Dear Colleagues,

This issue of the Newsletter reports briefly on four conferences: the Australian Institute of International Affairs conference 'Inside the Triangle: Australia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea'; the national conference of the Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Committee 'Australia's Pacific Connections: A Regional Analysis'; the Third World Development sector of the Institute of Australian Geographer's conference; and the symposium on Industrialisation and Development in Southeast Asia which was part of the Asian Studies Association conference. The focus of these conferences indicates Australia's increased political, economic and strategic interests in Southeast Asia, and to a lesser extent, the South Pacific.

The Newsletter also provides background information on two research projects and on the expanded activities of the International Development Program of Australian Universities and Colleges (IDP). It reports on the publication of Australia's first multidisciplinary Register of Development Research and Expertise; includes information on other networks and development studies courses, as well as news of forthcoming conferences and new development-related publications.

I would like to remind you that the Newsletter is intended to provide an exchange of information on development-related issues, so if you have news of forthcoming conferences or seminars or wish to report on past conferences please let me have the details. The Network will also be pleased to publicise recent books, monographs or papers and to inform members of new research projects being undertaken.

THE AUSTRALIAN REGISTER OF DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH AND EXPERTISE, 1986

The Network, in association with ACIAR has just published a register of Australian-based development expertise. It contains the names of institutions, researchers, consultants and practitioners working in development-related research or who have first-hand experience in Third World development issues. The Register is the first of its kind to be compiled and published in Australia and has been widely acclaimed as a valuable "who's who and what's what" in development studies and development research.

The Register is indexed by discipline, specialisation, country of expertise and keywords to allow easy reference. Most of the 300 entries provide short abstracts of recent research projects as well as lists of publications arising from this research.

As might be expected, given Australia's traditional Third World expertise, 75% of the 300 entries are from those working in agriculture, forestry or fisheries. Fifty-seven entries are from economists, 35 from anthropologists or sociologists and 31 from geographers. It is expected that as Australian-based personnel expand their Third World experience, this ratio will change.

The Register is computer-based to allow easy updating and rapid and detailed computer searches. Searches are available for a small fee on request to the Network Liaison Officer. It is expected that the Register will be widely used by researchers, professional organisations, national and international development and aid agencies, as well as by developing country governments.

Inclusion in the Register

A second edition of the Register will be published in June, 1987. If you or your colleagues wish to be included in the second edition please write for a questionnaire to:

The Network Liaison Officer,
Australian Development Studies Network,
National Centre for Development Studies,
The Australian National University,
G.P.O. Box 4, Canberra, A.C.T., 2601.

The register is available at $10 per copy plus $2.30 postage from:

Bibliotech
The Australian National University,
G.P.O. Box 4, Canberra, A.C.T., 2601.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

National Conference on 'Australia's Pacific Connections: A Regional Analysis', Sydney, April, 1986

This three-day conference, which dealt with the impact of aid, trade and development in the Pacific, provided an exchange of information on Australia's foreign policy between Pacific Islanders, Australian academics, bureaucrats, and members of non-government organisations, trade unions and...
peace movements. The conference was timed to enable those attending to make better-informed submissions to the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence Inquiry into Australia's relations with the South Pacific. Approximately 400 people attended. Keynote speakers included Wadan Narsey of the University of the South Pacific; Lopeti Senituli of Tonga (currently at the University of Tasmania); Susanna Ounei of the Kanak Independence Movement and Stewart Firth of the University of New South Wales. Major seminars were organized around the themes Pacific economic basin strategy and Australia's role; Australian aid programmes and their effectiveness; Australia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea; Australia and France; Responses to militarisation in the Pacific; the American lake and its implications for Australia; and the superpower arms race in the Pacific.

Australia's Pacific Connections: An Overview of Foreign Policies to the Pacific (Stewart Firth)

In an overview of Australia's cultural, political, economic and strategic connections with the South Pacific, Dr Firth established the parameters of the conference.

He pointed out that over the last two years there have been dramatic changes in the Pacific. These included the Rainbow Warrior incident; the intensification of the Kanak independence movement; New Zealand's ban on nuclear ships and the uncertainty of the ANZUS treaties; agreements between South Pacific nations and Soviet countries; American strong-arm tactics over nuclear bases in the Marshall Islands and territorial waters in Kiribati and direct military aid to Fiji. These events have brought about changes in the relationships both between South Pacific nations and the superpowers. Dr Firth reminded the conference that as a result of these changes the opportunity now exists for Australia to make radical changes to its foreign policy in the region. He called upon delegates at the conference and the Australian public to query Australia's role in aid, trade and strategic alliances and to actively seek changes through the Joint Parliamentary Committee Enquiry which will be meeting over the next nine months.

Dr Firth suggested that Australia's major role in the South Pacific had little to do with social or economic development but was to keep the region safe for American strategic interests and for Australian trade. 'Australian thinking about the Pacific' Dr Firth said, 'is dominated by the conflict between the superpowers and we measure what we do in the Pacific not by the yardstick of what is best for the region, but according to the requirements of the new cold war. Like Americans, we quickly re-interpret north-south issues of independence and development as being essentially east-west issues of strategy and security'. This was clearly illustrated. Dr Firth pointed out, 'by the trebling of Australian aid to the Pacific following the Russian invasion in Afghanistan and Russian interest in Tonga and Kiribati.

Like France and America', Dr Firth outlined, 'Australia prefers to give aid rather than provide opportunities for trade with South Pacific states'. This locks Pacific island states into an increasingly dependent situation. 'Only a non-aligned Australia' Dr Firth told the conference, 'could begin to act in the best interests of the region'.

Australia's Economic Involvement in the South Pacific: Trade with Fiji (Wadan Narsey)

The attempts of the Pacific island states to increase employment and self-reliance through increasing their export markets within the region. Dr Narsey pointed out, were hampered by the contradictory nature of Australia's trade and aid policies. Using a case-study of the Fijian garment industry, Dr Narsey outlined the impact of Australia's protectionist trade policies and the SPARTECA agreement on Fijian small-farm economies. He pointed out that although the agreement was ostensibly to provide support for Pacific island exports the only industries in which Fiji has a comparative advantage (sugar and garment manufacturing) remain restricted by the Australian quota system. This severely hampers the expansion of the Fijian garment industry and reduces the opportunities for both employment and self-reliance. The agreement allows to the annual tax free import of only 60,000 items from the Fijian countries - a negligible amount in a total of 115 million. This has led to increased inequalities both within Australia and between Australia and Pacific island states as most of the Australian quota is held by a very large Australian companies who require bulk orders very much larger than the limited economic and manpower capacity of small Pacific island companies. The small Australian importers who are willing to do business with Fiji must tender for quotas and are often subject to tax. The only way Fijian manufactured goods can export is to include 50 per cent Australian content (Fijian fabrics are very much more expensive than those produced in Asia) and pay up to 105 per cent duty. This means that Fijian goods are no longer competitive with those produced within Australia. The resulting 'squeeze' on Fijian manufacturing has led to stagnation of the industry and very low wages for garment workers, almost all of whom are women.

A sounder Australian/Pacific relationship would require that Australia makes a small adjustment in its trade agreements in the very few and limited areas where small developing Pacific island economies can successfully compete. Dr Narsey pointed out that this would have little impact on either Australian industry or profits, given the limited exporting capacity of the island economies and Australia's massive dependence on imports.

In conclusion, Dr Narsey said that preferential trade agreements which assisted Pacific island economies and
provided employment opportunities would be a very much more beneficial form of aid than the current 'hand outs' which do little more than create greater dependency and increase the trade imbalance further in Australia's favour. Fiji does not want hand outs or volunteers to save our souls, but jobs and fair trade opportunities he concluded.

The major issues that emerged from the conference were the need for better and more accessible information on Australia's foreign policy and exactly how aid programmes are formulated, implemented and evaluated. The overall feeling of the conference was the need for greater Australian independence from America and a separation of aid from trade and strategic concerns.

The proceedings and individual papers from the conference are available from Beverly Symons Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Coordinating Committee, P.O. Box A243, Sydney South, N.S.W., 2000, phone: (02) 267 2030. Tapes of the workshop seminars and plenary sessions are also available on request.

International Conference of the Australian Institute of International Affairs 'Inside the Triangle: Australia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea.' Melbourne, March 1986

This conference dealt with Australia's relations with its closest neighbours, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia. Six facets of this relationship were examined: the political and economic pressures in the region; the role of the armed forces; the Irian Jaya/Papua New Guinea border situation; defence and security; trade and investment and the role of the media. Although discussion was dominated by the border issue and the problems this generated for Australian relations with both Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, as well as Indonesian-Papua New Guinea relationships, the major focus of the conference was on Australia's political and economic relationship with Indonesia. This was highlighted in the papers by Professor J.A.C. Mackie, and Professor Helen Hughes with Han Herderschee.

Australia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea: The Triangular Relationship (J.A.C. Mackie)

In an overview of the historical political, strategic and economic associations between Australia, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia, Professor Mackie stressed that these were bilateral; and never likely to be triangular. Indonesia, he pointed out, is more important to Australia than Australia is to Indonesia because of her strategic position and political importance in relation to other ASEAN countries, and by extension, to the Communist countries of Southeast Asia. Australia must attach greater significance to her international relations with Indonesia and Southeast Asia than to Papua New Guinea and the Pacific islands he said, as Australia could not hope to maintain an effective foreign policy in relation to the rest of Southeast Asia if it were seriously at odds with Indonesia.

In discussing Australian aid to Indonesia, Professor Mackie expressed the opinion that it was high time that Australia 'stopped thinking about relations with Indonesia in patronising terms of "helping" as if Indonesia badly needed what we have to offer particularly as the boot is now on the other foot and Australia needs a foothold in Southeast Asian markets'.

In terms of trade Professor Mackie suggested that the relationship was shifting steadily in Indonesia's favour and Australia has little to sell, 'not even our skilled services, which we have been slow to market'.

Professor Mackie stated that the Irian Jaya question will continue to dominate the course of relations between the three nations for some time but that any escalation of tension was unlikely. In conclusion he said that Australia's economic future will depend largely on the ability to participate in the fast growing markets of Southeast Asia and unless Australia can retain and retain and retain a foothold in those markets, more and more of the "catching up" countries will have bypassed Australia's standard of living and capacity to compete by the end of the century. Finally, Professor Mackie recommended that Australia 'should be selling services, not behaving like 19th century missionaries offering beads and cheap shirts to the natives'.

The question of trade and marketing Australian services within the triangle was expanded by Professor Hughes and Han Herderschee.

Aid, Investment and Trade within the Australian-Papua New Guinea and Indonesian Triangle (Helen Hughes and Han Herderschee)

Following a detailed discussion on aid, trade and investment flows between the triangle nations, Professor Hughes made the point that while it was unlikely that Australia would be able to increase its merchandise trade, a large market exists in Indonesia and Papua New Guinea for Australian education services. Australia can offer close proximity, low tuition fees, and as an English-speaking country, is an attractive education supplier. Indonesia in particular has a growing demand for quality secondary and tertiary education that cannot be met at home. 'Australian aid', Professor Hughes said, 'should be used to assist Indonesia improve its secondary and first degree education and to support graduate scholars chosen on the basis of merit'. Professor Hughes suggested there should be one system of marketing education on a fee basis that was available at all levels and was cost effective for both students and for Australia.

'Trade within the triangle' Professor Hughes said, 'is hampered by tariffs in Indonesia and Australia, and in Papua New Guinea by quantitative restrictions and a threat of protection. Papua New Guinea, like Indonesia, has preferential
access to large markets such as the European Community, Japan and the United States, which offer better market prospects than Australia. The overall prospects for trade, Professor Hughes maintained, are limited, as Australia is a small market for imports of raw materials from Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, and Australian exports have to compete with imports from many other countries. To compete, Australia would have to substantially change its approach, Professor Hughes concluded.

Indonesia and the Security of Australia and Papua New Guinea (Harold Crouch)

Indonesia has always entered into the defence calculations of both Australia and Papua New Guinea, Dr Crouch said, as it has been seen both as a threat and as a stepping stone for invasion from the north. Public fears are aggravated by the size of both Indonesia's population and army, which are approximately four times larger than Australia's. (Indonesia has 280,000 armed forces while Australia has 71,000 and Papua New Guinea 3,000.) Public fears have also been aggravated by an expansionist perception of Indonesia. Dr Crouch pointed out that the historical record does not support Indonesian expansionism and that it is highly unlikely that Indonesia would pose a security threat to either Australia or Papua New Guinea.

The most serious problem in Indonesian/Papua New Guinea/Australian relations relates to Papua resistance to 'Jakarta rule' in Irian Jaya. While the Organisasi Papua Merdeka (OPM) have never posed a serious threat to Indonesia's hold on Irian Jaya, Dr Crouch said, 'they have been a constant source of irritation, especially along the border with Papua New Guinea'. The main danger for both Papua New Guinea and Indonesia is that the OPM movement might expand and make it politically difficult for the Papua New Guinea government to restrict OPM activities, which could lead to military conflict. The question Dr Crouch raised was how would Australia respond to such a contingency?

The 25 papers from the conference are available at $12 per set from the Executive Secretary, The Australian Institute of International Affairs, Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne, Vic., 3002, or phone: (03) 654 7271.

The Institute of Australian Geographers Conference, Perth, May 1986

Third World development issues provided an important focus for this conference. It included five development sessions covering research which ranged from the impact on Thai smallholders of the introduction of sugar-cane farming; resource management and gold mining in Papua New Guinea to the constraints of caste on fisheries development in Sri Lanka; the delivery of primary health care in the South Pacific; and the relationship between land use and malnutrition in the Sepik Province of Papua New Guinea. Although the papers were geographically and theoretically diverse the predominance of empirical research methods provided an integrating feature and highlighted the immediacy of development-related issues. Most examined the linkages between macro-level policy and micro-level activities and used case studies to emphasise important points.

The utility of this approach was outlined in a keynote address by Professor Ian Douglas of Manchester University who spoke of the environmental, social and political implications of the rapid growth of Third World cities.

The Urban Environment of Low Latitude Cities: The Key Environmental Issues for the Twenty-first Century (Ian Douglas)

In a paper that incorporated social, economic, political and environmental research, Professor Douglas examined the current and future problems of the recent unprecedented growth of Third World cities. Professor Douglas said that by the year 2000 there will be 25 cities in the world with populations over 10 million. Twenty of these will be in the tropics. Most of them in the Third World. While the growth of cities in industrializing Europe was accompanied by economic growth and employment, the growth of Third World cities is characterised by massive unemployment, poverty, and the lack of a firm economic base to provide urban services like water supply, sanitation, road, drainage or housing. Most urban bodies cannot afford adequate health services and with increased populations and declining environmental and social conditions these cities are likely to be subject to health problems and inequalities on a scale previously unknown. Professor Douglas pointed out that it would be the cities, not the rural areas, that were the loci of the major Third World problems in the future.

'The environmental problems' he said 'are mounting'. While existing self-help and survival strategies adopted by many Third World city dwellers can cope with some of the immediate problems of shelter, fuel and food, individual action is unable to meet the complex physical problems of flooding, mass movement, erosion, air pollution, water supply, waste disposal, subsidence, groundwater contamination and drainage. Those who will suffer will be the very poor who will be caught in a downward spiral of poverty accelerated by environmental problems. It is the responsibility of researchers to make these problems known and to suggest ways in which pressure can be exerted on local, national and international bodies to ensure that future widespread disaster is averted.

Malnutrition Amidst Plenty? An Example from Lowlands Papua New Guinea (Daniel Tyson)

This paper considered the relationship between access to land, cash cropping and malnutrition in Gwelikum, a small Papua New Guinea village in which 46 per cent of children
under five suffer chronic protein energy malnutrition. It was found that there were no absolute land shortages in the village as a number of traditional mechanisms ensured access to as much land as was required for subsistence food gardening. Such mechanisms however did not exist in relationship to land for cash cropping which was unequally distributed. Although 75 per cent of the income from cash cropping was spent by men (47 per cent of it on beer) there was an association between cash cropping and better nutrition of children under five years of age. However, as Mr Tyson pointed out, women contributed 50 per cent of the labour and both women and children were disadvantaged by the pattern of cash distribution.

An important aspect of increased malnutrition was the change in traditional forms of competitive exchange which in the past resulted in surplus production which carried families through times of drought or hardship. Few families today maintain surplus food production leaving them vulnerable to climatic perturbations.

Special Session on Third World Development and Development Studies

As part of the conference the Network organised a special session on development issues. It comprised a paper by Professor Harold Brookfield of The Australian National University entitled 'Third World or New World? A Wake-Up Call for Australian Geographers' and a panel discussion on the role of geography in development studies. The panel comprised Professor R.H.T. Smith, vice-chancellor of the University of Western Australia, Professor Diana Howlett of The Australian National University and Dr John Browett of the Centre for Development Studies, Flinders University. Professor Brookfield outlined the rapid changes occurring in Southeast Asia and the lack of adequate research being undertaken into the underlying causes and effects of these changes. He called for more co-ordinated empirical research in the area. Network colleagues from several disciplines attended the session. It was apparent from discussion that the very diverse nature of geography as a discipline and its lack of cohesive theoretical base left it on the periphery of development studies.

Transformation and Rural-Led Development.
Seven papers presented a wide variety of perspectives on the possible long-term benefits of industrialisation.

Transformation or Temporary Respite? (Kenneth R. Young)

Considering the future impact of agricultural growth and industrialisation in Java, Dr Young, following Geertz, argued that economic gains arising from improved agricultural technology will be overtaken by population growth and that current impressive advances in food production will ultimately provide little more than a temporary respite. Dr Young stated that although over the last 15 years the use of fertilizers, pesticides and mechanisation has led to food production comfortably outstripping population growth, there remains low productivity growth amongst the economically active rural population. As this will hold down the overall growth of the economy and is unlikely that rural institutions will have the flexibility to respond to an economy organised through markets. Dr Young questions the likelihood of sustained growth.

Australian Manufacturing Capital in Peninsular Malaysia (Leslie O'Brien)

In a paper which explored the involvement of Australian manufacturing capital in Peninsula Malaysia, Dr O'Brien pointed out that although social theory stresses the negative implications of transnational corporations on development, these implications do not apply equally to all sections of the industry.

In a study of 42 manufacturing companies in Malaysia, all of which had 30 per cent or more Australian equity, Dr O'Brien found that unlike the American and Japanese companies which made short-term use of cheap, controlled, labour and made no effort to pass on skills to workers, Australian companies were on the whole likely to view their involvement as more long-term. Dr O'Brien found that in the majority of instances, Australian companies were entering into manufacturing production in Malaysia in order to secure a new, secure existing, market. They produced medium to low technology goods for the local market, especially the local housing and construction industries market. Although the cost of labour was a consideration in setting up an off-shore operation it was not the primary motive. Further, the majority of companies saw their involvement in the region as a long-term which resulted in some degree of transfer of technology taking place in the Australian-Malaysian joint ventures. These findings, Dr O'Brien said, 'suggest the need for a move away from "universalisms" as regards TNCs'.
While industrialisation in Southeast Asia has been acclaimed as a successful means of encouraging economic growth, it has not proved successful in sub-Saharan Africa where in most countries the average manufacturing value added per capita has declined since 1970. The extent of Africa's industrial crisis is discussed in a recent briefing paper published by the Overseas Development Institute (January 1986). A brief extract from the paper is quoted here.

Industrialisation in Sub-Saharan Africa

The causes of failure of industrial policies in SSA to create a viable, efficient and dynamic industrial sector are complex. Low levels of industrial development and a high level of imports of basic consumer goods led to the conviction that industrialisation should be promoted. Most countries were encouraged to promote an import-substituting strategy. But their lack of skills, capital, infrastructural support, technology and markets persisted in their drive to industrialise. This tended to encourage inefficiencies in the industries established, exacerbated by a high degree of monopolistic or oligopolistic production. Direct state involvement in manufacturing increased partly in an attempt to speed up the process of industrialisation and partly because of a general desire to increase the domestic share of the productive sectors of the economy. However, the underlying constraints remained, and in some cases increased, as the desire to achieve more rapid industrialisation often led to the uncoordinated establishment of unviable and high-cost manufacturing units.

Despite the industrial failures, some significant successes can be noted. Perhaps the most significant achievement has been in Nigeria which achieved a rapid increase in MVA in the 1960s and 1970s, although two particular circumstances have been exceptionally favourable: a large internal market and over a long period an abundant supply of foreign exchange. Kenya, Ivory Coast, Cameroon and Zimbabwe are all countries that have achieved significant gains in promoting import-substituting industries.

Important though these achievements have been, even those countries that on different indicators could be classified as successful have experienced major problems in the last few years. None has escaped foreign-exchange difficulties and most are burdened with increasing debt and the need to implement stabilisation policies which have led to industrial contraction. No country within SSA has achieved significant export-led competitive industrialisation comparable to the newly industrialising countries of Asia and Latin America, or even to India and Thailand.

Whatever paths to future industrialisation are adopted, two things are clear. The future prospects for rapid industrialisation in the region are far from bright and significant structural changes will occur over the coming five to ten years. It is also important that to raise the prospects for sustained industrialisation and to secure the adjustments that need to be made, external assistance will have a vital role to play.

For copies of the full briefing paper, contact: Tony Killick, O.D.I., Regent's College, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London NW1 4NS.

Report on the SID Meeting on the Philippines

Neil Byron reports on the papers given by Hal Hill and Robyn Lim at the Society for International Development (SID) meeting in March 1986.

In his paper on the "economic miracle" of 1972-80 Dr Hill drew parallels between the Philippines and Latin America. The Philippines' political and economic crisis were related to two failures - lack of concerted attempt to tackle poverty and inequality, and an adventurous macro-economic policy. This led to increases in external borrowings to pay for imports in the aftermath of the 1979/80 oil price rise and to guarantee private sector loans that were often non-productive. In comparison to most of its neighbours the Philippines fared badly in the face of rising oil prices, high interest rates, and falling prices for commodity exports.

Dr Lim focussed on the political future of the Philippines and the strengths and problems of the Acquino government. The strengths of the regime she listed as public euphoria, the strong support of the Church, the tradition of "religious matriarchs", strong (but belated) US endorsement, strong support from entrepreneurs and business. The problems to be faced (and now being faced) include high expectations of overnight changes leading to disillusionment, dealing with the "old oligarchy" which retains much of its power base, basic structural problems with the economy, the New People's Army and relations with the rest of ASEAN.


Dr D.E. Shaw, Mr R.M. Bourke and Mr S.C. Bell outlined the possible impact on the Papua New Guinean economy of the outbreak of disease in the country's single most important agricultural export. In 1986 coffee was expected to account for 60 per cent of all agricultural export income. A high proportion of the crop is produced by villagers in the Highlands and the coffee-related income is the single most important component of their cash income. In all, about half the population (1 1/2 million) is involved in the coffee industry.
Although the impact of coffee rust will depend on climatic conditions and the effectiveness of chemical control, in other major coffee-exporting countries it has resulted in major problems for the industry. The outbreak has the potential to seriously disrupt the Highlands' villagers, the plantation sector, the Highlands' regional economy and the Papua New Guinea national economy. The full effect of the disease will be effective from 1987 onward.

The paper will shortly be published by the National Centre for Development Studies in their Working Paper series.

SPECIALIST COURSES IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

As Australian universities and colleges of advanced education improve their development-related expertise and strengthen links with Third World universities the number of inter-disciplinary, development-related courses offered to Australian and overseas students is expanding. Inter-disciplinary courses are now available in a number of schools, including engineering and medicine, from Melbourne University, Dr Don Mansell reports on their Masters course in Development Technologies, organised by the School of Engineering, and from Perth, Dr Peter Underwood talks of the Masters in Medical Science organised by the Community Health Research and Training Unit in the University of Western Australia.

Development Studies in Engineering Curricula

The University of Melbourne is not perhaps the place where one would expect an Appropriate Technology course to be established as a new venture. However, the view that the university should make some of its resources available to meet the development needs of other countries gained wide acceptance in the Faculty of Engineering and an Appropriate Technology Section was created. Its major achievement has been the design and implementation of a Development Technologies Program at masters level for engineers and other technologies.

Candidates who enrol in the Program are given an education that is intended to broaden their perspectives on the kinds of technologies, and the manner of their implementation, that might be appropriate or inappropriate in their own countries. Coursework (which constitutes 60 per cent of the workload for the degree) includes a core of development studies covering development economics, appropriate technology, and economics of engineering projects in developing countries. Elective units, totalling about twice the contact hours of the core, are taken from the normal curricula of the candidates' own discipline or from a specially-prepared suite of subjects dealing with energy technology. The investigational project work must relate to the situation in the candidates' home countries.

The candidates are encouraged to search for technological solutions that are likely to offer a good balance of costs and benefits when assessed economically and socially as well as technically. Complexity, simplicity, modernity and traditionalism are considered to be properties of a design to be taken into account but not necessarily to have virtue in themselves.

Graduate and senior undergraduate students in the normal engineering programs sometimes avail themselves of the Development Technologies units but most students enrolled in them come from countries which are in the early stages of industrialisation. A first year undergraduate elective unit on Technology for Less Developed Countries is taken by about 30 to 40 students each year.

Community Epidemiology/Masters in Medical Science

The Community Health Research and Training Unit is situated within the Department of Community Practice, University of Western Australia. It was established to provide training, leading to a Masters Degree in Medical Science, for practising physicians from rural areas in Third World countries in Asia. The aim of the Unit's training program is to provide physicians with the basic skills necessary to conduct research which will allow them to:

- identify significant health problems in their own communities;
- design and implement appropriate preventive and primary health care interventions;
- evaluate the effectiveness of health care programs.

The program emphasises practical research training; concern with community health problems and primary health care solutions; and the integration of the social and behavioural sciences with the basic medical sciences. Training is organised around the design and implementation of a research proposal appropriate to the needs of the home country and a tiered structure allowing candidates to progress to different levels of achievement depending on opportunity and ability.

Newsletter Enquiries to Pamela Thomas
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In this issue of the Newsletter we introduce a new section - Special Report. Special reports provide extended background information on development-related organisations or research projects. They have been included in response to demand. If you would like background information on a specific organisation or research project please advise the Network. This special report is from Jennifer Beck of IDP.

IDP and Co-operative Programs for Development

Reports from national and international agencies have emphasised that development is limited in many parts of the world by lack of a skilled workforce. The major objective of IDP is to enhance the capabilities of the workforce by helping to strengthen tertiary educational institutions in developing countries. It does this by mobilising the resources of tertiary educational institutions to assist similar institutions in other countries to increase their capacity to contribute to their national development. IDP aims to help develop and sustain high standards of undergraduate and post-graduate education, training and research and to extend the international contacts of overseas institutions to enable a wider transfer of knowledge and technology.

IDP was established as a company limited by guarantee in November 1984, and continues the principles and objectives of the Australian-Asian Universities Co-operation Scheme (AAUCS) which began in 1969 with modest programs of assistance to three universities in Indonesia and two in both Malaysia and Singapore.

The incorporation of IDP was prompted by the needs and wishes of all those parties who are now members of the company to involve not only the Australian universities but also the colleges of advanced education and the TAFE sector. Although some staff from the CAB sector had taken part in IDP (and previously AUIDP/AAUCS activities) for several years, this was arranged on an informal basis. IDP is now able to draw personnel from all sectors of Australian post-secondary education.

IDP's funding is derived from two distinct sources: the core program and the contracts program. IDP core program activities are those funded from a one-line appropriation from the Australian Development Assistance Bureau (ADAB). These started in 1970 and have grown considerably in disciplinary and geographic spread since that time. In addition to ADAB core program funding, IDP receives support through the usual provision of staff and services, from the Australian tertiary institutions from which it draws its permanent paid and voluntary personnel. The core program offers services under contract through agencies such as the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and United Nations Development Program. IDP contracts directly with ADAB for projects within the higher education sector which have been mutually agreed to fit the IDP role of institutional development.

IDP is today active throughout Southeast Asia and the South Pacific, with programs in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, Korea, and South Korea. The IDP program aims to help develop and sustain high standards of undergraduate and post-graduate education, training and research and to extend the international contacts of overseas institutions to enable a wider transfer of knowledge and technology.

The emphasis in the original AAUCS program was on the scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of food production. However, it became apparent that the effectiveness of activities directed towards agriculture and demography depended upon strengthening in related disciplines, particularly in the basic sciences, English language training and in "support" areas such as library services, computing, technical services and administration. Today IDP's fields of interest include a broad cross-section of the disciplines offered by Australian universities and colleges.

One of the guiding principles and major strengths of the core program is that its activities are based on priorities set by the overseas national planning authorities responsible for higher education. Another important principle of IDP's operations is that, where Australians are providing long-term teaching and research assistance, counterpart training of local staff is proceeding in parallel, usually by overseas postgraduate study.

IDP Activities

Planning missions visit those institutions identified by the national planning authorities and details of institutional goals, structure and organization are discussed with the Rector or Vice-Chancellor, followed by more detailed discussions with the staff of appropriate faculties and departments. Proposals are then drawn up to link together a range of activities to form a "package" of support for groups of staff members in a particular faculty or group of related departments within the institution.

One of IDP's major strengths is the role of its consultants, who are both technical experts and senior staff of Australian tertiary institutions who have accepted the continuing responsibility for the overseeing of the components of the program. Each disciplinary activity in an overseas university will be planned, coordinated and monitored by the IDP consultant, who spends on average two weeks per annum in the overseas institution served. The consultant is the person who, on the basis of academic competence, experience and knowledge of Australian resources, and after consultation with colleagues and staff in the particular
oversea institution, makes recommendations to IDP on the shape and extent of its work in the particular activity involved.

Within the core program, consultancies are undertaken in an honorary capacity, with the consultants' home university or college meeting salary costs and IDP meeting living and subsistence costs. Under the contracts program, funding arrangements are such that salary costs are reimbursed to the consultants' home institution. The commitment and seriousness of purpose of the consultants is the keystone of the success of the program.

Consultants, in mobilising the resources of Australian institutions, are complemented by IDP liaison officers in each institution. In Indonesia and the Philippines, contacts with the participating institutions and in-country arrangements are facilitated by IDP's offices in Jakarta and Manila. IDP's aims and objectives are also furthered through the substantial practical assistance and advice provided by ADAB.

IDP Programs

The programs are built up from a range of activities recommended by the consultant after consultation with his overseas colleagues. These activities which may span a time scale from a few weeks to several years include:

- Fellowships for overseas staff members;
- Consultancy visits by Australians;
- Study visits for overseas staff members;
- Workshops and training courses in-country and in Australia;
- Long-term and short-term assignments by Australian personnel.

With the general exception of fellowships, these can usually be implemented very soon after a decision is made to proceed. It is the responsibility of the consultant to advise IDP on the appropriate blend of activities for that part of the program in any financial year.

Thus not only are the potential combinations of the activities extremely numerous, but also each can be designed and implemented in an equally diverse fashion. IDP through its consultative processes has established a continuing, evolving and productive program which preserves a measure of freedom and flexibility so that changing needs and new proposals are considered on merit.

Backgroun Information on Research Projects

The Transfer and Performance of New Technologies in Rice-Based Farming Systems in Sri Lanka and the Philippines

This project is a collaborative venture between six organisations in five different countries. It provides an example of the type of international cooperative research that an increasing number of Australian institutions are becoming involved in. The organisations involved in this project are:

- the Department of Agriculture, Sri Lanka;
- the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Philippines;
- CSIRO;
- the International Rice Research Institute;
- the Department of Economics and Statistics, National University of Singapore;
- Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research.

Background to Project. It is now well accepted that new technologies in wheat and rice production have substantially raised productivity in well-irrigated areas within Asia. The gains from the new technologies, however, have to date been enjoyed only by a minority of foodgrain producers located in favourable bio-physical and socio-economic environments. For example, less than 40 per cent of the total rice-growing areas of Asia are planted with modern varieties. With escalating costs of irrigation and so few farmers able to make use of new technologies it is recognised that productivity must be raised in less favourable environments.

At the initiation of the governments of Sri Lanka and the Philippines, a collaborative research project was set up with the ANU to:

- Determine the performance range of farmers within complex farming systems under semi-irrigated and rainfed conditions;
- Compare this with performances achievable by researchers under experiment station conditions;
- Determine and quantify factors contributing to gaps in performance between farmers, and between farmers and researchers' performances;
- Evaluate the technology transfer mechanism between researchers and farmers; and
- Derive policy recommendation for improving productivity.

For further information contact Dr R.T. Shand, Research School of Pacific Studies, The Australian National University, Canberra.
The Islands/Australia Project

The Islands/Australia Project was established by the National Centre of Development Studies to improve the understanding of the economies of Papua New Guinea, the South West Pacific and the Indian Ocean and to contribute to the formulation of development assistance policies to these countries. The project draws on the existing resources and interests of the Research School of Pacific Studies; the countries themselves and scholars, officials and other institutions in Australia. The main focus of the project is on research with conferences, seminars and training activities to expand knowledge of the problems and prospects of the three regions. During 1984-85 the project was responsible for the preparation and publication of the Independent Review of Papua New Guinea and future work on Papua New Guinea will be developed in collaboration with the Institute of Applied Social and Economic Research (TASER) in Port Moresby. During 1984-85 work on the Pacific island economies concentrated on Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu, Western Samoa and the Solomon Islands. A number of sectoral papers were completed and distributed as working papers. They have recently been published by the Centre as Selected Issues in Pacific Island Development. In cooperation with the University of Western Australia the project is undertaking a preliminary overview of the economies of the Seychelles, Mauritius, Comoros and the Maldives. A conference to discuss this research will be held in Perth in August, 1985.

The future focus of the project will be on research into policies affecting the rural sectors and human resource development, including education and training issues.

For further information contact: Rodney Cole, Project Director, National Centre for Development Studies, The Australian National University, Canberra, phone: (062) 49 4705.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, SYMPOSIA

"The Philippines under Acquino", One-Day Symposium, Sydney University, Friday August 8, 1986.

The Network in cooperation with the Development Studies Colloquium of Sydney has organised a one-day symposium to review recent changes in the Philippines, notably the transfer of power and the significance for future development of the way in which it occurred. The symposium has been divided into three major sessions: the constitutional situation, the economy and the rural sector. All aspects of future development will be discussed. Eight speakers will include Al Mccoy who will provide an overview of contemporary political change; Hal Hill who will discuss the implications of macro-economic policy; Sisira Jayasuriya who will review prospects for rural development; Brian Fegan who will discuss social issues and rural development; Ron May who will look at the role of minority groups with special reference to Muslim separatists; and Raul Perttierra who will consider the organisations of dissent in Northern Luzon. It is anticipated that Robin Lim will consider the foreign interests and the implications of the current situation.

The symposium promises to provide extremely interesting discussion.


This one-day workshop is being held in association with the visit to Australia of Dr. Pierre Pradervand, an international authority on development education. It is being organised by the Network in association with Community Aid Abroad and ACFOA. It will review development education within the Australian secondary and tertiary education systems and within the community sector and provide development education practitioners and policy-makers with the opportunity to discuss current progress and problems and to work towards more effective development education in Australia. The speakers will include Dr Robin Burns of La Trobe University, Janet Hunt of ACFOA, Wayne Perkins of the Victoria Department of Education and John Fern of the Brisbane College of Advanced Education.

Contact: Pamela Thomas, The Australian Development Studies Network, The Australian National University, Canberra, phone: (062) 49 2456; Janet Hunt, ACFOA, G.P.O. Box 1582, Canberra, A.C.T., phone: (062) 47 4822.


The conference will address a wide range of African issues including development cooperation and the constraints to development. It will feature a number of prominent international speakers including Professor Michael Crowder of the University of London, Professor Anthony Low of Cambridge University and Professor R. B. Gavis of the University of Florida. Of specific interest to Network members, there will be an extended open forum on development cooperation.

Contact: Jeff Lessewenberg, University of Melbourne, phone: (03) 344 5777.


The conference will address the question of education and development at the end of a decade of reform. It will focus on the ways in which developed countries assist, and sometimes exploit less development nations by promoting educational assistance. The conference organisers are calling for papers and are also seeking information on educational projects in Third World countries and programmes being organised for Third World students within Australia.

Contact: Dr Colin Collins or Dr Rosalyn Grifoloe, Department of Education, University of Queensland, Old., 4067.

The Australian Council for Overseas Aid (ACFOA) Education Committee is holding a conference to review and plan activities of a co-operative joint agency programme of development education. The conference will explore the possibilities of a National Development Education Programme and how different agencies could contribute to it.

Contact: Janet Hunt, ACFOA, G.P.O. Box 1562, Canberra, A.C.T., 2601, phone: (062) 47 4822.

Australian and New Zealand Society for Epidemiology and Research into Community Health, Perth, 18-29 August, 1986

A special half-day session in this conference will be devoted to child survival in the Third World and Third World primary health care problems.

Contact: Dr C.W. Binns, School of Community Health, UWA, Kent Street, Bentley, Perth.

"The Positive Development Programme Workshop", Organised by Community Aid Abroad, July 28-August 1, 1986

This special work-related programme aims to assist those who work in development-related areas. It focuses on strategies for increasing the effectiveness and impact of large-scale development projects and upon the constraints which limit achievement. The course is aimed at senior development professionals from both government and the commercial sector. A number of international professionals from the development field will be present. The training fee and associated costs are $550.

Contact: Kaye Bysouth, CAA Development Service, 156 George Street, Fitzroy, Victoria, 3065, phone: (03) 419 7111.

Australia, Asia and World Agricultural Trade Policy Issues, Half-Day Conference June 18, 2.2 - 9.30 p.m., The Masonic Centre, Sydney

This conference organised by the Australia-Japan Research Centre will include papers by Professor John Freebairn of Monash University, Dr Aurelia George of the University of New South Wales and Dr Kym Anderson of the University of Adelaide. A variety of agricultural and trade issues will be discussed.

Contact: Dr Peter Drysdale, Australia-Japan Research Centre, The Australian National University, Canberra, phone: (062) 49 4387.

OTHER DEVELOPMENT-RELATED NEWSLETTERS

Industrialization in Asia and the Pacific

Newsletter No.2 will report on work in this research program of the Research School of Pacific Studies (ANU). It is scheduled to appear in July, 1986.

Contact: The Director, Research School of Pacific Studies, The Australian National University.

Development Education Network of NSW

This Newsletter reports on activities, resources available, seminars and workshops which support better and more widespread development education.

Contact: Andrew Curtis, Ideas Centre, 262 Pitt Street, Sydney, phone: (02) 295 791.

China's Entry into World Markets Newsletter

This is a new publication put out by the Economics Department and Centre for Asian Studies, University of Adelaide. It reports on a variety of issues in relationship to China, including the open door policy, agricultural reform, and China's food trade.

Contact: Christopher Findlay, Department of Economics, University of Adelaide, S.A., 5001, phone: (08) 228 5757.

Asia Bureau Australia Newsletter

This quarterly publication provides in depth information and opinions on issues in Asia and the Pacific, with special emphasis on the Philippines. It is concerned with promoting more just relations between the people of Asia, the Pacific and Australia.

Contact: Denise Allas, Asia Bureau Australia, 173 Royal Parade, Parkville, Victoria 3052, phone: (03) 347 8595.

Development Education News of South Australia

Provides background information on development theories, and development-related experience in Africa, Asia and the Pacific. The Newsletter is concerned with raising issues and provoking thought.

Contact: Grieg Whitehead, 155 Pirie Street, Adelaide, S.A., 5000, phone: (08) 223 5962.

African Studies Association of Australia and the Pacific Newsletter

Includes reports on Africa-related conferences, seminars and research; information on new publications and films concerned with the African situation.

Contact: Dr James Polhemus, School of Social Sciences, Deakin University, Geelong, Victoria, 3217.

ACFOA Newsletter

As an umbrella organisation for the Australian non-government organisations, ACFOA produces a newsletter which covers information
Ideas Centre Bulletin

This bulletin contains summaries of a wide range of development-related resources including important articles appearing in journals concerned with development. Summaries are listed under both subject and country. Photocopies of articles will be supplied upon request. The bulletin also lists development-related films and books.

Contact: Ideas Centre, Resource Centre of International Co-operation, 262 Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W., 2000, phone: (02) 267 9230.

Women and Development Network of Australia

Contains news of conferences and seminars that deal with women's issues in the development process. WADNA has recently completed a SKILLS and RESOURCES REGISTER.

Contact: Lyn Melville, c/- Overseas Service Bureau, 262 Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W., 2000.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

PACIFIC ECONOMIC BULLETIN

The National Centre for Development Studies (NCDS) at The Australian National University in Canberra is producing a new publication, THE PACIFIC ECONOMIC BULLETIN. The publication is concerned with the island economies of the Pacific. The first issue will be available in July. The Bulletin will publish topical and thought-provoking articles of an economic nature. Articles will be short and will cover a wide range of economic issues both in individual countries and in the region as a whole, including:

1. Review of Recent Developments;
2. Recent monetary developments in Papua New Guinea;
3. A comparison of the SPARTECA and PACTRA Agreements;
4. The coffee rust problem in Papua New Guinea;
5. Agricultural supply response in the South Pacific;
6. A review of the recently released publication "Selected Issues in Pacific Island Development";

In addition, there will be a statistical/graphical annex which will cover various social, demographic and economic indicators in the Pacific such as population, trade, exchange rates, consumer price indexes, monetary variables, etc.

It is planned that a second issue will be published in November 1986. Two issues will be produced each year.

Order from Pacific Economic Bulletin, National Centre for Development Studies, Research School of Pacific Studies, The Australian National University, G.P.O. Box 4, Canberra City, A.C.T., 2601, AUSTRALIA.

Pamela Thomas and Joseph Romenyi (eds), 1986, The Register of Development Research and Expertise, Australia, 1986. $10.00 plus $2.50 postage

Published by the National Centre for Development Studies;
Order from Ideas Centre, G.P.O. Box 4, Canberra, A.C.T., 2601;
Rodney Cole and Thomas Parry (eds), 1986, Selected Issues in Pacific Island Development, Pacific Policy Papers No. 2. $12.00 plus $2.30 postage

R.T. Shand (ed.), 1986, Off-Farm Employment in the Development of Rural Asia, Volumes 1 and 2. $12.00 each plus $5.00 postage

Published by the Asian Studies Association of Australia;
Order from George Allen and Unwin, P.O. Box 764, North Sydney, N.S.W., 2060;


Also available from George Allen and Unwin:
John Drysdale, 1985, Singapore, The Struggle for Success. $24.95
Robin Osborne, 1985, Indonesia's Secret War: The Guerilla Struggle in Irian Jaya. $1.95
Alfred McCoy and C. de Jesus (eds), 1985, Philippine Social History: Global Trade and Local Transformations $12.95

Order from the Asian and Pacific Development Centre, P.O. Box 12214, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia;
Swapna Mukhopadhyay and Chee Peng Lim, Development and Diversification of Rural Industries in Asia. $1023
Noelene Heyzer (ed.), Missing Women: Development Planning in Asia and the Pacific. $1213

Order from Croom Helm (Australia), 139 King Street, Sydney;
Order from **ACPOA**, G.P.O. Box 1562, Canberra, A.C.T., 2601:

Peter Ross, 1986, *Sugar Sweet and Sour.* $4.00

Order from the **Department of Foreign Affairs**, Canberra:


Order from **Human Geography, Research School of Pacific Studies**, The Australian National University, Canberra:

A.D. Cliff and P. Haggett, 1986, *The Spread of Measles in Fiji and the Pacific,* Human Geography Monograph 18. $12.00

Order from **Geography Department, The University of the South Pacific**, Box 1188, Suva, Fiji:


Order from the **Asean-Australia Joint Research Project**, The Australian National University, Canberra:


Order from the **Overseas Development Institute**, Regent's College, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London NW1 4NS:


C. Stevens and J. Verloren (eds), 1985, *Pressure Groups, Policies and Development.* L8.95

Working Papers in Trade and Development. Published by the Department of Economics and National Centre for Development Studies, the Australian National University. Order from Carol Kavanagh, Department of Economics, Research School of Pacific Studies, The Australian National University, Canberra; (All working papers are distributed free.)

86/2 Peter G. Warr. *Indonesia's Other Dutch Disease: Economic Effects of the Petroleum Boom,* April 1986.

86/3 Colin Barlow and S.K. Jayasuriya. *Structural Change and its Impact on Traditional Agricultural Seniors of Rapidly Developing Countries: The Case of Natural Rubber,* May 1986.


Order from the **National Centre for Development Studies**, The Australian National University, G.P.O. Box 4, Canberra, A.C.T., 2601: (All working papers are distributed free.)

**Islands/Australia Working Papers**


86/2 Waugh, Geoffrey. *The Development of Fisheries in the South Pacific Region with Reference to Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Western Samoa and Tonga.* 38pp. ISBN 0 86784 793 X


86/4 Byron, R.N. *Policies and Options for the Forestry Sector of South Pacific Island Economies.* 42pp. ISBN 0 86784 824 3

86/5 Parry, Thomas G. *Foreign Investment and Industry in the Pacific Islands.* 56pp. ISBN 0 86784 864 2


86/7 Ahlburg, Dennis A. *Population and Economic Development in the island Nations of the South Pacific.* 74pp. ISBN 0 86684 856 1

86/8 Fisk, E.K. *Pacific Island Agriculture.* 34pp. ISBN 0 86784 816 2


