Dear reader,

As the new chair of the Institute of Development Policy (IoB), I am proud to introduce you to this Annual Report 2018. In it, we aim to give you an overview of our achievements and our learning over the past year.

This report reaches you in a rapidly changing and challenging world. A world in which ‘development’ – as a notion and as a process – itself is in crisis. Recent economic growth may have reduced income poverty, but old and new important challenges threaten human dignity and millennial ways of life. Meanwhile we daily receive alarming news about extinction of species and runaway climate disruption.

In a reconfiguring world order, we also seem to be witnessing the globalization of instability and insecurity, with peace and democracy increasingly threatened in all corners of our – indeed – flattening, but fragmenting world. The complex and global nature of the challenges require more and inclusive planetary governance. However, paradoxically it seems that under the heightened pressure we are evolving towards isolationism, protectionism and ‘armed lifeboat’ scenarios, increasingly connected to simplistic and violence-prone authoritarian solutions.

In this challenging context, IoB aims to maintain and continuously redefine its mission to create a truly global learning community: a place of truthful and respectful engaged knowledge encounter and dialogue, contributing to a just and sustainable world. In 2018, we did so through our master programmes, where 64 students from 24 nationalities have graduated and joined in learning and discussions with their professors and fellow students, and within … short programmes.

We continued with our attempts to actively globalise our educational programmes in cooperation with our long-term academic partners in several ‘Global South’ – a contested term in and of itself – countries. This fits our strategy of reducing possible biases of all too white, too Northern-centred development perspectives.

As you will read in this report, we have been successful in deepening our thematically evolving ‘multi-level, multidisciplinary, mixed methods’ policy-oriented research programme. This programme embodies our ideas of respectful and truthful knowledge encounters within our scientific practice, both through engagement with a diversity of values and ‘mental models’ and widespread cooperation with ‘Southern’ – there’s that term again – researchers. In 2018, 8 students (from Tanzania, Cameroon, DR Congo, Belgium and Germany) concluded their PhDs, while 45 PhD projects from students of 18 nationalities were ongoing.

In 2018, as before, we were quite successful in acquiring increasing amounts of external funding. Quantitatively, IoB continued to grow in 2018, but in doing so we must be careful not to hit the limits of our internal ‘production possibility frontier’. We feel the need to promote ‘sustainable excellence’, focusing on quality and relevance over mere quantity, and refer to our renewed research strategy 2017-2021. In the following years, we hope to be reporting about perhaps fewer, but even more relevant and impactful outcomes of our work. In the meantime, enjoy reading the current report.

Johan Bastiaensen
Chair IoB

**MASTER PROGRAMMES**

IOB offers three Advanced Master programmes, each with a high degree of specialisation and a distinct focus:

- Master of Globalisation and Development
- Master of Governance and Development
- Master of Development Evaluation and Management

Within the Master programmes, students can choose from various tracks according to their personal interests and career path.

In 2018, IOB also ventured into the start-up of the “IOB Going Global” project. This VlIR-funded project allows IOB to implement parts of its Master programmes in Nicaragua, Tanzania and the DR Congo. It also allows IOB students to travel to these countries to do fieldwork. In 2018, two students travelled to Tanzania while one student went to the Philippines.

### FACTS AND FIGURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Scholarships</th>
<th>Enrollments</th>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Sector of employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>636</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Political &amp; social sciences 42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VlIR-UOS</td>
<td>Government of Malawi</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Economics &amp; management 19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GETFUND</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Agriculture &amp; development 21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Other (law, languages, business, ...) 18%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

- 311 files academically accepted
- 84 enrollments
- 37 scholarships
- 35 VlIR-UOS
- 1 GETFUND
- 1 Government of Malawi
THE MASTER PROGRAMMES: POLICY-ORIENTED, RESEARCH-DRIVEN, COMPETENCE-BASED

A few key features of the Master programmes are their modular structure, their policy-oriented and research-driven character and their focus on student-oriented learning.

In 2017-2018, the following guest lecturers were invited within the Master programmes:

- Marco Sanfilippo (University of Florence, Italy)
- Jewellord Nemi Singh (Institute of Rural Management Anand, Gujarat, India)
- Jos Vaessen (World Bank Independent Evaluation Group)
- Nicholas Jacobs (International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems)
- Karen Biesbroeck (Oxfam-Novib)
- Fernanda Soto (Universidad Centroamericana, Nicaragua)
- George Mavrotas (IFPRI)
- Aimée Nichols & Olivier Bouret (OECD)
- Guggi Luy (World Bank)
- Karen Büscher (Universiteit Gent)
- Esther Marinpen (Universiteit Gent)
- Adem Abebe (IDEA, The Hague)
- Eva Palans (European Centre for Electoral Support, ECES)
- Sahla Aroussi (Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University, UK)
- Jeroen Adam (Universiteit Gent)
- Jon Jellem (Commitment to Equity programme, Tulane University)
- Sheree Bennett (International Rescue Committee)
- Mick Moore (IDS, UK)

- Our Master programmes are all highly research-driven and policy-oriented. Training at IOB incorporates the latest social-scientific insights relevant to the development challenge. Students learn from each other’s experiences and from their exposure to living and working in a developed country. We use various teaching methods to stimulate student-centred learning, including traditional lectures, individual and group assignments, discussions, literature reviews, case study analyses and simulation games.

- IOB also offers a two-week intensive English language course prior to the start of the Master programmes to bring the students’ level of English to the admission standards of IOB.
OTHER IOB STAFF TEACHING ACTIVITIES

IOB invests heavily in quality assurance throughout the entire Master programme cycle. Daily management is in the hands of the programme director, ensuring consistency and standardisation across the three Master programmes. Internal quality assurance is guaranteed by a set of evaluation instruments, including surveys, focus group discussions, analysis of student and grade statistics, and student workload monitoring. Overall, students are very appreciative regarding the programmes, although a traditional concern revolves around the high workload during the first semester. From the second semester onward, however, students’ appreciation of the programmes increases substantially, because the content becomes more specialised, groups are smaller and teaching more interactive. Finally, students highly appreciate the intensity of the programmes, the content of the courses and the diverse teaching methods.

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AWARDS

In line with our emphasis on student-centred learning, we also place an emphasis on the individual research project and Master’s dissertation. During the graduation ceremony, three students received the Prize for Development Cooperation from the Province of Antwerp for their excellent dissertations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lan Chu (DEM)</td>
<td>Does participatory intra-household decision-making empower women in agricultural households? A comparative analysis of the effects on the empowerment of women in Uganda and Tanzania.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lan Chu</td>
<td>Investigated the impact of introducing participatory intra-household decision making in which spouses consult each other and decide together – on different domains of women’s empowerment in Tanzania and Uganda. In both countries, it increased women’s participation in saving groups. In Tanzania, women’s share of cattle went up, in Uganda the same happened for their share of small livestock. Women in both countries valued gaining access to personal capital and income as a route to empowerment. Traditional gender roles continue to play a part, however. Tanzanian women – in contrast to Ugandan women – did not gain increased access over coffee income, as this is traditionally allotted to men. They did however gain more power over agronomic practices, linked to their increased knowledge through agronomic seminars. In Tanzania, there are stronger positive effects on women’s voice in major household expenditure decisions, whereas in Uganda, there are stronger positive effects with regard to investment decisions; both are important for women’s involvement in strategic household decisions. In Tanzania, there are stronger positive effects on women’s voice in major household expenditure decisions, whereas in Uganda, there are stronger positive effects with regard to investment decisions; both are important for women’s involvement in strategic household decisions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Camille Vanderlinden (GLOB)  | Coordinated inter-institutional response regarding the socio-economic integration of refugees and asylum seekers in Cuenca: Obstacles and opportunities. |

Ecuador has in recent years received a massive influx of Venezuelans fleeing their country, adding to the more structural problem of socio-economic integration of refugees and asylum seekers coming from various countries, mostly Colombia. Public policies have to adapt to this shift in migration dynamics. With an apparent progressive legal framework, Ecuador is seen by the international community as a pioneer. However, through our research in the city of Cuenca, Camille showed that having a legal framework is insufficient. It needs to be implemented to allow refugees and asylum seekers to transform resources into functioning and create livelihoods. Additionally, the governance of the migration sector is complex and coordination mechanisms are weak. There is also a systematic lack of transmission of information, preventing refugees and asylum seekers from accessing basic services and exercising their rights. This is particularly true for access to the formal labour market. In Cuenca, a local strategy that is inclusive of the diverse sectors as well as including non-state actors is necessary to improve coordination and overall integration. However, the will to improve the situation that seems to exist at the local level, still needs to pass from theory to practice.

Bethlehem Gebre Alawb (GOV)  | Qualitative analysis of capabilities and aspirations across gender and generations in Amhara Region, Ethiopia. |

During the Haile Sellassie Regime (1930-1974), both girls and boys were affected by the extractive institution of feudalism and structural constraints and by patriarchal relationships and norms. Girls particularly suffered from gendered obstacles such as access to education, early marriage, infringements on bodily integrity, and mobility restrictions. Things were better for the Derg generation (1974-1991), because some institutional and structural constraints were lifted. But patriarchal relationships and gendered obstacles persisted. Access to education was open in principle, but obstacles (early marriage, lack of mobility) continued and education was prioritized for boys. The Ethiopian People’s Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF, 1991-current) made institutional and structural changes as well as policy reforms. However, changes are often patchy and slow at the local level. The quality of education remains a challenge, and girls continue to be confronted with heavier domestic workloads. Some religious and community leaders oppose change, as they claim girls are ending religious and cultural values. This risks perpetuating conservative gender norms.

Inspired by the importance of internationalisation at home, a new series of sessions on intercultural communication were set up. In 2018 we started with an ‘everyday diplomacy’ workshop. The purpose of this workshop is to create a common framework based on discussion, interaction and brainstorming. At the end of the workshop, each student recognizes the framework and a ‘code of conduct’ is drawn up. Students learn to deal with intercultural group dynamics and are aware of diversity.

Besides teaching in our Master programmes, many of our lecturers also engage in teaching elsewhere (see box).

11 travel grants were awarded as part of the final dissertations, 9 of which were financed by the IOB travel grant and 2 by the IOB Going Global project. These travel grants enable students to perform fieldwork in the context of their final dissertations.

IOB contributes to teaching at other faculties within the University of Antwerp and with IOB’s partners:

**Debating Development**

A series of eight lectures was offered to all students of the University of Antwerp. The series, coordinated by Prof. Gert Van Hecken, was financed by the Global Minds programme of VLIR-UOS and co-organised with the University Foundation for Development Cooperation (USOS).

**International Economy and International Economic Organisations**

This course was taught by Prof. Danny Cassimon and Prof. Jean-François Maystadt in the Faculty of Social Sciences.

**Topics in Development Studies**

Students of the Faculty of Business Economics and the Faculty of Social Sciences were able to register for this course, which was taught by a team of IOB-lecturers, coordinated by Prof. Marijke Verpoorten.

**International Finance**

This course was taught by Prof. Danny Cassimon within the Faculty of Social Sciences.

**Political Economy of Development**

This course was jointly taught by Prof. Marijke Verpoorten and Prof. Joachim De Weerdt within the Master of Political Science, the Master of International Relations and Diplomacy, and the Master of Social and Economic Sciences.

**Dissertations**

Several dissertations at other UAntwerp faculties were supervised by IOB staff.

**Introduction to Rural Development**

Prof. Johan Bastiaensen taught this course as part of the European Master in Microfinance, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Université de Mons and Université Dauphine Paris.

**Several staff members lectured at partner institutes in the South:**

- Prof. Marijke Verpoorten taught a course on ‘Economic and Institutional Development’ at the Catholic University of Bukavu (UCB).
- Prof. Kristof Titeca taught a course on ‘Violent environments’ at Gulu University, Uganda.

**Bethlehem Gebre Alawb (GOV) | Qualitative analysis of capabilities and aspirations across gender and generations in Amhara region, Ethiopia.**

During the Haile Sellassie Regime (1930-1974), both girls and boys were affected by the extractive institution of feudalism and structural constraints and by patriarchal relationships and norms. Girls particularly suffered from gendered obstacles such as access to education, early marriage, infringements on bodily integrity, and mobility restrictions. Things were better for the Derg generation (1974-1991), because some institutional and structural constraints were lifted. But patriarchal relationships and gendered obstacles persisted. Access to education was open in principle, but obstacles (early marriage, lack of mobility) continued and education was prioritized for boys. The Ethiopian People’s Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF, 1991-current) made institutional and structural changes as well as policy reforms. However, changes are often patchy and slow at the local level. The quality of education remains a challenge, and girls continue to be confronted with heavier domestic workloads. Some religious and community leaders oppose change, as they claim girls are ending religious and cultural values. This risks perpetuating conservative gender norms.
IOB’S ALUMNI POLICY

In 2018, IOB added 64 new names to the long list of IOB graduates (for the 2017/2018 academic year). IOB believes it is important to invest in sustaining relationships, not only between IOB and its alumni, but also among the alumni themselves, because networking among graduates from various professional settings in their countries of origin and beyond can contribute to brokering much needed relationships between different sectors of the development arena (government, donors, civil society, academia, etc.).

Several types of communication channels facilitate our keeping in touch with and stimulating networks among alumni members. IOB alumni can keep in touch through the IOB Facebook page/groups, LinkedIn and can keep up to date on what is going on at IOB through the IOB’s alumni magazine, Exchange to Change.

Moreover, to allow for more structural alumni networks and to stimulate alumni ownership, IOB has started with the setup of formal IOB alumni chapters in some of the ‘core’ countries. So far IOB has established alumni chapters in Tanzania, Uganda and Nicaragua and in 2018 now at the occasion of the IOB alumni seminar in the Philippines an already vibrant and productive alumni network was provided with an additional boost.

To learn about the interesting work IOB alumni are engaging in, IOB organises several types of alumni activities both in Antwerp and in the South. In 2018, two in-country alumni seminars were organized in respectively in March 2018 in the Philippines (see box) and in May 2018 in Tanzania. While in the Filipino seminar alumni have been given ample room to present their work in both poster and presentation format, the Tanzanian seminar was geared more towards networking opportunities.

In 2018, IOB also organised two ‘alumni in action’ talks in Antwerp, one from IOB graduate Mr Gugli Lareva, who gave a guest lecture. Rose Nambooze gave an alumni in action talk where she presented how her work with the Angles’ centre for children with special needs has been able to improve the rights of children with disability and support for their families. This was followed by the opening of the photo exhibition of photos taken within the project and on the viewing of the documentary ‘Mercy killing’ made with collaboration of two IOB alumni and a former IOB staff member.

On 21 December 2018, IOB organised the fifth edition of the IOB Alumni IMPACT seminar. Who has been able to make a difference? This is the question that drives the seminar. After a call for applications, the selection committee selected three alumni for the contribution to development they have able to make through their work. Pedro Inchauste, Narayan Gyawali and Khalil Bitar were invited to present their work to IOB staff, students and alumni and receive the IOB IMPACT award. The work of nine other alumni was presented at the poster reception.

Finally, sixteen alumni were selected to join a new IOB research project, the IOB Barometer Study, as co-researchers. The alumni, among them forming six country teams, were invited to attend a two-week workshop in December 2018 to jointly work out the research design of the project and learn new research methods useful for the subsequent phases of the research.

As in previous years, alumni have again proven to be IOB’s finest ambassadors and continue to play a significant role in promoting the institute.

IOB ALUMNI BAROMETER RESEARCH

With the support of the VLIR-UOS funded Global Minds project, IOB has started a four year IOB alumni barometer research project (Promotor: Nathalie Holvoet), to study the impact of our ICP Master programmes. This multi-year multi-country study aims at studying the impact of IOB ICP on alumni’s knowledge, skills, attitudes and networks. For this research project, IOB has selected 16 alumni from 5 country teams as co-researchers throughout the entire project, to be involved in all stages of the research (from design, to data collection, analysis and finally presentation of the results). As a first step in this project, IOB invited all alumni researchers to participate in a two-week training programme (3 to 14 December 2018). The training programme consisted of a combination of workshops where alumni learned (new) research methods and brainstorming sessions, in which the research team discussed how to improve the proposed research design and instruments based on the newly learned methods. It was a very intense but very productive two weeks filled with debate, group work, and collaborative thinking both inside and outside the box...
At IOB, we recognise and value the academic pluralism that is typical of development studies, because of the intrinsic complexity of real-world policy problems and their politically contested nature. This is why we embrace many different (mainly social) scientific disciplines and a diversified ‘mixed-methods’ approach.

Researchers focus on different levels and actors, refer to other disciplines and use their preferred research methods, while having their fundamental philosophical convictions defining the ontological-epistemological nature of their research as well as their values and normative frameworks. But we want to go further than simple diversity, by cultivating the articulation of multi-disciplinary theoretical frameworks and mixed quantitative-qualitative-participatory research designs.

To quote Jennifer Greene: “By definition, then, mixed methods social inquiry involves a plurality of philosophical paradigms, theoretical assumptions, methodological traditions, data gathering and analysis techniques, and personalised understandings and value commitments, because these are the stuff of mental models.”

This matches our understanding of the socially negotiated nature of development processes, almost by definition requiring an encounter and mediation of different ‘knowledges’ of relevant stakeholders.

For us, the multi-disciplinary nature of development studies is not a challenge to be overcome, but the very heart of our discipline. We embrace and encourage the conversation between the varied philosophies, backgrounds and methodologies of our researchers, students, and stakeholders.

As the Ghanaian Ewe proverb goes: “Wisdom is like a baobab tree: no one individual can embrace it.”

In line with its vision, IOB strives to help build a more just and sustainable world through multidisciplinary academic research in close connection with academic education and political engagement as well as by forming alliances with different types of partners.

In our research, we have a strong preference for policy-oriented research as well as a desire to contribute to real (policy) change through the generation, dissemination and application of our knowledge. We think that, as a development studies institute located in the Global North, we have a comparative advantage in situating development processes in a multi-level and multi-actor governance perspective.

Each of our three research lines combines a thematic cluster (environment, global governance, and state formation) with our vision of a just and sustainable world. All research lines also give concrete shape to the multi-level governance perspective we want to cultivate at IOB, reaching from the global to the local and vice versa. And each of the research lines also combines empirical work with an explicit focus on Central Africa with work carried out elsewhere.
BuRunDI ConFeRenCe

In July, we were pleased to welcome well over one hundred representatives from NGOs, government institutions and researchers from a wide variety of social disciplines for the conference ‘Governance, Peace and Development in Burundi’. They gathered to present and discuss the latest in academic research related to Burundi. The conference covered the broad themes of governance, peace and development and the linkages between them. Within that framework, we covered subjects such as peace and security, microdynamics of societal resilience, transitional justice, gender issues, inclusive dialogue, etc. The conference closed with a discussion forum on ‘University, Knowledge and Society’.

We were particularly honoured to receive keynote speakers Louis-Marie Nindorera (African Center for Justice Project), prof. Devon Curtis (University of Cambridge), prof. Juma Shabani (Université du Burundi) and for the closing debate Jean-Louis Nahimana, President of Burundi’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Presentations and papers from the conference are available on www.uantwerpen.be/great-lakes-africa-centre

We also organised a photo exhibition titled ‘Traces of Conflict’, about the influence of war and conflict in Burundi across borders and generations.

TRACeS oF ConFlICt

Lidewyde Berckmoes (anthropologist, researcher) and Marieke Maagdenberg (photographer, artist) collected images and stories of how the homeland continues to play a role in the lives of Burundian migrants in Belgium and the Netherlands.

Burundi has a long history of armed conflict. Conflict leaves traces, including on those who leave their homeland and across generational boundaries. Even young people who have never lived in Burundi, who were born and raised in Belgium or the Netherlands, carry traces of their homeland. Their bond with Burundi is a source of identity, but perhaps also a dark cloud. That paradox was made visible in the exhibition.

BuRUNDI CONFeRNCE

In July, we were pleased to welcome well over one hundred representatives from NGOs, government institutions and researchers from a wide variety of social disciplines for the conference ‘Governance, Peace and Development in Burundi’. They gathered to present and discuss the latest in academic research related to Burundi. The conference covered the broad themes of governance, peace and development and the linkages between them. Within that framework, we covered subjects such as peace and security, microdynamics of societal resilience, transitional justice, gender issues, inclusive dialogue, etc. The conference closed with a discussion forum on ‘University, Knowledge and Society’.

We were particularly honoured to receive keynote speakers Louis-Marie Nindorera (African Center for Justice Project), prof. Devon Curtis (University of Cambridge), prof. Juma Shabani (Université du Burundi) and for the closing debate Jean-Louis Nahimana, President of Burundi’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Presentations and papers from the conference are available on www.uantwerpen.be/great-lakes-africa-centre

We also organised a photo exhibition titled ‘Traces of Conflict’ , about the influence of war and conflict in Burundi across borders and generations.

STATE FORMATION AND RESILIENT SOCIETIES

In the research line State Formation and Resilient Societies, we examine situations of state underreach (fragile or failed states), state reach (developmental states) or state overreach (such as in state crime or structural violence). All these are situated against a background of processes of state formation and the evolving roles of states in the post-colony form. We aim to understand how state attributes such as government, territory, law, nation or power are articulated or not, and how state actions such as legitimization, economic accumulation or security and services take shape or not. We take into account a wide spectrum of actors (formal and informal) and factors (ideational, institutional, structural) at different levels (local, national, international). This focus on the changing patterns of tightening and loosening state reach across space and time implies attention to societal resilience. This is the ability of societies to resist, adapt to or recover from (the consequences of) a lack of state presence and/or performance, sudden man-made or natural shocks or long term social exclusion and adverse incorporation. We particularly pay attention to these issues in connection with the cycle of violent conflict, peace-making and efforts to achieve state reconstruction and renegotiate the social contract.
In June, a special issue of the International Journal of Law in Context was released, dedicated to the topic of resistance against international courts around the world. It analyses instances of backlash in various regions of the world and establishes an analytical framework to study these challenges to international institutions. The special issue was co-edited by IOB’s Micha Wiebusch, and we coordinated the outreach campaign around it, reaching out to policy makers and researchers and policy makers with an interest in international justice regimes.

Most international courts, from the well-known (e.g. the International Criminal Court) or resistance against establishing a court in the first place (e.g. the African Court). The Special Issue was co-edited by Mikael Rask Madsen (Courts, University of Copenhagen), Pola Gebulak (University of Amsterdam) and Micha Wiebusch (Institute of Development Policy, UAntwerp; SOAS; UNU-CRIS). www.uantwerpen.be/resistance-international-courts

SPECIAL ISSUE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURTS

Global governance (both public and private) should – in theory – be able to solve part of that paradox. Not only should it facilitate market transactions, but it should also regulate negative externalities and compensate for unequal outcomes. Failures to do so warrant a more critical study of the political processes and the normativity underlying the current global governance and aid architecture.

Our research focuses on how policies and programmes aimed at reducing poverty and inequalities, at promoting gender equality, equity and decent work, first of all reflect political struggles in the policy arenas they emanate from, and second, interact with socio-political dynamics at the local level.

What drew you to IOB?
In August 2001, I completed my PhD in Economics at CORE (Center for Operations Research and Econometrics) at the Université catholique de Louvain (UCL), Belgium. After my PhD, I have accumulated a series of professional experiences, as a post-doc at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI, Washington DC), the Centre for Institutions and Economic Performance (LICOS, KU Leuven), and then, since 2014, as a senior lecturer at Lancaster University (UK). After these experiences abroad, I wanted to come back to Belgium. IOB was an obvious place to apply.

What will you be doing at IOB?
I am quite excited about new projects exploring the consequences of forced migration in terms of welfare, environmental degradation and health. For instance, refugees are often presented as a burden for the local hosts. But fieldwork observations and case-studies suggest refugees may also constitute an asset. Similarly, environmental migrants have often been presented as a destabilizing factor at the receiving end, without much empirical support. Our preliminary results suggest that in general, forced migrants do not hurt the hosting areas, although considerable attention should be given to redistributive effects. The poor among the hosts may well be the most vulnerable. Understanding the channels and how policies or interventions targeted either to migrants or to the hosts may magnify or mitigate that impact is next on my research agenda.

I am also extending my work on conflict by investigating first, the climate-conflict nexus with an inter-disciplinary project and second, the role of cash transfers in mitigating the detrimental impact of conflict on child nutrition in Yemen. Finally, I have also some interests in intergenerational inequality, the political economy of public spending, the impact of sanctions or trade shocks and the resilience to natural disasters. I hope to develop new projects in these fields or related ones with my IOB colleagues.

What will you be doing at IOB?
In August 2001, I completed my PhD in Economics at CORE (Center for Operations Research and Econometrics) at the Université catholique de Louvain (UCL), Belgium. After my PhD, I have accumulated a series of professional experiences, as a post-doc at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI, Washington DC), the Centre for Institutions and Economic Performance (LICOS, KU Leuven), and then, since 2014, as a senior lecturer at Lancaster University (UK). After these experiences abroad, I wanted to come back to Belgium. IOB was an obvious place to apply.

What will you be doing at IOB?
I am quite excited about new projects exploring the consequences of forced migration in terms of welfare, environmental degradation and health. For instance, refugees are often presented as a burden for the local hosts. But fieldwork observations and case-studies suggest refugees may also constitute an asset. Similarly, environmental migrants have often been presented as a destabilizing factor at the receiving end, without much empirical support. Our preliminary results suggest that in general, forced migrants do not hurt the hosting areas, although considerable attention should be given to redistributive effects. The poor among the hosts may well be the most vulnerable. Understanding the channels and how policies or interventions targeted either to migrants or to the hosts may magnify or mitigate that impact is next on my research agenda.

I am also extending my work on conflict by investigating first, the climate-conflict nexus with an inter-disciplinary project and second, the role of cash transfers in mitigating the detrimental impact of conflict on child nutrition in Yemen. Finally, I have also some interests in intergenerational inequality, the political economy of public spending, the impact of sanctions or trade shocks and the resilience to natural disasters. I hope to develop new projects in these fields or related ones with my IOB colleagues.

GLOBAL GOVERNANCE AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT
In recent decades, increased demand and rising prices have fuelled a global gold mining boom. In addition to the expansion of large-scale, industrial gold mining, many countries have witnessed a strong increase in artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM): low-tech, labor-intensive gold mining. Both types of gold mining are often perceived as distinct spheres of a dual gold mining economy that is dominated by multinational companies that monopolize access to mineralized lands, while subsistence-oriented ASGM-operators are relegated to the margins. This view is based mostly on case studies of particular countries, regions, or single mining areas.

This project takes a different approach, by combining case studies in Colombia, the DRC, and the Philippines, with a macro-level analysis of trends in the global gold production system. This approach enables us to understand how particular gold mining ‘crystallizations’ (sets of gold mining activities and associated systems of labor organization embedded in particular institutional environments) emerge in interaction with global trends. One of these global trends—which forms the central focus of this project—is a creeping informalization of gold production. More precisely, gold production is increasingly relying on the exploitation of cheap informal labor, a trend that is epitomized by (1) the expansion of ASGM; and (2) the exploitation of cheap informal labor, a trend that enables us to understand how particular gold mining—etc.—forms the central focus of this project—is a creeping informalization of gold production. More precisely, gold production is increasingly relying on the exploitation of cheap informal labor, a trend that is epitomized by (1) the expansion of ASGM; and (2) a tendency towards outsourcing in industrial gold mining.

INFORMINING: MARIA EUGENIA ROBLES MENGAO TESTIMONIAL

In the first immersion to the field, I visited mining areas in the regions of Chocó (Tadó, Unión Panamericana, Aguas Claras, Quibdó, Yemina) and Antioquia (Marmato, Remedios and Segovia).

Chocó is known as a region inhabited by Afro-descendants that claim collective rights over their territory, and for whom gold mining is the most important economic activity. This gold mining is seen as traditional, and is presented as a cultural and patrimonial heritage. Yet with the entrance of new machinery (retroexcavators, dredges, water pumps), the gold mining landscape has changed dramatically.

In addition to larger volumes of exploitation, Chocó has seen an influx of ‘foreigners’ and armed groups, who are now in conflict with traditional miners over the right for mining. In Antioquia, miners claim no collective rights over the territory, and mineral rights are firmly in the hands of the Colombian State. Here, most of the conflicts are between informal miners and large-scale mining companies that have been given concessions by the government.

In both cases, I have attempted to identify labour dynamics within mining communities, as well as the activities and actors involved in the value chain, from the moment the mineral is extracted until it reaches the smelters in the big cities of Colombia.

WINNERS AND LOSERS FROM GLOBALIZATION AND MARKET INTEGRATION: INSIGHTS FROM MICRO-DATA

In 2018 we began an Excellence of Science (EoS) project in a consortium with researchers from KU Leuven, UCL and Université de Namur. Globalization, and market integration more generally, has created winners and losers around the world. Recent political events (e.g. US elections and Brexit) show that many people are concerned and demand policies to stop globalization through new trade barriers and limits on free movement of people. Research on the precise impact of globalization and market integration has been constrained by measurement and data problems. Theoretical and empirical models using aggregate data failed to capture detailed heterogeneous effects. Identifying precise impact mechanisms or causality is complicated when other factors (such as technological change) occur simultaneously.

Our project wants to improve impact analysis using unique and new detailed micro-data (at the firm-, region-, and household-level) and state-of-the-art micro-econometric techniques. Our project’s focus is global (covering many countries, both rich and poor) and local (with the use of micro-data) at the same time. We use a modern view of market integration—i.e. that trade is more than a flow of goods—by integrating local and global value chains into our analysis, taking into account embedded technology transfer and product and process requirements. In combination, this will allow to identify impact at the level of firms, sectors, regions and households, accounting for the complexity of the impact mechanisms.
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Increasingly, the inevitable and deep recursive interrelationships between ‘nature’ and ‘development’ are being recognised. This has led to connected environmental/climate change and poverty/inequality concerns occupying an ever-more central position on the international policy agenda. The urgency of the challenges we face has also provoked heated debates on the appropriate (multi-level) governance structures that could engender both poverty reduction and environmental sustainability.

Sustainable development is increasingly being framed in terms of a ‘green economy’, and a reliance on market-based conservation mechanisms and carbon markets, Payments for Ecosystem Services (PEs), biodiversity derivatives, and payments for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+).

BELMONT PROJECT: TRUEPATH

In 2018, IOB secured funding from the Belmont Forum and NORFACE Joint Research Programme on Transformations to Sustainability, which is co-funded by ANR, FWO, ISSC and the European Commission through Horizon 2020. The project, which will run for three years, is an international cooperation partnership between IOB, AgroParisTech (France), Nitlapan-UCA (IOB’s established Going Global partner in Nicaragua), Fondo de Desarrollo Local (Nicaragua), Centro Humboldt (Nicaragua) and AGTER (France). It builds upon our more than 30 years of academic cooperation with Nitlapan-UCA.

With this project, we will address the global-local institutional dynamics that generate the socially and environmentally unsustainable cattle development pathway. In Latin America, this pathway is a main driver of deforestation, contributing to climate change, the destruction of critical biodiversity stocks and the dispossession of indigenous people. We specifically focus on the agricultural frontier bordering the Bosawas Nature Reserve in Northern Nicaragua which consists of an action-research process in cooperation with the microfinance organization Fondo de Desarrollo Local (FDL) and the environmental NGO Centro Humboldt.

We will analyse the potential of a ‘Green Microfinance Plus’ programme (loans + technical assistance + Payments for Ecosystem Services), and connect to broader reflections in local deliberative fora and a citizen science approach to local climate data generation and use.

We aim to pilot a green microfinance plus strategy with FDL and to develop scientific outputs and policy proposals that contribute to change towards sustainability in the Nicaraguan agricultural frontier and beyond.

www.uantwerpen.be/truepath

CONSERVATION, ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE AND POACHING

The illegal trade in raw ivory constitutes a global problem which has been escalating rapidly since 2007 and has reached unprecedentedly high levels since 2010. IOB has three research projects to better understand the value chain of ivory: how are elephants poached and protected, and how is their ivory being traded?

One project centres around the conservation of wildlife in areas of protected conflict. Protected areas located in ongoing war zones or areas of protracted violent conflict are often conceived as spaces where the state has lost its control and where authority has ‘dissolved’ to the point where poaching and violent extraction of resources run free. This research project constitutes a long-duree analysis of conservation in Garamba National Park, in eastern DRC, and engages with questions of regulation and authority in this area. A second project engages specifically on questions of poaching. This research – the doctoral research of Ivan Ashaba – looks at different case studies of illicit wildlife trade, such as bushmeat hunting and local cultural values, pangolin poaching, the militarization of conservation campaigns. Field research on these issues has been conducted in Uganda, among communities living in close proximity to Queen Elizabeth National Park.

A third research project centres on ivory smuggling. A major gap in the academic literature is in-depth research on the organization of illegal ivory trade, particularly on the recently increased trade within Africa. Little is known on how illegal ivory is traded through the continent, up to the moment it exits Africa. This research project consists of ethnographic research among illegal ivory traders in Uganda, and has resulted in a range of publications for academic and policymaker audiences, e.g. in the British Journal of Criminology and International Affairs.

GLOBAL MINDS: A POWER-SENSITIVE AND SOCIALLY-INFORMED ANALYSIS OF PAYMENTS FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (PES)

We are very excited to welcome back René Rodriguez, who will be writing his PhD here at IOB within this project. René was a research assistant at our partner university in Nicaragua, UCA-Nitlapan, graduated from IOB with a degree in Globalisation and Development. In this new Global Minds project, we will compare case studies of Payments for Ecosystem Services in Guatemala and Nicaragua. Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) has become a dominant paradigm in international environmental and climate policies. The approach looks appealing: land users, often poorly motivated to protect nature and the benefits we obtain from it (the so-called ‘ecosystem services’), may be incited to do so through conditional payments from interested consumers/buyers (e.g. carbon-constrained electricity companies paying for forest conservation). PES schemes also tend to be hailed as attractive tools for rural poverty alleviation in the Global South. Despite their increasing popularity among donors and governments, evidence regarding the environmental and social outcomes of PES projects is not unequivocal. Indeed, PES remains weakly theorized in socio-economic and political terms, resulting in a superficial understanding of how power relations and cultural diversity shape the social-ecological outcomes of these projects.

Through the comparative analysis of at least two cases in Nicaragua and Guatemala, we will further develop a novel methodology to address important analytical and empirical gaps in current PES scholarship. We also aim to study in greater depth how PES instruments succeed or fail to reshape nature-society relations and how they change resource use behaviour in socially and culturally diverse contexts. In this way, this research offers crucial policy-relevant insights into the ways in which global-to-local interactions reshape PES interventions, allowing to better fit local notions of value, justice and equity, while contributing to global ecological goals.
We examined in detail the dynamics of corruption and regime stabilisation which defined the shape of the oil sector in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). We aimed to provide a deeper understanding of how political control and corruption function in the DRC, and how development becomes their victim. We do so by exploring the practical realities of what is discussed in more general terms in ‘resource curse’ and ‘oil curse’ literature. Concretely, we concluded that while the oil sector is a major source of patronage and rent-extraction, many of these rents are not created through actual production, but through selling access.

In the debate on environment, extractive industries are peculiar as they do not merely depend on the appropriation of nature, but on non-renewable nature. At the same time, the environmental effects of gas, oil and mineral exploitation are far-reaching and threatening local livelihoods as well as access to other natural resources.

Research in this domain is focusing on heavy metal pollution and health impacts of gold mining (through the VLIR-IUS project with the Catholic University of Bukavu). In 2018, a new FWO fellow, Fergus Simpson, started his PhD on artisanal and small-scale mining in protected forest areas. Combining perspectives from socio-ecological resilience and political ecology, Fergus will study artisanal and small-scale mining communities in and around protected areas, asking questions about their internal structures and actors, as well as about the wider power relations that determine who has access to particular mineral or natural resources.

In November 2018, IOB co-organised a conference in Kinshasa together with the Overseas Development Institute, UNIKIN, CRE-AC and the Royal Museum for Central Africa about development policies and practices in the DRC. For a large audience of fellow academics, policy makers, NGO representatives and government officials, researchers presented the most recent, results of social science research in and on the DRC. The conference took place one month before the long awaited presidential and parliamentary elections. Research results from the SLRC programme were presented on the first two days of the conference. Panels consisted of one researcher involved in the SLRC programme, and one or two programme-external researchers. These were drawn from a call of papers and came from all over the DRC: Bukavu, Lubumbashi, Kinshasa, … as well as international researchers from among others, the United States, Germany, Belgium. IOB researchers Kristof Titeca, Tom De Herdt, Stylianos Moshonas, Cyril Brandt, Jolino Malukisa and Sara Geenen presented their research and hosted some of the panels.

At the sessions, a wide range of topics was discussed, such as political economy, public sector reform, livelihoods and socio-economic inequalities, gender and development, land access and mineral resource management. The results of the SLRC research programme will be published over the course of 2019 on the SLRC website.
At the Kinshasa conference, ISS researcher Ben Radley and photographer Robert Carrubba exhibited a photo collection on artisanal gold production in eastern DRC. After agriculture, artisanal mining is the most important rural livelihood in the DRC. As a result of government policy, war and demographic pressures, tens of thousands of rural Congolese families have experienced a long-term decline in their on-farm subsistence capacity. Artisanal mining has provided an important source of off-farm employment and income for these families, despite the inherent dangers of the work. While a lot of attention has been paid in recent years to the links between artisanal mining and conflict in eastern DRC, less is known about the labour and production process itself. These photos document this process, following gold from the point of extraction at a rural artisanal gold mine in South Kivu province, through processing and trade, to its transformation into a final product in South Kivu’s provincial capital Bukavu.

Continuing the tradition of l’Afrique des grands lacs: Annuaire, Conjonctures de l’Afrique centrale is the joint annual publication of the Belgian Reference Centre on Central Africa (CReAC), IoB’s Great lakes of Africa Centre, the Centre of Development Studies at the Catholic university of Louvain (uClouvain) and the Royal Museum for Central Africa (RMCA). It offers a selection of high-quality peer-reviewed scientific papers related to current political, economic and social events in Central Africa.

This companion volume to Conjonctures de l’Afrique centrale offers a survey of political developments in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Uganda in 2016-2017.

The evolution of IoB’s publication output for an academic and a non-academic audience is shown in figures 1 and 2 respectively. A full list of publications can be found at the end of this report. In terms of academic publications, there has been a continued effort to maintain the high level of publications, while trying to improve its average quality, as measured by the CERES A and B output (i.e. publications in ISI-ranked journals or in academic books of equivalent quality). In fact, never before has IoB produced more A and B publications than in the past year. Moreover, as shown in figure 3, an increasing part of our academic publications (A, B and other peer-reviewed ones) is authored or co-authored by scholars from the Global South. During the most recent 5-year period (2014-18), it amounted to more than 25% of the total. This is a deliberate policy, emanating from our general vision of stimulating research as development. IoB also seeks to complement this academic publication output with output that is targeted at other, non-academic arenas, diversifying outreach. As shown in figure 2, the output in terms of reports targeted at policy makers, and at other stakeholders through newspaper and magazine articles or blogs has increased substantially in recent years, albeit at a lower level during the two most recent years, as compared to the peak year of 2015.

Figure 4 shows the evolution of the level of external research funding over time, as well as its distribution per type of donor. Overall, we maintained the higher levels of recent years, but with a slight change in relative shares. More particularly, 2018 shows a relative decline in the share of funding from the academic Research Foundation-Flanders (FWO) and internal university of Antwerp funds (BOF), in favor of an increase in the share of funding from private (international) sources.

© Pictures taken by Robert Carrubba
In 2018, eight students successfully concluded and defended their PhD in Development Studies.

Frédéric Huybrechts

“A political ecology approach to green microfinance Development pathways and avenues for transformative microfinance for rural development”

Supervisors: Prof. Johan Bastaensen and Prof. Gert Van Hecken - University of Antwerp

Janvier Kiloshu Buraye

“Industrialisation et Trapabilité des pays du Sud-Kivu: Quel avenir pour les exploitants miniers artisanaux”

Supervisors: Prof. Marijke Verpoorten - University of Antwerp and Prof. Jean-Baptiste Ntaijama Kushinganine - Université Catholique de Bukavu

Svea Koch (joint PhD with UGent)

“European Development Policy: from aid effectiveness to global development – challenges at policy, institutional and political level”

Supervisors: Prof. Nadia Molenaers - University of Antwerp and Prof. Jan Orbie - Ghent University

Line Kuppens (joint PhD with KU Leuven)

“The role of education in building sustainable peace: an analysis of teachers’ views and practices with regards to peace and conflict in Côte d’Ivoire and Kenya”

Supervisors: Prof. Marijke Verpoorten - University of Antwerp and Prof. Anim Langer – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven)

Francis Mbunya Nkemnyi

“In Search of the Environment-Development Nexus in Tofala Hill Wildlife Sanctuary, Cameroon”

Supervisors: Prof. Tom De Herdt - Institute of Tropical Medicine Antwerp, Prof. Tom Vanwyn - Vrije Universiteit Brussel and Dr. Chuyong George - University of Buea

Dimitri Renmans

“Opening the ‘black box’ of performance-based financing in the healthcare sector of Western Uganda”

Supervisors: Nathalie Holvoet - University of Antwerp and Prof. Bart Criel - Institute of Tropical Medicine Antwerp and Prof. Christopher Garimoi Orach - Makerere University

Anna Reuss (joint PhD with UGent)

“Politicalization, professionalization and personalisation of the Uganda People’s Defence Forces: The military and the pursuit of stability in an ageing post-revolutionary regime”

Supervisors: Prof. Nadia Molenaers - University of Antwerp and Prof. Jan Orbie - Ghent University

Christina Shitima

“An analysis of household development strategies and their linkage to river basin resources degradation in Tanzania”

Supervisors: Nathalie Holvoet - University of Antwerp and Romanus Dimoso - Mzumbe University

The IOB PhD in Development Studies attracts a diverse range of students. In 2018 we had eighteen different nationalities: Belgium (6), DR Congo (6), Nicaragua (4), Italy (3), The Philippines (2), Uganda (2), Germany (2), Switzerland (2), United Kingdom (2), Cameroon (2), Benin, Tanzania, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Spain, Denmark and USA. IOB is continuing to build its PhD training programme. We currently offer six doctoral courses, thematically related to the Masters programme. IOB cooperates with the Netherlands-based CERES Research School’s (Research School for Resource Studies for Development) PhD network as a full member.

PhD Francis Mbunja Nkemnyi

IN SEARCH OF THE ENVIRONMENT-DEVELOPMENT NEXUS IN TOFALA HILL WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, CAMEROON

The aim of this research is to explore the environment-development nexus with particular interest in wildlife and forest management in Cameroon using a case study approach. In this study, different theoretical frameworks are deployed to make explicit the strategy and policy challenges in forest management in the Tofala Hill Wildlife Sanctuary. These conceptual frameworks include the concept of community-based natural resource management (CBNRM), the sustainable livelihood approach, the theory of access, the theory of institutional bricolage and the theory of assemblage. The results of this study argue that for conservation-development linkages to translate into sustainable forest management in the Tofalaw, negotiations must be guided by the social justice (human rights and equity). Sustainable forest management could be achieved if institutions and policies cooperate to ensure that rules, behaviour, actors, strategies, plans, programmes and the system of administration uphold social justice within all processes. This means enabling a system of distribution that ensures fair negotiations in terms of revenue and non-revenue sharing arrangements and compensation schemes. Based on the conceptual framings, this study argues that a more reasonable approach to sustainable natural resource management (NRM) should adopt a holistic analytical view of forest management while duly considering their merits and demerits. Contextually, this study argues that a blend of knowledge on forest resources use, institutional interactions in forest management, access mechanisms to forest resources and the analysis of who governs forest resources could benefit sustainable forest management.
ON GOING PHD PROJECTS IN 2018

ABAINZA Lorensel
Return migration and entrepreneurship: an investigation of the success of failure of return migrants’ entrepreneurial activities
Supervisors: Nathalie Holvoet - German Calfat (Em.)

ALIDOU Sahawal
Essays on intra-household resource allocation and decision making in Sub-Saharan Africa
Supervisor: Marijke Verpoorten - Johan Swinnen (KU Leuven)

ASHABA Ivan
Environmental crime as transnational organized crime: a case of wildlife trade in Uganda
Supervisor: Kristof Titeca

COLLAADO Carmen
Social innovation in land initiatives as a basis for inclusive rural development
Supervisor: Johan Bastiaensen - Pieter Von den Broeck (KU Leuven)

CRUYLFIK Clément
The governance of a microfinance alternative model in Mexican rural areas
Supervisors: Johan Bastiaensen - Olivier Servais (UCL)

DA COSTA Shaun
Development for the poor: Evaluating the multidimensional impact of development interventions with respect for the preferences of the poor
Supervisors: Koen Decancq - Jooshe De weerdt

DE MAESSCHALCK Filip
Statebuilding support to fragile states: a temporal analysis of the interplay between European legitimation and internal legitimacy in post-conflict states
Supervisors: Nadia Molenaers - Stef Vandeginste

DE ROECK Mathias
Supervisors: Nadia Molenaers - Ronon Von Rossem (UGent)

GANDRUP Tobias
Curricula without a state: an ethnography of education services in somaliland
Supervisors: Kristof Titeca - Tom De Herdt

GIEZENDANNER Eliane
Demobilizing mindsets: ideas and ideology after war.
Supervisor: Bert Ingelaere

GLEIZERMAN Molise
Capturing the benefits of private sector investment in natural resource extraction for national development: a case study of labor and the liquefied natural gas industry in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique
Supervisor: Sara Geenen

INNOCENTI Domenico
Evaluation of climate change investments in international finance: achieving the climate paradigm shift through effective resource allocations
Supervisor: Nathalie Holvoet

IRAGI Francine
Artisanal mining and local food markets: analyzing the linkages
Supervisors: Marijke Verpoorten - Nene Morisho (UCB)

MANGUNI Graachel
Pantawid conditional cash transfer and intimate partner violence in Filipino households
Supervisor: Nathalie Holvoet

MARÍTSE Simon
Knowledge production and technology adoption in ASM in the DRC
Supervisors: Sara Geenen and Boris Verbrugge

MARTINELI Rosana
Institutional innovations for the delivery of social policies for poverty reduction and development – contributions from the South
Supervisor: Nadia Molenaers

MERLET Pierre
Revisiting the agrarian question: family farming and political arenas around land and natural resources in the context of climate change and changing global food chains. Evidence from Nicaragua
Supervisor: Johan Bastiaensen

MILAGROS Romero
Heterogeneities of farmers’ rationalities and territorial development pathways: perspectives for “microfinance plus” models in Nicaragua
Supervisor: Johan Bastiaensen

MUKENA Jacques
The hydrocarbon sector in the DRC: a political settlement analysis of the sector’s role in development and conflict
Supervisor: Kristof Titeca

PAVOTTI Antea
Perceptions of the self and the other in contemporary Burundi. The salience of ethnicity in everyday interactions in a post-transition context
Supervisors: Bert Ingelaere - Stef Vandeginste

POPELIER Lisa
Uncovering pathways to foster disability-sensitive development: from participatory M&E to disability-inclusive development
Supervisor: Nathalie Holvoet

ROBLES Eugenia
Research project for PhD: InfForMining? An in-depth study of informalization processes in global gold production
Supervisors: Sara Geenen and Boris Verbrugge

ROCArado Willy
Transdisciplinary learning communities and local community decision making in South America (Case study of Tiraque, Bolivia)
Supervisors: Johan Bastiaensen and Marc Crops (KU Leuven)

Rodriguez René
Towards a power-sensitive and socially-informed analysis of Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES). Comparative case studies in Nicaragua and Guatemala
Supervisors: Gert Van Hecken - Jennifer Casolo (Universidad Rafael Landivar)

Senga Christian Dungu
African Euro-bonds: challenges and prospects for economic growth after the HIPC Initiative
Supervisor: Danny Cassimon

Simen ThamoYOU Vanessa
Essays on information asymmetry and financial development
Supervisors: Danny Cassimon - Guido Eerreegers

SIMPSON Fergus
Socio-ecological resilience: a new perspective for ASM?
Supervisors: Sara Geenen and Kristof Titeca

Van Cappellen Hanne
The city is not that far: urbanisation, social change and rural labour patterns in sub-Saharan Africa
Supervisor: Jooshe De weerdt and Bert Ingelaere

VANCLUYSEN Sarah
Towards a sustainable refugee-host relationship. Case study on South-Sudanese refugees in Uganda
Supervisors: Bert Ingelaere - Kristof Titeca

VerDEZOTO Josefina
The effects of international parental migration on education of children left behind, the specific case of a marginal urban area in Quito – Ecuador
Supervisor: Germán Calfat

WaeTerloos Evert
‘Development Local Government’ and rural development in South Africa: breaking integrated rural development across spheres
Supervisor: Nadia Molenaers

WeBuSCH Michael
The norms and practices of the African Union on the promotion and protection of constitutional governance
Supervisors: Stef Vandeginste - Koen De Feyter

Windey Catherine
The Dialectics of the global and the local: hybrid socio-economies’ and the encounter of different regimes of value in the context of REDD+ in the Democratic Republic of Congo
Supervisors: Johan Bastiaensen - Gert Van Hecken

FIGURE 4. CONCLUDED PHDS 2008-18 (INNER CIRCLES) AND PHDS IN PROGRESS (OUTER CIRCLE)
TANZANIA

In 2018, we continued to expand our partnership with Mzumbe University in the Morogoro region of Tanzania. The goal of the Going Global partnership is to support the development of the Mzumbe Master in Development Evaluation, to stimulate staff and student mobility, to set up a Tanzanian IOB alumni chapter, and to organise a synergy platform with development actors.

We signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Mzumbe University in 2017. Throughout 2018, we have been working strategically on joint planning, fine-tuning and follow-up. In May, the Flemish coordinator, Nathalie Holvoet, visited Mzumbe. She organised an alumni event and discussed IOB Going Global with Mzumbe staff to plan and formulate the second phase of the Interuniversity Cooperation (IUC).

STAFF MOBILITY

In November, Mzumbe University’s administrative coordinator Mara Mwinyigogo visited IOB for meetings with IOB’s administrative and academic coordinator. Moreover, two staff members of Mzumbe University stayed at IOB to attend the Evaluation Capacity Building Seminar (8-19 October), as they are both also members of the Tanzanian Evaluation Society (TANE). Sessions were organised on analysis of the M&E system, role of national evaluation societies, communication for policy influence and different evaluation methodologies, in addition to visits to the evaluation unit of EuropeAid and the Belgian Audit Office. Based on the sessions’ input, a poster and video have been produced.

STUDENT MOBILITY

In June-July 2018, one IOB student (academic year 2017-2018) did field work in Dar es Salaam for her dissertation on the closing opportunity structure for civil society organisations. The fieldwork was facilitated by a staff member from the Mzumbe University campus in Dar es Salaam. The dissertation was selected for valorisation into a publishable paper.

In November-December 2018, IOB students Jimena Corzo and Britt Dutour stayed at Mzumbe University. They did field work (on climate change adaptation and social networks; on mobile community-based monitoring) in close collaboration with Mzumbe staff and twin students. They both did a seminar presentation and produced a research report and an internship report, which were jointly assessed by IOB and Mzumbe staff.

ALUMNI

On 11 May, we organised an alumni networking event in Dar es Salaam, together with the Belgian Embassy and the Alumni Office of the University of Ghent. Over one hundred people attended, including the Tanzanian Minister of Education, the Belgian Ambassador to Tanzania and the head of Enabel in Tanzania.

MASTER IN DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION

Originally, IOB and Mzumbe University had hoped for the new Master in Development Evaluation to take off in early 2019. However, due to new government requirements for higher education in Tanzania, this had to be postponed. These requirements affected all Mzumbe University programmes, and understandably, priority had to be given to bringing existing programmes in line with the new requirements. Therefore, the application for approval and accreditation for the Master programme was rescheduled for 2019.

KATJA SERGEJEFF’S FIELD WORK AND DISSERTATION: CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AND CHANGING POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT IN TANZANIA

Tanzania’s economic policies are successful, but at the same time, a growing number of human rights and civil rights organizations have expressed worries about the political situation and the state of civil and political rights. Since 2015, several policies have been perceived as problematic to exercising civil liberties. Overall, civic space in Tanzania is shrinking. We found that not all organizations were affected the same way. Organisations with a strong advocacy focus, and those that were promoting human rights, political rights and democracy, were facing the most severe challenges. These organisations faced charges, repeated investigations, threats of de-registration, and even arrests. Organisations focusing on less sensitive issues were not targeted as much by the government.

We also found that organizations apply different coping strategies. Most commonly they self-censored language that they perceived would be thought of as critical by the government. CSOs were also seeking more collaboration with the government and with each other. Some organisations made an effort of creating informal relationships with government officials. To address gaps in funding, several CSOs had also started fundraising activities.

However, these coping strategies were not perceived to be sustainable or leading to opening of civic space. Therefore, some interviewees called for donors and international partners for assistance and capacity building. Based on this study, we also recommend strengthening legal assistance given to CSOs by creating a pool of lawyers willing to give legal assistance to CSOs.
Jimena and Britt were invited to join two projects at one of the partner universities. Methods as a co-researcher in an existing research project by this programme to apply their knowledge of research. New research method during classes, students are enabled to learn from books.

After applying for the research internship, as it broadens your perspective and learn how to network. I would highly recommend future students to apply for the research internship, as it broadens your perspective and gives you the opportunity to put theory in practice.

During my research in Tanzania I faced a couple of challenges. However, those provided me with a lot of new knowledge and insights on doing research and in particular, doing research in a development context. I gained a lot of new information that I was able to use in further research whether it is in an academic, government, business or [DNGO setting].

The three students seemed to agree that even though there were quite some challenges it was a worthwhile experience that gave them new perspectives and insights you do not learn from books.

In view of the course’s sustainability, we aim to create a ‘pool’ of lecturers, both from the Global North and the Global South, and across institutional boundaries. For the first edition, as shown above, we have already been able to involve lecturers from other universities in Bukavu and in Kisangani. Also in terms of participants, the diversity was appreciated.

**ADVANCED COURSE**

In 2018, we designed the “Advanced Course on the Governance of Natural Resources”, a one week intensive course focused on the management of renewable and non-renewable resources in a globalized world, the associated governance problems (e.g. tragedy of the commons, conflict minerals), and the different forms of solutions to these problems that are proposed at the local, national and global level. In this sense, the course links up with IOB’s earlier training and research efforts in Bukavu, more particularly through the VLIR-UOS collaboration with the Catholic University of Bukavu (CEGEMI, Centre d’Expertise en Gestion Minière). Although we had to abandon our initial idea of organizing the course as a module embedded in a local Master programme, we were able to start preparations in 2018 for a course co-organized by IOB and CEGEMI. Due to visa problems in the run-up to the December 2018 elections in the DRC, however, the planned date needed to be postponed to February 2019. Nevertheless, the call for applications was very successful. We received nearly 40 applications from all over the DRC (Bukavu of course, but also Lubumbashi, Kinshasa, Kisangani, Goma, Buina, and even one from Germany. We selected 29 participants, 20 of whom are academics. The remaining participants are active in civil society organizations or in the public administration. This demonstrates that there is a demand for this kind of initiative in the region, and that the impact of our Advanced course goes beyond the academic sphere. In terms of content, we developed four thematic units:

- Natural resource curses and tragedies: core economic principles, taught by Mariike Verpoorten (IOB);
- Governance of mineral resources: a global production network approach, taught by Sara Geenen (IOB);
- Forest governance and the environment-development nexus: a political ecological approach, taught by Papy Bambu (Université de Kisangani);
- Governance of land resources: power and knowledge production in the land governance and grabbing processes, taught by Emery Muding (ISDR, Institut Supérieur de Développement Rural)

**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO**

IOB and the Catholic University of Bukavu (UCB) have been partners since 2010. With the Going Global programme in Bukavu, we aimed at setting up a joint IOB-UCB master module on the governance of natural resources. Both IOB and the UCB have built up considerable expertise in this topic, which has a high developmental relevance in the region. Since embedding the module in an existing Master programme proved to be a difficult process and requires more time, in 2018 we started developing the module in a different way.

**SYNERGIES**

The Going Global programme has clear synergies with the VLIR-UOS-funded IUS programme with the UCB, as well as with partner activities by the University Foundation for Development Cooperation (USOS) with the same university. By seeking complementarity between these different initiatives, we aim to intensify and extend our capacity building efforts. We do not limit ourselves to building capacities of Congolese researchers (through Research Design trainings and PhD scholarships, among others); our different initiatives in the region also build capacities of IOB researchers and students from the University of Antwerp (through facilitating field research for several IOB PhD students and USOS exposure trips for students from different faculties at the University of Antwerp, among others). In 2018, Janvier Kilocho, one of the Congolese PhD students obtained his PhD in Development Studies at IOB, while three others are still pursuing their doctoral studies in different faculties at the University of Antwerp. Still in 2018, two “Northern” PhD students started their research on natural resources-related topics in the context of an FWOD-EOS project (see page 21 for Simon’s testimonial) and an FWO fellowship respectively. With these different initiatives, working in synergies, we reinforce IOB’s networks and increase the impact of our research and teaching activities.
On 20 April, a one-day alumni seminar and event was organised at DL SU. Staff from DL SU, IOB alumni and IOB professors. Nathalie Holvoet presented research, followed by a closing reception and networking dinner, attended by the Belgian ambassador. The Alumni Impact Barometer Research (see box) also includes the Philippines. In April, the IOB alumni coordinator and the IOB Going Global coordinator for the Philippines presented the employees’ survey in the Philippines. In December 2018, a team of four Philippines alumni (including one PhD student) participated in the 2-weeks take-off seminar of the Alumni Impact Barometer research.

Nicaragua experienced an outburst of a violent political crisis in April, suspending all (academic) activities during several months. This of course included some of the planned activities with IOB’s longstanding partner, Nitlapan-UCA. Nitlapan-UCA’s dedicated Going Global administrator left the country due to the political turmoil. A short pilot research course at the end of 2018 had to be cancelled. The timing of the start of the post-graduate course (see below) in 2019 had to be delayed until 2020. The academic task force in charge of Going Global Nicaragua has continued to meet in virtual form, as travel to Nicaragua has been difficult. Nevertheless, at the end of October we succeeded in organising a face-to-face seminar in Nicaragua, where we updated the strategy and planning.

Despite the many difficulties mentioned above, the main achievement of the work in 2018 has been the further consolidation of the interacting high quality regional academic task force. This task force is dedicated to promoting and strengthening collaboration among academics in the region and international counterparts. Their aspiration is to upgrade their academic teaching and research, through internationalisation with and beyond the relationship with the VLIR-UOS/IOB project.

This cooperation around education also resulted in one of the Central American lecturer-researchers, Dr. Fernanda Soto, to contribute to the IOB Master in Antwerp as a guest lecturer in March 2018 (financed from the Global Minds programme). She is invited to teach the same lecture in March 2019. In the same vein, other members of the task force will also contribute to teaching at the IOB Masters during their visit in March 2019. The task force also developed a first full design draft for the short-term research course (to be piloted in 2019, and which could serve as an important input for the post-graduate courses to be implemented in 2020).

**GOING GLOBAL: ALUMNI RESEARCH INTERNSHIP**

In the framework of the IOB Going Global programme, IOB alumni Valer zy Swekio (GLOB 2017) was invited to Mzumbe University to participate in a research project on ‘Contract farming in sugar cane farming’, supervised by Dr. Jennifer Kasanda Sesabo. Valera was involved in the research design, data collection and data analysis of the project. Additionally, he also presented a workshop on qualitative analysis using NVivo software for interested Mzumbe staff. "It was my first time going to Africa, let alone doing a real field research in development. At first I was quite nervous but also very excited to visit Tanzania. Upon arrival I received a very warm welcome from the Mzumbe University so I felt instantly at home there. The field work was organised quickly and in no time I was conducting my first focus group discussions that gave great insight. People in the villages were very open and were very much willing to provide interesting information about their lives and their work. While the internship was indeed filled with both data gathering and a lot of desk research, I still had the opportunity to see the beautiful country itself, visit a national park to see the wild animals and talk to great people that live there. I also had a chance to stay in Dar es Salaam for a few days where I could transition back to the usual city life, visit a few museums and cafes and spend some time on the beach. Of course I also took this time to finish my report. This internship gave me great experience in both professional and personal aspects and I hope this was not the last time I visited Tanzania.

**EQUADOR**

Paul Arias Medina, researcher at Cuenca University, visited Antwerp to attend the conference ‘Exploring New Links between Transnational Migration and Education’ organized by CeMIS at the University of Antwerp (21-22 June 2018), presenting the paper ‘Children’s aspiration and migration: A mixed methods case study in Biblian’, co-authored with professor Gérman Collalt.

**STUDENT MOBILITY**

IOB-student Camille Vanderlinden went to Cuenca for her dissertation on refugees in Ecuador. She won the Prize for Development Studies by the Province of Antwerp for her dissertation “Coordinated inter-institutional response regarding the socio-economic integration of refugees and asylum seekers in Cuenca” (see page 11).
Uganda’s Special Needs, a photo exhibition documenting the lives of children with disabilities in Uganda;

Taxi carrying forest harvested resources of Mondia whytei taken into the nearest town;

Young miners working inside the minepits of Marmato, Caldas in Colombia;

Community representatives at Mpanga Central Forest Reserve (Uganda) proposed collaborative forest management;

IOB alumni Gerald Bareebe (GOV, 2011), Rose Nambooze (GOB, 2010), former IOB researchers Inge Wagemakers and Luk Dewulf (director) jointly made an investigative documentary ‘Mercy Killing’. The documentary captures stories of Ugandan parents struggling with the efforts and sacrifices related to caring for their disabled child. They share the stories of desperate parents who could not manage it anymore and killed their own child (a practice called ‘mercy killing’);

Cassandra Vet presenting her IOB dissertation research “corporate tax avoidance” at the Universität Zürich (Switzerland);

Workshop on social-environmental conflicts, organized in Rio San Juan (Nicaragua) with the environmental NGO Fundación del Río;

Community meeting to discuss tensions in Boroli refugee settlement, Northern Uganda;

Kristof Titeca, working with Congolese photographer Georges Senga, on a research project based on archival photos of the Lord’s Resistance Army, in which they re-trace former rebels. The project will become an exhibition in the Antwerp Photo Museum in the summer of 2019.
As external research funding is not integrated in the regular budget, the overview of IOB’s financial and budgetary performance addresses these two items separately.

The table below provides an overview of the regular budget outturn for 2018, compared to previous year’s results.

**Table 1. Budgetary Implementation in 2017 and 2018 (in EUR)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income:</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core funding Flemish Government</td>
<td>2,186,000</td>
<td>2,195,000</td>
<td>2,220,000</td>
<td>2,221,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UAntwerp funding</td>
<td>220,000</td>
<td>220,000</td>
<td>220,000</td>
<td>220,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other miscellaneous income</td>
<td>346,000</td>
<td>375,917</td>
<td>284,000</td>
<td>322,221</td>
<td>113%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o/w exempted payroll taxes</td>
<td>140,000</td>
<td>131,898</td>
<td>90,000</td>
<td>62,320</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship administration fee</td>
<td>95,000</td>
<td>91,783</td>
<td>95,000</td>
<td>92,549</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td>2,712,000</td>
<td>2,734,917</td>
<td>2,724,000</td>
<td>2,763,221</td>
<td>101%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel costs</td>
<td>2,230,000</td>
<td>2,098,036</td>
<td>2,342,000</td>
<td>2,250,422</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenured academic staff</td>
<td>1,014,000</td>
<td>988,902</td>
<td>1,093,000</td>
<td>1,092,367</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other academic staff</td>
<td>823,000</td>
<td>735,001</td>
<td>796,000</td>
<td>719,330</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support staff</td>
<td>379,000</td>
<td>376,133</td>
<td>457,000</td>
<td>438,725</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>504,500</td>
<td>462,532</td>
<td>475,500</td>
<td>452,404</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditure</strong></td>
<td>2,734,500</td>
<td>2,560,568</td>
<td>2,817,000</td>
<td>2,702,826</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net result</strong></td>
<td>- 22,500</td>
<td>174,349</td>
<td>- 93,000</td>
<td>60,395</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Apart from its regular income, IOB also attracts additional income from a broad range of external sources. Figure 5 combines the data on external research funding registered by the University of Antwerp’s Research Coordination and Administration Department with the research component of IUC projects, where IOB staff participate as project leaders.

**Figure 5. Evolution of External Funding for Research and Service Delivery**
PEOPLE @ IOB

TEACHING STAFF

BASTIAENSEN Johan
100% professor

CASSIMON Danny
100% professor

DE HERDT Tom
100% professor

DE WEERDT Joachim
30% senior lecturer

GEENEN Sara
100% lecturer

HOLVOET Nathalie
100% professor

INGELAERE Bert
100% lecturer

MAYSTADT Jean-François
100% senior lecturer

MOLENAERS Nadia
100% senior lecturer

TITECA Kristof
100% lecturer

VAN HECKEN Gert
100% lecturer

VANPOORTEN Marijke
100% senior lecturer

COMMISSIONS AND CHAIR PERSONS:
- PhD Commission: Marijke Verpoorten
- Social Committee: Nadia Molenaers
- Library Committee: Danny Cassimon

BUREAU:
- Chair: Johan Bastiaensen
- Chair Education Commission: Nathalie Holvoet
- Chair Research Commission: Marijke Verpoorten
- Representative Research Staff: Hann Van Cappellen
- Representative Support Staff: Vicky Verlinden

MASTER PROGRAMMES:
- Student secretariat: Greet Annaert, Nicole Dierckx
- Social service: Greet Annaert
- Quality assurance: Mitte Scheldeman
- Alumni and promotion: Sara Dewachter
- Librarian: Hans De Backer

SECRETARIATS:
- Institute Coordinator: Vicky Verlinden
- Research secretariat: Joëlle Dhondt, Katleen Van pellicom
- Financial secretariat: An Vermeesch
- Communication: Michael Domen, Joëlle Dhondt
- Flemish Interuniversity cooperation: Marj Van Meerbeek

MASTERS PROGRAMS:
- Student secretariat: Greet Annaert, Nicole Dierckx
- Social service: Greet Annaert
- Quality assurance: Mitte Scheldeman
- Alumni and promotion: Sara Dewachter
- Librarian: Hans De Backer

SECRETARIATS:
- Institute Coordinator: Vicky Verlinden
- Research secretariat: Joëlle Dhondt, Katleen Van pellicom
- Financial secretariat: An Vermeesch
- Communication: Michael Domen, Joëlle Dhondt
- Flemish Interuniversity cooperation: Marj Van Meerbeek

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD:
- Leo de Haan - Professor Emeritus
- Geske Dijkstra – Professor, Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Kate Meagher – Associate Professor, LSE
- Bogdan Vanden Bergh – Director, 11.11.11
- Jan Vandemoortele – Independent Researcher
- Geoff Wood – Professor emeritus, University of Bath

RESEARCH STAFF

ABAINZA Loesel
100% researcher

ALDOU Sahawal
100% researcher

ASHABA Ivan
100% researcher

ASHER Eliane
100% researcher

DE ROECK Mathias
100% researcher

DENWACHTER Sara
30% post-doctoral researcher

GANDRUP Tobias
100% researcher

GIEZENDANNE Eliane
100% researcher

LECOUTERE Sara
50% post-doctoral researcher

MARISSSE Simon
100% researcher

MOSCHONAS Stylianos
100% post-doctoral researcher

MOSSONG Stylianos
100% post-doctoral researcher

MOSISSON Simon
100% researcher

NADARAJA Réginas
100% researcher
STAFF LEAVING IN 2018
- Marleen Baetens, quality assurance
- Germán Calfat, professor
- Katri Claessens, researcher
- Hugo Couderé, researcher
- Neil Howard, post-doctoral researcher
- Line Kuppens, researcher
- Monica Schuster, post-doctoral researcher
- Gabi Sonderegger, research assistant
- Michael Wiebusch, researcher

STAFF JOINING IN 2018
- Michael Domen, research & outreach communications officer
- Eliane Giezendanner, researcher
- Régines Ndarinyagije, research assistant
- Simon Marijsse, researcher
- Jean-François Maystadt, professor
- Maria Eugenia Robles Mengoa, researcher
- Fergus Simpson, researcher
- Boris Verbruggge, post-doctoral researcher
- Mitte Scheldeman, quality assurance
- Nik Stoop, post-doctoral researcher
- Cassandra Vet, research assistant

SUPPORT STAFF
IOB PUBLICATIONS

IOB OPEN ACCESS

Open access as a movement within the academic world is not new, but has been gaining traction over the last few years. One common argument is that research is mostly funded by public money, and therefore should be available publicly.

There is an additional argument that is particularly pertinent to development studies. Locking research on development issues behind high-fee paywalls perpetuates pre-existing (colonial) inequalities.

IOB has been publishing our own series of Open Access research: peer-reviewed Discussion Papers (since 2010), Working Papers and Analyses and Policy Briefs (since 2012). On our website you will find these publications freely available.

Other Open Access publications on the IOB website include Political Chronicles of the African Great Lakes Region and the archive of the Yearbook of the Great Lakes Region (1996 until 2015), and working papers.

But we don’t only publish our own series. We also make every effort to have our other publications available in Open Access. Professor emeritus Filip Reyntjens’ book Aid and Authoritarianism in Africa: development without democracy is available in open Access from the University of Antwerp repository and was the second most downloaded publication from that repository in 2018.

Many of our researchers also offer ‘ungated preprints’ on their ResearchGate profiles. The University of Antwerp library also makes available author copies of articles if and when available.

Finally, IOB researchers often publish on blogs, in newspapers and take part in other media outlets, making their expertise available to a wider audience.

All publications of IOB’s Open Access series are highlighted in yellow.

Articles in peer-reviewed journals


Articles in non-peer-reviewed journals

Books as author

Books as editor


Research papers published by other institutes


Development Policy.

PhD theses


PUBLICATIONS FOR OUTREACH

IOB Analyses & Policy Briefs

Articles in magazines, newspapers and online media
- Geenen, S., Titeca, K., Musamba, J., & Vogel, C. (2018). The ethics of political art. Africa is a country, online article.


Mostorfas, S., & De Herdt, T. (2018, 15 februari). The challenge of retirement in the Congolese administration. SLRC blog, online article.


Reyntjens, F. (2018, 29 oktober). A look back in history provides fresh insights into Rwanda today. The Conversation, online article.


Reyntjens, F. (2018, 28 mei). When the poor sponsor the rich: Rwanda and Arsenal FC. The Conversation, online article.


Titeca, K. (2018). Local links across Africa provide key clues to fighting the illegal ivory trade. The Conversation, online article.


Titeca, K., & Malukisa nkuku, A. (2018, 11 maart). How Kinshasa’s markets are captured by powerful private interests. The Conversation, online article.


Reports

