

FAU CONFERENCE 2010

Development that matters: Religion, Livelihoods, Social Movements and Community Development

This year's conference includes workshops on:

1. Religion, Communities and Social Change
2. Community Organisations, Livelihoods and Social Change
3. Livelihood, Food and Nutrition
4. Community Entrepreneurs and Local Economic Development

17th – 19th March 2010

Location:

Danhostel Gjerrild,
Gjerrild, Grenaa, Djursland

**Foreningen af Udviklingsforskere (FAU) -
The Association of Development Researchers in Denmark**
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BACKGROUND AND SUBJECT OF THE CONFERENCE:

Since 1990 FAU has hosted an annual conference with the primary aim of making a contribution to contemporary concerns through interdisciplinary debate. Thus it is our hope that also this year the conference will bring together Danish, Nordic and International researchers from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds with development practitioners (from donor agencies, consultancies and NGOs) and advanced students in order to present and discuss important contemporary issues within Danish and international development research and shed light on important processes of development.

The theme of the conference is 'Development that matters? Religion, Livelihoods, Social Movements and Community Development.' Social change takes place in developing countries as continuous processes in time and space. These changes are the outcome of a combination of (sometimes coming as a result of) state policies and international actors, (but more often as results of) as well as local level dynamics (on local level, between government, civil society and the private sector, and within civil society). The 2010 FAU conference aims to trace the various dynamics at the local level in bringing about social change. We need to understand the roles of different themes and actors particularly within civil society in bringing about social change. The conference theme opens up for multi-faceted discussions of participation (social movements) and state policies seen from different actor's levels: Community based organisations, NGOs, faith-based or interest organisations, social movements, political parties, economic actors, government organisations, international donors etc.

The core themes of the conference lie within analysing the processes in society among different levels of action and understanding the power structures both on different levels and between levels in society. In this perspective social change and development could be regarded as 'demand driven' (from below) instead of driven by policies initiated by government and international (donor) organisations. It invites a discussion from many different disciplines and geographical areas - addressing 'development that matters'. Accordingly, the FAU Conference 2010 finds it pertinent to address the situation at the local level, provide a 'bottom-up' perspective on the important development processes that unfolds among the various actors be it local government, individuals, religious groups, civil society organisations, entrepreneurs and others.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS: (further information at the FAU website)

Erica Bornstein is Assistant Professor in Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, USA. She has a PhD from the University of California, Irvine. Bornstein has done extensive research in the areas of philanthropy, charity and humanitarianism, development, human rights, NGOs, political anthropology, and religion, and she has fieldwork experience from southern Africa and India. Bornstein is the author of 'The Spirit of Development. Protestant NGOs, Morality and Economics in Zimbabwe.' (Stanford University Press, 2005), and 'Disquieting Gifts: An Ethnography of Humanitarianism in New Delhi.' (Stanford University Press, forthcoming).

Frances Cleaver is Reader in Development Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Her work is centred on three interrelated themes of central importance to the understanding of poverty, with particular application to the local governance of natural resources: Institutions, collective action and participatory natural resource management; Water governance, poverty and wellbeing; and the everyday politics of natural resource access and gendered livelihoods. Her latest publications include: 'Rethinking agency, rights and natural resource management.', (2009) Chapter 8 in S. Hickey and D Mitlin (eds), *Rights Based Approaches to Development: Exploring the Potential and Pitfalls*, pp 127-144, Sterling, USA, Kumarian Press, and 'Engendering water governance'. Special edition of *Gender and Development*, (forthcoming march 2010).

Kanchan Lama is Coordinator of WOCAN, Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resources Management, Kathmandu, Nepal. She has worked on a series of issues regarding livelihoods, gender and nutrition as a researcher, consultant and NGO person. Her innovative work on building a critical mass of rural women change agents within a IFAD/FAO project has succeeded in providing poor rural women rights to land and in institutionalizing gender in forestry and livestock agencies of Nepal's government. Her recent publications include: 'Livelihood alternatives through empowerment of women.' A case published by IDS Sussex journal, 2008, and 'Gender issues in sustainable Land management.' Thematic paper presented in Workshop organized by UNDP/Department of Forest, Timro Leste, 2008.

Dr. Eginald Mihanjo, senior lecturer at the Department of History, University of Dar es Salaam – presently attached to St. Augustine University of Tanzania. He has a wide background in development research with focus on local ethnic, religious, gender and many other community partner representations. He has taken part in joint research

project on indigenous knowledge systems and concomitant technological transformation in non-farm village enterprises. Among his many publications are: 'Grassroots Participation and Development – Lessons from Village Level.' (Tanzania Journal of Development Studies, Vol. 6, No.1, 2005), and 'Kisi Girls: Assets or Marginalization? The Commodification of Household Production.' (forthcoming).

Workshop 1: Religion, Communities and Social Change.

For decades, religion was effectively ignored in research on local development, in part due to secularist biases in conceptualising development and essentialist conceptions of religion as inherently conservative and therefore irrelevant to development. But religious organizations, institutions, values, ideas and practices are a very real part of the social world in which social change take place, and as such, their inclusion is an indisputable step towards a broader and more empirically based understanding of processes of local development. The workshop intends to explore, among others, different aspects of the relationship between religion and local development, asking questions as to how, when, where, under what circumstances and in what ways religious institutions, organizations, values, ideas and practices play a role in processes of development and social change.

Convenors: Marie Juul Petersen (Department of Regional and Cross-Cultural Studies, University of Copenhagen, UC) and Catrine Christiansen (Department of Anthropology, UC)

Resource persons: Karen Lauterbach (International Development Studies, Roskilde University), Holger Bernt Hansen (Centre for African Studies, UC), Rune Hjarnøe (Department of Regional and Cross-Cultural Studies, UC), Uffe Torm (Danish Missionary Project Department), and Louise Nygaard Rasmussen (Centre for African Studies, UC)

Keynote Presenter: Erica Bornstein, University of Milwaukee, USA.

Workshop 2: Community Organisations, Livelihoods and Social Change

Local organisations in the shape of community-based organisations are often perceived by donors and governments as both an effective and egalitarian media for organising development at the micro-level, particularly as regards access to resources and opportunities. These organisations have been accommodated within the broad, but fuzzy sphere of decentralisation. Local organisations in the shape of social movements, on the other hand, are often opposed to state and local government, as they struggle against state policies.

Regardless of scope and purpose, analysis of local organisations tends to be characterised by the use of notions of 'community', 'cooperation', 'collective action', 'sustainability', 'participation' and 'empowerment'. But who are the stakeholders at local level, and how are different interests articulated? What about representation – whose interests are represented in community based organisations? How effective are local organisations in terms of livelihood improvement? How democratic are they? Can social processes at the local level exclude the state and administration levels? To what extent do state policies and the surrounding economy influence local processes? This workshop invites papers that address very different topics and processes with the local level as the point of departure.

Convenors: Torsten Rødel Berg (Aalborg University, AAU) & Vibeke Andersson (AAU)

Resource persons: Søren Hvalkof (Danish Institute for International Studies, DIIS), Ingrid Nyborg (Noragric, Norwegian University of Life Sciences), Annette Kanstrup-Jensen (AAU), and Mikkel Funder (DIIS)

Keynote Presenter: Frances Cleaver, SOAS, UK.

Workshop 3: Livelihood, Food and Nutrition.

A key issue in reducing poverty and seeking to obtain sustainable livelihood is food. All too many people in particular in rural areas in developing countries experience daily insecurities with regard to daily food supplies. Many attempts to address this have failed in the sense that little change has occurred and presently it is yet highly unsure if the MDGs will be fulfilled. However, addressing food insecurity is not only about increasing the amount of food produced and/or consumed, but also food with the correct nutritional content, as well as food with the nutritional content that can provide a healthy diet for people in different age-groups. Food also has to be culturally acceptable and well tasting. Quantity can't replace quality and preferences. The challenges are related to the many actors involved, whether be the local population, the direct producers, and particularly women who often prepare the food and nurse the children, agricultural extension officers, providers of seeds and inputs, traders, local government, health workers (governmental and NGO).

Convenors: Irene Nørlund (Metropolitan University College, Copenhagen) and Aase Myggind Madsen (VIA University College, Aarhus)

Resource persons: Kirsten Havemann (UFT, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)), Chhoden Blau (former UNDP Bhutan), and Anders Baltzer Jørgensen (UFT, MFA)

Keynote Presenter: Kanchan Lama, WOCAN, Nepal.

Workshop 4: Community Entrepreneurs and Local Economic Development

With high levels of poverty persisting in many parts of the globe, local economic development has (yet) to be able to bring about change in the situation of many poor people and their communities. While models of local economic development is being tried out, lately certain elements like micro credit and micro finance have been highlighted as the magic keys. Often also local or here 'community' entrepreneurs have been viewed as actors who could develop successful enterprises that would bring jobs and income to the communities. While the entrepreneurs do, they are facing different market challenges (lack of input, finance and tough competition - more and more often from international chains). And many questions remain unanswered (individual entrepreneurial capacities versus community (common) efforts, including the role of local government and civil society organisations), how to instill change in environments that are reluctant to change, and how to secure that local earnings remain at the local level, become (re-)invested and contribute to potential growth.

Convenors: Søren Jeppesen (CBDS, CBS) and Jørgen Dige Pedersen (Aarhus University, AU)

Resource persons: Jens Müller (AAU) and Annette Skovsted Hansen (AU)

Keynote Presenter: Eginald Mihanjo, University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

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1401 København K

PRACTICALITIES:

The conference will take place at the Danhostel Gjerrild, Dyrhavevej 9, Gjerrild. The conference centre is situated at Djursland, approx. 15 kms north of the city of Grenaa. You will be registered by turn in accordance to the time of your payment. However, please note that the number of participants per workshop is limited, which means that the final selection of participants will be based on an assessment of relevance by the convenors, and that the number of students' seats is limited.

Time: Wednesday 17 March 2.00 pm. – Friday 19 March 1.00 pm.
Location: Danhostel Gjerrild, Dyrehavevej 9, Gjerrild, 8500 Grenaa. Phone: +45-86384199, www.danhostel-gjerrild.dk The venue can be reached by bus from Aarhus or Grenaa (for information, ask the FAU secretariat)
Conference fee: Price for non-members of FAU: 1750 Kr.
Price for FAU-members:

- Regular members: 1000 Kr.
- Student-members/Unemployed members: 450 Kr.

The fee includes conference materials, full lodging from 17-19 March, including coffee/tea and cakes. Note that you have to bring bed linen!

For further information, please contact the FAU secretariat (Steffen Randahl). Phone: +45 3269 8690. E-mail: fau@diis.dk. The secretariat is open Wednesdays from 13 to 16. You can find further information about the conference, in particular the workshops and about FAU on our website at: www.fau.dk. The electronic version of the registration form seen below can also be found at the website.

ABOUT FAU:

The Association of Development Researchers in Denmark (FAU) was formed in 1982, and its overall purposes are: 1) to promote research regarding the Third World in general, and within social sciences in particular, 2) to strengthen the network between development researchers and practitioners in Denmark, 3) to support the communication of the results of the research. The membership prices are as follows: Regular members: 250 Kr., Students/Unemployed: 175 Kr., Spouses: 300 Kr. and Institutions: 750 Kr. FAUs Bank/Postal Account number: 0274 - 000 1 65 11 61.

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REGISTRATION FORMAT (**DEADLINE February 14th 2010** – Note: Deadline for abstracts is 15th February. See details on the workshops at the FAU website) PLEASE USE CAPITAL LETTERS.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS (Street & Postal code): Private Institution _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

EMPLOYMENT: _____

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: _____

INSTITUTION: _____

WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN WORKSHOP NO. (IN PRIORITY): _____

FAU MEMBER: YES _____ NO _____

I WOULD LIKE TO BECOME MEMBER OF FAU: YES _____ NO _____

REGISTRATION TAKES PLACE THROUGH MAILING THIS FORMULAR TO FAU AND BY PAYING THE CONFERENCE FEE USING A POSTAL CHEQUE PAYING-IN FORM OR VIA A NET BANKING TRANSFER. BANK/Postal Account no: 0274-0001651161 REMEMBER: REGISTRATION NO LATER THAN: **February 14th 2010** FAU, c/o DIIS, Strandgade 56, 1401 Copenhagen K.

Preliminary Programme:**Wednesday March 17:**

- 12.30-13.30: Arrival and Lunch
13.30-14.00: Opening session (Welcome by FAU & Technical Committee)
14.00-16.00: First key note presentation, by Frances Cleaver: "Community-Based Resource Management, Poverty and Equity"

16.00-16.30: Break
16.30-18.00: Workshops (1st session – 4 in parallel)
18.30-19.30: Dinner
19.30-21.30: Second key note presentation, by E. Mihanjo: "Village level Entrepreneurship, Livelihoods and Local Development"

Thursday March 18:

- 08.00-09.00: Breakfast
09.00-09.15: Introduction to day 2
09.30-12.00: Workshops (2nd session - 4 in parallel), including a break where coffee and tea are available

12.00-13.00: Lunch
13.00-14.45: Third key note presentation, by Erica Bornstein: "Disquieting Gifts: Some Cosmological Considerations Regarding Development and other Humanitarian Endeavors"

14.45-16.00: Break & time to catch a bit of fresh air
16.00-18.00: Workshops (3rd session - 4 in parallel)
19.00-???: Conference dinner (and time for socialising and dance)

Friday March 19:

- 08.00-09.00: Breakfast
09.00-11.00: Introduction to day 3 & Fourth key note presentation, by Kanchan Lama: "Food Security and Livelihood in perspective of Nutrition, Women's contributions and Climate Change"

11.00-12.00: Final panel: Four key note presenters' reflections on the conference theme & Comments from the participants
12.00-12.30: Brief evaluation & Closing session
12.30-13.30: (Departing) Lunch

FORMAT AND STRUCTURE:

The conference will be organised around four workshops which are planned around a set of criteria: 1) to reflect key challenges, and possible policy approaches, 2) to include cross-disciplinary approaches and contributions of a variety of academic fields, 3) to take stock of present strong holds in the Danish Development Research environment and discuss pertinent views with input from key Nordic and international researchers in the fields. The plenary presentations aim at presenting overall issues of concern for all the participants and discuss linkages between research and practice, whereas the workshops deal with specific subjects and allow a more in-depth assessment of these themes based on paper presentations and discussions.

WORKSHOPS:

The workshops are being organised by one or more convenors assisted by one or several of the resource persons who are also invited speakers. The (typical) format of the sessions in the workshops will be (short) presentations, followed by comments by discussants, and by discussions among all participants. Apart from the invited presenters, the participants are encouraged to submit abstracts for further papers to be presented in the workshops. Abstracts of approx. 500 words are to be submitted to FAU no later than 1st February, and if accepted, a full paper is submitted no later than 1st March (the format and length of the paper will be communicated by the convenors). Further information on the content and programme of the workshops can be found at the workshop pages at www.fau.dk. Most workshops intend to submit the best papers to Danish and/or international journals for publication afterwards. An anthology of selected papers at an international publishing house is also considered. Written materials, including the papers for presentation and more elaborated descriptions of the workshops, will be made available to the participants prior to the conference.

The Conference is funded by the Research Council for Development Research (FFU), the Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS), Aalborg University and the Centre for Business & Development Studies (CBDS), Copenhagen Business School (CBS).