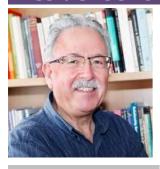


# Welcome to the DSA Bulletin for December 2015

# President's foreword



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Late November and early December are seeing a number of important national and international policy decisions impacting on Development Studies and our field of interest – international development. A new (very new and very different) UK aid policy was published on 23 November; a few days before the "Nurse Review" of the UK's Research Councils was unveiled; on 25 November the results of the Comprehensive Spending Review were revealed; on 30 November the COP21 Climate Change talks started in Paris – they run for two weeks; and, as I write, Parliament is deciding whether to bomb Syria. As a result this Foreword is longer than usual as these decisions will have important implications for the study and practice of international development…and all DSA members.

Let's start with the new UK aid policy. UK aid escaped the threat of "austerity" that hung over most public spending in the UK – deep cuts of 20% or 30% or 40% in its budgets over the next 5 years. It is "ring-fenced" and the Conservative government (and David Cameron and George Osborne) had stated publicly on many occasions that aid would remain at 0.7% of UK gross national income (GNI). As a result, the negotiations between DFID and the Treasury were not about cuts. Instead, they were about the entire thrust of aid policy: its goals, areas of operation and "who" spends the aid budget. The outcomes have great significance – I urge all DSA members to download UK aid: tackling global challenges in the national interest and read it.

The starting point is that UK aid must tackle global problems (and through this support the efforts of poor people in fragile and poor countries) and, at the same time, pursue the UK national interest. An aid budget of 0.7% of GNI alongside a defence budget of 2.0% of GNI "means our country walking taller in the world" for George Osborne and Justine Greening. The UK may be a waning imperial power in the global order but it clearly wants to punch above its weight in international decision-making. Public health (Ebola), mass migration, terrorism and climate change are cited as examples of where the UK aid budget can help poor people and achieve the UK's national interests.

To achieve this alignment the aid budget has been "restructured" around four goals:

- Strengthening global peace, security and governance
- Strengthening resilience and response to crises
- Promoting global prosperity
- Tackling extreme poverty and helping the world's most vulnerable

The exact results of this restructuring will have to be seen as aid policy is implemented in coming years. But, one cannot help notice that the goal of extreme poverty reduction no longer heads UK aid policy. Security, crisis response and prosperity (for developing countries and the UK) now rank above helping the poorest.

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In 2010 many Development Studies scholars warned of "the securitization" of UK aid – that the growing aid budget would increasingly overlay defence expenditures and that it would be unclear as to whether aid was pursuing poverty reduction or security/military goals. While some evidence to that effect emerged it was more constrained than many expected. The changes in 2015 now make this securitization highly likely. There will be increased aid spending for the Syrian crisis and MENA region (so more aid will be spent in Syria, neighbouring countries and on Syrian refugees). For refugees this already cover spending that is 100% in the UK. As I understand it, for the first year in the UK the costs of Syrian (and other) refugees are met by the aid budget. Other changes in aid policy will support this overlay of actions to help the poor and to achieve security goals. The Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF), to support the international work of the UK National Security Council (NSC) to achieve security goals, will be expanded and a "Prosperity Fund", led by the NSC, will promote global prosperity. For Development Studies academics looking at UK aid it seems certain that the letters "N" and "S" and "C" on their laptops are going to be more heavily used than in the past. Reading between the lines, it looks as though DFID will continue to control roughly the budget it had in 2014/15 but that future increases in the aid budget will be controlled by agencies other than DFID. Increasingly understanding what UK aid is doing will mean looking at the activities of several different departments and public agencies: DFID will only be part of the picture. A cynic would also have to comment that the management consultancy and advisory services companies that have been doing so well from the DFID budget will now be able to expand into the spending of other UK departments.

There are other changes, some of which I see as potentially regressive and others that are more promising. On the regressive front "all" budgetary support is to be stopped to permit better targeting of aid. So, even in countries that are improving their governance and achieving poverty reduction goals, the low trust model of designing aid projects and programmes (which we know often impacts negatively on domestic policy formulation in recipient nations) will rule. On the positive side the BBC World Service receives more funding and the "Ross Fund" will increase expenditure on tropical diseases and especially those that damage the health of poorer people. There are many other changes – value for money will be pursued even more fiercely (hopefully someone in Treasury is looking at whether the costs of pursuing VFM in the aid budget are greater than the savings it produces) and 50% of the total aid budget will be targeted on fragile states and regions.

At the more micro-level of funding for the types of research commonly pursued by DSA members it will not be clear what is happening until more detailed plans are available. A "Global Challenges Research Fund" of £1.5 billion is promised. This sounds good, but if the Fund is largely channelled into medical research, it could mean that research on social change, governance and other "soft" areas is diluted (also see below). Do download the **UK aid** policy document and read it.

Now to the Nurse Review (which looked at the future of research councils in the UK). The Review has not abolished the research councils (the ESRC, AHRC and others) as some had expected. But it has established a more powerful overarching body (Research UK) and it looks as though the role of individual research councils will be curtailed. Whether this is simply "restructuring" or whether it is the final step before the research councils are merged into a single council, in a few years' time, is for the future. A cross-disciplinary fund, managed by Research UK, will impact on the resources of ESRC and other councils. In theory this might be good for DSA members – most of who see themselves as cross-disciplinary researchers – but, the topics to be pursued by this fund have not yet been specified and may focus on improving productivity/well-being only in the UK.

At face value the Comprehensive Spending Review was kind to almost everyone (the Chancellor did not wield his axe in the way he had been threatening) and kind to researchers. It has promised "flat cash" for research and development in the UK – which is better than the reducing budgets that many areas of public expenditure will see. Over time, however, flat cash will mean funding is eroded by inflation. But, again, the real devil will be in the detail. If the £1.5 billion of aid funding for the Global Challenges Fund is "tucked in" to research council funding (creative accounting that permits a form of double counting) then the research councils may reduce their allocations for work on international development and globalization. So, keep your eye on whether or not Development Studies gets "tucked in"!

Last, but definitely most important for the future of humanity, comes the COP21 summit in Paris. This is megaimportant for international development and poor people in at least two ways. First, if a "good deal" is reached then global warming (which is steaming ahead at present) will slow down in the future. This will reduce the negative impacts on poor people and poor countries (changed weather patterns damaging agriculture, sea level rise and increased flooding increasing out-migration rates, more frequent catastrophic weather events and other big problems). Second, is that the degree to which the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are pursued by national governments (rich and poor) is "all about Paris" (to quote an interview I conducted with an OECD SDGs-

### Connecting and promoting the development research community



envoy to the UN). If talks in Paris advance the practice of international cooperation (UN member states agreeing to serious climate change targets and sounding as though they will honour them) then that will be good for the SDGs. It will encourage behaviours and actions to pursue them. By contrast, if Paris negotiations "broke down", as they did in Copenhagen in 2009, then that would signal that UN member states can put the SDGs on the back-burner. So far, things are looking good in Paris (maybe "OK" is a more accurate technical assessment). I shall follow the COP21 negotiations closely...they could usher us into an era of renewed global commitment to economic and social development for all (including future generations). I do not like to think of the alternative.

David Hulme DSA President president(at)devstud.org.uk

# **DSA News**

### **New format for the Bulletin**

With the rise in use of mobile devices for reading web content, including this Bulletin, it's been necessary to redesign the Bulletin layout, so that it can be better read on a phone or tablet. We've thus moved to a one-column layout, while retaining the familiar feel/colour-scheme. Further development will follow in the New Year.

### **Membership migration**

Over the next couple of months, NomadIT, our administrators will be migrating the membership data to a new database system. They will do their best to provide an uninterrupted service, but changing systems will no doubt have some teething problems. Please bear with us!

# Study group news

# **DSA Urbanisation and Development Study Group workshop**

# Back to the Urban Future University of Sheffield, Wednesday 27 January 2016

The DSA Urbanisation and Development group was formed in 2014, with the aim of engaging with human development issues relating to urbanisation, and a particular focus on how they affect low-income urban residents, from both scholarly and practitioner perspectives. The group's formation also reflects the interest among participants to engage with current and emerging policy priorities, including the presence of an 'urban' goal in the SDGs and the upcoming Habitat III summit in 2016.

This first event organised by the DSA Urbanisation and Development study group aims to bring together established and early career researchers to reflect on our learning in this field so far and what our knowledge and experience implies for the current global debates on urbanisation and development. The one-day workshop, to be held at the University of Sheffield in January 2016, will include three panels on the themes of:

- jobs and urban economies
- services and shelter, and
- shocks and resilience.

Within these themes, each panel will address the following broad questions:

- What can we learn from the history of urbanisation studies?
- What can experiences of urbanisation in the global north and south teach each other?
- What does this mean for operationalising the urban SDG and debates at Habitat III?

This event aims to be an initial opportunity to bring together researchers in the field of Urbanisation and Development, and to establish the profile of the study group before considering further ways of engaging with policy and practice in this field. To this end, papers are sought which focus on a particular topic within the three broad thematic areas for panels mentioned above. Each panel will be convened by an expert in the subject area, who will offer commentary on the papers including consideration of the above questions, in order to stimulate further debate and discussion.

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Registration for the workshop is free and includes lunch and refreshments. Some limited funding is available for travel within the UK, with priority given to early career presenters.

See more at: <a href="http://siid.group.shef.ac.uk/events/back-urban-future-dsa-urbanisation-development-study-group-workshop">http://siid.group.shef.ac.uk/events/back-urban-future-dsa-urbanisation-development-study-group-workshop</a>

# **DSA Scotland Study Group**

### Report on the CAREED/DSA Scotland conference African Enterprise and Economic Development: A Proud History: A Promising Future

12-13th November, University of West of Scotland (UWS – Paisley Campus).

This was the inaugural meeting for the Centre for African Research on Enterprise and Economic Development (CAREED), a new initiative at the University of the West of Scotland (UWS) at the Paisley campus. It was held with financial support from the DSA through the DSA Scotland Study Group, and was also the 2015 meeting of the study group. The meeting was particularly remarkable because of the preponderance of African principal speakers, presenters and participants when we are often accustomed to having a preponderance of people from outside the continent taking part in such events.

The Conference was opened in the afternoon of Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November with the launch of CAREED by Professor Jeanne Keay, Vice Principal International UWS after which Professor John Struthers spoke about the evolution, nature and objectives of the new research centre. Following the opening session there were presentations by H. E. Nkwelle Ekaney, High Commissioner of Cameroon who drew on long experience working in the United Nations in his address, by Fekadu Beyere Ayana, Minister Counsellor in the Ethiopian Embassy who gave an overview of recent Ethiopian development, Hon Alhaji Audu D. Sule, Benue State Assembly, Nigeria, and Beltus Etchu, Chief Executive, African Forum Scotland.

The keynote address was given by Fiorina Mugione, Chief of the Entrepreneurship Section, Division of Investment and Enterprise at UNCTAD, Geneva on Entrepreneurship in Africa: Achievements and Challenges which included a lively description of the work of UNCTAD in this field.

The reception which followed was addressed by Professor Craig Mahoney, Principal and Vice Chancellor of the UWS, and by Humza Yousaf, Minister for Europe and International Development in the Scottish Government.

In all 74 people took part on the conference. There were two well attended parallel sessions in the morning of Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November and a plenary session in the afternoon. Alexander Stoddart (Queen's Sculptor in Ordinary in Scotland, Deputy Lord Lieutenant for Renfrewshire and Honorary Professor at UWS) gave a robust introduction to his studio, to his work and to the history of sculpture at lunchtime to a significant body of the participants. The conference programme follows below.

The of CAREED website can be found at:

http://www.uws.ac.uk/research/research-institutes/business/centre-for-african-research-on-enterprise-and-economic-development/

The full report can be downloaded from the DSA site. Those presentations available in a digital form will be downloadable from the CAREED website in the near future.

# Student news

### **Undergraduate conference review**

Read a review of the only UG student-led conference of its kind in the UK, which was funded by EADI and the UEL School of Social Sciences.

### Join the DSA!

The DSA is the largest and most coherent national platform for people studying, teaching and researching development issues. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in development studies.

Join today by visiting <a href="http://www.devstud.org.uk">http://www.devstud.org.uk</a>

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# **DSA Premium Members**

Premium membership enables your department/institution to lend strong support to the DSA's mission to represent the discipline, while also gaining access to the full range of DSA services: conference, website, Heads of Centres meetings, etc.

If your department is interested to join the list below, please email president(at)devstud.org.uk

- CIDT, University of Wolverhampton
- Department of Development Studies and the Department of Economics, SOAS
- Development Planning Unit (DPU), University College London
- Development Policy and Practice, DPP, Open University
- Global Development Academy, University of Edinburgh
- IDS, University of Sussex
- International Development Department, University of Birmingham
- International Development Institute, King's College London
- Oxford Department of International Development, University of Oxford
- Palgrave Macmillan
- University of Manchester







International Development Department





















# **DSA Journal**

Impact Factor: 0.622

ISI Journal Citation Reports ©

Ranking: 2014: 48/55 (Planning and Development)

Online ISSN: 1099-1328 Early View Articles

Latest Issue Articles

Aid, Social Policy and Development

Tony Addison, Miguel Niño-Zarazúa and Finn Tarp

The Progressivity and Regressivity of aid to the Social Sectors

Bob Baulch and Tam Vi An Le

Aid, Political Business Cycles and Growth in Africa

Blessing Chiripanhura and Miguel Niño-Zarazúa

**Donor Coordination for Effective Government Policies?** 

Stefan Leiderer



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<u>Brazilian South–South Development Cooperation: The Case of the Ministry of Social Development in Africa</u> Iara Costa Leite, Melissa Pomeroy and Bianca Suyama

<u>Innovative Delivery Mechanisms: Australian Aid Partnership with Churches in Papua New Guinea</u>
Matthew Clarke

Impact of Aid and Public Spending—A Macro-micro Framework

Jorgen Levin, Hans Lofgren and Sebastien Dessus

How to Assess the Effectiveness of Development Aid Projects: Evaluation Ratings versus Project Indicators Laura Metzger and Isabel Guenther

<u>Targeting Social Transfer Programmes: Comparing Design and Implementation Errors Across Alternative</u>
Mechanisms

Rachel Sabates-Wheeler, Alex Hurrell and Stephen Devereux

### **Free Trial Access to Wiley Development Studies Journals**

Register now to receive 30 days of free online access to leading development Journals including Development and Change, Development Policy Review, Disasters, IDS Bulletin, Sustainable Development, and more.....

Start your free trial

# **EADI News**

### **Call for Book Manuscripts**

In conjunction with Palgrave MacMillan, EADI publishes the EADI Global Development Series. We warmly invite proposals/ book manuscripts for the series. Please write to c.brian(at)palgrave.com to submit a proposal or request information.

The Editors of the series are Maja Bucar (Dean for Doctoral Studies and International Relations, University of Ljubljana) and Andrew Mold (Senior Economist at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Kigali, Rwanda).

More information about the EADI Global Development Series

# **Conferences and Events**

# Call for papers: Putting the Political back into Political Violence Panel Proposal for the Annual Congress of the European Consortium for Political Research Prague 7-10 September 2016

http://ecpr.eu/Events/EventDetails.aspx?EventID=95

Chair: Prof Tim Jacoby, Global Development Institute, University of Manchester

Discussant: Prof Richard Jackson, National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Otago

Since the end of the Cold War, two competing explanations of political violence have come to dominate the minds of policy makers, and a significant section of academia. The first is, as Dag Tuastad notes, a tendency to explain political "violence as a result of traits embedded in local cultures". This, Mahmood Mamdani continues, holds "that every culture has a tangible essence that defines it, and it then explains politics as a consequence of that essence". The second is that political violence is driven by expected utility – particularly personal gain. Long the favoured explanatory framework for the Bretton Woods institutions, this was (in)famously captured by Paul Collier"s "greed" thesis. Rebellions are, he wrote, nothing more than the "large-scale predation of productive economic activities" accompanied by obfuscatory discourses that provide "no informational content to the researcher as to the[ir] true motivation".

Both these approaches have been used extensively to explain the violence of the non-Western "other". Accounts of the "communal" violence of south asia, the "sectarianism" of the Middle East and the "ethnic" wars of sub-Saharan Africa are often presented as resting on the ancient hatreds of faith, culture and settled history or the avaricious motives of conflict "entrepreneurs". Neither approach, however, offers very much space for a political understanding of individual motive and collective mobilization. On the one hand, what Etienne Balibar, Arun Kundnani and others call the "new culturalism" has tended to obstruct or dilute critique while, on the other, viewing political violence in "quasi-criminal" terms (in Collier"s words) has often produced a-historical studies

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with little social context. The combined result is frequently a conservative endorsement of Western security policy, state authority and existent power relations.

This panel seeks to present alternative, political explanations of violence – an attempt to get towards what Chris Cramer has called "the relations of force rather than just choices of violence". Papers might look critically at representations of violence, the politically contingent use of history, the role of the state, the distribution of resources, the meanings/motives of "terrorism" and war or the maintenance of the international order, but any contribution that speaks broadly to our theme will be considered.

Please send an abstract of no more than 500 words (the title of which should be no more than 20 words) to Tim Jacoby (tim.jacoby(at)manchester.ac.uk) **by Monday February 1st 2016**. The Global Development Institute at the University of Manchester has provided some funding, so a contribution to presenters' costs will be available.

### Courses

### **MSc in Migration Studies**

This course is taught by world-class researchers from the University of Oxford's internationally renowned centres researching voluntary and economic migration: the International Migration Institute (IMI) and the Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS).

The programme is now seeking applicants for 2016/17 admission. Applications are now open for this intensive nine-month graduate taught degree that analyses migration from a global perspective and as an integral part of development and social change. The course introduces key migration concepts, methods and theories across the social sciences, and prepares students for further research or for a career in policy and international development.

For application procedures and funding opportunities visit the website: <a href="http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/courses/msc-migration-studies">http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/courses/msc-migration-studies</a>

The deadlines for applications are 22 January 2016 and 11 March 2016.

### **RSC International Summer School in Forced Migration**

Applications are invited for this year's International Summer School in Forced Migration, to be held at Wadham College, Oxford. The Summer School, now in its 27th year, offers an intensive, interdisciplinary and participative approach to the study of forced migration. It aims to enable people working with and for refugees and forced migrants to examine critically the forces and institutions that dominate the world of the displaced. Beginning with reflection on the diverse ways of conceptualising forced migration, the course considers political, legal and wellbeing issues associated with contemporary displacement. Individual course modules also tackle a range of other topics, including globalisation and forced migration, and negotiating strategies in humanitarian situations.

The Summer School is principally designed for practitioners and policymakers working with and for refugees and related issues, normally with several years' work experience. Participants typically include staff of the main refugee, migration and humanitarian international organisations; staff from refugee, human rights and humanitarian NGOs, and government officials working on refugee protection and related issues.

Participants also include academics and postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers working directly on refugee and forced migration issues; practicing lawyers and advocates working in refugee and human rights law pertaining to forced migrants; journalists, commentators and activists working on refugee protection and the human rights of forced migrants.

Full details (incl.how to apply, entry requirements, dates and fees): <a href="http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/summerschool">http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/summerschool</a>

The closing date for bursary applications is 1 February. The deadline for receipt of early-bird fees is 31 March. The deadline for all other applications is 1 May. Places are confirmed on a first-come, first-served basis to suitably qualified and experienced candidates. We strongly encourage early applications to avoid disappointment.

For any enquiries please contact <a href="mailto:summer.school@qeh.ox.ac.uk">summer.school@qeh.ox.ac.uk</a>

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**Palestine Refugees and International Law** 

Dates: 11-12 March 2016

Location: British Institute, Amman, Jordan Website: <a href="http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/palestine">http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/palestine</a>

This two-day short course places the Palestinian refugee case study within the broader context of the international human rights regime. It examines, within a human rights framework, the policies and practices of Middle Eastern states as they impinge upon Palestinian refugees. Through a mix of lectures, working group exercises and interactive sessions, participants engage actively and critically with the contemporary debates in international law and analyse the specific context of Palestinian refugees in the Middle East (Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel).

This course is suitable for experienced practitioners; graduate researchers; parliamentarians and staff; members of the legal profession; government officials; and personnel of inter-governmental and nongovernmental organisations.

# Jobs

### Immediate teaching fellow (PhD desirable but not essential)

http://www.bath.ac.uk/jobs/Vacancy.aspx?ref=DC3539

### **Permanent lectureships**

http://www.bath.ac.uk/jobs/Vacancy.aspx?ref=DC3538

### **Prize fellow (post-doc)**

https://www.bath.ac.uk/jobs/Vacancy.aspx?ref=DC3545

# Assistant Professor in Development Studies, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Calgary

The Faculty of Arts, **Department of Anthropology and Archaeology** invites applications for a **tenure track** position in Development Studies at the rank of **Assistant Professor**. The anticipated start date is July 1st, 2016.

We are seeking a scholar who will establish and maintain an active research program in the area of Development and Sustainability, with the ability to secure external research funding. The scholar must have a focus on critical development studies, and be open to working beyond the boundaries of conventional academic disciplines. Both development and sustainability recognize the need for interdisciplinary approaches and solutions - ones that integrate natural sciences, social sciences and the humanities. Expertise in areas that address interrelationships between development and environment, climate change, social impacts of industry, community wellbeing, changing life ways, and food sovereignty, is a high priority. The regional focus for this hire is open.

Deadline: January 14, 2016

See <a href="http://www.devstud.org.uk/development studies post at the university of calgary-312.html">http://www.devstud.org.uk/development studies post at the university of calgary-312.html</a> for more info.

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# **Publications**



# **SOAS Development Studies Department**



The department has just launched a new blog: <a href="https://blogs.soas.ac.uk/development-studies/">https://blogs.soas.ac.uk/development-studies/</a>

# International Development Department, University of Birmingham

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International Development Department

### **Disability inclusion**

http://www.gsdrc.org/topic-guides/disability-inclusion/

This GSDRC topic guide summarises evidence on the key debates and challenges of disability inclusion in development and humanitarian response. Disability does not necessary imply limited wellbeing and poverty. Yet there is growing evidence that the estimated one billion people with disabilities face attitudinal, physical and institutional barriers that result in multi-dimensional poverty, exclusion and marginalisation. Disability inclusion could increase earnings, tax revenues, and individual and societal wellbeing. It need not be costly or complicated. Inclusive approaches are more cost-effective than piecemeal disability interventions.

### Researching state legitimacy: a political approach to a political problem:

http://www.dlprog.org/publications/researching-state-legitimacy-a-political-approach-to-a-political-problem.php

State legitimacy is an important concept for understanding power and politics, yet research on it has been surprisingly apolitical. Explaining legitimation and de-legitimation requires attention to political structures, ideas and agency. This paper sets out a political approach to legitimacy, and applies this to the question of whether, when and why service delivery supports or undermines state legitimacy. It includes a framework that suggests how policymakers could consider the range of effects service delivery might have on state legitimacy, and the kinds of assumption researchers could test about these effects.

Public financial management evidence mapping: <a href="http://www.gsdrc.org/publications/public-financial-management-evidence-mapping/">http://www.gsdrc.org/publications/public-financial-management-evidence-mapping/</a>

Civil society organisations holding governments to account: <a href="http://www.gsdrc.org/publications/csos-holding-governments-to-account/">http://www.gsdrc.org/publications/csos-holding-governments-to-account/</a>

Restrictions on humanitarian access: <a href="http://www.gsdrc.org/publications/restrictions-on-humanitarian-access/">http://www.gsdrc.org/publications/restrictions-on-humanitarian-access/</a>

National humanitarian response: <a href="http://www.gsdrc.org/publications/national-humanitarian-response/">http://www.gsdrc.org/publications/national-humanitarian-response/</a>

GSDRC have also recently published a couple of new reading packs:

Children and young people: <a href="http://www.gsdrc.org/professional-dev/children-and-young-people/">http://www.gsdrc.org/professional-dev/children-and-young-people/</a>

Responding to mass atrocities and other human rights abuses: <a href="http://www.gsdrc.org/professional-dev/responding-to-mass-atrocities-and-human-rights-abuses/">http://www.gsdrc.org/professional-dev/responding-to-mass-atrocities-and-human-rights-abuses/</a>

### **INTRAC**



### **INTRAC** publications

Praxis Note 72: Advocacy capacity building using blended learning in complex and fragile contexts

INTRAC and the Dutch Consortium for Rehabilitation (DCR) have worked together to strengthen advocacy capacity within DCR programmes and partners. Drawing on course evaluations and interviews with participants this paper by Jenny Ross and Isobel Wilson-Cleary shows how blended learning approaches can provide access to high quality capacity building support in remote and conflict affected locations in a cost-effective way.

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### **INTRAC Blog**

<u>How not to run an international organisation: the perfect case study</u> - by Rod MacLeod, INTRAC Principal Consultant

What does being an evaluator have to do with the dawning era of sustainability? - by Vera Scholz, INTRAC Consultant

Mindfulness and social change - by Paula Haddock, INTRAC Associate

After the poll: a perspective on the dark side of Myanmar - by Dan James, INTRAC Senior Research Consultant

<u>Building a strong and sustainable civil society across Middle East North Africa: a collaborative approach</u> - by Rachel Hayman, Head of Research

### **INTRAC** training

Forthcoming face-to-face training courses:

INTRAC's face to face training courses are three and five day courses delivered in Oxford, UK. With participants from a range of countries and different organisations, this offers an excellent opportunity to build on skills and knowledge, whilst sharing experiences and networking with other professionals in the sector. Please see our website for details of course fees, bursaries and discounts.

Facilitating Anywhere: 12 January (online) followed by 19-21 January 2016

<u>Advanced Monitoring and Evaluation</u>: 1-5 February 2016 <u>Advocacy and Policy Influencing</u>: 8-12 February 2016

Forthcoming online training courses:

If you can't attend one of our courses in Oxford, our online courses are a cost effective and engaging alternative, which combines webinar technology, self-directed learning and a coaching session with the trainer.

<u>Foundation Monitoring and Evaluation</u>: January – March 2016 Advocacy and Policy Influencing: February – April 2016

Use of Evidence: February – March 2016

### **OXFAM POLICY & PRACTICE**



Visit our <u>website</u>, sign up to our <u>email updates</u>, or join us on these channels:









### **Latest publications**

Gender & Development Volume 23, Issue 3, November 2015: Resilience

### **Policy**

Extreme Carbon Inequality: Why the Paris climate deal must put the poorest, lowest emitting and most vulnerable people first

Game-Changers in the Paris Climate Deal: What is needed to ensure a new agreement helps those on the front lines of climate change

El Niño Key Messages: Urgent action now can prevent major suffering and loss

Made in Myanmar: Entrenched poverty or decent jobs for garment workers?

Implementing the Forest Rights Act: Lack of political will?

ECOWAP: A Fragmented Policy. Development partners and regional institutions should address leadership and coordination issues in order to build a common agricultural policy for West Africa

Getting to Good: Towards responsible corporate tax behaviour

A Different Route: Reimagining the idea of prosperity in Asia

Still Broken: Governments must do more to fix the international corporate tax system

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Right to a Future: Empowering refugees from Syria and host governments to face a long-term crisis



#### Research

New Research Guidelines

Writing an Executive Summary

**Conducting Focus Groups** 

Planning Survey Research

A Dangerous Divide: The state of inequality in Malawi

Impacts of Low Aggregate INDCs Ambition: Research commissioned by Oxfam

<u>Understanding Bank De-Risking and its Effects on Financial Inclusion: An exploratory study</u>

Delicious, Disgusting, Dangerous: Eating in a time of food price volatility

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### PRACTICAL ACTION



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Making Medicines in Africa

The Political Economy of Industrializing for Local Health

The importance of the pharmaceutical industry in Sub-Saharan Africa, its claim to policy priority, is rooted in the vast unmet health needs of the sub-continent. Making Medicines in Africa is a collective endeavour, by a group of contributors with a strong African and more broadly Southern presence, to find ways to link technological development, investment and industrial growth in pharmaceuticals to improve access to essential good quality medicines, as part of moving towards universal access to competent health care in Africa.

Research for this book has been selected by the UK Collaborative on Development Studies (UKCDS) as one of the 20 best examples of the impact of UK research on development.

http://www.palgrave.com/page/detail/making-medicines-in-africa-maureen-mackintosh/?isb=9781137546463

# **Routledge, Taylor & Francis publication**

Open Access Article: The Effects of nonfarm activities on farm households' food consumption in rural Cambodia in <u>Development Studies Research</u>. This article analyzes the effects of participation in nonfarm activities on farm households' food consumption in rural Cambodia. Results suggest that, by engaging in nonfarm activities, rural farm households make positive gains in per capita food consumption, thus confirming the hypothesis that engagement in nonfarm activities exerts positive effects on household food consumption.

Read the article online

# Journal of Global Ethics special article call: Refugee crisis

Refugee Crisis: The Borders of Human Mobility

Guest editors: Melina Duarte, Kasper Lippert-Rasmussen, Serena Parekh and Annamari Vitikainen

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Submission of abstracts: asap

Submission of papers: April 21st 2016

Direct enquiries and submissions to: JGErefugees(at)list.uit.no

Journal of Global Ethics is a SCImago ranked journal in philosophy, sociology and political science. Its aims & scope also include theology, economics, law and practitioner perspectives on all aspects of the theory and practice of global ethics and ethics in the context of globalization.

Editors: Sirkku Hellsten & Eric Palmer.

A Routledge/Taylor & Francis Journal: http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjge20/current

# Other stuff

# Impact and Implications: The Future of Research Excellence and the Social Sciences Thursday, 14th January from 10.15am to 4pm at 33 Finsbury Square, EC2A 1AG

The Academy of Social Sciences invites you to a one day conference featuring presentations and a panel discussion from a range of experts on the impacts of REF and what it will mean for the future of the social sciences. The conference will be chaired by Professor Dame Janet Finch FAcSS, Chair of Main Panel C, REF 2014.

For the full programme and to register, please visit: <a href="https://www.acss.org.uk/news/impact-and-implications-the-future-of-research-excellence-and-the-social-sciences/">https://www.acss.org.uk/news/impact-and-implications-the-future-of-research-excellence-and-the-social-sciences/</a>

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