

Development

Annual Newsletter of the School of International Development 2011/12



UEA University of
East Anglia

DEV

**INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT**
University of East Anglia



**THE QUEEN'S
ANNIVERSARY PRIZES**
FOR HIGHER AND FURTHER EDUCATION
2009

Letter from the Head of School, Dr Steve Russell



Welcome to DEV's Annual Newsletter, and in particular a warm welcome to all the DEV alumni out there. The School is continuing to thrive, and I would like to

thank staff, students and alumni who have supported our diverse activities. Like any successful organisation we continue to adapt, hire new staff, build our research strengths, start new courses and deliver new specialist training. We are building new partnerships with overseas universities, expanding internship opportunities for our students, and extending our outreach and engagement activities with schools and non-academic partners. As we face a challenging new funding environment, such adaptations and initiatives are crucial to our success.

Since the last newsletter we have recruited several new colleagues to the School, and they introduce themselves on pages 10–11. **Laura Camfield**, who works on well-being, related research methodologies and education issues, joined us from Oxford last summer. **Kathleen Fincham** and **Kathrin Forstner** joined us in January this year and will be working on an important new Distance Learning Masters course in Development Practice, which marks a new and important direction for the School, and the increasingly important area of transferable and professional skills training. Our newest colleagues, joining us this summer, are **Heike Schroeder**, who specialises on the politics of climate change, and **Yvan Guichaoua** who works on questions of governance and conflict.

This autumn we introduce two new MSc programmes: the MSc Impact Evaluation and MSc Water Security and International Development (page 3). Both programmes meet a growing demand and reflect the expertise of relatively new staff, notably **Mark Zeitoun**, **Marisa Goulden** and **Ben D'Exelle**. Two successful short courses on Impact Evaluation and Water Security were also delivered this summer.

At the undergraduate level we are attracting students with higher qualification levels, and this Autumn sees the start of undergraduate degrees in which students can specialise in one disciplinary area, either economics, social anthropology and politics, or environment and natural resources. These more specialised degrees still retain an overarching inter-disciplinary profile.

Our research environment continues to flourish, and a School Research Working Group is now in the process of taking forward a new research strategy. Notably, we are asking the question: in what areas of research expertise does the School want to invest and be globally renowned in five or ten years' time? Such global leadership will be critical in a new internationally competitive environment where we will be bidding for large research programmes.

We performed very well in the last Research Assessment Exercise (RAE 2008), when we were judged to be in the top three International Development research institutions in the country. We are now over half way through the next research assessment period (called the Research Excellence Framework, or REF 2014) and the School is already well prepared and continuing to build towards the important REF submission.

I would like to thank all my colleagues for their hard work over the previous year, and their commitment to producing work of internationally excellent quality. I would also like to thank all the staff of **International Development UEA** (previously known as the Overseas Development Group) for the fantastic support they provide to our academics for research, consultancy and training activities.

While welcoming in the new we also have to say some farewells. This year we say a big farewell to **Dr Richard Palmer-Jones**, who will retire in September. Richard has contributed hugely to the School's research reputation and intellectual environment over the past two decades, notably in the fields of agriculture, poverty and rural development in South Asia, and his wide interests and expertise will be sorely missed. We also say farewell to **Professor Pete Newell**, internationally-renowned in climate change governance and politics. He has made a great contribution to research leadership and teaching in the School and will be sorely missed. **Abby Dalglish**, who joined last year as Research Communication Coordinator on a short term contract, also leaves us in the summer. Her work has transformed the way we publicise our research and has greatly supported the activities of staff and research groups in DEV. The School will be seeking to replace all of these valued staff as soon as possible.

Finally, I would like to thank the Local Support team in the School who work tirelessly and patiently to support academics and enable the School to deliver on its aims: **Karen Morley**, the Faculty Manager for the School, **Mandy Holland** and **Esther Palin**, Head of School Personal Assistants, and **Peter Quinn** and **Chris Hall**.

Steve Russell

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Development

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Cover photo: Fishermen operate a net in the mangrove creek in front of Gazi village in southern Kenya. Photo: Tim Daw

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by email, please contact alumni@uea.ac.uk or visit the UEA Alumni webpage at www.uea.ac.uk/alumni



Partially full reservoir in Andalucia, Spain, taken in May 2007. The Spanish Government has for several decades pursued a hydraulic solution to perceived water scarcity in the Southern part of the country.

New DEV courses starting in 2011

Two new Masters degrees have been launched by DEV this year, building on expertise that has developed around two areas of research and teaching in the School: water security and impact evaluation.

Starting in September, the innovative **MSc Water Security and International Development** looks at 'water security' in its broad political ecology and economy sense, with the hydrological cycle connected to critical global policy concerns – such as climate change, food trade and security, and energy security – and in turn the international co-operation that affects human, community, regional and state security. The course aims to prepare students for employment in a wide range of areas with different employers, including non-governmental organisations, government aid agencies, and scientific and multilateral institutions.

Course director Mark Zeitoun says: "Inextricably linked to people's welfare and livelihoods, water is a resource of fundamental importance to environment and development concerns. With the pressures of increasing population, a changing climate, and heightened conflicts, water security is of increasing concern for policymakers and organisations across the world."

He added: "This new programme is truly interdisciplinary, as this is the only approach we can take to tackle the challenge. Students will benefit from the expertise of world-class natural and social scientists; many of us both at the same time!"

The MSc Water Security and International Development will be run by DEV, via the Water Security Research Centre (see page 6) and in cooperation with the School of Environmental Sciences. It builds on the great success of the Water Security Short Course for policymakers and practitioners launched by the Centre last year.

The new Masters courses are both offered over one year full-time or two years part-time. For further details visit www.uea.ac.uk/dev/courses or email pgdev.admiss@uea.ac.uk

The **MSc in Impact Evaluation and International Development**, which also starts in September, addresses the increasing importance of impact evaluation in development research and policy making. Evidence-based policy needs understandings of who benefits from interventions, by how much, why, and under what circumstances. It also needs to appreciate the costs and benefits of interventions and evaluations.

With multilateral and bilateral donor agencies and developing country governments widely committed to funding and utilising high quality impact evaluation evidence, this new MSc will offer familiarisation with, and skills in, the basics of modern evidence-based policy and Impact Evaluation. This includes the contexts and practices of evaluation, research design and data production for evaluation, and basic and more advanced methods of quantitative and qualitative analysis.

Ben D'Exelle, co-director of the course, says: "The new MSc in Impact Evaluation and International Development is the only programme of its kind on offer in Europe. It covers a wide range of state of the art techniques, combining qualitative and quantitative approaches, and is taught by experts with experience in the field."

He added: "The programme has a high employability. Evaluating the impact of interventions is becoming required practice for all actors in international development, resulting in a strong demand for advanced skills in this field. The techniques are also applicable to public policy in general, outside the field of international development."



Staff news

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Professor Bruce Lankford, the

School's previous Head, on his promotion to the position of Chair in DEV.

Bruce has been an active member of the School for 16 years and has achieved much in that time, including building an international reputation as an irrigation and development specialist, and providing excellent leadership in managing DEV's RAE submission in 2008 while Head of School. Throughout his career, Bruce has shown innovation and achievements in teaching, and an exceptionally strong enterprise and engagement performance both before and during his time as Head of School. He is now moving ahead with the establishment of the Water Security Research Centre (see page 6).

We wish Bruce warm and sincere congratulations from all in DEV for his new role as Professor of Water and Irrigation Policy.

Leading the way in community engagement

We are also pleased to report that Martin Scott, Lecturer in Media & Development, has been awarded a Public and Community Engagement Award for 2010/11 by CUE East, the University community engagement body. This is a great reward for Martin's initiative and efforts to work with the nearby North and West Earham, Larkman and Marpit (NELM) communities in Norwich.

Over the last two years Martin has, with Karen Merkel and Akim Mogaji from New Media Networks, designed and run a voluntary community-based project for postgraduate DEV students studying media and international development. The project involved working with Future Radio, Norwich's local community radio station, to help the station meet the needs of the NELM community. The project has now become a credited module in the School, called Media and Development Practice.

Martin will receive the Award at this year's Congregation. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Martin, Karen and Akim for this innovative community engagement project, and the great results it has generated for both Future Radio and UEA students.



First annual Piers Blaikie lecture



In January, The Piers Blaikie Fund was launched to mark the retirement of one of DEV's longest serving members of staff. Since joining DEV in 1972, Prof Piers Blaikie has pioneered research in

politics of the environment, and is internationally recognised as one of the founders of political ecology.

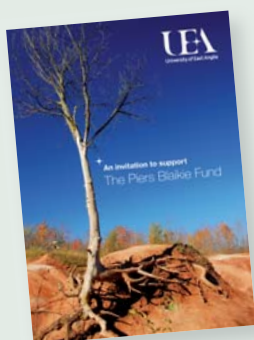
The Piers Blaikie Fund aims to support the School's ability to continue to lead the way in teaching and research in the field of politics of the environment, by establishing an Annual Lecture by a leading and globally recognised expert in the field.

By the time you receive this newsletter, DEV will have hosted the first 'Piers Blaikie Lecture on Environmental Politics', made possible by generous donations from DEV alumni. We expect the occasion to be a very special one as the lecture is scheduled for the day before DEV Graduation and we expect a large number of graduands and their families and friends to be present, as well as DEV staff and students (both past and present!)

The 2011 lecture will be given by Melissa Leach, a Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Sussex. Her talk, entitled *Green wins or green grabs? Contested pathways to sustainability in Africa*, will reflect on so-called 'win-win' environmental solutions that claim to address climate change, resource scarcity, food security and poverty simultaneously, and discuss an alternative politics through which emerging global political ecologies might bring justice, rather than oppression.

In addition to the Annual Lecture, the Fund will also provide an Annual Student Prize for the best Masters dissertation on the subject of politics of the environment, with the first prize being awarded at Congregation in the summer of 2012.

If you would like more information or to contribute to The Piers Blaikie Fund, please contact Sarah Sheldrake on 01603 593930 or email dac@uea.ac.uk



Building links with Japan

It is more than a decade since DEV started admitting Japanese students in significant numbers. Even in the early 2000's there were years when over thirty of the hundred-plus students on the DEV Masters programmes were from Japan. As a result, DEV graduates can be found in virtually all the donor and aid-related agencies in Japan, including the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), and in many overseas offices of those organisations.

An interesting aspect of DEV's links with Japan is the joint Masters programme set up in 2008 with the Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies (GSICS) in Kobe University, one of the top national universities of Japan. Under this, students first enter Kobe University for about six months, then spend a year in the UK doing a DEV Masters degree, after which they return to GSICS to write their Kobe Masters dissertation. Students then gain a Masters degree from both UEA and Kobe University. The joint programme follows on from two visiting professorships held in GSICS by Dr John Thoburn from DEV in 2002-3 and 2006-7. After his retirement from DEV in 2006, John went first to Kobe, and later was appointed Professor of Development Economics at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU) in Beppu, in the southern island of Kyushu. He is still a Visiting Professor at APU, and recruits regularly for DEV, maintaining contacts with DEV alumni such as Megumi Ueda (MAGAD 2002, and ex-JICA volunteer in Bolivia), Aika Inooka (BA 2004, ex-MOFA and now working with Nissan Motors in Tokyo), Masako Ota (PhD 2001, and now working with a women's NGO in Kyushu), and Masamichi and Sumiko Yamashita (PhD 2010 and MAGAD, respectively, who met and married in DEV).

Building on these links, in March this year DEV was honoured to welcome Mr Ken Okaniwa (Minister/Director of Japan Information and Cultural Centre) to the School to give a public talk on Japan's actions against climate change.

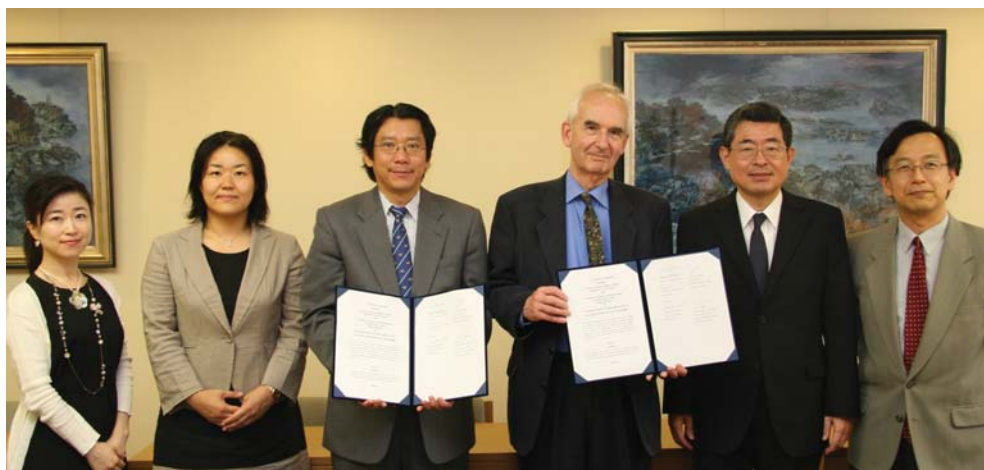


Mr Ken Okaniwa

Mr Okaniwa's lecture, based on his experience as director in charge of climate change and official development assistance at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tokyo, discussed the nature of Japan's

commitments under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol which he argued were more demanding than those of many other countries because Japan's economy is more energy efficient and therefore cuts had to go further. He also discussed Japan's calls at Cancún to abandon the idea of a second commitment period under Kyoto in favour of a deal, such as that proposed in Copenhagen, which includes rapidly developing countries such as India and China. He claimed that Japan is exercising both international leadership by being the largest single donor of climate aid and domestic leadership by increasing the use of 'clean energy' including a heavy reliance on nuclear energy which naturally provoked questions and discussion in light of recent events in Japan.

The event was very well-attended and DEV would like to thank Mr Okaniwa for taking the time to visit the School and share his experiences with staff and students.



DEV-Kobe joint masters programme signing ceremony: John Thoburn (DEV) with (left) GSICS Dean Professor Motoki Takahashi and (right) Vice President Professor Hiroshi Ohta, with other Kobe faculty members and administrators.

New employability initiatives in DEV

DEV has recently started to concentrate on increasing the scope of opportunities for students to gain skills and experiences relevant to working in the international development sector. These include optional, practical skills-based training courses and opportunities for students to gain work experience, either overseas or in the UK, through Development Work Experience (DWE) units at undergraduate level or through postgraduate internships.

Training offered in 2010 and 2011 included topics as diverse as project and financial management skills, gender and organisational development training, and conflict resolution. During the most recent set of training courses held in April, 25 DEV students spent an intensive five full days developing the leadership and crisis management skills required to respond to a humanitarian emergency. The course was taught and accredited by REDR UK – a leading humanitarian non-government training organisation.

At the more creative end of the spectrum, another group of students spent an equally intensive week learning and putting into practice the skills of 'Ethnographic Filmmaking' under the tutelage of professional film-makers from London-based outfit Postcode Films. During this two-part course students learnt how to produce, film and edit a short documentary film. The short films produced by the students look very professional and feature a variety of Norfolk characters from the Norwich Social Centre for the Blind, local church St Peters, and a Roadside Burger van on the A11. The films are available to view on DEV's Vimeo site (<http://vimeo.com/internationaldevelopment>).

DEV alumni play an important role in supporting these employability initiatives by returning to UEA to share their experience at seminars,

professional networking events and the Working in Development Forum. This annual event enables students to interact directly with employers and development professionals and to find out more about different career options in international development and related sectors. This year, over 200 students attended the Forum, which included discussions on working for international NGOs, working in the private sector/consultancy, social entrepreneurship, fundraising and campaigning, and working in the field of media and development. Guest speakers came from a variety of organisations including Action Against Hunger UK, the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association (CBA), Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), Great Yarmouth Borough Council, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), Save the Children and Voluntary Norfolk.

DEV lecturers, Daniel McAvoy and Kathrin Forstner, are currently researching the factors that employers in the international development sector consider increase the 'employability' of DEV students. They are interested in identifying the diverse career paths open to DEV graduates and the 'key ingredients' required for success in the job market. In addition to talking to employers, they are keen to find out what former DEV students have gone on to do following their studies.

DEV warmly invites our alumni to share their views on employability and to help inspire a new generation of students – whether by providing a career case study, volunteering to give a talk at career-related events, such as the Working in Development Forum, or by providing work experience opportunities. If you would like to get involved, please contact Daniel McAvoy (d.mcavoy@uea.ac.uk) or Kathrin Forstner (k.forstner@uea.ac.uk)



Justin Graham Essay Prize for the Sub-Saharan Africa Development Module

This year the prize has been shared by Anna Tomson and Morgan Pschierl with their excellent essays both focusing on the topic of ethnicity and changing political forces. While Anna discussed issues of colonisation, apartheid and the rise of nationalism in South Africa, Morgan examined theoretical approaches to ethnicity in the context of the Baganda of Uganda.

It is a privilege for the SSA team to be able to offer this prize in memory of Justin Graham who was a DEV student and had a special interest in Africa. Justin worked with a range of organisations and charities and was committed to African development. The essay prize was set up in Justin's memory by his parents and friends, and we are very pleased that the prize has gone to two very worthy recipients.

Above: Dr Ben Jones and Dr Sheila Aikman with this year's prize winners Morgan Pschierl and Anna Tomson.



Above: Filming on the North Norfolk coast as part of last year's 'Ethnographic Filmmaking' course. Photo: Katherine Rusack.

UEA Water Security Research Centre

A famine in Lebanon obliged the poet Kahlil Gibran to emigrate to the US, in the early 1920s. The lack of sufficient water to produce food was one of the famine's main causes – but only one of many. The politics of water distribution and chauvinism of gender, religion and race combined then as they do now with changing growing conditions and water availability, typically at the expense of the marginalised.

Water's very direct link with food extends to a myriad of other resources and issues. Massive volumes of water are required to extract oil from sand, to grow crops destined for bio-fuels, and to fill hydro-electric dams. The carbon cycle and hydrological cycle are intimately combined, as the effects of global warming are felt most directly on soil moisture and air humidity levels. In such an inter-dependent world, national policy aimed at 'water security' cannot but have 'downstream' effects. Considering British consumption of asparagus flown in from Peru (see page 14), for example, we find that water security for us is often based on the water insecurity of others.

The world needs reams of broad-minded hydrologists, and agronomists working alongside committed social scientists, to address the challenges.

The natural DEV response is to ask "*water security for who?*", and to demand it for those whose voices are less heard. But this is in stark contrast to most of the rest of the world, including 'development' agencies. The term 'water security' is today used by governments and agencies seeking security first for themselves (or their clients), through independence, not inter-dependence. Other actors seek to 'securitize' transboundary waters for ulterior motives – from the battles between former Soviet republics on the Amu Darya to the war of words between brand-new governments and states on the Nile. Narrow 'environmentally determinist' thinking suggests wars will break out – and suggests mobilisation of infrastructure or military to guard against.

It becomes imperative to challenge the idea that resources can be 'secured', just as it is key to offer alternatives to 'climate-proofing' a country. Water insecurity is driven in large part by what Gibran called the "*unquenchable thirst*" – ever-expanding development of new sources or types of water, justified under the perception that we're always running out.

Lofty goals, to address these challenges... attempted ever-so-gently and in steps by the **UEA Water Security Research Centre**.

Capitalising on the considerable expertise in water research at UEA, the Centre brings DEV and ENV staff and students together on a number of pursuits. Since kicking-off in June 2009, we've had well over a dozen seminars (including by World Water Prize-winner Tony Allan), and hosted several international events including at the 2009 SIWI World Water Week, the 5th International Workshop on Hydro-Hegemony, a 2010 CIWEM meeting on Water and Energy, and the 2011 UK Water and Foreign Policy Day. We've run the very successful short course **Water Security for Policy-Makers** twice, and are editing a 20-chapter foundational book on Water Security (with Karen Bakker at the University of British Columbia).

And in September 2011 we're inaugurating the **Water Security Master's degree**, which we hope will help establish the thinking and action required to address the unquenchable thirst.

The longer-term aims of the Water Security Research Centre are to deepen excellent water security research. The agenda here includes investigation of the inter-dependencies of water-energy-food, the epistemological under-pinning's of security and insecurity, and q-squared (quantitative and qualitative) analysis of the water

Is not dread of thirst when
your well is full, the thirst that
is unquenchable?

Gibran Kahlil Gibran, 1923

security of community water supply, irrigation systems or river basins (what we call 'water security audits'). We will also reach out to BIO (who are establishing an MSc on Food Security) and other UEA research disciplines. The activity builds directly on the excellent links we have with the London Water Research Group, the Stockholm International Water Institute, the International Committee of Irrigation and Drainage, and colleagues at SOAS, Kings College London, Oxford, Dundee and elsewhere.

A more immediate goal (of course) is to secure funding for projects, students, and our core activities... our well is not full! All accomplishments to date are due to the sweat and tears of volunteer time.

Alumni keen on getting involved are welcome to connect with us in any number of ways. If you're still in or near Norwich or passing through London, we'd be happy to offer you a chance to address us and our students at a public seminar, or around a table. We'd also be pleased to discuss any research or networking opportunities you may initiate.

Do get in touch with the Centre via our website at www.uea.ac.uk/watersecurity. More people are required to help address the 'unquenchable thirst'.

Mark Zeitoun, Bruce Lankford,
Declan Conway, Kevin Hiscock



www.uea.ac.uk/watersecurity



Right: Mark Zeitoun with Michael Talhami of the Palestine Hydrology Group, and Kahramana Jarrar of Oxfam GB, at the spring of Ein Fesa'el in the Jordan River Valley of the Occupied West Bank, 2007.

Community Forestry in Burma

Oliver Springate-Baginski



"Don't cut" – leaders of Wuyan Community Forest User Group in Kachin, Northern Burma.

I first visited Burma to present my research on Indian forestry reform at the 'First National Workshop on Community Forestry' held in Yangon (Rangoon) in February 2009. One outcome of the workshop was recognition of the need for a study of the current status of Community Forestry, and I was subsequently invited by the DFID PyoePin ('green shoots') programme to provide technical support for this study. So from late 2010 to June 2011 I have been involved in the design, data collection, analysis, write-up and findings presentation, in conjunction with several senior retired foresters.

Working in Burma has been fascinating and of course very challenging. Burma and India share a British colonial heritage in forestry so there are many similarities – the colonial state took over vast areas for timber production and deprived local people of customary management and use rights. But since Independence in 1947 and 1948 respectively the two countries have had very different paths. Burma has experienced extreme problems from the start, with a fractious civil war and a severe military dictatorship, which has led to widespread poverty and hardship in a once wealthy nation. The country has also been isolated by the military's policies and international boycotts. These days many social activists within the country say armed struggle against the dictatorship is futile, and that gradualist democracy building is the more likely path to successful political reform. Most people in the country, bureaucrats included, seem to be working towards this. Indeed under recent constitutional reforms the military dictatorship has stepped back from direct control through introducing a formal parliamentary process – even though they managed the elections to ensure military supporters are in the majority. Nevertheless there is now an opposition, and a parliamentary process for developing legal reforms.

Forests are an important issue for democracy-building because almost 60% of the country was until recently forested, and timber profits have been used by both the Tatmadaw military government and insurgents as a source of funds. In the last 20 years over-harvesting has accelerated, and over half of the country's dense forests have been cleared or degraded mainly through overfelling for export. The process continues with cronies of the military getting land grants to clear forests for agricultural commodity production like palm oil, rubber, sugar and so on. Democratising forests means returning rights from the state to local communities, and Community Forestry policies, introduced by progressive bureaucrats in 1995, are a key opportunity to do this.

Our study has highlighted the enthusiasm which local people have for getting secure tenure control for their local forests. There remain many problems for communities, not least lack of support capacity from the woefully underfunded Forest Department to actually help them. But the relationship between foresters and local people surprisingly seems much more mutually respectful than one finds in Eastern India where there is a much more coercive relationship. There are also cases of elite groups grabbing land under Community Forestry provisions (sometimes with support and pressure from the insurgent groups) especially in Shan state. But overall for the hundreds of Forest User groups now functioning across the country we found a very encouraging story of collective action for sustainable resource management, livelihood benefits and biodiversity protection. We have thus been able to demonstrate to foresters, regional military governors and donors the importance for scaling up forest handover more widely across the country.

Money burning and envy in rural Ethiopia

"May you have wealth and envious people around you."

A proverb from Terufe Kechema village, Ethiopia

A recently concluded three year study by Dr Bereket Kebede and Prof Daniel Zizzo (ECO) explored the underlying motivations for envy and its impact on agricultural innovations in Ethiopia.

'Money burning' experiments were used to identify levels of envious behaviour within sample populations drawn from four villages. In the first stage of the game, players were given high and low amounts of money to induce income inequality, and then played a lottery to mimic investment in innovations. In the second stage, participants were allowed to decrease ('burn') other players' money by paying from the money given to them. The money burning was done separately for saved money and money won from the lottery in order to capture potential differences. The impact of envy on agricultural innovation was then examined by combining the experimental data with results from household surveys.

The level of envy in the villages, proxied by 'money-burning' rates, is negatively related to the use of improved inputs such as fertilizers and improved seeds implying that agricultural innovations can be discouraged out of fear of a negative reaction from others. Although envy can be constructive if people positively respond by emulating those who are more successful than themselves, it can also be a destructive force if people destroy others' resources because of envious motivations.

While changing social preferences and attitudes may be difficult, this evidence of behavioural responses to envy can suggest institutional changes that may help channel such behaviour in a productive rather than a destructive way. The usual model of a small number of adopters and innovators followed by the majority later may not be effective as the small number of early adopters can be targeted by the rest. A big push of innovation may be required to break the cycle created by negative social preferences.

Although the focus of the research was on agricultural innovations, some of the anecdotal evidence from the qualitative data indicates that envy becomes even stronger in relation to activities that are very different from their main farming activities, particularly if they are very novel. If true, this has a significant implication for rural development as the development of non-agricultural sectors is crucial in the structural transformation of economies; the negative consequence of envy could become a formidable obstacle to rural development.



Above: People crowd around as the catch from a beach seine crew is measured and distributed in coastal Kenya. Photo: Tim Daw

Below: Harvesting marine invertebrates at low tide in Cabo Delgado, northern Mozambique, for food and income. Photo: Sergio Rosendo.

DEV funding success for research on ecosystem services and poverty alleviation

Research to understand the linkages between environment and poverty, and how people in the developing world manage and benefit from natural resources has long been a central focus in DEV.

Recently, researchers in the School have been awarded three substantial grants as part of a £40 million NERC/ESRC/DFID initiative for research into 'Ecosystem Services and Poverty Alleviation' (ESPA).

'Ecosystem services' (resources and processes supplied by the natural environment) are inherently linked to human well-being, and the ESPA Programme addresses the need for an interdisciplinary understanding of these links to help identify strategies for sustainable ecosystem management which maximise benefits to communities in developing countries. The projects led by DEV researchers examine these linkages in a variety of contexts.

In January, **Dr Oliver Springate-Baginski** began a two-year research project examining the integration of forest ecosystem service assessment with pro-poor governance in tropical forest eco-systems in two contrasting regions of India - Western Ghats and eastern central India (Orissa state). The research will develop an understanding of the biophysical flows of ecosystem services, their variation by management regime and distribution across stakeholders and within them for poorer households, the tradeoffs involved in modifying forest management regimes, and the role played by institutions in shaping who benefits and how. The project will also develop rigorous assessment tools for rapidly assessing different management scenarios in different political-economic contexts. The research will highlight policy recommendations that increase

benefits to the poor, and feed into policy debates over forest governance and rights, on a local, national and global level.

Although ecosystem services have been widely adopted as a set of concepts, there is little evidence of how they can be applied to poverty alleviation, and the linkages and influences between different

ecosystem services and different dimensions of well-being are as yet poorly understood. This stems from the inability of current ecosystem services frameworks to take account of the complexity and interactions inherent in social-ecological systems, and this limits our understanding on how ecosystem services ultimately translate into poverty alleviation. A second project, led by **Dr Tim Daw** with **Prof Kate Brown** and **Dr William Cheung** (ENV), seeks to address this challenge by developing a participatory modelling framework to understand wellbeing trade-offs in coastal ecosystem services, using the coastal environment of Kenya as a case study. The framework will then be tested and refined in coastal Kenya through a series of expert and stakeholder workshops. It is hoped that the development of this framework will help increase recognition of the poor in policy discussions related to ecosystem services, and thus contribute to developing more effective poverty alleviation policies.

The third project, led by **Dr Thomas Sikor**, explores the justice dimensions of changes in ecosystem services management of selected coastal and terrestrial ecosystems in China, India and Central Africa. The ecosystem services approach emphasises the many ways that nature sustains and enriches people's lives, and a valuation of these services can contribute to ecosystem conservation and human wellbeing. However, for these efforts to result in poverty alleviation, scientists must tackle the relationship between ecosystem services and wellbeing with reference to environmental justice. This project, involving a team of DEV researchers and regional partner organisations including the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Makerere University in Uganda and TERI University in India, will contribute to the overarching goal of promoting 'just ecosystem management' by developing a novel conceptual framework to guide future research and practice, showing researchers how to approach long-established topics in their respective fields from new, interdisciplinary perspectives.

In addition to these substantial DEV-led projects, **Dr Roger Few** will be working on a project led by ENV and the Chinese Academy of Sciences studying ESPA in situations of multiple stresses located in mountainous western China.

The ESPA Programme Framework Grants process was extremely competitive, with applications from leading environment departments throughout the world; these funding successes are testament to DEV's leading position in interdisciplinary work in this area.



Consultancy news

International Development UEA

Supporting Disaster Risk Reduction in Developing Countries: a study for the European Union

Dr Roger Few, Senior Research Fellow in DEV, and an external consultant colleague provided support to the EU in its design of an implementation plan for DRR activities, including providing an overview of the relevant ongoing and planned activities; identifying possible geographical and thematic gaps; ascertaining EU and Member States' respective responsibilities; and ensuring the main instruments for implementation were covered. A key focus was an analysis of climate change adaptation perspectives in current and potential DRR practices and activities. The work involved collating information from Member State Ministries and EC Directorate Generals on current

and projected DRR interventions, and ensuring that the views of international donors such as the UN agencies, and NGOs, on roles, resources, priorities, and policies were taken into account. The roles – and relative strengths and weaknesses – of regional institutions with a specific mandate and expertise in DRR were analysed, as was best practice in selected developing countries on the interaction between DRR and Climate Change. Drawing on the information above, a proposal for priority areas of interventions was made. A report based on this study can be downloaded from www.uea.ac.uk/dev/publications/RPP9

Preparing for REDD+ in Vietnam: the role of local communities in forest conservation

The UN-Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) is a global initiative to create a financial value for carbon stored in forests, offering incentives for developing countries to reduce emissions from forested lands and invest in low-carbon paths to sustainable development. REDD+ includes the roles of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks. UN-REDD is supporting Vietnam to prepare itself for REDD+ through identifying required 'components of readiness'. One of the components is the design of a transparent and equitable benefit distribution system (BDS). For this study, **Dr Thomas Sikor**, Reader in DEV, worked with other technical experts to look at identified forestry programmes in Vietnam focusing particularly on:

- Facilitating consultation through workshops, at national and local level, to get feedback on what works and what doesn't in community based forestry and distribution systems;
- Recommending a road map for REDD+ BDS piloting in Vietnam.

A copy of the study is available to download from www.un-redd.org/Newsletter6_Viet_Nam_BDS/tabid/3280/language/en-US/Default.aspx

- The benefits and costs of promoting community based REDD action as opposed to household based action;
- Recommendations to enable legislation on community based action on REDD+;
- Assessing the advantages of decentralised administration, compared to centralised administration of locally appropriate payment structuring;



Left: Lam Dong province, Vietnam.
Photo: Gesa Burchards.



Economic Growth, Technical Diffusion and Low Carbon Investment, DFID

DFID's research strategy 2008-2012 highlights that there are gaps in our knowledge of how developing countries can achieve high and sustained growth rates. Whilst it is accepted that rapid and sustained economic growth significantly drives poverty reduction, it is also acknowledged that there is more to understand about current growth. This consultancy aimed to address some of those gaps, focusing particularly on low carbon growth and the importance of technical diffusion i.e. the circulation of technology and knowledge, such as use of mobile phones to economic development.

This study was carried out by DEV PhD student, **John Sawdon**. Key questions leading the study included identifying factors explaining growth differentials between developed and developing countries; analysis of the contribution of innovation and technological diffusion to economic growth processes in developing countries; and a description of the links between industrial policy and the rate of technological diffusion. In addition the consultancy explored questions of technological diffusion in relation to low carbon sectors (renewable energies, electric vehicles etc), and emissions reducing innovations in high carbon sectors. The issue of to what extent investment in low carbon technologies will raise productivity and growth rates, and thereby offset the costs of emissions mitigation i.e. solar panels driving growth in India/electric cars driving growth in South Africa was also explored.

Kathrin Forstner

I joined DEV in January 2011 as a Lecturer in International Development after having completed an MA and PhD in DEV and working for two years as an associate tutor in the School. I'm currently involved in developing (and eventually running) the new MRes in Development Practice distance-learning programme. In addition, I'm responsible for the academic and employability skills support provided to DEV students.

My research interests include gender and rural development, gender and collective action as well as the links between tourism, culture and development. My doctoral research analysed the impacts that membership in producer groups has on rural women in the Southern Peruvian Andes. I applied a holistic approach for assessing women's experiences, examining economic as well as social and political aspects of group membership. I looked at changes in women's roles as producers and in social relations at household level as well as women's experiences of leadership and political participation at community level. Other past research focused on tourism in developing countries, with a particular emphasis on community-based tourism.



New staff

We are pleased to announce the appointment of two new lecturers in Politics and International Development who will join an emerging critical mass of research expertise in the social development group within the School.



Dr Yvan Guichaoua will join the School in July as a lecturer in Politics and Development. Dr Guichaoua's research interests include the politics of security, conflict

and violence, and more specifically the dynamics of armed groups in West Africa. Previously based at Yale and Oxford, Dr Guichaoua is a rigorous empirical researcher with multi-disciplinary expertise, having done an MPhil and PhD in development economics before moving to political analysis. This enables him to combine quantitative and qualitative research, and offers potential for him to work across groups in the School.



We are also pleased to announce that **Dr Jonathan Pattenden**, who has been a part-time lecturer in the School for the past three years, has been appointed to

a full time teaching and research position. Jonathan's earlier research focus on social movements, global civil society and the globalisation of agriculture has been superseded by a current research agenda centred on governance, civil society and critiques of neo-liberal approaches to poverty reduction, with recent publications focussing on social relations and social protection, and the effects of decentralisation and gatekeepers for changing class relations in Karnataka, India.

This is great news for DEV, both in terms of contributing to an emerging area of research expertise in politics and development within the School, and for our teaching programmes. Information on DEV research on Politics, Governance and the State can be found at www.uea.ac.uk/dev/research/groups/politics

Laura Camfield

I joined DEV in August 2010, three months after having my first child, and have had an exciting and challenging year combining the new roles of lecturer and parent. Before coming to UEA I was a Senior Research Fellow on Young Lives, a long-term study of childhood poverty based at the Oxford Department of International Development (www.younglives.org.uk), and a Research Fellow with the Wellbeing in Developing Countries ESRC research group at Bath, coordinating their research in Thailand (www.welldev.org.uk/). Both posts gave me the opportunity to pursue interests in understanding and measuring people's experiences of poverty and wellbeing, which began after my first degree when I worked as a research intern with a non-governmental organisation in Northern Pakistan.

Having initially followed the path of many students by studying the subject I was best in at school – not a good predictor of performance at university – my internship made me more strategic in my choice of course and I trained as an anthropologist through a Masters at SOAS and PhD at Goldsmiths. Since I was initially funding myself, I took the opportunity to increase my research experience by doing qualitative research in the UK prison service, focusing on the experiences of female foreign nationals imprisoned for transporting drugs

(Female Prisoners Welfare Project) and people living with HIV/AIDS (BMA Foundation for AIDS, National AIDS in Prison Foundation). At the same time I was working on an epidemiological study of dystonia, a little-known neurological condition, and trying to find an accurate way of representing people's complex and socially embedded experiences that would stand alongside clinical measures. My PhD became a critical analysis of the discourse and techniques of 'quality of life measurement' and this interest in 'measuring the immeasurable' led to my subsequent research posts. I have since carried out and managed research in Ethiopia, Thailand, Vietnam, Pakistan, Andhra Pradesh (India), Bangladesh and Peru.

My interest in methodology and in integrating qualitative and quantitative methods continues with an ESRC research grant on Comparative Cross-national Methods which runs until 2015. I have been convening or teaching on most of DEV's postgraduate research methods courses this year. Next year, I will be developing an introductory course in development research using qualitative and survey methods and joining a new research methods course for the undergraduate anthropology cohort. In my spare time (sic) I enjoy answering emails from students and walking along the coast.



Kathleen Fincham

My name is Kathleen Fincham, and I joined DEV as a Lecturer in Development Practice and Training in January 2011. Before coming to DEV, I worked within the broad fields of Education and Development, Gender and Development and ESL, Language and Literacy Education. Within these fields, I worked as a teacher, trainer, curriculum developer, gender analyst, materials writer, project manager and programme director in public, private, higher and non-formal education, government, NGOs and the United Nations in the UK (University of Sussex, SOAS, IDS), Canada, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, Morocco, United Arab Emirates, Ghana and Lebanon. This included two years with WUSC/CIDA and four years with UNICEF Canada, as well as short-term consultancies with UNGEI.

I completed my DPhil in Education and Development at the University of Sussex in 2010. My thesis explored how Palestinian youth construct, negotiate and contest their identities in the context of UNRWA refugee camps in south

Lebanon. More generally, my research interests centre around the politics, sociology and cultural studies of education and learning, as well as the micro-social processes of identity and conflict. This includes the production and regulation of identities (gender, ethnicity, religion, class and nation); constructions of 'citizenship'; institutional power, processes and outcomes; inter/intra community relations; social inclusion/exclusion; social cohesion; educational and social mobility and power and resistance in the contexts of socio-economic transition, migration and diaspora. I also have research and professional interests in TESL, language and literacy education and a specific regional interest in the Middle East and North Africa.

In DEV, I will be involved in curriculum development and teaching on Development Practice-related courses and modules, among others. I will also contribute to DEV's employability strategy, as well as its school engagement efforts.



Heike Schroeder

I joined DEV in June 2011 as a senior lecturer in climate change and international development. My research interests include institutions and multilevel governance, avoiding deforestation under REDD, the role of non-state actors in international climate negotiations and urban climate governance. I look forward to new collaborations and exchange in these areas with colleagues in DEV and UEA.

Before coming to UEA I was an Oxford Martin senior fellow in forest governance (2009-11) and a Tyndall senior researcher (2007-10) at the Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford. I have been a coordinator of the governance theme in the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research and a member of the Scientific Steering Committee of the long-term international research project on Earth System Governance under the auspices of the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (IHDP).

From 2003 to 2007, I was a researcher at the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, University of California, Santa Barbara and the executive officer of a 10-year international research project on the Institutional Dimensions of Global Environmental Change (IDGEC), which was a core project of the IHDP. The project examined the roles institutions play in the human/environment interface. The project's findings are documented in the book *Institutions and Environmental Change*, co-edited by Young, King and Schroeder (MIT Press).

I have a PhD from the Free University of Berlin in political science, an MA from Bonn University in political science with economics and Japanese studies and a BA from the University of East Anglia in contemporary European studies. I came to UEA for my year abroad during my undergraduate studies at Bonn University and also spent two years at the University of Tokyo for my doctoral research.





Making a splash for Sierra Leone

In June this year a group of ten DEV students took up the challenge of canoeing along the River Bure for five hours to raise funds in aid of Christian Aid's work with local partners in Sierra Leone.

The EU has promised to match every £1 raised with £3.50 and so we set ourselves a high target of £1000, which we attained via an online fundraising page. The funds will contribute towards the reconstruction of the recently war torn country by providing health services, clean water and sanitation and providing canoes to local fishermen in the Pujehun district. All of us (Fariha, Raj, Katie, George, Camille, Katelyn, Wathoni, Feyi, Nick and Lydia) had a great time and are really grateful for all the support from friends and family based here in Norwich and from all over the world.

Lydia Munyi



Another year in DEV

Conal Dougan (DevSoc President) and Fran Rogers (DevSoc Secretary)

Another academic year, another busy and successful period for the social side of DEV. DevSoc has continued to put on a series of events, from film nights and pub quizzes to barbeques and guest lectures.



The year started off with a tour around the beautiful Norwich city and subsequent pub meet-up for the new undergrads. In the following weeks there was a trip to the Garden House pub and a quiz night on campus, both of which were attended by a healthy number of both undergrads and postgrads – unfortunately the numerous DEV teams were unable to win the quiz!

In November DevSoc aided the organising of a charity coffee morning, raising funds for the Kibera slum in Nairobi, Kenya. Highly popular, with coffee lovers from undergrad, postgrad, teaching and admin staff, the event managed to raise a substantial amount. This event was followed by a Pot Luck Party, where all comers have to bring a dish. Also in November DevSoc put on its first film night of the year – a screening of 'Invictus', about the release of Nelson Mandela from prison and the challenge for South Africa to win the 1995 Rugby World Cup.

At the end of the autumn term came the centrepiece of the DEV social calendar – the Christmas Ball. Staged this year, as it was last year, at the gorgeous Assembly House in Norwich, the Ball was packed to capacity with over 300 guests. All guests were treated to champagne and a packed dancefloor, with late night party animals heading off to Bar Tapas for salsa spirit. Highlight of the night was one former

Head of School turning up in a rather stunning cowboy hat...

A new term brought new studying woes and bitter weather but, thankfully, more cracking events. January was home to another pub trip, this time to the York Tavern in the Golden Triangle area, and another charity coffee morning. This time the beneficiary was the A21 campaign, an NGO which works for victims of trafficking in Greece. The event was another success, bringing in lots of money for a worthy cause.

Two more film screenings were held in the spring term. The first was 'Born Into Brothels', a fascinating film chronicling the lives of the children of prostitutes in Calcutta, which won an Oscar for Best Documentary, as well as countless other awards. The second was the 'Social Network', the Oscar-winning film about the emergence of Facebook as one of the most famous institutions in the world.

The final DevSoc event of the year was the traditional summer barbeque, held on a sunny but blustery May day. Barbeque fans were presented with an array of vegetarian and non-vegetarian foods, and burnt off all the calories with games of football and hacky sack. All-in-all a good way to round off another stressful but entertaining year in DEV.

Conservation and livelihoods: lessons from the Farne Islands

While the Royal Wedding gripped the mainland in April 2011, five DEV students had the privilege to stay and volunteer for 3 days and nights on the Farne Islands in Northumberland, along with a mass of seabirds, seals and a handful of National Trust wardens. Along the way they chatted to ex-fishermen who have now turned their hands to a different career.

The skipper guides his little blue wooden boat into the picturesque harbour. As he approaches the slip he lowers the tyres to protect his immaculate paintwork, ties her off and calmly turns to unload his cargo. His family have lived in the Northumbrian fishing village of Seahouses for generations and, like his ancestors, he began as a fisherman too. But today his boat is full of 70 happy tourists, who he cheerfully reminds to watch their step as they return to land.

Many communities like Seahouses were let down by fisheries management or, more precisely, by politicians in the 1970s, when the EU's Common Fisheries Policy led to competition between states rather than safeguarding stocks and livelihoods. Despite preservation of a coastal strip for small-scale fishers, larger boats using modern technology were favoured, and populations of familiar suppers like cod, plaice and herring were decimated. It quickly became unprofitable for small-scale fishers on the North Sea coast and, even now, politics dominates science when quotas are set, with the result that 88% of the EU's fish stocks are considered 'over-fished': a conservation failure.

Although bitterness understandably remains in Seahouses, the inhabitants are fortunate to have

an alternative. This coast is rich in nature and history and the major draw is the Farne Islands National Nature Reserve. This archipelago of small islands between 1.5 and 5 miles off the coast has been owned and managed by the National Trust since 1925. Thanks to the islands' accessibility, only an hour from Newcastle, they receive 40,000 landing visitors a year and many more for sailing, diving and exploring the coast. The bulk of revenue goes to the local community, which despite the crazy golf and chip shops, is still a fishing village at heart.

The reason for the swathe of visitors (and multiple visits from the BBC's *Springwatch*) is the stunning wildlife. Cliffs and island top are filled with the evocative sight, noise and smell of 100,000 breeding pairs of seabirds of around 20 species. And 4,000+ seals also inhabit the islands, giving birth to over 1,000 pups on the outer fringes in autumn: this represents a conservation success. These populations are protected and monitored by a dedicated team of wardens who spend nine months of the year on the otherwise uninhabited islands. Nowhere else in the UK are birds so accustomed to visitors that even school groups adorned in orange life jackets can sit yards from nesting puffins, guillemots, kittiwakes, terns, razorbills, shags and eider ducks.

It just so happened that on this busy Bank Holiday weekend most wardens were away on their boat training course. Former warden and current DEV student Neil Dawson was hoping to visit and after a chat with Head Warden David Steel, was able to amass an eager party of PhD students from DEV – Aidy Halimanjaya, Jake



Visitor boat arriving, Farne Islands (photo: Neil Dawson)

Lomax, Nina Hissen and Matt Osborne stepped in and became temporary wardens, helping boats to land, visitors to enjoy their stay and even keeping the temperamental toilets functioning while 500 people swarmed the islands!

Outside of visitor hours, the team was busy gardening for birds. The world's furthest migrating bird, the Arctic tern (which winters 11,000 miles away in the Antarctic!) nests in tight colonies on grassy areas from mid-May. The native vegetation remains short but lighthouse keepers brought seeds for their chickens, so now invasive grasses and weeds have to be cut and removed to provide short turf for the birds so their chicks, once they hatch in early June, won't get wet and chilled in the thick grass.

These days it is not politics which threatens local livelihoods but our lifestyles. Climate change has brought dramatic shifts to the North Sea foodweb, with dominant species of zooplankton declining by as much as 80% in only a decade. This has a knock on effect on sandeel populations, and these oily fish are the crucial factor in seabird breeding success. Sandeel populations have, touch wood, remained relatively strong around the Farnes, but at other UK colonies, such as Shetland, sandeels have almost disappeared. Not only does the UK hold internationally important populations of seabirds, giving us a responsibility to conserve them, but there are livelihoods which depend on them too.

Neil Dawson, Aidy Halimanjaya, Jake Lomax, Nina Hissen and Matt Osborne



Clockwise from above: Shag family, Farne Islands (photo: Neil Dawson); Aidy, April, Jake, and Matt, Farne Islands (photo: Aidy Halimanjaya); puffins in front of Longstone lighthouse, Farne Islands (photo: Neil Dawson)

Honorary degree for DEV alumnus Tito Mboweni

This year DEV alumnus Mr Tito Mboweni will receive an honorary degree from the School of Economics (ECO) at this year's Congregation.

Mr Mboweni gained his Masters in Development Economics in DEV in 1988, after several years spent in exile in Lesotho in the 1980's during which time he joined the African National Congress (ANC) and was an activist in many capacities. After completing his Masters in DEV, he then spent several years working for the African National Congress Party (ANC), including as Deputy Head of the Department of Economic Policy and Minister for Labour. In 1998 Mr Mboweni joined the Reserve Bank of South Africa as Advisor to the Governor, and a year later took on the role of Governor of the Bank, a position he kept for the next decade.

This nomination was originally suggested by Prof Peter Sinclair of the University of Birmingham who says of Mr Mboweni: "I have been lucky enough to know the Governor personally for 10 years through professional visits to his Bank. He is a wonderful man: fair minded, courteous, full of good humour and intellectual curiosity...and absolutely committed to his country and his institution. He has a very deep affection for UEA, and must be one of your most distinguished graduates."

It is with great pleasure that DEV and ECO jointly nominated Mr Mboweni to receive this honorary degree, which will be presented at the ECO Graduation ceremony this summer.



*Growing asparagus in the Ica valley, Peru
(photo: Nick Hepworth)*

Drop by drop: the 'water footprint' of Peruvian asparagus

Dr Nick Hepworth, former DEV PhD student and Director of Water Witness International, is lead author of a report, published last year, which highlights the impacts of the UK's 'water footprint' through the case study of Peruvian asparagus grown for export to international markets.

The 'Drop by Drop' report published by Progressio, the Peruvian Centre for Rural Development (CEPES) and Water Witness International focuses on the Ica Valley region of Peru, where the cultivation of asparagus for export has increased since the 1990's from almost nothing to cover over 100 square kilometres in 2008. Much of the asparagus supplies UK supermarkets including Tesco and Sainsbury.

The booming industry, whilst providing employment for many local people, is putting a huge strain on the water resources in the Ica Basin. The continued expansion of intensive asparagus cultivation in the valley, one of the driest places on earth, has resulted in depletion of aquifers and - as demand outstrips supplies - increasing costs and competition from big agribusinesses, pushing small and medium-scale 'traditional' farmers out of the sector. Water scarcity is also affecting domestic water supplies in Ica city, as well as the livelihoods of poorer people both in the valley and indigenous communities in the mountains above Ica.

The report identifies the need for the development of more robust international standards for managing water resources more sustainably - a process which has since started under the auspices of the Alliance for Water Stewardship. The authors call on the Peruvian government to effectively regulate water use in the valley. International governments have a responsibility too in ensuring that aid policies and programmes promote responsible water management. Investors, such as the lending arm of the World Bank which supported the expansion

of asparagus in Ica, and retailers who have labelled the crop as being 'responsibly produced' are called upon to revise existing safeguards and standards to take account of the sustainability of water resources used in production. These recommendations have a global relevance as many developing countries are experiencing similar social and environmental impacts linked to unsustainable water management.

Nick completed his PhD on the role of regulatory practice in integrated water resource management in East Africa in DEV in 2009 and continues as a Research Associate within the School, helping to deliver the Water Security for Policy Makers short course. His supervisors, Prof Declan Conway and Prof Bruce Lankford, were involved in an advisory capacity with the production of the 'Drop by Drop' report, and Prof Janet Seeley gave vital advice on the ethical implications of the research.

Nick who also studied in the School of Environmental Sciences at UEA as an undergraduate said, "This work was extremely challenging from both a technical and political perspective. To have long term benefit for poor water users in Peru and beyond, the research had to be of the highest quality. The skills and understanding I gained in both DEV and ENV, and the credibility I gained from being associated with UEA, whose reputation is known even as far away as Peru, were really valuable. DEV faculty and students also provided great advice and support."

Nick and his colleagues in East Africa and the UK set up Water Witness International in response to the findings of his research at UEA and the organisation now works globally to support better performance and greater equity and accountability in the management of water resources. Details can be found on the Water Witness Website at www.waterwitness.org

After the earthquake...



After the devastating earthquake which hit the north-east coast of Japan earlier this year, DEV students held several fundraising events to support relief efforts in those areas worst hit.

Ayano Kikuchi, who graduated from the MA Education and Development (MAED) last summer, wrote to DEV from Japan with a reflection on her experiences since graduating and more recently since the earthquake. She writes:

After completing the MAED in DEV, I spent a few months working as an intern for an NGO in Bangladesh. It was a great opportunity for me to apply what I had learned in DEV to practical NGO work, involving non-formal education for street children and a community development program. Since returning to Japan, I have been working at a foundation which supports refugees and asylum seekers in Japan. This involves meeting and interviewing potential applicants for refugee status from a variety of countries every day. The job requires skills to communicate with people with different backgrounds, and consideration of diverse situations depending on the countries, all of which I learned during the year in DEV.

Now in Japan since the earthquake, recovery efforts are in progress throughout the country. The damage from the earthquakes was so much that many people, including my family members and several friends of mine, are still suffering from physical and mental difficulties. Even in Tokyo, you can see almost all the shops and trains saving electricity.

I was surprised and grateful for the quick response from all around the world. I met a lot of relief workers from international NGOs as well as Japanese NGOs, which normally work in developing countries. From this experience of the earthquake and the recovery work, I have realised that learning about international development also contributes to improving your own country, and helps us to link local to global issues. Recovery will take a long time, but we must get over little by little by rethinking an abundant lifestyle. Thank you to everyone for all the warm messages, fundraising activities and volunteering.

The year in DEV was precious to me, with helpful professors, staff, lectures and good friends. I appreciate those who are involved and I hope future students will benefit from the course as I did.

From top: the snow house (kamakura) festival in Akita, Japan, people warm themselves by eating rice cakes and drinking Japanese sake provided by children in a snow house. Cherry blossom tree-Ueno Park, Tokyo, this site is popular for its beautiful cherry blossoms, but this year the annual festival was cancelled in the aftermath of the earthquakes.



Life after DEV: Internships

Katherine Rusack

Your days in DEV are drawing to a close: the big question is 'so what next?' With youth unemployment rates hovering around the 1 million mark and expected to rise, and 70 applicants applying for every graduate position, getting your first job looks to be a challenge.

Twelve months ago those were my shoes. My ambition was to find a job combining international development, corporate social responsibility and sustainability, however the vicious cycle of needing experience to get a job, but needing a job to get experience is a hard cycle to break.

Many organisations, whether small charities or large international banks, now take advantage of this by offering internships, ranging from full-time paid positions to part-time unpaid ones, from highly structured to very disorganised. They are so sought after that the selection process can be as vigorous as that for a full-time paid job.

In August last year I succumbed to this contentious phenomena with two three-month

internships, one for an ethical fashion company, the other for a think tank. I have now spent nine months doing internships. I have moved upwards of twenty times, staying with different friends, family and people I have met along the journey. So what did I learn through this process and was it worth it?

The organisation you work for makes a big difference. The well-organised ones realise that as part of the internship experience you need to gain skills, add to your CV and ultimately make yourself employable. Others see interns as a way of getting cheap, flexible labour. You really have to be clear from the start about what you expect from them.

The policy at the think tank was that interns should attend at least one external event a week, usually shadowing colleagues. These events are excellent networking opportunities, introducing you to companies and fields of work you may never have even realised existed; although this could result in more than you bargained for.

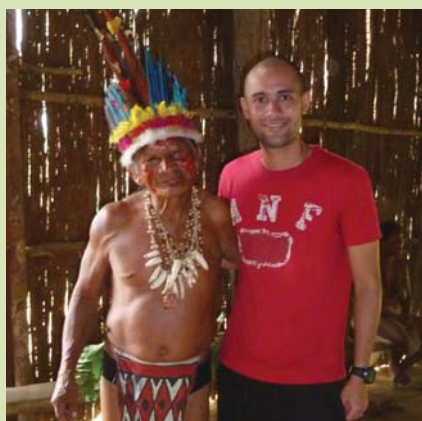
I once arranged to shadow a colleague to a meeting at GSK to discuss their international development programmes. When I arrived, I discovered my colleague was unable to make it at the last moment, so I was therefore in charge of the meeting!

Ten months later, I have been offered a full time job for a start-up sustainability company working with large corporates to engage their employees in corporate social responsibility and sustainability programmes. Everything I have learnt in my internships contributed to me obtaining this job and will be useful in this position. Had I known that it would mean living with so much uncertainty, I might not have committed to this venture. But thankfully I met a lot of inspirational people along the way, many of whom were in similar positions. I came to accept that it's a wave that has to be ridden and the more you persist the more likely you are to succeed.

Keep in touch via the UEA Alumni Association

Global Pub Reunion 2011

Each year hundreds of former students get together around the world to celebrate the University's anniversary. The Alumni Office will be celebrating the 48th anniversary in both London and Norwich, but need your help in organising reunions across the UK and internationally. If you organise a reunion the alumni team is here to help. As well as publicising the event online and in Ziggurat, we will email all alumni in your area letting them know about the reunion. Visit www.uea.ac.uk/alumni to find out about events in your area.



Alumni Ambassadors

The Alumni Association includes alumni from 182 countries worldwide and our Ambassadors play an essential role in connecting graduates wherever they are. Ambassadors attend recruitment events, on campus and worldwide, giving prospective students first-hand knowledge of what it is like to study here. Others organise reunions and events for alumni and UEA staff in their part of the world.

Armin Roelcke, an Alumni Ambassador, explains why he took on the role: "I graduated from DEV in 2004 and now live in Cusco, Peru where I'm the sales manager of an Adventure travel tour operator. I got some emails from the Alumni Association a few years ago and they asked me if I would like to help organise some reunions in Mexico City, where I was living at the time. I tend to say yes to everything...so I said yes! I love meeting people and making new friends, as well as of course seeing old friends from Uni again, so I like it because you help people from UEA stay in contact or meet each other for the first time and that's quite rewarding. I would love to organise another reunion but I hear that there are no DEV alumni in Cusco. Pity!"

If you are living in Peru and would like to get together with Armin and fellow alumni, or to sign up as an Alumni Ambassador, contact alumni@uea.ac.uk or log in to the alumni website at www.uea.ac.uk/alumni

New research institute in Nepal: the Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS)



Two DEV alumni, Dr. Hari Dhungana and Dr. Hemant Ojha, have teamed up with other Nepalese scholars and researchers to establish a new research and academic institute in Nepal – the Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS).

SIAS specialises in advanced studies: research, postgraduate teaching (expected to begin in a year or two), and scholarly publications, and exchanges on a South Asian scale. It engages in applied research through interdisciplinary approaches in its studies and engagements in generic as well as specific public policy areas. Its research will utilise recent knowledge from Nepal and globally to understand, unravel, and interpret the unfolding social, political, economic and environmental dynamics in particular reference to the South Asia context. It will educate a new generation of scholars on cutting edge theoretical perspectives, critical analytical skills and theoretically informed research methods. Initiated at some of the most exciting times in Nepal, SIAS will have significant contributions to policy and political discourse locally as Nepal moves through political transition, and as the Nepalese aspire to become respected and prosperous citizens of a well-recognised polity.

The SIAS is currently involved in projects that involve science training, fellowships on critical public policy areas, collaborative research on public policy engagements, the linkage between poverty and ecosystem services, adaptation of local institutions to climate change, innovation systems, deliberative democracy, and social justice movements and praxis. It offers training for mid-career

professionals and junior scientists in research methodology and scientific communication. It has started the first batch of its fellowship program on five themes: (a) local democracy in the context of political instability and transition; (b) climate justice in local, national and regional/global framings; (c) gender mainstreaming and its discourses and futures; (d) demographic shifts and the provisioning of public goods and services; and (e) development aid and its influence on public policy making in Nepal.

SIAS serves as the secretariat of the Nepal Policy Research Network (NPRN), engaging in and promoting policy research, dialogues and exchanges, and also hosts the Nepal PolicyNet web portal (www.nepalpolicy.net) as a web repository of public policy knowledge in Nepal. The NPRN also publishes a new journal *New Angle: Nepal Journal of Social Science and Public Policy* and the first issue themed on Political Transition in Nepal is due in June 2011. The call for papers for the second issue on Civil Society in Nepal is already posted on the Nepal PolicyNet portal.

SIAS is very keen to have collaboration and exchanges with other DEV alumni in South Asia and beyond. We look forward to maintaining regular communication and to productive engagements with DEV faculty and alumni in the future.

For more information on SIAS, please contact Hari P. Dhungana, PhD (Executive Director) at: Alok Madhyamarg-235, POBox: 23499, Kathmandu-34, NEPAL, via email to hdhungana@southasiainstitute.org, or visit www.southasiainstitute.org

Below: Hari Dhungana interviewing the local people in Banpalle Village, Kaski district, Nepal in 2003 during his PhD research on forest management and livelihoods.

