

Development

Annual Newsletter of the School of International Development
2012/2013



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2009 & 2011

DEV

INTERNATIONAL
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Development

*Edited by David Girling
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Cover photo: DEV alumnus Manan Kotak on the way to refugee camps in South East Ethiopia, near Somalia border.

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Letter from the Head of School, Dr Steve Russell



Welcome again to the Annual Newsletter of the School of International Development. I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to all the DEV alumni

out there, and to those taking an interest in the School for the first time. The School is continuing to thrive, and I would like to thank all the students, staff and alumni who have worked so hard for the School and achieved so much in the last year. Here I offer a few highlights.

Student feedback confirms that the School provides a rich and stimulating experience. In the last few years we have built on this by providing professional and practical skills training for our postgraduate and undergraduate students, and this year we again held the Working in Development Forum to help students consider career options. Thanks to **Danny McAvoy**, **Dr Kathrin Forstner** and **Dr Kathleen Fincham** for their work in this area. Two recent achievements provide evidence of these investments. Results from the National Student Survey last year showed that the School was ranked 3rd in the country for overall student satisfaction among the category of Human and Social Geography departments. In addition, I was delighted to see that our undergraduate students achieved some of the best degree results that the School has seen, with nearly 80% achieving a First or Upper Second Class Honours degree. These results reflect the commitment and hard work of our undergraduates, and are also testimony to the work and dedication of my colleagues in the School who invest time in delivering high quality teaching, and personal supervision and guidance to students.

The School continues to innovate. With a view to further increasing the number and quality of its undergraduate students, the School is in the process of developing a new **BA Geography and International Development** to start in 2013 (see p5). Several colleagues have also worked hard to develop PhD training partnerships with European universities.

Our research environment continues to flourish, and there have been so many successes over the last year that I can only provide a broad summary here. We have new research funding successes with NERC, ESRC and USAID. Conferences and workshops have been organised by colleagues on themes such as HIV and AIDS, Migration and Social Protection, Water Security, Dalit Women's Voices, and Environmental Justice. USAID have been using **Professor Bruce Lankford's** water game in Afghanistan to help solve water-related conflicts. Colleagues have continued to publish their research in top international journals. Thanks to the staff of **International Development UEA** for the fantastic support they provide to our academics and for their excellent research, consultancy and training activities.

At the end of March this year we said farewell to **Professor Kate Brown**. Kate spent 18 years at UEA and made a significant contribution to the School and UEA during her time here, helping to lead the growth of the UEA Tyndall Centre, building the School's international reputation in research on environmental change and development and mentoring many young researchers who have gone on to become highly successful academics. Kate will be sorely missed, but like any successful organisation we adapt and evolve and we will be appointing somebody soon to continue the School's leadership on environment and development research. We also say farewell to **Dr Kathrin Forstner**, who joined us temporarily and has made enormous contributions to our teaching programme, notably in the development of an excellent postgraduate distance learning course, employability skills, and a comprehensive student induction and academic skills training programme.

Finally, I would once again like to thank the Local Support team in the School who work tirelessly and patiently to support academics and enable the School to deliver its aims. Thanks to **Amanda Dorr** and more recently **Gina Neff**, our School Managers, and to **Mandy Holland** and **Esther Palin**, Head of School Personal Assistants, and to **Peter Quinn** and **Chris Hall**. Without you much of what I have reported above would not have been possible.

Steve Russell



Above: Journalist Susan Schulman's Congo's Forgotten War, Democratic Republic of Congo.

WorldView

Bringing a fresh world view to UK audiences; empowering filmmakers to raise awareness of the developing world

WorldView is a Commonwealth Broadcasting Association (CBA) project, based in DEV, that aims to improve UK public understanding and awareness of the developing world via mainstream broadcast and digital media. WorldView has been successfully funding films for over ten years, and has supported more than 300 programme makers to provide UK and international audiences with a more balanced world view. Via multiple funding streams the project provides seed funding to filmmakers, supporting the development of films covering global humanitarian and social justice issues with the ultimate aim of highlighting and alleviating poverty in the wider world.

CBA/WorldView has funded multi-award winning projects such as Emmy award winning *The English Surgeon*, BAFTA winners Truevision's *War Child*, and numerous critically acclaimed documentaries including *Moving to Mars*, *Afghan Star*, *5 Broken Cameras*, *The Reluctant Revolutionary* and *Town of Runners*.

A project running alongside WorldView is YourWorldView, an online platform for new and emerging filmmakers to showcase their short films and multimedia content about international issues. Through this content, students and young people around the world are encouraged to engage in discussion and debate about these issues and how they are represented. The website now has over 130 films from 20 different countries, providing an opportunity and space for people to voice the issues that affect them. Together, WorldView and YourWorldView encourage and support filmmakers to provide an insight into a world beyond the news.

For further information visit:

<http://worldview.cba.org.uk>
www.yourworldview.org.uk

New staff



Dr Edward Allison

is a part-time Senior Lecturer in DEV and a Senior Research Fellow at the WorldFish Center. He has a PhD in Fisheries

Assessment and Management (University of Liverpool, UK) and over 20 years' experience in the field of fisheries management and development in sub-Saharan Africa, South and South-East Asia, Oceania, Latin America and the UK.

He has held research and advisory positions with the UK Department for International Development in Malawi, with the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation in West and Central Africa and was recently Director of the Policy, Economics and Social Science research programme at the WorldFish Center, Penang, Malaysia. His research bridges economic and social development concerns with those of fisheries and aquatic resources governance.

His current work focuses on the contribution of fisheries and aquaculture to food and nutrition security, human rights and human security issues in fishing-dependent communities in the context of governance reform, and coastal and riparian people's vulnerability and adaptation to climate change.



David Girling joined the School as a Lecturer and Director of Research Communication in June 2012. He has a master's in Marketing

Management and is a Chartered Marketer with over 20 years' marketing and communications experience in the public and non-profit sector. He has been an active committee member on the Chartered Institute of Marketing Higher Education Group for the last four years.

David will be responsible for promoting DEV as a world leading centre for research excellence. He has multidisciplinary interests with particular expertise in strategic marketing, communications, branding, digital and social media. His recent experience as a marketing professional will help contribute to the professional skills elements offered throughout the School.





New BA degree in Geography and International Development

In September 2013 DEV will launch its new undergraduate degree. **The BA Geography and International Development** (with Overseas Experience option) builds knowledge and practical skills that can be applied to global challenges such as poverty and inequality, climate change, conflict and migration, as well as topics such as media constructions of the South. Students study Human and Social Geography and can also select from Environmental Geography and Development Studies modules.

The degree offers practical skills training useful for future employment, on Geographical Information Systems, Project Design, Management and Financial Planning. Students also have the opportunity to take a work placement in the UK or another country. Other study options include development economics, social anthropology and public policy.

Dr Martin Scott, Lecturer in Development Studies says: "The School of International Development was ranked 3rd in the country for student satisfaction among Human and Social Geography departments in the 2011 National Student Survey. This innovative course combines Geography and International Development studies. We aim to produce skilled graduates that are equipped to do well in a range of employment settings or in further study."

Choose Geography and International Development to achieve:

- An understanding of Geography and International Development issues and solutions
- An opportunity to work on a placement in another country or the UK
- Training in research methods, GIS, and professional skills training for development practice, project design, planning and management.

For further information visit www.uea.ac.uk/dev or email dev.ug.admiss@uea.ac.uk



"We aim to produce skilled graduates that are equipped to do well in a range of employment settings or in further study."

Dr Martin Scott, School of Development Studies

Left hand page and bottom right: World View grant recipients Sheherzad Kaleem's Slaves of the Lake, Ghana (photo: Asad Ur Rehman).

Top and bottom of this page: Mat Heywood, Malawi.



International climate cooperation

Dr Heike Schroeder, Senior Lecturer in DEV, is collaborating with colleagues in Sweden on research that examines the role of non-state actors in international climate co-operation. The research is funded by the Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet) and The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (Formas). The team is interested in two main areas: the international climate negotiations under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the ever-growing landscape of networks and bottom-up initiatives of business, civic, indigenous and local government actors.

The research examines the way in which these actors engage in international climate diplomacy and how the international climate negotiations affect the bottom-up, transnational climate change related activities and initiatives. Heike is currently collaborating on two academic papers on legitimacy and multilevel governance and leading a case study on the interactions between state and non-state actors in reducing deforestation and forest degradation.

This research is reflected in Heike's teaching on the Climate Change Policy for Development module at postgraduate level. The module discusses the international climate negotiations and why they are not more productive, prevailing North-South conflicts, how agendas and interests differ across countries and why it is so difficult to stop deforestation and forest degradation in tropical forest countries.

For further information on the research project visit:
<http://www.cspr.se/forskning/icke-statliga?l=en>

For further information on the MSc Climate Change and International Development visit:
<http://www.uea.ac.uk/dev/courses/msc-climate-change-and-international-development>



Image: Yvan with research assistant Brahim Tagabou near Djanet, Algeria. Yvan and Brahim were making interviews with Nigeriens in exile in Algeria during the rebellion in Niger, in May 2009.

Rebel governance

Dr Yvan Guichaoua is a Lecturer in International Politics and Development. Yvan's main areas of teaching are Governance and Violent Conflicts, two subjects profusely informed by his research. As a researcher, Yvan is investigating how irregular armed groups in West Africa emerge, recruit and evolve.

Yvan has conducted several case studies in Nigeria, Niger, Côte d'Ivoire and, more recently, Mali. As part of a study undertaken by the global think tank International Crisis Group, Yvan has closely followed the unfolding of the rebellion in northern Mali and the simultaneous *coup d'état* in the capital, Bamako. Yvan is now about to study

how the rebellion that held northern Côte d'Ivoire between 2002 and 2011 governed the area under its control. This research is part of a wider comparative study on 'rebel governance' involving scholars from Yale and IDS. These various projects ultimately help understand how political violence factors in processes of state-making, with actual democracy only being a far away prospect in many sub-Saharan countries.

Yvan's publications this year include various book chapters and two books, as editor or co-editor: *Understanding Collective Political Violence* and *The Developmental Challenges of Mining and Oil*, both published by Palgrave-MacMillan.

Corporate social responsibility and mining

Emma Gilberthorpe

DEV are currently developing a master's programme to prepare graduates for work in the extractive industries or associated donor agencies (World Bank, DfID, UN) by better equipping them with the tools to engage effectively with the impact of industry on a social, economic, political and environmental level.

The mining of minerals and metals and extraction of energy sources has only very recently become a concern for academics working on development issues. The phenomenal spread of the extractive industries in low-income countries over the last few decades and the institutional changes to the way the sector operates has brought the industry under intense scrutiny by academics, conservationists and civil society. The main reasons for this are the increased concern by institutions such as the World Bank and UK Department for International Development (DfID) for the impact extractive industries have on human and natural environments. But how do regulations such as the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, the UN's Performance Standards and the Bank's Extractive Industries Review impact on the transparency, development impacts and sustainability of mining?

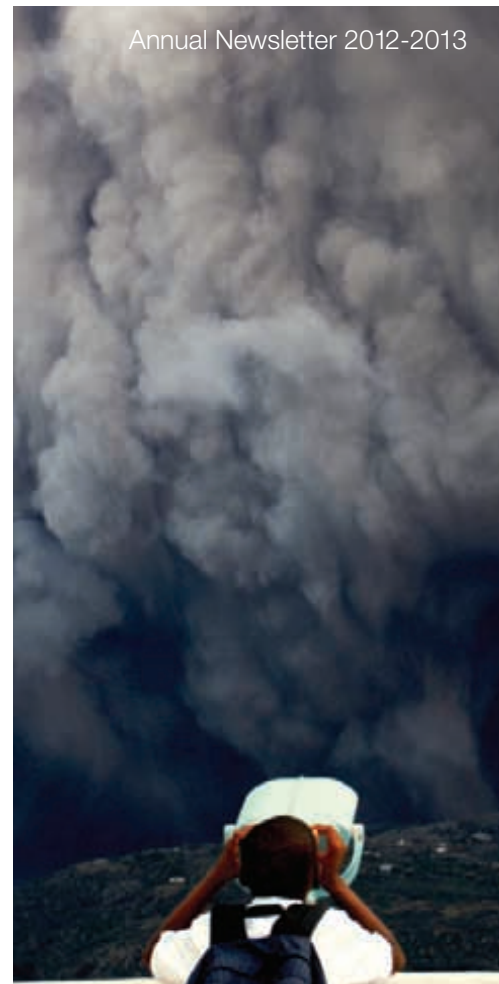
In DEV we are responding to the global concern for the impact of extractive industries by examining it in terms of corporate social responsibility (CSR). Our main concern is how CSR policy translates into practice and, in particular, how CSR policy engages with communities and what role it plays in development.

My research in Papua New Guinea and Guinea, West Africa, strongly suggests that CSR in the extractive industries sector is still very much in its

infancy. Much of the CSR discourse employed by multinational corporations represents 'green washing' and rhetoric of 'best practice' that do not filter down to the grass roots. Beyond the well documented effects of conflict, environmental devastation and multi-level corruption that accompany the extractive industries are the effects of social fragmentation, economic dependency, vast scales of inequality and socio-cultural vulnerability that exist within the framework of what is essentially temporary industry because the resources being extracted are non-renewable or finite. The bottom line then is how does temporary industry play out in the eyes of those it affects? Can it realistically meet the expectations of 'development' indigenous populations are promised when industrial giants begin prospecting on their land?

One important element that research on extractives has uncovered is the myriad of problems that arise when the industry employs 'sustainable development' through its CSR activities. To the people I have worked with in Papua New Guinea and West Africa, sustainable development equals education, training, health care and the opportunity to take part in and benefit from a market system. Such long-term goals still fall outside the remit and scope of CSR in the extractive industries sector due, primarily, to the short-term finite nature of the industry itself. In DEV we are engaging with CSR to examine how development can effectively be integrated into the sector's CSR policy. The aim is to narrow the gap between policy and practice whilst advocating human well-being as the key factor in the development encounter.

Below: DEV Masters student, Melissa Ilboudo, collecting data on land boundaries at the site of a proposed uranium mine in Firawa village Guinea, West Africa.



Under the volcano

An exciting new four year project funded by the Natural Environment Research Council and the Economic and Social Research Council will be examining the social dimensions vulnerability to volcanic hazards in developing country regions. **Strengthening Resilience in Volcanic Areas (STREVA)** is an inter-disciplinary, multi-institution project led by **Dr Jenni Barclay** of the School of Environmental Sciences at the UEA.

Dr Roger Few, Senior Research Fellow in DEV, will be leading the research work on vulnerability, focussing on the impact of volcanic hazards on the lives and livelihoods of people living in the vicinity of volcanoes. The research aims to understand how people perceive and respond to risk in the context of their lives, and the factors that shape differences in capacity to mitigate, prepare for and recover from hazards. Field sites will be located in the Eastern Caribbean, Ecuador and Colombia.

For further information follow the STREVA project on Twitter @StevaProject

Above: Soufriere Hills Volcano erupting on Montserrat with a young observer in the foreground. (photo: Jonathan Stone, ENV PhD researcher)

Playing with glass marbles to resolve water conflicts

Two DEV students studying on the new **MSc Water Security and International Development**, **Ruth Macdougall** and **Verena Ommer**, travelled to France to help run and explain a role-playing game designed to discuss water conflicts. The game, developed by **Professor Bruce Lankford** in DEV, uses marbles to simulate water competition and water sharing within a river catchment.

The game is a simple yet robust metaphor for water management in river basins under conditions of scarcity. The river 'flows' when marbles are released down the channel.

The water management game was chosen from over 800 submissions as one of two 'solutions' to be fully developed and presented at the Sixth World Water Forum in Marseille in March 2012. Bruce was emailed by USAID who informed him they had successfully used the marble game to help bring together Afghanistani tribal leaders in Helmand Province to consider new agreements over water sharing. **Dr Jean L Jolicoeur** from USAID commented: "The game enabled the group to begin discussion of politically sensitive issues in a friendly and humorous way. At its conclusion, summit delegates agreed to form a joint interprovincial committee to manage water resources, as well as agreeing on specific solutions for short and long term water shortage."

The game is a simple yet robust metaphor for water management in river basins under conditions of scarcity. The river 'flows' when marbles are released down the channel. Many marbles represent the wet season, and few marbles represent a drought or the dry season. Sticks (weirs) are placed across the channel to capture marbles and scoop them into the irrigation systems to sit in holes – meeting the water requirement of that plot of irrigation. The aim is to show how marbles may be captured easily by the upstream irrigation systems, allowing top-enders to deprive downstream players of water. A discussion ensues to determine who

'won' or found water and who lost out, plus a check on how people feel about not getting water and about the stark differences in upstream and downstream distribution of water. Participants learn to adjust the sticks so that all players and plots end up with some water – in other words a more equitable outcome. Groups then brainstorm two types of solutions 'technological' and 'institutional' to support a more equitable and deliberative approach to water management. Players are asked to consider their own experience when proposing solutions, and not to pluck ideas from text books or donor agendas, such as large dams or drip irrigation. People are encouraged to think about those amongst the community who are known to grow a good crop while using less water than others.

After playing the river basin game in Limpopo basin, in October 2011, amongst water officers from Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Botswana, **Peter Qwist-Hoffman**, (SADC/GIZ) says: "I think the River Basin Game is one of the important negotiation and visualisation tools for sustainable water resources management, and it had great impact in the training with Limpopo on water allocation."

A video of Ruth explaining the river basin game can be found on The Water Channel website: www.thewaterchannel.tv

Right: Helmand/Nimroz summit on water conservation with Afghan provincial leadership using the River Basin Game, March 2012. Organised by Laura Palmer-Maloney, Jean Jolicoeur and Brett Burkhart, USAID. Photo: Leslie Shively.



Hands-on development experience at UNDP

Nina H Dahl

Having the opportunity to combine work experience with studies was one of the main reasons I chose to study International Development at DEV. The School offers students the option of spending one module outside the university, gaining work experience either in the UK or abroad.

I was keen to work in Cambodia, and with the help of my advisor at DEV, I managed to secure an intern position within United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) Scalability Study based in Phnom Penh. The aim of the Scalability Study was to facilitate stakeholders to a consensus as to what programmes had the best potential to accelerate progress towards Millennium Development Goal 1: "Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger" in Cambodia if scaled up. This involved meetings with ministries, NGOs and donors to establish what assessment criteria to use and discuss various proposed projects.

Deliberations culminated with 10 final projects being assessed through a field study. I was given the responsibility of managing one of the research teams assessing four projects, resulting in a two week field trip to small villages and communities in the Cambodian countryside. The research involved interviewing both project beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries, project staff and local officials, to assess how well the different projects were working, and critically; for whom. Having already studied International Development at UEA for two years prior to my UNDP internship helped me to examine the projects critically and enabled me to support the research team in our quest to gain as much relevant information from the interviewees as possible. We discovered that despite the best of intentions many projects failed to reach the intended recipients due to elite



capture and the poor's lack of productive resources, such as land.

My internship at UNDP was a truly valuable experience which exceeded all my expectations. Not only did I gain a better understanding of how a large development organisation works and the politics involved, the team included me as a full worthy member of staff, offering great insight into the challenges involved in coordinating a joint programme linking civil society, the government and international donors in a combined effort to reduce poverty.

Preparing for and carrying out the field study enhanced my research skills, which proved very useful with the primary research I carried out for my dissertation immediately after. It also allowed me to study different poverty reduction projects up close, providing me with a better understanding of issues covered in the course at DEV. I returned to England with a newfound enthusiasm for the course, and I remain excited to embark on new development opportunities in the future.

*Above right: Nina at a traditional Cambodian wedding.
Below: Nina with research team during her field study.*



A little bit of HOPE

Whilst living and carrying out fieldwork for her PhD in the Butaleja District of Uganda, **Hannah Green** and her husband discovered that many people have great ideas on how to create development for themselves, their families and the wider community. However, there are many barriers preventing them from putting these ideas into practice and often these barriers seem insurmountable.

Hannah says: "To address this problem we worked with a group of people from the UK to set up a small charity called **a little bit of HOPE** with the vision of nurturing hope in the Butaleja District by enabling people to overcome the hurdles that prevent them reaching their full potential. Our emphasis is on funding projects designed and set up by local people. So far this has included working with an orphanage to buy beds, giving capital to a school to set up a farm as an educational project and sending a school teacher to Kampala to carry out a computer course so he can train students and members of the community."

For further information visit:
www.alittlebitofhope.org



*Above: Rita is eight years old and couldn't straighten her legs, so had to be carried everywhere. **A little bit of HOPE** paid for her to have an operation to straighten her legs, she is now moving with a walker and hopes to start school soon.*

International university cooperation in development research

Five DEV PhD students **Ben Taylor, Jake Lomax, Aidy Halimanjaya, Citali Becerril-Tinoco** and **Camilla Addey** were recently invited to the University of Ruhr in Bochum to celebrate the opening of a **Graduate Centre for Development Studies**. The Centre is a cooperation between the Ruhr University and the University of Duisburg-Essen in North-West Germany.

The Centre brings together expertise from the Institute of Development Research and Development Policy at the Ruhr University and two institutes both at the University of Duisburg-Essen.

DEV's involvement was an opportunity to create informal international links with other universities around the world enabling students, researchers and lecturers to contribute to and complement each other's development research.

At the opening **Professor Brian O'Connell**, Rector and Vice-Chancellor from the University of Western Cape in South Africa concluded that it is through universities coming together and furthering knowledge that sustainable answers might be found to the global challenges with which we are all faced.

Five UEA poster presentations were among over 30 posters presented by research students during the event – most of which focused on poverty reduction, water safety, climate change, conflict, migration, foreign aid, global policy and governance.

For further information on the Graduate Centre for Development Studies visit:
<http://uamr-graduate-centre.org>

From left to right: Jurek Seifert, Professor Wilhelm Löwenstein, Camilla Addey, Dr Katja Bender, Citali Becerril-Tinoco, Jake Lomax, Professor Christoph Hartmann, Aidy Halimanjaya, Dr Gabriele Bäcker, Professor Tobias Debiel and Ben Taylor.



UEA World on the Street Project wins Norwich eco-award

UEA's World on the Street (WOTS) project has won a Norwich Eco-Award, together with students and teachers from Wymondham High School, for engaging local communities with local-global sustainable development issues. WOTS involves students from the UEA Global Education Outreach Team working together with Year 9 and 10 students from Norfolk secondary schools to create and facilitate fun, interactive and challenging educational activities with members of the public in public spaces.

The project is funded by Community-University Engagement East (CUE-East) and Norfolk Education and Development (NEAD). In its first year the project engaged over 300 members of the public over four days at The Forum in Norwich City Centre. Activities included a 1-Minute World Map challenge to question how people 'see' the world, and an interactive development education video game. In 'Food for Thought' – a discussion restaurant – 'diners' enjoyed free tea and biscuits while discussing

development-related topics from the menu. One member of the public described his experience in WOTS as 'life-changing'.

Many other participants also benefited and three Wymondham High School students attended a ceremony at Norwich City Hall together with their teacher Lynn Stevenson to collect the Eco-Award. Lynn felt that: "It has been a privilege to be involved in such a worthwhile initiative".



Consulting at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland

After graduating with a **BA International Development** in 2011, **Sonja Klingberg** returned home to Finland and discovered that there's a lot you can do with a bachelor's degree. Soon after graduating she secured a six month trainee contract with the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs working with the health and HIV experts of the Department for Development Policy. The contract was ideal as it allowed Sonja to pursue her interest in these topics with the guidance of genuinely inspiring people, as well as satisfying some of that DEV student curiosity regarding what actually goes on in a donor agency.

Sonja says: "I'm currently doing a consultancy for the Ministry, and although I'm struggling to identify myself as a consultant, I feel grateful for the support and respect of my colleagues. Who knew people would actually listen to the ideas of a 22-year-old with little work experience. I hope this feeling of empowerment is shared by other recent DEV graduates."

She added: "My next adventure will be in Zambia, where I'll be undertaking a trainee period with the Finnish Embassy in Lusaka. Short contracts are the norm for young development professionals, but for me they have been a good way to get varied experience before embarking on a master's degree. However, short does not have to mean exploitative and unpaid, and I strongly



encourage following your gut feeling in this respect. Inspired by my lecturers in DEV, development research is still my long term ambition, and I feel like a little insight into policy-making and international relations is a valuable side-track. I'm hoping my contribution to development will one day come through policy-relevant research. At the moment I'm happy as long as I'm learning something new and can feel that my work is appreciated."

Social investment for poverty reduction

After 25 years working in the corporate world designing and executing business growth strategies in the logistics sector, DEV alumnus **Mark Gunton** has recently returned to international development, taking up a position as CEO of the Clinton Giustra Sustainable Growth Initiative, part of the Clinton Foundation based in New York. The fund manages social investments to support small businesses that have positive social impacts, and create and manage market driven ventures to help people work themselves out of poverty. The initiative is currently working in Latin America but hopes to extend its work to Africa and South Asia.

Mark studied for an undergraduate degree in development studies, graduating in 1981. His interests were in economics and social

anthropology, with a focus on India and Latin America. His final year dissertation on worker self-management in Yugoslavia received the Best Thesis Award. Mark says: "These were the punk-rock and Thatcher years and I, like nearly all the students and academic staff, was very passionate about the need for change in the world. I left Norwich looking for a place in an aid agency or the UN, or failing that a position at the Guardian. It didn't quite work out that way."

For further information on the initiative visit:

<http://www.clintonfoundation.org/what-we-do/clinton-giustra-sustainable-growth-initiative>

Conducting environmental assessments in the Himalayas

DEV alumna **Aditi Jha** has been working for Development Alternatives (DA), a non-profit organisation in India that works on sustainable development, for over two years. Aditi spent her first year in the state of Himachal Pradesh on an implementation programme in the Himalayas called the 'Community Led Assessment, Awareness, Action and Advocacy Programme for Environment Protection and Carbon Neutrality in Himachal Pradesh' (CLAP). The state has taken the initiative to become carbon neutral and Aditi's work involved training and capacity building of local NGOs to conduct environmental assessments including air and water quality, carbon emissions and biodiversity at a panchayat (cluster of 5-6 villages) level. The assessment results were shared with the local government and action plans developed. In case the action required was beyond the capacities of local government, the issue was brought to the notice of district level administration.

Aditi says: "I am currently working in the organisation's New Delhi headquarters and am engaged in a diverse set of projects in the Innovation Solutions Branch. Examples of projects include policy recommendations to promote cleaner brick production in two states of India, sustainable livelihoods for mangrove dependent communities and action research on the potential of community radios to bridge the gap in the flow of information and knowledge between community's scientists and policymakers for climate change adaptation."



Life after DEV: Working for UNICEF

Manan Kotak graduated from DEV's **MA in International Social Development** in 2009. Manan says: "Before my master's degree I worked with International Red Cross in Disaster Relief and Recovery Programs in India (Earthquake) and in Indonesia (Tsunami) for over 7 years. After this practical experience I think it was a wise decision to study at the School of International Development. I decided to study in DEV as UEA is renowned for development studies in the UK. The School's teaching method is through lectures and also seminars and workshops which make the study more interactive. The academic staff are involved in worldwide research and use their first-hand experience."

He added: "Many international students study at UEA especially in DEV and my studying experience was enhanced by this multicultural environment. I was able to make many friends from all over the world and am still in touch with them through emails and social networking websites."

After completing his master's Manan was fortunate to gain a full-time job in Norwich for a charity called Norwich and Central Norfolk Mind, a well known provider of mental health services.

Manan is currently back in the humanitarian field working in the Horn of Africa (Ethiopia) with UNICEF as a Training Consultant in

Education in Emergencies. The experience allows him to enhance his field skills as well as gain knowledge working with refugees and IDP camp people in Africa.

Manan says: "I really want to say thanks to DEV, my supervisor, course director and module conveners for giving me such wonderful learning opportunities. I am very pleased to have had an amazing experience which will be a lifetime memory! I will certainly recommend students in the future to the School of International Development."

Above: Manan Kotak working for UNICEF in Ethiopia.

For further information on the MA International Relations and Development Studies visit:
<http://www.uea.ac.uk/dev/courses/ma-international-relations-and-development-studies>