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UNITED NATIONS RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

(UNRISD)

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PROGRESS REPORT

BY THE DIRECTOR

For the reporting period January–December 2001

February 2002

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INTRODUCTION

1. The present report concentrates on the Institute's research, conference, publication, dissemination and advisory activities between January and December 2001. In order to provide background information on this work for new Board members, some activities from the previous reporting period (July–December 2000) are referred to. Occasional reference is also made to work that has continued in the early months of 2002.

2. In 2001, the Institute's network building and research continued in four programme areas (**Social Policy and Development**, **Technology, Business and Society**, **Civil Society and Social Movements**, and **Democracy, Governance and Human Rights**). UNRISD also sponsored workshops, seminars and conferences to encourage dialogue among policy makers, donors, scholars and civil society organizations. The Publications and Dissemination Unit pursued the implementation of the Institute's outreach strategy; a major aspect during this reporting period was the undertaking of a comprehensive redevelopment of the UNRISD Web site. Processing and distribution of "traditional" publications also continued, at an average rate of nearly three per month. Research results were widely and consistently disseminated via the current Web site in parallel with the redevelopment project, and also via the e-mail dissemination list. Staff members were called upon by a wide variety of institutions to provide advisory services. Finally, while the level of core funding in 2001 was lower than in 2000, project funding saw a 50 per cent increase.

3. Turning first to ongoing research, considerable progress was made in the programme on **Social Policy and Development**. Drawing on the presentations and discussions at a conference organized in Tammsvik, Sweden, in September 2000, a comprehensive three-year research project on *Social Policy in a Development Context* was designed, with four thematic components. A small group of donors, which met in Geneva in May 2001, expressed interest in supporting a good portion of the proposed research, dissemination and capacity-building activities. Research co-ordinators have been identified for each of the four thematic components, with work beginning under component four (social policy, global forces and health care provision) at the beginning of 2002. The project on *Neoliberalism and Institutional Reform in East Asia* is now in its final stage. Following the meeting of scholars on the political economy and social institutions of East Asia that took place in Bangkok in May 2000, papers were revised and an edited volume is being prepared for commercial publication. Country and regional studies were also completed under the project on *Agrarian Change, Gender and Land Rights*. To disseminate the project's major research findings, a conference was organized in Geneva in November 2001, and a selected number of the papers are being brought together in a Special Issue of the **Journal of Agrarian Change**. Under the project on *Globalization, Export-Oriented Employment for Women and Social Policy*, following the two-day workshop held in Bangkok in October 2000, most of the commissioned papers have been revised for publication, and an edited volume is currently being prepared. Finally, a paper was published in December 2000 under the project on *HIV/AIDS and Development*. This paper was the first step in a more wide-ranging research undertaking, for which research was commissioned on the links between development policies and vulnerability to HIV/AIDS. A book examining specific experiences in different international HIV/AIDS programmes is currently being prepared.

4. Under the programme area **Technology, Business and Society**, the project on *Business Responsibility for Sustainable Development* made significant progress in project development, research and publication activities. The MacArthur Foundation approved a sizeable grant to this project during the reporting period, which is being used for studies in six developing countries. Also under this project, thematic studies are being carried out on "partnerships" between multilateral organizations and large corporations; international

"multistakeholder" initiatives associated with CSR standard-setting and certification; and the influence of the "corporate accountability movement". Work under the project on *Information Technologies and Social Development* advanced, with the preparation of a "beginners' guide" to the international institutional setting of ICT policies. Several draft reports and newspaper supplements emerged from the study in Senegal, and a conference took place in Dakar in July 2001 to consider the principal research results and policy conclusions. The project has also established fruitful collaborative links with the Netherlands Ministry for Development Co-operation, which sponsored the research.

5. Two projects are under way in the programme area on **Civil Society and Social Movements**. The project on *Civil Society Strategies and Movements for Rural Asset Redistribution and Improved Livelihoods* examines how civil society organizations in diverse contexts assist the rural poor to acquire and strengthen their productive asset base through land acquisition in market-assisted land reform schemes, improved labour conditions and by using democratic channels and decentralization. Thematic papers have been completed and an edited volume is being prepared. The project on *Evolving Agricultural Structures and Civil Society in Transitional Countries: The Case of Central Asia* has just begun. The first phase of this project will entail the commissioning of analytical papers on key cross-cutting themes.

6. Under the programme area **Democracy, Governance and Human Rights**, the project on *Technocratic Policy Making and Democratization* continued research in eight countries on economic policy making and parliamentary accountability, and draft reports were completed. Under the project on *Public Sector Reform and Crisis-Ridden States*, an edited volume focusing on the institutional and social constraints on public sector reform in developing countries was finalized. Funding has been received from the Ford Foundation to commence work on *Ethnic Structure, Inequality and Governance of the Public Sector*.

7. UNRISD remains involved in organizing special events and activities to inform the international development community and policy makers of its research findings.

8. Following UNRISD's contribution to *Women 2000*, twelve papers, both theoretical and empirical, that reflect on the politics of women's human rights in a variety of regional contexts, have been brought together in an edited volume which will be commercially published in 2002.

9. The Institute contributed to preparatory work for the Official Review of the Implementation of the Habitat Agenda (Istanbul+5) by holding a seminar on *Volunteer Action and Local Democracy "+5"* in New York City in early June 2001. Researchers and resource persons met to discuss the status of collaboration between urban community organizations and local authorities five years on, as well as the positive and negative impacts of globalization on them.

10. In November 2000, the Institute held a meeting on *Improving Research and Knowledge on Social Development in International Organizations*, which brought together representatives from the United Nations Secretariat, specialized agencies and regional commissions. In 2001, papers were commissioned on the following themes: conceptual framework of globalization and equity; statistical underpinnings for analysis of globalization and equity; changing patterns of resource distribution at the international level; and the politics of economic globalization. These papers will serve as background material for a seminar scheduled for May 2002.

11. The Institute organized an important conference on *Racism and Public Policy* to contribute to the work of the broader United Nations system by strengthening the empirical research basis for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, in September 2001. Papers were

commissioned from some of the most knowledgeable scholars in this field, and the Institute organized a three-day meeting in Durban to examine the opportunities, problems and challenges of public policies devised for combating racist and xenophobic practices in different settings. The commissioned papers will be published in two edited volumes, and selected ones as UNRISD Programme Papers on **Identities, Conflict and Cohesion**.

12. A conference supported by the Ford Foundation, *The Need to Rethink Development Economics*, was held in September 2001 in Cape Town, South Africa. A research network was created at the meeting to serve as the channel of communication, policy advice and dissemination of new ideas and relevant research findings, and an edited book will bring together contributions to the conference and additional commissioned papers.

13. UNRISD will contribute to the United Nations Second World Assembly on Ageing, to be held in Madrid in April 2002, by organizing a two-day conference on *Ageing, Development and Social Protection* scheduled for 8–9 April 2002. Papers that are being commissioned consider the principal dynamics and challenges of population ageing in the context of rapid social change, as well as situations of social crisis in both the North and the South.

14. Finally, during this reporting period, UNRISD also began work in view of contributing to the United Nations World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio+10), to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in September 2002. For this event, the Institute plans to prepare a report synthesizing the findings of its 15 years of research on environment and sustainable development, and to commission papers that will underscore the importance of political economy approach in analysing some of today's most pressing environmental issues.

15. UNRISD staff members are frequently called upon to act in a range of advisory roles for United Nations agencies, multilateral and bilateral organizations, governments, NGOs, research institutes and universities. This provides UNRISD with opportunities to make substantive contributions to the thinking and programmes of other institutions and groups, while staff members benefit from the exchange of ideas and are also able to network, identify potential researchers and explore funding opportunities. During the reporting period, UNRISD staff members carried out advisory and consultancy activities on over 50 occasions.

16. The past year was marked by a steady publications output. UNRISD published 23 titles in the series of **Programme Papers** that were initiated in 2000. Two issues of **Conference News** and **UNRISD News** No. 24 (in English, French and Spanish) were also produced. **Visible Hands: Taking Responsibility for Social Development**, which was produced by UNRISD for the five-year review of the World Summit for Social Development in June 2000, was published in French, Spanish, and Russian in 2001, and work began on the Arabic, Chinese and Persian versions. Four co-publications also appeared in 2001, and several others are in press.

17. The Publications and Dissemination Unit, with the assistance of UNRISD's information technology consultant, devoted much time during the reporting period to the redevelopment of the UNRISD Web site. The site overhaul is being undertaken with a firm based in the United Kingdom, and will be completed in spring 2002. Efforts to cultivate new audiences, through partnerships with other institutions and dissemination via special mailing lists, have continued, and strategies to increase coverage of UNRISD's work by the UN press corps and general media are also being implemented.

18. The level of the Institute's core funding for 2001 was USD 2,168,155, which is 5 per cent less than the contributions made by the same donors in 2000 in their pledged national currencies. The only increase in core funding for 2001 was realized through the three-year pledge by the Swedish government (for the period 2000–2002), in the amount of SEK

1,000,000. This corresponded to an increase of 16.7 per cent in terms of the Swedish kronor, but only 1.9 per cent in terms of the US dollar, which appreciated considerably against the kronor. Negotiations are continuing with the Institute's donors to attain, in 2002, the level of core contributions realized in 2000 (USD 2.28 million).

19. The governments of the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, as well as the Ford and MacArthur Foundations, the Popular Coalition to Eradicate Hunger and Poverty, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), contributed a total of USD 849, 945 to six ongoing and four new projects. This exceeded by 51.4 per cent the project-specific contributions received by the Institute in the year 2000 (USD 561,527). The United Nations Division of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) also provided financial support for two UNRISD activities in 2001. In addition, the Ford Foundation's offices for Southern and Eastern Africa, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and HIVOS (Economische en culturele ontwikkeling in Afrika, Azië, Latijns-Amerika en Zuidoost-Europa) directly financed the travel of some participants in UNRISD activities.

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Follow-up to Women 2000

20. UNRISD focused its contribution to Women 2000 on the theme of gender justice, development and rights. On 3 June 2000, a one-day workshop was organized in New York to coincide with the United Nations General Assembly Special Session, where six of the commissioned authors presented their papers. The immediate output from the workshop was a short report circulated at the Special Session of the General Assembly. Later, the edited version of the report was published as an issue of UNRISD **Conference News** on **Gender Justice, Development and Rights: Substantiating Rights in a Disabling Environment**.

21. During this reporting period, the 12 commissioned papers went through their final revisions. Three of the papers, and the editors' introduction, have been reviewed and are being published as UNRISD Programme Papers:

- Parvin Paidar, **Gender of Democracy: The Encounter Between Feminism and Reformism in Contemporary Iran**, PP DGHR 6, 2001.
- Anne Phillips, **Multiculturalism, Universalism and the Claims of Democracy**, PP DGHR 7, 2001.
- Cecilia Blondet M., **Lecciones de la Participación Política de las Mujeres: El Caso del Peru**, PP DGHR, forthcoming.
- Maxine Molyneux and Shahra Razavi, **Liberalism and its Discontents: An Issues Paper**, PP DGHR, forthcoming.

22. The full set of papers has been brought together in an edited volume, provisionally titled **Liberalism and its Discontents: The Politics of Gender, Rights and Development in a Global Age**. It will be published by Oxford University Press in its series Oxford Studies in Democratisation in October 2002.

23. Theoretical and empirical studies that reflect on the politics of women's human rights in a variety of regional contexts comprise the edited volume. The 1990s represented a shift in the international development agenda in the direction of a greater emphasis on rights and democracy. This brought many positive changes in women's rights and political representation, as well as in human rights more broadly. In much of the world, however, these advances were not matched by significant progress in the achievement of greater social justice. Rising income inequality, coupled with widespread poverty in many countries, have been accompanied by record levels of crime and violence. Meanwhile the global shift in the consensus over the role of the state in welfare provision has in many contexts entailed the down-sizing of public services and the re-allocation of service delivery to commercial interests, charitable groups, NGOs and households.

24. The edited volume reflects on this ambivalent record, and on the significance accorded in international development policy to rights and democracy in the post-Cold War era. Key items on the contemporary policy agenda—neoliberal economic and social policies; democracy; and multiculturalism—are addressed here by leading scholars and regional specialists through theoretical reflections and detailed case studies. Together they constitute a collection which casts contemporary liberalism in a distinctive light by applying a gender perspective to the analysis of political and policy processes. Case studies from Latin America, sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East, East-Central Europe, and South and Southeast Asia contribute a cross-cultural dimension to the analysis of contemporary liberalism—the

dominant value system in the modern world—and how it exists, and is resisted, in developing and post-transition societies.

25. The details on the principal content of the volume as well as names of authors are provided below:

- Maxine Molyneux and Shahra Razavi, **Editors' Introduction: Liberalism and Its Discontents**

Part One: Rethinking Liberal Rights and Universalism

- Martha Nussbaum, **Women's Capabilities and Social Justice**
- Diane Elson, **Gender Justice, Human Rights and Neoliberal Economic Policies**
- Anne Phillips, **Multiculturalism, Universalism and the Claims of Democracy**

Part Two: Social Sector Restructuring and Social Rights

- Jacqueline Heinen and Stephane Portet, **Political and Social Citizenship: An Examination of the Case of Poland**
- Veronica Schild, **Engendering the New Social Citizenship in Chile: NGOs and Social Provisioning under Neoliberalism**
- Ramya Subrahmanian, **Engendering Education: Prospects for a Rights-Based Approach to Female Education Deprivation in India**

Part Three: Democratization and the Politics of Gender

- Parvin Paidar, **Feminism and Political Reform in the Islamic Republic of Iran**
- Cecilia Blondet M., **The "Devil's Deal": Women's Political Participation and Authoritarianism in Peru**
- Anne Marie Goetz and Shireen Hassim, **"In and against the Party": Women's Representation and Constituency-Building in Uganda and South Africa**

Part Four: Multiculturalisms in Practice

- Maznah Mohamad, **The Politics of Gender, Ethnicity and Democratization in Malaysia: Shifting Interests and Identities**
- Aida Hernandez Castillo, **National Law and Indigenous Customary Law: The Struggle for Justice of Indigenous Women in Chiapas, Mexico**
- Aili Marie Tripp, **The Politics of Women's Rights and Cultural Diversity in Uganda**.

26. Funding for this project was provided by Sida, in addition to UNRISD core funds.

UNRISD's Contribution to Istanbul+5—Follow-up to Habitat II

27. On the eve of Habitat II in 1996, UNRISD and UNV (United Nations Volunteers) brought together researchers and community activists from Chicago, East St. Louis, Ho Chi Minh City, Jinja, Johannesburg, Lima, Mumbai and São Paulo in Kumburgaz, Turkey, to review the preliminary findings of their research on collaboration between community organizations and local authorities. The research took place under the Institute's project on **Volunteer Action and Local Democracy: A Partnership for a Better Urban Future (VALD)**. The project assessed the extent to which such collaboration contributed to lasting improvement in the conditions of life and livelihood of low-income and marginalized groups in the cities. Contrary to the early expectations of the organizers and researchers, the case studies showed that many such efforts at collaboration were extremely fragile, flawed and

often fraught with conflict. Indeed, from the perspective of improving conditions in the neighbourhoods involved, many appeared to have a limited future.

28. Since Habitat II, if not in part because of it, the call for community-local authority partnerships has grown ever stronger. All the major development institutions have enshrined such mechanisms as a crucial component of solutions to many seemingly intractable urban social problems.

29. At the same time, the global urban crisis is deepening. Many lay the blame at the door of globalization, which concentrates wealth and socioeconomic disparities in the largest cities. This theme was examined by UNRISD in its contribution to Istanbul+5, the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly to review and appraise implementation of the Habitat Agenda. UNRISD invited the researchers and community activists to update their case studies on the collaborations they had been monitoring since 1996. At a closed meeting on 4 June, they presented their updates of the cities' situations, compared and contrasted their findings, and sought to draw out the most important conclusions concerning the impacts on collaboration resulting from globalization, on the one hand, and from national and local conditions, on the other. Then on 5 June, they presented a synthesis of their findings in a public meeting at United Nations Headquarters. The audience included delegates to Istanbul+5, staff members of UN agencies in New York, NGO representatives attending parallel events, local academics and the public. A synopsis of the findings and discussions from the public meeting was distributed to delegates and others attending Istanbul+5 events in New York.

30. The following is a brief overview of their findings.

31. The collaborations addressing the core issues of interest to low-income or marginalized groups were not only fragile, but also ephemeral. Of the 22 collaborations in seven cities re-visited for Istanbul+5, one third had become defunct, despite the continuing existence of the problems they were meant to address and the desire of the community actors to continue working with local authorities. Less than 15 per cent of the cases had had a positive impact on income or asset distribution in the target communities.

32. In about half of the cases of collaboration, the physical conditions in the target area had improved, at least during the period of the most intense interaction between the local authorities and community groups. Roughly half of the collaborations had also resulted in improved access to decision-making processes for target community members, and nearly two-fifths appeared to have influenced policy in one way or another.

33. Yet improvements in physical conditions, access to decision-making processes and policy impact did not appear to have been sustained or cumulative. Indeed, the phenomenon of more micro-level participation—evidenced by the growing number of neighbourhood consultations with local authorities, community contributions to project implementation and improving legal and administrative frameworks governing relationships with civil society organizations—appeared to have been confined to the immediate project neighbourhood. None of the VALD project experiences became citywide practices receiving the full support of local authorities. Researchers repeatedly spoke of the tendency of authorities to accept small-scale collaborations as a form of lip-service—but once collaboration had begun to challenge the status quo at city or regional level, those in power reacted strongly, forcing the experience "back into the micro" and sometimes even threatening previous gains.

34. One opinion that received general support among the researchers was that collaboration at the micro level, while important as a tool for communities to begin building their own organizational and personal capacities, should not be over-emphasized as a strategy for change. Rather, collaboration had to be accompanied by broader networking across the

city or metropolitan area and become part of the still-rare participatory process of decision making (such as that occurring in the Participatory Budget in Porto Alegre, Brazil).

35. This discussion led the researchers to identify questions for further research.

- First, what kinds of institutionalization enhance the effectiveness of collaboration?
- Second, how does the integration of local economies into the international economy affect: municipal and submunicipal financing of infrastructure, services and housing; the "political stance" of municipal governments vis-à-vis low-income groups; and the capacity of different kinds of global corporations to determine wages and working conditions of workers independent of government or union intervention.
- Third, to what extent are the leaders of community organizations handicapped by their understanding of themselves, their relations with community organizations and the role of community organizations in a larger "political scenario"?

36. The researchers are revising their studies, and although the research co-ordinator left UNRISD in mid-2001, some of them may be published as Programme Papers and brought together in an edited volume.

37. Funding for the project was provided by the government of Switzerland, in addition to UNRISD core funds.

List of papers

- Graeme Gotz, **Partnerships between Government and Community Organizations in the Johannesburg Inner City**
- Jaime Joseph, **Community-Based Organizations in Lima Five Years On: Old Actors, New Tasks**
- Mzwanele Mayekiso, **South Africa's Enduring Local Crisis: Change and Continuity in Relations between Municipal Government and Community Organizations in Alexandra from Late Apartheid to Democracy**
- David C. Ranney and Patricia A. Wright, **Chicago's Near South Side: Five Years Later**
- Raquel Rolnik and Renato Cymbalista, **Communities and Local Government: A Case Study in São Paulo—Housing Construction by Self-Managed Community Work "Apuanã"**
- Sebastien Wust, Jean-Claude Bolay and Thai Thi Ngoc Du, **Initiatives for Improving Housing and Infrastructure in Poor Communities in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam**
- YUVA (Youth for Unity and Volunteer Action), **Status of Collaborations between Community Organizations and Local Authorities in Mumabai, India**

Improving Research and Knowledge on Social Development in International Organizations

38. Institutions in the United Nations system play a central role in research on development. Nevertheless the leadership of the United Nations—not only in generating data and policy advice, but also in shaping the ideas and norms that must guide work in the field of world development—has been severely challenged during the past several decades. The Third World debt crisis of the early 1980s, followed by the collapse and restructuring of the Soviet bloc in the 1990s, greatly augmented the strategic importance of international financial

institutions in the development arena. Funds for research and policy advice increasingly flowed toward the latter, while the United Nations struggled to maintain its programmes in the face of long delays on the part of several major donors in meeting their financial obligations to the institution.

39. Efforts are being made to reverse this unfortunate trend. One of these, undertaken by UNRISD, encourages dialogue and joint planning among a small group of high-level United Nations officials, concerned with research on social development. On 7–8 November 2000, 14 colleagues met at the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Study and Conference Center (Italy) to exchange views, in an informal atmosphere, on the current research programmes of key United Nations agencies, and to define a few areas in which they felt joint work could reinforce the collective capacity of the UN system to influence the development agenda. Participants came from the United Nations Secretariat (Division for Social Policy and Development), UNCTAD, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNESCO, UNDP, ILO, WHO, UNIFEM, UNRISD and four Regional Economic Commissions (ECA, ECLAC, ESCAP and ESCWA). Representatives of the World Bank, UNICEF, African Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, UNU/WIDER and ECE were invited but unable to attend.

40. In the course of these discussions, it was decided to focus on the theme of *globalization and equity*—an area of fundamental concern to the United Nations on which there is serious disagreement, and on which new research is urgently necessary. Within this sphere, members of the group suggested a number of subjects on which papers could be commissioned, in preparation for future seminars. The papers and the seminars should provide an opportunity to refine a common position and to strengthen an alternative research agenda. For greater detail, see the report of the conference published as an issue of **Conference News** in 2001, titled **Improving Knowledge on Social Development in International Organizations**.

41. UNRISD assumed responsibility for commissioning the papers sketched out during the Bellagio meeting and for organizing the next seminar for the group, at which these papers will be discussed. A brief description of the commissioned papers follows.

Approaches to globalization and equity within the international system: The conceptual framework

42. Since the United Nations system is an important source of information on global trends, as well as a key forum for discussion of globalization, participants felt that it would be essential to review work on globalization and equity within UN agencies. Studies prepared by the Regional Economic Commissions should receive careful attention, because there are sharp differences between regional and global perspectives on the nature of change, as well as differences among regional organizations themselves. The review should also evaluate studies on this topic prepared within the Bretton Woods institutions. Roy Culpeper, President of the North-South Institute in Ottawa, has accepted responsibility for this study.

The statistical underpinnings for analysis of globalization and equity within the international system

43. Evaluation of conceptual and methodological issues should be complemented with an analysis of the availability and use of data. What kinds of indicators are utilized by various international agencies to give a picture of trends in economic globalization and equity? Where do statistics come from, and how do they differ from one source to another? What basic information is missing altogether? Are United Nations agencies, or the Bretton Woods institutions, simply collecting data in a routine fashion, as though nothing really new is going

on in the world? Albert Berry, of the Center for International Studies of the University of Toronto, will write this paper.

Analysing inequality: Changing patterns of resource distribution

44. Seminar participants also felt that a paper should be commissioned on changing patterns of resource distribution at the international level. In part, this involves reviewing the direction and volume of capital flows, patterns of trade in goods and services, trends in debt servicing and payment of royalties under the prevailing intellectual property rights regime. Enormous resource shifts have occurred in these areas over the past few decades, implying severe losses for many Third World countries.

45. Inequalities in the current global economy are also being generated through shifts in skilled labour, the spread of deadly disease, and the availability of new technologies. Migration is contributing to stark imbalances in the geographical distribution of technical and professional workers in fields like medicine and computer sciences. HIV/AIDS is drastically undermining equality of opportunity in Africa. The information technology revolution is widening gaps between those who can gain effective access to the benefits of technological change and those who cannot.

46. At the same time, corporate concentration is proceeding at a breathtaking pace, and this reinforces possibilities for reaping oligopolistic or monopolistic profits. One of the remarkable contradictions of globalization is the rapid reinforcement of monopoly power during a period so apparently dedicated to the promotion of open markets with "level playing fields". What are the implications of corporate mergers for equity in the global economy? John Quiggin, of the Australian National University, is analysing these changes and their implications for equality/inequality.

The politics of economic globalization

47. Decision-making authority on global economic questions is exercised not only—and sometimes not even primarily—within parliaments and governments. The liberalization of global markets has occurred in tandem with new forms of technocratic governance, which link finance and trade authorities in one country with their counterparts in others—increasingly to the detriment of intra-governmental consultative processes. This is reinforced by pervasive conditionality, associated with loans, grants and foreign aid, and by the development of international institutions (like the World Trade Organization) that have the authority to impose sanctions. The power of the strongest economies is further reinforced through formation of groups like the G–7 (or G–8). At the same time, corporate interests are represented through organizations like the International Chamber of Commerce, as well as through home governments.

48. Seminar participants recommended commissioning a fourth paper, based on a few illustrative case studies, that could improve understanding of the political and institutional underpinnings of economic globalization. Who gains and who loses from the extension of open global markets? How do different proponents and opponents organize? Who sets the rules of engagement? Jan Aart Scholte has accepted responsibility for this study.

Follow-up to the seminar

49. The Institute expects to receive first drafts of the four commissioned papers during spring 2002 and to circulate them among participants before their second meeting, tentatively scheduled for mid-2002. If possible, the papers will also be made available to participants in the Social Commission meetings on integrating social and economic policy, scheduled for 2002. They will eventually be published, both as UNRISD Programme Papers and in book form.

50. Funding for the project was provided by the Rockefeller Foundation, in addition to UNRISD core funds.

Racism and Public Policy

51. The third World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance was held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September 2001. World leaders examined progress made in the fight against racism since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and related conventions and resolutions; discussed ways of improving the application of existing standards and instruments to combat racism; reviewed the social, economic, political, cultural and historical factors that drive racism and racial discrimination; and recommended measures to be adopted at the national, regional and international levels for combating racism, xenophobia and intolerance. While the preparatory meetings and the Durban conference itself exposed sharp differences among countries and groups on some of the core agenda items, they also underscored the need to understand racial cleavages and discrimination in formulating development policies.

52. UNRISD invited 30 high-level scholars from various regions of the world to prepare papers and lead discussions at a conference held from 3–5 September. More than 500 representatives of governments, international agencies, non-governmental organizations, academia and the media participated in the meeting. The conference provided participants with research findings, insights and policy debates on some of the core issues of racism, xenophobia and intolerance as they affect different groups, countries and regions. It examined the opportunities, problems and challenges of public policies devised for overcoming racist and xenophobic practices in different settings. It focused on four broad themes: the social construction of race and citizenship; the social dynamics of racism and inequalities; organized responses to cultural diversity; and the impact of public policies on race relations. There were 10 panels, an opening session and a keynote speech.

53. Two important public policy issues were highlighted throughout the three days of discussions. The first is the complex ways racial cleavages influence the evolution of citizenship, especially in countries with deep ethno-racial divisions. Much of the history of efforts to construct a responsive and accountable public sphere can be seen as struggles to demolish racial barriers and incorporate previously excluded groups into the system of rights and obligations that define citizenship. Struggles for universal citizenship underscore the need to respect cultural diversity and its underlying values of tolerance, accommodation and human solidarity. The second issue is the promotion of social justice and equitable governance, which is seen as a fundamental requirement for achieving stability and consolidating the values of citizenship. However, reforms that seek to promote social justice and equitable governance are often fraught with difficulties, as they deal with redistributive issues. They may be seen in zero-sum terms by some citizens. Potential losers may resist or undermine reforms, while those who stand to gain may not be strong enough to defend them. These issues were discussed in 10 panels and covered a wide range of countries and regions: the United States, Latin America and the Caribbean, South and Southeast Asia, the Middle East, Australia and New Zealand, Western Europe, Southern Africa and the Afro-Arab borderlands.

54. In their opening statements, both the UNRISD Director and the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson, stressed the importance of the UNRISD conference in providing a neutral platform for reflection and discussion on issues of identities, inequalities and justice. A disturbing feature of the current world order, Robinson noted, is the rise of inequality between as well as within nations. As she explained it, the World Conference "has helped bring into sharper focus the linkages between inequality of treatment—in terms of

status, identity, prejudice and discrimination—and inequality of outcomes—in income, wealth, education, political power, health, housing, marriage and family formation, and other social goods". She challenged researchers to engage fully in the implementation of the commitments made in Durban.

55. The keynote speech by Rodolfo Stavenhagen, Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Peoples for the High Commisioner for Human Rights, traced the historical evolution of ideas and policies on race and citizenship since the establishment of the United Nations. Before the founding of the world body, racism was closely associated with the Nazi ideology of racial purity and superiority, which was deeply rooted in numerous strands of Western thought. As Stavenhagen pointed out, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 upheld the principle of universal rights and freedoms and barred discrimination on the basis of race and other human cleavages. The next phase of the struggle against racism encompassed the anti-colonial and anti-apartheid struggles of the 1950s and 1960s. The right to self-determination was proclaimed in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples of 1960, later incorporated in the Human Rights Covenants adopted by the General Assembly in 1966. This represented a distinct shift from racist attitudes and ideologies to people's rights and the construction of an equitable world order. However, racism emerged in new forms during the 1970s and 1980s especially in the industrial societies of the North, affecting the fortunes of racial minorities, migrant labourers and refugees from the South.

56. The theme on race and citizenship had two panels: identities, discrimination and citizenship; and minorities, indigeneity and citizenship. Countries and regions discussed included the United States, South Africa, South Asia, Latin America, Sahelian Africa and Southeast Asia. Under the second theme, the conference explored the economic, social and political processes that generate racism and discrimination. Racism and inequalities may be linked to discriminatory public policies, the way labour markets are structured, and differential access to governance institutions. Rapid integration of economies into the world market, advances in information technologies, international migration, economic crises and land alienation associated with colonial conquest may alter structures of opportunity and shape the dynamics of race relations. This theme was addressed under three panels. The first consisted of three presentations and focused on globalization, economic growth and racial inequalities in the United States; economic crisis and racial conflicts in Southeast Asia; and labour market segmentation and race relations in Southern Africa. The second panel examined issues related to land distribution, race relations and conflicts in Southern Africa, Latin America, and Australia; and the third looked at issues of migration, multiculturalism and the nation state in Europe, as well as migrant workers, xenophobia and public policies in oil-rich countries of the Middle East.

57. Racism often needs mobilizers, organizations and a discourse to activate or sustain it. Under its third theme, the UNRISD conference discussed how racist ideas enter the public domain, how different types of social groups get recruited into racist or xenophobic movements, how such movements sustain exclusionary discourses and enjoy legitimacy in sections of society, and how the agendas and activities of racist or xenophobic groups evolve over time. It also examined how victims of racial discrimination and multiracial civil rights groups and parties have responded to racism, xenophobia and intolerance. These issues were discussed in one panel of four presentations on this subject: the civil rights movement and contemporary race relations in the United States; political parties, social movements and race relations in post-apartheid South Africa; anti-racist movements and political parties in Western democracies; and xenophobic and far-right political parties in Europe.

58. A number of policies exist for tackling racism, racial prejudice, discrimination, xenophobia and inequalities. The fourth theme of the conference focused on the impact of public policies on race relations. Public policies range from legal instruments and socio-economic programmes to educational policies that seek to change behaviour and promote

inclusiveness. They may involve sensitivity to racial cleavages in devising economic and social policies and reforming governance institutions. Targeted programmes may be adopted to correct historical injustices or assist excluded groups to get out of poverty and exploit opportunities. Public policies may be implemented at macro- and micro-level settings where groups compete for resources and public offices. They impact differently on groups, including among targeted beneficiaries. They are also often contested by different groups, making it difficult to predict their overall impact on social change or draw universal lessons that may be applicable to all situations.

59. The conference discussed these issues under four panels. The first focused on governance reforms for minority representation, law enforcement agencies and criminal justice systems, and language and educational reforms for social accommodation and integration; the second discussed racism, gender relations and public policies in South Africa, the United States and the United Kingdom, and New Zealand; the third examined policies for regulating racial prejudice in health provisioning and clinical trials and environmental racism more generally; and the fourth concentrated on social justice and affirmative action policies in the United States, Brazil, South Africa and Malaysia.

Outputs

60. The conference will be fully reported in a forthcoming issue of **Conference News**. Excerpts from eight of the papers and an overview will appear in **UNRISD News** No. 25 (spring/summer 2002). A selection of the papers is being revised by their authors and will be brought together in a volume edited by the project co-ordinator and Rodolfo Stavenhagen. A synopsis of the papers and outlines of the manuscripts have been sent to potential co-publishing partners. It is envisaged that the papers will be published in two volumes, provisionally titled **Racism, Xenophobia and Citizenship**; and **Racism, Governance and Justice**. The full papers are available on the UNRISD Web site. In addition, 12 of the papers are being reviewed for publication as Programme Papers. A document containing abstracts of the papers was distributed by the High Commissioner for Human Rights as a background document in a meeting of prominent persons during the third preparatory meeting of the World Conference, which was held in Geneva in May-June 2001.

61. The UNRISD conference was well covered in both South African and international media outlets. Also, prior to the conference, South Africa's **Daily Mail and Guardian** published an article titled "Environmental racism shifts the costs of the industry to the poor", which was excerpted from the paper prepared for UNRISD by Robert Bullard.

62. Funding for the project was provided by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in addition to UNRISD core funds.

List of commissioned papers

Keynote address by UN Special Rapporteur on Indigenous People

- Rodolfo Stavenhagen, **What Kind of Yarn? From Color Line to Multicolored Hammock: Reflections on Racism and Public Policy**

Theme One: The Social Construction of Race and Citizenship

- George M. Fredrickson, **The Social Construction of Race and Citizenship in the United States**
- Bernard Magubane, **The Social Construction of Race and Citizenship in South Africa**
- Vijay Prashad, **Cataracts of Silence: Race on the Edge of Indian Thought**
- Marisol de la Cadena, **The Racial Politics of Culture and Silent Racism in Peru**
- Lily Zubaida Rahim, **Race, Discrimination and Citizenship in South East Asia**

- Kwesi Prah, **Race, Discrimination, Slavery and Citizenship in the Afro-Arab Borderlands**

Theme Two: The Social Dynamics of Racism and Inequalities

- Sheldon Danziger, Deborah Reed and Tony N. Brown, **Poverty and Prosperity: Prospects for Reducing Racial/Ethnic Economic Disparities in the United States**
- Khoo Boo Teik, **Managing Ethnic Relations in Post-Crisis Indonesia and Malaysia: Lessons from the New Economic Policy?**
- Guy Mhone, **The Legacy of Labour Market Discrimination in Southern Africa: Efficiency and Equity Implications for Growth and Development**
- Sam Moyo, **Land Distribution and the Politics of Race Relations in Southern Africa**
- Diego Iturralde, **Land Distribution and the Politics of Race Relations in Latin America**
- Jeroen Doomernik, **Immigration, Multiculturalism and the Nation State in Western Europe**
- Ray Jureidini, **Migrant Workers and Xenophobia in the Middle East**

Theme Three: Organized Responses to Cultural Diversity

- Manning Marable, **Structural Racism and American Democracy: Historical and Theoretical Perspectives on the Civil Rights Movement**
- Hans-Georg Betz, **Exclusionary Populism in Western Europe in the 1990s: Electoral Success and Political Impact**
- Tom Lodge, **Political Parties, Civil Rights Movements and Racism in South Africa**
- Hajo Funke, **Europe at the Threshold: Fairness or Fortress? Racism, Public Policy and Antiracist Concepts**

Theme Four: The Impact of Public Policies on Race Relations

- Ralph Premdas, **Ethno-Racial Divisions and Governance: The Problem of Institutional Reform and Adaptation**
- Benjamin Bowling, Coretta Phillips, Alexandra Campbell and Maria Docking, **Policing and Human Rights: Eliminating Discrimination, Xenophobia, Intolerance and the Abuse of Power from Policework**
- Neville Alexander, **Language, Education and Race Relations**
- Kum-Kum Bhavnani, **Race, Women and Public Policy in the United States and United Kingdom**
- Tracey McIntosh, **Contested Realities: Race, Gender and Public Policy in Aotearoa/New Zealand**
- Jane Bennett, **Race, Gender and Public Policy in South Africa**
- Vernellia Randall, **Race, Health Care and the Law: Regulating Racial Discrimination in Health Care**
- Robert Bullard, **Confronting Environmental Racism in the Twenty-First Century**
- Glenn Loury, **Racial Justice and Affirmative Action Policies: The Superficial Morality of Color Blindness in the United States**
- Jomo K.S., **Malaysia's New Economic Policy and 'National Unity'**
- Antonio Guimaraes, **Racial Inequalities, Black Protest and Public Policies in Brazil**
- Renosi Mokate, **Poverty Eradication, Redistribution and Race Relations in South Africa**

The Need to Rethink Development Economics

63. UNRISD received funding from the Ford Foundation to organize a conference on *The Need to Rethink Development Economics* in Cape Town, South Africa on 7–8 September 2001. The conference, which brought together 29 economists and academics from all over the world, aimed to contribute to the revival of development economics not as a "deviant" branch of mainstream economics, but as a subject that can help broaden our understanding of the acute problems typically faced by developing countries.

64. Participants were requested to prepare short contributions in order to extract the main issues for debate and facilitate the direction of the conference toward the following themes: reasons for the decline of development economics; intellectual trends; new challenges; regional perspectives; and strategies and future activities. In addition, a background document on the subject was prepared by Thandika Mkandawire.

65. And why is there a need to rethink development economics? The call for "development economics" is informed by the impasse of the "Washington consensus" and the immediacy of the agenda that development economics sought to address—eradication of poverty through economic development and equitable distribution. The call from within the Bretton Woods Institutions (BWIs) for going "beyond the Washington consensus", "second generation reforms", and "reinvigorating the state's capability" all point to the need to return to the "development" which has been argued for by a wide range of scholars and institutions. The World Bank began calling for "comprehensive development frameworks" whose ingredients are reminiscent of the "development planning" associated with development economics. However, in the light of changed circumstances and accumulated experiences, the new "development economics" will have to take on a whole range of new issues in a vastly evolving global environment. The crucial changes include the changed international context, changes in economics, new views of the state and the new social agenda.

66. Though discussions at the conference were wide-ranging, some of the most important issues considered included the reconstruction of "development economics" to address poverty in an international environment that privileges finance over the "real" economy, and the decline of the capacity of states to institute equitable policies of economic development; and also what should be the relationship between the new thrust on development economics and mainstream economics. Here opinions diverged. One group proposed a clean break from mainstream economics which sees economics as a separate discipline and tends to patch on the "political" to explain why things are not as recommended or predicted by neoclassical economics. This revival should thus be outside the paradigms and methodologies set by the dominant mainstream economics. The new development economics should have a historical context and take into consideration institutions, socio-cultural values and practices, and governance structures. Others felt that there were a number of important critiques within mainstream economics that could be used to criticize mainstream policies, and could also be appropriated for a new thinking on development. The rigour of these approaches could be put to use for non-orthodox approaches. In this sense, methodology would not be of utmost importance, as long as there is a sincere effort to get at the essence of development in a historical and institutional setting.

67. A word of caution came from activists who argued that although "wrong" economic theories have played a central role in all this, the adoption of particular economic models by policy makers is essentially a political choice. In recent years, various conservative regimes in developed countries have been compelled, against their stated ideological predispositions, to adopt Keynesian solutions in response to political pressure.

68. Concern was also raised about the low visibility of development research taking place in developing countries, and the need to produce a new generation of development economists combining professional competence with critical perspectives. As such, a major outcome of the conference was the creation of a research network called IDEAs. The network will serve as a channel for communication, policy advice and dissemination of new ideas and new research findings—especially in the South—on how to rethink development economics. This network has already set up a Web site (www.networkideas.org).

69. With respect to publishable output, a conference report is being prepared and will soon be published as an issue of **Conference News**. A brief summary of the main findings at the conference will appear in **UNRISD News** No. 25 (spring/summer 2002). Some of the "notes" prepared for the conference are being revised and expanded by their authors, and additional contributions are being sought from other experts on the subject, with the goal of producing an edited volume. Indeed, a potential commercial co-publisher has already expressed interest in producing the book in association with UNRISD. The notes prepared for the conference and the background report are available on the UNRISD Web site.

List of contributions to the conference

- Alexandre Rands Barros, **Challenges of Economic Development**
- C.P. Chandrasekhar, **On Rethinking Development Economics**
- Roy Culpeper, **Development Economics: A Call to Action**
- Diane Elson, **For an Emancipatory Socio-Economics**
- Jeff Faux, **Reflections on the Restoration of Development Economics**
- Jayati Ghosh, **A Brief Note on the Decline and Rise of Development Economics**
- Stephany Griffith-Jones, **Opening Space for Development**
- Gerry Helleiner, **Some Issues in Development Economics**
- Susan Joekes, **Producing a New Generation of Practising Development Economists**
- Jomo K.S., **Development Economics: Coping with New Challenges, Especially Globalization**
- Kari Polanyi Levitt, **Reclaiming the Right to Development**
- Joseph Y. Lim, **Thoughts and Proposals on Reviving Development Economics**
- Kamal Malhotra, **Reviving Development Economics: Eight Challenges and Dilemmas**
- Guy C.Z. Mhone, **Enclavity and Constrained Labour Absorptive Capacity in Southern African Economies**
- Thandika Mkandawire, **The Need to Rethink Development Economics**
- Manuel Montes, **International Economic Policy**
- Machiko Nissanke, **The Neo-Liberal Doctrine and the African Crisis**
- Adebayo Olukoshi, **Towards Developmental Democracy: A Note**
- Vladimir Popov, **Lessons from Transition Economies: Strong Institutions Are More Important than the Speed of Reforms**
- Renee Prendergast, **Some Thoughts on the Implications of Increasing Returns for Economic Development**
- Delphin Rwegasira, **Beyond Macroeconomic Concerns to Development Issues**
- Gita Sen, **Development Studies or Development Economics: Moving Forward from TINA**
- Ritu R. Sharma, **Women, Politics and a Development Economics Renaissance**
- Franklin Serrano and Carlos Medeiros, **Economic Development and the Revival of the Classical Surplus Approach**
- Joseph E. Stiglitz, **An Agenda for the New Development Economics**
- Lance Taylor, **Notes on Development Economics**

- Brian van Arkadie, **Some Thoughts on the Agenda for Development Economics**
- Mark Weisbrot, **The "Washington Consensus" and Development Economics**
- Marc Wuyts, **Inequality and Poverty as the Condition of Labour**
- Erinç Yeldan, **The Developmental Agenda in the Age of Neoliberal Globalization**

UNRISD's Contribution to the United Nations Second World Assembly on Ageing

70. The United Nations Second World Assembly on Ageing will be held in Madrid, Spain, from 8–12 April 2002. As an institution concerned with the study of social development and social policy, UNRISD seeks to contribute to this event by organizing a two-day conference on *Ageing, Development and Social Protection* scheduled to take place on 8–9 April 2002.

71. There is a tendency to depict the global trend of accelerated population ageing as a threat to the future. Rather, it should be recognized as one of the great achievements of the past century—albeit one that generates a range of social, economic, political and cultural challenges. To highlight some of the key issues in this field, UNRISD has invited a number of internationally renowned social scientists and gerontologists to prepare papers for and to present them at the UNRISD conference. (A list of commissioned work is provided at the end of this entry.) Some of the papers will address the dynamics and challenges of population ageing in contexts of rapid social change as well as situations of social crisis. Other papers will examine policy responses to population ageing, through both formal social protection, and informal care and inter-generational exchange. The UNRISD conference will provide participants with knowledge about the current state of academic research and debate on important issues related to ageing and development, as they affect different social groups (including the non-elderly), regions and countries.

Development trajectories, social change and well-being in later life

72. Population ageing and the well-being of older people are inseparable from wider processes of development. The speed of these processes of change in developing countries is reflected in the sudden onset of population ageing there. Although the oldest population structures tend to be found in richer countries, the majority of the world's elderly people now live in the South. The relationship is bi-directional: population ageing may also influence patterns of development. However, claims that ageing simply increases the burden on productive sectors of the economy are based on over-generalized notions of consumption and dependency in later life. Development influences the capacity of societies to provide for all groups, including older people. At the same time, development may involve complex social and cultural changes representing both opportunities and threats to the aged.

73. The conference will explore these issues and relationships in different regional settings. One paper looks at the experience of Great Britain, taken as broadly representative of advanced industrialized countries. It examines long-term changes in the status of older people, including their economic well-being (both in terms of access to market production and social protection), social roles and political participation.

74. Papers about Brazil and Ukraine provide a contrast in terms of development trajectories and well-being in later life. In Brazil, relatively strong economic performance has enabled the emergence of an embracing and generous range of social programmes for older people. In Ukraine, economic crisis has been mirrored by the collapse of formal social protection. Yet it is also possible to identify important processes that affect elders in both countries, such as changing household dynamics and shifts in cultural norms.

75. Another paper examines how policy makers in China are struggling to respond to processes of change, which are unprecedented in terms of their speed and scale. This is set against a recent history of fertility reduction by all means, and inattention to formal social protection, especially in rural areas. A further paper makes a general examination of experiences in sub-Saharan Africa, where poverty and recent development setbacks have not precluded rapid social, cultural and epidemiological change. These changes have placed strains on the informal care economy, and at the same time impeded the development of formal policy interventions.

Formal social protection and older people

76. In developed countries there has been a rapid growth in public expenditure for the needs of older people. This has led to concerns about fiscal sustainability, and calls for a more pluralistic approach to financing and provision. The conference will include a study of the rapidly expanding demand for long-term care services in Japan. This evaluates recent reforms, and considers the increasing complexity of relationships between the state, the private sector, voluntary organizations and informal provision.

77. Thinking about public policy for older people in the South is strongly influenced by the experiences of the North, and has been dominated by controversies about pension reform. The conference will include a comparative analysis of pension programmes in Singapore, Chile, South Africa and Brazil. The paper commissioned on this subject finds that administrative costs are highest and coverage is lowest in Chile's largely privatized scheme. Brazil and South Africa's non-contributory pension programmes are shown to reinforce informal social protection and to provide a significant income source for poor households. Singapore's state-run provident scheme offers a possible model of integrated financing for pensions, health insurance and long-term care.

78. Globally, financing and providing health services for older people has received much less attention than has pension reform. One of the conference papers reviews an important exception to this trend: Argentina's ambitious pensioner health and social service programme. Particular attention is paid to the programme's financial difficulties, and comparisons are drawn with Medicare in the United States.

79. In many poor countries formal social protection pays little attention to older people, other than retired civil servants. A paper focusing on sub-Saharan Africa describes how health policy has been targeted at other groups, such as mothers, young children and "productive" workers. Health sector reforms being applied across the region, such as cost recovery, decentralization and new forms of private sector involvement rarely, if ever, take into account possible impacts on older people.

80. The global nature of health policy frameworks is highlighted in a paper that describes broadly similar reform measures being implemented in a very different setting: Malaysia. Again, little reference is made to the potential impacts of these changes on older people. Ironically, population ageing is being used as a justification for promoting private financing in Southeast Asia, thereby reducing pressure on the state. Yet as is well known, private health insurance tends to avoid liabilities with "high-risk" groups such as older people.

Older people and the care economy

81. The divisions between formal social protection and informal means of support are blurred, and increasing attention is being paid to the interface between them. This is particularly significant in the area of long-term care for groups such as the very old. However, the care economy is also related to issues such as the household production of health and

informal economic support. In the South it is often claimed that care and social services are not a policy priority, since traditional household and community structures are assumed to play this role. A study from Mexico shows how changes to family structures, gender roles and kinship obligations are constraining the supply of informal care for older people. These are examined using a framework of inter-generational exchange and reciprocity. The paper draws comparisons between rural and urban areas, and pays particular attention to the impact of migration on informal care and exchange.

82. It is often argued that strains on the care economy are linked to an erosion of traditional values and norms. Yet claims that previous generations of older people lived in a "Golden Age" characterized by stronger norms of family support and respect for elders have been questioned by historical research. Indeed, some traditional attitudes, including witchcraft beliefs, and discrimination against individuals suffering from cognitive impairment, may be very detrimental to the well-being of elders, particularly women, leading to what might be labelled an "uncare economy". One of the conference papers examines traditional values and widowhood in India, observing widespread social exclusion, reflected in mortality levels and income data. The paper also observes differences in the nature and degree of exclusion across regions, social class, and caste.

83. Many older people are themselves care-givers, perhaps providing support for an ailing spouse or a young grandchild. This has become increasingly significant in contexts of high HIV/AIDS prevalence. One of the conference papers studies the social and economic impacts of HIV/AIDS on older people in Thailand. It draws particular attention to the role of elders as carers for infected offspring (who are adults), while playing down the significance of care for AIDS grandchildren/orphans (the latter is not yet a significant phenomenon in Thailand).

84. Care-giving remains a highly gendered activity, and often the full burden of care falls on a single person, such as a daughter or daughter-in-law. A theoretical paper explores the need to both ensure the dignity of care-receivers and avoid exploitation of care-givers. This paper criticizes social contract perspectives, arguing that the capabilities framework offers a more effective approach to conceptualizing social justice in the care economy.

Outputs

85. The authors of the commissioned papers and the external research co-ordinator, Peter Lloyd-Sherlock (University of East Anglia, UK), will come together prior to the UNRISD conference in a closed workshop on 7 April 2002 to present their papers, and discuss the comparative issues emerging from the case studies.

86. After the conference, the external research co-ordinator will prepare a report for publication in UNRISD's **Conference News** series. A small number of papers will be selected for publication as UNRISD Programme Papers. The external research co-ordinator will bring together the full set of commissioned papers into an edited volume.

List of commissioned papers

- Paul Johnson, **Long-Term Historical Changes in the Status of Elders: Britain as an Exemplar of Advanced Industrial Economies**
- Ana Amélia Camarano, **Brazilian Population Ageing: Rural-Urban Differences in Well-Being**
- Vladislav Bezrukov and Natalia A. Foigt, **The Impact of Transition on Older People in Ukraine**
- Du Peng and David Phillips, **Potential Consequences of Population Ageing for Social Development in China**
- Nana Apt, **Informal Care for Older People: The African Crisis**

- Tetsuo Ogawa, **Is Ageing an Issue of Social Contract in Welfare Transfer, or Generational Conflicts? The Case of Japan**
- Armando Barrientos, **Comparing Pension Schemes in Chile, Singapore, Brazil and South Africa**
- Nelida Redondo, **Pensioner Health Funds: A Comparison of Argentina and the United States**
- Di McIntyre, **Health Policy and Older People in Africa**
- Chan Chee Khoon, **Privatizing the Welfarist State: Healthcare and Social Protection in Malaysia**
- Verónica Montes de Oca and Cristina Gomes, **Ageing, Development and Social Protection in Mexico**
- Martha Alter Chen, **Widowhood and Ageing in India**
- Chanpen Saengtienchai and John Knodel, **AIDS and Older Persons: The View from Thailand**
- Martha Nussbaum, **Care, Dependency and Social Justice: A Challenge to Conventional Ideas of Social Contract**

87. Funding for this project is provided by United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and UNRISD core funds.

UNRISD's Contribution to Rio+10—The World Summit on Sustainable Development

88. The United Nations is preparing for a 10-year review of progress in the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992. This 10-year review process, referred to as "Rio+10", places particular emphasis on accomplishments and obstacles in efforts to implement the Rio Conference's Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. The review and appraisal process will culminate in a World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa in September 2002.

89. According to General Assembly Resolution A/RES/55/199 (20 December 2000), this Summit Conference and its preparation should strive for "a balance between economic development, social development and environmental protection as these are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development". The same resolution "invites relevant agencies and bodies of the United Nations…to participate fully in the review".

90. In answer to this invitation, UNRISD is preparing a report that synthesizes the principal findings of its research on environmental issues, and situates these findings in the context of broader debates on environment and sustainable development. Solon Barraclough, UNRISD Senior Consultant, is preparing the report.

91. Since its founding in the mid-1960s, UNRISD has taken a holistic, political economy approach to social development. This has necessarily included integration of environmental issues in its research. During the 1990s, in connection with preparations for and follow-up to the 1992 Rio Conference, an important portion of the Institute's work focused on social development issues related to deforestation, biodiversity protection, desertification, grassroots environmental management, urban sustainability and corporate environmental responsibility. The UNRISD report for Rio+10 will draw heavily on this work related to environmental and social sustainability.

92. In contrast to Agenda 21 and many other mainstream policy documents that often focus on "win-win" scenarios and complementarities, this report will emphasize the fact that processes of economic, social and environmental change tend to be associated with winners and losers, conflicts, trade-offs and contradictions. It will also highlight the way in which local-level outcomes are shaped by national and global policies and processes, and the crucial role of power relations and equity issues in processes of "unsustainable development" and the success or failure of remedial actions.

93. The report will address four principal questions that have been central to the Institute's research in this field: How do market forces, government policies and other factors influence the way different social groups use and manage natural resources? How are these social groups affected by environmental degradation? How and to what extent can people manage natural resources on a sustainable basis at the local level? What have been the impacts of mainstream conservation initiatives on patterns of natural resource use and people's livelihoods?

94. The report will examine these questions in diverse institutional and environmental contexts. It will focus on institutional and political economy aspects of sustainable development, thus highlighting the need for integrated approaches to environmental problems at local, sub-national, national and international levels. Particular attention will be paid to the role of grassroots environmental action for promoting sustainable development, and the types of favourable institutional and policy contexts required at all levels for such action to be effective in stopping social and environmental degradation. The report will also discuss the relevance of UNRISD's work to ongoing international debates on sustainable development issues. It will raise several unresolved conceptual problems in assessing environmental degradation or enhancement, and will attempt to highlight some policy implications of UNRISD's research. The draft report should be completed by mid-2002.

95. UNRISD will also prepare an annotated bibliography of all its environment-related work as part of its contribution. And it will commission a number of additional papers to highlight the importance of a political economy approach when analysing environmental problems and proposing solutions. Authors are now being identified and contacted.

96. The UNRISD report and the commissioned papers will be presented at a meeting to be held in Johannesburg during Rio+10.

97. Funding for this project is provided by the government of Norway, in addition to UNRISD core funds.

PROGRAMME ON SOCIAL POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT

98. **Social policy is broadly defined as state policies and practices that directly influence the welfare and security of various groups within a particular society. In this programme area, the Institute is encouraging interdisciplinary debate on the relationship between social policy, social and political institutions, and economic development. Research areas include *Social Policy in a Development Context; Neoliberalism and Institutional Reform in East Asia*; *Agrarian Change, Gender and Land Rights*; *Globalization, Export-Oriented Employment for Women and Social Policy*; and *HIV/AIDS and Development.***

Social Policy in a Development Context

99. On 23–24 September 2000, a conference was held by UNRISD, in collaboration with the Olof Palme International Centre (OPIC), in Tammsvik, Sweden. Drawing on the presentations and discussions at the conference, a three-year research project was designed, with four thematic components. During the reporting period, a number of important steps were taken under this project. The project co-ordinator held discussions with donors regarding funding possibilities for the project. A small donors' meeting took place in May 2001 in Geneva, and by February 2002 USD1.5 million had been committed to the project by DFID, Sida/SAREC and the Ford Foundation, while discussions continue with a number of other interested donors. UNRISD core funds are also being used to get the project under way. Research co-ordinators were identified for each of the four thematic components, and work under Component Four has begun.

Background: Tammsvik conference

100. This event brought together over 40 participants, representing academic and research institutions, as well as national and international agencies. The participants had been asked to prepare short "notes" commenting on the project's background paper, prepared by Thandika Mkandawire and titled: **Social Policy in a Development Context: An Issues Paper** (PP SPD 7, June 2001), and identifying critical thematic areas for research. During the conference, 25 speakers presented their comments on the background paper and led discussions. A conference report has been prepared and published in the UNRISD **Conference News** series, titled **Social Policy in a Development Context**.

101. The discussions at the conference were wide-ranging. One of the most fascinating exchanges centred on the meaning of social policy, and whether it is legitimate to separate it from economic policy. Several speakers contested the division between "economic" and "social" policy, and argued that the economy, which neoclassical economists equate with the market, is itself constructed through broader social and political processes. The emergence of markets is almost always deliberately engineered by the state, especially in the early stages of capitalist development.

102. Likewise, the term "economic policy" is very often used as shorthand for a policy whose underlying structure of rights and obligations is relatively uncontested or, more likely, to suggest that it should not be contested. But the point to underline is that economic policies invariably embody social content that reflects social structures and broader social and political forces. For example, in the recent crisis in East Asia, the macroeconomic policies that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) prescribed did not simply have a negative social *impact*: they were designed embodying a profoundly unjust social *content* that prioritized the rights of creditors and financial institutions over the social rights of ordinary people. This was not

because there was no alternative "sound" macroeconomic strategy available, but because those designing macroeconomic policies chose to prioritize the interests of the creditors.

103. The present interest in social policy owes a great deal to the questioning of the neoliberal consensus. The rediscovery of "the social", however, has many problematic features. One important failing is that it has not entailed a serious interrogation of the dominant macroeconomic model. When it comes to the sensitive arena of macroeconomic policy, the concern for "the social" all but disappears. "Sound" macroeconomic policies continue to be seen as policies that are focused on market-based criteria, with an overriding emphasis on stabilizing the price level and reducing the role of the state, and then "adding on" social policies to achieve socially desirable outcomes.

104. Yet, contrary to the inadequate way in which "the social" has been adopted by the international financial institutions (IFIs), the fundamental purpose of integrating "the social" and "the economic" is to rethink economic policies and to re-open the question of what constitutes "sound" macroeconomic policy. There is by now overwhelming evidence that orthodox economic policies have failed both in terms of generating favourable distributive and welfare outcomes, as well as in generating growth. In short, the currently dominant neoliberal paradigm has proved to be misleading as a guide for shaping a state-society nexus that is developmental and socially inclusive. In the light of this failure, rethinking economic policy should be at the forefront of the development debate.

105. There was also considerable debate on the interrelations between industrialization, employment and social policy. Whereas under Keynesian influence governments used macroeconomic policy to produce full employment, and microeconomic instruments to curb inflation, with the ascendance of neoliberalism, the role of macro- and microeconomic policy has been reversed. This constitutes a complete turnaround in priorities: governments have effectively surrendered the pursuit of full employment through economic policy. Models of import substituting industrialization (ISI), and industrial policy more broadly, with their strategic focus on nurturing national industries and providing employment, have become increasingly marginal to the central project of economic growth. Yet the implicit premise in the current policies promulgated by IFIs—that is, industrialization and employment are obsolete and "old-fashioned" policy objectives—is very dangerous. Whatever might be said against the policies of the ISI period in retrospect, concerns about employment and public-sector support of industrialization had a home *within* the policy thinking about economic development itself. They attracted a good deal of debate, research and scrutiny. Today, concerns about employment, particularly through the support of domestic firms, have no such home, and are no longer considered "serious economic development". These concerns have now been relegated to the realm of "safety nets", and small enterprise and informal sector programmes. The focus on small firms and the informal sector in turn leads to blanket exemptions from paying taxes, and from observing environmental and labour regulations. This in turn largely undermines the social policy agenda. It is also devoid of the kind of strategic vision that can assist firms to become more productive and to help enhance employment objectives.

Edited volume

106. Some of the participants in the Tammsvik conference were asked to develop the points raised in their notes. Some of these full-length papers were submitted to UNRISD during the current reporting period. A selected number will be considered for publication as UNRISD Programme Papers, and the full set will be brought together in an edited volume:

- Thandika Mkandawire, **Editor's Introduction**

Part One: The Conceptual Underpinnings of Social Policy

- Ha-Joon Chang, **The Role of Social Policy in Economic Development: Some Theoretical Reflections and Lessons from East Asia**
- Diane Elson, **Social Policy and Macroeconomic Performance: Integrating "the Economic" and "the Social"**
- Laurence Whitehead, **Democratizing Development**
- Ben Fine, **Social Policy and Development: Social Capital as Point of Departure**

Part Two: Social Policy in Historical Perspective

- Peter Townsend, **From Universalism to Safety Nets: The Rise and Fall of Keynesian Influence on Social Development**
- Jayati Ghosh, **Social Policy in Indian Development**
- Guy Mhone, **Historical Trajectories of Social Policy in Post-Colonial Africa: The Case of Zambia**
- Juhana Vartiainen, **Social Policy as a Development Tool? Risk, Distributional Conflict and the Mobilization of Resources**

Part Three: Contemporary Social Policy Reform

- Huck-ju Kwon, **The Economic Crisis and the Politics of Welfare Reform in Korea**
- Joakim Palme, **The Politics of Social Policy in Contemporary Sweden**
- Maureen Mackintosh and Paula Tibandebage, **Inequality and Redistribution in Health Care: Analytical Issues for Developmental Social Policy**
- Judith Tendler, **Why Social Policy is Condemned to a Residual Category of Safety Nets, and What to Do about It: Thoughts on a Research Agenda for UNRISD**
- Carmelo Mesa-Lago, **Models of Development, Social Policy, and Reform in Latin America**
- Evelyne Huber and John Stephens, **The Political Economy of Pension Reform**.

Research project

107. Drawing on the presentations and discussions at the conference, a three-year research project has been designed, which includes four independent (though substantively related) thematic components.

108. One of the greatest challenges in development policy is the edification of a state-society nexus that is *developmental* (in the sense that it facilitates and promotes economic growth and structural transformation), *democratic* (in the sense that it derives its legitimacy through popular participation and electoral process) and *socially inclusive* (in the sense that it pursues social policies that provide equitable entitlements for all citizens to ensure that their capacities and functionings are adequate for a decent inclusion in societal affairs).

109. **Component One**: To address this challenge in development policy, this project seeks better understanding of four sets of interrelated issues. There are, first, questions of theory that are taken up by Component One of the project. The currently dominant neoliberal paradigm has proved misleading as a guide for shaping a state-society nexus that is developmental, democratic and socially inclusive. It has also received extensive criticisms for the way it envisages the *modus operandi* of the market, the state and institutions, and their interrelationships. A growing body of literature is contributing to the construction of an alternative paradigm. But this work needs a much clearer specification in theoretical terms if it is to constitute a sound intellectual basis for formulating alternative strategies. Such a conceptual edifice would question the abstract boundaries that neoliberals have constructed between "economic", "social" and "political", and highlight how political forces, social objectives, institutional characteristics and ideological struggles underpin seemingly "technical" policy choices that are the bread and butter of economic policy. If financial constraints are socially and politically malleable, then it should be possible to build a socially

egalitarian macroeconomic agenda—one that locates the pursuit of social objectives, such as the reduction of poverty and the enhancement of social equity, at the heart of economic policy while adjusting all other policy instruments in line with those social objectives.

110. An external co-ordinator for this component of the project has been identified: Giovanni Andrea Cornia (University of Florence). He is now preparing a research proposal for UNRISD, which will identify specific research questions to be explored under this component of the project.

111. **Component Two**: A policy framework that is both developmental and socially egalitarian is not merely a theoretical possibility—it has been accomplished, with varying degrees of success, historically. Component Two of the UNRISD project will delve into historical trajectories of development and "late development" in diverse regional settings. It is often said that "late industrializers" were likely to evolve different institutional forms in order to exploit their "lateness" and to "catch up". More specifically, in such contexts the state was bound to play a more active role in the process of industrialization (through control of finance as the conduit of industrial policy) than in the "pioneer" countries. This part of the story—the patterns of articulation between state and business—has been well documented and theorized in the literature. What has not been so extensively analysed and theorized is that among the institutions adapted for such "late industrialization" were those dealing with social policy. This is a troubling gap in the research, one that will be addressed by this component of the project through a comparative analysis of selected historical case studies. The research will focus initially on two regional contexts: the Nordic countries (e.g., Sweden, Finland) well known for their pioneer welfare states, and the Northeast Asian developmental states (e.g., Japan, the Republic of Korea, Taiwan), better known for their successful industrialization efforts than their comprehensive welfare state institutions.

112. This component of the project will have multiple research co-ordinators. Huck-ju Kwon, joined UNRISD as a full-time staff member from 1 February 2002; he will be responsible for the East Asian component of the research. External research co-ordinators have also been identified for the Nordic experience: Joakim Palme (Swedish Institute for Social Research, University of Stockholm) and/or Olli Kangas (University of Turku, Finland).

113. **Component Three**: In contrast to the Nordic experience, which was driven by social democratic politics, the Northeast Asian model thrived in essentially authoritarian contexts, and would thus be unlikely to survive the wave of democratization that is likely to push for more progressive welfare policies and the reform of big business. This raises a number of crucial questions. *Was* there (in Northeast Asia), and *is* there (more broadly) a necessary connection, or affinity, between authoritarianism and development? Do the agendas of different social actors and the developmental trajectories of countries today point to the possibility of arriving at state-society relations that facilitate and promote developmental goals, social inclusion and democracy (as in the Nordic examples)? This is the *problematique* that Component Three of the project will address, based on comparative case studies in a variety of regional contexts. The 1990s saw a wave of democratization that should, in principle, strengthen social dialogues and make them more inclusive. In theory, a political democracy works on the basis of one person-one vote, and the distribution of votes, unlike the distribution of incomes and assets, is equal. Given the numerical preponderance of the popular social strata, their needs and demands should be reflected in the priorities set by the political system. In practice, however, the relations between democratization and the delivery of social welfare have been far more complex and indeterminate. An important factor that is gathering strength with globalization is the increasingly technocratic style that seems to inform the making of economic policy in many countries. Economic policies are increasingly made behind closed doors, in insulated technocracies and without sufficient consultation with the public, so as not to disturb the volatile sentiments of global markets. This limits the range of policy options, hindering the capacity of democracies to implement substantial reform and

redistributive action. By foreclosing debate on a wide range of political economy issues, technocratic policy making also severely curtails the domain and reach of democratic politics.

114. An external research co-ordinator has been identified for this component of the project: Laurence Whitehead (Nuffield College, Oxford University, UK). A research proposal is now being prepared which identifies specific research questions and case studies.

115. **Component Four**: One specific area of social policy that is being transformed by global forces is that of health care provision. The fourth component of the project will thus focus on health care commercialization: the global and local dynamics and social policy responses. An external research co-ordinator has been identified: Maureen Mackintosh (Open University, UK). In January 2002 she presented her research proposal to UNRISD, and discussed her ideas with colleagues at the Institute.

116. The proposal pursues three objectives:

1. to develop, through original collaborative research, a body of work on feasible policy for inclusive health care in contexts of commercializing provision;
2. to base this collaboration on the needs and perspectives of researchers in low and middle income countries, including "Southern" perspectives on international/global policy issues;
3. through collaboration between health care and health policy researchers and open-minded microeconomists, to develop a health systems-based approach to policy analysis, as a challenge to currently dominant policy perspectives.

117. The component would aim to develop a body of policy analysis in health care that constituted an alternative to the dominant conventional wisdom. The latter can be summarized as residualist strategies for the public sector, the promotion of market segmentation and commercial care for those who can pay, and individualist evaluation methods. Alternatives would be based on:

- the concept of health care systems;
- a commitment to shaping and constraining market development;
- the promotion of solidarity and cross-subsidy;
- the search for locally feasible, socially inclusive strategies;
- the recognition and explanation of local success as well as failure; and
- evaluation methods that recognize path-dependent local market dynamics.

118. The research co-ordinator has already begun discussions with potential collaborators to identify, discuss, and agree on feasible topics. The Finnish Ministry of Health and STAKES have expressed an interest in providing funding for the final workshop in Finland and to fund a health specialist (Meri Koivusalo) to collaborate with the research co-ordinator in carrying out the work.

The RUIG initiative: Inequality and health

119. Component Four of the project on *Social Policy in a Development Context* is very closely related to another initiative, undertaken by UNRISD in conjunction with the Institut universitaire d'études du développement and the Département d'économie politique of the University of Geneva, as well as the Faculté des sciences sociales of the University of Lausanne. This joint research programme, with the umbrella title L*e défi social du développement*, was submitted in mid-2001 by all participating parties for funding by the Réseau universitaire international de Genève, or RUIG—a foundation recently created by Swiss authorities to encourage research collaboration between United Nations agencies and Swiss academic institutions. The proposal was approved in November 2001.

120. The joint research programme is broadly concerned with the impact of global liberalism on equity, social protection and social policy. Specific subprojects are devoted to problems of growth with equity, the commercialization of health and education, and market reforms in the field of social security. UNRISD is responsible for the component of the programme concerned with health care commercialization and inequality in health.

121. This work will complement the larger effort of the Institute in the field of social policy. Like Component Four of *Social Policy in a Development Context*, the RUIG subproject on health and inequality will be directed by Maureen Mackintosh. In compliance with the broader directives of the joint programme, case studies will be commissioned in four countries (Bulgaria, Mali, South Africa, and Viet Nam), and in the Canton of Geneva. They may be carried out in other national contexts as well. Studies are likely to focus on the scope for redistributive public finance in health care and to be based on the analysis of specific allocative decision-making processes. An issues paper, written during early 2002, will provide a broad framework for analysis; and one or more interim seminars will ensure opportunities for dialogue among project participants.

122. The programme on L*e défi social du développement* began in January 2002 and is scheduled to continue for 18 months. In late February or early March 2003, the Institut universitaire d'études du développement will sponsor a public conference at which preliminary findings from all subprojects will be presented.

123. In addition to the financing from RUIG, UNRISD core funds support this work.

Neoliberalism and Institutional Reform in East Asia

124. The project on Neoliberalism and Institutional Reform in East Asia is in its final stage. As explained in the last report to the Board, in May 2000 scholars working on the political economy and social institutions of East Asia came together at a conference in Bangkok, Thailand. Since then, participants in the project have finished and revised their papers. The external project co-ordinator, Meredith Woo-Cumings, is currently finalizing the edited volume, which should be submitted to Cornell University Press in early 2002.

125. The main impetus for the project stemmed from discontent over the way the first calamitous crisis of the post-Cold War years was understood and, perhaps even more disastrously, dealt with by the IMF. The primary argument about the causes of the 1997–1998 East Asian crisis stemmed from a lack of institutional accountability, widely understood to mean the absence of transparency, moral hazards, and inadequate rule of law—in short, all that was comprised under the term "crony capitalism". It then followed that the thrust of the reforms demanded by international financial institutions involved dismantling the institutions of crony capitalism, and replacing them with the types of regulatory agencies that one might find in the Anglo-American world. Yet the IMF had no road map to guide the formulation and implementation of such reforms—except for the general thrust of the "Washington consensus". IMF conditionality packages often contained inappropriate reform targets, inconsistent reform measures and ill-advised reform sequences, which led to sharp downturns in the affected economies.

126. If much has been written about the banking and financial aspects of the reforms in East Asia, there has still been little analysis of the wider social implications of the suggested institutional reform measures for the region. If international financial agencies have been focusing on institutions, they remain bereft of expertise to analyse them. This UNRISD project, and the resulting book, constitute one of the major attempts to fill this lacuna in the existing literature.

127. The book explores the possibility that some of the recommended reforms may themselves be based on a misreading of actual practices in the West, practices which can be enormously diverse and complex in real life, but which tend to be understood as ideal types when recommended to Asian economies. This often results in demands for one-size-fits-all institutional reform, and leads policy makers to see their options either in terms of maintaining the discredited *status quo* or embracing neoliberalism in its entirety. Understanding the gap between neoliberal nostrums and the real practices in the West will enable the public and the policy community to think more creatively about the range of possibilities for institutional reform.

128. The book consists of 10 chapters, covering the reform of legal systems, the state sector, labour markets, and the private sector. The introductory chapter provides an overview of the reform process. It explains how a regional liquidity crisis ended up destroying two archetypal political economy regimes in East Asia—the developmental regime in the Republic of Korea (henceforth Korea) and the cronyist regime in Indonesia—and provides a background context for the introduction of neoliberal reforms throughout East Asia. It also examines the claims made by international financial institutions about governance systems in those countries, and provides a sketch of the East Asian terrain against which these claims would have to prove true—or be proven false.

129. Two chapters on legal reform examine the claim that the "rule of law" is indispensable to economic development and eradicating crony capitalism. One shows how the argument about the centrality of law in economic development flies in the face of Japanese experience—and, in fact, American experience, as well. In the American legal system, the rule of law has been intentionally subordinated to other institutional goals and political values (e.g., democracy). The implication of this argument is that the reform of the legal system is a profoundly normative process that reflects larger aims of the society—and not a matter of imposing a formal legal structure that is said to correlate to high economic efficiency (e.g., the Anglo-American common law system).

130. The second chapter shows how legal formalism in the United States has been used to thwart progressive political movements. This chapter raises the concern that the reappearance of theoretical abstraction as the criterion on which commentators call for the reform of Asian legal systems may mask similar opposition to political progressivism—or at least opposition to the inherent differences between these economic systems.

131. The second section of the book examines the now-derided institutions of economic policy making in East Asia, especially industrial policy. The guiding economic bureaucracy in Korea was long thought to possess many occult secrets of development, but is now thought to be a primary obstacle to progress. The developmental state in Taiwan Province of China has been singularly successful in re-inventing itself, steering the economy away from the emphasis on heavy industries of the 1970s to one based on information technology. The Korean state, under assault throughout the early 1990s to make way for liberalization and market reforms, was more hamstrung than the state in Taiwan, and less successful in re-inventing itself. In the aftermath of the Asian crisis, however, much of that may be changing, as the state once again takes charge of reorganizing social and market institutions in Korea. All of these points underscore the arguments presented in the chapter on the developmental states in France and Korea—that the state is more than a set of institutions, but rather a kind of culture, composed of language games and norms, which institutions can embody in a variety of ways. Developmentalism, understood as a kind of culture, informs and constrains the way the French, Koreans and Taiwanese think about investment strategy, both inside and outside the formal institutions of state. The important task ahead is not so much the elimination of the state from the market, but the refocusing of its energy, to implement its goals (which may well be the liberalization and globalization of their domestic economies).

132. The third section deals with the so-called "inflexible" labour markets now being dismantled in East Asia. International financial institutions have demanded not only broad layoffs, but also policies that have led to massive corporate bankruptcies. But in the absence of social welfare programmes, the institution of "lifetime employment" in large corporations is often the only social safety net available in East Asia. In fact, large corporations in Japan and Korea, not to mention the state-owned enterprises in China, also fulfil welfare functions that in the United States and Western Europe are fulfilled by the state. What options, then, are available to the East Asian countries? One chapter argues that it is not clear that the paternalistic systems in East Asia, where private corporations take on welfare functions, are *ipso facto* inefficient. Based on an examination of the recent economic literature on the theory of labour market institutions, the chapter argues that different labour market institutions represent different but equally rational responses to problems of inefficient incentives and incomplete information. Another chapter supports this contention, showing how the construction and maintenance of industrial relations is a function of political institutions, power distributions and choices, and suggesting a number of reasons why convergence in labour practice along the American axis is unlikely to materialize.

133. The fourth section deals with the governance of the private sector, and consists of two complementary chapters. One examines the Korean *chaebol*, to show the relationship between falling profits and "tunnelling"—or stealing—by controlling shareholders, and describes the regulatory reforms taking place in Korea. The other takes on the issue of corporate bankruptcy, and rather than extolling the virtue of one bankruptcy regime over another (as is the case in Western commentaries on East Asia), shows how particular bankruptcy regimes afford the state a vast opportunity to shape national markets without large public spending, and should be approached with a great deal of care and thought.

134. The concluding chapter takes up the ideological bases and institutions of Northeast Asian economic development, in the spirit of Albert Hirschman's dictum that ideas are the binding agents of economic development and in the magical words of Alexander Gerschenkron's famous metaphorical invocation of visions that generate and sustain excitement about development. For both thinkers, originality and creativity in development came not from copying, followership, or one-size-fits-all dictums based on the Western experience, but from inventive and iconoclastic deviations—sudden industrial leaps forward, skipping over Rustovian "stages", carving out new sequences, reinventing the role of states and markets. These binding agents are examined in the cases of Northeast Asia and Southeast Asia, and it is shown that they (anti-communism in Northeast Asia, "Asian values" in Southeast Asia) no longer provide a catch-all basis around which to mobilize people.

135. Funding for this project has been provided by the Rockefeller Foundation, in addition to UNRISD core funds.

Contents of the edited volume

- Meredith Woo-Cumings, **Editor's Introduction: Neoliberalism and Institutional Reform in East Asia**

Part One: Legal Reform and the Rule of Law

- Frank K. Upham, **Neoliberalism and the Rule of Law in Developing Societies**
- John K.M. Ohnesorge, **Asia's Legal Systems in the Wake of the Financial Crisis: Can the Rule of Law Carry Any of the Weight?**

Part Two: Institutions of Economic Policy Making

- Yun-Han Chu, **Re-engineering the Developmental State in an Age of Globalization: Taiwan's Quest for High-Tech Industries**

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- Juhana Vartiainen, **Lessons from European and North American Wage Bargaining Institutions: Do Asian Countries Fit into the Picture?**
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- Sung Wook Joh, **Evaluation of Changes in the Corporate Governance System of Korean Chaebols**
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- Meredith Woo-Cumings, **Re-Examining Cultural and Ideological Institutions in East Asia**

Agrarian Change, Gender and Land Rights

Background

136. This project examines recent shifts in policy thinking about land rights—both in general and as they relate to women's access to land—juxtaposed against recent developments in land tenure arrangements in selected regional contexts. It consists of three country case studies (Brazil, South Africa, Uzbekistan), and a broader regional study on sub-Saharan Africa (with a focus on Ghana, Tanzania and Zimbabwe).

137. Policy makers are increasingly concerned with growing land access problems and land conflicts in many parts of the world. This has resulted in a burgeoning policy debate, with an important minority voice that seeks to promote better and more secure land access for rural women. There is, however, some unease about the way in which certain currents of thinking within both academia and policy making are presenting the gender and land issue—either pushing vigorously for unambiguous rights of women over land as a "good" policy intervention because it is presumed to enhance women's bargaining power irrespective of institutional history and context (e.g. whether land-scarce or land-abundant), or opposing women's land rights categorically because it is seen as the thin wedge that is being used to open up "customary" systems of land management to market forces and foreign commercial interests. This is an unproductive dichotomy that the project tries to question by bringing together contextualized case studies from diverse countries and regions.

Progress

138. During the reporting period, the research team completed a number of tasks, including desk studies, interviews with a wide array of actors and field research in selected countries. Several drafts of the research reports were submitted to UNRISD and subsequently revised and finalized.

139. **South Africa**: The first component of this case study analyses the latest developments and policy shifts in the country's land reform programme, drawing on published and unpublished material, as well as interviews with key actors. While not abandoned, poverty alleviation strategies have retreated and the transformation and de-racialization of commercial agriculture has come to the fore as a major policy objective.

Another shift is the recent emphasis on private ownership over other forms of tenure. Also new is the narrow focus on agriculture, to the exclusion of rural development more broadly. And finally, the status of tribal and traditional authorities as possible landowners in the communal areas has been enhanced. In the new formulation of policy, women, and in particular poor women, stand to lose on a number of fronts.

140. The second component of the case study combines an assessment of land reform policy at the national level with an investigation of the way national gender policy has been carried through in one province, KwaZulu Natal. This component is based on a field study of how policy has been managed in the provincial office of the Department of Land Affairs (DLA) and how it has been carried forward from there in three particular land reform projects.

141. Much criticism has been levelled at the land reform programme by land-sector NGOs and analysts for being "demand driven". The main concern has been the state's failure to acquire and redistribute productive land proactively, on a sufficiently large scale. Less attention has been paid to the consequences of a demand-driven programme from the point of view of gender equity—that what this means is that the state is responding to applications articulated by communities that are inevitably gendered, through a leadership that is overwhelmingly male, and operating in terms of social norms that assign women a dependent role.

142. The report argues that the national policy goals of the DLA have not served as a significant reference point for DLA's management of staff and projects in the province. The implementation of gender policy has been driven largely by junior staff acting out of individual commitment. Because of the drive to standardize the process in terms of clear project cycles and milestones, there is relatively little room for improvisation. The pressure on DLA to exit from projects as soon as land has been transferred severely limits its effectiveness as an agent of development. The major achievements have been to ensure that women are chosen to serve on project committees along with men; however, this has not guaranteed representation for women's interests in project planning, nor is the future representation of women assured. Women's access to land has been mediated primarily through their membership in households. Their independent rights in land have not been addressed or secured in the first phase of land reform. However, women have a strong interest in land reform that benefits their households and communities. They regard the security of tenure that has been gained at this level positively, and there is interest in mechanisms that will clarify and safeguard their rights and interests as members of households.

143. **Uzbekistan**: The first component of this case study analyses the key issues in agrarian reform: the historical place of land in the political economy of Uzbekistan; the nature and meaning of agrarian reform; and the changing place of land in the household economy. The second part of the report analyses the findings from the field research carried out in two provinces (Andijan and Khorezm).

144. With the crisis in public finance, rural Uzbekistan has started to undergo a dual process of de-monetization and re-agrarianization. The simultaneous objectives of maintaining cotton revenues and the provision of a basic level of subsistence for farm workers has consolidated the division between a stagnating smallholder sector and the export sector (cotton), the two being mutually dependent. At the enterprise level, however, the attempt to provide workers with a subsistence base while developing leasehold markets in land represents a difficult balancing act. This has meant that the claims of workers to additional plots are marginalized in favour of those who have the means to pay. This is taking place in a period of contraction rather than expansion of non-farm employment (which might have created avenues for diversification) which fuels the intense land hunger that is evident in the findings of the study.

145. The conjuncture that rural women in Uzbekistan face is, at present, particularly unfavourable. They are experiencing significant job losses in both the agricultural sector and in non-farm occupations against a background of marked feminization of family leaseholder production in collective enterprises and on smallholdings. Prospects for expanding their access to land look dim in a context where access continues to be mediated through membership in enterprises, from which they are increasingly excluded, or through leasehold markets and the independent farming path which also marginalizes them.

146. The revitalization of rural non-farm employment through new investment in industry and services and the adequate capitalization and diversification of their informal income-generation activities would offer many women more realistic short-term options. It is difficult, however, to envisage how landless or poor rural women's organized interests might be represented in a context where neither civil society organizations nor political parties or social movements have any significant presence. Their problems in finding a public voice may prove even more intractable than the economic hardships occasioned by post-Soviet recession and market transition.

147. **Brazil**: Based on the first phase of research (desk studies, interviews with diverse actors) the first report on Brazil offers insights into how women's rights have been integrated into the process of agrarian reform. The past decade has witnessed important advances in the recognition of rural women's labour and social rights. Movements that include rural women have made efforts to ensure that basic social and labour rights are respected and extended to rural women. For a variety of reasons, however, there has been considerable reticence by these movements, and even by their active women members, to pursue issues that diverge significantly from the more general demands of their movements for family farming and agrarian reform. Therefore, slow progress on the recognition of land titles (for single, widowed and divorced women) and joint titles (for married women) cannot be exclusively attributed to the resistance or indifference of government agencies.

148. **Regional study on sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)**: This component of the project (which includes a major "state of the art" survey of policy positions and debates on land tenure reform in SSA and its gender dimensions, complemented by in-depth case studies on Ghana Tanzania and Zimbabwe) provides an account of some of the main features of land access and land use in rural SSA. It considers the growth of land markets and the experience of land tenure reform; looks at accounts of local-level systems of land tenure; identifies some of the main protagonists in current debates about land, and about women and land, in SSA; and sets out the main elements of the analysis and prescriptions that each is making. It also highlights and explores historical shifts in thinking, and the factors affecting these shifts.

149. There appears to be a groundswell of opinion among policy makers, from very different ideological positions, that rejects land tenure reform based on the older idea of making a complete rupture with "customary" systems, stressing instead the importance of building on "the customary". In the World Bank, for example, there has been a move away from titling and formal registration, toward support for changes based on customary systems. The assumption is that a market economy will eventually produce a land tenure system that, while not identical, will bear a strong resemblance to the Western concept of ownership.

150. The positions adopted by Oxfam and the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) are initially very different from that of the World Bank, especially in their criticism of liberalization and the recent wave of land-grabbing by international interests. Even so, they have many positive things to say about the capacities of modified local-level customary institutions to allocate land and manage disputes. They argue for subsidiarity and the development of local-level management systems.

151. The paper also examines the policy positions of an important third set of agents active in the field of women's land access—African feminist lawyers. They hold a range of views, although for many the state-backed legal system is the key to establishing better access to resources for women. There is also a range of attitudes toward the so-called customary systems, with the conventional view being that customary systems enshrine male domination. There is serious concern about the recent turn to "the customary" and efforts in some countries to renew chieftaincy and the role of "traditional" authorities.

152. This analysis of different protagonists' views and prescriptions raises several key questions, which are explored in the paper. What weight should be given to the fact that women and other disadvantaged social groups are able to seize opportunities within systems that discriminate against them to press their claims in deciding whether to change the system or retain it? Does the recognition that statutory interventions (such as titling) rigidify customary practices and extinguish some rights invalidate statutory interventions as a way of proceeding?

153. The paper has three important conclusions.

1. While there is widespread recognition of the idea that customary law has been constructed (through colonial states), very few policy advocates examine its implications. The implicit model tends to be of legal dualism, which contradicts the more complex and messy ways in which individuals use courts and other dispute settlement forums grounded in either "customary" or "modernist" principles to make their claims.
2. Women have little political voice at all levels of decision making that are implied by the land question, including local-level management systems. It is here that the proposals from Oxfam and IIED begin to look problematic. There is an absence of serious discussion about how new functions for existing local-level institutions will ensure that women's land use claims are not systematically undermined.
3. As for the connections between women's land rights and poverty, overwhelming evidence points to the fact that in many (but not all) areas in sub-Saharan Africa, women's access to labour and to cash (or other resources for mobilizing labour) are more important than access to land. In some circumstances, then, the generally very small sizes of women's farms reflect their labour and cash constraints and not lack of rights to land *per se*. However there may be other circumstances, particularly ones of land scarcity, where their small farm holdings are associated with their inability to make sufficiently strong claims against men, through both formal and customary law.

Meetings and publications

154. To disseminate the findings of the project, and to stimulate debate among a wider group of researchers working in this area, a two-day conference was initially planned by UNRISD and the Forum for Social Studies (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia), to take place in Addis Ababa on 20–21 September 2001. However, in the light of the September 11 events, the meeting was re-scheduled. It subsequently took place in Geneva on 6–7 November 2001. It brought together members of the UNRISD research team as well as a number of other specialists. It provided a timely occasion for the research team to present their findings and obtain feedback, and to identify comparative issues emerging from the country case studies.

155. A selected number of papers documenting the project's research findings are being published as UNRISD Programme Papers:

- Cherryl Walker, **South African Case Study: A Background Report**, PP SPD 10, UNRISD, forthcoming.
- Deniz Kandiyoti, **Agrarian Reform, Gender and Land Rights in Uzbekistan,** PP SPD 11, UNRISD, forthcoming.

- Ann Whitehead and Dzodzi Tsikata, **Policy Discourses on Women's Land Rights in Sub-Saharan Africa**, PP SPD, forthcoming.
- Julia Guivant, **Gender and Land Rights in Brazil**, PP SPD, forthcoming.

156. The **Journal of Agrarian Change** (JAC) is devoting a double Special Issue to the findings of this project. The Special Issue is currently under preparation, and the full set of papers and the editor's introduction will be submitted to JAC on 1 March 2002; the publication is scheduled for Vol. 3, Nos. 1 & 2 (January 2003) of the journal. The Special Issue will bring together four papers from the project's in-depth research, and five papers specifically commissioned for the November Conference (subject to the journal's refereeing process):

- Shahra Razavi, **Editor's Introduction**
- Utsa Patnaik, **Global Capitalism and Agrarian Crisis in Developing Countries**
- Ann Whitehead and Dzodzi Tsikata, **Policy Discourses on Women's Land Rights in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Implications of the Return to "the Customary"**
- Cherryl Walker, **Piety in the Sky? Gender Policy and Land Reform in South Africa**
- Dzodzi Tsikata, **Securing Women's Interests within Land Tenure Reforms: Recent Debates in Tanzania**
- Deniz Kandiyoti, **The Cry for Land: Agrarian Reform, Gender and Land Rights in Uzbekistan**
- Bina Agarwal, **Gender and Land Rights Revisited: Exploring New Prospects via the State, Family and Market**
- Carmen Diana Deere, **Women's Land Rights and Rural Social Movements in the Brazilian Agrarian Reform**.
- Gale Summerfield, **Gender and Agricultural Land Tenure Reform in China: 1980–2001**

157. The FAO has asked UNRISD to prepare a "Policy Brief" on issues of agrarian change, gender and land rights. The paper will synthesize the findings of the UNRISD project and present them in a short (about 15 pages) and accessible form.

158. An edited volume titled **Shifting Burdens: Gender and Agrarian Change under Neoliberalism**, which brings together some of UNRISD's other work on issues of gender and agrarian change has been accepted for publication by Kumarian Press, to be published in May 2002.

159. Funding for this project has been provided by Sida, UNDP and FAO, in addition to UNRISD core funds. Direct financing of participants' travel costs for the November 2001 conference was provided by UNIFEM, HIVOS (India and the Netherlands), and the Ford Foundation's offices for Southern and Eastern Africa.

Globalization, Export-Oriented Employment for Women and Social Policy

Background

160. Women are certainly more likely to be working outside the home today, than ever before. To some extent the increase in women's labour force participation rates is a statistical artefact—it reflects better ways of recording seasonal, unpaid and casual wage labour. But it does also reflect a number of real changes. More women must now work to ensure family survival—in the face of declining real wages and the increased monetary cost of subsistence

resulting from cutbacks in both public services and subsidies for staple foods. In an increasing proportion of two-adult households, both partners now work. A second factor is the increase in the number of women-headed households, in which women are required to meet the monetary cost of household survival from their own labour. Moreover, fertility rates have fallen while levels of female education have generally increased, and there have been important changes in women's aspirations and social norms. But a further reason is that there has been greater demand for women workers in particular sectors of the economy that have experienced considerable growth in some countries. Much of this has been in low-skilled manufacturing—notably in garments, footwear and electronic products. Indeed, it is frequently argued that industrialization in the context of globalization is as much female-led as it is export-led.

161. This project has two inter-related objectives. First, it explores the impacts of trade liberalization on female employment in selected countries. While there have been important critiques of the impacts of stabilization and structural adjustment policies on women in developing countries, the debate on trade liberalization has been far more optimistic about the impacts on female employment. There is a widespread perception among policy makers and some sections of the public in the North that processes of trade liberalization over the past two decades have contributed to a significant shift of global manufacturing production, from the North to the South. A significant part of the academic literature on trade-related employment has been concerned with the impact of North-South trade on unemployment and wage inequality in the North. The effects of such global integration on workers in the South have generally been taken to be unambiguously positive, and women workers in particular are considered to be among the "winners", given their overwhelming presence in export-oriented industries. This particular scenario is questioned by several contributions emerging from this project.

162. Second, the project seeks to understand the relationship between women's labour market participation on the one hand, and social policy design and delivery, on the other. More specifically, it examines the extent to which changes in a wide range of social provisions have responded, if at all, to the new circumstances of women's increased labour force participation in a wide range of countries pursuing diverse development strategies and industrial policies over different time periods.

163. Social policy is significant, if not so much for increasing women's employment, then for shaping the patterns of women's employment, especially the continuity of their participation over the life cycle, and the conditions under which they work. Social policy is sometimes seen as a "handmaiden to industrialization" whereby the state subsidizes the wage by underwriting labour costs for employers, including exporters, through the provision of subsidized food, housing, and social services of various kinds, as well as cushioning the risks of unemployment, sickness, old age and so on.

164. Moreover, modern citizenship is linked to employment in a host of ways: citizens' claims to social rights are both symbolically and programmatically based on paid work. The gender critique (in relation to some pioneer welfare states, for example), to put it crudely, has been that men gained social rights to pensions, unemployment insurance and the like on the basis of their paid work, while women's access to benefits was usually mediated by their relationships with men given their *different* positioning within the labour market. To what extent is this historical record valid as far as other regions are concerned, especially where embryonic welfare states were nurtured through import substitution industrialization strategies? What kinds of social policies are replacing those that were associated with these derided developmental models? And what kinds of gender structures are embedded in these new social policy configurations?

Progress and publications

165. To explore these questions, seven country case studies were commissioned during the previous reporting period (the Republic of Korea, China, India, Mexico, South Africa, Mauritius and Hungary), along with two regional studies (one on East Asia, and the other a comparative analysis of European and North American experiences), and one paper exploring foreign direct investment (FDI) flows and employment effects in developing and transitional countries.

166. On 26–27 October 2000 the project brought together the paper-writers in a workshop held in Bangkok, Thailand, where the first drafts of the papers were presented and discussed. Extensive written comments were sent to the paper-writers in December 2000. The revised papers were submitted to UNRISD in June–July 2001, and in some cases further revisions were requested. By February 2002 all the papers (except the case study of Hungary) had been submitted to UNRISD.

167. Some of the revised draft papers are currently available on the UNRISD Web site. A selected number of papers are being published as UNRISD Programme Papers. These include:

- Ann Shola Orloff, **Women's Employment and Welfare Regimes: The Case Study of Europe and North America**, PP SPD 12, forthcoming.
- Gillian Hart, **Reworking Apartheid Legacies: Global Competition, Gender, and Social Wages in South Africa, 1980–2000**, PP SPD, forthcoming.

168. By early February 2002, the revised drafts of the commissioned papers, together with an introduction/proposal, had been submitted to a development journal, to be considered for publication as a special issue. This collection includes:

- Jomo K.S., **Globalization, Export-Oriented Industrialization, Female Employment and Equity in East Asia**
- Cho Hyoung et al., **The Gender Dimensions of Industrialization, Employment and Social Welfare in Korea**
- Delia Davin, **The Impact of Export-Oriented Manufacturing on Chinese Women Workers**
- Jayati Ghosh, **Globalization, Export-Oriented Employment for Women and Social Policy: A Case Study of India**
- Gillian Hart, **Reworking Apartheid Legacies: Global Competition, Gender, and Social Wages in South Africa, 1980–2000**
- Sheila Bunwaree, **Globalization, Export-Oriented Employment for Women and Social Policy: A Case Study of Mauritius**
- Viviane Brachet-Marquez and Orlandina de Oliveira, **Women's Employment and Welfare Entitlements in the Globalized Economy: Gendering the Debate on the Welfare State in Mexico**
- Ann Zammit, **Economic Liberalization in Hungary: What Was in it for Women?**
- Ann Shola Orloff, **Women's Employment and Welfare Regimes: The Case Study of Europe and North America**
- Gabriele Köhler, **Employment, Internationalization and FDI: Tentative Pointers for Gender-Aware Employment-Related Policy**

Tentative findings

169. While all case studies document increasing rates of female economic participation and the emergence of a distinctly feminized labour-intensive, export-oriented manufacturing sector, in a significant number of countries manufacturing employment has either stagnated or declined (in some cases quite substantially) in recent years while the "service" sector has witnessed relative growth. In some countries (e.g., South Africa) the decline in manufacturing employment is attributed to trade liberalization which has impacted most negatively on those

sectors of the economy that employ large numbers of women (e.g., clothing and textile industries facing competition from cheap imports). Similar processes are said to be at work in a number of other country case studies (e.g., Mexico), but robust and systematic evidence for the labour-displacement effects of trade liberalization (especially as it affects women and men differently) is hard to come by.

170. In some cases processes of employment-displacement (attributed to import liberalization) are occurring simultaneously with the de-feminization of the export-oriented industries. This seems to be the case in Mexico. In the *maquiladora* industry, understood to cover a wide range of manufacturing sub-sectors largely (but not exclusively) oriented to the export market, two trends have been noted: first, the displacement of women workers from border cities in the north (where wage levels have been relatively high and the benefits more substantial) to low-skill, labour-intensive *maquiladoras* in other parts of the country, and their gradual replacement by men in border cities, attributed in part to a shift in manufacturing activities spurred by technological change.

171. The de-feminization of export industries is well documented in the East Asia region. Throughout the region late industrialization often began with labour-intensive manufacturing (garments, electrical and electronic industries) heavily dependent on relatively low-cost female labour, but as the manufacturing sector has matured and diversified the share of females in manufacturing employment has gone down. Thus the female share of manufacturing employment appears to have dropped off in East Asia with the deceleration of industrialization and manufacturing export growth, though existing evidence does not allow a more careful and detailed examination of the processes at work (although several different hypotheses are offered by the authors to explain the mechanisms behind these trends).

172. In the constant search for lower labour costs, manufacturers of labour-intensive products (e.g., garments and apparel, as well as electronic and electrical industries) seem to be shifting across borders (e.g. from East Asia to southern China), and within national boundaries from the more developed regions to the rural hinterlands (as in both Mexico and South Africa). There has also been displacement of women workers with migrant workers (both male and female) in some of the country case studies (e.g., Mauritius). An important trend emerging from the case study of India (based on the analysis of data from the National Sample Survey Rounds on Employment and Unemployment) is the increase in putting out home-based or other work as part of a subcontracting system for export and domestic manufacturing. Home-based subcontracting activities, or work in very small units, often on a piece-rate basis and usually very poorly paid and without any known non-wage benefits, may to some extent have substituted for both self-employment and more regular employment on a regular wage or salary basis. At a general level these patterns seem to be suggestive of the importance of competitive pressures as key forces driving the cross-border relocation and industrial decentralization (within countries) of labour-intensive manufacturing.

173. The long-term trends suggest that the manufacturing products into which many developing countries have diversified are facing deteriorating terms of trade. One of the papers argues that the trends have been so worrying that enhanced productivity and competitiveness in East Asia may well have contributed to a variant of "immiserizing growth", while another warns that fluctuations in global demand for key exports (such as semiconductors and electronics) provide a very weak basis for sustained growth and employment. Together these trends raise important questions about the export-oriented model and highlight the need for strengthening domestic, rather than export, demand because it is more stable, and more easily subject to government determination.

174. While in the case of advanced industrialized countries there has been a very thorough and empirically grounded literature on the interface between women's employment patterns and welfare state levels of commitment to facilitating (or indeed obstructing) female employment (synthesized in the commissioned paper on Europe and North America), a similar kind of comparative analysis has not been undertaken as far as developing countries are concerned. Some of the country case studies attempt to construct the conceptual and empirical base for such an analysis (e.g., papers on China, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Mauritius). But there is a clear need for more work in this area.

175. As far as the coverage of social security schemes is concerned the emerging trends indicate marked heterogeneity rather than a unified response to the pressures of globalization (contrast, for example, the Republic of Korea's universalist move toward the extension and consolidation of the existing social security schemes, with the social security reforms in Mexico which have considerably extended the contribution period for pension entitlements thereby excluding a considerable number of working people from such entitlements). Nevertheless, women's and men's access to welfare entitlements, such as pensions and health insurance, continues to be mediated through their respective position in the labour market, which remains a space where strong gender discrimination operates—despite the "downward harmonization" of male labour market conditions to women's labour market conditions in many instances (under the guise of "flexibility").

176. The history and evolution of corporate-based welfare provision, and the gap in welfare provision between large and small-to-medium-sized firms, and core and periphery workers, has been well documented for East Asia and China. What emerges from the Korean case study are the relative disadvantages of women workers as regards participation in pensions, and employment insurance schemes given their concentration in small firms and the fact that they comprise a considerable portion of the self-employed, and the temporary and daily workers; even at the height of Korea's *dirigisme*, when labour markets were supposed to have been "inflexible", a considerable proportion of the labour force—both men and, of course, women—were "peripheral" workers. The welfare reforms introduced to respond to the hardships and greater economic insecurity generated by the liberalizing economy (whereby public provision is stepping in to fill the gap left open by shrinking corporate welfare provision) still do not take into consideration the fragile and inferior positions of women in the labour market.

177. Similarly, neither in contemporary China, nor indeed in China prior to economic reforms, did the labour force enjoy universal access to non-wage benefits. Besides significant rural-urban differences, men greatly outnumbered women as workers and cadres in the formal state sector and also predominated in the senior grades. Consequently, more men enjoyed the welfare entitlements associated with this type of employment, while women were crowded into the smaller enterprises owned by local government and collectives where welfare provision was much less satisfactory. Social welfare is being increasingly separated from its enterprise base (this is official state policy even though in practice enterprises, including even some newly established ones in the private sector, continue to perform an important role in the provision of health, housing and pensions in urban areas). Permanent workers in large enterprises are increasingly covered by a social insurance system, again with gender-differentiated outcomes. But the young women working in the highly feminized export oriented industries are on short-term contracts with few benefits of any kind, and under present circumstances most will probably return to their villages where the family-based system of security, mutual assistance and resource flow will in the end have most relevance for them.

178. Given the accelerating pace of trade liberalization, it may be useful for UNRISD to commission further work in this area to fill in some of the gaps identified by the project—both in the area of employment effects of trade liberalization (reviewing existing empirical

evidence from both national and international sources to differentiate between job creation and destruction, for both men and women), and in the area of social policy (social policy configurations and their gender-differentiated structures and impacts in diverse regions of the South).

179. Funding for this project has been provided by the Rockefeller Foundation and UNDP, in addition to UNRISD core funds.

HIV/AIDS and Development

Background

180. The AIDS pandemic is destroying the lives and livelihoods of millions of people around the world. An estimated 15,000 people are being infected every day, and the rate is set to rise. The situation is worst in regions and countries where poverty is extensive, gender inequality is pervasive, and public services are weak. In fact, the spread of HIV/AIDS at the beginning of the twenty-first century is a sign of maldevelopment—an indicator of the failure to create more equitable and prosperous societies over large parts of the world.

181. Surprisingly, however, the development context of HIV/AIDS has received relatively little attention. From the outset of the pandemic, efforts to combat the disease have been oriented above all toward finding biomedical and behavioural solutions; and this is still the case today. Nevertheless, concern with broader socioeconomic and political issues is growing. One indication of this was the decision of UNAIDS, in December 1999, to commission a paper from UNRISD to look at AIDS in the context of development. Another clear sign of a shift in thinking came at the international conference on HIV/AIDS held in Durban, South Africa, in July 2000, when thousands of activists stressed the importance of dealing with serious issues of livelihood and power in places where the disease was spiralling out of control. The UNRISD/UNAIDS paper, prepared by Joseph Collins and Bill Rau and titled **AIDS in the Context of Development** (PP SPD 4) was published in December 2000.

Progress

182. In early 2001, UNRISD decided to develop a comparative research project on HIV/AIDS. In accordance with an ECOSOC request, the proposal was submitted to the United Nations Strategic Programme on AIDS, and it received approval. It foresees the formation of multidisciplinary teams (including social scientists, public health staff and activists) to conduct policy-oriented research on the socio-economic, cultural and political factors that favour or impede the spread of HIV/AIDS in up to 10 heavily affected countries and localities. Research is to be complemented by a dissemination programme, including as systematic an involvement of local media and discussion groups as possible. Funding for this proposal was requested from the Gates Foundation in 2001, without success. The possibility of financing is now being considered by the United Nations Foundation.

183. While fundraising efforts continue for the comparative research project, UNRISD core funds are supporting preparation of a book of essays illustrating the links between development policies and vulnerability to HIV/AIDS in specific Third World settings. These essays also provide examples of how grassroots organizations, communities and local governments have attempted to improve the socioeconomic and political context for AIDS prevention and treatment, while mitigating the devastating effects of the pandemic on local societies. The collection includes studies on links between tourism policy and HIV/AIDS in Cuba; sex trafficking and vulnerability to disease in South Asia; and links between the drug trade, the prison population and HIV/AIDS in Myanmar and Malaysia. Final drafts of papers were received in January 2002 and are being edited. Some will be published as UNRISD

Programme Papers and placed on the Institute's Web site. Findings will be presented at a "breakout session" of the World Conference on AIDS, to be held in Barcelona in June 2002.

List of commissioned papers

- Geoff Foster, **Understanding Community Responses to the Situation of Children Affected by AIDS**
- Weddy Silomba, **HIV/AIDS and Development: the Chikankata Experience**
- Vidya Shah, Beverly Brar and Sonam Yangchen Rana, **Layers of Silence: An Analysis of Structural Issues that Link Women's Vulnerability to Trafficking and HIV/AIDS in Three Countries of South Asia**
- Wassana Im-em and Gary Suwannarat, **Response to AIDS at Individual, Household and Community Levels in Thailand**
- Alister C. Munthali, **Adaptive Strategies and Coping Mechanisms for Families and Communities Affected by HIV/AIDS in Malawi**
- Josef Decosas, **The Social Ecology of AIDS in Africa**
- Ditch Townsend, **Social Exclusion in Southeast Asia**
- Jafari Sinclaire Allen, Llane Alexis Dominguez Estrada and Joseph Simon Mutti, **Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea: Development and HIV in Cuba Today**.

PROGRAMME ON TECHNOLOGY, BUSINESS AND SOCIETY

184. **The world is caught up in a rapidly accelerating process of scientific, technological and managerial change that can benefit the majority of humankind or, on the contrary, only benefit the few. UNRISD work in this programme area draws on case studies and debates at national and international levels to explore ways of encouraging more socially responsible use of science, technology and private sector resources. Research areas include *Business Responsibility for Sustainable Development* and *Information Technologies and Social Development*.**

Business Responsibility for Sustainable Development

Background and progress

185. This project aims to promote research and policy dialogue on issues of corporate social and environmental responsibility. It examines the extent to which improvements in labour standards, environmental management and stakeholder accountability are occurring, and the types of policies, pressures and partnerships that are promoting socially responsible changes in business practices. Particular attention is focused on the role of "voluntary initiatives" in promoting corporate social responsibility (CSR), and the social and environmental impact of business activities in developing countries.

186. As reported last year to the Board, UNRISD developed a proposal for a three-year research project on *Promoting Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility in Developing Countries: The Potential and Limits of Voluntary Initiatives*. The proposal was submitted to the Collaborative Research Competition of the MacArthur Foundation's Program on Global Security and Sustainability, and was awarded funding in December 2000. Partner institutions in this project are the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana (UAM), Mexico; the Social Development Research Center, De La Salle University, the Philippines; and the Sociology of Work Unit (SWOP), University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, which will co-ordinate studies in their respective countries. The proposal was one of 10, out of 132, that successfully competed for funding.

187. This project examines the following questions:

- To what extent are company claims associated with environmental and social responsibility matched by actual practice?
- Under what institutional, social, political and market conditions are companies adopting significant measures to improve their environmental and social performance?
- Which types of voluntary initiatives have proved most effective in improving the environmental and social record of business?
- Can voluntary initiatives be considered an appropriate alternative to mandatory regulation?

188. Under the first phase of this project (June 2001–March 2002), studies are being carried out on *The Political Economy of Corporate Responsibility in Developing Countries*. This work will identify the main actors and institutions promoting socially responsible changes in business policy and practice, as well as provide a preliminary assessment of the scope and substance of CSR activities in six countries.

189. In early 2001, the project co-ordinator travelled to Brazil and India to explore the possibility of carrying out research in this field. Numerous corporate responsibility initiatives are under way in these countries, but the types of institutions, pressures and incentives propelling change seem to vary considerably. Following meetings with several institutions, it was decided that both countries should be included, along with Mexico, the Philippines and South Africa, as case studies under Phase 1. Research is also being carried out in Peru. Draft reports are expected by February 2002.

190. During 2002, more in-depth research will be carried out in Mexico, the Philippines and South Africa in order to examine the effectiveness of specific types of voluntary initiatives and the experience of promoting corporate social and environmental responsibility in particular industrial sectors. Publication and dissemination activities will take place during 2003.

191. In addition to the country-level research, thematic reports are being prepared on "partnerships" between multilateral organizations and large corporations; international "multistakeholder" initiatives associated with CSR standard-setting and certification; and the influence of the "corporate accountability movement".

192. Preliminary work on UN-business "partnerships" commenced in 2001. Peter Utting, UNRISD research co-ordinator, prepared a paper titled **UN-Business Partnerships: Whose Agenda Counts?** While pointing out various potential benefits of partnerships in terms of resource mobilization, and the promotion of certain values and new forms of governance, it also notes that some United Nations agencies appear to be paying insufficient attention to certain risks associated with partnerships. These include conflicts of interest, self-censorship, poor choice of partners, tarnishing of the UN's reputation, and straining of relations between the UN and an important sector of the corporate accountability movement. Additional research on this topic will be carried out during the first half of 2002.

193. The project co-ordinator also prepared a paper titled **Regulating Business Via "Multistakeholder Initiatives": A Preliminary Assessment**. This paper examines the role, strengths and weaknesses of new types of "multistakeholder" standard-setting, monitoring and certification initiatives, which have multiplied in recent years. Such schemes generally involve civil society organizations, and sometimes bilateral and multilateral organizations, working with large companies to promote corporate social responsibility. They include, for example, ISO14000, SA8000, the Global Compact, the Ethical Trading Initiative, the Global Reporting Initiative, the Forest Stewardship Council, the Fair Labor Association and Global Framework Agreements. The increasing number of such initiatives has given rise to considerable confusion regarding their role. The paper, which refers to 14 schemes, not only attempts to clarify such aspects but also why such initiatives have emerged as one of the dominant regulatory approaches. It is argued that such forms of "civil regulation" emerged partly in response to the growing awareness that company codes of conduct tended to be weak and often had more to do with public relations than substantial improvements in social and environmental performance. The paper suggests, however, that the rise of civil regulation also reflects changes that are occurring in the balance of social forces and notions of "good governance". Such changes include, for example, the growth of NGO and consumer pressures and the willingness of NGOs, business and international agencies to form "partnerships" or participate in "multistakeholder" initiatives.

194. The paper also provides a preliminary assessment of some of the strengths and weaknesses of multistakeholder initiatives, and makes the following observations.

195. Multistakeholder initiatives have attempted to address some of the major weaknesses of codes of conduct associated with corporate self-regulation, notably aspects dealing with labour rights, the responsibilities of suppliers in commodity chains controlled by TNCs, and

the need for independent monitoring. Some initiatives also aim to impose a degree of harmonization and standardization on what had become a confusing web of codes of conduct.

196. By their very nature, multistakeholder initiatives attempt to bring into decision-making processes a broader range of actors, but some initiatives have ignored or marginalized workers, trade unions, local-level monitoring and verification organizations in developing countries, and Southern actors more generally. It is important to improve worker participation in monitoring and verification procedures. It is also crucial for multistakeholder initiatives to be more sensitive to the priorities and concerns of various actors in developing countries. Such a reassessment needs to give more thought to the cost and protectionist implications of CSR initiatives.

197. Despite the recent growth of multistakeholder schemes, the number of corporate sectors and companies involved remains relatively small. This is partly a function of the recent origin of such initiatives and the vast number of TNCs and suppliers. But it also reflects the difficulties of scaling up monitoring and verification procedures that are extremely complex and often costly. Not only is the range of data required quite broad, (health, safety and environment conditions; hours worked; pay; worker-management relations; gender relations; company-community relations; etc.), but accessing and obtaining such information can be extremely difficult given the expertise required, the reluctance of both workers and management to communicate openly and honestly on certain issues, and the typically short timeframe of any monitoring exercise.

198. The ability of different schemes to promote CSR effectively varies considerably. Some adopt relatively weak criteria for assessing corporate management systems or performance. Several of those that have more effective methods reach very few companies. The reliance of some schemes on commercial auditing and consulting firms raises serious problems regarding quality and cost.

199. Given the complexity of multistakeholder initiatives associated with reporting, auditing, monitoring and certification, and the difficulty of scaling up such activities, other alternatives also need to be considered. The paper suggests the need to develop procedures and institutions to detect breaches of agreed standards. Such "complaints-based systems" can assume numerous institutional forms involving, for example, judicial and parliamentary procedures, global collective agreements between TNCs and trade unions, and NGO watchdog bodies that attempt to "name and shame" companies in relation to specific abuses.

200. In recent years there has been a diversification of complaints-based systems with the rise of "transnational litigation", shareholder activism, consumer boycotts and ombudsman initiatives. Some multistakeholder initiatives have also included provisions for complaints procedures, although such aspects have often remained fairly marginal. They have also tended to avoid tactics involving negative publicity or "naming and shaming", which can be effective means of exerting pressure on large corporations.

201. Several multilateral organizations such as the World Bank, ILO, OECD and NAFTA have established complaints procedures. In practice, however, these tend to be very weak. Within the UN system there has been little attention to complaints-based systems, although there may be some scope for developing such procedures via the human rights machinery of the UN.

202. Developments in the area of international regulation must avoid the implicit "Northern bias" and "top-down" character associated with certain initiatives to promote CSR. They need to be more cognizant of Third World realities and based on consultative processes that include labour and Southern actors as key participants. They also need to address the fact

that global trade and policy regimes often restrict, rather than facilitate, the ability of developing countries to comply with higher labour and environmental standards.

203. This paper will be published during the first half of 2002 in a resource guide on CSR and voluntary initiatives that will be produced jointly by the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS) and UNRISD.

Project meetings

204. In March 2001, the first project co-ordination meeting was held in Johannesburg to discuss the project's objectives, intended outputs and methodology. The researchers from Mexico, the Philippines and South Africa met with the UNRISD research co-ordinator during three days at the University of the Witwatersrand. Field trips were made to a large petro-chemical complex and a gold mine to discuss with management and workers changes that were taking place in corporate social and environmental policy and performance.

205. In September 2001, UNRISD and the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú co-hosted a workshop in Lima to discuss the state of CSR in Peru and the preliminary findings of the UNRISD research. Approximately 30 people, drawn from the private sector, NGOs and academic institutions, attended the meeting. The workshop discussions and the preliminary research that UNRISD has carried out in Peru reveal that there is growing private sector, academic, NGO and state interest in CSR issues. Various factors and pressures associated with globalization, regulation and crisis account for this: TNCs linked to specific sectors such as mining and energy have "imported" the discourse of CSR; compliance with certain labour and environmental standards is a condition of entry to some Northern export markets; CSR has been promoted by some international donors; and corporate responsibility, in particular environmental aspects, has been driven by state regulation. The context of economic and social crisis of the early 1990s prompted some sectors of the business community to adopt CSR initiatives. While the discourse of CSR is gaining ground in Peru, actual practice remains somewhat fragmented and restricted to a few sectors and companies. Most CSR initiatives are associated with corporate philanthropy and piecemeal community or environmental projects, rather than any systematic attempt to improve labour and environmental conditions or stakeholder relations. Furthermore, there have been few attempts by firms to measure improvements in social and environmental performance or develop indicators of CSR. While interest in CSR is growing, progress is seriously constrained by the current economic recession and weak "civil society" pressures from consumer groups, NGOs and unions, as well as state institutions. There are some signs, however, that the post-Fujimori democratization process is fostering an institutional context more conducive to the emergence of such pressures.

206. Some of the preliminary findings of the project were presented at a seminar on *Regulating Global Institutions*, co-hosted by UNRISD and the Brazilian research and advocacy NGO, IBASE, at the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil, in February 2002.

207. During the same month, the second project co-ordination meeting was held in Manila. Researchers from India, Mexico, the Philippines and South Africa, as well as the UNRISD research co-ordinator, met to discuss the draft papers on the political economy of CSR in developing countries and to plan the next phase of research on voluntary initiatives.

Publications

208. The paper **UN-Business Partnerships: Whose Agenda Counts?** was excerpted in **UNRISD News** (No. 23, autumn/winter 2000), made available on the UNRISD Web site and reprinted by several NGOs and an academic journal.

209. The following four papers on CSR issues have been published as UNRISD Programme Papers:

- R. Jenkins, **Corporate Codes of Conduct: Self-Regulation in a Global Economy**, PP TBS 2, 2001.
- M. Perry and S. Singh, **Corporate Environmental Responsibility in Singapore and Malaysia: The Potential and Limits of Voluntary Initiatives**, PP TBS 3, 2001.
- E.V.K. FitzGerald, **Regulating Large International Firms**, PP TBS 5, 2001.
- M. Kemp, **Corporate Social Responsibility in Indonesia: Quixotic Dream or Confident Expectation?**, PP TBS 6, 2001.

210. An extensive bibliography and list of relevant online resources on corporate social and environmental responsibility was prepared and posted on the UNRISD Web site: R. Alva, **Corporate Social and Environmental Responsibility: Selected Sources of Information**, mimeo, 2001.

211. The manuscript **The Greening of Business in Developing Countries: Rhetoric, Reality and Prospects** will be published by Zed Books in the first half of 2002.

212. A revised version of the UNRISD Occasional Paper, **Business Responsibility for Sustainable Development**, was translated into French and German and published by the Institut universitaire d'études de développement (IUED), in its annual journal.

213. The French journal **Courrier de la Planète** (No. 64, Vol. IV, 2001) produced a special edition on corporate social responsibility, entitled "Entreprises: Quelle responsabilité sociale?", which featured abridged versions of four UNRISD publications.

214. During the first half of 2002, NGLS and UNRISD will publish **Voluntary Approaches to Corporate Social Responsibility: Readings and a Resource Guide** (provisional title), which will include three studies prepared under the UNRISD project.

215. In addition to the financing received from the MacArthur Foundation, UNRISD core funds are also supporting this project.

Information Technologies and Social Development

Background

216. The rapid development of new information technologies (ITs), and associated services, lies at the heart of the process of globalization. It permits the instantaneous flow of capital and data that underpins global financial markets. It facilitates new forms of production and exchange, and creates new parameters for work. It creates avenues for communication—through new forms of telephone service, radio, television and the Internet—that could not even have been imagined a few decades ago. Furthermore, access to these technologies is continuously broadened by their markedly declining costs.

217. The purpose of this UNRISD project is to consider the implications of new information and communications technologies for social, economic and political development in Third World countries. This requires new research in developing countries themselves, and also presupposes debate on directions of change in the global context that shapes development options.

Global IT governance

218. In 2000, the Institute commissioned work on **Global Media Governance: A Beginners' Guide**. This paperback book will provide a concise analysis of the international institutional setting in which IT policies are discussed and formulated. It contains chapters on the history, structure and work of UNESCO, ITU, WIPO, WTO, World Bank and IMF, as these are related to global IT governance issues. There is also a useful and up-to-date explanation of Internet governance. Introductory and concluding chapters illustrate the direction of policy change at the international level, explore the dynamics of conflict, and consider possible scenarios for new forms of IT governance. The authors give special attention to prospects for more democratic control over the global media and consider what would be required to further this outcome.

219. The manuscript **Global Media Governance: A Beginners' Guide**, by Seán O'Siochrú and Bruce Girard, was reviewed by its advisory group during early Fall of 2001 and is scheduled for co-publication with Rowman and Littlefield, in its Critical Media Studies Series, in March 2002.

220. UNRISD has also begun to participate in preparatory work for the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held in Geneva in December 2003. At the request of the Summit Secretariat, the Institute will form part of its advisory group. To provide useful background for debates surrounding the conference, UNRISD will publish a series of issues papers, to be available in printed and electronic form by late 2002 or early 2003. A paper by Judith Adler Hellman, **Distance Education in Developing Countries**, and another one by Robert McChesney, **Universal Access: How Important Are Liberalized Markets?** are already in preparation, and four more will be commissioned shortly.

Senegal country study

221. Senegal has one of the most highly developed telecommunications and information technology infrastructures in sub-Saharan Africa. In the wake of an emergency plan implemented by the government in 1985, a poor-quality analogue telephone system, reaching few areas outside the principal cities and towns, was transformed into an entirely digital system in which all rural communities of a certain minimum size have public access. At present, 22 of the 30 departments of the country also enjoy fibre optic connections. In addition, enlightened telecommunications policy—including implementation of a single, standard Internet access rate throughout the country—is greatly facilitating Internet use. And recent changes in government control over the media have created important new openings for independent radio and television.

222. What does this mean for development? Senegal is a low-income country, struggling to emerge from deep economic crisis. Open urban unemployment stands at approximately 29 per cent. One third of the population is poor or very poor. What role can the new information and communications technologies play—and what role are they in fact playing—in improving the climate for economic growth, social welfare and democracy?

223. Over the past two years, researchers associated with the UNRISD project on *Information Technologies and Social Development in Senegal* have approached this question from a number of different vantage points. Two studies have been carried out on the implications of new ITs for *growth and patterns of economic development*. Two others look specifically at how information technologies are being incorporated within *formal private-sector enterprises*. Then, for the *informal sector*, there is one study of the use of ITs by Senegalese migrants to Europe and the United States; and another on how information technologies are being used to strengthen the religious and business interests of Mouride brotherhoods in Touba—the second largest city in the country. Two further research efforts are concerned with *IT and the media*, in the first case focusing on the modernization of

journalism and in the second on the creation of digital FM radio stations. There are two studies dealing with issues of *popular participation and democracy*. And finally, the project comprises research on the way new information technologies are being utilized in secondary and higher education in Senegal.

224. These 11 research undertakings have been completed, and draft reports have been submitted to UNRISD. After revision, the papers are being placed on the InfoTech section of the UNRISD Web site. This section already contains Olivier Sagna's overview paper for the project: **Les technologies de l'information et de la communication et le développement social au Sénégal: Un état des lieux**, PP TBS 1, 2001 (and subsequently translated into English), as well as a paper by Cheikh Gueye on the IT strategies of the Mouride brotherhoods, **Enjeux et role des nouvelles technologies de l'information et de la communication dans les mutations urbains: Le cas de Touba** (PP TBS, forthcoming). Abdoulaye Ndiaye's study of how small and medium businesses are utilizing new technologies (**Les entreprises sénégalaises face aux nouvelles technologies de l'information et de la communication**), an analysis of the role of IT in the Senegalese economy by Gaye Daffé and Mamadou Dansokho (**Les nouvelles technologies de l'information et de la communication: Défis et opportunités pour l'économie sénégalaise**), and Mansour Tall's explanation of the role of IT in livelihood strategies of Senegalese migrants (**Les émigrés sénégalais face aux enjeux des nouvelles technologies de l'information et de la communication**) are posted on the UNRISD Web site.

225. Research results have also been used to prepare articles for wider dissemination in the project's monthly newspaper supplement. Between 27 June 2000 and 8 February 2001, a series of eight collectible newspaper supplements on *Les TIC et le développement social au Sénégal* appeared roughly once a month in the Dakar daily **Sud Quotidien**. These supplements have been devoted to themes like Internet access, problems of electronic commerce in Senegal, difficulties people encounter when trying to surf the Web, experiences with introducing computers in secondary schools, and how small businesses are attempting to make use of ITs. Each four-page supplement contains excerpts from UNRISD reports, as well as notices about related IT news and events in Dakar, and news about broader IT issues in the world at large.

226. All supplements are available on-line. As each one is published, it appears first on the **Sud Quotidien** Web site. Then, after a few days, it is transferred to the Web site of OSIRIS—an influential Senegalese NGO dedicated to improving the use of ICTs in the country (see http://www.osiris.sn). This is linked to the InfoTech section of the UNRISD Web site as well.

227. On the whole, the picture that emerges from draft reports and the collectible supplements is guardedly optimistic. The new technologies are making a difference in Senegalese society—not so much through cutting-edge application of Internet technology on a wide scale as through much less striking, but no less important, extension in the use of radio, television and the telephone. Digital technology is lending these "old" technologies new relevance. Privately owned telephone shops have allowed people to stay in touch with each other as never before, while also creating some 16,000 jobs for small entrepreneurs. Migrants are equipping their families and religious organizations with mobile phones, satellite dishes and other ICTs at a phenomenal rate. FM radio is a potent tool for democratization. In other words, people can communicate better. On the other hand, narrowing the "digital divide" is doing relatively little to narrow the "development divide" in Senegal. Many good programmes to improve people's lot through equipping them with computers and Internet access quickly run up against the barriers imposed by small markets, low buying power and the inability to service or replace expensive equipment. Opportunities to earn foreign exchange through e-commerce are very limited.

228. Findings from the Senegal research were presented at a conference held in Dakar on 16–17 July 2001. The meeting was opened by the General Secretary of the Presidency of the Republic, and received both press and radio coverage. In **Sud Quotidien**, the event was marked by a special extra issue of the project's monthly supplements. Debate was sharp. The comments of the dozen or more businesspeople, journalists, academics and NGO representatives who analysed project findings can be found in a twenty-page conference report by Oussouby Touré (**Les technologies de l'information et de la communication et le développement social au Sénégal**) published by UNRISD in its **Conference News** series, as well as on the Web site.

229. The Senegal project co-ordinator, Momar-Coumba Diop, is currently putting together an edited volume on information technologies and social development in Senegal, containing a chapter on each sub-project as well as his own overview. The book will be published by Karthala, Paris, in 2002. At the same time, all chapters are being translated into English. At a minimum, they will be placed on the UNRISD Web site. An English-language publisher is also being sought for the book.

Collaboration with the Netherlands Minister for Development Co-operation

230. In February 2001 the Division for Research and Communication of the Netherlands Foreign Ministry invited UNRISD to participate in the process of consultation through which the Minister for Development Co-operation would define an action plan in the information and communications technology field. During March and April 2001, Cynthia Hewitt de Alcántara, UNRISD research co-ordinator, prepared an issues paper for the Ministry, entitled **The Development Divide in a Digital Age**. The paper drew on examples from Senegal and from many other Third World countries. The paper was discussed at two seminars in The Hague and subsequently co-published by UNRISD and the Minister for Development Co-operation (PP TBS 4, 2001).

231. This project is funded by the Netherlands Minister for Development Co-operation, and UNRISD core funds.

PROGRAMME ON CIVIL SOCIETY AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

232. **This programme area analyses some important contemporary social movements, in which alliances are increasingly forged across social groups and continents. It seeks to improve understanding of various forms of local self-organization oriented toward defending or improving access to resources, income and services. It is also following the evolution of the non-governmental sector, exploring the challenges inherent in the triangular relation between the international development community, non-governmental organizations and national governments. Two projects are being carried out under this programme area: *Civil Society Strategies and Movements for Rural Asset Redistribution and Improved Livelihoods* and *Evolving Agricultural Structures and Civil Society in Transitional Countries: The Case of Central Asia.***

Civil Society Strategies and Movements for Rural Asset Redistribution and Improved Livelihoods

Background

233. This project has the objective of examining the potential of civil society groups to promote meaningful policy changes and institutional reforms that are conducive to significant resource redistribution and enhanced living conditions in rural areas. There is cause for concern for the predicament of peasant communities and other groups of the rural poor in developing countries, for at least four reasons. First, in the majority of developing countries where the rural inhabitants constitute over 50 per cent of the total population, agricultural occupations must continue to provide livelihoods, especially as macroeconomic growth has scarcely resulted in the creation of improved prospects for other forms of rural employment, income and quality of life. Second, while the rural livelihood systems are fundamentally land based, a considerable percentage of the rural population is totally landless or near-landless, and many small cultivators lack secure land titles. Third, opportunities for rural wage employment are limited, wages are low, and labour relations remain highly abusive. Fourth, poor cultivators are very often socio-politically weak, thus making it difficult for them to influence the decision-making processes affecting their livelihood chances.

234. In recent years, the agricultural sector in most developing countries has been liberalized; government budgets for agriculture and rural development have been cut in line with structural adjustment programmes; co-operatives have disintegrated; and much tenancy legislation has been unravelled. Private investment in agriculture has been encouraged from abroad, especially from transnational agribusiness groups. Leasing of land by wealthier people has been simplified and "contract farming" has emerged as a new form of tenancy or wage labouring. Land prices have often escalated due to increased land speculation, population growth within the lower and middle strata of the peasantry, and the loss of productive land in urbanization and infrastructure development projects. Environmental problems, such as soil erosion, water contamination and deforestation, have intensified, affecting the productive capacity of land and other natural resources, as well as human health. At the same time, the spread of mass media promoting consumer ethics and desire to purchase imported goods (including processed food) have put economic strain on many groups of the rural population.

235. In addition to their economic vulnerability, the poorest rural groups are subject to prejudice resulting from their lower social status. Although increasing literacy rates and exposure to the outside world have helped them to become more conscious of the general

causes of injustice and exploitation, eradicating such oppression has proved exceedingly difficult. The introduction of formal democratic politics and decentralization measures have allowed the poor and their representatives to hold local positions of power or to influence decision-making processes in some circumstances. But democratic freedom has also meant increased polarization among the poor, with regional, ethnic, economic and professional identities coming to the forefront. This has hindered their search for more thorough and long-term change, and prevented vigorous bargaining with the powerful and wealthier groups in their societies.

Key areas for investigation

236. This project examines how civil society organizations in diverse contexts are able to assist poor cultivators, agricultural workers and other rural groups to acquire and strengthen their productive asset base through land acquisition in market-assisted land transaction schemes, improved labour conditions and increased political influence. In such an analysis, it is important to recognize and seek to understand the ambiguities and complexities inherent in the composition and action of civil society organizations in rural areas.

The role of civil society organizations in influencing market mechanisms for land acquisition

237. Considering that the use of the "market path" is seen by leading donor agencies (especially the World Bank) and by many governments to be the principal instrument for rural asset redistribution, a key question is: how have civil society organizations been able to influence the debate on the role of the market in rural development in general, and market-assisted land reform in particular? Civil society groups have often remained critical of structural adjustment programmes, extensive privatization and breaking up of agricultural institutions (such as co-operatives), but their reactions to policies to liberalize land markets and, most crucially, the introduction of market-based agrarian reforms as a substitute to sweeping land redistribution have remained blurred.

238. In some countries where governments have introduced market-assisted land reform measures, especially in Brazil and the Philippines, some civil society organizations have been involved in actions aiming to bring more land onto the market at affordable prices for the rural poor, and then assisting potential beneficiaries in obtaining credits to purchase the land.

239. But many others have stayed away from such participation and have been largely reduced to being "onlookers", despite their attempts to mobilize public opinion through networking, exchange of views and a few publications. Does this division (i.e., between those eager to participate in market-assisted land reform projects, and those opposed to them) help characterize the role of civil society organizations? What kinds of emerging trends among civil society groups in rural areas does it raise? And how does this rift influence grassroots mobilization and "action from below" to press for more comprehensive asset redistribution in rural areas?

The role of civil society organizations in promoting improved labour conditions and asset building

240. Due to the combined processes of pauperization, agricultural modernization and other factors leading to land loss among poorer cultivators, the population of agricultural labourers has increased in most developing countries. Frequently, women and children are drawn into these local labour markets under highly exploitative terms. Without strengthening the livelihood interests of these population groups, no significant achievement can be made in rural poverty eradication and grassroots empowerment.

241. Recent patterns of civil society mobilization and action surrounding the issue of labour rights are poorly documented and analysed. This project is particularly interested in

assessing the role of civil society organizations in bringing about positive livelihood changes for agricultural labourers through improved wages, working conditions and asset building. What are the mechanisms commonly used to intensify political mobilization by wage workers and their allies, to reinforce their bargaining capacity, and to consolidate the gains made? In particular, how are civil society groups helping rural labourers to gain access to land and other productive natural resources? Are they providing the necessary information, contacts, financial means and wider mobilization in agricultural frontier areas, government resettlement or land redistributive programmes, or in attempts to squat private or public land with the view of establishing dwellings and crop lands?

The use by civil society organizations of democratic channels and decentralization measures for asset building by the rural poor

242. The central interest here is to explore how civil society organizations are able to represent the land aspirations and other asset-building demands of poor cultivators and rural workers using the political space becoming available as a result of democratization (and electoral politics) and decentralization. It is clear that the influence over local positions of authority and resources is hardly sufficient for widespread and sustained resource distribution, given the spatial and structural inequalities from local to national levels. Nor are mobilizations at the local level alone adequate, as leaders of these movements can be easily arrested on all types of concocted charges and supporters intimidated (e.g., through eviction of tenants and workers). Nevertheless, the ability of peasants and workers to vote freely and take part in associative organizations, as well as the ability of their representative organizations to forge alliances with other like-minded social forces, should tilt the balance of power in favour of poorer groups.

243. Decentralization, in particular, may be especially important. Even though these measures generally do not include strategies for asset redistribution as such, they may indirectly help to direct more resources toward grassroots groups. Decentralization measures may permit local authorities to generate revenues (through taxes, levies and fundraising activities), and to allocate these, as well as resources obtained from the central government, for initiatives aimed at labour welfare, support to smallholder agricultural production and improvements in education, health, transport, etc. Using the channels provided by administrative decentralization, grassroots groups might be in a position to propose concrete projects for integration into a national development plan, thus resulting in the in-flow of new resources. Again what is feasible is likely to vary from one context to another. In particular, in countries where decentralization measures have been introduced as a safety-net instrument against the negative impacts of structural adjustment programmes, many long-term investment and social provisioning prospects may be subject to restrictions.

Research activities and outputs

Thematic papers

244. During this reporting period, papers were commissioned in order to develop a more comprehensive understanding of the type, social base, scale of operation, alliances created, range of activities and rates of success or failure of various civil society organizations that are working in the field of asset building for the benefit of the rural poor. These papers deal with conceptual issues and comparative processes in civil society strategies and actions across a range of countries. They are also expected to generate a wider debate.

245. A first set of papers looks into the processes of globalization, its impact on rural social movements and trends in popular politics. A paper by Neil Webster of the Centre for Development Research, Copenhagen, looks at the evolving diversities and originalities in rural social movements in the age of globalization. Focused mainly on South Asia, the paper examines the social consequences of rural poverty, the politics of poverty reduction and the

role of rural social movements in promoting the interests of the rural poor. The paper is being reviewed for possible publication as an UNRISD Programme Paper.

246. Henry Veltmeyer of Saint Mary's University, Halifax, has prepared a paper on contemporary links between rural and urban social forces and movements in Latin America. The paper argues that, in Latin America's countryside today, the most dynamic forces of opposition to the neoliberal system are associated with a new wave of socio-political movements, with their bases among the peasant and indigenous populations. The paper is being reviewed for possible publication as an UNRISD Programme Paper.

247. Popular politics of democratization and peasantry is the theme of a paper by Olle Tornquist of the University of Oslo. Based on a critical assessment of elitist democratization and new popular efforts in India, the Philippines and Indonesia, the paper argues that mainstream crafting of instant democracies including civil society has proved insufficient in terms of furthering substantial rural popular efforts. This paper is being published as a research monograph by the University of Oslo in collaboration with UNRISD.

248. Nora McKeon of FAO, Wendy Wolford of the University of North Carolina and Michael Watts of the University of California examine two relatively successful rural associative experiences from Latin America and Africa (Brazil and Senegal), suggesting the challenges they have confronted in the face of deepening globalization and state retreat. The paper is currently being circulated for comments.

249. A second series of papers examines the ability of civil society groups to influence the debate on the role of the market in rural asset building and redistribution in specific country contexts. In particular, the recent experiences of "market-friendly" land tenure reforms and their effects on rural trade union movements in Brazil, Egypt and the Philippines are examined. The paper on Brazil by Leonilde Medeiros of the Universidade F.R. do Rio de Janeiro is being published (in Portuguese) jointly by UNRISD and the Universidade F.R. do Rio de Janeiro, and those on Egypt and the Philippines are being reviewed for possible publication by UNRISD. In addition, two separate papers analysing evolving trends among powerful groups (e.g., large landowners, paramilitary forces and rich merchants) and their impact on rural social movements in Colombia and Bangladesh have been completed.

250. Finally, three more papers highlighting the difficulties and tensions in institutionalizing the role of peasant-based organizations and trends in future social movements have also been completed. The first one by Archie Mafeje of the American University, Cairo, shows how Eurocentric theoretical constructs have ignored varied systems of social organization of production and movements "from below" in sub-Saharan Africa. The second paper, by William Thiesenhusen of the Land Tenure Center, Madison, looks at the complexities involved in the role of peasant organizations and NGOs in the post-agrarian reform period in varied contexts. A third paper by Krishna Ghimire, research co-ordinator at UNRISD, considers the danger of the decline in youth participation in rural social movements since many young people in rural areas are either becoming disillusioned with electoral politics or are trying to move away from agricultural work and migrate to the cities. The paper by Mafeje will be published as an UNRISD Programme Paper (**The Agrarian Question, Access to Land and Peasant Responses in Sub-Saharan Africa**, PP CSSM, forthcoming), while the others are being circulated for wider comments.

Edited volume

251. Most of the above thematic papers will be brought together in an edited volume. The book will focus on the key complexities involved and trends associated with contemporary rural social movements and changing peasant identity in developing countries.

International meeting

252. Considering the conceptual depth and ability to provoke a debate on rural social movements, the Institute believes these thematic papers—in addition to their publication as Programme Papers—should be more widely disseminated through an international meeting. The project staff is currently exploring the prospects of organizing a meeting or specific sessions at the civil society forum of the World Food Summit at FAO, Rome, in summer 2002.

253. Financing for the work under this project is provided by UNRISD core funds.

Evolving Agricultural Structures and Civil Society in Transitional Countries: The Case of Central Asia

Background

254. Agricultural structures have evolved rapidly in Central Asia following the disintegration of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s. In this region, and in much of Eastern Europe, the agricultural sector has seen a more or less uniform pattern in the restitution of land property rights to original owners before the 1917 revolution, the breaking up of large collective and state farms and the allocation of land to private individuals and households, the privatization of essential support services and the development of land and labour markets. Although the process has occurred at different paces in different countries, with some even resisting certain elements of privatization and rapid market liberalization, the agricultural sector has nevertheless undergone profound changes in all countries. While there is now some country-specific information available on the nature and extent of reforms, and general agricultural performance, little systematic cross-country data and analyses exist on many vital underlying issues, related livelihood consequences and emerging agrarian relations at the local level. On the whole, the provision of support services to the agricultural sector has been severely limited. The vast majority of the rural poor, consisting of small cultivators, workers and crafts people, find it very hard to cope with the new situation. At the same time, a handful of privileged groups and families have moved swiftly into dominant positions of power, thereby also monopolizing economic resources.

255. Collecting and analysing information on emerging rural social and economic inequalities is complex, especially as trends are rarely linear and conditions vary from one context to another. How do different groups of rural people hold vital resources—land, water, forest and grazing areas—and how is this changing over time? How do poorer producer groups obtain credits and other necessary production inputs, and from whom? How are any new opportunities relating to economic and commercial activities exploited? How is rural employment in both formal and informal sectors shared, and how viable now is self-employment? How are labour relations organized? How are prices of farm products and wages decided, and at what levels? How able are average people to invest in their children's education, household health care, food, nutritional needs and diversification in production activities? How are self-help networks, safety nets and internal solidarity maintained? How are local positions of power held and decision-making processes influenced? Understanding these questions is central to gathering any systematic information on the evolving nature of agrarian structures.

256. In this respect, understanding the role played by various institutions and actors is crucial, as they frequently facilitate or impede the access of rural groups to assets, inputs and gainful employment and income. In a similar manner, they can help boost or obstruct the influence and power of the rural poor, as well as their ability to mobilize for alternative courses of action. The current discussion on institutional change in Central Asia is primarily

concerned with the role of the government and donor agencies in promoting agricultural and rural development within the framework of market-oriented policy measures. In particular, only sketchy information is available on how civil society is emerging and helping the poorer and weaker groups in rural poverty reduction programmes—which have tended to be dominated by the state or market forces. What actually constitutes the civil society in these countries in transition? What has been the role of the voluntary sector, professional NGOs, sociopolitical associations, farmers unions, co-operatives and so forth? How are they trying to influence policy reforms favourable to rural livelihoods? How are they seeking to protect past resource gains and monitor variations in rural working and living conditions? And how are they helping the rural poor to defend themselves against new forms of exploitation and manipulation, to manage internal conflicts and to widen their political participation?

Why Central Asia?

257. The choice of Central Asia is quite appropriate when seeking to illustrate many of these aspects. Rural poverty is widespread in the region. Most countries remain overwhelmingly agrarian, yet the productivity level is low and rural unemployment has risen. Access to productive assets, stable work and decent living conditions has become even more unpromising despite a continued government/donor promise that free-market economies will bring in rapid improvement. Outside investment on the whole remains quick-fix and, at best, sectoral (e.g., specializing only in strategic cash crops or natural resource extraction). There is a political vacuum left by the withdrawal of the state and previous party cadres. New political forces remain highly unpredictable. Local organizations set up to promote "civil society"—such as NGOs—have met with few successes. Instead, deteriorating livelihood conditions within the community and growing national and regional political instabilities have led people to become easily influenced by fundamental ideologies and groups. Many prevailing systems of self-help and community solidarity are breaking down under the pressure of growing consumerism and individualistic attitudes.

Objectives

258. A broad objective of the project is to provide an institutional setting for comparative research, dialogue, networking, exchange of valuable information and experiences of policy intervention on the evolving nature of agrarian relations and the activities of the civil society sector in Central Asia. The effort is oriented toward assessing:

- the current processes of agricultural transformation and their effects on changing patterns of vulnerability in selected agrarian settings in the region;
- the resourcefulness and capacity for action of grassroots organizations and other civil society forces; and
- the implications of different approaches, methods and experiences related to agricultural policy measures and technical co-operation programmes in dealing with economic deprivation and social inequality within particular agrarian contexts; and new, more holistic policy options that merit consideration.

Workplan and output

259. The initial phase of the project will begin in early 2002, with the commissioning of analytical papers on key cross-cutting themes. These papers should serve as valuable background material to guide research and policy appraisals in dealing with recent evolutions in agricultural changes and civil society actions across the region.

260. Upon completion of these papers, a seminar will bring together the researchers and other experts to evoke the major research findings and policy conclusions on the current pattern of agricultural transformation in Central Asia. The exercise should help to further strengthen the present network of scholars, research institutions, civil society organizations

and donor agencies in the region. Furthermore, the seminar will also provide a valuable opportunity for commenting on the conceptual and methodological basis for undertaking detailed national studies in the region, creating essential databases, identifying promising experiences and seeking to implement imaginative projects.

261. Outputs will include UNRISD Programme Papers, an edited volume and a report on the seminar (to be published as an issue of UNRISD **Conference News**).

262. Partial funding for the project has been approved by FAO, in addition to UNRISD core funds.

PROGRAMME ON DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

263. **The global debate on democratization and human rights can be sharpened by paying greater attention to specific problems of political and institutional reform at the local, national and international levels. The objective of this programme is to identify lessons from the recent experiences of countries, where efforts are being made toward democratic governance. Research areas include *Technocratic Policy Making and Democratization* and *Public Sector Reform and Crisis-Ridden States*.**

Technocratic Policy Making and Democratization

Background

264. This project examines the constraints in policy making that new democracies face as they become increasingly integrated into the global economy. Pressure to adopt neoliberal macroeconomic policies as countries attract international finance may encourage governments to insulate key institutions from public scrutiny and grant policy-making powers exclusively to experts. Governments may become more responsive to financial markets and donor agencies than to their fledgling legislatures and citizens. In addition, welfare policies that are important in alleviating the costs of liberalization, and in helping countries consolidate their democracies, may be treated as residuals of macroeconomic policy.

265. The project is divided into three research areas: economic policy making and parliamentary accountability; democratization and social development; and interest groups, policy making and democratization. Three key assumptions guide the work. First, the consolidation of democracy requires institutions that can effectively articulate citizen choices and scrutinize government policies. Second, just social policies are required to encourage citizens to have confidence in democratic institutions and accept democratic forms of rule as "the only game in town"; and third, policy makers need to establish meaningful dialogue with citizen groups, who in the final analysis are the real drivers and guarantors of social justice and democratization.

266. During the period 2000–2001, research work was carried out in eight countries under the theme economic policy making and parliamentary accountability. These countries are Argentina, Chile, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Benin, Malawi, the Republic of Korea (henceforth Korea) and India. Findings from draft reports on Argentina, Chile, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Benin, Malawi and Korea were discussed in the 2001 Board Report. Further research work was carried out in these countries during the current reporting period. Final reports have been submitted for Argentina, Chile, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Korea and are being reviewed for publication by UNRISD as monographs. Researchers are also preparing shorter versions of their manuscripts for an edited book that will be published commercially.

Economic policy making and parliamentary accountability

267. Research on economic policy making and parliamentary accountability is important for two reasons. First, it allows assessment of how countries have been able to manage the tensions between technocratic styles of governance associated with access to international finance and consolidation of democratic institutions. In democracies, parliaments are expected to provide platforms for articulating citizen choices, scrutinizing government policies, and providing legitimacy to final policy outcomes even if they turn out to be wrong. The core issues of economic policy reform—fiscal stability, debt repayment, privatization, and

liberalization—often require hard choices as they affect social groups, communities and institutions differently. It is never obvious that there is only one right way of approaching these issues or that technocrats are better placed than anyone else to make the right choices.

268. Second, research on economic policy making and parliamentary accountability provides opportunities to understand the interconnections of economic and social policies, the different weights of these policies in the strategies of governments and parties, the influence of societal or lobbying interests on the making of such policies, and the trade-offs or complementarities between economic and social policies in parliamentary bargaining. Insights into these issues can be gained by focusing on the budget—a major policy statement that informs the public about government spending and tax intentions.

269. Of the eight countries that are being studied under the project, three—the Czech Republic, Hungary and India—are parliamentary democracies, and five are governed by presidential systems, with presidents wielding strong powers. Parliamentary party systems are more fragmented in Hungary, Benin and India than in the other five countries. No single party has consistently obtained an absolute majority in any of the parliaments of the eight countries. This makes it interesting to study the politics of coalition building and trade-offs in policies, the ways in which parliaments try to use their legislative powers to influence government policies, and governmental strategies in co-ordinating the choices of parliamentary parties and advancing policy agendas.

270. The eight countries have experienced different types and levels of exposure to world markets. Four—Argentina, Chile, Korea and India—are often referred to as emerging markets. Korea has recently become a member of the OECD. These countries, especially the first three, are more fully integrated into international financial markets than the others. Benin and Malawi are aid dependent. The international financial institutions and bilateral donor agencies have more policy leverage over them than the other countries. The Czech Republic and Hungary are aspiring members of the European Union, which exposes them to EU conditionality. In addition, they face pressures from international financial markets as they travel along the path of market economies. Some countries—Chile, Argentina and Korea—have a long history of technocratic governance. Technocratic policy making in Malawi and Benin is more directly linked to adoption of the lending programmes of multilateral institutions. The technocratic elite associated with communist rule in the Czech Republic and Hungary has been discredited. New economic policy-making elites have emerged from lower ranks of the bureaucracy, although there is evidence of reproduction of old elites especially in Hungary, which had rudimentary markets under communist rule.

271. The reports contain findings on how different legislative institutions deal with different types of policy-making regimes that are conditioned by different levels of access to international finance. Five issues have been covered in detail: nature and direction of economic policy reforms in each country; rearrangement of public bureaucracies and powers of economic institutions; the politics of democratic reforms; structure and operations of parliaments, including finance and budget committees; and analysis of how parliaments have sought to influence the economic policy agendas of governments.

272. In most cases, researchers have interviewed a wide range of government officials and parliamentarians, especially those in finance committees, to yield rich data on the extent of expertise and professional backgrounds of parliamentarians; party systems and factionalization; formal powers of parliaments and executives in economic policy making; nature of executive-legislative collaboration and competition over economic policies; economic bills initiated by executive and legislative branches of government; economic bills amended and approved by parliament; economic policies of parties; MPs' perceptions of parliamentary effectiveness in economic policy making; and the relative significance of social

policy in the making of economic policy. Parliamentary records and other official data have also been used as sources.

273. Academics often assume that the choice of governmental regime has implications for technocratic or democratic styles in policy making. A strongly presidential system tends to be very centralized, with parliaments given less scope to influence economic policies. It is often argued that because the president has a popular mandate and fixed term that is not dependent on parliamentary bargains, the office-holder can exercise power in a more single-minded way. In parliamentary systems, however, prime ministers are more beholden to political parties and can be removed at any time after losing a vote of confidence. This means that governments are likely to spend much time cultivating political support for their programmes.

274. Evidence from the studies on Chile, Argentina and Korea highlight the attractiveness of the presidential system of government—even under authoritarian rule—in the administration of shock therapy. However, the same studies suggest that it would be simplistic to conclude that presidential systems of government always produce strong technocracies. The linkages that produce either technocratic or collaborative behaviour in economic policy making are more complex. There are many variables that mediate executive-legislative relations. Parliamentary regimes, for instance, do not always produce coalitions and governments in such systems can be just as obdurate as those in presidential ones. This may happen if governments enjoy an overwhelming majority, or if there is a high level of factionalization in parliament, which may be indicative of weak policy-based linkages between parliamentary parties and social interests.

275. The studies on Chile and Argentina report a rise in technical capacity through election of a large number of economists in parliament. This has led to an improvement in executive-legislative relations on economic policy making. However, these improvements have occurred largely through informal methods and transformation of the career backgrounds of parliamentarians, rather than the upgrading of the institutional policy capabilities of parliament. Indeed, unequal access to technical information and expertise between the executive and the legislature is a common finding in most of the country studies. Most parliaments are poorly equipped to bargain with their executives. Party fragmentation, which is most extreme in Benin, offers fewer incentives to invest in expertise: small parties cannot afford it. Threats of obstruction thus tend to replace bargaining based on technical knowledge in articulating objectives and pressing claims.

276. Findings from the studies also suggest that even when parliamentary majorities are slim or societies are ruled by presidential systems, governments may enjoy a honeymoon period, especially during transition from a discredited regime to one that is believed to offer prospects for economic improvement. Findings from the studies on Hungary and the Czech Republic underscore this point. Governments are also likely to enjoy a grace period when a previous authoritarian government has an enviable economic record, which the new government and opposition parties may not want to undermine, or when politicians and society have fresh memories about hyperinflation and socioeconomic dislocation as findings from Chile and Argentina indicate. However, this honeymoon period does not last. Parliamentary consensus on economic policy making is reported to be breaking down in Hungary and the Czech Republic. In the Czech Republic, the breakdown led to the fall of the government in 1998 and the appointment of a caretaker government under the leadership of the central bank governor. Parliament has been exercising more control on economic policy issues after the crisis.

277. The work under this project is being carried out with UNRISD core funds.

List of commissioned papers

- Javier Corrales, **Technocratic Policy Making and Parliamentary Accountability in Argentina**
- Veronica Montecinos, **Economic Policy Making and Parliamentary Accountability in Chile**
- Zdenka Mansfeldova, **Economic Policy Making and Parliamentary Accountability in the Czech Republic**
- Attila Agh, Gabriella Ilonszki, Andras Lanczi and Gabor Török, **Economic Policy Making and Parliamentary Accountability in Hungary**
- Wiseman Chijere Chirwa and Spy Mbiriyawaka Munthali, **Populist and Technocratic Approaches to Economic Policy Making in Malawi**
- Francis Akindès and Victor Topanou, **La responsabilité des parlementaires dans les décisions de politique économique en République du Bénin**
- Doh Chull Shin, Chan-Woo Park and Jong Bin Yoon, **Democratization, Economic Policy Making and Parliamentary Accountability in the Republic of Korea**

Public Sector Reform and Crisis-Ridden States

278. This project examines public sector reforms that have been under way in developing countries, especially those that have been exposed to protracted economic and political crises. State capacity is important for defining and implementing development policies, as well as for managing conflicts that emerge from democratization processes. Two main reform initiatives constitute an essential backdrop for organizing the project. The first concerns trends in the introduction of market reforms in the public sectors of poor countries, such as downsizing, decentralized management, pay and employment reform and use of output indicators to assess staff performance and service delivery. The second deals with the distribution and management of power in multi-ethnic settings. The project is divided into three parts: incentives and employee responses to public sector reforms; ethnic structure, inequality and governance of the public sector; and decentralization, democratization and conflict management. The first phase of the project involved commissioning of thematic papers on a variety of issues related to public sector reform. Some of these papers have been published. Those published as UNRISD Programme Papers during the current reporting period were:

- P. Smoke, **Fiscal Decentralization in Developing Countries: A Review of Current Concepts and Practice**, PP DGHR 2, 2001
- O. Therkildsen, **Efficiency, Accountability and Implementation: Public Sector Reform in East and Southern Africa**, PP DGHR 3, 2001
- D. Olowu, **Decentralization Policies and Practices under Structural Adjustment and Democratization**, PP DGHR 4, 2001

279. A volume comprising the phase one papers has been prepared under the title **Public Sector Reform in Developing Countries: Institutional and Social Constraints**. It is currently being considered for publication by Zed Books:

- Yusuf Bangura, **Introduction: Globalization and Public Sector Reform**

Part One: Managerial Reforms

- George Larbi, **The New Public Management Approach and Crisis States**
- Ole Therkildsen, **Elusive Public Sector Reform in East and Southern Africa**
- Andrew Nickson, **Public Sector Management Reform in Latin America**
- George Larbi, **Trade Unions, Public Sector Employees and New Public Management Reforms**

Part Two: Fiscal Reforms

- Yusuf Bangura, **Fiscal and Capacity Building Reform**
- Willy McCourt, **Pay and Employment Reform in Developing and Transition Societies**

Part Three: Governance Reforms

- Paul Smoke, **Fiscal Decentralization in Developing Countries: Theory and Practice**
- Dele Olowu, **Decentralization, Adjustment and Democratization in Africa**
- Yusuf Bangura, **Ethnic Structure and Public Sector Governance**.

280. UNRISD core funds supported the work under this project.

Ethnic structure, inequality and governance of the public sector

281. Most crisis states are multi-ethnic. Ethnicity affects the identities of states, the allocation of public resources, and the confidence that different sections of societies may have in government. On paper at least, most governments would claim that their public sectors are non-discriminatory. Ethnic groups are, however, structured differently in national political economies because of history, markets, resource endowments and, in some cases, overtly discriminatory public policies. Inequalities arising from such differences are often a source of tension as groups compete to maintain or redefine advantages. The public sector itself is very central to such conflicts: it may be rendered ineffective if it fails to develop mechanisms for regulating difference and competition. Politicized ethnicity may encourage xenophobia, blocking the evolution of citizenship that is essential for the growth of democratic institutions. In polarized ethnic settings, social solidarity, the cornerstone of citizenship, may be embedded in ethnic—not civic—networks, affecting relations and behaviour in the public domain.

282. The project will study the complex ways ethnic cleavages and inequalities influence behaviour and constrain democratic institutions that have emerged for governing the public sectors of multi-ethnic societies. It challenges the practice in development studies of treating ethnicity in undifferentiated ways, which often leads to its characterization as pathological regardless of its centrality in a country's social structure. However, ethnic structures or cleavages vary considerably across countries. Efforts to develop an index of ethnic fragmentation have not eliminated the problem of viewing fragmentation as pathological. By ranking countries according to the extent of their fragmentation, the index of fragmentation has helped researchers to make generalizations about countries, but it is a poor guide for understanding the conditions under which fragmentation affects instability. Indeed, it has long been established by scholars of ethnic conflict that the more fragmented a country is, the less likely it is that ethnicity will pose problems for the maintenance of political order.

283. The project will be divided into two parts. The first part will develop a typology of ethnic structures and inequalities to aid understanding of ethnic behaviour and the choices of citizens and policy makers in governing the public sector. The typology will distinguish countries according to their levels of polarization or dispersion of ethnic segments. It will have five types of ethnic structures: a unipolar structure, in which one ethnic group accounts for an overwhelming majority of the population; a bipolar structure, in which there are either only two groups, or a multiplicity of groups in which two roughly equal groups account for at least 60 per cent of the population; a tripolar structure, in which there are either only three groups, or three large groups in a multi-ethnic setting; a concentrated multipolar structure, in which one ethnic group may constitute half or 40 per cent of the population, but is still not large enough to dominate clusters of smaller groups (it also includes cases in which four or more groups may each account for 10 or 20 per cent of the population, thus creating possibilities for ethnic group-based political configurations to develop); and fragmented

multipolar structures, in which no group is large enough to dominate the political system and public sector if voters are allowed to express their preferences through free and fair elections.

284. Ethnic diversity is not in itself a problem, nor does it shape political behaviour deterministically. Ethnicity is constantly adapting. The problem arises when ethnicity is politicized—at which point it can provoke behaviour that can override other loyalties and obligations. The project will study one central issue that contributes to polarization: inequality and problems of elite consensus. At the centre of the problem is the issue of equality of opportunities or sense of inclusion in the formation of governments and staffing of bureaucracies. The public sector is unlikely to develop in countries where elites are uncomfortable with the basic rules of governance, and express or hold fears about exclusion.

285. Of interest here will be the way in which key public institutions—such as the executive branch of government, parliament and the civil service—reflect the ethnic cleavages of societies. How representative or uneven is the distribution of offices and posts? What determines the distribution? And how do politicians and citizens view the distribution and the rules governing it? Researchers will first map out the structure of ethnic group distribution in each country, including variations that may exist within groups. They will then analyse the structure of inequalities in the formation of governments and staffing of bureaucracies by looking at four key institutions: the cabinet, parliament, party system and civil service. While the primary focus will be on public sector inequalities, efforts will be made to examine inequalities in the wider society, such as those related to income, asset holdings, education and labour market segmentation. Researchers will analyse the extent to which inequalities in the public sector are determined, influenced or reinforced by those in the wider society.

286. One major hypothesis of the project is that ethnic politicization may encourage political choices to correspond to ethnic affiliations; however, such choices and behaviour are likely to differ according to the nature of the ethnic structure and its dynamic linkages with the structure of inequalities. Since the project seeks to understand the performance of the public sector under conditions of democratization, researchers will investigate the extent to which electoral competition provides a basis for mobilizing grievances related to inequalities. Is ethnicity politicized to the same degree in all five types of ethnic structures, or does politicization vary according to the structure of group distribution in the typology? One way of testing this hypothesis is to study how people vote in countries representing the five ethnic structures. Does voting behaviour reflect ethnic patterns? There is now a large amount of data on voting behaviour in democratizing countries that should aid understanding of this crucial issue.

287. The second part of the project has a distinctly policy focus. The aim is to understand the choices that are open to politicians and citizens in crafting reforms that will help them manage political competition and plurality in the public sector. A key hypothesis is that politicians and citizens face different types of constraints, depending on the dynamic interplay of the structures of ethnicity and inequalities. Different types of ethnic structures may demand different combinations of reform instruments in building stable and inclusive societies and public sectors. It is hypothesized that the conflicts that are often difficult to manage are those that occur in bipolar or tripolar settings, or those in which groups have polarized into a cluster of ethnic formations, limiting the scope for bargaining and concessions. If such structures are also based on high levels of inequalities, conditions for stable governance and civic behaviour or citizenship may be severely strained.

288. The project will examine the appropriateness or otherwise of the institutions that have emerged under democratization for regulating political competition and conflicts in multi-ethnic societies. In analysing the evolution and character of institutional reforms in each set of countries, the project will focus on two policy frameworks that have been held up as solutions

to the governance problems of ethnically divided societies. These are majoritarian solutions that reward moderation in party behaviour and vote pooling while also encouraging adversarial politics; and consensus-based or power sharing arrangements that seek to accommodate the ethnic segments. The project will examine alternative policy frameworks that may be compatible with each set of countries in the typology.

289. Ten countries will be selected for in-depth study, with at least two representing each of the five types of ethnic structures listed below.

1. *Unipolarity*: Zimbabwe and Lithuania
2. *Bipolarity*: Fiji/Malaysia and Latvia
3. *Tripolarity*: Nigeria and Bosnia
4. *Concentrated Multipolarity*: Ghana/Niger and Kenya
5. *Fragmented Multipolarity*: Tanzania and Papua New Guinea

290. In addition, work will be commissioned on five multi-ethnic countries that have a relatively long history of democratic rule and relatively stable public sector performance: Switzerland (tripolarity), Belgium (bipolarity), Britain and Botswana (unipolarity) and India (fragmented polarity). The aim is to examine how these democracies have managed their ethnic cleavages and inequalities in governing their public sectors. It is interesting to note that there is no "old democracy" that reflects the features of our fourth type of ethnic structure: concentrated multipolarity.

291. A methodology workshop is being planned for end-May 2002 in Geneva and research will commence shortly thereafter.

Timetable

January-May 2002:	Identification of researchers and preparation of country proposals
May 2002:	Methodology workshop
June 2002-May 2003:	Research and submission of draft reports
September 2003:	Submission of final reports
December 2003:	International conference to discuss research findings and policy issues

Output

292. It is expected that the project will generate 12 research monographs, at least three Programme Papers, one edited book, two issues of UNRISD **Conference News**, and one briefing paper.

293. In December 2001, the Ford Foundation approved funding for work to commence on this project.

ADVISORY WORK (JANUARY–DECEMBER 2001)

Yusuf Bangura

- Reviewed an application and research proposal for the Research Council of Norway. Title of project: "State Formation and the Struggle for Natural Resources in the Congo", September 2001.
- Reviewed an article for the **Journal of Modern African Studies**. Title of paper: "RUF Greed or APC Misgovernance? An analysis of corruption and political insurgency in Sierra Leone", September 2001.
- Acted as a resource person, in conference organized by the International Peace Academy and the Economic Community of West African States, entitled "Towards A Pax West Africana: Building Peace in a Troubled Sub-Region", which took place in Abuja, Nigeria. 27–29 September 2001.
- Acted as a resource person at a conference organized by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in Maputo, Mozambique, on "Conflict Prevention and Peace Building in Africa", 28–29 June 2001.
- Member of UN Consultation Group, **Human Development Report 2002**, UNDP, June 2001.
- Member of the Board of **Refugee Survey Quarterly**, Journal of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees; attended Editorial Board meeting, 2 May 2001.
- Keynote speaker at conference on Africa in the New Millennium, organized by the Nordic Africa Institute and African Heads of Diplomatic Missions, Stockholm, 14 May 2001.
- Prepared a paper titled "Development Finance, Economic Policy Making and Democratization", for the Parliamentary Commission on Swedish Policy for Global Development—Globkom, April 2001.

Nicolas Bovay

- Made presentations on UNRISD to several visiting groups of students at the request of the United Nations Department of Public Information as well as at the request of the universities and students themselves.

Jenifer Freedman

- Acted as a resource person for the Small Arms Survey on workflow, processing and publication of occasional papers and reports, February 2001.

Krishna Ghimire

- Lectured on La réforme agraire et les mouvements sociaux in a meeting organized at the University of Geneva, 23 April 2001.
- Interviewed by **Le Courrier de l'UNESCO**, January 2001; and by Radio Canada, 14 March 2001.
- Acted as supervisor of a graduate dissertation, Faculté des sciences économiques et sociales, University of Geneva.
- Made a presentation on agrarian reforms and the role of international agencies at the headquarters of the International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF), Geneva.
- Acted as a resource person for the Popular Coalition to Eradicate Hunger and Poverty, Rome.
- Evaluated a book-length manuscript for publication for Earthscan, London.

Cynthia Hewitt de Alcántara

- Presented **Visible Hands**, in Spanish, at a seminar co-sponsored by the Center for Sociological Studies of El Colegio de México and the Centro Tepoztlán, Mexico City, 5 December 2001.
- Spoke at a seminar on Communications as a Human Right: Issues for the World Summit on the Information Society, 19–20 November 2001, Geneva. Organized by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the Platform for Communication Rights.
- Spoke during the 23rd Annual Programme on the Management of Interdependence, organized by the Centre for Applied Studies in International Negotiations, Geneva, 7 November 2001.
- Spoke at the seminar Beyond Globalization: Challenges to the United Nations, sponsored by the Dag Hammarskjold Foundation and held in Uppsala Castle, Sweden on 7 September 2001.
- Spoke at the UNCTAD Training Course on Key Issues in the International Economic Agenda, Geneva, 22 June 2001.
- Spoke at the Geneva Research and Policy Dialogue sponsored by UNU, Geneva, 5 June 2001.
- Member of the Advisory Group convened by the Netherlands Minister of Development Co-operation to define a policy on Information and Communications Technologies, February–June 2001.
- Was Keynote speaker, Launch Workshop on Digital Opportunities, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 19 February 2001.
- Taught a class on Globalization and Social Policy, for the Graduate Programme on Management of Development, International Training Centre of the ILO, Turin, 25 January 2001.
- Advised the Church of Sweden on its submission to the Parliamentary Commission on New Directions in Swedish Development Co-operation. Submitted a position paper on Globalization and Solidarity, January 2001.

Thandika Mkandawire

- Participated as Board member at the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) meeting, Harare, 4–6 December 2001.
- Participated as Board member at CARE International meeting, Melbourne, 17–18 November 2001.
- Gave a keynote presentation at the international policy workshop "Demanding Innovation: Articulating policies for demand-led research capacity building", organized by European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) and the Dutch Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Maastricht, 10–12 October 2001.
- Acted as a resource person at the EGDI meeting organized by Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Stockholm, 27 August 2001.
- Participated in a colloquium on "New Philanthropy and International Institutions: The Case of Global Health", St Catherine's College, Cambridge, UK, 5–6 July 2001.
- Gave the keynote address at the South African Sociological Association (SASA) Congress, Pretoria, 1–4 July 2001.
- Participated in African Scholarly Publishing Seminar, Alexandria, Egypt, 19–20 April 2001.
- Participated in African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) Executive Board meeting, Harare, 4–6 April 2001.
- Presenter at DFID workshop on Best Practices in Integrating the Social and the Economic, Eastbourne, UK, 26–27 March 2001.
- Lead panellist at Global Inequality meeting, Bellagio Study Center, 5–9 March 2001.
- Presentation at 39th session of Commission for Social Development, New York, 13–23 February 2001.

Shahra Razavi

- Prepared a background paper for the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women (UNDESA/DAW) on "Globalization, Employment and Women's Empowerment", November 2001. This paper (and the related Expert Group Meeting) was an input into the preparation of the Secretary-General's Report on "Eradicating Poverty throughout the life cycle as a transformative strategy for poverty eradication in a globalizing world".
- Presented a background paper on "Globalization, Employment and Women's Empowerment" and acted as resource person at Expert Group Meeting organized by UN's Division for the Advancement of Women (UNDESA/DAW), hosted by the Government of India, New Delhi, India, 26–29 November 2001.
- Presented the keynote address at the WIDE (Women in Development Europe) Annual Conference 2001, Madrid, Spain, 4–7 October 2001, "Gender Mainstreaming for Invisibility or Women's Empowerment?"
- Prepared a paper titled "Social Policy in a Development Context" for the Parliamentary Commission on Swedish Policy for Global Development—Globkom, April 2001.
- Taught a class on Gender, Democratization and Social Policy, for the Graduate Programme on Management of Development, International Training Centre of the ILO, Turin, 26 January 2001.
- Member of the Editorial Board of **Development in Practice**.
- Reviewed two articles for **Development and Change**; one article for **World Development**, and one article for **Development in Practice**.

Peter Utting

- Reviewed journal articles for **Development and Change**.
- Reviewed a book-length manuscript on socio-environmental issues for the Swiss Agency for Development Co-operation (SDC), November 2001.
- Spoke at a conference in San Sebastian, Spain on civil society and globalization, organized by Eusko Ikaskuntza (Society for Basque Studies), November 2001.
- Spoke at a meeting in Geneva on transnational corporations organized by the Centre Europe–Tiers Monde and the American Association of Jurists, July 2001.
- Acted as advisor to UNCTAD on business responsibility, May 2001.
- Acted as advisor to WHO on business responsibility, March 2001.
- Undertook advisory work with ILO and UNCTAD, several NGOs and doctoral students

OUTREACH: PUBLICATIONS AND DISSEMINATION

294. Through its research findings and outputs, UNRISD aims to stimulate debate on a wide range of questions and challenges of social development. To carry out its agenda, the Institute must communicate this information to government officials, parliamentarians, university professors and students, United Nations policy makers, regional intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, journalists and civil society in general. Doing so is not only desirable, but constitutes the main objective of the Institute's outreach efforts. A proactive, target-driven, flexible and effective publications and dissemination strategy is key to the success of the Institute as a whole. This entails a range of outputs relevant for and accessible to an ever-expanding audience. In-house publications, co-publications with well-established and internationally renowned publishers, and the UNRISD Web site comprise the main outputs.

295. Since January 2001, the UNRISD Web site has been the focus of much attention. At that time, a major information-gathering effort was launched by the Publications and Dissemination Unit, with the assistance of UNRISD's information technology consultant, to ascertain how redevelopment of the site should be undertaken to serve the interests of UNRISD and its constituents. The contract for the redevelopment project was awarded in September 2001, and work got under way in October.

296. During the reporting period, the Publications and Dissemination Unit also pursued its six-point outreach strategy[1], with particular emphasis by the editor on point (2). The information officer spent much of his first full year at UNRISD concentrating on point (6), with special attention given to increasing and personalizing contacts with the specialized and mass media, governments and parliaments. Efforts also continued to follow up the extensive work programme undertaken by UNRISD for Geneva 2000, including publication (in French, Spanish and Russian) and dissemination of the UNRISD report prepared for the event, **Visible Hands: Taking Responsibility for Social Development**, and targeted dissemination of the Institute's Geneva 2000 Occasional Papers.

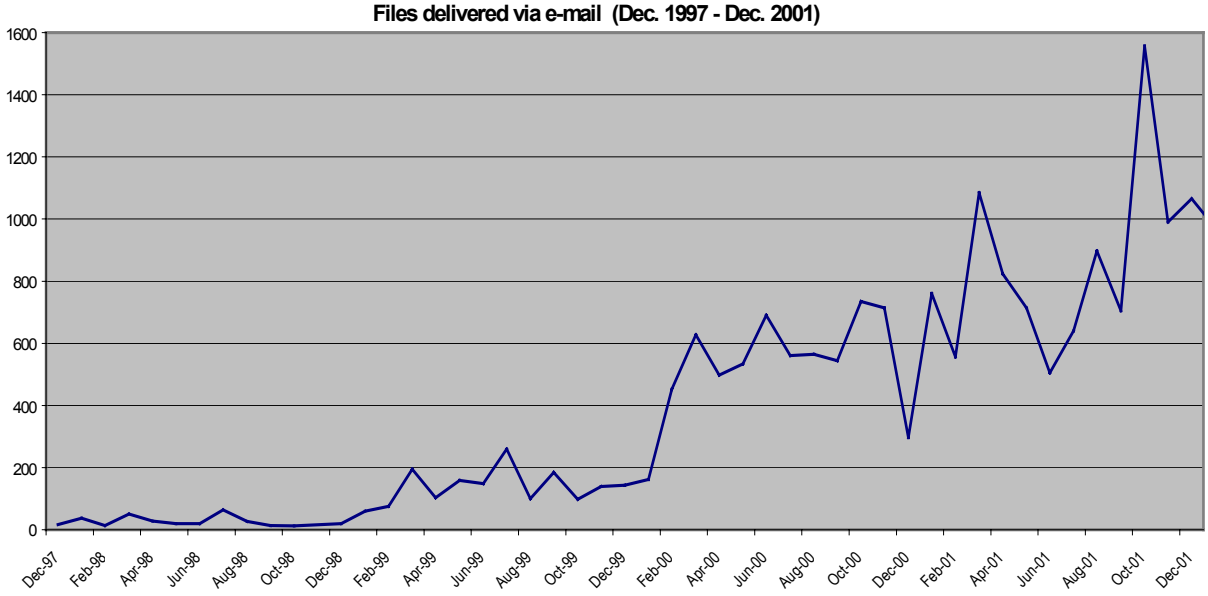
297. Over 40 manuscripts were passed on to the Publications and Dissemination Unit for processing (including peer review, editing, layout and printing for in-house publications, and contractual negotiations for co-publications) during the reporting period. In 2001, UNRISD issued an average of three publications per month. Full details on these publications are included below. By December 2001, several co-publications were due to be released, a number of co-publication contracts had been concluded with partners in the United States, the United Kingdom, Colombia and France, and several others were being negotiated.

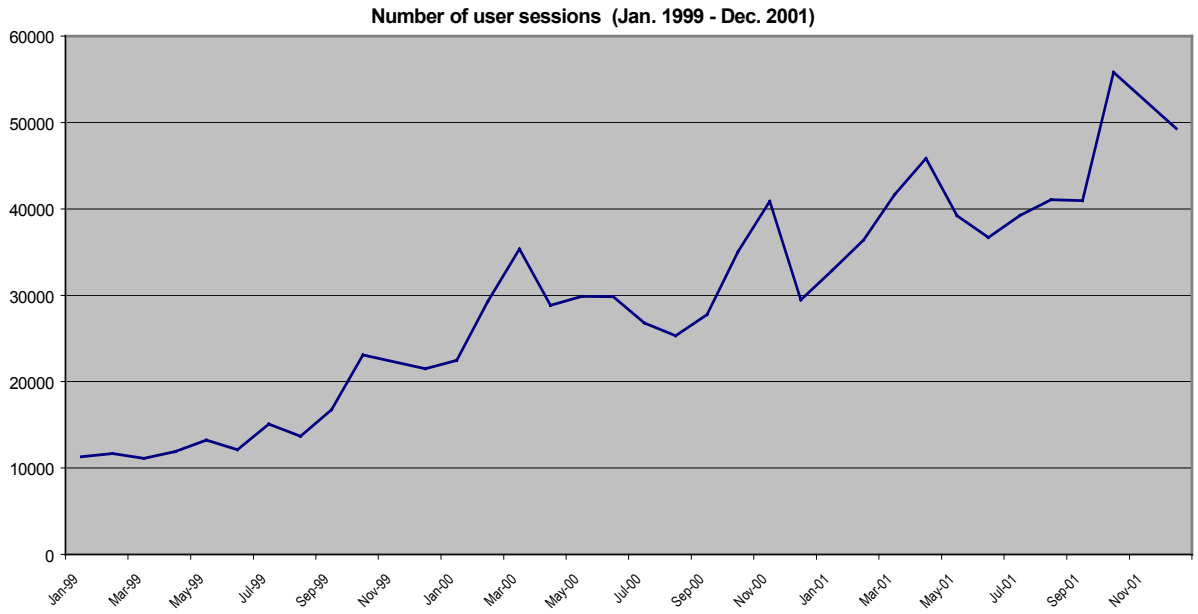
[1] (1) Developing a professionally designed visual identity to support the Institute as a whole as well as individual programme areas; (2) Expanding the use of the UNRISD Web site, both as a means of providing information and as a means for networking and gathering information related to the Institute's work, and exploring new means of electronic dissemination; (3) Providing support for traditional audiences worldwide—especially those based in developing countries—through the publication and distribution of books and working papers; (4) Distilling research results into user friendly formats to make them more suitable to the needs of other audiences; (5) Influencing policy debate in other UN agencies and international organizations; (6) Cultivating new audiences through partnerships and dissemination via special mailing lists.

UNRISD Web Site

298. During the reporting period, UNRISD continued to expand the use of its Web site, both as a means for providing information and as a means for networking and gathering information. The site was maintained regularly, with substantive information added at least once a month, in parallel with development work on the new site. To the greatest extent possible, all in-house publications are made available on the site free of charge. Over 230 full-text publications and draft papers are now available for download from the Web site.

299. The e-mail distribution list to which users can subscribe to be informed of monthly updates to the Web site had grown to 4,000 people by the end of December 2001. Statistics on how the Web site is being used reveal increased interactivity. An average of 1,700 documents were downloaded directly from the site or delivered via e-mail each month during the reporting period. Site facilities for conference registration and publication orders also received increasing use. During the reporting period, site statistics showed an average of 40,000 user sessions per month, with maximum traffic recorded in October 2001, at 55,827 sessions.





Web site redevelopment project

300. In 2001, UNRISD undertook a major overhaul of its Web site. The project began with an investigation of how the site could be restructured and redesigned to reflect more contemporary trends in Web site usability and to improve user friendliness. This information-gathering exercise was carried out between January and May 2001 by Jenifer Freedman, UNRISD editor (and co-ordinator of the Web site redevelopment project), and Tony Formoso (UNRISD's information technology consultant) in close consultation with the Director and UNRISD staff, and outside professionals. Detailed suggestions were collected in view of a comprehensive overhaul of the look and feel of the site, as well as its structure and maintenance. The United Nations Procurement Section received from UNRISD and sent out the formal Request for Proposal and Site Redevelopment specifications to 15 prospective companies at the end of June 2001. In July and August, the UNRISD editor and information technology consultant carried out a technical evaluation of the seven proposals and tender documents that had been submitted, and the contract was awarded to Blue Sky Communications, a London-based firm, on 19 September 2001. Another UK-based firm, Blue Ice Web Technology, is also collaborating on one aspect of the site redevelopment.

301. The Web redevelopment project grew out of a concern that the site's visual design and navigational systems were dated, confusing and often inconsistent. (In some cases, different designs and navigation had been implemented to accommodate specific projects.) At the same time, it was deemed important by those maintaining the site that the underlying site structure and maintenance procedures be rethought. State-of-the-art Web site techniques take into account both sides, and have been fully integrated throughout the redevelopment process. The process has been a collaborative effort between Blue Sky and all interested UNRISD staff members. Actual work on the redevelopment began on 19 October 2001.

302. The objectives of the redevelopment have been identified as the following:

- **Improved service**—Provide accurate, reliable and up-to-date information that can be accessed quickly and intuitively. Reduce the amount of time spent by users to locate information, and illustrate the interlinkages between the different areas of the Institute's work.
- **Raised Profile**—The UNRISD Web site should be seen as the "showcase for UNRISD's intellectual output, activities and publications". The site should develop and be recognized as a portal site for research in social development.
- **Improved usability**—Dramatically improve usability—for site visitors as well as for content contributors, and site managers and administrators—by designing an overarching architecture supported by a professional front-end design and fully functional back-end database systems.
- **Greater efficiency**—Provide an integrated content management system and training that will empower all UNRISD staff to contribute site content with ease.
- **High reliability**—Provide a system that requires minimal ongoing intervention by the software developers.

303. The primary sections of the new site are:

- About UNRISD
- Research
- Publications
- News & Views
- Events
- Links

304. In addition to these main types of content, the following facilities are available:

- Site Search

- English/Français/Español (language selector)
- Email Alerts
- Feedback
- Help/FAQs

305. The new site will have dramatically improved navigability and user-friendliness. A robust multilingual mechanism will allow francophone and hispanophone users to navigate and consult all available content in their language of choice. While UNRISD does not have the resources to translate all site content, the redevelopment project allows for a fully multilingual site should such resources become available.

306. The new site architecture and design will also allow users to discover the interlinkages between all of the Institute's activities (for example, project descriptions, full-text documents, event details) through the extensive use of keyword categorization for all of the information recorded in the site's content management system.

307. Another important aspect of usability—especially for a site such as this one, which contains a wealth of full-text documents and whose target users are spread across the world (and thus may not have access to top-of-the-line computers or to reliable telecommunications connections)—is the accessibility of content. The new site will offer three options for accessing most of the full-text documents—whether formal publications issued by the Institute or "draft" research documents. Users may choose the option that is most convenient for them: viewing a document on screen, downloading and opening a PDF version, or receiving a PDF as an e-mail attachment.

308. Implementing this flexibility has been a challenging aspect of the redevelopment project, particularly as it relates to the option of viewing a long document on the site in a visual format. This (usually) requires documents to be formatted specially for the Web using "HTML". However, this implies a significant investment in human resources, and was not deemed to be a viable option for UNRISD at this stage. Following extensive research, UNRISD identified a product (called Net-it Central) to get around this problem "automatically", by rendering standard Microsoft file formats as Web pages without manual intervention to format or convert the original source file. Users of the UNRISD site will thus have the advantages of quick on-line display; full integration with the site's search engine; flexibility, allowing on-line browsing of documents; and good on-screen rendering. This mechanism will be combined with use of the industry standard for providing full-text documents for download—Adobe's "portable document format", or PDF. PDF provides excellent reproduction of the printed page, but suffers from several disadvantages: users must have Acrobat Reader installed on their computer; download may take a long time—depending on connectivity, which is not reliable or quick in many areas of the world where UNRISD would like its site to be accessed; and a user must download an entire document before it is possible to see what it contains. Nonetheless, users with good computers and connectivity may find this option preferable.

309. The new site will also have a more sophisticated e-mail sign-up service, which will allow users to customize their profile by selecting the frequency with which they wish to be alerted about site updates (weekly, monthly), and by choosing to be informed of updates to specific sections of the site (for example, "Research", "Events", "Publications") or all sections.

310. Finally, Board members may be particularly interested in the News & Views section of the new site. This will be a magazine-style section in which UNRISD will present feature articles on newsworthy and particularly timely aspects of its work; "viewpoints", such as signed opinion articles and think pieces on issues related to the research programme; and

reviews of UNRISD publications and work that have appeared in outside media sources. This section has the potential to open up UNRISD work to a wide audience, and the contributions of Board members and others in the UNRISD network could help to make it especially valuable.

311. The prototype site—in its testing phase—will be available for consultation during the Board meeting. Testing and training on the new content management system will continue throughout March, information input and updating will take place in April, and the new site will "go live" on the Web at the beginning of May 2002.

312. The idea of a joint UNRISD/UNU-WIDER social development portal was debated during the 2001 Board meeting. With its new site and content management system, UNRISD will have put in place a solid foundation in order to pursue such collaborative initiatives with interested partners.

Follow-up to Geneva 2000 and Visible Hands

313. As a result of targeted dissemination and monitoring of related events worldwide, the 10 Occasional Papers produced by UNRISD for Geneva 2000 were made available at a range of important venues.[2] Promotion and distribution of **Visible Hands** was also a high priority

[2] By the end of reporting period, a total of 15,930 copies of the Geneva 2000 Occasional Papers, along with other UNRISD publications, had been disseminated to 31 international conferences around the world. Venues included: National Council for Social Studies University of Calgary, Forum 2000, June-July 2000, Calgary, Canada; ICSW International, Poverty, Social Welfare and Social Development, October 2000, Cape Town, South Africa; Euro Environment 2000, Visions, Strategies and Actions towards Sustainable Development, October 2000, Aalborg, Denmark; UNIDO, UNIDO Partnership with Private Business, October 2000, Vienna, Austria; GASSP Global Social Policies and Social Rights; November 2000, New Delhi, India; Victoria University of Wellington, Poverty, Prosperity, Progress, November 2000, Wellington, New Zealand; ERP Environment, University of Leeds, International Sustainable Development Research Conference 2001, April 2001, Manchester, UK; Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, Virginia, USA, Political Economy of the World System, April 2001, Blacksburg, USA; National University of Singapore, 5th ASEAN International University Seminar on Social Development, May 2001, Singapore; Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Participatory Workshop, May 2001, Utrecht, The Netherlands; Wilton Park Conference, UK Business and Global Corporate Citizenship, May 2001, Montreux, Switzerland; UNU/WIDER Conference on "Growth and Poverty", May 2001, Helsinki, Finland; UN 3rd UN conference on the Least Developed Countries, May 2001, Brussels, Belgium; UNCHS Habitat +5, June 2001, New York, USA; International Sociological Association, Conference on Social Inequality, Redistributive Justice and the City, June 2001, Amsterdam, The Netherlands; Bogazici University, 12th International Symposium of the Inter-University Conference on Social Development, June 2001, Istanbul, Turkey; The Copenhagen Centre, Partnerships and Social Responsibility in the New Economy, June 2001, Copenhagen, Denmark; Grupo de Analisis para el Desarrollo, LACEA and GRADE Conference, June 2001, Lima, Peru; World Assembly of Youth, Malacca International Youth Dialogue, June 2001, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (UNRISD OPGs actually served as basis for parts of the Conference); The 25th Session of the Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women, July 2001, New York, USA; The 35th IIS Congress Secretariat, the Midterm ISA Conference RC09, Social Transformations and Globalization, July 2001, Krakow, Poland; The 29th Asia and Pacific Regional Conference of ICSW on Human Security and Social Safety Nets, September 2001, Seoul, South Korea; UNRISD Gender and Land Rights conference on Agrarian Change, Gender and Land Rights, September 2001, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Harvard International Conference on Globalization of Research and Development, September 2001, Grado, Italy; Oxford International Conference on Education and Development, titled Knowledge, Values and Policy, September 2001, Reading, UK; WIDER Annual Conference 2001, Gender Mainstreaming for Invisibility or Women's Empowerment?, October 2001, Madrid, Spain; China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, International Conference on NGO Poverty Reduction in China, October 2001, Beijing, China; VI International Congress of CLAD on State and Public Administration

throughout the reporting period.[3] The report was distributed to specially identified officials in governments, parliaments and international organizations, media contacts, and at important conferences around the world. The report has been sent to selected universities and other academic institutions.

314. The French, Spanish and Russian versions of Visible Hands were all released during the reporting period. Distribution to the French, Spanish and Russian media, parliaments and governmental organs, as well as universities, other academic institutions and non-governmental organizations was organized. Several media outlets published information on **Visible Hands**, and in an article on "alternative economists" in **Le Monde** (11 September 2001), **Mains visibles** and UNRISD featured prominently.

315. **La mano visible** was presented by UNRISD research co-ordinator Peter Utting at a conference on *Globalization and Social Development* which was organized as one of the activities at the XV Congress of Basque Studies by Eusko Ikaskuntza in San Sebastian, Spain, on 28 November 2001. There were about 100 participants, mainly from civil society organizations and academic institutions.

316. **La mano visible** was formally launched in Mexico on 5 December 2001, at the Colegio de México in Mexico City. The report was presented by UNRISD Deputy Director, Cynthia Hewitt de Alcántara, at a meeting sponsored by the Centro Tepoztlán and the Center for Sociological Studies of El Colegio de México. There were about 40 participants, including academics, representatives of international organizations (regional offices of ECLAC and the ILO), and staff of the presidential advisor on social policy.

317. By December 2001, the information officer had finalized plans for the formal launch of the Russian edition of **Visible Hands**, at the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, on 22 January 2002. The event was organized in collaboration with former Board member Valery Tishkov, who was instrumental in distributing invitations to representatives of the Russian federal government and parliament, civil society and non-governmental organizations, academia and the media. The Russian edition will be distributed throughout Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States with the collaboration of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Selected individuals in state and local governments, parliament, NGOs, universities, academic institutions and the media will be targeted.

318. **Visible Hands** has also been translated into Arabic, and the launch is scheduled for April or May 2002 in Beirut. Publication of the Chinese edition is expected later in 2002. A Persian version is being prepared at the initiative of the Centre for International Studies of the Department of Law and Political Science, Tehran University, as part of a programme on human rights. A presentation is tentatively planned for August 2002, in Tehran. The report's Executive Summary was published in Portuguese for the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil, and was disseminated widely there (in February 2002). UNRISD is also

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Reform, November 2001, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Aalborg University, Conference on Social Policy, Marginalization and Citizenship, November 2001, Aalborg, Denmark; ISSA European Regional Meeting, Social Security and the Changing World of Work, November 2001, Dresden, Germany; Eurodad (debts and development) Network of Non-Governmental Organizations Annual Conference, November 2001, Kandersteg, Switzerland.

[3] **Visible Hands** was initially launched during Geneva 2000 and distributed to UNRISD Board members; high-ranking United Nations officials; selected individual academics and universities; selected NGOs and foundations; all UNRISD depository libraries; donor country permanent missions, and other selected governments. Earthscan and the Department of Public Information of the United Nations currently distribute **Visible Hands** in English. Distribution in French and Spanish is done by UNRISD and the Department of Public Information of the United Nations. The Russian edition is distributed by the Institute of Ethnology of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, in co-ordination with UNRISD.

investigating the possibility of producing a low-cost English version of **Visible Hands** for the Asian sub-continent. Discussions are currently under way with potential co-publishers in the region.

Other publications

319. In 2001, UNRISD published 23 **Programme Papers**, two issues of **Conference News** (with two other issues published in January 2002), and one issue of **UNRISD News** (No. 24, spring/summer 2001, in English, French and Spanish). In addition to the publication of **Visible Hands** in French, Spanish and Russian, four books were produced in collaboration with co-publishing partners in 2001, and one more was received in January 2002. Bibliographic details of these publications are listed below.

320. Due to the time spent by the editor on the Web site redevelopment project, the publication of **UNRISD News** No. 25 (which should have appeared in autumn/winter 2001) was postponed. This issue will be published in spring/summer 2002, and will contain an impressive collection of articles on racism, citizenship and social justice contributed by eight specialists who collaborated with the Institute on its work on *Racism and Public Policy*. More timely processing of the numerous manuscripts from the Institute's research projects—referred to throughout this report—will also resume in mid-2002, following the launch of the redeveloped Web site.

321. UNRISD undertakes both commercial arrangements for and internal production of publications. Every effort is made to translate UNRISD work into as many languages as is financially possible and use a geographically diverse range of publishers in order to make the work accessible to a wide and varied audience and, in particular, to readers in the countries where research has been carried out.

322. In-house publications provide flexibility in determining format, pricing and distribution policies, as well as the ability to publish and disseminate research results in formats that respond directly to the Institute's outreach goals.

323. Co-publishing arrangements with commercial and academic publishing houses allow the Institute to benefit from the expertise and distribution networks of experienced and internationally renowned companies from various countries. It ensures enhanced visibility, as the books appear not only in UNRISD's own publications catalogue and regularly updated Web site, but also on those of the partner co-publishing institutions, with their own distribution networks and retail agents that complement the Institute's dissemination system and networks.

Co-Publications

324. Four co-publications came out in 2001:

- **Rights@Glob.Net: Globalisation and Human Rights** (English version of a previously released Spanish-language edition), edited by Cynthia Hewitt de Alcántara and Alberto Minujin, co-published with UNICEF, 2001.
- **Land Reform and Peasant Livelihoods: The Social Dynamics of Rural Poverty and Agrarian Reforms in Developing Countries**, edited by Krishna Ghimire, co-published with ITDG, 2001.
- **The Native Tourist: Mass Tourism within Developing Countries**, edited by Krishna Ghimire, co-published with Earthscan, 2001.

- **Whose Land? Civil Society Perspectives on Land Reform and Rural Poverty Reduction. Regional Experiences from Africa, Asia and Latin America**, edited by Krishna Ghimire and Bruce H. Moore (contributing editor), co-published with the Popular Coalition to Eradicate Hunger and Poverty and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

325. One co-publication was received in January 2002:

- **Ghana's Adjustment Experience: The Paradox of Reform**, by Eboe Hutchful, co-published with James Currey/Woeli/Heinemann, 2002.

Programme Papers (January–December 2001)

Programme Paper on Civil Society and Social Movements

- PP CSSM 4, **Grassroots Movements, Political Activism and Social Development in Latin America: A Comparison of Chile and Brazil**, Joe Foweraker, August 2001

Programme Papers on Democracy, Governance and Human Rights

- PP DGHR 2, **Fiscal Decentralization in Developing Countries: A Review of Current Concepts and Practice**, Paul Smoke, February 2001
- PP DGHR 3, **Efficiency, Accountability and Implementation: Public Sector Reform in East and Southern Africa**, Ole Therkildsen, February 2001
- PP DGHR 4, **Decentralization Policies and Practices under Structural Adjustment and Democratization in Africa**, Dele Olowu, July 2001
- PP DGHR 5, **Human Rights and Social Development: Toward Democratization and Social Justice**, Yash Ghai, October 2001
- PP DGHR 6, **Gender of Democracy: The Encounter between Feminism and Reformism in Contemporary Iran**, Parvin Paidar, October 2001
- PP DGHR 7, **Multiculturalism, Universalism and the Claims of Democracy**, Anne Phillips, December 2001

Programme Papers on Social Policy and Development

- PP SPD 5, **Les politiques sociales en Afrique de l'Ouest: Quels changements depuis le Sommet de Copenhague? Synthèse des études de cas (Bénin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Sénégal)**, Momar-Coumba Diop, avril 2001
- PP SPD 6, **Breaking the Mould: An Institutionalist Political Economy Alternative to the Neoliberal Theory of the Market and the State**, Ha-Joon Chang, May 2001
- PP SPD 7, **Social Policy in a Development Context**, Thandika Mkandawire, June 2001
- PP SPD 8, **Dynamique de la politique sociale en Côte d'Ivoire**, Francis Akindes, juillet 2001

Programme Papers on Technology, Business and Society

- PP TBS 1, **Les technologies de l'information et de la communication et le développement social au Sénégal: Un état des lieux**, Olivier Sagna, janvier 2001

- PP TBS 2, **Corporate Codes of Conduct: Self-Regulation in a Global Economy**, Rhys Jenkins, April 2001
- PP TBS 3, **Corporate Environmental Responsibility in Singapore and Malaysia: The Potential and Limits of Voluntary Initiatives**, Martin Perry and Sanjeev Singh, April 2001
- PP TBS 4, **The Development Divide in a Digital Age: An Issues Paper**, Cynthia Hewitt de Alcántara, August 2001
- PP TBS 5, **Regulating Large International Firms**, E.V.K. FitzGerald, November 2001
- PP TBS 6, **Corporate Social Responsibility in Indonesia: Quixotic Dream or Confident Expectation?**, Melody Kemp, December 2001

Programme Paper on UNRISD Overarching Concerns

- PP OC 1, **Toward Integrated and Sustainable Development?**, Solon L. Barraclough, February 2001

Conference News

326. Two issues were published in 2001:

- **Social Policy in a Development Context**, Report of the UNRISD International Conference (23–24 September 2000, Tammsvik, Sweden), **Conference News 5**, 2001.
- **Improving Knowledge on Social Development in International Organizations**, Report of the UNRISD Seminar (7–8 November 2000, Bellagio, Italy), **Conference News 6**, 2001.

327. Two issues were published in January 2002:

- **Promoting Socially Responsible Business in Developing Countries: The Potential and Limits of Voluntary Initiatives**, Report of the UNRISD Workshop (23–24 October 2000, Geneva, Switzerland), **Conference News 7**, 2002.
- **Les technologies de l'information et de la communication et le développement social au Sénégal**, Rapport de la réunion organisée par l'UNRISD (16–17 juillet 2001, Dakar, Sénégal), **Conférence Infos 8**, 2002.

UNRISD Staff "Professional Outreach": Contributions to Outside Publications

- Yusuf Bangura, "New directions in state reform: Implications for civil society in Africa", in Björn Beckman, Eva Hansson and Anders Sjögren (eds.), **Civil Society and Authoritarianism in the Third World**, PODSU, Stockholm, 2001.
- Yusuf Bangura, "Globalization and African development", in R. Suttner (ed.), **Africa in the New Millennium**, Nordiska Afrikainstituet, Uppsala, Sweden, 2001, pp. 34–48.
- Yusuf Bangura, "Strategic policy failure and state fragmentation: Security, peacekeeping and democratization in Sierra Leone", in R. Laremont (ed.), **The Causes of War and the Consequences of Peacekeeping in Africa**, Heinemann, Portsmouth, NH, 2002, pp. 143–169.
- Krishna Ghimire, "Regional tourism and South–South economic cooperation", **The Geographical Journal**, Vol. 167, No. 2, June 2001.

- Thandika Mkandawire, "Thinking about developmental states in Africa", **Cambridge Journal of Economics**, Special Issue on African Economic Development in a Comparative Perspective, Vol. 23, No. 3, May 2001.
- Shahra Razavi, "Women in contemporary democratisation", **International Journal of Politics, Culture and Society**, Vol. 14, No. 4, June 2001.
- Peter Utting, "Un intérêt bien compris?", **Courrier de la planète**, No. 64, Vol. IV, 2001, pp. 15–18.
- Peter Utting, "Les pièges du partenariat", **Courrier de la planète**, No. 64, Vol. IV, 2001, pp. 58–59.
- Peter Utting, "La responsabilité des entreprises dans la perspective d'un développement durable", **Annuaire Suisse-Tiers Monde 2001**, No. 20, Institut universitaire d'études du développement, Geneva, 2001.
- Peter Utting, "Verantwortung der Unternehmen für die Nachhaltige Entwicklung", **Jahrbuch Schweiz-Dritte Welt 2001**, No. 20 Institut universitaire d'études du développement, Geneva, 2001.
- David Westendorff, "Partnerships for a better urban future?", **Urbanews**, No. 5, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Bern, December 2001.
- David Westendorff, Guest editor of the May 2001 Double Issue of the Oxfam journal **Development in Practice**, Vol. 11, Nos. 2 and 3.

Dissemination Notes and Progress

328. During the reporting period, UNRISD research results were disseminated via the Institute's publications; in targeted mailings to a wide range of constituencies; through conferences, seminars and workshops organized by UNRISD and others; in articles or interviews in specialized journals and the mass media; through participation in public events such as major international bookfairs; and electronically via the UNRISD Web site. UNRISD researchers and the information officer attended events sponsored by other organizations, which provided additional dissemination opportunities.

329. The information officer defined the following as priority areas for dissemination during the reporting period, in addition to the efforts undertaken for **Visible Hands**, as described above.

- Mailing lists should be re-categorized and targeted, to create "contacts databases". This effort will continue in 2002.[4]
- A focused dissemination effort will be pursued, emphasizing targeted contacts with individuals in ministries, parliaments and governments, intergovernmental organizations, NGOs, academic institutions and the media, representing *all* geographical areas of the world.
- Events related to social development issues, with a balanced geographical distribution, will be the focus of topic-specific targeted dissemination.
- A larger number of publications, including co-publications, should be, as far as possible and within the means available to the Institute, systematically translated into French and Spanish. Extra funding should be sought for other language versions on an ad-hoc basis. In 2001, UNRISD decided that all issues of its **Conference News** series, which has received positive audience feedback, should be produced in English, French and Spanish. This will be implemented in 2002.

[4] Questionnaires sent in early January 2002, reminders to be sent early April, and deleting process to be activated in early July.

Enhancing media contacts

330. UNRISD researchers have continued to collaborate with academic and specialized journals, ensuring that project results are reflected in them and made available to specialized readerships. In parallel, the information officer and his dissemination assistant worked during this reporting period to improve the effectiveness of dissemination to the general media by turning "mailing lists" into proactive "contacts databases" targeting anglophone, francophone and hispanophone media. New contacts are being identified in the media of regions where the Institute's contacts have been limited: France and other francophone countries, Central and Eastern Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, and hispanophone countries. This is an ongoing process which is being achieved through: (i) systematically identifying and personally contacting interested persons (in particular, editorialists and columnists, and economic journalists) in various media outlets (i.e., the written press, radio, television, electronic media and news agencies), through Internet searches and traditional research methods; (ii) deleting from the databases media that have not reported on UNRISD or its publications over the past three years; (iii) proposing UNRISD papers for publication in the press by contacting editors of newspapers; (iv) sending press releases *only* (and not published materials) at the outset, so as to prompt journalists to request papers and generate feedback and more personal contacts.

331. The result of these efforts has been an increase in the number of requests from the general media concerning UNRISD and its publications. Such feedback provides useful information regarding whom UNRISD should target, and timely subjects of particular interest to the general media. This helps the Publications and Dissemination Unit to continue building meaningful and accurate contact databases with up-to-date information.

332. Media citations of the Institute and its work are monitored on a monthly basis. Some 145 citations were registered during this reporting period. Tracked citations include articles, abstracts, bibliographic citations, book reviews and media interviews.

333. Press releases and UNRISD publications are personally hand-delivered by the information officer to the journalists of the ACANU (*Association des correspondants accrédités auprès des Nations Unies à Genève*). They are sent by mail to permanent missions in Geneva upon request (28 requests in 2001), high-ranking officials within the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, parliaments, academic institutions and non-governmental organizations. Efforts have been made to personalize these contacts during the reporting period.

Sales and Marketing, UN Department of Public Information

334. As was reported to the Board last year, the UNRISD information officer negotiated an agreement with the Sales and Marketing sections of the United Nations Department of Public Information in Geneva and New York, under which DPI will sell the Institute's publications in the UN bookshops in Geneva and New York and through their agents throughout the world. This agreement was discussed and finalized on 13 July 2001. The final draft agreement—which is still in the hands of DPI—stipulates that UNRISD publications are advertised in the UN catalogue of publications, the UN Web site and by other means specifically designed by the officially designated UN national distributing agents for local markets. The agreement also mentions the possibility of DPI producing compilations of UNRISD Programme Papers in single volumes for enhanced marketability.

Buybacks for free dissemination

335. UNRISD has a policy of co-publishing extensively with a variety of academic and commercial publishers. During the reporting period, agreements have been negotiated and signed with publishing houses in France, the United Kingdom, Colombia and the United

States. In negotiating such agreements, UNRISD aims to keep the price affordable, yet commercially published books are usually expensive for people and institutions in the developing and transition countries. This limits dissemination in the very countries that host much of the Institute's research. The Publications and Dissemination Unit seeks to ensure funding for buybacks, some of which are disseminated for free to the developing world via the Institute's depository library system. UNRISD relies entirely on donors to provide financial support to enable the purchase of as many copies as possible of a publication for distribution to countries where the public is unable to buy at commercial prices. The agreement with the UN DPI should contribute to lowering the market price of such publications, as this will increase the total number of buybacks purchased for any given title.

Bookfairs

336. The information officer participated in three bookfairs in 2001 (Paris, London and Geneva). Attendance at such events allowed him (i) to discuss ongoing projects with co-publishers; (ii) to discuss the possibility of future ventures with potential co-publishers; (iii) to identify other publishers that work in areas that are of interest to UNRISD; (iv) to establish direct personal contacts with publishers and also with other information officers of intergovernmental organizations, and exchange ideas; and (v) to arrange for national distribution of UNRISD publications.

UNRISD Reference Centre

337. Following consultations with UNRISD staff initiated by the information officer, it was decided that the Reference Centre would be transformed into an UNRISD-specific dissemination and archival centre that will comprise:

- all UNRISD documents, including materials of historical significance (and catalogued in a database);
- periodicals (journals, magazines, etc.) and other materials obtained through exchange agreements and regular subscriptions;
- grey material (working papers, etc.); and
- flagship publications (e.g., **Human Development Report**, **World Development Report**, etc.).

338. The consultations revealed that an important proportion of staff time is spent on clerking tasks related to the Reference Centre, and the benefits of this work were deemed limited in relation to resources used. The new orientation will allow increased staff time for proactive dissemination activities.

339. The Reference Centre will maintain a small collection of journals, books and monographs, and specialized publications for use by the Institute's staff. UNRISD's location in the Palais des Nations makes possible more regular use of the United Nations Library and its collection of journals. UNRISD thus holds only eight paid subscriptions to key, specialized journals dealing with its research programme (and which are not available in the United Nations Library). UNRISD receives 30 journals from developing countries through exchange agreements, and the Reference Centre also collects newsletters, progress reports and other general information on institutions and organizations around the world.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS AND GRADUATE STUDENT PROGRAMME

340. Young scholars participate in the UNRISD programme of research via two mechanisms: as research assistants, and through the Institute's Graduate Student Programme. A limited number of outstanding students and scholars from around the world are thus offered the opportunity to gain experience in an international research setting. Young scholars are selected on the basis of their academic experience and interests, and spend a minimum of two months at UNRISD assisting project co-ordinators in developing project proposals, compiling annotated bibliographies and data, and helping to organize research seminars. In the past year, they also co-authored papers, reported on conferences, participated in field research, and played a central role in the Web site redevelopment project. During the reporting period, research assistants and participants in the Graduate Student Programme came from Belgium, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Colombia, Germany, Italy, Peru, Spain, Togo, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Research Assistants and Participants in the Graduate Student Programme (2001)

- Catherine **Agg,** UK
- Renato **Alva**, Peru
- Joseph **Apedo**, Togo
- Thomas **Ansorg**, Germany
- Lacina **Barro**, Burkina Faso
- Christopher **Brading**, UK/USA
- Maria Julia **Castillo**, Peru
- Caroline **Danloy**, Belgium
- Rachael **Mann**, UK
- Marguerite **Ngah Noah**, Cameroon
- Maria Cristina **Paciello**, Italy
- Jennifer **Ragland**, USA
- Virginia **Rodriguez**, Spain
- Federico **Saenz**, Colombia
- Magloire **Tchouansi**, Cameroon

STAFF LIST (2001)

Director

- Thandika **Mkandawire**

Deputy Director

- Cynthia **Hewitt de Alcántara**

Administrative and Support Staff

- Tony **Formoso***
- Josephine **Grin-Yates**
- Mensur **Ismail***
- Angela **Meijer**
- Irene **Ruiz de Budavári**
- Wendy **Salvo**
- Anita **Tombez**

Publications, Dissemination and Reference Centre

- Nicolas **Bovay**
- Sylvie **Brenninkmeijer-Liu**
- Jenifer **Freedman**
- Véronique **Martinez**
- Pamela **Smaridge**

Project Staff

Special events and activities

• Follow-up to Women 2000	Shahra **Razavi**
• UNRISD's Contribution to Istanbul+5—Follow-up to Habitat II	David **Westendorff** (through April 2001)
• Improving Research and Knowledge on Social Development in International Organizations	Cynthia **Hewitt de Alcántara**
• Racism and Public Policy	Yusuf **Bangura**
• The Need to Rethink Development Economics	Thandika **Mkandawire**
• UNRISD's Contribution to the United Nations Second World Assembly on Ageing	Peter **Lloyd-Sherlock**** Shahra **Razavi**
• UNRISD's Contribution to the World Summit on Sustainable Development	Solon **Barraclough*** Peter **Utting**

Ongoing research

• Social Policy in a Development Context	Thandika **Mkandawire** Shahra **Razavi** As of January 2002: Andrea Giovanni **Cornia**** Olli **Kangas**** Jaokim **Palme**** Huck-ju **Kwon** Maureen **Mackintosh**** Laurence **Whitehead****
• Neoliberalism and Institutional Reform in East Asia	Meredith **Woo-Cumings****
• Agrarian Change, Gender and Land Rights	Shahra **Razavi**
• Globalization, Export-Oriented Employment for Women and Social Policy	Shahra **Razavi**
• HIV/AIDS and Development	Cynthia **Hewitt de Alcántara**
• Business Responsibility for Sustainable Development	Peter **Utting**
• Information Technologies and Social Development	Cynthia **Hewitt de Alcántara**
• Civil Society Strategies and Movements for Rural Asset Redistribution and Improved Livelihoods	Krishna **Ghimire**
• Evolving Agricultural Structures and Civil Society in Transitional Countries: The Case of Central Asia	Krishna **Ghimire**
• Technocratic Policy Making and Democratization	Yusuf **Bangura**
• Public Sector Reform and Crisis-Ridden States	Yusuf **Bangura**

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