

International Symposium on Development 2006

Development Cooperation of Norway:

University of Bergen, CHR. Michelsen Institute, and NGOs

Programs and Abstracts

November 23rd and 24th, 2006

National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan

Program

The First Day (Thursday, November, 23rd, 2005)

9:30 Registration

10:30 - 10:40: "Opening Address" Makio Matsuzono (National Museum of Ethnology)

10:40 - 11:00: "Introduction to the Symposium: Development Cooperation of Norway"
Nobuhiro Kishigami (National Museum of Ethnology)

Session 1: University • Research Institute and International Development Cooperation

Chairperson Motoi Suzuki (Chiba University)

11:00 - 11:40: "University of Bergen and International Development Cooperation:
Issues in Research and Education" Edvard. Hviding (University of Bergen)

11:40 - 12:00: Questions and Replies
Comment Junji Koizumi (Osaka University)

12:00 - 13:10: Lunch Break

13:20 - 13:50: "Chr. Michelsen Institute and the Role of Research in International
Development Cooperation" Alf M. Jerve (Chr. Michelsen Institute)

13:50 - 14:10: Questions and Replies
Comment Mayumi Ishikawa (Osaka University)

14:10 - 14:30 Coffee Break

Session 2 International Development Cooperation of Japan

Chairperson Nobuhiro Kishigami (National Museum of Ethnology)

14:30 - 15:10: "Aid Culture in Japan: Reason for a Weak Relation between ODA and
NGO" Kan Hiroshi Sato (Institute of Developing Economies)

15:10 - 15:30: Questions and Replies

15:30 - 16:10: "Challenge of Japanese NGOs"

Toyokazu Nakata (Institute for Participatory Development)

16:10 - 16:30: Questions and Replies

Comment Ichiro Mukai (Japan International Cooperation Agency)

16:30-17:00: Questions and Comments on Sessions I and II

18:30 - 20:30: Welcoming Party near the JR Ibaraki Station

The Second Day (Friday, November, 24th, 2006)

Session 3 International Development Projects by Universities

Chairperson Eisei Kurimoto (Osaka University)

10:20 - 11:00: "Bergen Anthropology in Sudan, 1960-2006: Research, Competence Building and Changing Politics" Leif Manger (University of Bergen)

11:00 - 11:20: Questions and Replies

11:20 - 12:00: "Promoting a Project in the Sudan: A Study of Human Subsistence Ecosystems to Combat Livelihood Degradation"

Hiroshi Nawata (Tottori University)

12:00 - 12:20: Questions and Replies

12:20 - 13:30: Lunch Break

Session 4 Discussions

Chairperson Motoi Suzuki (Chiba University)

13:30 - 15:00 Discussions

"General Comments the Symposium" Motoi Suzuki (Chiba University)

"Comment" Yoshiyuki Takahashi (Japan International Cooperation Agency)

"Comment" Toyokazu Nakata (Institute for Participatory Development)

"Comment" Junko Maruyama (Kyoto University)

"Comment" Makito Minami (National Museum of Ethnology)

"Comment" Nobuhiro Kishigami (National Museum of Ethnology)

"Free Discussion" all the participants

15:00 end

Introduction to the Symposium "Development Cooperation of Norway"

Nobuhiro Kishigami

(National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan)

In late November, 2005 I visited the Department of Social Anthropology and Centre for Development Studies at the University of Bergen, the Christian Michelsen Institute (CMI) in Bergen, the Department of Social Anthropology of Oslo University, and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) in Oslo, Norway. These visits were undertaken to gather information on development research, education and projects relating to these organizations. Several characteristics of Norwegian development cooperation were identified during this research.

Firstly, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation financially support various development programs and projects of universities, research institutes and NGOs. Secondly, universities and research institutions participate in international development cooperation projects in various ways. Thirdly, Norwegian NGOs play significant roles in international development cooperation. Finally, social anthropologists and their knowledge are highly valued and socially respected in Norway. The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation employs and utilizes anthropologists as program directors and/or advisors.

This symposium focuses on relationships between international development cooperation and universities/research institutes, those between NGOs and ODA, development NGOs activities, and the Sudan development project of the University of Bergen, with case examples from Norway and Japan. By discussing these cases examples, the roles of universities, research institutes or NGOs in international development cooperation projects will be examined. Furthermore, the symposium will address the following additional questions.

- ① What are the roles of cultural anthropologists and sociologists in Norwegian Development Projects ?
- ② How are the University and Research Institutes involved in the development cooperation projects in Norway?
- ③ How were students of development cooperation trained in Norwegian universities?

University of Bergen and International Development Cooperation: Issues in Research and Education

Edvard Hviding
(University of Bergen)

The University of Bergen (UoB) is a medium-sized European research university with about 16,000 enrolled students and about 2,500 faculty and staff. The university gives high emphasis to international research collaboration and academic exchange; moreover *development-related research and education* constitute one of the UoB's two long-term strategic foci (the other being marine studies). This strategically defined priority actively promotes cooperation with institutions of research and education in developing countries. The overall project portfolio of the UoB and collaborating institutions includes a great range of relevant activities in Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Pacific Islands, with some concrete examples (such as the UoB's relationships since the 1960s with Sudanese institutions) having a history of several decades, pre-dating the institutional strategy on development cooperation. These elements of strategy and actual research and education in turn provide potentials for interesting linkages between UoB scholars, their long-term projects, and Norwegian aid and development policy as represented by the national government and NGOs. Furthermore, many of the projects that involve the UoB in long-term collaboration with partners in developing countries are connected in some way or another to international development agents such as the UN system. In this paper, the speaker describes the unfolding and diversification of development-related research and education at the UoB over the years, addresses the UoB's relationships with a multitude of aid and development agents, and provides critical reflection on the relationships between long-term pure research and short-term applications of research knowledge in contexts of development projects. Much of the illustrative material is taken from the discipline of social anthropology, which occupies a central place in the past and present history of "development studies" at the University of Bergen. A major question to be addressed is the degree to which anthropology's engagement in applied development work can happen through the general premises of the discipline, or whether a narrower form of "development anthropology" is bound to emerge through such engagement.

Chr. Michelsen Institute and the Role of Research in International Development Cooperation

Alf Morten Jerve
(Chr. Michelsen Institute)

Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) is an independent, non-profit research institution focusing on policy-oriented and applied research. Located in Bergen, Norway, it is today a major centre in Europe for social science based studies on development and human rights issues. This work started in 1960 with a programme in development economics financed by the Rockefeller Foundation, which five year later received its first grant from the Norwegian government. Today, CMI receives a core grant from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs amounting to 20% of annual revenue.

The current strategy document for CMI rests on three pillars: (1) enhanced capacity for high quality innovative research, (2) effective dissemination of research findings to inform public debate, and (3) building of equal partnerships with researchers in the South.

The history of CMI reflects general trends in the use of research in development cooperation. The roles of CMI have included technical assistance, policy advice, planning consultancy, evaluation, independent critique and media debate, and training. Jerve will discuss the challenges of balancing between independence and market dependency in applied research, and between policy relevance and academic merit.

The research policy of the Norwegian government sends mixed signals. Jerve will explain the role of non-university research institutes (like CMI) and the struggle to balance between demands from sectors ministries (like the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) for more instrumentally useful research, and demands from the ministry responsible for higher education and research for higher academic excellence.

Aid Culture in Japan: Reason for a Weak Relation between ODA and NGO

Kan Hiroshi Sato

(Institute of Developing Economies, Japan)

In this presentation, I would like to clarify the reason why Japanese ODA (here stands for Official Development Aid) and NGO (here stands for Development Aid conducted by Non Governmental Organizations) have a weak relation. I want to argue that weak relationship between ODA and NGO is a result of Japanese aid culture.

Japan has a rather long history as a nation. As early as 8th century, some government officials had strong concern about the poor people, and some Buddhist priests also tried to help them. And with Meiji restoration (明治維新) in 1868, Japan started as a centralized modern state. But as a developing country, Japan concentrated only on development of its own territory and never tries to extend development aid to other countries. Neither, there was any development NGO such as Missionary organizations in European countries. It is worth mentioning that Imperial Japan (1868–1945) as a developing country had never received international aid as today's standard.

Japanese ODA started only after the Second World War ended. One of the very unique features of Japanese ODA is that it started as War compensation towards south-east Asian countries. It is very much different from the way European countries started their development aid. That was mainly government related activities, and ordinary people (tax payers) had no interests how this money used. In 1960's the nature of Japanese ODA shifted from War compensation to Japanese industrial and diplomatic interests. International cooperation agencies established and technical cooperation and infrastructure building became a salient feature of Japanese ODA. In that period, ordinary Japanese were occupied with their own improvement of daily life to catch up with already developed European countries and United States. Naturally, there was a little interest on developing countries. Even in modern Japanese society, traditional religion such as Buddhism and Shintoism has certain meaning, but both of them have little orientation towards expanding outside Japan. Therefore there had been little motivation for international aid from civil society.

From 1990s on, Japan was pushed up the status of one of the world largest donor but without visible aid culture. This confuse ODA, newly emerged NGOs and taxpayers. Why Japan use its money for international aid? There is no unified,

consensused reason. Each actor tries to refine the reasoning but not succeeded so far.

With the emergence of younger generation who were born in already developed Japan, Aid Culture in Japan is now changing. Conceptual gap between ODA and NGO is narrowing. Individuals who are eager to dedicate themselves on international development aid are increasing. They are hopping job among ODA, NGO, consultant companies and academia. In this context, there is some role which Japanese social scientists like anthropologists and sociologists may play as a bridging agent for shaping up Japanese Aid culture.

Challenge of Japanese NGOs

Toyokazu Nakata

(Institute for Participatory Development)

The Japanese NGOs/Citizens/Non-profit sector used to be smaller and less advanced than those in western developed countries for some historical and cultural reasons. However, over the last ten years, there has been a steady growth of the NGO community in Japan. Much of this growth could be seen as a result of self-initiated (voluntary) activities among citizens responding to the ever-increasing volume of basic human needs in developing regions in the world.

During the last some decades, Japan has risen as an economic power and a major donor, leading to increased expectations and demands on Japanese NGOs among overseas NGOs and UN agencies. Japanese NGOs are also expected to act as watchdogs of Japanese companies and government agencies. Japanese NGOs have therefore grown under the encouragement and rising expectations of certain sectors of Japanese society. There is a growing interest in NGOs among government officials, labor and business leaders and especially, university students. Japanese NGO leaders themselves see the need to grow and expand their work.

There are currently about 250 NGOs with an annual budget of ¥1 million (US\$ 8,700) in Japan. The total budget of all those is about US\$ 220 million while Norwegian Save the Children alone raised fund of more than US\$ 71 million in 2005. Despite of their small financial capacity, some progressive Japanese NGOs, such as SOMNEED working in South India, are taking the initiative in promoting empowerment of the poor and the oppressed in a true sense among both national and international NGOs in the region. Japanese NGOs are now striving to encourage as widely as possible Japanese citizens to broaden their cultural sensitivity and to develop an attitude toward sharing resources and knowledge.

**Bergen Anthropology IN Sudan, 1960 – 2006:
Research, Competence Building and Changing Politics**

Leif Manger
(University of Bergen)

The talk will deal with the history of collaboration within the discipline of social anthropology between Bergen and Sudan. The collaboration started with Professor Fredrik Barth in the early sixties when he was spending a year at the University of Khartoum as a UNESCO-funded "Visiting professor". At the time Fredrik Barth had started a tradition in Bergen of formulating important anthropological research questions related to basic applied and developmental issues of the day. Students could then pursue studies in which they combined their own competence building as students within the discipline of social anthropology with a contribution of knowledge on specific issues of relevance to broad developmental processes. This strategy was combined with a systematic effort to involve students also from the areas in which fieldworks were undertaken, and in that process also create institutional links to the relevant academic institutions in the areas of study.

The stay in Khartoum established the links to the University of Khartoum, and with that a long history of collaboration was started. Over the period of several decades collaborative links have been developed, from a beginning involving a few individual students to more institutionally based programmes developed through the efforts of Professor Gunnar Haaland and Gunnar Sørbo (the latter is currently Research Director at the Chr. Michelsens Institute in Bergen). Through funding from NORAD (the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation) "The Savanna Project" was in operation from the mid 1970s into the 1980s. In the mid-1980s, "The Red Sea Area Programme" operated out of a newly established Centre for Development Studies at the University of Bergen, also involving geographers and botanists. This programme was financed by the then Ministry of Development Cooperation and was part of the larger "SSE-programme", The Sudan-Sahel-Ethiopia Programme. In the 1990s funding was made available through NUFU, a new institution established through an agreement between the Council for Norwegian Universities and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, providing funding for research collaboration between academic institutions in North and South. The relevant academic collaboration during this period has been "The East African Dryland Programme", involving collaboration with anthropologists from Sudan,

Ethiopia, Uganda and Tanzania, and drawing administrative support from OSSREA, the Organisation of Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa. At the time of writing the Chr. Michelsen Institute is involved in a NORAD-funded research programme in the Sudan entitled "Peace Building in Sudan: Micro-Macro Issues", whereas researchers at the Department of Social Anthropology are involved in studies on the Nuba Mountains within the broader programme "Challenging the State: Transmutations of power in contemporary global realities", funded by the Research Council of Norway.

The type of programmes have represented a research tradition that has proved very useful in that it allows several aims to be combined. These are:

1. undertake quality research within the field of social anthropology
2. work on issues that have an applied value and that are of relevance to development questions
3. seek to put the anthropological insights into interdisciplinary contexts
4. establish institutional links to academic institutions in the Developing World, assisting in their research and competence building efforts and in their general efforts to create their own independent academic resource base.
5. strengthen the teaching component in cooperating universities through teaching inputs as well as infrastructural support.

A large number of M. Phil- and Ph.D dissertations have been produced over the years, also by candidates that eventually have ended up as regular staff in their various institutions and thereby have been able to continue academic work. The academic production of such individuals has been used at universities in the Sudan and they have also been employed by development agencies and played important roles in dealing with issues of practical development in the various areas. And the same individuals have also played important roles in initiating and in maintaining formal agreements between the University of Bergen and various collaborative universities and research institutions.

The academic history sketched out above has also provided new opportunities within the field of competence building. From a focus on Sudanese and African students, the programs have been expanding. In the 1990s the department launched an M. Phil programme (established by Professor Gunnar Haaland) in Social Anthropology with a special focus on Human Ecology. Based on funding from NORAD and the Norwegian "Quota Programme" it has engaged students from our collaborative universities in Nepal,

Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda and Bangla Desh, as well as individual students from India and China. Today this programme continues under a new title, "The Anthropology of Development". Some of these students have proceeded to do Ph.Ds, both in Bergen and elsewhere. Developments have also been seen in some of our collaborative universities. Individuals from the department have been active in supporting an M.A. - programme in Social Anthropology at Addis Ababa University (established in 1990). This support has been closely coordinated with similar efforts by the Senior Researcher Johan Helland at the Chr. Michelsen' s Institute who is running a programme of support funded by NORAD. Efforts are being made to extend this collaboration into a triangle, with Addis, Khartoum and Makerere. In Nepal a new M.A. programme was developed by Gunnar Håland in Human Ecology/Social Anthropology which allowed for the education of a number of Nepalese students at Tribhuvan university. New programmes are currently also being developed in China and in India. Within the Department of Social Anthropology the programmes also represent possibilities for Norwegian students who are interested in undertaking studies in the regions where the programmes are located, and the research themes of the programmes continue to be the base of teaching at all levels.

Promoting a Project in the Sudan: A Study of Human Subsistence Ecosystems to Combat Livelihood Degradation

Hiroshi Nawata

(Arid Land Research Center, Tottori University)

In this presentation, I would like to show my vision of a future project in the Sudan.

This research project aims to promote basic studies to examine the interactions between human and nature in drylands, for the purpose of ensuring sustainability of subsistence activities and combating livelihood degradation in local communities of the Arab people in the Sudan. I clarify human subsistence ecosystems by focusing attention on human life support mechanisms and self-sufficient modes of production (hunting, gathering, fishing, herding, farming, and forestry). I intend to propose a scientific framework to strengthen the subsistence productivity and rehabilitation measures for the daily lifestyles of the common people.

In the Sudan, we have a good example of outsiders' inappropriate technologies with shallow scientific understanding caused livelihood degradation in local communities of the people. That was plantation of exotic species *Prosopis* spp. at inappropriate places. If we had better understanding of human subsistence ecosystems, we should not planted there. We need to develop an integrated management system of this plant as soon as possible.

Main research contents and methods are 1) analysis of human subsistence ecosystems that center on four "keystone species" (camel, date palm, dugong, and mangrove); 2) verification of the durability and weakness of the Arab societies focusing on four "eco-tones" (the vicinities of the sea, river, wadi and mountain); 3) examination of future potentiality of four "traditional knowledge" (rehabilitation of wise water management, integrated land management system applied by an indigenous system, the food production with high stability of multi-modes of subsistence, and expansion of the Muslim networks).

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Alf M. JERVE, Christian Michelsen Institute, Bergen, Norway

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