



Dear Colleagues,

This issue of the Australian Development Studies Network Newsletter focusses on Australian aid. It also provides background information on the Australian Council for Overseas Aid (ACFOA), the Herbert Evatt Memorial Foundation and several Australian-based research projects. It covers a number of recent development-related conferences as well as information on forthcoming conferences. It also contains news of recent publication of interest. If you have information on development-related publications, conferences or research projects that you would like to share with over 1,500 people with similar interests, contact the Network. The aim of the Network is to provide a forum for expanding, improving and exchanging information on, and research into, development issues.

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**CONFERENCE REPORTS**

Conference "Education as an International Commodity", University of Queensland, December 1-5

The fourteenth annual conference of the Australian and New Zealand Comparative and International Education Society provided a timely opportunity for Australian, Asian, Pacific Island and New Zealand policy-makers, researchers, educators and students to debate the Australian government's policy to market educational services overseas. The possible economic and social impacts of full fee-paying students were hotly debated between those who saw education as a public social wage and those who viewed it as a private commodity. The papers presented supported a variety of views on both deregulation, and the degree of deregulation appropriate to Australian tertiary institutions. There was some agreement however that current policy is a product of economic recession rather than efforts to improve the quality and quantity of the educational services available. There were strong recommendations for Australian tertiary institutions to re-organise their student services if they are to deal successfully with fee-paying overseas students. The major themes of the conference were "Policies on Education as an International Commodity", "First/Third World Relations and Educational Commodification", "The Experience of Past and Future Overseas Students", and "Programmes for Sale". Overall, the conference highlighted the confusion within the tertiary sector over selling educational services.

*"Politics, Markets and Tertiary Education", (R.D. Scott, University of Queensland)*

Professor Scott, approaching the sale of educational services from an administrative perspective, suggested that although the impact of market forces in education may bring benefits to the sector, these benefits need to be set against hidden costs, and that the exercise of

political authority may be "a valuable and necessary corrective to market forces". Professor Scott said that educational trends are the same in most western countries with a move from politically-imposed uniformity of conditions for staff, students and academic standards to one of deregulation. The logic of deregulation, Professor Scott said, rests on the proposition that the free operation of the market is the best way to allocate resources and this will lead to greater efficiency and to a reduction of the burden on ordinary taxpayers. However in reality deregulation posed a number of dilemmas. Professor Scott said he foresaw it resulting in basic salary differentials as institutions bid against one another and against the private sector for access to "commercially valuable intellectual property" and the major share of resources going to those with the most marketable qualifications.

Conflicts of interest and ethical dilemmas associated with the "metamorphosis of academics into entrepreneurs" have been widely reported in America and Britain. These centre on whether research and teaching should be funded because they are interesting or important, or because they can be sold. In support of some degree of regulation in tertiary education, most particularly for forward planning, Professor Scott suggested that "...the market is not necessarily a good protector of quality...market signals may be outrageously inappropriate in assessing long-term requirements and needs". Professor Scott concluded by saying that there are limits to the appropriateness of the market mechanism for the allocation of educational resources and these should be recognised.

***"International Trade in Education" (Jon Stanford, University of Queensland)***

Supporting the Australian government's policy to introduce fees for Australian students and full fee-paying overseas students Dr Stanford argued that it was appropriate for Australian universities to enter the international market for the sale of education on the grounds that education is a commodity and should be sold on the open market. He also supported full fees for Australian students pointing out that on the open market university education is a good investment and that it is clearly worthwhile now, as it has been in the past, for undergraduates to borrow to finance their education. Dr Stanford maintained that it was a fallacy that university students were poor. Most university students in Australia are recruited from fee-paying schools so there was therefore no objection in principle to paying for education as a commodity. Dr Stanford suggested that the operation of Australian universities was suboptimal because of government over-regulation and that deregulation would revitalise education programmes.

With regard to overseas students Dr Stanford recommended that Australia should "not provide aid to underdeveloped countries by direct grants of education services" and if it wishes to provide tied aid through education it should provide educational vouchers to the governments and allow them to select how the aid should be used.

***"The Commodification of Education: Public into Private?", (Kerry Barlow, Macquarie University)***

Providing an historical perspective to the relationship between capitalist economic systems and education, Dr Barlow stated that "the so-called commodification of education is directly related to the economic crisis that western capitalism is currently experiencing" and that the social and economic consequences are a direct result of capital's attempts to restructure and the state's role in this restructuring. Currently education is part of the state and its operation can be seen as social investment, consumption and expense. It contributes to reproduction of labour power as part of the wage good and as a social contract. It therefore has welfare as well as social investment components. In the international context, Dr Barlow said, "capitalist education has been seen as a form of cultural imperialism which links in closely with economic imperialism". To support this thesis Dr Barlow pointed out that the countries in the region with whom Australia has strong trade links are also those to whom Australia has provided a variety of educational services in the past, and to whom it intends to sell educational services in the future.

Dr Barlow pointed out that in the past a small quota of overseas students were educated in Australia at the taxpayers' expense and while a number of these students were from affluent backgrounds, a significant number were not. With the introduction of fees this situation would change as would the type of courses and the type of education that overseas students would be exposed to. In conclusion Dr Barlow said that restructuring in education emphasizes its social investment rather than its social welfare functions and as education is a major shaping factor in human lives its potential to allow non-capitalist social relations to develop is enormous. "Thus in times of social crisis the struggle to reassert those capitalist forms becomes quite intense. Education has to find a way of serving capital's needs in this economic crisis without abandoning its pretence of offering equality of opportunity".

***"Academic Adjustment: The Other Side of the Export Dollar", (Brigid Ballard, Australian National University)***

This paper provided considerable background information on the academic and social support

requirements of overseas students in Australia. It pointed to the need for Australian institutions considering selling educational services to make adjustments to their counselling services, teaching methods and course content if they are to have long-term success with overseas students. The paper also pointed to the need for overseas students to be prepared to adapt their styles of learning.

Ms Ballard said that while overseas students bring a welcome diversity to Australian educational institutions they also bring different pressures to bear on the Australian academic system. There were four aspects of their previous educational experience that could handicap overseas students. These were the extent to which their traditional cultures have been influenced by western culture; the nature of the education systems through which they have come; the availability of English language teaching in their home countries; and the availability of resources in their home country. Ms Ballard pointed out that although many overseas students face emotional and mental problems while in Australia, they seldom ask for help. She suggested a dislocation between the expectation of the counsellors trained in western theory of personality when confronted with Asian cultural tradition, and dislocation between the student's expectation of the capacity of an official support service to solve problems and the way of identifying and handling these problems as seen by the counsellor.

Ms Ballard explained that in many Asian cultures the relationship between student and teacher differs very greatly from that in Australia, as does the attitude to knowledge, authority and learning. Providing an example from Burma, Ms Ballard stated that the teacher's role is one of great respect, knowledge is fixed and teaching is by rote learning. Education is not designed to open the mind, but to fix respect for what is known. Students trained in this system have difficulty coping with the Australian system in which the teacher's responsibilities differ and the emphasis is on individual, critical thinking. Plagiarism among Asian students, she said, is not considered a misdemeanour, and is misunderstood by Australian teachers.

For a successful entry into the educational commodity market, Ms Ballard said, we must alter our product to suit the market needs without lowering the quality of the training and qualification being offered. To achieve this staff training may be necessary to assist teachers in the new dimensions of their professional teaching. This involves changes in styles of teaching and learning, and a readiness to suspend judgement until the conflict of expectations between staff

and students is recognised and resolved. Although these adjustments may appear to be time-wasting and expensive, Ms Ballard stressed that they are essential and cost-efficient as without the adaptation and assistance overseas students will fail or perform slowly. This has repercussions for students teachers, planners and the nation. "These are corners", Ms Ballard said, "which we cannot ignore and we cannot afford to cut".

**"Problems encountered by Papua New Guinea Students in Australia", (A. Savage, University of Papua New Guinea and D.K. Briggs, Flinders University)**

In association with several papers which presented the experience of Pacific Island, Asian and African students in Australian tertiary institutions, Drs Briggs and Savage outlined the problems faced by those Papua New Guinean students sponsored in Australia under "The Australian Papua New Guinea Education and Training Scheme". Students reported that the major factors influencing their ability to study were personal problems, the most important of which were "worry about family at home", "missing friends and family", and "loneliness". Academic problems such as inadequate preparation for the course, problems with English language and problems with reading and writing essays, were considered less important, while social problems like "unfriendliness of Australians", "finding somewhere to live and eating Australian food" were least important.

The two volumes of the conference proceedings are available for \$20 from:

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**Conference "Australia and the Pacific",  
Sydney University, October 18-19,  
1986**

This two-day conference, organised by the Herbert Vere Evatt Memorial Foundation, reviewed Australia's relations with the South Pacific concentrating on the areas of aid, trade, foreign policy, strategic issues and communication. The keynote speakers included Jean Marie Tjibaou, president of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front in New Caledonia, Father John Momis, deputy leader of the Opposition in Papua New Guinea, Dr Kilifoti Etuati of Western Samoa, Mahendra Chaudry,

assistant secretary of the Fiji Labour Party and Senator Gareth Evans. Other speakers included John Dorrance, the US Consul General in Sydney, Dr Stewart Firth of Macquarie University, Dr Richard Herr of University of Tasmania, Dr Dorothy Shineberg of the Australian National University and Dr John Connell of Sydney University.

Two major themes emerged as the centres for debate. These were New Caledonian independence and a nuclear free Pacific.

***"The Kanak Movement in Historical Perspective: French Colonialism in the Pacific", (Dorothy Shineberg, Australian National University)***

Dr Shineberg outlined the Kanak independence movement against a history of alienation of Kanak land by French settlers, the compression of Kanaks into reservations on the poorest land, and the continued absence of planned development in New Caledonia. Dr Shineberg suggested that Australians were largely unaware of the historical facts that underlie Kanak demands for independence. Like many colonial subjects the Kanaks were subject to forced labour and to a code of laws in addition to the criminal code imposing innumerable restrictions, the most oppressive being a restriction on their movement in their own country. A further imposition was head tax. Dr Shineberg said that the Kanaks did not remain passive and revolts periodically broke out. Rebellions became the excuse for further expropriation of land.

Following World War 2, Dr Shineberg pointed out, French reforms in their Pacific colonies were more advanced than those of the British or Australia. By 1953 French citizenship had been granted to all, primary education was free and compulsory, family allowance was payable to all, there was equal pay and adults of both sexes got the vote. Dr Shineberg however raised the question "what were the Kanaks voting for, and what jobs could they actually get?"

In the 1950s and 1960s a successful reform party, the Union Caledonienne, comprising Kanaks and white liberals, called for independence, but as rich, urban whites became frightened by the electoral majority of the Union Caledonienne, self-government concessions were whittled away and the party leader deprived of civil rights. Dr Shineberg pointed out that few people considered it a coincidence that this occurred at the same time as France began making arrangements to start nuclear testing in French Polynesia.

But it was the nickel boom of 1965-73, that had the most devastating effect on the independence movement. A wave of white and Polynesian immigrants, who had equal voting

rights with Kanaks and French settlers, swamped the Kanak population, which is now a minority. It was not until the Kanaks were in the minority that the French government began discussing a referendum to decide the future status of the territory. Dr Shineberg commented that France seemed able to hoodwink democracies, including Australia, with the "majority rule" argument.

In 1985, following reforms under the Fabius plan of regionalisation, the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS), won three of the four regional councils. This regional structure gives Melanesians the opportunity to develop the rural areas where they mostly live and whose development has always been neglected in favour of Noumea. These gains, however, are now threatened by the Chirac government's policy to reverse all reforms.

Dr Shineberg concluded by stating that the history of New Caledonia has been one of continuing dichotomies - Noumea and the bush, black and white, rich and poor. Although most of the population is Christian, Dr Shineberg pointed out, the Church has consistently failed to bridge these gaps.

***"Australian Perceptions of Kanaky", (Nic Maclellan)***

Nic Maclellan outlined the importance of the mass media in influencing the Australian public's view, and by extension, government policy, on the Kanak independence movement. Due to limited media coverage of New Caledonia and the Kanak movement, Australians tend to see New Caledonia as a tourist resort, and more recently, as a potential source of regional violence and terrorism. While violent clashes between Kanak supporters and the French have dominated news coverage, little attention has been given by the media to social, economic and cultural transformation. Mr Maclellan said that the Australian press downplays the systematic and calculated use of terror by extremists in the settler community; the support of 80 per cent or more of the Kanak population for independence; and the development of militarisation under both socialist and conservative governments. "These issues are crucial if the Australian government and the Australian Labour Movement are to continue their support for a peaceful transition to independence in Kanaky" Mr Maclellan concluded.

***"The Kanak Struggle for Independence", (Jean Marie Tjibaou)***

Jean Marie Tjibaou, who had just returned from New York where he had been lobbying the United Nations for New Caledonia's reinscription on the decolonisation list, outlined the movement's efforts to publicise the issue of Kanak independence and the difficulties of a

small pressure group. The call for reinscription, he said, was the result of a decision taken at the South Pacific Forum last year and at the meeting of the Non-Aligned Nations Movement in Harare. Tjibaou stressed that New Caledonia had been listed as a non-self governing territory under French administration until 1947 when France had ceased to supply information on New Caledonia or other French territories. Reinscription, he said, had been called for on the grounds that there has been no decision by the General Assembly that New Caledonia has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of the United Nations Charter and the Decolonisation Declaration. "The Kanak people", Tjibaou stressed, "do not consider themselves French". Tjibaou called for Australian support for independence in New Caledonia.

Different perspectives on strategic issues were given by John Dorrance who presented the interests of the United States in the region, and Dr Firth who emphasised the need for Australia to take a stronger and more critical stance towards the strategic use of the Pacific by the superpowers. Dr Firth suggested that Australia should follow New Zealand and move towards a policy of "de-nuclearisation". Dr Herr examined different forms of regionalism in the Pacific and the opportunities these offered for collective security.

Conference Papers are available from:

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A background report on the Herbert Vere Evatt Foundation is provided on page 9

**Workshop on Small-scale Agriculture,  
Australian National University,  
December, 1986**

This workshop, organised by the Commonwealth Geographical Bureau and the Department of Human Geography, Australian National University, focussed on the opportunities and constraints of improving production of small-scale agriculture in developing countries. Participants from Asia, Southeast Asia, the Pacific and Africa outlined current developments in their societies. The papers pointed to the importance of smallholder agriculture but to the overall deterioration and alienation of the sector. The constraints to increased production in small-scale agriculture were similar in most societies represented. These were problems with land tenure, size of holdings, restricted access to credit or other inputs, inadequate information about improved techniques and lack of communication between policy-makers and smallholder farmers.

***"Swidden to Wet Padi Field: Government versus Farmers' Perceptions", (Francis Lian, Australian National University)***

This paper, taking the introduction of padi rice in Sarawak as an example, argued that rural development programmes often fail because of the incompatibility and insensitivity of programmes to the development goals and objectives of the farmers. "Contrary to the opinion held by planners", Mr Lian said, "farmers are not resistant to modern innovations but do not adopt them at certain times because they see little benefit in doing so". At other times such innovations are eagerly sought and adopted. The paper shows how strategies of government planners conflict with those of swidden farmers. Planners "possess, at best, only basic ideas about the economic systems of diverse groups of subsistence farmers". As a result policies and strategies are devised with little consideration for variation between regions, economic systems or goals of the farmers.

***"Structural Disability of Small Farming in Assam", (M.Das, Gauhati University, Assam)***

The continued inefficiency of the small-farmer peasants in Assam poses a major economic problem as this group remains the largest socio-economic group in the country. This paper analysed the socio-economic structure of peasantry and outlined the causes for its inefficiency. Dr Das showed how class structure, a legacy of British rule, still persisted in Assam. It relegates peasants to the bottom rung of society where they continue to remain poor. In part this is due to the Raiyatwari system of land tenure. This system, notwithstanding government attempts at land reform, still supports a concentration of holdings in the hands of a few land owners. It has led to the creation of small peasant proprietorship and to stratification of rural society into a few, mutually antagonistic socio-economic classes. Dr Das said that the innovative measures sought by the government with a handful of farmers only achieved their goals at the cost of social justice. Currently, land holdings are too small and fragmented to be economic. "The only way to eliminate these problems" Dr Das suggested, "is to create joint co-operative farming, pooling the means of production of small individual farmers". It is only when this has taken place that Assam will be able to enjoy the benefits of the modern technology and the "green revolution".

***"Choice and the Small Farmer in Baling, Kedah, Peninsular Malaysia", (A. Ahmad, Universiti Kebangsaan, Malaysia)***

This paper pointed out that in peninsular Malaysia, unlike most other rural economies in the Third World, 60 per cent of land cultivated under smallholdings is devoted to cash, rather

than food crops. In Malaysia rubber is the dominant crop and food crops account for only 22 per cent of cultivated land. But as elsewhere, smallholders are faced with poverty. Data obtained from nine villages showed that 45 per cent of rural families were landless and overall 77 per cent of the population was engaged in either rubber or padi production. In these villages only 18 per cent were involved in wage-earning or retailing. Poverty among small rubberholders was widespread. Dr Ahmad said that this was the result of population growth, rising unemployment, lack of manpower interested in agricultural work as well as uneconomic farm size, and the senility of the rubber trees. Although replanting with better clones could overcome this problem, most smallholders were constrained by lack of capital and labour to undertake replanting. Lack of labour compels the smallholder to use contractors to fell trees, a service few can afford. Although assistance with replanting, fertilisers and growth stimulants is available from government, legal title to the land must be produced. In the villages studied two-fifths of landowners did not have legal title to their land. This accounted for 39 per cent of smallholder land. Although bureaucracy caused delays in processing land applications, the major factor was poverty. To secure legal title, land premiums, which could run into several hundreds of dollars, had to be paid within 30 days of title application. Most farmers do not have this money.

In conclusion Dr Ahmad asked the question "what choices do small farmers have when the crops they grow provide low output and low economic returns?" One of the few choices open is to invest family labour off the farm.

*"Increasing Technological and Food Dependency on Smallholder Sugarcane Farms in Fiji", (I. Ali, University of the South Pacific)*

This paper outlined the impact on individual households and the national economy of the drive for increased sugar production on smallholder farms in Fiji during the 1970s. It highlights the problems that have arisen from the emphasis on sugar cane production at the expense of diversified production. Mr Ali said that prior to the mid 1970s farming in the cane belts was a "harmonious mixture of modern commercial and semi-traditional subsistence farming. The farms were ecologically more sound than today ... there was a high degree of food self-sufficiency and dependency on imported foods and technological inputs were minimal". Farmers had greater control over their activities and their outcome.

In the 12-year period 1971-82, the Fijian government encouraged the expansion of sugar production and by 1980 annual production had doubled, reaching over 4 million tonnes.

However this created a decline in local food production, increased dependence on purchased food, dependence on imported machinery, fuel, fertilizer, paid labour, and purchased planting material as well as environmental and nutritional deterioration in the cane farming areas of Fiji.

By 1982, approximately 22,000 individual cane farmers and their families depended directly on the sugar industry and another 18,500 on wages from sugar-related work. The sugar industry employed nearly 25 per cent of Fiji's economically active people. Mr Ali pointed out that when this was considered together with recent changes in sugar production and low world prices, it was an unhealthy situation for a developing country. Cane farmers are now much more vulnerable to off-the-farm economic factors than in the past, they have lost much of their autonomy and due to credit obligations to pay for imported inputs, are forced to plant more cane merely to meet loan repayments. As a result subsistence crops are further neglected and greater emphasis is put on mechanisation. The overall cost of producing cane has therefore increased, lowering the profit to both the farmer and the nation.

*"Small-Scale Agriculture in Namibia: Present Crisis and Future Prospects", (David Simon, University of Leeds)*

This paper outlined the present state of peasant agriculture in Namibia. The current agricultural crisis was shown to be the result of historical structural problems rooted in colonial and apartheid systems rather than drought. Dr Simon outlined increases in poverty and social differentiation in the small scale sector and the acceleration of environmental degradation. Future prospects for the sector Dr Simon said, are bleak.

The proceeding of the workshop will be published shortly. For further information contact:

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**Canberra Conference on International Communication, Canberra, December**

This conference, organised by an international advisory committee and held at the Canberra College of Advanced Education, was attended by internationally recognised academics from a variety of communication and education fields.

An important section of the conference was devoted to telecommunications in developing countries and the impact of the new information order. The keynote speakers included Professor Herbert Schiller, University of California; Professor Guy Lambertson, University of Queensland; Professor Youichi Ito, Keio University, Tokyo, and Professor Donald Cushman, SUNY, Albany.

*"The Privatisation and Transnationalisation of Culture", (H. Schiller, University of California)*

In this paper Professor Schiller outlined the relationship between the increasingly influential transnational corporations and the privatisation of public information by these corporations, through their monopoly of the most modern communication systems.

The power of the new information technologies, he pointed out, is unprecedented. These technologies have been acquired by global companies "drastically changing the balance of power between capital and labour to the advantage of the former, and eroding rapidly the authority of national decision-making". National sovereignty and the national public sphere, he maintained, were being either bypassed, weakened or eliminated. The TNCs, through their control of information insist on and achieve "deregulation" or exemption from social accountability.

Transnational corporations, are becoming increasingly involved in education, Professor Schiller pointed out, leaving behind conventional academic institutions, who cannot afford access to communication technology. The most modern communication systems are being used for corporate education and American corporations are spending upwards of \$40 billion annually on educating their trainees. "The dimensions of direct corporate education are astonishing. A.T. and T. performs more education and training functions than any university in the world. IBM in 1982 invested half a billion dollars in employee education. Their learning centres surpass universities in their sophistication in range of offerings and delivery systems and methods. They are global, linking New York, Rio de Janeiro, Tokyo and Rome. The impact, he suggested, would be to further exclude rather than incorporate Third World countries in this system.

Speaking of the impact of television Professor Schiller said that television, despite academia, was the main, though largely unacknowledged, educator. The monopolization of television for corporate marketing, he said, is increasing. Programming that is sandwiched in between commercials, he said is invariably produced with the sponsor's interests in mind. It is rare in

America he suggested that anything serious or anything likely to unsettle the major advertisers, is shown. Even the public broadcasting services are becoming a target for the big advertisers, resulting in an erosion of the principle of non-commercial broadcasting and a "blurring of the distinction between advertising and programming content".

"The near total monopolization of television for corporate marketing, represents the daily ideological instruction of the viewing audience. This incorporates the incessant identification of consumerism with democracy. More recently, the advertisements carry special social messages, that emphasize anti-communism, jingoism and entrepreneur worship."

Professor Schiller called upon developing countries to take heed of the situation stating that in developed societies it is not only the "capability of the nation to shape its broadcast media to its own specifications that is being destroyed, but the entire informational-cultural sphere is being withdrawn from national jurisdiction by the transnational corporate system, availing itself of the new communication technologies".

*"International Communication: Australia and the Pacific", (Liz Fell, Journalist)*

Ms Fell outlined the problems faced by small island members of the South Pacific Forum who wish to establish satellite-delivered telecommunication services to people living in rural areas and on outlying islands, or to provide educational and social services to the community. She raised a number of political, economic and cultural questions about Australia's dual role as a "junior partner" in the transnational communication market place and as a "senior partner" in the Southwest Pacific. As a senior partner it is partner anxious to draw its island neighbours into the international information economy. "Studies of the region agree", Ms Fell said, that a combination of satellite and terrestrial technology is the way to expand island telecommunications...but efforts to find a suitable supplier of satellite capacity have landed island leaders in a political quagmire which underscores their economic dependence". Ms Fell questioned the Australian government's decision to acquire a domestic satellite system and modify it to cover the South Pacific region and the implications of separate Pacific or South Pacific satellite systems in competition with INTELSAT. She also questioned the impact of the expansion of Australian media conglomerates into South Pacific markets and the introduction of multinational advertising and programming through television. Both initiatives, she suggested, indicate that Australia's national and corporate interests are basically aimed at integrating the third world into the international economy. However, these interests are not

always the same as those of the five million Melanesian, Polynesian and Micronesian people living in the island states that are dependent on Australia for economic assistance.

Ms Fell pointed out that Australian commercial television corporations have exerted considerable pressure on island leaders to introduce television. The social and economic impact of which is questionable. In Fiji a \$F5 million injection of capital will result in an outflow of profit, interest payments and foreign exchange for programme purchase, as well as an outflow of about \$F21 million for purchase of television sets. The benefits to Fiji she suggested were likely to be ephemeral.

**"Radio and Television Training in South East Asia and the Pacific", (Frank Morgan)**

The demand for radio and television training in South East Asia and the Pacific today is reminiscent of Australia at the end of the 1960s. During the 1950s and 1960s, Mr Morgan said, Australia had provided the supporting casts, crews, and exotic locations, for other people's pictures but there was no opportunity for Australians to see and hear and make sense of themselves or their own culture, as there were no film or television training facilities. The establishment of the Australia Council, the Australian Film Commission and the Australian Film, Television and Radio School have changed the situation. Similar training opportunities are now needed in South East Asia and the Pacific. It was of considerable importance, Mr Morgan said, for Pacific Islanders to have adequate training in video and television production so they are able to present visions of themselves and their world, rather than relying on visions provided by those societies who dominate mass media, mass marketing, and mass production.

Proceedings of the conference will be available shortly. For further information contact:

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**Conference on Regional Economic Development in Indonesia, Canberra, February, 1987**

*(This report from Hal Hill)*

This week-long conference was attended by Indonesian and Australian researchers who examined the regional economic development of Indonesia, with special reference to the period

after 1970. Most of the 21 papers presented were written jointly by Indonesian and Australian scholars, including Dr Robert Rice, Dr Michael Rumbiak, Dr Mari Pangestu, Dr Chris Manning, Dr Anne Booth, Dr Hadi Soesastro, Dr Lorraine Corner and Professor Jamie Mackie.

The Indonesian economy is frequently monitored at the macro-economic level, but less attention has been devoted to economic development at regional level. This is in spite of the fact that the regional economic data base is greatly improved, and of the enormous diversity in regional development patterns. Over half the conference was devoted to presenting and discussing the provincial economic surveys. Each survey was organised around a central theme considered by the writers to be a significant feature of the province's development. The final sessions examined major sectoral developments with specific reference to regional factors.

The papers showed that although most provinces appeared to share the effect of Indonesia's rapid economic development to the early 1980s, there were important differences in regional economic structure and in regional policy. A key question for the future is the capacity of the provinces to mobilise their own resources in an era of lower oil prices, and reduced central government revenues.

The conference was coordinated by Hal Hill on behalf of the ANU's Indonesia Project. Proceedings of the conference will be published in both English and Indonesian. In addition, several of the longer provincial economic surveys will be published separately as monographs.

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**Geosciences for Development: The Australian Role in Asia and the Pacific, Macquarie University, August**

*(This report from Mike Katz)*

This workshop, organised by the Association of Geoscientists for International Development (AGID), based in Bangkok, included delegates from Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Keynote speakers included Dr R. Rutland, director of the Bureau of Mineral Resources, Dr J. McDivitt of ESCAP, Indonesia and Dr B. Tan of the University of Malaysia. Special sessions identified areas where Australian expertise could best meet the needs of



geoscientific development. These included onshore and offshore mineral and energy resources, geological hazards and engineering geology, environment and groundwater. The general recommendations arising from the workshop included the need for assistance to small island countries in prospecting, development and management of their mineral resources, especially offshore minerals; provision of encouragement and support to local and regional geological societies and organisations; provision of support to non-governmental organisation, such as AGID, which have extensive contacts in developing countries; that high priority should be given to information services in all areas of geosciences; and that consideration be given to the establishment of an Australian Geoscience Assistance Co-ordination Committee to advise on geoscience aid projects and identify the centres in the country which can best implement projects.

Among the specialised recommendations were support for training courses on vulcanology and information services. It was also emphasised in the workshop that there is a basic and widespread need for hydrological studies of regions, including island nations which depend on groundwater, as well as a need for engineering-geological maps of fast-growing cities.

Copies of the workshop proceedings, *AGID Report 11*, priced at \$US20, are available from:

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## DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND FOUNDATIONS

### The Pacific Programme of the H.V. Evatt Memorial Foundation

*The Evatt Foundation, named after Dr H.V. Evatt, Labour politician, High Court judge and motivating force in the formation of an independent Australian foreign policy, was established in 1979. This report on the new South Pacific project from Gabrielle Vuletich.*

The South Pacific programme, established in 1985, continues Evatt's work in establishing links between Australia and other countries in the region and his concern for the development of all people. The South Pacific programme is centred on regional human rights issues and encourages

practical community-based projects. The Foundation works with other development assistance organisations and to date has restricted its work to Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, New Caledonia and the Solomon Islands. The type of assistance the Foundation is involved in includes sponsorship for publishing an alternative technology handbook and accompanying workshop programmes; a series of training programmes for Kanak people and assistance in setting up a Kanak office for development assistance (AKDEC) in Sydney. Projects to be initiated in 1987 will include youth education and training skills.

For further information contact:

*Gabrielle Vuletich,*  
*Evatt Foundation,*  
*27 Nurses Walk, The Rocks,*  
*Sydney.*  
*Phone (02) 251 3309*

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## South Pacific Smallholder Project

*(This report from Brian Hardaker)*

The South Pacific Smallholder Project, based in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Business Management of the University of New England at Armidale, is supported by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR).

The original project was commenced in 1984 and was carried out in Solomon Islands and Tonga with the aim to identify constraints on, and opportunities for, the development of smallholder agriculture in the South Pacific region. To this end, intensive recording of smallholder farming systems at selected locations in the three countries was undertaken for periods of a year or so. That recording phase has now been completed in both places and data analysis is well underway.

A follow-up project was implemented in Tonga, commencing early in 1986. It was designed to facilitate the collection of additional input-output data on crop production in the Kingdom. The plan is to produce a handbook of reference data that will be useful for farm management work in the country and for agricultural project preparation. In addition, the project is supporting a limited amount of on-farm trials of improved technologies.

The third project will consider the effect of cash cropping on human nutritional status and is to be conducted in Papua New Guinea. It is planned to collect both cross-time and cross-sectional data from samples of households at

selected locations in order to study the effect of different degrees of reliance on subsistence versus cash income on human nutrition, particularly of pre-school children. The project is part of an international research network on this topic being coordinated by the International Food Policy Research Institute in Washington DC.

Project leaders for the work in Tonga and the Solomon Islands are Euan Fleming and Brian Hardaker, University of New England. This work is coordinated with relevant people in the two countries. Brian Hardaker is the Australian research leader for the Papua New Guinea project which will be executed in cooperation with Peter Heywood of the Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research. Those employed on the project include Steve Jones (Solomon Islands), Julie Delforce (Tonga) and Amanda Gyles (Tonga and University of New England). A nutritionist and an agricultural economist will be appointed to work in Papua New Guinea.

A number of publications have arisen from the first two projects. They are listed in the publication section.

For further information on the Smallholder Project contact:

*Prof Brian Hardaker,  
Department of Agricultural  
Economics and Business Management,  
University of New England,  
Armidale, NSW 2351.*

### The Draught Animal Power Project

*(This report from John Petheram)*

The Draught Animal Power project (DAP) is a multi-disciplinary study of draught animals systems in Southeast Asia. It is designed to identify ways of increasing farm productivity and farmer benefits from draught animal enterprises. Initially, the project is operating in Indonesia, with supporting research in Australia where a number of institutions are involved. These include ACIAR, CSIRO, James Cook University, and Melbourne University. The project arose from the previous involvement of James Cook University, CSIRO and Melbourne University staff in livestock development in Southeast Asia and from the recommendations of the ACIAR Draught Animal Power Workshop held in Townsville in 1985. The aims of the project are to:

1. Conduct research to improve the contribution of draught animal enterprises to the well-being of farmers;

2. Conduct research to improve the efficiency of utilisation of draught animals and feed resources; and
3. Communicate with other research and development organisations concerned with DAP.

Research will include herd survival, calf production and rearing, forage use or production, stock security, improved implements or any other factors found to be important to farmers in the systems studied.

Research on nutrition/physiology will concentrate on improving the feeding practices in existing draught animal enterprises. Nutrition specialists are involved in survey design and in long-term monitoring of feeds and practices. A deeper knowledge is required of nutrition requirements of working animals (especially buffalo), before reliable advice can be given. In Australia nutrition research is designed to:

1. Identify and quantify specific nutrients required for different levels of work in cattle and buffalo;
2. Quantify energy costs of work and develop feeding standards for optimising the work/production relationship;
3. To differentiate between nitrogen use in buffalo and cattle and to increase efficiency of use of low cost basal feeds and high protein supplements.

In Indonesia, studies have been conducted into practical methods of reducing heat stress in working buffalo; the effect of work on feed digestibility in buffalo; the effect of rice bran energy supplements on buffalo under working and non working conditions.

Economists working on the project will construct models of activities in selected farming systems that will allow a description of economic functions associated with the possession of draught animals; identification of trends in demand and supply of draught animal power and the substitution possibilities between animal power, human labour and machine power for land cultivation and other farm activities; and evaluate possible changes in both the utilisation of draught animal power and alternative technologies.

The project puts out a newsletter, *DAP Project News*, which contains results of project research. Contributions are invited from other sources on all aspects of draught animal power systems and their development. The newsletter contains the

names and addresses of all those involved in the project.

For further information on the project and the newsletter contact:

*John Petheram,  
DAP Project Coordinator,  
Graduate School of Tropical  
Veterinary Science,  
James Cook University,  
Townsville, Qld 4822.*

### New Centre for Pacific Studies

A new Centre for Pacific Studies is to be established at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand. The Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies will be funded by the estate of the late John Macmillan Brown, who was the first Professor of Classics and English at Canterbury College and later held the chairs of English, History and Political Economy.

The purpose of the Centre will be to encourage and facilitate the investigation and research of the history, traditions, customs, laws and ideas of the peoples of the Pacific. The main areas of research of the Centre will be the societies and cultures, past and present of the indigenous peoples of Oceania (including New Zealand). In developing its research programme the Centre will be responsive to concerns expressed by these peoples.

The Centre will be administered by a Director and a Board appointed by the University Council. The Board will recommend the appointment of visiting fellows and research scholars. For all these positions applications will be encouraged from the indigenous peoples of the Pacific.

Applications are being sought for the position of the Director who will be expected to promote the development of the Centre in co-operation with an advisory committee. The Director should be a scholar with active research in the area as well as competent to administer the Centre and promote its research programme. The salary will be within the range of \$37,000 and \$59,000. Applications close on May 31, 1987.

The annual budget of the Centre will be around \$250,000. The Macmillan Brown collection of approximately 50,000 books, journals and papers, with special emphasis on anthropology and ethnology of New Zealand and

the Pacific region will be made available to researchers. The Centre will give priority to publishing the results of research and to making them available in forms readily accessible to the peoples of the Pacific.

For further information contact:

*Mr W. Hansen,  
Registrar,  
University of Canterbury,  
Private Bag,  
Christchurch, New Zealand*

### THE REGISTER OF DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH AND EXPERTISE

If you want to know who's who in development studies and Third World research; if you want to know the countries in which they have worked, the languages they speak; if you want to know their development-related expertise or their most recent research projects, the *Register of Development Research and Expertise* provides the answers. The *Register* lists those people based in Australia who have worked in developing countries or who have been involved in development-related research. It provides information not only of their research projects but on the publications arising from them. The *Register* has five indexes for easy reference and includes a full index of keywords for selected research projects. It is an invaluable guide to Australian-based expertise in development and has been widely distributed within Australia and overseas. The *Register* is published by the Network and the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR).

The *Register* is available for \$10 plus \$3 postage from:

*Bibliothec,  
Australian National University,  
GPO Box 4,  
Canberra ACT, Australia.*

#### Inclusion in the Register

If you are based in Australia and have expertise or research experience in developing countries and are not listed in the current edition but would like to be included in the next, please contact:

*Pamela Thomas,  
Australian Development Studies  
Network,  
Australian National University,  
Canberra, ACT  
Australia.  
Phone (062) 492466*

## NETWORK SPECIAL REPORT

### ACFOA - THE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR OVERSEAS AID

*Although many Network members know of ACFOA, few are familiar with the variety of work it undertakes, how it operates, or its linkages with both government and non-government aid agencies. In this report Russell Rollason, Executive Director of ACFOA explains its role.*

The Australian Council for Overseas Aid was established in 1965 as the co-ordinating body for Australia's non-government organisations working in overseas aid and development. Currently it has 37 full members and 33 associate members. ACFOA is partly funded by government and partly by fees from its member agencies, with a government grant of \$450,000 covering just over 50 per cent of annual recurrent costs. The Rules of Incorporation state that:

The common objective of all members is to work for social and economic justice, respond to human needs and to help produce conditions through which people can realise their full potential as human beings.

ACFOA does not provide overseas aid or send personnel overseas but provides a forum for voluntary agencies to meet together, share insights, information and experiences and understanding about aid and development. Increasingly, agencies are co-operating in joint development projects or through such consortia as that established by four agencies to handle and monitor food aid provided by ADAB for Africa.

#### The ACFOA Council and Committees

The ACFOA Council annual meeting is attended by representatives of all member agencies. The Council is the main policy-making body, adopting policy resolutions and setting priorities for the coming year. The Council elects an executive of 12 members, including a chairman and other officers. The current chairman, is Mr John Birch, former national chairman of Community Aid Abroad. The Council and executive also establish a number of working committees to implement ACFOA priorities and programmes.

These committees address all the major areas of concern for ACFOA member agencies and generate active programmes and policy resolutions. The current committees are:

1. **Human Rights in the Region Committee** looks at issues of East Timor and the rights of East Timorese people. This committee is chaired by Pat Walsh, Melbourne.
2. **North/South Issues Committee** is chaired by Dormot Dorgan of Australian Catholic Relief, Sydney, and examines the issues of international commodity trade reform as well as international financial and monetary reform.
3. **Indochina Committee**, chaired by Graham Allibrand of Freedom from Hunger, provides a meeting point for the agencies working in Indochina as well as a source of current information for the Department of Foreign Affairs and ADAB.
4. **Pacific Committee** is coordinated by Wendy Rose of Save the Children Fund. This committee meets as two groups in Sydney and Melbourne.
5. **Central American Committee**, established in Melbourne under the chairmanship of Bill Armstrong of the Overseas Service Bureau, considers issues pertaining to aid and inequalities in Central American countries.
6. **Quality of Aid Committee**. In 1987, ACFOA is mounting a campaign aimed at achieving the restoration of the Australian aid programme to its 1985 level of 0.46 per cent of GNP after the cut of 13 per cent to aid in the 1986 budget. The ACFOA Council of 1986 agreed to broaden the brief of the *Quality of Aid Committee* to include a campaign strategy and established two groups, one in Sydney, chaired by Cheryl Fairclough of World Vision, and one in Melbourne, chaired by Michael Henry of Community Aid Abroad.

#### Public Information

Public information programmes and development education within the Australian community have been a consistent priority for ACFOA over the last 21 years. The Education

Committee is a standing committee appointed by the ACFOA executive. In 1985, ACFOA launched a three year co-ordinated education programme. This has been expanded to a five year programme and in 1987 a nationwide training programme for development educators/community motivators will begin. ACFOA publishes a bi-monthly newsletter (*ACFOA News*) and a regular Development Dossier, recent issues of which have been *Australian Trade with South Africa*, *Development in the Pacific - What Women Say* and *Primary Health Care*. A special issue of the newsletter entitled "Stop the Aid Cuts" has just been published. In addition ACFOA produces a large volume of press releases and public statements on development and aid issues and has for sale at very reasonable prices an excellent selection of journals, books and papers on development-related issues.

### Workshops and Seminars

ACFOA regularly organises workshops and seminars on topical aid and development issues. Among the workshops run during 1986 were "The World Bank - Bank or Development Agency?" which also considered the Bank's involvement in transmigration in Indonesia, and "Primary Health Care in the South Pacific", which looked at health problems and health funding in the Pacific.

### Government and International Linkages

A further important activity of ACFOA is cultivating and maintaining relations with the Federal Parliament and relevant government departments as well as contact with key embassies and representatives of United Nations agencies. The focus of ACFOA's government relations is ADAB and the Department of Foreign Affairs. ACFOA meets quarterly with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Hayden. ACFOA's liaison role includes preparing and presenting submissions to parliamentary inquiries that outline the general attitude and opinions of non-government organisations as reflected in ACFOA.

The Canberra office of ACFOA has nine staff members. It is a member of the Geneva based International Council for Voluntary Agencies and currently is Vice-Chair of the ICVA Board. ACFOA is also the Australian contact point for the Brussels-based International Coalition for Development Action (ICDA).

For further information on ACFOA contact:

*Ms Pene Lee,*  
ACFOA,  
GPO Box 1562, Canberra  
Phone: (062) 47 4822

For information on development education contact:

*Ms Janet Hunt*  
(at above address)

## CURRENT ISSUES

### AUSTRALIAN AID CUTS

#### Some Facts and Figures

*Following the letters published in the last issue of the Newsletter there has been considerable interest in the exact nature of the government's aid cuts. These were outlined in detail by the Society for International Development (SID) subcommittee to review official development assistance, and made available to SID members. An edited version of their report is reprinted here.*

Over the last three years there have been severe cuts in the Australian aid budget, and in the 1986 budget, overseas aid was cut more heavily than any other major category of government expenditure. The 1986/7 allocation represents 0.39 per cent of projected GNP, or 0.35 per cent, if the subsidy to private overseas students is excluded to produce comparability with pre-1984 figures. Last year's figure was 0.46 per cent. These levels are the lowest for over 20 years. In the portion of the programme where the funds are expended overseas, the effect of the cuts is compounded by the devaluation of the Australian dollar.

Table 1 shows changes in aid distribution by country. Table 2 shows aid cuts by aid type. It includes only those figures that show cuts in monetary terms. The complete statement is available from the Department of Foreign Affairs or from the SID secretary. Both tables are taken from the statement of 1986/7 appropriations for the Australian Development Assistance Bureau.

Table 1

Australian Bilateral Development Assistance: Country Indicative Allocations for Major Recipients (\$m)

|                  | 1985-86<br>Actual<br>Expenditure | 1986-87<br>Estimate |
|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Papua New Guinea | 320.2                            | 318.2               |
| Malaysia         | 58.5                             | 50.8                |
| Indonesia        | 51.0                             | 47.8                |
| Philippines      | 14.1                             | 21.1                |
| Thailand         | 26.6                             | 19.3                |
| China            | 16.9                             | 16.5                |
| Fiji             | 15.6                             | 15.2                |
| Burma            | 12.1                             | 12.6                |
| Bangladesh       | 13.8                             | 12.3                |
| Hong Kong        | 11.8                             | 10.4                |
| Egypt            | 9.3                              | 9.7                 |
| Ethiopia         | 8.9                              | 8.0                 |
| Laos             | 3.8                              | 6.0                 |
| Pakistan         | 5.5                              | 5.9                 |
| Solomon Islands  | 5.6                              | 5.8                 |
| Singapore        | 6.3                              | 5.6                 |
| Vanuatu          | 5.0                              | 5.6                 |
| Tonga            | 4.7                              | 4.9                 |
| Western Samoa    | 5.9                              | 4.3                 |
| Kenya            | 3.9                              | 1.4                 |
| Tanzania         | 3.8                              | 0.6                 |

**Note:** This table includes aid provided through a range of delivery mechanisms: Projects, Training, Staffing Assistance, Bilateral Food Aid, Development Import Grants and Co-financing. Together they represent the 'programmed' aspects of Australia's country aid activities. Also included is the contribution towards the education in Australia of students of these countries. In addition, there are a number of other aid activities not included in the figures, through which countries are supported. These include support provided through the International Development Program, AICAR projects, regional aid programs (especially in the South Pacific and Southeast Asia), support provided through non-government bodies, and by other Government departments and instrumentalities.

Table 2

DISTRIBUTION OF AID CUTS - 1986/87

|   | 1985/86<br>appropriation | 1986/87<br>appropriation | Percentage<br>cut |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
|   | \$                       | \$                       | %                 |
| <b>1. <u>Bilateral aid projects, technical cooperation</u></b>                |                          |                          |                   |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>211,883,700</b>       | <b>207,646,000</b>       | <b>- 2</b>        |
| Items cut within this category:   |                          |                          |                   |
| Development import grants   | 10,832,000               | 6,650,000                | -39               |
| ASEAN/Australia Economic Cooperation Program                                  | 11,075,000               | 7,000,000                | -37               |
| Development import finance facility   | 16,469,000               | 16,000,000               | - 3               |
| Co-financing of projects with international financial institutions            | 13,846,000               | 11,600,000               | -16               |
| <b>2. <u>Bilateral training (exc. PNG)</u></b>                                |                          |                          |                   |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>137,954,444</b>       | <b>115,680,000</b>       | <b>-16</b>        |
| Items cut within this category:   |                          |                          |                   |
| Bilateral training programs   | 26,966,444               | 18,600,000               | -31               |
| Commonwealth Scholarship & Fellows Plan                                       | 1,629,000                | 1,400,000                | -14               |
| International Development Program of Australian Universities & Colleges (IDP) | 7,200,000                | 6,200,000                | -14               |
| Contribution for education in Australia of students from developing countries | 100,851,000              | 87,960,000               | -13               |
| <b>3. <u>Food Aid</u></b>   |                          |                          |                   |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>120,780,000</b>       | <b>8,000,000</b>         | <b>-34</b>        |
| Bilateral food aid  | 58,000,000               | 50,000,000               | -14               |
| World Food Programme  | 62,780,000               | 30,000,000               | -52               |
| <b>4. <u>Support for NGOs</u></b>   |                          |                          |                   |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>10,950,000</b>        | <b>8,375,000</b>         | <b>-24</b>        |
| Australian NGOs overseas aid activities                                       | 9,025,000                | 7,030,000                | -22               |
| International NGOs  | 1,680,000                | 1,100,000                | -35               |
| <b>5. <u>Multilateral Programs</u></b>  |                          |                          |                   |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>61,933,000</b>        | <b>47,300,000</b>        | <b>-24</b>        |
| Items cut within this category:   |                          |                          |                   |
| UN Development Program  | 16,000,000               | 14,000,000               | -13               |
| UN High Commissioner for Refugees   | 4,700,000                | 4,000,000                | -15               |
| UN Fund for Population Activities   | 1,125,000                | 250,000                  | -78               |
| Miscellaneous UN & specialized agency programs                                | 4,565,000                | 800,000                  | -82               |
| Regional programs & organisations   | 17,433,000               | 13,300,000               | -24               |
| International science, technology & research programs                         | 8,000,000                | 6,000,000                | -25               |
| <b>6. <u>Emergency humanitarian relief &amp; miscellaneous</u></b>            |                          |                          |                   |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>18,050,000</b>        | <b>12,200,000</b>        | <b>-32</b>        |
| Emergency humanitarian assistance and disaster relief                         | 15,950,000               | 10,000,000               | -37               |
| Development education & public information                                    | 300,000                  | 200,000                  | -33               |

**Comments on Cuts in Specific Areas**

1. **Aid to Africa.** The aid budget shows clearly Australia's declining commitment to help the continent with the most urgent development needs. The cuts in contributions to United Nations agencies which will particularly affect Africa are the 15 per cent cut in the contribution to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. This follows a 49 per cent cut in

1983/4. Of particular significance to Africa is the 78 per cent cut in Australia's contribution to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). Assistance to Tanzania has been cut by 35 per cent, to Zambia by 49 per cent and to Zimbabwe by 56 per cent.

2. **United Nations Agencies.** Cuts in Australian contributions to the United Nations agencies have been particularly heavy. Three

cuts subsumed under "miscellaneous" in category 5, in Table 2, are a cut of 90 per cent in real terms of the allocation to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency which has a specific charter to assist Palestinian refugees; a 100 per cent deletion of the allocation to the United Nations Environmental programme and a 100 per cent deletion of the allocation to the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the 78 per cent cut in the allocation to UNFPA. The rationale behind this cut is particularly hard to understand when there are population problems at Australia's doorstep.

3. **Aid through Non-Government Organisations.** The proportion of official aid channelled through NGO's in OECD countries averaged 5 per cent prior to the budget. The NGOs have proved themselves able to channel aid effectively and efficiently, particularly to small-scale, village-based development projects. The Jackson Report recommended that the amount of aid channelled through Australian NGOs should double. The 1986 budget cut aid through the NGOs by 18 per cent making the NGO portion of all Australian aid less than 1 per cent of the total.

4. **Bilateral aid to South-East Asia.** The 13 per cent cut in real terms in bilateral aid to Indonesia comes at a time when Indonesia's oil and gas export earnings have dropped by nearly 50 per cent. Aid to Thailand has been cut by 33 per cent.

5. **Food Aid.** Australia has failed to make any commitment to the World Food Programme for 1987/8. Food aid and humanitarian relief to Africa has continued to fall as a share of total ODA, from 12.8 per cent in 1981/2 to 7.8 per cent in 1984/5.

6. **Women in Development.** The allocation of \$500,000 has been held at the original level.

7. **Development Education.** The European governments with the largest and most domestically popular aid programmes are also those which spend realistic sums informing the public on development issues and the role of foreign aid. The 33 per cent cut in ADAB's development education allocations would suggest that Australia does not aspire to a credible presentation of aid priorities to Australian citizens.

In conclusion the SID report recommends that concerned members of the public should write to their members of parliament and to the newspapers voicing their opinion on aid cuts.

The next Network Briefing Paper will deal with targets for Australian aid. It has been prepared by Richard Manning of ADAB.

In reaction to the continued interest in the question of Australian aid to Africa, the Network has organised a symposium which will provide informed debate on **Aspects of Australian Aid to Africa**, Tuesday, March 17, 1.30-5.00 p.m., National Centre for Development Studies, Australian National University, Canberra. For further details see the Forthcoming Conferences Column.

## NEWS BRIEF

### Adjusting to Recession: Will the Poor Recover?

Adjustment policies, which attempt to overcome the impacts of recession and the largely unsuccessful economic policies of the past, are being initiated by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, aid donors and individual governments. The problems of adjustment and their impact on the poor are highlighted in the **Overseas Development Institute Briefing Paper, November 1986** from which the following excerpt is taken.

*Most developing countries have increasingly found it necessary to adjust their economies to adverse developments in the world economy. Since the first oil price rise in the early 1970s, devaluations and cutbacks in public expenditures have been commonplace. While the recent falls in the oil price have provided some relief to non-oil producing countries, their prospects continue to be uncertain. Most commodity prices are depressed, debt servicing costs are still at a high level in relation to export earnings and the outlook for aid and other financial flows is at best unpredictable. "Adjustment" therefore remains firmly on the policy agenda of most developing countries. Moreover, the oil producing countries themselves are now being forced to take painful adjustment measures.*

*In framing balance of payment adjustment policies, little attention has been paid to their effects on poverty, and few adjustment programmes have incorporated measures to cushion their impact on the poor. Because of external economic circumstances, less developed countries have been obliged to implement austerity programmes which have hit the living standards of the poor.*

### Adjusting to Economic Shocks

*Changes in the world economy are transmitted to ldc's through fluctuations in their export earnings and their import costs, as well as changes in the volume and composition of capital flows. Governments attempting to deal with adverse external economic developments have three strategies available to them. First, they can attempt to finance their higher current*

account deficits by international commercial borrowing and seeking concessional import support from aid donors. Second, they can apply trade and capital restrictions to limit imports and capital outflows. Finally, they can attempt to adjust their economies to the new circumstances through "macro" economic measures such as devaluation, and "micro" economic measures such as pricing and investment policies.

In practice, ldfs usually apply some combination of these, reflecting domestic political considerations as well as the influences of the IMF and World Bank. Policy changes may also be required where previous policies have contributed to economic difficulties, or have reduced the economies ability to deal with external shocks.

Adjustment by individual countries must also be set in the context of current international financial arrangements. First, ldfs have been forced to take on a greater burden of global adjustment because developed countries have been unwilling to undertake greater adjustment themselves. Second, most bilateral donors are unwilling to expand their financial support for adjustment by the poorest countries, although many of these countries have now implemented many of the reforms advocated by the donors. For example, at the UN General Assembly's Special Session on Africa in May 1986, the developed countries again urged ldfs to undertake greater policy reform, while most refused to make available sufficient assistance to permit such reforms to succeed. Finally, there are doubts about how effective the adjustment policies of the poorer countries can be given their dependence on primary product exports, at a time when world demand for primary products is growing very slowly.

...The effect of all these factors has been to give ldfs little room for manoeuvre in correcting their imbalances in external payments. Typically, given their limited resources and the need to act quickly, they are obliged to place too much emphasis on expenditure cuts. If they could be given more time and more secure and greater finance, ldfs would not only be able to tackle the problem of adjustment more effectively, but they would have greater prospects for protecting growth and attending to the needs of their most vulnerable groups.

### Impact on the Poor

...Adjustment policies affect the poor in three broad ways. They affect their incomes, either through changes in wages and employment, or through shifts in prices, altering the returns from their productive assets; they change the prices of their most important purchases; and they shift the level and composition of

government expenditures, particularly those in the social sector. Available evidence suggests that these factors generally cause a deterioration in the welfare of the poor, but the extent to which this deterioration is the result of adjustment policies, rather than the recession itself is not clear. The IMF and World Bank have frequently asserted that the poor might have been significantly worse off under a no-adjustment scenario.

### Cuts in Social Services

...In support of fiscal stringency governments have to choose which expenditure to cut and which taxes to raise. Where governments cut social expenditures ... the poor are likely to suffer disproportionately. Government expenditures in social sectors have fallen in both real and per capita terms in many ldfs. For example in Jamaica social service expenditures fell by 44 per cent in real terms between 1981 and 1986 ... in Costa Rica such expenditures fell by 30 per cent per capita. Moreover, the quality of services usually deteriorates by more than such figures suggest. Cuts in health budgets can have severe effects on the poor, and will usually intensify existing inequalities in health care. For example priority is often given to maintaining urban hospitals rather than to protecting the expansion of rural health services, to which the poor have greater access. In Ghana cuts in primary health expenditure during 1984/5 contributed to a rapid increase in the incidence of infectious diseases and related mortality.

Likewise cuts in education budgets reduce the ability of the poor to develop their "human capital" and therefore raise their incomes. Government action to increase educational cost recovery may assist fiscal restraint, but introducing or raising charges for education usually reduces the access of poor children. In Nigeria, state governments have imposed fees on both primary and secondary education and made parents responsible for the entire cost of school books, without providing any compensating protection for poor families. Consequently, the enrolment rate among poor children has fallen drastically. In contrast, university education (which mainly benefits wealthier families) remains largely free.

### Adjustment with Equity

...To protect the poor during the process of adjustment, strategies of adjustment with equity are required. Central to these strategies are policies designed to encourage the participation of the poor in the adjustment process, and thereby raise their incomes. At the same time vulnerable groups (such as children and the elderly) who cannot be drawn into the production system and who are likely to be harmed by adjustment policies, require some form of support.



## Conclusion

... To a large extent, the poor are being left to their own devices, to follow whatever survival strategies are to hand. Yet they have been the least able to bear these burdens. Since structural adjustment inevitably forces governments to review their past policies, and to consider policy reforms, it presents governments with fresh opportunities to tackle poverty alleviation. These consist of increasing the economic participation of the poor and improving their access to compensating services. Whether these opportunities can be taken, however, will depend on the flexibility permitted to developing countries by the availability of finance. With more finance they can take the route of structural adjustment rather than the more treacherous path of stabilisation.

... More recently, changes in the leadership of both the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank open up the possibility of a shift in policy, placing greater emphasis on the needs of the poor. Full copies of this Briefing Paper are available from:

Overseas Development Institute,  
Regent's College,  
Inner Circle, Regent's Park,  
London NW1 4NS

or

Pamela Thomas,  
Australian Development Studies  
Network,  
Australian National University,  
PO Box 4, Canberra.

## NEW NEWSLETTERS

### ADAB Business News

ADAB has begun a new quarterly publication entitled *ADAB Business Newsletter*. Its aim is to provide information on aid of interest to the business community, as part of ADAB's objective of increasing its business liaison activity. The first issue contains information on the impact of budget cuts on the aid programme; improvements to ADAB's project preparation and monitoring; progress of the Development Import Finance Facility (DIFF); a review of Bureau's cofinancing facility; information on ADAB's Technical Co-operation Programme and its role in China; student issues; as well as some facts and figures about the procurement of equipment by ADAB during 1985/6 and the Bureau's use of consultants. While the newsletter is aimed at those with commercial interests in the aid programme, it is also of interest to those working on research into aid and development.

The *Newsletter* reports that although:

... more than \$960 million will be available for development assistance in 1986/7, spending on aid will be around 13 per cent less in real terms than last year. In allocating funds priority had to be given to programs in which firm commitments had been made. This means that much of the force of the cuts has been felt in the so-called "discretionary" activities, such as food aid and multilateral programs. Total aid flows to a wide range of recipients has been reduced. The implementation of current bilateral activities has been slowed, and ADAB will not undertake new activities (including feasibility studies) this year. The exceptions are China, the Philippines, and the South Pacific.

For further information on the aid program contact Ms Ali Sanders (062) 495713).

In regard to student issues the *Newsletter* reports:

A report of the Inter-Departmental Working Party on streamlining options for the sponsored overseas students program and the International Training Institute is due to be presented to Ministers soon. Mr Hayden has agreed to three year transition period (1987-89) to phase out the current funding arrangements for the ... Australian Development Assistance Course Program of ten specialised ADAB-funded courses at six universities. At the discretion of the university, each course will be presented on a marketed basis and ADAB intends to purchase places as determined by the requirements of the various country programs on a guaranteed basis for 1988 and 1989. After 1989 no guarantees will apply.

For further information on student issues contact Ms Marilyn Jackson (062) 495735.

The *Newsletter* also reports on consultancy work commissioned by ADAB for the 1985/86 financial year. Calculated by the value of all service contracts let, including those in-country, the six major recipients of for consultancy work were:

|             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Indonesia   | \$A42.7 million |
| Thailand    | 13.1            |
| Nepal       | 7.4             |
| Philippines | 7.2             |
| Vanuatu     | 4.7             |
| China       | 3.7             |

In association with the *Business Newsletter* ADAB is also making available a 14 page Business Briefing Kit.

Further enquiries about the ADAB Business Newsletter and Briefing Kit should be addressed to:

*Ian Anderson,*  
 Director,  
 Commercial Programs and Business  
 Liaison Section,  
 ADAB, Derwent House,  
 Canberra, ACT 2601  
 Phone (062) 495808

### **Pacific Circle Newsletter**

This newsletter, which is published by the Department of History at the University of Hawaii provides information on conferences and publications of interest to the region. A Pacific Circle workshop is being planned in Hawaii for December 14-16, 1987. One of the principal themes will be "The Pacific Frontier: Exploring Australian-American Comparisons in the History of Science and Technology".

For further information contact:

*Professor Philip Rehbock,*  
 Editor, Pacific Circle Newsletter,  
 History Department,  
 University of Hawaii,  
 2530 Dole Street, Honolulu,  
 Hawaii 96822.

### **The Ideas Centre Bulletin**

The Ideas Centre Resource Centre for International Co-operation, based at 262 Pitt Street in Sydney, has available an excellent selection of teaching aids on global development. These range from primary to tertiary level. In addition the Centre has a library of books and articles on development issues. These are summarised and listed under both subject and country headings in the *Ideas Centre Bulletin* which appears every month. The *Bulletin* is designed as an aid for researchers, teachers, students, journalists, policy-makers and aid and development workers who need to know what is going on in global and Third World development. Photocopies of articles will be supplied on request. Subscription costs \$25 for individuals and \$30 for institutions. For further information contact:

*Ideas Centre,*  
 GPO Box 3930,  
 Sydney NSW 2001

### **FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS**

#### Rethinking Development Issues: Opportunities and Constraints, Flinders University of South Australia, May 13-15, 1987

This workshop, which is being organised by the Centre for Development Studies, Flinders University, with assistance from the Australian Development Studies Network, will provide the opportunity for those concerned with current development theories and policies, to review key issues in the 1980s and evolve possible alternative strategies for the future. The workshop is based on the basic premise of an apparent inability of academics, practitioners and policymakers to evolve strategies of development capable of achieving fundamental structural change in the poor states of the Third World. The workshop will be divided into four major sessions, each allowing time for debate. These sessions are: New Approaches to the World Economy, Production in Capitalist and Socialist Transition, Poverty and the Ultra Poor, and Rethinking the Role of the State.

The papers of invited speakers will be circulated prior to the workshop. For further information contact:

*Dr Cherry Gertzel or*  
*Dr John Browett,*  
 Centre for Development Studies,  
 Flinders University,  
 Bedford Park,  
 Adelaide, SA 5042.

#### Conference on Security and Survival: Priorities for Peace and Development in the Asia-Pacific Region, Kilmaire College, Hawthorn, Victoria, February 27-March 1, 1987

This conference, sponsored by the ACFOA and the Australian Coalition for Disarmament and Peace will consider the links between development and disarmament in the region, the prospects for transarmament, sustainable development and the strategies that could be developed to reduce militarism and foster appropriate development in the region.

For further information contact:

*Janet Hunt,*  
 ACFOA,  
 GPO Box 1562,  
 Canberra  
 Phone (062) 474822

**Please advise the Network of forthcoming conferences, symposia or workshops**

**Symposium on Perspectives of Australian Aid to Africa, Australian National University, Canberra, March 17, 1987**

This symposium organised by the Network, will consider a variety of perspectives on Australia's aid commitment to Africa with special reference to future aid policies. The effectiveness of Australian aid and ways to improve this will be discussed from both African and Australian perspectives. Speakers will include the Zambian High Commissioner to Australia, His Excellency Mr Jason Mfula, Dr David Dorward of the African Research Institute, Russell Rollason executive director of ACFOA, Laurie Engels of ADAB, Professor Helen Hughes and Dr David Lucas of the National Centre for Development Studies and Peter McBurney of the University of Zimbabwe.

The symposium will be held at the National Centre for Development Studies, 1st floor, J.G. Crawford Building, Australian National University. If you wish to join this debate contact:

*Pamela Thomas*  
*Australian Development Studies Network,*  
*Australian National University,*  
*Canberra*  
*Phone (062) 492466.*

**Workshop on the Green Revolution in South and Southeast Asia in Perspective, Australian National University, April 10-12, 1987**

This workshop organised by the Department of Human Geography at the Australian National University will consider the social, economic and ecological impact of the green revolution in Southeast Asia. Among the topics to be discussed will be transfer and performance of rice-based systems in Sri Lanka and the Philippines, the green revolution and income distribution in Indonesia and agricultural gross linkages and rural non-farm activity.

For further information contact:

*Dr David Preston,*  
*Human Geography,*  
*Australian National University,*  
*Canberra ACT 2601,*  
*Phone (062) 49 2234*

**Conference on Science and Life in the Tropics, James Cook University, Townsville, August 24-28, 1987**

The theme of this years ANZAAS Congress, "Science and Life in the Tropics", covers a very broad range of disciplines and research interests, including biological sciences, education and communication sciences, marine science, medical and veterinary sciences and social sciences. A

number of sessions will deal with development issues. An important aspect of the conference will be the sections devoted to health and primary health care in the Pacific, including a two-day section on "Nutrition and Health in the Tropics", convened by Cheryl Rae of the Menzies School of Health Research, Darwin. For further information contact:

*The Organising Secretary,*  
*ANZAAS Congress,*  
*James Cook University,*  
*Townsville, Qld 4811.*

**ASAA Bicentennial Conference, Canberra, 11-15 February, 1988**

The general theme of the Asian Studies Association of Australia conference will be the Australia-Asian connection with four inter-regional panels on the themes of Australians in Asia; Cultural dimensions of Australian-Asian relations; economic aspects of Australian-Asian relations; and perceptions of changing power configurations in Asia. In addition there will be a number of regional panels including several on China. The conference will also have sections on Asian and Australian film-makers and journalism; land reform in Asia; and the quality of women's reproductive health care.

In association with the conference the ASAA Women's Caucus will hold a workshop. This will take place following the main conference. The workshop is not intended as a forum for presenting research results but will concentrate on methodological and epistemological issues which arise when women are the subjects of research or are doing research in Asian countries. Workshop sessions will focus on the ways in which the study of women is changing and will include: what is studied; the kinds of sources used; how fieldwork is done and the problems encountered both in doing fieldwork on women and by women doing fieldwork in Asia. A final session will focus on Asian women academics and will comprise a presentation by women from various Asian countries.

For further information on the conference contact:

*Dr David Marr,*  
*Southeast Asian History,*  
*Research School of Pacific Studies,*  
*Australian National University,*  
*Canberra ACT 2601.*

For information on the China panels contact:

*Dr John Fitzgerald,*  
*Department of History,*  
*University of Melbourne,*  
*Melbourne.*

For information on the women's workshop contact:

*Marion May or Liz Drysdale,  
Human Geography,  
Research School of Pacific  
Studies,  
Australian National University,  
Canberra.  
Phone (062) 493275*

**The 16th Pacific Science Congress,  
Seoul, Korea, August 20-30, 1987**

The theme of the congress will be "New Dimensions of Science, Manpower, and Resources in the Pacific" and will be developed through three general symposia:

1. Development of Science and Technology in the Pacific
2. Population and Food in the Pacific Basin
3. Prospects of the Major Resources of the Pacific Region.

Within these symposia a very broad range of interests will be dealt with including rural development, information flows and communication, appropriate technology, population control, manpower and employment, and the impact of mechanisation and the green revolution on agricultural productivity. A special Extension Workshop with the theme "Development of the Rural Human Resource" will focus on ways in which rural populations are provided with knowledge and information on which to make decisions, and with the skills to use this information. The convenors of this workshop are Doug Gibbs of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Private Bag, Wellington, New Zealand and Professor Hae Kyun Song, of the Department of Agriculture and Extension Education, College of Agriculture, Seoul National University.

For further information on other aspects of the conference contact:

*Professor Choon Ho Park,  
Organizing Committee,  
16th Pacific Science Congress,  
KPO Box 1008,  
Seoul 110, Korea.*

**22nd Institute of Australian Geographers Conference, University of New South Wales, Canberra, August 24-28, 1987**

This conference will have a series of special sessions devoted to Third World development issues. For further information on the development section contact:

*Dr Elspeth Young,  
Australian Defence Force Academy,  
University of New South Wales,  
Campbell,  
Canberra, ACT  
Phone (062) 68597*

**International Conference on Thai Studies, The Australian National University, 3-6 July, 1987**

This conference will deal with 10 major themes: the development of the Thai economy; language and literature; history; minorities and politics; politics and international politics; prehistory and archeology; change in rural Thailand; modern Laos; urban and regional development; and religion and belief systems. Two special sessions have been organized on "Thai studies from a Thai point of view" and "Microcomputers and Asian scripts".

For further information contact:

*Dr Gehan Wijewardene,  
Department of Anthropology,  
Research School of Pacific Studies,  
Australian National University,  
Canberra ACT 2601.*

**Conference on Australia and the Vietnam War, Macquarie University, Sydney, April 27-30, 1987**

Twelve sessions will focus on aspects of the Vietnamese war in Australia and Vietnam and on developments since the war. For further information contact:

*Professor Kenneth Maddock,  
School of Behavioural Sciences,  
Macquarie University,  
Sydney, NSW 2109.  
Phone (02) 889294*

**International Institute of Communications Annual Conference, Sydney, September 1-7, 1987**

This conference will bring together specialists in all areas of electronic communications, telecommunications, broadcasting and new business and education communication systems. It will raise key issues of policy, innovation and development. Two sessions will be devoted to Third World issues, and one to the Pacific. These are "Distance and Nearness: the Impact of Communications in Large Regions"; "Communications and Development", and "The Pacific and the Pacific Rim: A New Exchange". For further information contact:

*John Challis,  
Head of International Relations,  
Australian Broadcasting Corporation,  
GPO Box 9994, Sydney 2001  
Phone (02) 356 5304*

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

### Overseas Publications

Available from OECD Development Centre, External Co-operation, 94 Rue Chardon-Lagache, 75016, Paris.

*Directory of Development Research and Training Institutes: Africa*, 1986, 292 pp. \$US29

*Register of Development Research Projects: Africa*, 1986, 548 pp. \$US48

Available from Methuen, 11 New Fetter Lane, London, EC4P 4EE.

*Development and Underdevelopment: A profile of the Third World*, 1987, J.P. Cole, 5.00

*The Third World City*, 1987, D. Drakakis-Smith, \$5.50

*Population and Development in the Third World*, 1987, Allan Findlay and Anne Findlay, 5.00

*Land Degradation and Society*, 1986, Piers Blaikie and Harold Brookfield (eds), 10.95

Available from Institut Masyarakat, 87 Cantonment Road, 10250 Penang, Malaysia.

*Natives of Sarawak: Survival in Borneo's Vanishing Forests*, 1986, Evelyne Hong, \$US10 plus \$2 postage.

Available from North-South Institute, 185 Rideau, Ottawa, Canada K1N 5X8

*Rural Poverty in Bangladesh*, 1986 A\$US5.00

*Women in Industry: North-South Connections*, 1986, \$US8.50

*Briefing Paper "Fisheries and the Third World*, 1986 \$US2.00

### Australian Publications

Available from Bibliotech, GPO Box 4, Canberra

*Industrialisation and Labour Force Process: A Case Study of Peninsular Malaysia*, 1986, T.G. McGee et al. \$A15.00 plus postage

Available from Australian Council for Educational Research, P.O. Box 210, Hawthorn, Vic 3122.

*Australia's International Relations in Education*, \$A8.95 plus \$3.00 postage.

Available from ANZCIES, Department of Education, University of Queensland.

*Education as an International Commodity*, 1986, R.R. Gillespie and C.J. Collins (eds) vols I and II, \$A20.00

Available from Community Aid Abroad, Development Service, 156 George Street, Fitzroy 3065.

*The Positive Development Program*, 1986, K. Bysouth (ed), \$A15.00 plus \$2.75 postage.

Available from ACFOA, GPO Box 1562, Canberra.

*Development Dossier Central America: A Report of the ACFOA Factfinding Mission*, \$A5.00

*Development Dossier Primary Health Care*, \$A5.00

*Development Dossier Development in the Pacific: What Women Say*, \$5.00

*ACFOA News*, Special edition on Aid Cuts, (Free)

Available from Methuen, Sydney

*Australian Overseas Aid: Future Directions*, 1986, Eldridge, Forbes and Porter (eds), \$28.50

Available from Allen and Unwin, PO Box 764, North Sydney, NSW 2060.

*Indonesia: The Rise of Capital*, 1986, Richard Robison, \$A19.95

*Death and Disease in Southeast Asia*, 1987, Norman Owen (ed). \$A19.95

Working Papers available from Centre for Development Studies, Flinders University, Adelaide.

DP 14 *Changing Occupational Structure, Urban Work and Landowning class: A Study from Rural West Java*, C. Manning. \$A4.50

DP15 *Role of State in Population Planning: Indonesia, Singapore and Pakistan*, R. Hassan and S. Effendi, \$A3.00

Occasional Papers available from South Pacific Smallholder Project, University of New England, Armidale.

OP 1. *Prospects for Smallholder Development in the South Pacific*, J.B. Hardaker, E.M. Fleming and J.C. Delforce, \$A5.00

OP 2. *The South Pacific Smallholder Project*, 1986, J.B. Hardaker and E. Fleming, \$A5.00

OP 3. *A Study of Agricultural Market Development in the South Pacific*, E.M. Fleming, \$A5.00

OP4. *Analysis of the Effects of Staple Food Exports on Domestic Market Operations in Western Samoa*, E. Fleming, \$A5.00

OP 5. *Effects of Price Risk on Agricultural Exporters in the South Pacific: Case Study of Solomon Islands Copra Exports*, E. Fleming, \$A5.00

OP 6. *Analysis of Agricultural Marketing Performance in five South Pacific Countries*, E. Fleming and J. Hardaker, \$A5.00

OP 7. *Tongan Soils: Site Characteristics and Management Practices*, L. Potter, \$A5.00

OP 8. *Economics of Vegetable Production and Marketing in Tamboko: A Case Study*, A-C Kunert, \$A10.00

OP 9. *Ontong Java Atoll: Population, Economy and Society, 1970-1986*, T. Bayliss-Smith, \$A10.00

OP 10. *Women's Work and Development in Tonga*, S. Fleming and M. Tukuafu, \$A10.00

OP 11. *Growth and Change in Village Agriculture: Manakwai, North Malaita*, I. Frazer, \$A10.00

Available from Cambridge University Press, P.O. Box 85, Oakleigh, Victoria 3166, a wide range of texts especially for developing countries.

#### National Centre for Development Studies

##### New Publications

*Cash Cropping, Catholicism and Change: Resettlement among the Kuni of Papua*, Pacific Research Monograph No.14, Olga Gostin, 192 pp. \$12.

*The ASEAN-Australia Transport Interchange*. Proceedings of the 1985 Australian workshop for senior ASEAN transport officials. Peter J. Rimmer editor. 380 pp. approx. \$15.

[Above publications available from Bibliotech, ANUTECH Pty.Ltd. GPO Box 4, Canberra, ACT. 2601, Australia].

#### Island/Australia Working Papers

[All working papers are available free on request from The National Centre for Development Studies, GPO BOX 4, Canberra, ACT, 2600, Australia.]

- 86/16 Fleming, Euan and Hardaker, Brian. *Agricultural supply response in the South Pacific region*. 46 pp.
- 86/17 Hardaker, Brian and Fleming, Euan. *Policy issues in agricultural market development in the South Pacific region*. 46 pp.
- 86/18 Wall, David. *Coconut processing in the Pacific islands*. 44 pp.
- 87/1 Robertson, Max. *The Papua New Guinea Australia trade and commercial relations agreement: a critique*. 48 pp.
- 87/2 Andrews, Les. *The cocoa rehabilitation project in Western Samoa*. 50 pp.
- 87/3 Waugh, Geoff. *The collection of rent in the South Pacific tuna fishery*. 50 pp.
- 87/4 Hetler, C.B. and S-E Khoo. *Women's participation in the South Pacific economy*. 40 pp.
- 87/5 Collins, D.J. *A preliminary assessment of the Fiji tax system*. 47 pp.
- 87/6 Ahlburg, D.A. *Is population growth a deterrent to development in the South Pacific?* 20 pp.
- 87/7 Valentine, T.J. *Some critical problems in the Papua New Guinea financial systems*. 22 pp.

#### Centre Working Papers

- 86/2 Sharpley, Jennifer. *Australia's food aid policy to Africa*. 47 pp.

#### Pacific Economic Bulletin

Vol 1, No.2, is now available, free, on request from: The National Centre for Development Studies, A.N.U., GPO Box 4, Canberra, ACT, 2600, Australia.

The Bulletin presents current economic trends and discusses short term issues in the Pacific region. In No.2 commodity prices, monetary policy in Fiji, development banking in Tonga, coconut processing in the Pacific Islands, the 1985-86 minimum wages board in Papua New Guinea and other ad hoc issues are examined.

Please write or phone Pamela Thomas, The Australian Development Studies Network, National Centre for Development Studies, The Australian National University, G.P.O. Box 4, Canberra, A.C.T., 2601, telephone (062) 492466.