

Development

Annual Newsletter of the School of International Development

2014–2015

A man with short dark hair and glasses, wearing a grey button-down shirt over a black t-shirt, stands on a city street. He is holding a white rectangular sign with a wooden handle. The sign has the text 'Who made your shirt?' written in a dark, hand-painted font. The background shows a busy street with other pedestrians and buildings.

Who
made
your
shirt?

DEV

INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
University of East Anglia

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Contents

DEV News	2-5
Research News	6-7
Student News	8-9
Alumni News	10-15
DEVCo News	16

The Caribbean: a place to volunteer? – pages 14-15



Development

Edited by Shaun Gibbs and David Girling
Design by Anne Reekie
Printed by Breckland Print



By carbon balancing the paper on this production we have saved 129kgs of carbon and preserved 10.84sq. metres of land

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Letter From Head of School



It has been another good year for the School of International Development. Everyone has been busy of course but it is worth here selecting and reporting on a few of the highlights from

my perspective as Head of School.

Taking over from **Steve Russell** was a pretty smooth experience thanks to his impressive levels of organisation and attention to detail during the hand-over process. So a final thanks to Steve for his three years as Head and it has been great to see him gradually immersing himself in data analysis and writing this past year. Steve did continue working with **Arjan Verschoor** and **Peter Lloyd-Sherlock** on our REF submission (the periodic research quality assessment review) until the end of 2013 and I think the result of the whole School effort was a set of documents that make a compelling case for continuing research excellence in DEV. Let's hope the external panel agrees – results in December!

There have been a few staff changes this year. On the admin side, **Mandy Holland** has retired, **Holly Butwright** moved to a job in London and **Debra Lee** has left the DEVCo Training Office. It has been great to welcome **Leanne Rhodes** and **Shaun Gibbs** to the General Office, and **Claire Frost** to the Head of School's Office where she now job-shares the PA role with **Esther Palin**. **Erika Chalkley** has also started working with **Sarah Gore** in the Training Office. On the academic side, three people have moved on to take up Chair positions in London: **Colette Harris** has gone to SOAS, **Declan Conway** to LSE and **Janet Seeley** to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. In all cases the moves have been for positive reasons and tremendous good will and links with DEV remain. Replacing these people has meant several recruitment rounds and these have given us some exciting new appointments in the School. **Professor Dabo Guan** joins us in October this year, **Paul Clist** and **Gareth Edwards** have already started in DEV and **Maria Abranches** joins us in July. We are about to advertise for a political scientist over the summer to replace **Colette Harris**. So DEV remains most definitely at full strength! We have welcomed a number of new research fellows in DEVCo also, details in the DEVCo section of the Newsletter.

The UEA 50th Anniversary celebrations last Autumn were particularly pleasant in our School and deserve a mention. **Bryan Maddox** led DEV's organisation here and I think the mix of serious Development content with ample opportunities for socialising was particularly well judged and appreciated by the Alumni and others who made the effort to come. The impressive collaboration between DEV (**Danny McAvoy** in particular) and Postcode Films with funding from

the Annual Fund producing and screening the "Stories from Norfolk" short films stands out in my mind still. The knowledge that DEV has been a force at UEA more or less since the beginning makes us feel very solid and established as a School with a growing history and tradition behind us.

In November we were pleased to host **Mark Lowcock**, the Permanent Secretary for the UK Department for International Development for a day's visit. This was a chance to remind Mark of some of the good research and policy work we do of course but Mark was also keen to talk to students and he gave a well-attended talk to 50 or so mixed undergraduate and postgraduate students. He spoke on DFID's record, priorities and policy. There were a few testing questions from the students and I think, above all, Mark's frank approach in trying to answer them was appreciated.

We have had a lot of students in DEV this year. Approximately 80 first years started in the School with 20 on the new BA Geography and International Development programme. The new geographers are a welcome addition to the already very dynamic undergraduate student body we have in the School. It was also a bit of a bumper year for postgraduates with around 150 joining us to study on one of our MA or MSc programmes.

We do need to be proactive in reviewing existing taught courses and launching new courses in this way as there is so much uncertainty and change in the UK HE sector at the moment, particularly at the undergraduate level. From 2015 there will be no cap on the numbers of undergraduate students an institution can accept. Partly as a response, around 40 universities are now making unconditional offers to the best students, though UEA has yet to go down this route. The traditional "clearing" period in August is becoming a real market place where prospective students are as likely to use better than expected grades to "trade up" as to "trade down" when their grades don't quite make their offer.

It has been wonderful working more closely over the last year with **Gina Neff**, **Esther Palin**, **Mandy Holland** and more recently **Claire Frost**. I realise more now how complex is the job they do and that of the local support team (**Chris Hall**, **Shaun Gibbs** and **Leanne Rhodes**) in the School. It goes without saying that it is the support team more than anything else that keeps the School functioning so well!

A final thank you to **David Girling**, **Shaun Gibbs** and others for putting this newsletter together. I hope all in the School manage to enjoy their well-earned summer breaks and look forward to welcoming everyone back after the summer. It is a privilege to act as Head of School in DEV and I am enthusiastic about the years ahead!

John McDonagh

New Staff



Dr Paul Clist joined DEV as a Lecturer in Development Economics in June 2014, having previously been ESRC postdoctoral research fellow (2011-13) and

DEVCo enterprise fellow (2013-14). His research has mainly used applied econometric analysis to examine development aid. He has published on aid allocation, the effect of international aid on domestic tax revenue, and rankings of aid donor performance. While working for DEVCo, he has been the lead on the quantitative side of an evaluation of Results Based Aid for DFID Rwanda. This has led to consultancy work for DFID UK, examining the conceptual basis of Payment by Results in International Development.

His current research makes use of Behavioural and Experimental Economics to answer important open questions in development economics. Typically, the research is motivated by recognition that the social context in which a decision is made is both important and understudied. For example, he has conducted experiments which examine the importance of language in public goods games (a measure of cooperation), and how individuals take risky decisions when the consequences are felt by other people.



Dr Gareth Edwards joined DEV as a Lecturer in May 2014 after two years as Research Fellow in Sustainable Development at the University of St Andrews.

Prior to that he was Research Associate on an ESRC-funded project in Durham University's Department of Geography. A book based on this work will be published by Routledge in October under the title "An Urban Politics of Climate Change". He moved to the UK in 2011 after completing his PhD in Human Geography at the University of Sydney.

Gareth's research bridges political ecology, environmental justice and environmental ethics by examining the relationship between discourses and practices of justice in the context of environmental governance. He has a particular interest in the justice dimensions of neoliberal water governance and urban climate change governance. His current work is exploring the theorization of 'climate justice' and how NGOs have shaped discourses of climate justice in the UK and Australia.

He will be teaching on the new BA Geography and International Development degree – convening the second-year 'Geographies of Development' module in Autumn 2014 – as well as MSc modules on climate change and political ecology.

New Staff



Dr Maria Abranches joined DEV as a Lecturer in Social Anthropology and International Development in July 2014, having previously worked as an associate lecturer and

tutor at the University of Sussex. Before moving to Sussex to start her PhD in Social Anthropology, she worked for several years as a professional researcher and consultant in academic and non-academic sectors in Portugal, such as international organisations, charities and governmental bodies. She has also worked continuously as a professional trainer in migration-related issues, in public and private non-profit organisations. She is interested in migration, food and development in African contexts, having lived in Guinea-Bissau and in Angola in 2010 and 2012. Her current research focuses on food production, youth and internal and international migration in Guinea-Bissau. She is interested in the debate on the reconciliation between global processes and local experiences of migrants and their families, and in understanding, through a grounded, ethnographically oriented approach, how the connections between the two have implications for local development. She has published on transnational practices of food exchange, rural and urban foodways, mobility and material culture, space and food markets.



New Professor joins DEV

Professor Dabo Guan joins the School of International Development in October 2014. He specialises in environmental economics for international climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, scenario analysis on environmental impacts, water resources accounting and management, input-output modelling and their applications in both developed and developing countries.

He was a Lead Author for the Working Group III of the 5th Assessment Report (AR5) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Chapter 14 on Regional Development and Cooperation. He has authored over 50 publications, including articles published in Science, Nature, Nature Climate Change, Science and PNAS. He has received Leontief Prize three times and was recently awarded the Philip Leverhulme Prize – awarded to outstanding scholars who have made a substantial and recognised contribution to their particular field of study, recognised at an international level.



Dr Seb Taylor has worked in international development and humanitarian action for over 20 years. He worked in China and Laos in the 1990s, on health programmes and humanitarian

mine clearance. His PhD research used institutional ethnography to explore relations of power in policy-making between international and 'local' staff in international development agencies. He specialised in health policy and practice, working with WHO and Unicef on the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (primarily in Nigeria, Pakistan, India, and Afghanistan). He was senior research fellow on the WHO global Commission on Social Determinants of Health. He has worked as director of two international humanitarian NGOs – International Rescue Committee and Action on Armed Violence. More recently, his work has looked at governance in 'fragile states', using health and health equity as a lens to understand and quantify performance.



DEV students given opportunities to learn from high-profile individuals in development

Over the past academic year, the School of International Development's strong reputation has resulted in opportunities for DEV students to gain insights from high-profile figures in the development industry, through talks, events and workshops that have strengthened ties between DEV and various development organisations.

In February the School held the sixth edition of its annual Working in Development Forum. The Forum is intended to help students identify diverse opportunities to develop and apply the skills gained through their degree study. It featured a variety of representatives from a host of organisations including Oxfam, the Department for International Development (DFID), Christian Aid, Water Aid, the Overseas Development Institute and more. Over 100 DEV students turned out to make the most of the opportunity, where they were inspired to think more broadly about the opportunities open to graduates.

Here in DEV we were also lucky to be visited by **Mark Lowcock**, the Permanent Secretary for DFID, who offered his time and expertise to speak to DEV staff and students about development

prospects for the 21st century. Mark's position makes him the most senior civil servant in the department, and therefore responsible for the strategic direction of DFID. The room was overflowing with staff and students who were very keen to gain insights from someone at the heart of government.

The annual Blaikie Lecture on Politics of the Environment will this year see **Jonathon Porritt CBE**, co-Founder of Forum for the Future, discuss whether the superficial level of engagement in environmental issues by political parties is down to the Green Movement's own style of advocacy, its campaigning tactics, and the language it uses. We expect more great opportunities to arise for DEV students over the coming year.

Piers Blaikie (right) with Prof Swaminathan

Let's get Animated

An animated video explaining the role of Media in Development has been produced by the School of International Development, and is based on a new book entitled *Media and Development*, by **Dr Martin Scott**.



The aim of this book and video is to provide an engaging, but critical introduction to different ways of thinking about the role of media in development.

In an accompanying blog on the Huffington Post, Dr Martin Scott writes:

"I am deeply dissatisfied with the current state of public discourse about the role of media in international development. It appears to be dominated by 'techno-utopian' narratives which celebrate the apparent capacity

of the media to directly deliver 'positive' benefits to communities. You don't have to look very hard for examples of stories about how mobile phones, for example, can be used to promote all manner of aspects of development – including promoting flood safety, preventing human trafficking and reuniting families after disasters.

At best, such narratives are misleading – failing to highlight the varieties, complexities and contingencies of the media's role in social change. Positive thinking,

it seems, is not a sound basis for project design or policy making. At worst, such narratives support the interests of those who benefit from an expansion in the use of new technologies. It is not by chance that Bill Gates, for example, is a techno-optimist."

The book and video coincide with a growing attention given to the issues such as - media freedom, access to information, data transparency and open government – in international development. Last year the UN

High Level Panel on the post MDGs recommended that a commitment to support free and independent media and access to information be included in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

The animation *Does Media Matter for International Development?* was co-produced by David Girling and Martin Scott and can be viewed via our YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/devschooluea

The accompanying blog post can be read on our DEV Blog at www.uea.ac.uk/dev/dev-blog

Earth System Governance Conference held at UEA

The 2014 Norwich Conference – Access and Allocation in the Anthropocene – held 1-3 July 2014 at UEA, is part of an annual conference series organised by the Earth System Governance Project, a core project of the global change research programme *Future Earth*.

This year's conference is co-hosted by the School of International Development, School of Environmental Sciences and the Tyndall Centre. The conference discusses the significant implications for the state of the environment and for the wellbeing of present and future generations from centuries of continuing unequitable access to and allocation of the Earth's resources. The ongoing challenge of establishing an effective mechanism for mediating the relationship between humans and the natural world represents one of the most challenging tasks in the quest for environmental sustainability at all levels of societal relationships, from the local to the global. Environmental problems such as climate change, biodiversity loss, water quality and access problems, soil erosion and others call into question the fundamental viability of how humans have organised the relationship between society and nature. There is an urgent need to identify and develop new strategies for steering societies towards justice among all people on the planet and a sustainable relationship with the natural world.



The conference is organised around two themes – access and allocation of resources (water, food, energy, health and wellbeing, forests and carbon rights) and transformative pathways to sustainability. The conference kicked off with a Public Debate at St Andrews Hall on “Sharing Our Earth”, featuring a video address by His Royal Highness Prince Charles and a keynote speech by Prof Joyeeta Gupta from the Universiteit van Amsterdam.

The following three days included sessions on topics such as “Mobilisations for Justice: Transforming Environmental Governance?” organised by DEV, “Innovative Learning for Global Governance” organised by Future Earth and many more.

More information can be found at:
www.norwich2014.earthsystemgovernance.org

Heike Schroeder



The impact of malaria information and treatment on worker productivity

Do health information and treatment make a difference to worker productivity and income? Experimental evidence from malaria testing and treatment among Nigerian agricultural workers shows that it does.

Agricultural productivity has been a major driving force of economic development throughout much of world history and remains an important source of growth and poverty reduction in developing countries today. As a major form of human capital, health is related to productivity: healthier workers are expected to earn more, just as higher educated workers are expected to have higher earnings. Yet health is multidimensional and it is unclear which aspects of health are most important. Existing research shows nutrition, both in child and adulthood, to affect adult labour outcomes. But little is known about the impact of disease. It is also unclear whether workers' perceptions of their own health, which may be imperfectly related to the true state of physical health, affect effort levels at work. This research sheds light on these issues, focusing on one specific illness: malaria.

Malaria is one of the most prevalent communicable diseases in the world today, with Nigeria alone accounting for over 30 per cent of worldwide malaria cases, as estimated by The World Health Organisation (WHO). Adults affected by malaria suffer from lower energy levels via heightened morbidities such as fever, weakness, muscle aches, and chills, and hence are likely to work fewer days and be less productive when they do work. Agricultural workers and those in other physical occupations are presumed to suffer the greatest losses in productivity from malaria due to the nature of work demanded.

Studies at the household level find that malaria imposes substantial economic losses on households and firms, but have one or more

methodological limitations; they typically study association, rather than causation; their measurement of individual worker productivity is imprecise; and most studies – but not all – measure malaria infection through self-reporting. This study addresses these limitations.

While adult health is believed an important determinant of labour supply and productivity, especially in agrarian settings, few studies have been able to identify and measure such a relationship. This study is able to do just that. To investigate the impact of malaria on worker earnings, labour supply, and daily productivity the study randomises the temporal order at which piece-rate workers at a large sugarcane plantation in Nigeria were offered access to malaria testing and treatment.

The effects of the intervention are substantial, with worker income increasing by approximately 10 per cent in the weeks following treatment, stemming from workers augmenting both their labour supply and on the job productivity. In the relatively high wage environment of this Nigerian sugarcane plantation, these estimated productivity costs very likely exceed the private costs for malaria diagnosis and treatment. Moreover, it is important to note that our results only represent estimates of gains from treatment and information over a two or three week reference period – the gains from malaria treatment may extend beyond our reference period. However, treatment of diagnosed illness is not the only cause of such gains in earnings. Another factor appears to be the perceptions about one's own health.

Workers who were informed of a healthy diagnosis increased their productivity after receipt of health information, in part due to shifting out of a lower-return occupation into the piece-rate work of cane cutting which requires higher effort. Our findings indicate that the effect is largest when 'good news' comes as a surprise, although there may be other channels through which the good news effect translates into higher earnings, such as a dual-self model where the current self is tempted to postpone effort (Thaler and Shefrin 1981). While the study cannot definitively identify the causal mechanisms behind this 'good news' effect, it does illustrate that productivity losses due to workers working when sick is likely a less important bias in estimates of the cost of malaria than the effect of health perceptions which induce suboptimal occupation sorting.

Whichever mechanism is driving selection into low return occupations, the results imply that the full costs of malaria to the economy are not just among the infected. Workers living in endemic areas, particularly those in physical occupations, may reserve work effort under the perception that they are symptomatic. Our population based study – as opposed to a selective sample of ill workers which formed the foundation of previous empirical work on the costs of malaria – illustrates that asymptomatic malaria may have real costs to agricultural productivity via selection into low return work. These results are not uncommon to the development literature which illustrate that the risk averse poor make low return investments which perpetuate their poverty (for example, Zimmerman and Carter (2003) and Lybbert et al. (2004) among others). In our case, workers in endemic areas with low health perceptions may remain trapped in low level equilibria via occupation choice (Banerjee and Newman (1993). Further research in sub-populations that implement extensive testing not only of symptomatic, but also asymptomatic individuals may yield further gains in understanding the productivity costs of malaria and other diseases.

Andrew Dillon is Assistant Professor in Agricultural Economics at Michigan State University. **Jed Friedman** is a Senior Economist in the Development Research Group at The World Bank. **Pieter Serneels** is a Reader in Economics at DEV, UEA.



Fostering seed security responses that work for vulnerable farmers

Seed is central to agricultural livelihoods, and vast amounts are spent on seed in the South, both for developing seed sectors and for seed aid.

The importance of this is especially apparent in stressed areas, where having access to seed is crucial to farmers' ability to recover after drought, flood, earthquake, or to face chronic challenges such as variable weather. Ensuring access to the right seed can even be empowering as stressed farmers, themselves, can then produce food, generate revenue and plan for seasons to come. However, despite the amounts spent on seed assistance, it is rarely known whether farmers in crisis are getting the kinds of assistance they want and need. Does seed assistance actually build seed security for vulnerable farmers – and if not, what responses would?

The School of International Development's **Dr Shawn McGuire**, in close collaboration with **Louise Sperling** (CIAT, CRS) has been motivated by such questions for over a decade. In association with Southern partners, they have developed and refined tools to help humanitarian and development workers assess seed systems in the field, from the perspective of smallholder farmers, and develop concrete strategies for supporting seed security. In 2014, they launched SeedSystem.org to share tools and findings, and support a growing community of practice. The website is unique in the humanitarian, livelihood, and seed sector spheres. It focuses squarely on smallholder, poor and vulnerable farmers and aims to jumpstart and improve the seed systems farmers use, across crops and farming systems. The site highlights the rapid advances in understanding seed security over the last 5-10 years, in which Shawn McGuire and Louise Sperling play key roles. Seed security issues are somewhat distinct from food security concerns; seed systems prove more resilient to stress than conventionally assumed; and some of the dominant aid responses may be doing more harm than good. Overall, the website benefits from a 'rethink' about what seed aid can or cannot accomplish and from exploration of novel approaches to bolster seed system functioning.

Shawn McGuire explains "this site is aimed at donors, program managers, and front-line practitioners. We provide tools and resources to

help them decide how best to respond to seed system constraints in a range of contexts, from emergency, to recovery, chronic stress and more developmental settings."

The site aims to be practical, as well as promote cutting-edge thinking. With specific toolkits and policy aid, it supports the development of evidenced-based responses in this sector. As many seed system security assessments (SSSAs) have occurred in the world's ongoing disaster hot spot areas – Eastern Congo, Haiti, South Sudan, Horn of Africa – strategies put forward should have repeated applicability.

A recent seed system security assessment (SSSA) conducted in drought-prone eastern Zambia suggests how powerful targeted assessments can be. Field research found that only three crops (maize, groundnut and cotton) accounted for 95 per cent of the total seed sown. Few farmers could access any new variety of legumes – nutrient-dense crops critical for a region where stunting rates hover at 45 per cent. Also, storage losses were very high, over 40 per cent, with farmers using toxic cotton pesticides to control the problem.

Using the SSSA recommendations, USAID's Mawa Project, funded under Feed the Future (FTF), implemented Diversity for Nutrition and Enhanced Resilience (DiNERS) fairs, making seed accessible through vouchers to 1,800 vulnerable households in eastern Zambia. While private seed companies focused on maize and groundnut seeds, Mawa specifically included local seed producers to expand access to diverse seed: pigeon peas, soybeans, cowpeas and other mixed beans. In 2014, the Mawa Project will work with the Zambian Agricultural Research Institute (ZARI), the Seed Control and Certification Institute (SCCI), and others to foster further formal and informal seed system integration. Improved storage methods will also be tested to ensure that farmers' gains are safeguarded from one season to another.

As Shawn McGuire notes, "for too long, seed system interventions have been based on narrow evidence, or tacit assumptions. We're trying to change that, and help policy-makers and practitioners understand better the challenges and opportunities smallholders face. The response to this site suggests to us there is widespread demand for this."

SeedSystem.org founding partners are: The International Center for Tropical Agriculture; Pan-African Bean Research Alliance; US Agency for International Development/Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance; Catholic Relief Services; and the School of International Development.



Conflict and Cooperation over REDD+

Focusing on Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) and related forest-based climate change mitigation policies and financing mechanisms, the CoCooR project seeks to strengthen the evidence on the impacts of REDD+ on conflict and cooperation in developing countries through research in Mexico, Nepal and Vietnam. These three countries, which are at advanced stages of REDD+, offer excellent opportunities for generating insights relevant to other countries. The application of an environmental justice lens is expected to generate new understanding of cross-scale conflict and cooperation over forests.

CoCooR brings together a team of international scholars and practitioners under the leadership of the Principal Investigator **Professor Thomas Sikor**, and Coordinator **Dr Poshendra Satyal**, both from the School of International Development. The team draws on recent environmental justice research to examine how the production of injustices and politics of justice associated with the development of REDD+ affect conflict and cooperation over forests. It has surveyed REDD+ conflicts in Mexico, Nepal, Vietnam and worldwide, and will investigate local-level dynamics in six REDD+ demonstration sites, analyse national safeguards processes, and examine the empirical results from comparative and theoretical perspectives. The research will employ transdisciplinary methodology drawing on ethnography, discourse analysis and participatory research in a broadly inductive approach.

CoCooR will use the new knowledge on conflict and cooperation over forests and innovative theoretical understanding of cross-scale dynamics of conflict and cooperation to engage with REDD+ policy makers and other stakeholders in the three countries, South/Southeast Asia and worldwide, including innovative photovoice projects with local communities.

The project formally started in February 2014 and recently held its inception workshop in Norwich (9-11 May 2014) with an active participation from all the partners. The CoCooR team also lead and organised a theoretical exchange event in Norwich on 12th May with participation of other projects from the NWO's CoCooN (Co-operation and Conflicts over Natural Resources) programme. Besides CoCooR team and DEV members, researchers from Wageningen University and Utrecht University participated in this event.

DEV's Got a Big Heart – a message from your DEVsoc

It has been another brilliant year for DEVsoc, and we want to thank our members and the department for your ongoing support in events and fundraising. We've had potluck dinners, a guest lecture, LCR nights as well as the annual Christmas Ball, which this year was held at Dragon Hall in the city centre – unforgettable, I'm sure you'll agree! The new 2014–2015 committee are currently organising the end of year BBQ, and we wish them the best of luck for next year.

A focus for DEVsoc this year was to be more pro-charity and this was achieved by the re-launch of the DEV's Got a Big Heart (DGBH) campaign. A collective of seven small charities operating at the UEA were given the opportunity to work together to fundraise, share advice and raise awareness around campus, with the full backing of DEVsoc. The involved charities that support both local and global community needs were: Dig Deep, UEA Street Child, TEACH, Ethos, NEAD, Kaloko and East African Playgrounds. Individually, the charities held numerous fundraisers for their causes including curry and film nights, 24 hour bike-a-thons, a Valentine's Day rose delivery service and even a pledge to wear a onesie and not wash for 2 weeks! As a group, coffee mornings were held for DEV staff and students, raising over £100, and in February each charity provided acts for our annual talent show DEV's Got Talent. This was a huge success raising £420 on the night, thanks to the brilliant acts for their entertainment and audience for their donations – we hope to see similar continued success with DGBH in the next academic year!

DEVsoc Committee 2013-14



DEV postgraduates organise the School's first student-led climate change seminar

The seminar – *Climate Friendly Pathways for Developing Countries: How do we mitigate whilst also adapting and alleviating poverty?* – was held in May 2014, with the joint support of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research and the School of International Development. Seeking to go beyond classroom learning, a group of DEV postgraduate students organised the workshop with the coordination of **Dr Oliver Springate-Baginski**.

The seminar aimed to explore possible ways forward for the design and implementation of 'climate-friendly' measures suitable for developing countries. The seminar was conceived in the context of recent developments in the international climate change agenda: a new comprehensive global agreement applicable to all parties is being negotiated under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. In contrast with the current regime in which there is a clear differentiation between the responsibilities of developed and developing countries, the new architecture is creating tensions among all countries and consequently the process is advancing at a slow pace. Yet according to scientific evidence presented by the Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change, action to control and reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) is more urgent than ever.

This dualism creates the need for discussions on how to find ways that would allow developing countries to achieve socio-economic development while simultaneously keeping GHG emissions low and building climate resilience. Developing countries must anticipate and prepare for the new climate change regime architecture that may emerge in the near future, which could impose emissions reduction commitments to those countries that do not have them so far. They should therefore pragmatically develop 'climate-friendly' strategies and policies aimed at stabilising GHG emissions, whilst also adapting

to the effects of climate change. The challenge is how to do it in a way that allows them to still reduce poverty and develop socially and economically.

Experts from the London School of Economics and Political Science, the University of Sussex, the International Institute for Environment and Development, The Corner House, the Tyndall Centre and the University of East Anglia, convened to discuss a diverse range of possible mitigation options, policies and approaches that would be useful to deal with climate change and poverty alleviation in developing countries.

In order to promote the discussion of the main challenges and considerations when working on mitigation policies in developing countries, the seminar was structured in three panels: The challenges; Low emissions energy pathways for development; and 'Climate-smart' landscapes – a way forward?

There was also a specific session for the presentation of postgraduate researchers, who were able to give poster-based presentations and receive helpful feedback from the audience.

This first ever student-led climate change seminar had over 40 participants and evolved in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. All participants agreed the proceedings on this most pressing global issue were both enjoyable and stimulating, and Tyndall and DEV are considering making it an annual event.



DEV students shine whilst working in the media

A group of five postgraduate DEV students who had been working with BBC Radio Norfolk as part of their Media and Development in Practice module, were invited to present their work to the regional manager of BBC Radio.

The group of students – **Chun Zhang, Shahab Adris, Leroy Adolphus, Noel Healy and Yao Fu** – had been working with the radio station to advise them on how they could be making better use of social media to engage alternative audiences. As part of their work they spent time in the station running the social media accounts of several radio shows.

After an initial presentation of their work to BBC Radio Norfolk station manager **David Clayton**, and news editor, **Anthony Isaacs**, the students, were invited back to present to further BBC staff and to the regional manager.

The regional manager of the BBC was delighted with the outcome of the presentation, which reaffirmed the BBC's recently revised national strategy on social media. BBC Radio Norfolk were also very pleased with the group's work ethic and determination and are considering offering the group placements within BBC Radio Norfolk to continue with their social media strategy. They are also likely to be invited back for a fifth presentation to other BBC stations. Only one presentation was required for assessment purposes, for which they were all awarded distinctions.

Shahab said "we are not only happy with the outcome of the project but very happy for **Dr Martin Scott** too as his efforts and belief in establishing a practical media module in DEV is producing great results... The next step is waiting patiently for a call from Steve Coogan, that'll be the icing on the cake".



Earlier this academic year, five other DEV students on the module were able to work with Future Radio on a project aimed towards better representation of ethnic minorities in the UK through more foreign language programming. The five students – **Hnin Hnin Aye, Xi Nie, Yafang Guo, Peiyan Xiu and Seol Song** – were given the chance to see how diverse parts of Norwich really are, and the importance for all communities in the city to have a voice.



DEV World Cup

To celebrate the World Cup in the summer of 2014, a group of DEV students kicked off a tournament of their own, with the very first DEV Cup. A diverse group of players from a wide range of nations and varying ages competed in a series of football matches spanning over four weeks, and ending with an awards ceremony where Dinamo KiDEV were announced as champions of the inaugural DEV Cup – beating off competition from DEVerton FC, DEV Undergrads and DEVentus FC. Congratulations to all involved, with a special mention to chief organiser Dave Gwyther, and DEVsoc for their help with the funding.



DEVerton FC



The fashion industry: an alternative route from development

Starting your own menswear business may not be the most conventional route following graduation from the School of International Development, but for former-student **Jonathan Mitchell**, career paths needn't be laid out in front of you depending on your choice of degree. Jonathan has formed a clothing company with a compelling blend of fashion and development, building on his experience in DEV in order to offer an ethical approach to the fashion industry.

In 2011 I graduated from the School of International Development. Today I run a menswear business. Launched late last year, Brothers We Stand is a retail platform for menswear brands with great design and game changing ethics. Every product on our site has a footprint tab, detailing its social and environmental impact, both the strong areas and those where there is room for future development. The vision is to create a community who can push the fashion industry forward towards a more sustainable and equitable future.

It feels an exciting time to be involved in the fashion industry. In recent years discussion of supply chains and social impact has moved from the margins to become a hot topic. There is a window of opportunity to create real change in the industry.

There are many in the industry working hard for change with little academic background in supply chains, complexities of living wage debates or other contested areas. I am so grateful for my time at DEV which allowed me to enter these discussions with some prior knowledge and understanding of the differing points of view.

There are many things I appreciate, but two things stand out as being of particular value. Firstly, DEV helped me form an idea of what successful development might look like to me, and secondly, the School helped me understand the complexities involved with that vision.

It was through my dissertation that I initiated a firm vision of what successful development might look like. My dissertation focused on Amartya Sen's capabilities approach, an approach from which I saw a lot of sense. The basic premise of the approach, as I interpret it, is that development should increase people's opportunities to do the things they value. Economic growth should neither be seen as irrelevant, nor the sole basis for evaluation. At its core the approach calls for us to listen to what people are saying they value and then try and help them achieve this – not rocket science but a useful framework to work with and a vision to chase.

I want Brothers We Stand to help people access the things they value. By supporting brands that pay a living wage we can ensure the people who make our clothes have access to food, healthcare and perhaps even some leisure activities. By working with brands that have strong waste management systems, we can help to ensure water sources are kept safe and local communities enjoy better health.

The second standout message I gained from the three years of seminars and lectures is this; development is complex. Good intentions don't guarantee helpful outcomes. We need to put the work into understanding what is really going on in any given situation and how the various factors interplay and potentially affect different stakeholders in different ways.

At Brothers We Stand I want us to ask lots of questions and really work out what's going on in our brand's supply chains. No brand's supply chain is perfect and through our 'product footprints' I want to share with our community an honest and balanced summary of the social and environmental impacts of the items we sell.

When the fashion crowd ask me what I studied at university it is always with a smile that I tell them I studied International Development. Above all I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to study with such an inspiring, diversely gifted and fun group of students and lecturers. I also developed a framework for thinking about how I could do something that makes a difference – that's what I wanted to do before I started the course and is what I hope I am beginning to achieve now.

Jonathan Mitchell, DEV alumnus





The Caribbean: a place to volunteer?

When we think of development, poverty, conflict and HIV – the Caribbean hardly ever comes to mind. A tropical paradise indeed – lush greenery, turquoise waters and glorious sunshine – but delve a little deeper and you will uncover a paradise in crisis.

The Caribbean's history is complex with different colonial powers from the British to the French fighting over the valuable slave, sugar and tobacco trade. In the 1600's Jamaica was one of the richest countries in the world. It currently has one of the highest debts in the world.

Today, most countries in the Caribbean with the exception of Haiti are considered under the United Nations as "high" on the Human Development Index – countries of upper middle-income. Despite this, the region has one of the highest levels of crime and violence in the world, alongside public debt and HIV/AIDS. Environmental degradation has been flagged by the international community as a major concern, but the Caribbean is struggling to prioritise this. Tourism is the primary source of income for most Caribbean islands selling "Sun, Sand and Sea". But Environmental degradation and climate change threaten this primary source of income.

After graduating, I relocated to Jamaica to intern with a small locally run organisation that, in reality, was a one man band. That man was a social worker with a vision and dedication borne out of his own experience coming from one of the most impoverished and violent areas in the capital. He managed to gain a social work degree and was determined to help other young people change their destiny too. In Jamaica, like many parts of the world, young black males from poor backgrounds rarely get the opportunity to succeed in life with the result that crime and unemployment are their most likely destinations.

I volunteered at several different organisations: one helping women and children live with HIV/AIDS, the other, Panos Caribbean, an international organisation that uses media to raise awareness of these issues faced by local



people throughout the Caribbean. Volunteering showed me that passion and determination are invaluable when financial resources are limited. Many of the organisations out there making a difference are often small numbered or led by one person, fighting the fight for the good of others. Alongside the need for bigger donors and sustained funding, it taught me that the primary need is for people who are willing to help and support small initiatives. Regardless of your skill sets, experience and background – your input can help.

Having volunteers not only helps an organisation run its day-to-day operations, but the fact that a person is prepared to travel a distance in order to contribute, offers a sense of validation for the cause and inspires others to join in. Overall, I learnt that no matter the limitations on time and lack of technical experience, there is always a place in the development industry for hard work,

enthusiasm and willingness to contribute. Small things can make a big difference.

In 2013, I combined my experience and academic background in development, with my passion for travel and love for the Caribbean, and launched V2 Volunteer & Vacation. V2 is a small travel organisation offering short-term volunteering experiences in the Caribbean. V2 partners with local NGO's, schools and development organisations to offer productive and meaningful volunteering projects. All V2 Volunteer & Vacation activities seek to support sustainable initiatives whilst showcasing the resilience and resourcefulness of local people. Combining volunteering with a vacation allows people to enjoy all the attractions that a region has to offer with an enriching opportunity to delve deep into local life.

Jade Whyne, DEV alumna



From DEV to Business Management

In 2010, **Jessie Howard** entered the International Development department with the hope of influencing change in the World. At the time, a career in insurance had never crossed her mind.

However, after completion of her degree, Jessie was unsure if the development sector was her desired career path. Realising that the skills she had gained during her time in DEV would be applicable for many other career sectors, Jessie began to widen her job search. "I started looking into management opportunities within the business sector. Then after several interviews, presentations and online tests, I was offered a place on Aviva's Business Management Graduate scheme, beating over 500 applicants to the job", Jessie explains.

After nine months in the job, I have come to realise how valuable the skills I developed through my time at DEV are, even when applied to a different field than development. During my undergraduate degree, we were constantly challenged to develop an understanding of multiple stakeholders within a scenario – an important skill for solving a complex problem. Within business, the ability to analyse and solve a problem quickly is an invaluable skill where problems can involve multiple internal and external stakeholders from legal, to IT, to operational areas – all with different agendas. This can prove to be an interesting challenge, but my time in DEV has taught me how to appropriately and effectively

manage all parties in a problem in order to reach a solution.

Two other elements of the undergraduate degree that considerably benefited my application were the overseas experience and unique dissertation. The Development Work Experience module allowed me to develop independent working skills beyond what can be gained in a lecture theatre and library. It brought a development issue to life and allowed me to engage with the stakeholders involved and attempt to solve an issue. This first-hand experience is now applicable to many of my working days within Aviva.

Having the ability to write a dissertation on any development issue of interest gives the freedom to explore some very interesting and topical issues. I explored how sport could be used as a female empowerment tool; though also remember issues from the Rwandan genocide to education in Peru being covered over the year. This freedom to explore a unique issue proved to grab the attention of my later employer as an unusual topic that many applicants had not had the freedom to display on their CV.

Since working at Aviva, I have begun developing insurance incentives and products with many of the major banks within the UK.

This has involved developing business cases to present to a panel of stakeholders for agreement, similar to Dragon's Den! Whilst in DEV I was provided with a chance to practice developing a business case when undertaking the module Development in Practice. The module involved developing a business case for a charity of our own including calculating the finance and developing a stakeholder engagement and communication plan. This module helped me understand what is required in an effective business case and is now being applied to many of my projects with the major banks in the country.

Although I am not working within the development sector, I am encouraged that the skills I have developed within DEV have proven invaluable to my current job. Since working within insurance, I have also been challenged as to whether development is restricted to the development sector. Due to my understanding of development issues, I was asked if I would help advise Aviva's Corporate Responsibility Strategy. This proved to be a unique opportunity for any graduate, and one that would not have been possible without my studies within DEV.

Jessie Howard, DEV alumna

From DEV to Dream Candidate

UEA alumna **Maya Sethi** has beaten off fierce competition and has been crowned Winner of the CharityJob #DreamCandidate competition 2014. The competition was launched in March this year to find the country's most talented and creative job seeker in the sector.

Maya faced competition from over 200 registered applicants, with many exciting and innovative entries submitted over a period of four months. But with the help of a filmmaker friend, and a lot of hard work, her simple yet effective video CV stood out from the crowd. Maya featured interviews from her former employers and colleagues, who described her creativity, focus and huge potential, as well as her extraordinary enthusiasm for the charity sector. Below, Maya describes how she went from DEV to the dream candidate – but not without struggles of her own along the way.

After graduating from DEV in 2010 I have done a whole host of things linked with International Development, including completing an MSc in Gender and Social Policy, visiting a range of countries in the Global South, and working for several NGOs of varying sizes. However, after building up a lot of knowledge and experience, I have struggled to land a long term role within an International Development NGO, regardless of interest from several organisations. Despite this, my passion and commitment to working in development never dampened and I have persevered in getting to where I want to be.



In April of this year, having just returned from Bangladesh where I was conducting some Learning and Sharing work on child labour projects, I was led to Charity Job's #DreamCandidate competition. The idea was to produce a creative version of your CV which was then voted on by the general public, the winner would then be promoted to the 20,000 charity employers and recruiters within Charity Job's network. I spoke to a filmmaker friend of mine whose enthusiasm really spurred me on, and so with her help I decided to enter.

The idea behind my video was based on the notion that candidates who come with a recommendation are more appealing to employers, and that having other people saying 'buzzwords' about you is more reputable than if you say it yourself. I thought I would create a video where my previous employers and colleagues were selling my skills and abilities, as I thought it would be more effective. To my surprise, everyone I asked was more than willing to participate and help me out!

The filming and editing took us about two weeks, travelling around London to film and editing all the footage into a four minute video. It was really exciting to see it come together and to work creatively on promoting myself – with the expertise and support from my friend who filmed and edited for me.

I then had to post it up on Facebook and try to generate as many votes ('likes') as possible within a week – aware that there was a lot of good competition from the fellow applicants. I shared the video as widely as was possible, and to my delight I was crowned Charity Job's Dream Candidate!

Winning the competition means that my CV will now be shared with over 20,000 charity recruiters. I've had a really positive reception since winning and Charity Job have been really enthusiastic about helping me find my dream job. It's an exciting time for me as I feel I am one step closer to landing a long term Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning role or Programme Implementation role within an International Development NGO.

The three years I spent in DEV definitely gave me the knowledge I needed to get to where I am today and encouraged my passion for working in development – I am proud to be a DEV alumna.

Maya Sethi, DEV alumna

From DEV to Oxford Clarendon Scholar



Clara's BA degree in International Development at UEA equipped her with the quantitative and qualitative research skills needed to carry out demanding research

in the field of multidimensional poverty analysis. Fieldwork skills gained through her development work experience module made her application to Oxford stand out from other applicants – with only 130 out of 20,000 applicants being selected as Clarendon Scholars by the University of Oxford. "I am extremely thankful for many wonderful years in DEV and the great support I received", writes Clara.

My first essay in DEV was a critical review of Amartya Sen's Development as Freedom. Three years later, it is an honour to be involved in a project which is so close to Amartya Sen's heart. As an advisor, Sen supports the work of the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), an economic research centre at the University of Oxford. After graduating from the UEA in July 2013, I participated in the OPHI summer school on Multidimensional Poverty Analysis in Washington D.C. The program introduced techniques of measuring poverty in a multidimensional way, with a strong emphasis on the Alkire Foster Method as well as the connection between Sen's Capability Approach and the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). Developed by Sabina Alkire and James Foster, the Alkire Foster Method allows selecting different dimensions of well-being and poverty in order to create measures for specific contexts. After I returned from Washington D.C., I started to carry out research on child poverty and missing dimensions of poverty data in relation to OPHI's Chad project. I am currently working on my first research paper on child mortality in Chad.

After an application marathon in autumn, I am delighted about the opportunity to join Oxford as a Clarendon Scholar to study for a Master of Philosophy. My DEV experience not only provided me with thorough quantitative and qualitative research skills training, but also additional fieldwork skills gained through the development work experience module.

Clara Barenfanger, DEV alumna

DEVCo Update

International Development UEA (DEVCo) is a charitable company wholly owned by the University of East Anglia (UEA). Set up in 1967 (then known as the Overseas Development Group – ODG), DEVCo has since managed the research, professional training, and consultancy activities of the School of International Development and external associates. The company is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by both the University's Council and the School of International Development.

Following an internal review process, it is now decided that DEVCo will change into a Social Science Faculty (SSF) research centre with dissolution of the company status. This decision was approved by the Board of Trustees in May 2014. DEVCo will continue to support the faculty in research, and will help sustain the strong bidding culture developed within the School. In a typical year, DEVCo manages approximately 100 projects per year, processes over 100 funding applications, and manages a number of PDRAs, casual research staff and external consultants.

Recent Activities and Appointments

Prof Thomas Sikor is the Principal Investigator (PI) of a NERC ESPA project: Ecosystem Services, Wellbeing and Justice: developing tools for research and development practise. DEV PhD graduate **Dr Neil Dawson** joined the project as Senior Research Associate (SRA) for three years from November 2013.

Prof Thomas Sikor has been successful with another project funded by NWO: Conflict and Cooperation over REDD+ in Mexico, Nepal

and Vietnam. **Dr Poshendra Satyal** was appointed as SRA supporting the project for four years from February 2014.

DEV has won a four-year project as part of the Canadian-funded CARIIA programme: ASSAR: Adaptation at Scale in Semi-Arid Regions. **Dr Roger Few** is the Principal Investigator, and other members of staff involved are **Dr Laura Camfield**, **Dr Jen Leavy**, **Professor Nitya Rao**, **Dr Vasudha Chhotray** and **Dr Jessica Budds**. SRA **Dr Nicole Gross-Camp** has worked with Roger during the inception period of the project which started in February 2014, and DEV will be appointing two further researchers to support the project through to the end.

DEV PI **Dr Roger Few** is Co-Investigator on a NERC-funded project led by **Dr Jenni Barclay** in ENV, STREVA: STrengthening REsilience to Volcanic Areas. **Dr Teresa Armijos Burneo** has joined the project as SRA from October 2013 for 18 months.

Dr Iokine Rodriguez (previously a non-stipendiary Fellow in DEV) and Dr Nicole Gross-Camp (who has held a number of research posts in DEV over the past five years) were both appointed in October 2013

as Senior Research Fellow and Senior Research Associate, respectively, on **Dr Adrian Martin's** two-year ESRC funded project: Conservation, Markets and Justice: a comparative study of local and global conceptions.

Ms Anni Arial joined DEVCo in December 2013, as the Research & Training Coordinator on Global Environmental Justice. Anni will be working closely with Professor Thomas Sikor for the next two years.

Dr Jen Leavy joined DEVCo in 2013 as a non-Stipendiary Senior Research Fellow following a long stint at the Institute of Development Studies in the Vulnerability and Poverty Reduction Team. Jen is an economist by training who works using mixed methods (combining quantitative and qualitative) approaches to her research. Her research, consultancy and advisory work encompasses: social mobility; youth; employment; markets and institutions; social networks; risk, vulnerability and poverty; climate change adaptation; wellbeing and social protection; livelihoods and rural development.

DEVCo Training Office

The DEVCo training office continue to run a series of short courses and to host visiting professionals for bespoke training. Two new courses were launched onto the scheduled programme this year. A shorter Impact Evaluation course called 'Beyond Surveys and Experiments, other approaches to Impact Evaluation' which complements the established two week Impact Evaluation course; and a version of the two week course in Gender Research which was conceived last year in response to a request from WorldFish and the Cgiar Gender Network. The gender research course this year has been open to applications and has recruited very successfully.



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