



## July 2009

**Welcome to R4D's monthly e-newsletter**  
*Bringing you information about DFID-funded research*

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### Spreading the good news

DFID's new White Paper **Building Our Common Future** was launched this month. It represents a fundamental shift in the way the UK delivers development aid, refocusing resources onto fragile countries where one third of the world's 1.4 billion poorest people live. For the first time, DFID will treat security and justice as a core part of its work, and plans to increase funding by more than double for this purpose. A focus on jobs in five of the most vulnerable countries – Yemen, Nepal, Nigeria, Ethiopia and Afghanistan – means 7.5 million people will benefit from new jobs and economic opportunities. Concrete measures in the new White Paper include steps to save the lives of 6 million mothers and babies by 2015, as well as plans to send 8 million more children in Africa to school. The commitment to fair and ethical trade continues, with an increase of funding by four times in this area. Climate adaptation, low carbon growth, and protection of forests remain a priority, with £800m of funding to support this work.

The longlist of winners in the DFID–*Guardian* International Development Journalism Competition is **now available** on the *Guardian's* website. Amateur and professional journalists – 20 of each – have written short features on 16 development themes, from Access to information, HIV/AIDS and TB, to Water and sanitation and Women's rights. The writers provide a window into the great work that is taking place around the world, as individuals and organisations of all sizes fight to overcome the challenges that hold people back and keep them in poverty.

And the winning doesn't stop there! The European Commission is sponsoring a '**Music Against Poverty**' contest. Encourage EU musicians aged 15 to 30 to write a song about fighting poverty, and they could be on their way to Stockholm. The deadline is 31 August, 2009, so don't hang about!

**Take note:**

[DFID Climate and Development Knowledge Network – Call for Expressions of Interest](#)  
[DFID Research Programme on Migration and Development – Call for Expressions of Interest](#)  
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## New Projects

### **DFID/ESRC International Development (Poverty Alleviation) Research Scheme (Phase II)**

DFID and the ESRC recognise the long-term value of developing local research capacity, collaborations with developing country partners and stakeholders, and the importance of dissemination of research outcomes. This scheme provides funding for social science researchers to generate new knowledge that contributes to poverty reduction in developing countries and the achievement of the MDGs. **Deadline for applications is 4pm UK time, 24 September, 2009.**

### **Support to the World Conference of Science Journalists 2009**

The WCSJ is held every two to three years and attracts over 600 journalists from more than 50 countries around the world, including from developing countries where there is little infrastructure for supporting specialised training in science reporting. The conference allows journalists to network and learn and report on global scientific issues and to discuss today's challenges in order to raise the standards of the profession worldwide. In addition this year DFID-funded projects such as the WFSJ peer-to-peer mentoring programme (SjCOOP) and others will be showcased.

[More projects](#)

## New Research Documents

### **Mid-Term Pavement Condition Monitoring of the Rural Road Surfacing Trials (RRST): Visual Condition Assessment of RRSR Trial Road Options**

**J. Rolt and J. Cook, SEACAP 27 Technical Paper 1, 2009, 68 pages**

SEACAP 27 is concerned primarily with the continued collection and analysis of pavement performance information from the RRST I and RRST II trial road sections. Mid-term pavement monitoring provides information on early performance and deterioration and is vital if the reasons for deterioration are to be recognised and understood. This Technical Report provides an evaluation of the condition of the RRST monitoring sections based primarily on an analysis of the visual condition surveys undertaken up to and including those completed in July 2008.

### **Hinduism and International Development: Religions and development background paper**

**E. Tomalin, Religions and Development Working Paper No.19, 2009, 66 pages**

This paper provides an overview of existing studies, discusses the views of some of the main academic interpreters who have drawn attention to links between Hinduism and issues relevant to development, and refers to relevant religious organisations. The first section clarifies what is meant by the 'Hindu tradition', the second explores the relationship between Hinduism and some concepts and debates relevant to development, and the final section is a focused investigation into some important contemporary development issues and the ways that Hindus might approach them.

### **The Converging Impact of TB, HIV/AIDS, and Food Insecurity in Zambia and South Africa – Final Working Report**

**V. Bond, M. Chileshe, C. Sullivan, and B. Magazi, RENEWAL Programme Final Working Report, 2009, 87 pages**

Zambia and South Africa are both seriously affected by the dual epidemics of tuberculosis (TB) and HIV. Both are attempting to integrate public TB and HIV services to reach co-infected people. But there is little evidence on how the synergy of co-infection with TB and HIV plays out for affected families in the context of poverty and overstretched public services. This anthropological study carried

out in 2006/7 documented the social and economic impact of TB, HIV and food insecurity on poor households in rural Zambia and peri-urban South Africa.

### **Review: Provider Practice and User Behavior Interventions to Improve Prompt and Effective Treatment of Malaria: Do we know what works?**

**L.A. Smith, C. Jones, S. Meek, and J. Webster, American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (2009) 80(3), 10 pages**

Effective case management of uncomplicated malaria is a cornerstone of successful malaria control. A systematic literature review of all interventions to improve provider- and/or user-side behavior in the prompt and appropriate treatment of uncomplicated malaria (with appropriate evaluation design and Roll Back Malaria outcome indicators) found 23 studies for review. These data suggest that very little is known about what interventions work in improving prompt and effective treatment of malaria. In the context of both scaling up effective malaria control and malaria elimination plans and increasing access to artemisinin combination therapies (ACTs), increased research in this area is crucial.

### **Literature Review on Local–Global Citizen Engagement**

**N. Benequista and T. Levine, 2009, 80 pages**

This document was prepared by the Local–Global Citizenship Engagements working group. The group asked how citizens perceive and engage with global processes and in turn, what impact global processes actually have on the meanings and practices of citizenship, given their locations in diverse historical and cultural settings. This document was commissioned to provide an overview of some of the most prominent academic debates relevant to this research agenda, focusing on authors from UK and US institutions. A 2009 update to the literature review is included as an annex.

### **The Dissipation of Political Capital among Afghanistan's Hazaras: 2001–2009**

**Niamatullah Ibrahim, Crisis States Research Centre Working Paper No.51 (Series 2), 2009, 23 pages**

This paper examines the historical background and political processes behind the formation of Hizb-e Wahdat-e Islami Afghanistan (The Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan). It lays out the evolving political agendas and strategies of the party during the years of civil war, Taliban rule and the post-2001 political process. The author concludes that by 2009 the party was so fragmented and divided that the political weight it carried in Afghanistan bore little resemblance to what it had first enjoyed.

### **Review of the ESRC/DFID Joint Research Scheme**

**E. Arnold and Z. Javorka, independent review, 2009, 42 pages**

The ESRC and DFID have jointly funded a programme of research in social science for development since 2005, aiming 'to enhance the quality and impact of social science research addressing the key international development goal of reducing poverty amongst the poorest countries and peoples of the world.' DFID contributed £7m and ESRC £6.5m, with ESRC additionally taking on the administrative cost of approximately £0.5m. The Scheme funded 46 projects via three calls for proposals.

### **Country Classifications for a Changing World**

**D. Harris, M. Moore and H. Schmitz, IDS Working Paper 326, 2009, 51 pages, 2-page summary**

The distinction between developing and developed countries has long been central to development studies and to debates on development policy. Relationships among countries have changed so much that this distinction has become an obstacle to understanding current problems and opportunities and, even more, to thinking productively about the future. It is time to stop using it. Focusing on the needs of European policymakers, this paper suggests two new axes for classifying countries, the external capacity of states to influence and work with other states, and internal state capacity, as shaped by the sources of government income, in particular contrasting tax, aid, and oil.

### **Men, Sex and HIV: Directions for politicising masculinities**

**A. Greig, and J. Edström, In Focus Policy Briefing 4, 2008, 4 pages**

Gender inequalities are shaping how the HIV epidemic evolves and in order to engage men as 'part of the solution' we must deal with issues of male power. Work on women's equality is centrally concerned with structures of male power within society and how social, economic, and political institutions reproduce them. These structures still predominate in most societies and gendered analyses of women's vulnerability in HIV transmission and its impacts show that change is needed.

**Chronic Poverty Research Centre response to the DFID White Paper consultation document  
Chronic Poverty Research Centre Briefing, 2009, 5 pages**

This Chronic Poverty Research Centre response to the DFID White Paper consultation argues that the White Paper should recognise that poverty persists across time and across generations – the concept of chronic poverty now has widespread use in donor agencies, governments and among the general public; vulnerability can be reduced by social protection – this is cost-effective, and an imperative in the global economic crisis; and global economic governance must bring poverty into its core, incorporating poverty into macro-economic responses to the crisis.

**Mental health policy development and implementation in four African countries: Ghana, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia**

**Poster, 2009**

This poster provides an overview of the Mental Health and Poverty Project, showing where they work, the key issues and plans in each of their four focus countries, and their project partners.

**Investigating and Addressing the Requirements for Building Integrity in the Public Sector  
Information Systems in the ICT Environment. Tanzania Case Study: Personnel records  
International Records Management Trust, 2007, 78 pages**

This case study report includes findings and recommendations from several study visits by team members to Dar Es Salaam, when an analysis was made of the pay and human resource processes and associated records in the Government of Tanzania.

**Synthesis, Reduction Potentials, and Antitubercular Activity of Ring A/B Analogues of the  
Bioreductive Drug (6S)-2-Nitro-6-[[4-(trifluoromethoxy)benzyl]oxy]- 6,7-dihydro-5H-imidazo[2,1-  
b][1,3]oxazine (PA-824)**

**A.M. Thompson, A. Blaser, R.F. Anderson, Sujata S. Shinde, S.G. Franzblau, Zhenkun Ma, W.A. Denny, and B.D. Palmer, *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* (2009) 52(3) 9 pages**

The nitroimidazooxazine S-1 (PA-824) is a new class of bioreductive drug for tuberculosis. A series of related bicyclic nitroheterocycles was synthesized, designed to have a wide range of one-electron reduction potentials  $E(1)$  (from  $-570$  to  $-338$  mV, compared with  $-534$  mV for S-1). The observed  $E(1)$  values closely correlated with the  $\sigma_m$  values of the heteroatom at the 4/8-position of the adjacent six-membered ring. Although the compounds spanned a range of  $E(1)$  values around that of S-1, only the nitroimidazothiazines showed significant antitubercular activity (at a similar level of potency), suggesting that  $E(1)$  is not the main driver of efficacy. Furthermore, there was a correlation between activity and the formation of imidazole ring-reduced products at the two-electron level, pointing to the potential importance of this reduction pathway, which is determined by the nature of the substituent at the 2-position of the 4-nitroimidazole ring.

**Effective Communication of Science and Climate Change Information to Policymakers**

**B.O. Ochieng, meeting report, 2009, 22 pages**

CCAA recently supported the participation of 15 Kenyan journalists from print and electronic media in a half-day symposium on Effective Communication of Science and Climate Change Information to Policy Makers. The event took place during the Third East African Health and Scientific Conference (EAHSC) held in Nairobi, March 25-27, 2009 and aimed to identify capacity gaps and opportunities to improve communication on these science issues between journalists, researchers and policymakers in the sub-region. This report summarises the Symposium.

### **Provincial TB Control Programme Punjab: Guidelines and tools for mapping and selection of private partners for PPM development**

**Tuberculosis Control Programme (NTP/PTP) Pakistan, 2007, 19 pages**

There is a need for public–private partnerships to be developed to improve the control of tuberculosis in Pakistan (using directly observed short-course treatment). This document provides advice on how to select suitable private-sector hospitals, clinics and laboratories. Appendices include survey questionnaires and score sheets for assessing private–sector institutions, an introductory letter for explaining the process to these institutions, a description of how such partnerships should work, and two draft memoranda of understanding.

### **Financing in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Sector in Ethiopia: Evidence from Benishangul-Gumuz regional state**

**Getnet Alemu and D. Thomas, RiPPLE Synthesis Paper, Ethiopia, 2009, 40 pages**

The scaling-up of financial resources and management in water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is part of an effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). However, putting additional resources into the sector is only a starting point: it is crucial to ensure that money is spent effectively. Improving equitable access to WASH for the poor is contingent on effective organisation of financing arrangements. This paper reviews the financing of the WASH sector in Ethiopia and looks at two specific financing channels using case study information from Benishangul-Gumuz regional state.

### **Pregnancy-related school dropout and prior school performance in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa**

**M.J. Grant and H. Hallman, *Studies in Family Planning* (2008) 39(4), 14 pages**

This study uses data from South Africa to examine factors associated with schoolgirl pregnancy and subsequent educational pathways. We find that prior schooling discontinuities are strongly associated with a young woman's likelihood of later becoming pregnant while in school, dropping out of school if pregnant, and not returning to school following such a dropout. Programmes should be designed to reach girls and their families early to increase incentives for ensuring their timely progression through school and to increase their access to reproductive health information and services.

### **HIV Situation Assessment 2007: India, Malawi, Uganda, Ukraine and Zambia**

**Evidence for Action, 2009, 38 pages**

The situation assessment aimed to enable partners in the Evidence for Action consortium to understand better what is going on with respect to HIV care in the countries and settings where we work. It comprises three parts: a national level overview of issues relevant to HIV programmes in the countries (outside the UK) represented within the consortium, data concerning HIV care at district level, and data at facility level.

### **After 2015: Promoting pro-poor policy after the MDGs**

**C. Porter, *Young Lives Think Piece*, 2009, 5 pages**

The MDGs have played a major role in focusing development policy. DFID has gone as far as to judge their activities on contribution to achieving the MDGs. What happens when we no longer have the MDGs? How will we promote pro-poor policy after 2015? This background paper was written for the High-level Policy Forum organised by DFID, ActionAid, DSA, EADI and IDS on 23 June, 2009 in Brussels, Belgium. It suggests that future plans need a more holistic understanding of child development, well-being and learning goals, and a range of innovative models that can be used by all.

### **Understanding Smallholders' Decisions towards Adopting HPAI Prevention and Control Measures**

**E. Wieggers and J. Curry, *HPAI Research Brief No.16*, 2009, 4 pages**

Any decision-making by policymakers on HPAI prevention and control is challenged by the need to avoid both adverse impacts on the poor and low efficacy in cases where households are unable or unwilling to comply with selected measures. In this paper we explore incentives and investment

decisions of smallholders towards adopting HPAI prevention and control measures by looking at factors that shape their decisions.

[More documents](#)

## Recent News Stories

### **Reducing Forest Emissions: Supporting sustainable development and addressing climate change**

Forest carbon sinks play an important role in offsetting carbon emissions and mitigating climate change. In a scheme to be finalised at the climate change negotiations in Copenhagen later this year, developing countries will be paid for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD). The latest Spotlight from SciDev.net, *Reducing Forest Emissions*, focuses on the issues surrounding REDD, and stresses the importance of good science in developing a framework which will help deliver support for sustainable development and address climate change.

### **DFID call for expressions of interest to build a Climate and Development Knowledge Network**

DFID wishes to engage a service provider to establish and manage a major new Climate and Development Knowledge Network to deliver a set of knowledge management, research and tailored advisory services for developing countries. The Climate Network will enhance developing country access to high quality, reliable and policy-relevant information on climate change and development. **Applications and supporting documentation due by 12 August, 2009.**

### **DFID Research Programme on Migration and Development - Call for Expressions of Interest**

DFID has issued a call for expressions of interest to design, develop and implement a research programme on migration and development. The research programme will seek to: understand the drivers of migration and their links to broader process of economic and social and political change; understand the linkages between migration policies and development outcomes and other policy areas, and improve data and uptake of research. **Applications and supporting documentation are due by 6 August, 2009.**

### **Facebook helps interest more people in livelihoods issues**

The Livelihoods team at DFID are using Facebook to give their 'fans' quick updates about their work. A new page is helping the team reach a broader audience of people interested in international development issues. The page has a lighter touch than other web resources designed to appeal to academics and others 'in the know', and is intended to be readable and accessible for those new to the subject including students in higher education, and the interested public. The pages contain news highlights, videos, and interesting research findings coming out of the team and its partners.

### **First call of the second phase of the joint DFID-ESRC scheme for development research**

The £23 million joint-funding scheme will support high-quality short- to medium-term development research on poverty reduction which provides a more robust conceptual and empirical basis for development and the achievement of the MDGs. The three thematic areas for this call where work will be of particular interest are: Security, Conflict and Development; Economic Crisis, Poverty and Growth - the implications for Development Theory and Practice; and Cities and Development. It is important to note that this scheme is open to Southern institutions as bid leaders as well as partners. Applications for this call are invited for projects with a Full Economic Cost value of between £100,000 and £500,000. **The deadline for applications is 4pm UK time on 24 September, 2009.**

### **Seasonal hunger devastating and under-recognised**

Most of the world's acute hunger and undernutrition occurs not during conflicts and natural disasters but in the annual 'hunger season', according to an article in *PLoS Medicine*. This occurs when the

previous year's harvest has dwindled, food prices are high, and jobs are scarce. Proven interventions to alleviate seasonal hunger are known, but often operate on a small scale and in isolation. Community-based interventions to treat acute undernutrition and promote growth of preschool children are examples of successful interventions that should be scaled up, the authors argue.

### **IDRC offers internship awards**

IDRC's internships will provide hands-on learning in research programme management – in the creation, dissemination and use of knowledge from an international perspective. The 6-12-month internships will be based in Ottawa or an IDRC Regional Office, and focus on one of IDRC's four Program Areas: Social and Economic Policy; Environment and Natural Resource Management; Information and Communication Technologies ICT for Development; and Innovation, Policy and Science. Internships are open to citizens and permanent residents of Canada, and citizens of developing countries, who are either currently registered in a Master's Program or have completed a Master's Degree in a recognised university. **The deadline for applications is 12 September, 2009.**

### **BBC documentary – 'One Sexy Tuber'**

The International Year of the Potato in 2008 raised awareness about this staple crop, the world's number one non-grain food commodity. Consumption is expanding strongly in developing countries, which now account for more than half of the global harvest. Most production is for domestic consumption rather than international trade, helping low-income farmers and vulnerable consumers ride out extreme events in world food supply and demand. 'One Sexy Tuber' was broadcast as part of the Nature Inc. series on BBC World, and later in the year on USA Discovery and Al Jazeera.

### **The role of non-timber forest products in poverty reduction**

Non-timber forest products (NTFPs) are products or services, other than timber, produced in forests. They include fruits, nuts, vegetables, fish, game, medicinal plants, resins, essences, barks, and fibres such as bamboo, rattans and other palms and grasses. Governments, agencies and NGOs have encouraged the sale of NTFPs as a way of boosting income for poor people in tropical areas and encouraging forest conservation. The latest edition of id21 insights 'Are NTFPs a way out of poverty?' looks at some successful examples and lessons learned from NTFP markets around the world.

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## **About R4D – DFID's research portfolio on your desktop**

R4D contains a searchable database of more than 5,000 project records and the details of more than 21,500 outputs from research funded by DFID's Central Research Department during the last 10 years. It also includes research activities prior to 2005 in Rural Livelihoods, Health, Social Sciences, Education, and Infrastructure and Urban Development. Every month we add new projects, documents, and outputs.

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