EVENTS

DEV has developed two new courses on Impact Evaluation. Impact Evaluation is becoming widely used within development research and policy making; donor agencies and country governments are also drawing on high quality impact evaluation evidence to inform development activities. The MSc Impact Evaluation for Development will start in the 2011 academic year, led by Course Directors Dr Ben D’Excelle and Dr Richard Palmer-Jones. A short course on Impact Evaluation for Evidence-Based Policy in Development will run from 4-15th July 2011 at UEA. The course will cover the methods used in evidence-based policy making, including impact evaluation techniques, evaluation research designs, and basic econometrics. The course has been developed by Dr Richard Palmer-Jones and Dr Maren Duvendack.

Professor Declan Conway starts a six month Fellowship at Griffith University, in Australia. Working with the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF) Professor Conway will identify lessons for improved adaptation planning the Australia-Asia Pacific Region, with a focus on water resource management.

The UEA Water Security Centre, in partnership with the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage, is holding a half day meeting on 11th February 2011 on ‘Water and UK Foreign Policy’ at the Institute of Civil Engineers, London. Dr Bruce Lankford will introduce the day and Dr Mark Zeitoun will be discussing his research.

Dr Nitya Rao has been elected to the British Association of South Asian Studies (BASAS) Council. BASAS supports advanced research in the humanities and social sciences of South Asia.

DEV’s post graduate students are hosting the 2nd postgraduate Conference of International Development. ‘New Frontiers: Innovative Approaches to International Development in a Changing World’ will be held at UEA on June 2-3rd 2011. The call for abstracts for papers and posters is out; see here for information on the conference and registering.

Dr Esteve Corbera will start a 5-year tenure track fellowship at the Institute of Environmental Sciences and Technology, Autonomous University of Barcelona, on the 1st of February. He will remain affiliated to DEV through continuing involvement in research projects.
RESEARCH OUTPUTS

Books/Book Chapters


Articles


In an editorial published this week in the Journal of Integrative Environmental Sciences, Thomas Sikor (DEV) calls for a fresh approach to research and practice on forest justice, ahead of the 2011 UN International Year of Forests.

Sikor, T (ed). 2010 ‘Forest justice: towards a new agenda for research and practice?’ Journal of Integrative Environmental Sciences 7 (4) pp. 245-250. This editorial can be accessed via the journal website or as a pre-print version (pdf)


Corbera, E.; Schroeder, H. 2010 Governing and Implementing REDD+ Environmental Science and Policy. A link to the article can be found here.


Dr Esteve Corbera, Dr Oliver Springate-Baginski and Dr Heike Schroeder presented the forthcoming special issue on Governing and implementing REDD+ for the journal Environmental Science and Policy in the past Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP-16). Some papers are already online and can be downloaded from the journal website. Information on the event can be found at: http://www.tyndall.ac.uk/envents/2010/tyndall-climate-summit
Working Papers/Briefs

A new report, ‘The longitudinal impact of HIV and AIDS on rural livelihoods in East Africa’ has been published by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). The report is an outcome of an 18 month study by Professor Janet Seeley and researchers from the MRC/UVRI Uganda Research Unit on AIDS, Uganda; Rakai Health Sciences Programme, Uganda; and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden.

Dr Roger Few, Sergej Anagnosti ‘Supporting Disaster Risk Reduction in Developing Countries’. Report for EU following a consultancy to assist implementation of the EU Strategy for Supporting Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in developing countries.

Dr Edward Anderson, ‘A new approach to assessing state compliance with the obligation to devote maximum available resources to realise economic, social and cultural rights’. This Working Paper explores the ways in which a state realises its economic, social and cultural (ESC) rights, and suggests an alternative way in which a state can use resources to realise ESC rights.

Dr Vegard Iversen, Dr Adriaan Kalwij, Dr Arjan Verschoor, Dr Amaresh Dubey. ‘Caste Dominance and Economic Performance in Rural India’. This working paper draws on a rural Indian household panel data set, covering 1993/1994, and 2004/2005, to test whether marginalised social groups fare worse in terms of income levels when resident in villages dominated by upper castes.

NEW RESEARCH GRANTS

Dr Shawn McGuire is a member of a French-led consortium that has won funding for research into how local seed exchange systems impact on agrobiodiversity. This three year project (2011-2014), funded by the Fondation pour la Recherche sur la Biodiversite, is entitled “Strengthening management of agrobiodiversity through social networks. An interdisciplinary method for analyzing how local seed systems impact the diversity of domesticated plants” (NETSEED).

Dr Bryan Maddox completed ethnographic research for UNESCO’s Literacy Assessment and Monitoring Programme (LAMP) in Mongolia. The research provided analysis and critique of social and cultural issues impacting on the assessment exercise, and included a workshop with the LAMP Mongolia team on the value of ethnographic input to research on literacy on subsequent programme design and policy development.

CONSULTANCY

Dr Sheila Aikman wrote a paper on ‘Adolescent Girls’ Education’ to inform policy and strategy work for the CiBT Education Trust. The paper, for AusAID, provides analysis on issues and barriers to girls attending completing and engaging in education in Asia and the Pacific; makes policy recommendations on AusAID interventions; and advises on options for scaling up AusAID’s education support to improve girls’ education outcomes.

Mr John Sawdon and Ms Minh Nguyen (DEV PhD Students) provided climate change and gender expertise to a GTZ project in Vietnam: ‘Climate Change and Coastal Ecosystem Program’. Covering 5 provinces in Vietnam, they contributed to analysis and understanding of the gender dimensions of vulnerability to climate change, and opportunities to strengthen both resilience to climate change effects and gender equality.

As Coordinator of the UK-China Sustainable Agricultural Innovation Network (SAIN) UK Secretariat Office, Dr Yuelai Lu organised and chaired a High Level Experts’ Seminar on Agriculture and Climate Change in Beijing. The seminar considered prospects for emission reduction and carbon sequestration, while ensuring food security; shared UK-China policy and research priorities, and examined best practice for enhancing agriculture’s role in climate change mitigation.

NEW AND FORTHCOMING COURSES/ACTIVITIES

The following UEA based short courses will run in 2011. The Qualitative Diary Method: Researching Organisations and Change (21st January); Water Security for Policy Makers and Practitioners (23rd-27th May); Gender and Development (20th June-1st July); Impact Evaluation for Evidence-Based Policy in Development (4th-15th July); Management Information Systems for Monitoring and Evaluation (15-26th August); Climate Change and Development (31st August-13th September);
Courses on *Gender and Internal Organisational Change*, and *the Professional Development Programme* (in which individuals and small groups can access study programmes tailored to professional needs) can be organized according to interest and demand. For information on these courses please contact devco.train@uea.ac.uk.

For enquiries relating to details in the newsletter please email devresnews@uea.ac.uk or visit the School of International Development’s website: http://www.uea.ac.uk/dev