals involved in the formulation and implementation of nutrition policy and programmes, and those who train other professionals to work in areas related to nutrition.

For entry to the course a degree in agricultural, health or social sciences from a recognised university is required together with a minimum of 2 years relevant work experience.

For further information contact:
The Director, Community Nutrition Programme, University of Queensland, Clinical Sciences Building, Royal Brisbane Hospital, Herston, Q 4006.

The Pacific Island Food Composition Programme

The new Pacific Island Food Composition Programme (PIFCP) administered by the South Pacific Commission (SPC) will collect and disseminate information on the nutrient value of Pacific foods. Over the next five years the project will review existing data, identify gaps in information, assess data-user priorities, establish a data bank and disseminate information in print and computerised formats.

PIFCP hopes to improve and expand regional facilities for nutritional analysis of food and to update the skills of regional users, thus contributing to technical
development in the Pacific. PIFCP is actively seeking submissions of published and unpublished analytical data on the nutrient composition of Pacific foods. Interested persons are requested to provide their views about foods and nutrients to be included in the analytical programme.

For further information contact:

Dr Heather Greenfield, Food Composition Co-ordinator, South Pacific Commission, PO Box D5, Noumea Cedex, New Caledonia.

AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE BUREAU DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH GRANTS SCHEME GUIDELINES

The Development Research Grants Scheme (DRGS) was established to support participation by the Australian academic and research community in the discussion, formulation and implementation of development activities in developing countries. It is designed to cover a wide range of socio-economic sectors and to support research, policy analysis, the provision of better insights into the development process and discussion of developmental issues by providing funding for specific research projects. This support is a part of Australia's development assistance program and has the same general goals as that program.

It is expected that research projects supported by the DRGS will make a direct, practical contribution to economic and/or social advancement of developing countries (social advancement includes improvement in the position of women in developing countries) or enhance Australia's capacity to engage in productive dialogue with developing countries.

Nature of Support Offered

The DRGS may provide an accountable cash grant to a specific research project. Awards will usually be in the range of $10,000 to $30,000. This grant may cover the following:

1) Research costs, such as research assistance (in Australia or overseas), specific necessary equipment, identifiable communication costs, computer time, etc.

2) Cost of economy class air travel in Australia and overseas (and associated living expenses) considered essential for the conduct of the proposed research.

3) The costs of report preparation and production.

4) When necessary, salary costs of researchers. However, for the type of small project envisaged, it should usually be possible to incorporate the research into the normal working time of most researchers employed by publicly funded institutions.

Criteria for Selection

Priority will be given to proposals which can demonstrate: Direct relevance to improving the efficiency and effectiveness of development programs in developing countries, particularly those of key recipients of Australia's Aid; clear linkages to economic growth, social advancement and equity; and potential to enhance Australia's capacity for dialogue or liaison with recipients on development issues.

Proposals which involve collaboration with developing country researchers are also encouraged.

Among the areas to which priority will be given are:

1. Enhanced production or productivity - in all sectors other than agriculture. Program support for agricultural research is provided separately through the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR).

2. Poverty alleviation; raising the incomes and human capital of the poor.

3. Health and nutrition including health systems and delivery of services.

4. Education.

5. Women's participation in development.

6. Urban studies.

7. Transportation.

8. Appropriate technology.


10. Natural resources/environment.

11. Public administration and management.

12. Trade, industry and services.

Project Proposals

Project proposals should be submitted by the individual through their institution or firm in accordance with the format outlined below.

Proposals should contain a clear statement of the aims of the research and its relevance to developing countries. Projects should not be of a kind which
normally would be eligible for funding from other AIDAB appropriations. Proposals must include a detailed budget. Projects should not duplicate other existing or proposed research activities.

The DRGS Committee will meet in February, June and October each year to determine funding priorities. Project proposals should be received by AIDAB by the 30th of the month preceding each Committee meeting.

Conditions of Grants

The specific condition of any individual grant will be set out in a letter, "Offer of a Development Research Grant", which will incorporate the agreed Terms of Reference. In most cases, it is anticipated that Section C of the proposal will be used as the Terms of Reference with little or no amendment.

The payment of 65 per cent of the total budget usually will be paid as soon as possible after acceptance of the offer. The balance of the grant will be paid after satisfactory completion of the research including the submission of an acceptable report.

Research reports must acknowledge AIDAB as the source of funding or as a joint sponsor where there are other parties involved in the project. This requirement would carry through to any published version.

Research results may not be published without written authorisation from AIDAB. Nevertheless, in the interests of contributing to discussion of development issues, AIDAB will allow and encourage publication where it does not unduly transgress the sensitivities of governments or other parties with which the Australian Government may be required to deal.

Format for Project Proposal

A. Name of researcher and institution.

B. Telephone contact numbers.

C. Project title and description.

Ideally, this section should serve as the Terms of Reference for the project. It should be set out under the following headings:

i) Objectives.

ii) Justification: This should show clearly how the achievement of the objectives will benefit developing countries.

iii) Tasks: To be carried out to achieve the objectives, including method of data collection/analysis and testing of conclusions. The location of all tasks should be shown. The completion of an appropriate report will usually be the final task.

iv) Timetable: For completion of designated tasks.

D. Personnel.

The names and positions of principal research personnel should be shown under this heading. Curriculum Vitae highlighting previous research work in the same or closely related areas should be attached.

E. Funding Sought.

Under this heading a detailed budget should be provided, showing costs in categories which reflect those in Section II of the guidelines. Proposals must be submitted in the above format and provide all information requested under each heading. All project proposals should be addressed to:

The Secretary, Development Research Grants Scheme, International Organisations and Programs Branch, Australian International Development Assistance Bureau, GPO Box 887, Canberra ACT 2601.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT GROUPS

The Resource and Development Research Group

The Resource and Development Research Group is located in the Department of Economics, University of Newcastle, and is interested in applied and policy research relating to natural resource economics, development economics and environmental economics.

Enquiries should be directed to Professor Clem Tidsell, Department of Economics, University of Newcastle, New South Wales 2308, Australia, (049) 685764.

The Canberra Development Education Centre

The Canberra Development Education Resource Centre is to be established. Following a public meeting in July, the Canberra Development Education Centre Association was formed and has been applying for funding and space. The Centre would offer a service to everyone from school groups to the general public. This project needs public support and anyone interested should contact: Karen Clouds,
Community Health and Research Training Unit.

CHTRU consulting are a multi-disciplinary consulting team concerned with community health in the Third World and isolated Australian regions. They are associated with the Community Health Research and Training Unit at the University of Western Australia and include physicians, a medical anthropologist and development specialist. For further information contact: Terence Murphy, CHRTU Consulting, 328 Stirling Highway, Claremont, W.A. 6010. (09) 384 4342.

Hunger Project Trust

The Hunger Project is an international, non-profit making organisation committed to ending world hunger by the year 2000. Through programmes including communication, information and participation in on-the-ground projects, the Hunger Project is hoping to achieve this goal. Among the projects current programmes are the Africa Prize for Leadership, the school project and the establishment of a global strategy for ending hunger. These are intended to place ending hunger as a priority on the political and economic agenda of first and third world countries.

The Hunger Project Trust publishes a twice-monthly newsletter "Development Forum" which includes information on the trends in international development, as well as the publication "African Farmer", a journal which focusses on small-scale farming in Africa. The current edition includes information on African farmers (male and female) on increasing productivity, leadership, and structural adjustment.

For further information contact: David Crossley, The Hunger Project, Suite 6, 3rd Floor, 154 Elizabeth Street, Sydney NSW 2000 Phone (02) 267 2055.

If you have development-related information you wish to share, or conferences, symposia or publications you wish to publicise among the 2,000 people on the Network mailing list, please contact Pamela Thomas. The Network will be pleased to publish reports on development-related conferences and to consider submissions for the Network Briefing Paper series.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

Australian Conferences


This one day workshop will consider the social and economic implications of agricultural processing in Asia and the Pacific. While the value added to primary produce through processing is an economically significant aspect of agriculture in developing countries, the benefits need clarification before policies supporting increased agricultural processing can be properly developed. The workshop will provide detailed case studies of agricultural processing industries from several South East Asian and Pacific island countries. These case studies include a variety of products and organisational systems, and especially involve the impact of processing on small farmers. The workshop will be of particular interest to consultants, development workers, academics and public servants.

The programme will include:

2. Grading, packaging and exporting vegetables from the Karo and Cameron Highlands for markets in Jakarta, Malaysia and Singapore, Meneth Ginting, North Sumatra Regional Government and H.J. Glasmeler, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung.
3. Manufacturing latex and other rubbers in Malaysia and Thailand into dipped products and tyres, Ansell International
Panel Discussion: The social and economic implications of agricultural processing industries - Australia's role?

Registration Fee: $10 ($5 for students) to cover morning and afternoon tea and lunch. For further information contact:

Colin Barlow, Department of Economics, RSPaCS, Australian National University. Phone (062) 492684, or Pamela Thomas, Australian Development Studies Network, Australian National University. Phone (062) 492466

Australian and New Zealand perspectives on Japan's role in the Pacific, Australia-Japan Research Centre, The New Zealand Institute of Policy Studies and the Australian Development Studies Network, December 9, 1988 National Centre for Development Studies, ANU.

This one-day conference will consider the growing involvement of Japan in the Pacific and the implications for Australian and New Zealand aid, trade and politics. The papers include:

Japan/New Zealand/Australia in the Pacific region, Sir Frank Holmes, Institute of Policy Studies, Victoria University.

Specific developments in Australia-Japan relations, Christopher Findlay, University of Adelaide.

Japanese aid in the Pacific, Alan Rix, University of Queensland.

Political aspects of Japan in the Pacific, Stuart Harris, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

New Zealand perspectives of Japan, Maarten Wevers, Institute of Policy Studies, Victoria University.

For further information contact:

John McBride, Australia-Japan Research Centre, Australian National University, Phone (062) 493780 or Pamela Thomas, Australian Development Studies Network, Australian National University, Phone (062) 492466

A poverty focus for Australian aid?, Deakin University, February 1989.

This two-day symposium organised by the Centre of Applied Research, Deakin University, ACFOA and the Australian Development Studies Network will address an appropriate balance between aid for the very poor and other competing goals for the Australian aid programme. The topics to be covered include:

- A Poverty Focus and Realpolitik in Australian Aid
- Why is a poverty focus important?
- Implications of a poverty focus for the distribution of Australia's aid
- Australian aid and poverty in Africa
- Who are the poor and how can we help them?
- Lessons from the Grameen Bank
- Reaching the poor in Papua New Guinea
- Health for the poor in Papua New Guinea
- AIDAB'S difficulties in seeking to help the poor

For further details contact:

Dr Joe Femenyi, Centre for Applied Social Research, Deakin University, Geelong, Phone (052) 471 516, or Pamela Thomas, Australian Development Studies Network, ANU, Phone (062) 492 466

New Directions in International Relations: Implications for Australasia, Australian Institute of International Affairs, Canberra, February 15-17, 1989.

This conference, organised by the Department of International Relations with cooperation from the Peace Research Centre at the Australian National University will include the following sections:

The state of the discipline: Realism under challenge?; International political economy; Marxism and international relations; Strategic studies; Small states in the world order; Ethical issues and international relations; Peace research; International relations in Australasia; and Research agenda for the 1990s.

For further information contact:

Robin Ward, Department of International Relations, ANU, GPO Box 4, Canberra ACT 2601 Phone (062) 494451.

Adult and Continuing Education - Its Contribution to the Australian Economy, The Australian Association of Adult Education. 11-14 November, Royal Newcastle Hospital Grounds.

This conference will be devoted to the description and exploration of the economic impact of Adult Education. Topics include European experiences, the labour market, cost-benefit analysis, user-pays, aboriginal
education and women in education. For further information contact:

Mr John Collins, Department of Community Programmes, University of Newcastle, Newcastle NSW 2308.

Australia and the South Pacific 1988, University of New South Wales, December 1-4, 1988

The Centre for South Pacific's first conference will highlight Australia's relations with the South Pacific and will examine the 12 years since the University of New South Wales hosted the "Young Nations Conference" in 1976. The conference includes eight major sessions: Archives, Libraries and Museums; Mineral Resources Development and Law of the Sea; Training and Deployment of Health Care Personnel in the South Pacific; the French Territories; Women in Development; Comparative Economic Development; Plural Politics in the South Pacific; and Identity through Change. Registration is $35. For further information contact:

Centre for South Pacific Studies, University of New South Wales, PO Box 1, Kensington NSW Phone (02) 697 2408


This conference, organised by the Department of Geography at the University of Adelaide will include workshops on the themes Gender and Geography and Development Studies.

For further information contact: Stephanie Fahey, Urban Studies Unit, Footscray Institute of Technology, P. O. Box 64, Footscray VIC 3011.

Issues to be discussed in the Development Studies workshop include the political economies of resource development; health and nutrition; mobility and regional labour markets; and the future of small-scale economies. For further information on this workshop contact:

Dr Lesley Potter, University of Adelaide, Phone (008) 228 5647


This conference, being held in association with the International Association for Communication in Agriculture, will explore problems and potentials for communication in agriculture, with special reference to the Pacific region. Topics include: Communication and the farmer; the media and technology; public relations and advertising; the role of government, education and training; and international agricultural communications.

Keynote speakers include George Jackson, Agricultural Director of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and James Evans, Professor of Agricultural Communications and Extension Education at the University of Illinois, USA. For further information contact:

Mrs Jean Seppelt, Conference Officer, Campus Conference Centre, University of New England, Armidale, NSW, 2351, Australia.


This meeting which has important implications for health status in the South Pacific will focus on policy directions and broad strategies for improving the partnership between laypersons and health professionals in preventing and treating diabetes. Speakers include Professor J.J.Hoet, Belgium, President of the International Diabetes Foundation, and Dr Neal Blewett, Minister for Community Services and Health. For further information contact:

Diabetes Australia, c/o Australian Convention and Travel Services Pty. Ltd., GPO Box 2200, Canberra ACT 2601. (062) 475655.

China: 40 Years after the Revolution, University of Sydney, July, 1989

Organised by the Research Institute for Asia and the Pacific, this conference will examine the achievements of the Peoples' Republic of China over the past 40 years. Papers are being called for on all aspects of Chinese social, political and economic life. For further information contact:

Associate Professor Tong Wu, Research Institute of Asia and the Pacific, University of Sydney, Sydney NSW 2006.

International Conferences

VI Pacific Science Association Inter Congress, Vina del Mar, Chile, 7-10 August, 1989

The two major symposia which make up this conference are "The Pacific, Bridge or Barrier? International Relations in the Pacific in the Twenty-first Century" and
"Science, Technology and Development in the South Pacific Basin: The Contribution of the Americas, Asia and the Pacific". For further information contact:

Prof. Fransisco Orrego Vicuna, P O Box 14187, Sec 21. Santiago, Chile.

New Directions in Asian Studies, National University of Singapore, 1-3 February 1989.

The 1989 Asian Studies Association of Australia conference will be held at the National University of Singapore in association with the Institute of South East Asian Studies and the Centre for Advanced Studies of the National University of Singapore. The themes of the major sessions are: the study of Asia in Australia and Australia in Asia; migration in the Asia-Pacific region; the role of women in Asian development; health and development in Southeast Asia; social and political dimensions of Southeast Asian literature; transportation, the economic integration of Burma, Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam in Southeast Asia; varieties of modern Chinese languages and arts and national identity. The conference will also include a book display and those wishing to display publications should contact:

Mrs Triena Ong, ISEAS, Heng Mui Keng Terrace, Pasir Panjang, Singapore 0511.

For further information on the conference contact:

Dr. Christine Inglis, Convenor, ASAA/CAS/ISEAS Conference, Faculty of Education University of Sydney, NSW 2006 Australia. Phone (02) 692 4177.


The conference will examine the impact of the development process on women's health. Over 50 papers will be offered covering a wide range of issues including reproductive and nutritional health, technology, agriculture and education. For further information contact:

Rita Gallin, Director, 202 Centre for International Programs, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1035, USA. Telex 650-227-3148 ISP. Phone USA (517) 353-5040.

Workshop on Gender and Development, Commonwealth Geographical Bureau, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 16-21 April 1989.

This conference will consider theoretical and practical aspects of the impact of gender on the study of development. In particular it will consider the development of gender-based theories in geography and practical ways of including gender issues in development planning. The workshop will include six sessions including reproduction versus production, migration, the informal economy, basic needs provision, food cycle technologies, the household and agriculture and gender and the environment.

Papers have been offered from geographers in Nigeria, India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Canada, Australia, Tanzania, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and the Caribbean. For further information contact:

Dr. Janet Momsen, Department of Geography, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 7RU, U.K.


Next year's WISAP conference, organised by Gabriela, a national coalition of Philippines women's organisations, will have as its theme "Towards greater concern and commitment for the protection of human rights of women". The conference will include speakers from Asia, Latin America and Africa. Materials or data on human rights and women are being called for. For further information contact:

Gabriela (WISAP 89 Secretariat), P O Box 4386, Manila 2800, Philippines.

World Communication Congress, Manila, 15-19 October 1989

The theme of this congress, organised by the World Association for Christian
Communication is "Communication for Community". The major addresses will cover "Participation in the Communication Process", "Culture and Communication", "The Role of Communication in Human Rights and Liberation". Suggested topics for independent symposia are: intercultural dialogue, the use of video in development work, using media for education, music and youth culture, film in contemporary society, desktop publishing, the Third World and the communication revolution, political activism as communication, traditional communication - its potential and limits, rethinking development communication, minority cultures and the new communication technologies. For further information contact:

Congress '89 Organiser, World Association for Christian Communication, 357 Kennington Lane, London SE11 5QY.

IGU Regional Conference on Asian Pacific Countries, Beijing, China, August 12-20, 1990

The conference will be co-sponsored by the International Geographical Union and the Geographical Society of China and will cover topics of relevance to the Asian Pacific countries. These include: Geographical education; landscape synthesis and geographical monitoring and forecasting; geomorphology; climatology; hydrology and glaciology; population; cultural and tourist geographies; industrial change and energy development; land use, rural systems and food problems; geography of transport, communication, commerce and services; urban growth and urbanisation; environmental management and regional development; geographical and ecological studies of special areas; and cartography. For further information contact:

IAG Conference Secretariat, The Geographical Society of China, Building 917, Datun Road, Beijing 100012, China.

NEWSLETTERS AND JOURNALS OF INTEREST

The Indian Ocean Review, formerly the Indian Ocean Newsletter, is published from the Centre for Indian Ocean Regional Studies, Curtin University. The June 1988 issue includes extracts from Trench's Travels : Indian Voyage 1862-1830, reports on Australia's defence role in the Indian Ocean and numerous contemporary news reprints. For further information contact:

Dr Kenneth McPherson, Director, Centre for Indian Ocean Regional Studies, Curtin University of Technology, GPO Box U 1987, Perth WA.

Youth - The Pacific Way is published quarterly to record the progress of the United Nations' Youth project for the Pacific Region. The project is designed to promote youth participation in development. The first issue reported on a number of development projects as well as government and NGO initiatives for and about youth in the Pacific region.

For further information contact: Youth-the Pacific Way, UNDP, Private Bag, Apia, Western Samoa.

The Contemporary Pacific : A Journal of Island Affairs is to be produced by the Centre for Pacific Island Studies twice yearly and will publish articles focussing on current Pacific issues from a range of disciplines. Articles will deal primarily with post 1950's matters and the Journal will include a political review as well as book review and specialised bibliographies.

For further information contact: the Editor, The Contemporary Pacific, University of Hawai'i, Centre for Pacific Islands Studies, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822.


U.K. pounds 27.50 (individuals) 55.00 (institutions)

For further information contact: Journals Subscription Department, Oxford University Press, Walton Street, Oxford OX2 6DP, UK.

HRD Newsletter is to be published three times a year by the Asian Network of HRD Planning Institutes. The Network is a group of human resource development planning institutes and the journal includes human resource development conference reports, book reviews and study reports. For more information contact : Dr Rashid Amjad, Editor, HRD Newsletter, c/o Asian Network of HRD Planning Institutes, ILO/ARTEP. PO Box 643, New Delhi-110001. India.

The Women in International Development Forum features short reports that describe research projects and development programs,
and reviews current policy issues. US$1.00-2.00 (postage extra).

The Women in International Development Bulletin is a resource guide published three times a year which contains information on scholarships, conferences and employment opportunities as well as other news of interest to WID researchers, practitioners and policy makers. US$9.00 per annum (postage included in price).

For further information on both these publications contact: Women in International Development Publication Series, Office of Women in International Development, 202 Centre for International Programs, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1035, U.S.A.


For further information contact: Editor, WINAP Newsletter, Social Development Division, ESCAP, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Ave., Bangkok 10200, Thailand.

The Bulletin of the Ideas Centre, Resource Centre for International Co-operation, contains summaries of articles concerned with development issues from over 200 journals. They are arranged under topic and country and a photocopy service for the whole article is available. $25.00 per annum or for any 12 issues ($30.00 for institutions).

For further information contact: The Ideas Centre, Resource Centre for International Co-operation, 5th Floor, 381 Pitt St, Sydney PO Box A100, Sydney South, NSW 2000, (02) 267 9230.

Women and Geography Study Group Newsletter is published in Britain and deals with issues of gender in geography- it provides conference reports and announcements, contact lists and book reviews.

For further information contact: Janet Momsen, Department of Geography, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE1 7RU, UK.

The Pacific Information Centre coordinates, collects and disseminates information on a wide range of topics in the South Pacific region including agriculture, education, rural development and appropriate technology. The information can be accessed by writing to the centre or through one of their many bibliographies.

For further information contact: Pacific Information Centre, The University of the South Pacific, Library, PO Box 1168, Suva, Fiji.

African Studies Association of Australia and the Pacific Newsletter appears twice a year and includes extensive film and book reviews as well as articles and networking information. A$10.00 (inside region) or A$12.00 (outside the region) and A$2.00 for students.

For further information contact: Dr D.C. Dorward, Department of History, La Trobe University, Bundooora, Vic. 3083.

Development Communication Report is published by the Clearing House on Development Communication and includes articles on media issues, development projects and practical skill-development as well as reviews and conference reports. Free to readers in the developing world and US$10.00 to those in industrialised countries.

For further information contact: Clearing House on Development Communication, 1255 23rd St, N.W. Washington D.C. 20037, USA. (202) 862 1900.

Philippines Human Rights Update is a monthly publication brought out by the Research, Documentation, and Information Program of the Task Force on Political Detainees of the Philippines. The March/April issue of this year focusses on the urban poor and particularly the role of the State and counter-insurgency measures.

For further information contact: The Philippines Humans Rights Update, 214 N. Domingo St., Cubao, Quezon City, Philippines.

Asian Pacific Environment is the newsletter of the Asia Pacific People's Environment Network and deals with a wide range of environmental issues including militarisation, nuclear power, industrial pollution and the role of multilateral organisations. US$20.00 (Airmail) US$24.00 (seamail).

For further information contact: S.A.M., 43 Salween Rd., 10050 Penang, Malaysia.
RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

Monographs

Australian Development Studies Network
Register of Development Research and Expertise Australia 1988, Pamela Thomas and Joseph Remenyi (eds). $A25.00 plus postage (OS $A4.95, Aust.$A3.50)

The new Register, containing names, discipline, specialisation, countries of expertise and development experience of those based in Australia with development-related expertise is now available. It contains 700 listings and is an invaluable 'who's who' of development.

National Centre for Development Studies


This report of a workshop examines current social, economic, strategic and political issues in Pacific Forum Island Countries, and indicates how these issues affect relations between the FICs and Australia.


This book analyzes the economic background of the May 1987 coup, its economic effects and explores the longer term economic growth possibilities open to the Interim Government and subsequent Fiji governments.


Indian Ocean Islands Development, R.T. Appleyard and R.N. Gosh (eds), Indian Ocean Policy Papers No.1, 248 pp $A20.00.

Order from Bibliotech, ANUTECH, GPO Box 4, Canberra, ACT 2601.

University of Queensland Press

A Bibliography of the Torres Strait Islands, Sandra Kehoe-Forutan, 1988. 68 pp $A15.00 post free.


Available from The Secretary, Dept. of Geographical Sciences, Social Sciences Building, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, Qld. 4067.

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.


This book assesses past attempts, current proposals and future possibilities for limiting the trade in weapons and weapon technology with Third World Countries.


United Nations


The three books above are all available from: ESCAP, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Avenue Bangkok 2, Thailand.


The United Nations and Disarmament; A Short History, Department for Disarmament Affairs, 1988, 111 pp.


Available from UN sales offices or some booksellers (quote sales no. E.87.II.D.10)

University of Papua New Guinea

Papers from the Waigani Seminar, 1987. Three volumes edited by Susan Stratigos and Philip J Hughes:

The Ethics of Development - the Pacific in the 21st Century, 144 pp, PNG K5.95.

The Ethics of Development - Justice and the Distribution of Health Care, 123pp, PNG K3.95.

The Ethics of Development - Women as Unequal Partners in Development, 177 pp, PNG K4.95.

University of Hawaii Press
Nature in Its Greatest Extent: Western Science in the Pacific, MacLeod and Rehbock (eds), 1988, $US34.00 & $US1.50 postage.

Available from the University of Hawaii Press, 2840 Kolowalu Street, Honolulu Hawaii 96822.

ACFOA
Disarming Poverty: Disarmament for Development in Asia-Pacific, 1988, $5.00 plus postage.
Life After Debt: Australia and the Global Debt Crisis, 1988, $5.95 plus postage.
Punishing the Poor: The International Isolation of Kampuchea, Eva Mysliwiec, 1988, $12.00 includes postage within Australia, 192pp.

All available from ACFOA, GPO Box 1562, Canberra, ACT, 2601

Garland Publishing

For further information re: entries or availability contact Pavel Butorin and Brian W W Welsh, 43-30 46th Street, Sunnyside, New York 11104 USA.

Asian Research Service

Available from Asian Research Service, GPO Box 2232, Hong Kong.

Overseas Development Institute

Available from: ODI Publications, Regent's College, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London NW1 4NS, U.K.

World Resources Institute

Available from World Resources Institute, Publications Department, 1750 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20006, USA.

OEF International
Three books in a series: "Appropriate Business Skills for Women":

All books are subject to postage and handling charges and are available from: OEF International, 1815 H Street, NW, 11th Floor, Washington DC 20006, U.S.

Save the Children Fund

Available from: Edward Arnold, Hodder and Stoughton, Promotions Department, 41 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3DQ, U.K.

North-South Institute

This is an independent assessment of the development activities of Canadian NGO's.

Available from: the North-South Institute, 55 Murray St, Suite 200, Ottawa, Canada K1N 5M3.

European Co-operation and Solidarity
Europeans and Development Aid in 1987. This book contains the results of a survey into European attitudes to development aid conducted in the 12 Member States of the European Community at the request of the Milan-based NGO, European Cooperation and Solidarity.

For further information contact ECSO, via Taramelli 53/B, 20124 Milan, Italy.

Council for International Development

New Zealand Coalition for Trade and Development

Director of New Zealand Organisations Involved in International Aid and Development, NZCTD, 1988. NZ$10.00 plus postage $3.00 airmail to Pacific.

For further information contact NZCTD, PO Box 11-345, Wellington New Zealand.

Working Papers

National Centre for Development Studies

88/1 Import Content of Tourist Hotel and Beverage Purchases in the South Pacific, Larry Dwyer, 1988. 36pp.


88/1 Background to the Forestry Situation in Southern China, Bruce Bennet, 1988. 60pp.

Flinders University of South Australia


Both available from: Centre for Development Studies, The Flinders University of South Australia, Bedford Park, SA.

Australian International Assistance Bureau.


For further information contact: Director, Public Information, AIDAB, GPO Box 887, Canberra ACT 2601.

University of the South Pacific

Report on a Course on Outer Island Planning and Management, Rarotonga, Cook Islands, April 1988. Reg Sanday, 1988


Available from ISAS, University of the South Pacific, Box 1168, Suva, Fiji.

NEW FILMS OF INTEREST

The Marshall Islands: A Matter of Trust This new 18 minute video looks at the social, cultural and economic impact of westernisation on the small island society of the Marshall Islands in the western Pacific. It considers the long-term effects of nuclear testing, militarisation, and economic dependence and the efforts of the Marshallese to overcome them. The video is idea for universities, schools and community groups concerned with development issues. The cost of the video is $25 plus $3 postage.

Available from Paul Greco, 7 James Avenue, Aspendale, VIC 3195, Phone (03) 587 1885.

"Better Safe", "Aids and the South Pacific" and "Taboo Talk" deal with sexually transmitted diseases, family planning and cultural values in the South Pacific. The films were directed by Digby Duncan in consultation with Pacific island communities and using Pacific island participation. Copies of these excellent videos cost $15 within Australia and $10 for Pacific Island countries.

Available from Family Planning Federation of Australia, Suite 3, First Floor, LUA Building, 39 Geils Court, Deakin, ACT 2600.
Newsletters Nos. 3-10

Briefing Papers

China's Entry into World Markets, November 1985.

The Soviet Union in the South Pacific, October 1986.

Developing Country Interests and Distortions in the World Food Trade, November 1986.

Recent Trends in the Economic Integration of ASEAN Countries, April 1987.


Australia's Mixed Credit Scheme, November 1988.

Conference/Symposium Reports


Conference Proceedings

Development Education: Practical Policies for Australia, October 1986 (4 papers) $10.00

Micronesia and Australian Foreign Policy, October 1987 (4 papers plus discussion) $10.00

Full Free Courses in Australian Education: The Australian Experience (6 papers plus discussion) $10.00

Books

The Register of Development Research & Expertise, 1988, Pamela Thomas and Joseph Remenyi (eds) $25.00

Philippines Under Aquino, 1987, Peter Krinks (ed) $12.00

The Political Economy of Primary Health Care in South East Asia, 1988, Paul Cohen and John Purcal (eds) (in press) $28.00

The Network also has available -

ODI Briefing Papers, 1985-1988 $3.00

Australia's Overseas Aid Program 1988-89

Budget Related Paper No. 4 FREE