

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ON DEVELOPMENT

AAU Documentation Report

WEB EDITION



*Aalborg University
February 2001
Revision 1, November 2001*



Aalborg University
Fredrik Bajersvej 5
DK – 9220 Aalborg East
Denmark

Contact person

Prof. Jens Aage Hansen
Department of Environmental Engineering
Sohngaardsholmsvej 57,
DK – 9000 Aalborg

Tel: 96 35 84 87
Email: jaah@civil.auc.dk

Number printed: 50
Revision 1: Web-Edtion

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Preface

The Minister for Development has asked a Commission to prepare a report on Danish development research. The Commission is to be assisted by a team of professionals who are to visit and assess relevant Danish research institutions during the last part of year 2000.

One of these professionals, Johan Helland from Chr. Michelsen Institute in Norway, visited Aalborg University on October 3, 2000. He was assisted by Trine Paludan, Development Associates, Copenhagen. As a result of the discussions at that time, a first report was prepared: "RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ON DEVELOPMENT, Reflections and Overview", Aalborg University, November 2000 and sent to the Commission in November 2000. This second report provides additional documentation on AAU research and education, relevant to development and international aid issues. The activities take place within the following groups/centres/projects:

- Research Centre on Development and International Relations (DIR)
- Danish Research Unit for Industrial Dynamics (DRUID)
- Danish University Consortium for Environment and Development – Industry & Urban Areas (DUCED-I&UA)
- Centre for International Studies (CIS)
- Centre for IT Innovation (ITI)
- Centre for Philosophy and Science Studies (CPSS)
- Singular Development Projects (SP)

The report shows that AAU development oriented research falls in very different categories, ranging from research about developing countries (including development and aid programmes) to research co-operation and research as direct aid or as an international public good. There is reason to consider this range of activities and discuss future co-ordination and prioritation within AAU.

The two reports and the personal relations established in the process of preparing them may serve as a good basis for an analysis of how to strategically co-ordinate and integrate research and education activities at AAU.

Rector at AAU has consequently decided to commission a task force to carry out such analysis and recommend an action plan for AAU to address development issues as a special university obligation in an international context. The analysis will comprise both education and research activities and evaluate how to improve intercultural and interdisciplinary interaction between the existing groups of both international and Danish faculty and students at AAU; how to better utilise existing and create new international networks; and how to improve the social innovation process through experimentation guided by theoretical consideration and joint reflection, where academics, students and practitioners work together. This "social innovation process" is believed to be a prerequisite for progress in any society where learning, knowledge production and knowledge utilisation are considered stepping stones in the development process.

A better definition of and a plan for the "development role" of AAU (and universities in general) should become one of the significant results of the work of the task force.

Jens Aage Hansen

AAU contact person

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Please note

1. that the contents of each of the following eight sections of this report is that presented by the group/centre/project itself. Opinion or information presented is the responsibility of the individual group/centre/project and not that of University or contact person,
2. that named researchers may appear in more than one group or centre, but in such cases the net time contribution by the researcher has been distributed accordingly and is not counted twice,
3. that publications are preferentially listed only once, i.e. in the centre or group context where they belong primarily by topical content. Only publications from 1995 and on are listed.

- Identifying asymmetric relations, additions and subtractions to human security, inclusions and exclusions of various categories of social strata as related to processes of unilateral liberalization by the nation-state, multilateral liberalization by the IFIs and the WTO, voluntary and involuntary regionalizations and different forms of interactions by global and local actors;
- Identifying various forms of resistance to globalization and searching for alternatives to conventional approaches to globalization and development at the levels of conceptual, empirical and social practices.
- These points define the character and objectives of the DIR research programme. Consequently, the research and teaching of our members have been broadly informed and motivated by the theoretical imagination instantiated by the above considerations.

ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE OF DIR

At the end of 1997, DIR took the initiative to enlarge the Research Centre by welcoming researchers not only from the Department of Development and Planning but also from circles inside and outside Aalborg University, who share broadly similar intellectual concerns.

In its six years' existence, DIR has expanded its activities to include both training of researchers at PhD level and teaching (International Specialization Year/Diploma) and a new Master programme on Development and International Relations. The Master programme has been successful beyond all expectations drawing students from various parts of the world to study at Aalborg University. A more formalized and institutionalized cooperation between the associated researchers has been set up to strengthen the research and teaching programme of DIR. An active visiting research fellows programme has enriched the output and the internationalization of DIR.

At the moment, DIR comprises a membership of some thirty-five committed scholars who have expressed the intention to consolidate, expand, revitalize and strengthen the centre's activities. Their research backgrounds extend from the humanities, technical engineering and natural sciences to the social sciences. What brings them together is the problem focused and policy relevant interdisciplinary research in which DIR has built credentials over the years.

In 2001 DIR had nine Professorial Fellows; nine PhD students; nine Affiliated Aalborg University Research Fellows who do part-time research and teaching; eight externally affiliated scholars. In addition the Centre has benefited from a steady number of guest researchers and visiting scholars from various research institutions all over the world (i.e. Manfred Bienefeld; Gerd Junne; Yi Dan; Garry Rodan; Marianne Marchand; Nirmal Chandra; Andre Gunder Frank etc.). Finally DIRs Master and Diploma Programmes have on average 150 students enrolled from all over the world.

Name (Position)	Research interest and geographical area
Jacques Hersh (Professor)	Development Theory/International Political Economy
Andrew Jamison (Professor)	Theory of Science/History and Sociology of Technology/Social Movements/Technology and Culture/Environmental Politics
Susanne Thorbek (Associate Prof.)	Women's Studies/PostColonialism/Gender & Urbanization/Southeast Asia
Jens Müller (Associate Prof.)	Technological capacity and infrastructure/Africa
Mona Dahms (Associate Prof.)	Telecommunication/Gender/Africa
Pernille Bertelsen (Associate Prof.)	Technological Capacity/Sustainable Irrigation Systems in Tanzania
Mammo Muchie (Associate Prof.)	Environment, Development, Systems of Innovation, Cleaner Production, Industrial Development/Africa
Johannes Schmidt (Associate Prof)	IPE, Development & Sociology/Political & Economic Development Models/East Asia
Hugo Cancino (Professor)	Modernity, Modernization and Tradition in Latinamerica

Affiliated AAU Scholars:

Jes Adolfsen (Associate Prof.)	Philosophy and Development Planning in the Arctic/Greenland
Erik Stubkjær (Professor)	Environmental cadastres and the institution of property rights/Eastern Europe/global
Jørgen Kristiansen (Associate Prof)	Transport/Infrastructure/Planning/Africa/Eastern Europe
Ib Jørgensen (Associate Prof.)	Societal aspects of Planning/ Globalization/Europe/ Denmark
Bo Vagnby (Associate Prof.)	Urban Redevelopment Planning/Third World Urban and Housing Development
Klaus Lindegård (Associate Prof.)	Economics & Environment/ Sustainable development strategies/Central America
Steen Seierup (Associate Prof.)	International Transfer of Technology & Socio-Economic Relations in Developing Countries
Xing Li (Research Fellow)	China's Transformation/East Asian Studies
Pablo Christofanini (Associate Prof)	Universalism, particularism and globalization in Latin America
Akram Hawas (Research Fellow)	Sociology of development and international relations

Post-Graduate PhD Students affiliated with DIR:

Orathai Ard-Am	Democracy, Decentralization and Voluntary Organization in Thailand: Comparative Study of Two Provinces
Malee Lang (Danida-financed)	Hydropower Development, Consultancy Industry and Local Democracy: A Comparative Study between the Lao PDR and Thailand
Bernard J. Nsana (Danida-financed)	Apprenticeship Systems in Entrepreneurship Development. A Study of Tanzanian Rural and Urban Micro and Small Enterprises in Metalworks
Søren Løkke	Precaution in Action: Deconstructing the Precautionary Principle
Steen Fryba Christensen	Economic Paradigms in MERCOSUR and the relationship between individual MERCOSUR members and the EU?
Peter Benjamin	Informatics for Community Development: Evaluating the Impact of Telecentres in South Africa
Annette Kanstrup-Jensen (Danida-financed)	A Comparative Study of Education and Human Development Among Ethnic Minority Groups in the Lao PDR and Thailand
Berhanu G. Balcha	The Making of the State in Africa: The Experiment of "Ethnic-Federal" Decentralisation in Ethiopia
Claus Thure Hastrup	Political Culture and Democracy in Costa Rica and Nicaragua

Externally Affiliated Research Fellows:

Hans Hestvang (Research Fellow)	Rural development/Burma/Southeast Asia
Henrik Nielsen (Research Fellow)	Development Aid/Decentralization/South Asia/ Africa
Susan Vonsild (Consultant)	Globalization/Culture/Southeast Asia/Organizational Development
Gorm Winther (Research Fellow)	Labor Participation/Development Economics/ Globalization
Ellen Brun (Professor)	Sustainable Development/Feminism/Globalization
Stanislav Menchikov (Professor)	Transformation Processes in Eastern Europe and Russia
Timothy Shaw (Professor)	New Regionalisms/New Security in Africa & Southeast Asia
Jane Parpart (Professor)	Gender/development/labor/feminist theory/participation/Africa

The Board of DIR consists of three scholars: Jacques Hersh (Director), Mammo Muchie and Johannes Schmidt. DIR's research policy is decided upon at the annual Dronninglund Castle Seminars.

The Centre has vigorously expanded its activities both in postgraduate researcher training (PhD level) and graduate teaching (International Specialization Year/Diploma). The PhD programme on Development and International Relations is financed with a five-year grant by the Danish Research Academy, and DIR is the secretariat for the Danish Network on Development and International Relations. This Network consists of important Departments and Institutes in Denmark who deal with development research. The PhD Programme has at the moment nine PhD students of which Danida finances two, and attracts approx. 25 PhD students from Aalborg University and other universities to its seminars and other activities. As will be indicated below two Danida-financed PhD students have defended their dissertations in the research period, and another four financed by the university have also finished.

In 1997 the Centre initiated a Master programme on Development and International Relations. The MA programme has approx. 150 students of which around half are from Third World countries (Ghana, Cameroon, Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, Cambodia, China, etc.), and the other half comprises Danish, European, Canadian and US students. A number of students are financed by Danida scholarships, but there is an urgent need for more funding and backing from Danida's side.

Partnerships and networking in Denmark has a high priority for the Centre. It will demand too much space to mention all the partners, as they are located on all continents across the globe. The most important with regard to Danida and DANCED financing are based in Tanzania, Uganda, Ghana, Southern Africa, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam and China, Bolivia, Chile, and Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Guatemala. Furthermore DIR has important research and teaching links with Receptie in Amsterdam University, Padrigu in Gothenburg, The International Political Economy group in Sheffield University and several others both in Europe and the United States.

DANIDA AND DANCED PROJECTS SINCE 1995 AND OTHER RELEVANT RESEARCH

The two triannual research programme periods covering 1995 - 2000 have been partly financed by Danida, SSF and other funding agencies. This is also, why it is in many cases difficult to make an artificial division between different programmes, clusters and projects. The following describes the output of the clusters and funding is indicated in brackets after the title. Furthermore, it is important to stress that in the bottom of the document there is a substantial publication list, which naturally is the essence of the **output** of the research. This will only be referred to in general terms under each research theme. First the general research projects are presented and next the specific clusters/themes and individual projects.

Globalization and Social Change (Danida and SSF supported)

A DIR Centre research project in collaboration with researchers from Third World Forum, Senegal, Carleton University, Newcastle, Frankfurt am Main, Calcutta, Hallym, Cornell etc. The objective was to establish a new conceptual framework in a critical development sociology perspective and applying it to various empirical analysis: 1) Inequality in the world system; 2) The growing dominance of the market over human beings; 3) The impact of the rolling back of the welfare state in the North and state funding of social sectors in the South; 4) The growing hegemony of financial capital; 5) Different types of resistances against the neoliberal mode of globalization. Results have been published with the same title by Routledge in 2000 edited by Johannes Schmidt and Jacques Hersh.

A) Globalization and Regionalization (partly financed by Danida)

This research project has focused on the possible interactions between political and economic factors determining whether a more self-reliant regional based space can offer protection from world market forces.

The importance of regional integration (NAFTA, APEC, ASEAN, and MERCOSUR) has been inspired by the European example, which is the most institutionalized. Do these constructions conform to the logic of globalization or do they represent defensive counter-movements of regional economies to the unfettered mechanisms of worldwide competition? As of yet, the European Union

does not seem to have come to term with the globalization/regionalization paradox. On the one hand, the EU is seen as adjusting to the demands of the neoliberal discourse, while on the other, simultaneously constructing the socioeconomic and political architecture of a spatial entity, which potentially could offer protection from the global market mechanisms. A kind of "Rhineland" capitalism based on German/continental European socioeconomic and political traditions confronting the Anglo-Saxon model or an alternative more self-centered perhaps Green continental model.

Research projects:

Jacques Hersh: *The Globalization/Regionalization Dichotomy*

Steen Fryba Christensen (Ph.D project): *State and Business in Argentina's and Brazil's Development Policies of the 1990's in Historical Perspective: Mercosur as a National Strategy for Insertion in the World Economy?*

Johannes Schmidt: *Asean and the New Regional Economic Order in East Asia*

Timothy Shaw: *New Open regionalisms in Southeast Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa*

Output:

Several refereed books, one edited issue of an international journal, a number of conference papers and working papers have been the substantial output of this project. Furthermore two university-financed PhD dissertations will be completed in 2001 within this cluster.

B) Globalization and Changing State-Society Relations (Financed by Danida)

This research has focused on the pressures and impact of the global actors and institutions on policy makers and state entities and the concomitant social configurations. In East and Southeast Asia, the recent havoc caused by the financial crisis has raised questions as to the sustainability and viability of the concept of the "developmental state". Several questions have guided the research: Has there been an East-Asian Confucian-type capitalism based on a political economy variant of economic nationalism? Are we seeing the contours of an implicit struggle waged by Anglo-Saxon capitalism, supported by the IMF, the World Bank and the World Trade Organization, in order to pry these economies open to international capital interests? Will these socioeconomic formations be rendered defenseless and will the "developmental state" be reduced to the status of "regulatory state"? Such a transition could have repercussions on the legitimacy of the political regimes who have engaged on a path of democratization. The outcome of this evolution would not be of little consequences as nationalism is still a potent force in these countries. This problematique is vital for students of development studies as well as IPE, but also at the policy level with regard to comparison between the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

Research projects:

Li Xing: *From Financial to Social Crisis: Impact of Globalization on East Asian Capitalism*

Orathai Ard-Am PhD project: *Democracy, Decentralization and Voluntary Organization in Thailand: A Comparative Study of Two Provinces*

Jacques Hersh and Johannes Schmidt: *Comparing Contemporary Modes of Interaction Between Capitalism and Social Forces*

Li Xing, Jacques Hersh and Johannes Schmidt: *The Interactions of Globalization and the Internal Evolution of East Asia (China), Russia and Eastern Europe*

Mammo Muchie: *The Political Economy of Integration in Africa*

Output:

Several conferences have been conducted under this theme, and even more conference papers have been presented. Furthermore, approx. five chapters in refereed books and journals have been published. One Aalborg University funded PhD dissertation has also been defended (The Yin and Yang behind China's Integration in the Pacific). Also a major Danida-financed conference took place in 1996 and subsequently two refereed volumes have been published at Macmillan.

C) Globalization, Nationalism and Identity (Partly financed by Danida and University grants)

This cluster has focused on the creation of new political responses and cultural configurations and types of resistance to social chaos and crisis partly as a result of difficulties of nation-states in integrating the world economy.

In the Middle East, where maldevelopment has been the rule, globalization has not alleviated the problem of geopolitics and the importance of nationalism. These parameters have in fact been strengthened and their unresolved tensions affect the issue of peace and security as well as economic integration. The existing insecurity caused by disturbances created by regional interstate disputes as well as the "no war, no peace" situation between Israel and the Palestinian Authority on the one hand, and the perpetual Kurdish question affecting the countries of the region -- including NATO-member Turkey -- do not promote the area in becoming fully integrated in the new World Order or in creating a Middle East common market in the context of "globalization." This is a most difficult puzzle, which demands more attention than the culturalist buzz-notion of "clash of civilization." The progression of political Islam has to be analyzed as a symptom of the frustrations of the populations resulting from the socioeconomic situation, which is a function of the failure of modernization as implemented by secular regimes and Western influence. However, the clash is primarily on the domestic and regional levels with inter-state rivalries and nationalist movements as main actors but of course not without geopolitical fallouts.

Besides the case of the Middle East, the question is whether development is conceived as a replication of the Western model or somewhat differently, there is a growing sense that its very success might in the end lead to its eventual demise. One example is the foreseeable exhaustion of some non-renewable materials essential to growth-oriented economies. This factor alone implies a necessary reorientation of most societies: Not least the highly industrial ones. In a transnational world, such a reorientation is hardly to be expected from either the state or the market. The question is whether the different pressures of globalization bring forth new potentialities for alternative theory and practice this time emerging from civil society itself.

In modern society, the latter trends take on new significance and implications, one of which being the attitude to both the state and the market, transcending the ruling ideologies of socialism and liberalism - sometimes combining aspects of both. The modern world is a world of rapid transformation. It is also one of enormous social problems, technological threat and ecological disaster. The conditions of modern mass society tend to reduce civil society to a state of conformity and apathy. Vibrant counter cultures challenge this state of affairs. Alternative values, forms of rationality, a new awareness of the relationship between theory and practice, between human being and nature are giving rise to the formulation of new social projects.

Research projects:

Jacques Hersh, Johannes D. Schmidt and Akram T. Hawas: *The Middle East - Between Global Pressure, Local Identity and Nationalism*

Akram T. Hawas: *The Kurdish Question* 1) *Hegemony and the Kurdish Collapse* 2) *The Kurds and the New World Order* 3) *The Kurdish Question: A Cultural Perspective; Islamic History* 1) *Islam/West: Impacts on the Societal Development in the Middle East* 2) *The Forsaken Norms: Interaction or Dichotomy? Regional Perspectives* 1) *Egypt at a Crossroad: Between Internal Societal Challenges and Regional Hegemonic Ambitions* 2) *Towards A Trans-State Hegemonic Peace Settlement* 3) *The New Alliance of Turkey and Israel: Is it a course towards a new division of the Middle East?*

Ellen Brun: *Sustainable Priorities - The Case of Double Rationality* - Focusing on the hidden rationality of close human relations by identifying common value systems capable of uniting people for change and alternative solutions based on every-day practice.

Johannes Schmidt: *The Middle East Between Agony and Progress: Towards a New Palestine*

Jane Parpart: *Gender and the Post-Development Debate*

Output:

One PhD dissertation has been completed financed by the AAU (The Modernization of Egypt: The Intellectuals Role in the Political Projects and Ideological Discourses). Also several refereed book chapters and journal articles, and a Danida financed conference have been held.

D) Globalization, Technology and Society (Financed by Danida)

While globalization is primarily understood as a socio-economic process, the technological aspect takes on, in a developmental perspective, a most significant position. The globalization discourse assumes that the diffusing of technology from the core together with the market mechanisms constitute the key to upgrading existing physical and human productivity while being the formula for successful participation in the global economy. On the other hand, under the influence of the political environment (i.e. state and local authorities, NGOs and international organizations cum donors) inventions and innovations with regard to human and physical capital maximization at the local and national social and economic levels contribute either to greater participation or the possibility of resistance to externally imposed conditions.

The present research project intends to focus on some of the embryonic socially progressive processes in sight. It seeks in-depth insight into some of these, in search of possibly already existing alternatives to conventional modernization interventions.

Research projects:

Jens Müller and Pernille Bertelsen: *Indigenous Systems of Innovation in East Africa*

Mona Dahms: 1) *Africa Joining the Information Society - Investigating the Need for Telecentres in Rural Tanzania*, 2) *Entrepreneurial Engineers - Engineering Education and Private Sector Development*

Peter Benjamin: *Informatics for Community Development: Evaluating the Impact of Telecentres in South Africa*

Steen Seierup: 1) *Urban Economic Activities in East Africa* 2) *Transfer of Cleaner Environment Equipment and Knowledge to Southeast Asia*

Mammo Muchie: *Transfer of Technology to SSA in Changing International Division of Labour*

Output:

Several conference and working papers have been completed, and consultancy reports + a number of journal articles in refereed journals. A Danida-financed PhD dissertation "The Fisherfolk Community of the Riverine and Coastal Areas of Bangladesh and India" - Focusing on the socio-economic conditions and the history of fisherfolk communities who inhabit the coastal and riverine areas of the Bay of Bengal was defended at the end of 1996 by Khursid Alam.

E) Globalization, Environment and the Ecological Challenge (Financed by Danced and EU grants)

While the globalization process has given priority to the liberalization of economic activities and reduced political institutional interferences, recent awareness of the environmental and ecological costs of this evolution has put this relationship on the international agenda. Likewise, initiatives are being taken at the local level whereby political actors and communities are looking at possible solutions. This involves social and political processes, which need to be researched so that the experience of existing initiatives may contribute and encourage a "learning from each other" process on the international scale.

By combining an expertise in environmental economics, management and planning with a long-term interest in local activism and social movements, we focus on the points of contention and controversy between the quest for a sustainable development and broader public concerns for democracy, participation, and equity. Must the environment be saved by putting in place new hierarchical relations and new forms of inequality; or can the efforts to meet the environmental challenges posed by globalization serve to inspire new forms of local democracy and active public involvement in technological and other environmental projects?

Research projects:

Andrew Jamison and Klaus Lindegaard: *Globalization and the Environmental Challenge*

Andrew Jamison and Eskild Holm Nielsen: 1) *Public Participation and Environmental Science and Technology Policy Options (PESTO)*

Andrew Jamison and Eskild Holm Nielsen: 2) *Institutional Reform in Science and Technology in Vietnam* 2) *Between State and Movement: The Industrial Appropriation of Pollution Prevention* 4) *The Transformation of Environmental Activism* Klaus Lindegaard: 1) *Public Alliances and Participation in Sustainable Development Strategies for Central America (PAP-SUDESCA)*

Klaus Lindegaard: 2) *Environmental Liability and Technological Practice*

Johannes Schmidt: 1) *Social sustainability in Southeast Asia* 2) *Ecological problems in urban and industrial settings in Southern Africa and Southeast Asia (together with DUCED)*

Malee Lang (Danida-financed PhD project) *Hydro-Power Development in Mekong*

Output:

Several projects have been concluded with NISTPASS (National Institute of Science and Technology Policy in Vietnam). One on Institutional Reform in Science and Technology in Vietnam has been supported by SIDA and one PhD project on Sustainable Development in Vietnam was defended in 1998. Furthermore two projects on Multipurpose Community Telecentres and the Formalization of Real Property Rights have been completed. In addition two books on Cambridge and Pesto + several refereed journal articles have been published.

F) Globalization, Social Welfare and Participatory Systems (Financed by Danida)

A key question facing social sciences in connection with globalization is whether the process will result in greater social welfare or whether globalization serves to reduce the social dimension of twentieth century capitalism. Will an evolution towards more democracy open the way to a greater contest over the economic surplus/social product? How will the political systems absorb the demands of the social classes at a time when adjustment to the conditionalities imposed by the IMF and other powerful multilateral institutions go in the direction of the dismantling of the interventionist state?

Research projects:

Susanne Thorbek: *Prostitution in a Global Context*

Annette Kanstrup-Jensen (Danida-financed PhD project) *A Comparative Study of Education and Human Development Among Ethnic Minority Groups in the Lao PDR and Thailand.*

Hans Hestvang: *Development and Social Change in Myanmar (Burma).*

Bo Vagnby: *Project and Programme Planning Implementation and Evaluation: Health; Housing Maintenance of Social Infrastructure; Community Participation; Urban Renewal; Urban Development*

Johannes Schmidt: *What Should the Vietnamese Learn From the Thai Miracle? And What to Avoid*

Johannes Schmidt: 1) *Globalization, the role of labor and Social Welfare in Comparative Perspective: Unique or New* (This section addresses questions like whether social welfare might be seen as a comparative advantage/disadvantage in relation to international competition). What are the strategies of East Asia, EU and the Anglo-Saxon countries? 2) *Reconstructing the Developmental State* (The state in East and Southeast Asia has been under severe attack from both internal and external forces and is at the moment in the process of renewal and maybe away from its statist characteristics. The question is what type of new state configuration is emerging?) 3) *Reforms, social adjustments and the response of social groups* 4) *Individual case-studies from East and Southeast Asia with a particular focus on the state and the regional perspective* (no details provided).

Output:

Two major volumes have been published. One by Longman and another one by Routledge (forthcoming). The research projects have evolved around collaboration with the Asia Research Centre at Murdoch University, Western Australia and several international specialists on Social Welfare in East and Southeast Asia.

G. The Social Planning Approach: Modernity, Autopoiesis and the East German Sonderweg

This project has focused on institutional and social change in the former East Germany after unification with Western Germany. The project has been finalized and the results been published in *The Break-up of Communist Hegemony in Eastern Europe* (London and Basingstoke: Macmillan/New York: St. Martin's Press). 1) Finished research reports about the project: *The Micro-foundations of Societal Transformations. East German Professional Identities in Transition*. Supported by the Danish Social Science Research Council Febr. 1997- Febr. 1998. Completed in August 1998.

Linking the output of the Clusters

The unifying logic behind these research clusters has been the fact that each is affected by as well as affecting globalization and world order/chaos thus opening for a better understanding of currents and countercurrents to this evolution. The levels of analysis has focused on: 1) the interaction between globalization and regionalization (especially Europe and Latin America); 2) the interaction of globalization and the changing role of the state (Eastern Europe, East and Southeast Asia); 3) the interaction of globalization and political instability (Middle East); 4) the question of institutionalizing international governance and order in a world comprising small states aiming at protecting their national interests (Africa, South Asia and Eastern Europe); 5) The problem of enhancing local capacities for technology upgrading both as increasing self-reliance and as responses to the increasing impact of marketization and globalization, but also as part and parcel of development assistance and collaboration between local authorities, universities and NGOs (Africa); 6) The erosion of national and local capabilities and institutional governance to control resources related to the environment as cases of self-defense against the increasing hegemony of transnational capital and multilateral regimes in the hands of the North. Focus is the interlinkage between the local and the global quest for resolutions of environmental and ecological problem areas in both urban and rural settings in selected Third World countries; 7) The impact of neoliberal globalization on weak states and local communities as part of an international trend of "competitive austerity". In Greenland and selected countries of East and Southeast Asia governments are forced to downgrade social welfare and labor rights in order to attract foreign capital and bow to the demands of the global open market discourses with potentially grave consequences for the social environment.

PUBLICATIONS 1995 - 2000

Books:

Alam, K. (1996) *Two Fishing Villages of Bangladesh: A Community Study* (PhD dissertation), Aalborg University, Department of Development and Planning, skriftserie nr. 150.

Casse, T. (1998) *Macro-economic stabilisation and industrial policy in South Korea, Mexico and Vanuatu* (PhD dissertation) Aalborg University: Department of Development and Planning.

Hawas, A. (2000) *The Modernization of Egypt: The Intellectuals Role in the Political Projects and Ideological Discourses* (PhD dissertation) Aalborg University: Department of Development and Planning.

Hersh, J. (1998) *Les Etats-Unis et l'ascension de l'Estrême-Orient depuis 1945 - les dilemmes de l'économie politique internationale de l'après-guerre*, Paris: L'Harmattan.

Hersh, J. and Schmidt J. (eds) (1996) *The Aftermath of 'Real Existing Socialism' in Eastern Europe. Between Western Europe and East Asia*, London: Macmillan & New York: St. Martin's Press. (With contributions by Alec Nove; André Gunder Frank; Louis Emmerij; Olga Kryshstanovskaya; Ilze Ostrovska; Vojmir Franicevie; Robert Wade; Ryszard Lawniczak; Pradumna B. Rana; Xiaolin Pei & Christer Gunnarsson; and Per Ronnaas).

Jamison, A (forthcoming) *Ecological Transformations: Sustainable Development and Public Participation*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Jamison, A. and Haard M. (eds) (forthcoming) *The Intellectual Appropriation of Technology: Discourses on Modernity 1900-1941*, Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press.

- Jamison, A. and Eyerman, R. (eds) (1998) *Music and Social Movements. Mobilizing Traditions in the 29th Century*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Li, X. (1998) *The Yin and Yang behind China's Transformation: A dialectical assessment of the Chinese revolution from Mao to Deng* (PhD dissertation), Aalborg University: Department of Development and Planning.
- Schmidt, J.D. and Hersh, J. (eds) (forthcoming) *Globalization and Social Welfare in East and Southeast Asia* (publisher not yet decided) (with contributions by William Tabb; Gösta Esping-Andersen; Roger Goodman, Gordon White & Huck-ju Kwon; M. Ramesh; Amiya Kumar Bagchi; Kwang-Yeong Shin; Kanishka Jayasuriya; Frederic Deyo; Mukul Asher; Peter Wad; Xing Li and Susanne Thorbek).
- Schmidt, J. D. and Hersh, J. (eds) (2000) *Globalization and Social Change*, London & New York: Routledge. (With contributions by David Harvey; Samir Amin; Manfred Bienefeld; Anne Showstack Sassoon; Barry Gills; Joachim Hirsch; Amiya Bagchi; Kwang Yeong Shin; Philip McMichael; Mark Jürgensmeyer; Andrew Jamison; Martijn van Beek and Ellen Brun).
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DRUID Danish Research Unit for Industrial Dynamics

DRUID has a broad scientific mission within 'Industrial Dynamics'. Development is one essential part of the research agenda.

THE IKE-GROUP AS PART OF THE DRUID NETWORK AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH

The IKE-group works since 1977 on industrial development and international competitiveness and since 1995 it constitutes the AAU-part of DRUID - a national research network on research on industrial dynamics. The IKE-group is constituted by economists with an expertise on international economics, industrial economy, economics of innovation and organisational change.

The group is integrated in a wide international network of scholars. This network has increasingly encompassed scholars from the South including Asian, African and Latin American scholars. Some of the basic concepts and perspectives developed by the IKE-group such as:

- innovation as an interactive process
- innovation systems
- the learning economy

have been applied and used by scholars and policy makers in less developed countries. Recently the concept 'innovation systems' has become central also for designing strategies by development aid agencies in the Denmark and Sweden.

The IKE-group is part of the Danish research network DRUID and most of its activities, publications and network relationships are channeled within DRUID. Therefore the documentation below refers to DRUID as a whole. Most of DRUID's development research is located at the Aalborg part of DRUID and organised by the IKE-group.

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE

The development objective for the "development part" of DRUID is to rethink sustainable development from the perspective of the globalizing learning economy using the systems of innovation approach.

ORGANISATION, STAFF AND MANAGEMENT

DRUID is a joint research programme and the staff (about 30 scholars) integrates the IKE-group from the Department of Business Studies (DBS), Aalborg University (AAU) and a group of industrial economists from the Institute of Industrial Economics and Strategy (IVS), the Copenhagen Business School (CBS), and people from the the Department of Business (DB), Southern Denmark Business School (SDBS), as well as two individual professors. TO DRUID is connected an international scientific advisory board (about 15 professors). DRUID has a research manager and a secretary.

SUDESCA (Sustainable Development in Central America) is an ENRECA project, financed by DANIDA and now in its fifth year of activity. The development objective of SUDESCA, which will try to co-ordinate its research with DRUID, is to strengthen the capability to formulate and implement sustainable development strategies in Central America.

There is, accordingly, a Danish responsible party at Aalborg University and a local responsible party at Universidad Nacional in Costa Rica. SUDESCA consists of a PhD programme, education scholarships in Central America and a research network including researchers from Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Denmark. There are about 20 network members in Central America and 5 in Denmark. There is a secretary in Denmark and one in Costa Rica.

PUBLICATIONS

The publications (books, articles, etc.) of DRUID staff cover several areas of industrial dynamics. The best way to get a picture of what is produced within the DRUID framework is to consult the DRUID working papers, which are downloadable from the homepage www.business.auc.dk/druid. SUDESCA Research Papers are accessible from <http://virt.auc.dk/sudesca>.

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DUCED-I&UA Danish University Consortium for Environment and Development – Industry & Urban Areas

DUCED-I&UA was established in February 1998 by DANCED, Danish Co-operation for Environment and Development, Ministry of Environment & Energy.

AAU, Aalborg University is part of DUCED-I&UA through the joint efforts of presently three departments, 1) Environmental Engineering, 2) Development and Planning and 3) Business Studies.

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE

Capacity building to enhance sustainable development and integrated environmental management in Denmark and co-operation countries is the over-all objective of DUCED-I&UA activities. These comprise higher education, extended education for mid-career professionals and research with emphasis on interdisciplinarity and intercultural understanding. They are based on joint curricula developments, exchange of students and faculty, and joint research projects.

ORGANISATION, NETWORKS, MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

The five DUCED-I&UA universities are AAU (Aalborg University), CBS (Copenhagen Business School), DTU (Technical University of Denmark), RDA (Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Architecture) and RUC (Roskilde University). AAU has managed DUCED-I&UA during the period 1998-2000. Management in the period 2001-2003 will be by DTU.

19 universities in 5 countries and organised in 4 consortia are now implementing the joint and co-ordinated education and research activities. By consortia, the DANCED allocations and the universities are as follows:

- DUCED-I&UA, DKK 25 million for 2001-2003, AAU, CBS, DTU, RDA and RUC
- MUCED-I&UA, DKK 6 million for 2001-2002, University of Malaysia, University of Kebangsaan Malaysia, University Putra of Malaysia and Technical University of Malaysia
- SACUDE-I&UA, DKK 7 million for 2001-2002, University of Botswana, University of Natal, University of Durban Westville, University of Witswatersrand, University of Western Cape and University of Cape Town
- TUCED-I&UA, DKK 6 million for 2001-2002, Mahidol University, Chulalongkorn University, Chiang Mai University and Prince of Songla University.

There is considerable co-financing by the universities involved, i.e. the I&UA activities comprise more than indicated by the DANCED contribution. For the period 2001-2003 DUCED-I&UA activities amount to app. 45 million DKK, the university contribution being 20 and that from DANCED 25 million DKK.

AAU faculty involved in DUCED-I&UA activities include:

1. Department of Business Studies: Olav Jull Soerensen, Hans Gullestrup, John Kuada,
2. Department of Environmental Engineering: Jens Aage Hansen, Thorkild Hvitved-Jacobsen, Jes Vollertsen, Tjalfe Poulsen, Per Moeldrup, Kristian Keiding, Per Halkjær Nielsen, Kaj Henriksen, Jens Ole Frier and Ole Groenborg.
3. Department of Development and Planning: Per Christensen, Eskild Holm-Nielsen, Arne Remmen, Henrik Riisgaard and Pernille Bertelsen.

JOINT I&UA RESEARCH THEMES

After comprehensive common planning and based on demands in the cooperation countries (Denmark, Thailand, Malaysia, Botswana and Republic of South Africa), six themes have been selected (end of 2000) for future joint research and education activities between the four consortia. These themes are:

- Water resource management in industrial and urban areas
- Chemical assessment of the environment
- Resource recycling in industries and urban areas
- Comparative environmental impact assessment
- Planning and public participation
- Environmental management: The travelling and translation of ideas and standards

ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUT

Activities and output at AAU and directly related to DUCED-I&UA can be summarised as follows:

- 18 faculty participate from the three departments given above. They teach, supervise students and do research. Two additional new assistant professors will join the group as part of the implementation of the 2001-2003 programme.
- The present research time allocated to DUCED-I&UA activities is equivalent to 4 full man-years per year. It will rise to 6 with the new faculty to be included.
- Presently there are two PhD students, one from Denmark and one from Malaysia. Three more, one from Thailand and two from Denmark are expected before mid-2001.
- Each year the equivalent of 60 full-time students complete DUCED-I&UA relevant courses and project work at AAU. 15 students spend 3-5 months on projects in co-operation countries and a similar number participates in 3-week courses also in co-operation countries
- A new international 2-year masters education (B.Sc. entry requirement) in environmental management started in Sept.2000. Teaching is in English and participation is 25 students from abroad, including DANCED co-operation countries.
- A new international environmental engineering graduate programme has been established. Entry requirement is a satisfactory B.Sc. degree and semester modules are offered so that students choose 1,2 or 4 semesters. The latter leading to a master degree in environmental engineering. By January 2001 the number of international students in environmental engineering is 16 and on the increase.

PUBLICATIONS

Textbook material and publications for conferences and journals have been produced within the first three years of existence of DUCED-I&UA by AAU faculty and PhD students. Due to the fact that DANCED financing of partner consortia started as late as ultimo 2000, the joint publication results will appear in the years to come within the agreed themes listed above. A few publications from 1995-98 are listed as well where researchers from developing and co-operation countries have been involved.

Text book material

Title	Author	Year	DUCED-I&UA Course
Unit Operations in Water and Wastewater Treatment (draft version)	Kristian Keiding	1999	T3
Stormwater Management in Cities and Industrial Areas	Torkild Hvitved-Jacobsen	1999	T8
Extract of culture analysis and cultural ethics	Hans Gullestrup	1999	I1
Cultural Understanding and Cross-cultural Management in an Environmental Perspective	Hans Gullestrup & John Kuada	1999	I1
Environment (Part 1)		1999	P4
Environment (Part 2)		1999	P4
Institutioner, Teknologi og Miljø	Birgitte Gregersen & Klaus Lindegaard	1999	M3
Soil Characterisation and polluted soil assessment	Per Loll & Per Moldrup	2000	T5
Recycling of Urban Biodegradables	Tjalfe Poulsen & Jens Aage Hansen	2000	T6
Sewer Processes	Torkild Hvitved-Jacobsen	2000	T7
International Environmental Management	Per Christensen, Olav Jull Soerensen & Marianne Rostgaard	2000	M1
Environmental Project Management in a cross-cultural perspective	Hans Gullestrup & John Kuada	2000	I1
Informal Settlements in Durban South Africa	Per Christensen & Fank H. Hedlund (PhD stud) in collaboration with: Jørgen Eskemose (RDA) Henrik Bregnhøj (DTU) & Henning Schroll (RUC)	2000	P10

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Abdul-Talib, S, T. Hvitved-Jacobsen, J. Vollertsen and Z. Ujang (2001), Anoxic transformations of wastewater organic matter in sewers - process kinetics, model concept and wastewater treatment potential, 2nd International Conference on Interactions between Sewers, Treatment Plants and Receiving Waters in Urban Areas (INTERURBA II), Lisbon, Portugal, February 19-22, 2001, pp 8.

Hvitved-Jacobsen, T., J. Vollertsen and J.S. Matos (2001), The sewer as a bioreactor – a dry weather approach, 2nd International Conference on Interactions between Sewers, Treatment Plants and Receiving Waters in Urban Areas (INTERURBA II), Lisbon, Portugal, February 19-22, 2001, pp 12.

that we look at the firms' abilities to create international contexts. Basically, our research focuses on the following four different approaches to the internationalization of firms:

- Theories of Stages of Internationalization
- Contingency Theories
- Network Theories
- Social Construction Theories.

The main stream position held presently by the Theory of Stages has been eroding in recent years. Our interest, therefore, lies in developing alternative theories, by focusing on the creation of knowledge, technological innovation, and alternative modes of entering and developing markets. The root assumptions underlying these alternatives derive from the interpretative and social construction paradigms rather than the conventional analytical-empirical paradigm.

The myriad of firms interacting globally construct global trends. Such trends are studied primarily at the industry level by focusing on how production is globally reorganized, how technology interacts with strategic management and how nation states and business communities interact and form partnerships.

The empirical arena for our research comprises developed market economies, developing countries, notably Ghana, and economies in transition represented by Lithuania and Russia. Both manufacturing and service industries are studied.

The core research team within this field is: Professor Olav Jull Sørensen, Associate Professors John Carlsen and John Kuada, Allan Næs Gjerding, and Pernille K. Jensen, a Ph.D student.

International Marketing, Market Analysis and Export Promotion

Issues of International Marketing/Market Analysis are heavily researched world-wide. Keeping up-to-date on the scientific debate, we have decided not to take part in mainstream research in this field, but instead focus on alternative views on export marketing and international marketing research.

In brief, our starting point is the view of the firm as a network member and as an action-oriented rather than planning-oriented firm, thus partly discarding the notion that international activities are and should be strictly planned. Obviously, the role of market analysis changes in an action and network oriented perspective. For a reorientation, it is necessary to step back and define a new research platform based on the broader concept of knowledge generation, as it takes place in companies, and interactism as it takes place between companies.

Furthermore, our research on International Marketing/Market Analysis is more network-based and thus looks at export activities as embedded in long-term social relations.

Finally, this focus area includes the relationship between Government and Business, focusing on public export and investment promotion policies and programmes and how they support firms in their international activities. The aim of this research is to integrate such promotion programmes directly into the theories of the internationalization of firms.

The core research team in this field comprises Professor Olav Jull Sørensen and Associate Professor John Kuada.

Cultural Analysis, Intercultural Management, and International Organizational Development

Researches under this heading have two overriding objectives:

1. To deepen, extend, and apply theories and models in the contemporary literature to international management issues.
2. To develop new theories in the field.

Research in this area examines the core concepts of culture in greater depth and open up wider issues not immediately incorporated in the original models, thereby deepening and extending the discussions in the contemporary literature.

Issues such as inter-cultural understanding, parent company-subsiary relations, inter-cultural competence development of expatriate managers, and cultural dimensions of export product development and marketing, receive primary attention in our empirical investigations. These studies form the basis of the development of new theories as well as the generation of normative prescriptions for international firms.

Countries hitherto covered in our empirical studies include Denmark, Holland, France, and a few countries in Africa as well as the Pacific and the Arctic regions. Joint projects are being discussed with researchers in Lithuania and Russia in order to undertake comparative studies of Western and Eastern Europe.

The core staff within the field of culture and intercultural management is: Professor Hans Gullestrup, Associate Professors John Kuada and Michael Fast, and Assistant Professor Marita Susanna Svane.

Profile of the Research Programme in International Business at Aalborg University

Meta-Theoretical and Methodological Perspectives on International Business	Globalization of the Economy and Internationalization of Industries and Firms	Cultural Perspectives on International Business
	International Marketing/Market Analysis and Export Promotion	
	Cultural Analysis, Intercultural Management, and International Organizational Development	

ORGANISATION, STAFF AND ACTIVITIES

Staff

The staff of the IBE-Group consists of ten full time academic staff, nine PhD students, and three secretaries and project administrators.

Position/name:	Field of Research:
<u>Professors:</u>	
Hans Gullestrup*	Culture and Inter-Cultural Management
Olav Jull Sørensen*	Internationalization of companies
<u>Associate Professors:</u>	
John Kuada**	Inter-Cultural Management and International Marketing
Michael Fast	Organizational Theory and Theory of Science and Methodology
Feiwei Kupferberg*	Entrepreneurship and Emigration
Woody Clark, Jr.	Innovation, Management and Entrepreneurship
Allan Næs Gjerding (on leave)	Innovation Economics, Tech. & Organizational Change
John Carlsen (on leave) **	Development Economics
<u>Assistant Professors:</u>	
Marita Svane*	Inter-Cultural Management
<u>Amanuensis:</u>	
Lars Ib:	International Strategy and Marketing
<u>PhD-students:</u>	
Morten Rask	Internet and the Internationalization of Companies

Position/name:	Field of Research:
Modestas Gelbuda	Organizational Learning and the Internationalization of Companies
Dorthe Nielsen*	Exports to Distant Countries
Ingeborg Nordbøe ^{1*}	Tourism in an Intercultural Perspective
Adelaide Kastner ^{2 ***}	International Competitiveness and Strategy: The Case of Ghanaian Companies
Narteh Bedman ^{3 ***}	Strategic Alliances between Ghanaian and Danish Companies
Steve Donda ^{4 ***}	Co-Management in the Fishery Sector in Malawi
Touch Seang Tana ^{5 ***}	Fishery Management in the Mekong Delta

The stars indicate the share of research time devoted to development issues. * ~ up to 25%; ** ~25-50%, and *** ~above 50%.

Organisation and Activities

The IBE-Group, together with the Group for European Studies and SPIRIT, constitute the Centre for International Studies (CIS). The IBE-Group is organised around three main activities:

- Research projects
- Educational programmes and training
- PhD-programme

Each of the three activities will be briefly described focusing on the relation to development issues.

The general research profile was outlined above. Related to developing countries, we have projects of our own as well as collaborative projects with colleagues and institutions in developing countries. Similarly, we have projects related to so-called transition economies, notably Russia and Lithuania.

The 2-Years M.Sc.-programme in International Business started in 1984 with 5 students and has developed into our optimal size (50-60 students annually). The programme has gradually been internationalized and is today completely conducted in English. The recruitment is international with 15-20 countries represented on each batch of students. The aim is to balance the group internationally to make it truly global to reflect the trends in the global economy.

Over the last five years, the share of students from developing countries has varied from 20-30%. The dominant countries have been Ghana, Cameroon, and Kenya in Africa and China, Pakistan, India and Malaysia in Asia.

PhD students have all along been attached to the IBE-Group. However, the PhD-programme was formally established in 1996. Presently, eight PhD students are attached to the IBE-Group. Four of them are internal and five are financed and supervised in conjunction with Danish or foreign partners.

The IBE-Groups have the following main partners and collaborators in relation to business related development research:

Danish partners:

1. SPIRIT: School for Postgraduate Interdisciplinary Research on Interculturalism and Transnationality.

¹ In conjunction with the PhD-School SPIRIT

² As part of the Danida-Enreca-project with School of Administration, University of Ghana

³ As part of the Danida-Enreca-project with School of Administration, University of Ghana

⁴ In conjunction with Institute for Fisheries Management, Hirtshals, Denmark

⁵ In conjunction with Institute for Fisheries Management, Hirtshals, Denmark

Main area of collaboration: PhD Programme in “Intercultural Co-operation in International Markets and Organisations”.

2. Institute for Intercultural Communications and Management at the Copenhagen Business School.

Main area of collaboration: (a) Research project on Business in Development since 1996, financed by Danida, and (b) PhD-course on Culture and Inter-Cultural Management

Foreign Partners:

3. School of Administration, University of Ghana.

Main area of collaboration: International Business project since 1995, financed by Danida (ENRECA-Project)

4. National Economics University of Hanoi, Vietnam

Main area of collaboration: International Business project from 2001, financed by Danida (ENRECA-Project). In the pipeline.

PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

Project 1: International Business Research in North-South and South-South Perspectives

Development Objectives

The project has been motivated by the awareness of the significance of international business activities to the economic development of the emerging economies of the world and the paucity of research in the areas, particularly by scholars in these countries. The project was therefore initiated as a research capacity enhancement initiative by the IBE-Group of the Centre for International Studies at Aalborg University. It started with the School of Administration, University of Ghana in 1995. Plans are now made to add the National Economics University of Hanoi, Vietnam to the project from 2001. The specific objectives of the project are as follows:

1. To develop a research resource base in the School of Administration, University of Ghana and the National Economics University, Hanoi, Vietnam. This will involve the creation of a Centre for International Business Research in the two universities equipped with computers and other research facilities.
2. To enhance research capacity in the field of international business by encouraging an increased number of researchers in the two developing countries that conduct research on various aspects of international business development
3. To build a framework for the transfer of international business knowledge from researchers to practitioners, i.e. through short training programmes, seminars and symposia primarily to be planned and implemented by Ghanaians and Vietnamese themselves.
4. To enrich the research experience of Danish researchers involved in the project.

Duration

The project started in 1995 with an “initiative project phase” involving the International Business Economics Unit at Aalborg University and the School of Administration, University of Ghana. Danida funded this phase with 200,000dkk. This was followed by project “phase one” covering the period 1997- 2000, again between the two institutions and funded by Danida with approximately 3 million kroner

We have just applied to Danida for the funding of “phase two” of the project to cover the period 2001- 2003. The Department of Intercultural Communication and Management of the Copenhagen Business School and the National Economics University, Hanoi, Vietnam will join the second phase.

Organisation

The Danish institutions in charge of the project are

1. The IB-Group of Aalborg University with Prof. Olav Jull Sørensen as the head
2. The Department of Intercultural Communication and Management of the Copenhagen Business School

Other key Danish participants in the project are

John Kuada, Associate Professor, Aalborg University

Hans Gullestrup, Professor, Aalborg University

Henrik Schaumburg Müller, Copenhagen Business School

Key Issues and Research Focus

Research works done under the project have been guided by the following research themes:

1. The Macro context of International Business in the Developing Countries

Research under this theme focuses attention on the institutional context of developing country-based firms engaged in international business operations. Individual projects include investigations of government-business relationships, the role of local government in export sector development as well as the impact of regional economic and/or political blocks (e.g. the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS], and the EU) or the World Trade Organisation, (WTO) on international business operations.

2. Relationships and Competitive Positioning of Developing Country Firms

The contemporary literature on internationalisation has acknowledged the increasing importance of a hybrid of collaborative arrangements among firms and organisations as a means of leveraging resources and strengthening the competitive positions of firms. It has been argued therefore that studying inter-firm relationships (both within and across nations) provides penetrating insights into the long-term growth capacities of firms in an increasingly globalised economy. Studies under this theme are guided by this perception. Some of the research projects seek to understand the nature of relationships among developing country firms and between them and foreign firms. The roles of industry organisations in promoting or undermining these relationships are also explored. Theoretical inspirations for these studies will be drawn from network and relationship marketing literature as well as discourses on power and trust in such other disciplines as sociology and political science.

3. Entrepreneurship, Organisational Dynamics and Internationalization of Firms

This theme is motivated by the awareness that internal configurations of organisations (including leadership drives, organisational mind set and climate as well as patterns of learning) play a critical role in firms' ability to innovate and grow. Accordingly, a series of research projects have been initiated to investigate this phenomenon. Some of the projects under this theme have specifically explored the applicability of contemporary theories in internationalization to the internationalization process of developing country firms.

Publications

The following publications are available from the project:

Buatsi, Seth N (2000) " The Application of Marketing Communications Models to Assess the Effectiveness of Ghana's Investment Promotion Programmes: A Focus on Ghana Investment Promotion Centre (GIPC)" *Proceedings of The 7th International Conference on marketing and Development, Marketing and Development Challenges in the 21st Century*, January 5-8 School of Administration, University of Ghana, Ghana

Kuada, John (1998) "International Market Selection Decisions of Ghanaian Firms" *Legon Export Outlook* Vol. 1 No.2

Kuada, John (2000) "Internationalisation Policies, Decisions and Strategies in Ghana: An Overview" *Journal of Management Studies* Vol. 15. No.1 , January 2000 pp. 1-9

Kuada, John and Buame, Samuel (2000) "Social Ties and Resource Leveraging Strategies of Small Enterprises in Ghana" *Proceedings of The 7th International Conference on Marketing and Development, Marketing*

and Development Challenges in the 21st century January 5-8, 2000 School of Administration, University of Ghana, Ghana

Kuada, John and Sørensen, Olav Jull (1998) “Catalysts in the Formation and Development of International Strategic Alliances” *Legon Export Outlook* Vol. No.2 pp: 8-18

Kuada, John and Sørensen, Olav Jull (1999) “Upstream and Downstream Processes of Internationalisation: Some Ghanaian Evidence” *Journal of Euromarketing* Vol 7 No. 4 pp: 7- 41

Kuada, John and Sørensen, Olav Jull (2000) *Internationalisation of Companies from Developing Countries* (New York, The Haworth Press), 225 pages

Sørensen, Olav Jull and Kuada, John (1998) “Approaches to the Integration of Ghanaian Companies into the Global Economy” *Working Paper Series* no. 30 Centre for International Studies Aalborg University

Sørensen, Olav Jull and Kuada, John (2000) “Institutional Support for International Strategic Alliances: Some Danish-Ghanaian Evidence” *Journal of Management Studies* Vol. 15. No.1 , January 2000 pp. 114-130

Sørensen, Olav Jull and Nyanteng, Victor K. (2000) “Ghana’s Exports to Neighbouring Countries” *Journal of Management Studies* Vol. 15. No.1 , January 2000 pp. 114-130

Sørensen, O. J. and Seth Buatsi (2001): “Internet and Exporting: The Case of Ghana.” *Journal of Business and Industrial Marketing* (submitted)

Publications by partner colleagues:

Boachie-Danquah, Yaw (2000) “Privatization, Globalization and Exports: Some Experiences from Ghana” *Journal of Management Studies* Vol. 15. No.1, January 2000 pp. 76-98

Buatsi, Seth N., (2000) “Perceived Risk and the Pre-Export Behaviour of Firms: A Conceptual Model” *Journal of Management Studies* Vol. 15. No.1, January 2000 pp. 10-33

Buame, Samuel “Entrepreneurship and International Business Strategies: An Insight into the Key Success Factors of the Exporting Entrepreneurs in Ghana” *Journal of Management Studies* Vol. 15. No.1, January 2000 pp. 34-51

Nkrumah, Stephen A. (2000) “Toward a Theory of Local Government Development and Promotion of Export Business” *Journal of Management Studies* Vol. 15. No.1, January 2000 pp. 99-113

Project 2: Business in Development: Challenges of Globalisation to the Embedded Firms

Development Objectives

Recent works by sociological and institutional economists based on empirical investigations in selected Asian countries have drawn attention to varieties of successful national business development recipes. They have suggested that development depends significantly on how businesses create and/or take advantage of opportunities inherent in their unique national contexts. The insights into development process provided by these studies have, however, eluded discourses on development in the less developed nations of the world. The present project therefore aims at redressing this neglect in the literature and thereby improve our knowledge of the role of business in the process of social and economic development. Its specific objectives are:

1. To study strategies and practices of developing country based enterprises in the context of increased market orientation and integration into the global economy.
2. Contribute to theory development in the field of business in a development context.

Organisation

The project has been established as a collaborative undertaking between researchers at:

1. The International Business Economics Unit of Aalborg University, with the following participants:
Olav Jull Sørensen, Professor in International Business Economics

John Kuada, Associate Professor in International Management

2. The Department of Intercultural Communication and Management of the Copenhagen Business School, with the following participants:

Henrik Schaumburg Müller, Associate Professor

Michael Hansen, Assistant Professor

Jens Erik Torp, Associate Professor

Peter Wad, Associate Professor

The pilot phase of the project was funded by Danida.

Key Issues and Research Focus

Research works carried out under the project have derived their theoretical inspirations from institutional economics, sociology and international business. Specifically, relational theories, value chain theories, industrial district and cluster perspectives, as well as concepts of embeddedness and social capital have been applied to gain improved understanding of the nature and process of business development in Malaysia, South Korea, Ghana, Zimbabwe and South Africa. The projects have been organised under the following three sub-themes:

1. Embeddedness, Enterprise Development and Industrial Networks in the Emerging Economies

Recent economic development experiments in many poor countries of the world have been guided by neoliberal economic policies. The results have, however, been disappointing. New enterprises have been formed but not at the rate and within sectors anticipated by the protagonists of structural adjustment. This calls into question the validity of previous notions of entrepreneurship and factors influencing the development of entrepreneurial activities. Concepts such as socially embedded resources, trust, social capital and ties within civil society as well as public and formalised programmes for the promotion of private business have been employed in empirical investigations to gain understanding of entrepreneurial behaviours and enterprise development processes in the selected developing countries. The main research question relates to how the non-economic contexts of potential entrepreneurs impact on the emergence and growth of local entrepreneurial activities. The researchers have also been motivated by the need to gain insight into the significance of business groups and industrial network relations for the rise and fall of national corporations in developing countries. The particular research question in this regard is whether the development of competitive national corporations is conditioned by the development and interplay of both powerful business groups and efficient industrial networks/clusters.

The general conclusions of the research investigations are that the success of enterprise development, to a large extent, is dependent on the availability of non-conventional resource leveraging mechanisms as well as insulating and coping mechanisms which enable ventures to withstand dramatic, unpredictable and on-going jolts in developing country economies.

2. Firm Strategies for Upgrading and Enhancement in value chain relationships

One of the most powerful analytical concepts in the study of firm strategy and competitiveness is the commodity (value) chain. Its usefulness has been reflected in studies that examine transactionally linked sequence of functions in the production and marketing of goods and services which each stage adds value to the process of production of goods and services. A central observation in the literature inspired by this approach is that the highest value added is at present concentrated within marketing and design functions and not any longer in manufacturing, while increasingly the governance of value chains rest with companies controlling the former functions.

Some of the research investigations have been concerned with the transactional links between developed and developing country firms based on the theoretical arguments in the value chain perspective.

3. Organisation and management of cross-border business relations

Theme emphasises the roles of mediating intermediary firms and national industrial groups in the development of businesses. Developing country firms are viewed as being involved in cross-border activities in various ways, including jointventures and contractual or alliance arrangements. These interactions facilitate the transfer and development of technological capabilities and accumulation of human capital and skills. Studies under this theme tend to explore the process of the formation and management of such interfirm relations.

Publications

Kuada John (2001): Social Ties and Resource Leveraging Strategies of Small Enterprises n Ghana. Proceedings of the 7th International Conference on Marketing and Development: Marketing and Development Challenges in the 21st century. School of Administration, University of Ghana, Jan. 5-8, 2000.

Sørensen, O. J. (2000): Business Development through Networking: An Explorative Study. Paper presented at the International Conference on Business in Development, Copenhagen Business School, Copenhagen, Nov. 18-19, 2000.

Sørensen, Olav Jull and Kuada, John (2001) "Institutional Context of Ghanaian Firms and Cross-national Inter-firm Relations" in Jacobsen, G. and Torp J.E (Eds.) Understanding Business Systems in Developing Countries (New Delhi, Sage Press)2001 pp. 163-201

Sørensen, O. J., P. Wad, J. Kuada, H. Schaumburg-Müller, and J. E. Torp (1998): Business in Development: In search of a Conceptual Framework. Paper presented at Research Workshop on Business Development, Copenhagen Business school, Copenhagen, Oct. 1-2, 1998.

Project 3: Co-Management within the Fishery Sector

Development Objectives

The objective of the project is to develop new modes of governance between the Government and the Fishery Sector. The fishery sector is important in many developing countries both from an economic point of view and as a source of food and nutrition. Population pressures have made it difficult but essential to find new ways of managing this natural resource. Classical management models have been a top down model, i.e. the sector is managed by the Government and its administrative units. The other extreme is the bottom-up approach where the local communities around the lakes and along the sea shores have established their own management system. With the increasing pressures on the fishery sector, it has been essential to develop new modes of management, one of them being what has been termed the Co-Management System in which the Government and the fishery community jointly take decision and assure that the fish stock is not depleted.

Duration

The project has been running for more than five years.

Project Activities

The project is wide in scope and the Centre of International Studies at Aalborg University is presently involved "only" in two PhD-projects.

The first PhD-project is conducted by Steven Donda from Malawi. The title of his project is "Theoretical Advancement and Institutional Analysis of Fisheries Co-Management in Malawi". He has carried out extensive empirical investigations around two Malawi lakes and through theoretical reflections, he proposes a new co-management system for Malawi-lakes. Steven Donda has submitted his thesis to the university and it will be defended in the spring 2001.

The second PhD-project is conducted by Touch San Tana from Cambodia. The title of his project is "Wetland Policy and Management in Historical Perspective in Cambodia". He has carried out extensive empirical investigations in the Delta and developed new understandings of the fishery sector. He concludes by proposing a new policy and institutional arrangement for the management of the fishery sector. He is expected to submit his thesis in the spring of 2001.

Partners and Organisation

The project partners are the Institute for Fishery Management in Hirtshals, Denmark. IFM is conducting research and provide consultancy services within the Fishery Sector in developing as well

as developed countries. It has established a Co-operation Agreement with Aalborg University within which the Co-Management project takes place.

Publications

Donda, Steven (2000): Theoretical Advancement and Institutional Analysis of Fisheries Co-Management in Malawi. Experiences from Lakes Malombe and Chiuta. PhD-thesis, Centre for International Studies, Aalborg University and Institute for Fisheries Management, Hirtshals, Denmark, vol. I and II.

Tana, T. S. (2000): Wetland Policy and Management in Historical Perspective in Cambodia. PhD-thesis, Centre for International Studies, Aalborg university and Institute for fisheries Management, Hirtshals, Denmark. (Draft)

Project 4: Cross-cultural Business and Project Management – Denmark and the Developing World

Development Objectives

This project has been motivated by the history of Danish involvement in developmental projects in the developing countries. The collapse of the eastern block has added a new dimension to Danish international activities. Danish soldiers and NGOs are now actively involved in peace keeping and relief missions in many parts of the world. At the same time Danish businesses are increasing their internationalisation to disparate cultural regions of the world. The wider geographical coverage of their involvement raises the problems of intercultural competence that forms the focus of the project. Specifically the project will accomplish the following objectives:

1. Improve our understanding of the cultural challenges that Danish people face in their interactions with people from disparate cultural regions of the world.
2. Generate theories and models that reflect this understanding.
3. Provide conceptual frameworks that can form the basis for the development of training programmes in intercultural competence development.
4. Provide guidelines for management practices in the disparate cultural environments.

Organisation

Research activities are undertaken by individual researchers who work in their respective institutions but are linked together in a network. The role of the network is to:

- (1) Provide Danish researchers in the field with a highly qualified and dynamic research context for peer discussions of research issues, designs and results.
- (2) Help channel research results in the field to practitioners in order to provide them with inspirations for cross-cultural management strategies.

The network comprises the following researchers:

John Kuada, Associate Professor, Aalborg University

Hans Gullestrup, Professor, Aalborg University

Marita Svane, Assistant Professor, Aalborg University

Malene Gram, Assistant Professor, Aalborg University

Kirsten Jæger, Assistant Professor, Aalborg University

Anni Aarup Jensen, Assistant Professor, Aalborg University

Martine Cardel Gertsen, Associate Professor, Copenhagen Business School

Simon Kragh, Associate Professor, Copenhagen Business School

Anne-Marie Søderberg, Associate Professor, Copenhagen Business School

Duration

The project has been running since 1990.

Themes

1. Cultural learning and Competence Development in Danish Companies

Differences in cognitive/perceptual processes, learning, communication styles, codes of interpersonal relations, motivational cues/incentives and life transitions have been cited in the literature as some of the factors accounting for intercultural misunderstandings. Studies under this theme build on previous studies in intercultural competence development in Denmark and elsewhere, identify areas requiring new attention and design empirical investigations that improve our knowledge in the area.

2. Comparative Studies in Cultural Learning and Relations

Consistent with the main objective of the project, research under this theme explores the diversities and commonalities between Danish management practices and those found in the developing countries with relatively high degree of Danish business and development activities. The aim is to develop typologies or categories of cultural set ups and explore the nature of cultural adjustments that Danish managers may require to make in the various cross-cultural situations.

3. Integration of Cultural and Economic Theories

A number of studies are also in progress aimed at understanding economics from a socio-cultural perspective. These projects are of basic research types. Since theory development is a central activity in any scientific research we consider the projects initiated under this theme to be of foundational importance to the entire research programme. Our objective is to combine observations and reflections in the extant literature in economics and culture to produce novel and creative insights into theories of cultural economics.

Publications

Gullestrup, Hans (2000) *“An analytic model for Understanding the Complexity of Intercultural Communication in Cross-Cultural Management”*, in: Norlund and Pham Duc Thanh (EDS) *“Asian values and Vietnam’s Development in Comparative Perspectives”*, Hanoi

Gullestrup, Hans (1996) *“Om menneskelig ligestilling og diskriminering set ud fra en samfundsvidenskabelig synsvinkel” (Human equality and Discrimination from a social science perspective)* in: Knudsen (EDT) *“Likeverdi og udstængning – Forsuningsmæssig udfordring”*, Nordisk råd Bergen + Copenhagen

Gullestrup, Hans (1997) *“Kultur, kulturanalyse og kulturetik – eller hvad adskiller og forener os”* (Culture, cultural analysis and cultural ethics) Akademisk Forlag, Copenhagen

Gullestrup, Hans (1997) *“Værdi baseret ledelse i det globale samfund”* (Value-oriented Management in the Global Society) in: Klöcker-Larsen (EDT) *“Mosaik om moderne ledelse”*, CBS, Copenhagen

Gullestrup, Hans (1996) *“Den internationale leder – eller nogle tanker om ledelse i fremtidens globale verdenssamfund”* (The International manager – some statements about Management in the future, Global Society), Børsens Forlag, Copenhagen

Kuada, John (1996) *Working in a Foreign Country: The Concept of Intercultural Competence Development Revisited* Working Paper Series No. 16, (International Business Economics, Aalborg University)

Kuada, John and Chachah, Yao (2000) *Ghana: Understanding the People and Their Culture* (Accra, Weoli Publishing Services)

Kuada, John and Gullestrup, Hans (1998) *“The Cultural Context of Corporate Governance, Performance Pressures and Accountability”* in Demirag, Istemi S. (ed.) *Corporate Governance, Accountability and Pressures to Perform: an International Study* (London JAI Press Inc.) pp: 25-56

Kuada, John (1996) *“Interkulturel kompetenceudvikling i et kulturpsykologisk perspektiv”* in Gullestrup, H. and Lorentsen, A (Eds.) *Interkulturel kompetence- bidrag fra et forskningsseminar* (Aalborg, Sprog og Kulturmøde No. 16)

Kuada, John and Gullestrup, Hans (1999) *“Cultural Categories and Profiles: A Framework for Studying Individuals’ Behaviour in Organizations”* in Lauristin, Marju and Rahnu, Leen (Eds.) *Intercultural Communication and Changing National Identities* (Tartu, Tartu University Press) pp:155-174

Kuada, John and Gullestrup, Hans (2000) "Organisationskultur og interkulturel kommunikation i et internationalt perspektiv" in Petersen, Helle and Anne Katrine Lund (Eds.) *Den kommunikerende organisation* (Frederiksberg, Samfundslitteratur) pp. 25-58

ITI IT Innovation at Aalborg University

General information on ITI at AAU is found at <http://www.iti.auc.dk>

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE

In 1998, Aalborg University decided to concentrate on the application of information and communication technology in teaching, research and administration activities at the university.

It is intended that IT Innovation (ITI) should make visible and utilize the experience already gained by the departments of the university and its study programmes and combine them with inspiration, knowledge and experience gained externally. The purpose is:

- to make use of information and communication technology in the overall activities of the university, wherever it can provide a qualitative improvement
- to encourage, disseminate and make use of up-to-date information and communication technology skills in teaching, research and administration
- to open up, both internally and externally, for access to the university's teaching, its knowledge and its experience
- to ensure that the necessary preconditions – technical, pedagogical and communicative – are present for a qualitative application of information and communication technology in all the activities of the university.

ITI will focus on support, inspiration and the creation of perspective. ITI is to

- be a physical and virtual place of contact, both internally and externally
- create dynamic networks between colleagues and various environments at Aalborg University
- gather and mediate experience, both internally and externally
- make Aalborg University's activities in the IT area known
- support the attainment of IT skills by staff and students

These goals will be reached by

- encouraging and supporting decentralized IT projects all over the university
- organizing seminars and workshops for staff and faculty, as well as partners
- entering into agreements on cooperation with other educational institutions, nationally and internationally
- establishing access to electronic forums and virtual manuals of relevant resources and tools for the application of information and communication technology
- publishing articles about central experiences concerning the application of IT
- establishing networks with IT contact persons in staff-student study committees, departments and administrative units

ITI has a special interest group regarding ICT and development research and practice, which supports projects on ICT and learning, ICT and institutional capacity building and ICT and collaborative research in developing countries. Special attention and support regarding ICT in a development context and perspective seems now evident from "Partnerskab 2000", the new Danish strategy for development and aid, and from recent international evaluations of the ENRECA programme, financed by DANIDA.

ORGANISATION, STAFF AND MANAGEMENT (INCLUDING RELEVANT PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKS)

Management: A steering group appointed by the University Senate, representing the three faculties of Aalborg University, the Administration, and the University Library. Chairman: Assoc. professor Annette Lorentsen

Staff: A network group comprising 2 research professors, 4-5 consultants and research assistance staff, 4 part-time research staff, and a secretariat (1-2 persons). (2001) (6 man-month dedicated to Development Research).

A think tank appointed by the University President representing private enterprises and employers' and employees' organizations (1999).

A network of staff, faculty and students (1999)

The ViLL-project (Virtual Learning), project partner under The Digital North Jutland Initiative.

E-Learning lab NJ. Project under The Digital North Jutland Initiative.

VISCA – Virtual Learning and Sustainable development in Central America. Partners: Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica (UNA), Universidad Autónoma de Nicaragua (UNAN), Universidad Centroamericana de Nicaragua (UCA); Universidad de El Salvador (UES) & Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo (FUNDE). (Application for the ENRECA-programme, DANIDA.

DANIDA AND DANCED PROJECTS SINCE 1995

ITI is related to the SUDESCA-project (Sustainable Development in Central America), ENRECA, DANIDA

OTHER RELEVANT RESEARCH

ITI conduct research on ICT & Learning; ICT, design and implementation; Technical aspects of ICT and Learning; ICT and institutional capacity building; ICT and knowledge creation in the learning organization.

PUBLICATIONS

Arkin E.: UniWeb *GIM International*, February 1999

Brander Christensen, B.1998, Transforming a Dual mode University into Universities of the future. *EADTU NEWS*, November 1998)

Dirckinck-Holmfeld, I & Segura, O. (eds): *Workshop on Virtual Learning* Universidad Nacional, Heredia, Costa Rica, February 1999. Conclusions and recommendations.

Dirckinck-Holmfeld, L. & Lorentsen, A., 1999, *IT-Innovation – A tool for organizational development of the university*. Paper submitted for the IFIP International Working Conference on Building University Electronic Educational Environments, University of California 1999. Kluwer Academic Publishers,

Dirckinck-Holmfeld, L. & Sorensen, E. K., 1999, *Distributed Computer Supported Collaborative Learning through Shared Practice and Social Participation*. Paper for CSCL'99, Computer Supported Collaborative Learning Conference at Stanford. (10 pp)

Dirckinck-Holmfeld, L. (ed.), 1998, *Det virtuelle læremiljø. VIRT-projektet, Erfaringer fra teknologistøttede uddannelser ved Aalborg Universitet*. Aalborg Universitet (129 p.)

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Dirckinck-Holmfeld, L. 2000, Virtuelle læringsmiljøer på et projektpædagogisk grundlag In Heilesen (Ed.) *Universiteter i Udvikling – IKT og Undervisning* Samfunds-litteratur

- Dirckinck-Holmfeld, L. og Georgsen, M., 1996, *Pædagogisk udvikling gennem informationsteknologi*. The Directorate General for Employment, Placement and Vocational Training.
- Dirckinck-Holmfeld, L., Fibiger, B., Nielsen, J., Danielsen, O. & Sørensen, B.H. (Eds), : *Learning in a Virtual Context*. Aalborg University.(forthscimming)
- Dirckinck-Holmfeld, L., Fibiger, B., Nielsen, J., Danielsen, O. & Sørensen, B.H (eds.), 1999, *Læring og Multimedier*, Aalborg Universitet (176 pp)
- Dirckinck-Holmfeld, L., Noes Jensen, B, and Krüger, L., 2000, Pædagogisk koncept. Undervisning i grundlæggende edb - nye undervisningsmetoder. Aalborg Universitet, maj 2000
- Knudsen, M, et.al , 2000, *Project Work in Networked Distance Education*. Paper, 2nd International Conference on Networked Learning, Lancaster, April 2000:
- Knudsen, M., 2000, *A Computer Based Introduction to Matlab*. Paper, Gipseca Seminar on Computer Based Learning, Nablus, Palestine, November, 2000.
- Knudsen, M., J. Nørgaard Nielsen and J. Østergaard, 1999: *A Computer-Based Instruction in Matlab*. Conference paper, CBLISS, Twente, July 1999
- Lorensen, A. 2000, Aspekter af teknologistøttet fjernundervisning på universitetsniveau. PUC-serien, Aalborg Universitet
- Munk Sørensen E. and Haggren, H., 2000, *An overview to Virtual Academy - methods and techniques*. FIG Working Week Conference 2000, 21-26 May 2000, Prague
- Munk Sørensen, E. 1999, *Vision for national vidensformidling Et forsøg på at sammentænke uddannelse, forskning og erhverv på det danske landinspektørrområde*. Institut for Samfundsudvikling og Planlægning, Aalborg Universitet
- Munk Sørensen, E. and Enemark, S., 1999, World Geomatic Academy. Notat om et internet-baseret internationalt samarbejde. Institut for Samfundsudvikling og Planlægning, Aalborg Universitet
- Munk Sørensen, E. 1999, *On the roads to Virtual Universities*. Paper presented at Federation Internationale Geometre Working Week and Survey. Sun City, South Africa 1999.
- Munk Sørensen, E. 2000, *Vision for Aalborg Universitet*. UGlen1-2000.

CPSS Centre for Philosophy and Science Studies

CPSS organizes and coordinates research and teaching in philosophy and science studies at Aalborg University. CPSS covers all areas of philosophy and science studies relevant to the university – among these, problems of development and intercultural communication and understanding.

ORGANIZATION OF CPSS

CPSS is a unit with members from all three faculties, the humanities, social sciences and technological and natural sciences. It is run by a board consisting of Mogens Pahuus, Jens Christensen and Lennart Nørreklit (head).

CPSS comprises a number of research groups and has a portfolio of individual projects. For detailed information see *Filosoffen* December 2000 or *Forskningsprojekter i Center for Filosofi og Videnskabsteori*, Aalborg University 2000.

The following presentation is related to development relevant activities only and thus not representative of CPSS as a whole.

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE

The perspective of development and cross-cultural understanding is one of several other areas of research and special interest at CPSS.

CPSS has a group of scholars working with comparative philosophy and world philosophy in a historical and developmental perspective. In addition, CPSS participates in other development projects where philosophical or cross-cultural perspectives are relevant.

The purpose of CPSS is to introduce theoretical perspectives related to the philosophical foundations of cultures and development processes in studies of development, transition and cross-cultural understanding.

COMPARATIVE PHILOSOPHY GROUP

There are two levels of study in this group: a theoretical and an empirical-historical.

The theoretical level concerns a) the nature of change in general, b) the structure of dialectical processes, c) the constitution of social reality and d) comparative hermeneutics and methodologies. The architectonics of meaning, dialectics of change and dynamics of constituting reality are three major theoretical issues.

The empirical level concerns the history of ideas or world philosophies by which major cultures have understood them-selves from their antique beginning to their encounter with western world and their efforts to modernize their understanding.

Developing cultures studied so far are the Chinese, Indian and Eskimo.

The theoretical and empirical levels are combined in specific comparative studies of the various world philosophies.

The perspective of this group is that development is a common project between developed and developing societies. Therefore, mutual understanding across the different levels of development is a necessary condition. Without that, no mutual trust and respect can be established. The traditional one-way understanding – that the developing understands the developed - is counterproductive because it as a matter of fact in its very design *keeps* the developing party on a lower level, eventhough this is contrary to its very purpose. The group intends to contribute to reducing this problem by studying and informing about comparative philosophy and world philosophy in a developmental perspective.

Research of the group has focused on designing and testing a suitable model of the construction of social reality. The comparative study group has analyzed it empirically in relation to comparative perspectives and is now being tested further in the research group on radical change in business.

Output and goals

The project is a long-term experiment. The cross-cultural understanding base is developed from scratch. Basic understanding has been achieved and an international network is being established. Output so far has been a PhD thesis (Ars Magna) and a number of working papers as well as a variety of courses in comparative philosophy as well as classical and modernization philosophies in China, India and the Islamic world. A number of projects and papers are in the making.

One goal is to establish study programmes on comparative philosophy in a historical and modernization perspective.

Another goal is publication of booklets in Danish with introductions and translations about Chinese, Indian and Islamic classic and modernization philosophies.

Recent articles and working paper concern Konfuzianism, Chinese Legalism and Developments in Greenland.

Primary targets for output concern the theoretical and methodological base for cross-cultural understanding and the understanding Islamic worlds, Chinese culture, Indian – Hindu and Buddhist - cultures and original cultures.

Scholars

Name	Field of Research
Lennart Nørreklit	Chinese, Indian and comparative philosophy, leader
Maziar Etemadi	Islamic philosophy, comparative philosophy
Mogens Pahuus	Philosophy of religion
Jens Christensen	Comparative philosophy of nature
Jesper Garsdal	Buddhist, Japanese and comparative philosophy
Peter Øhrstrøm	Philosophy of religion
Michael Rasmussen	Jewish philosophy
Jes Adolphsen	Originary philosophy, Eskimo world view
Ulli Zeitler	Japanese philosophy
Jürg Zeller	Cross cultural philosophy
Thessa Lindof	Comparative philosophy, Ars Magna
Anindita Balslev	Indian and comparative philosophy
Thomas Bendixen	Political philosophy, human rights
From abroad a.o	
Feng Jun, China	Chinese philosophy, comparative ethics
Kit Christensen, USA	African and American-Indian philosophy

RADICAL CHANGE GROUP

This group is supported by CPSS but basically organized by Department of Production. The group started September 2000 and is headed by Lars Bo Henriksen and supported by a number of PhD students. The perspective of radical change involves business across cultural and developmental boundaries and is thus related to transitional economies.

The group applies methodologies, reality models and development models based on CPSS projects.

Output

Working papers and conference papers presenting the method of analyses.

Scholars

Lars Bo Henriksen, lecturer, head of project.

Lennart Nørreklit, docent

Jan Mauritzen, professor HHK

Several Ph.D students.

INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS

In addition to the group project in philosophy of development and intercultural understanding, there are a number of individual projects at CPSS:

“Philosophy applied to Greenland and Planning” by Jes Adolphsen

“Political philosophy and philosophy of right” by Thomas Bendixen

“Islamic philosophy and other near oriental philosophies” by Maziar Estemadi

“Comparative philosophy of religion” by Jesper Garsdal

“Ramon Llull and Ars Magna” by Thessa Lindof

“The Concept and Structure of Reality” by Lennart Nørreklit

“Philosophy of life and religion” by Mogens Pahuus.

For details see *Forskningsprojekter i Center for Filosofi og Videnskabsteori*, Aalborg University 2000.

SP Singular Development Projects (SP)

A project supported and sponsored by the Danish International Development Assistance (DANIDA), an aid organisation under the Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This project is a part of the PhD-research by Morten Sand Jensen to be finally ended in 2001. The title of the project is *“A study of coastal zone problems related to coral-sand beaches in East Africa - with special attention to coastal erosion”*

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE

The study is a contribution to the coastal zone problems experienced during the last decades in East Africa. The primary aim of this project is to improve the present knowledge of the actual coastal processes along the East African Coast. It is a fact that only few investigations have yet been aimed at this topic. It is therefore evident to attain knowledge of the special environmental parameters important for processes in question and hereby enable a basis for proper decisions for the future management of the coastal zone. The beach erosion seems strongly connected with other problems in the coastal zone as coral reef destruction, mangrove cutting, uncontrolled methods of fishery, overpopulation in the coastal region and in total misuse of the coastal zone. Coastal Zone Management (CZM) is today given a lot of attention and is today an important tool in future when it comes to protection and survival of the vital coastal zone area. These investigations are of more technical nature and not much emphasis will be given CZM.

Another aim is to set up a collaboration between Aalborg University (AAU), Denmark and University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) for exchanging experience and methods of field measurements and analysis of data concerning describing important parameters related to coastal processes. As a result of this a link agreement between the two universities have already been signed in year 2000.

ORGANISATION AND FINANCE

The funds are granted as a contribution to the PhD-research with a sum of DKK 544.560. during a 3-year period. The expenses are mainly used for fieldwork equipment and fieldwork activities in Tanzania.

The Ph.D student organises the project with guidance from the PhD supervisor. This involves planning as well as practical fieldwork. Local assistance is used regarding the practical fieldwork. The local team consists of students from the University of Dar es Salaam. The fieldwork is carried out with a ½ year interval. A co-ordination from (UDSM) is available between the team and AU. A total of around 10 people are directly involved in this project.

PUBLICATIONS

A data report required by DANIDA – yet to be published in primo 2001.

A PhD thesis to be published mid 2001.