

<p>Institution: University of East Anglia</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: 24 Anthropology and Development Studies</p>
<p>a. Context</p> <p>The School of International Development (DEV) has an established record of academically robust and policy-relevant research which involves direct engagement with users and stakeholders. This is reflected in our sources of funding: with an average of 80 live projects each year, including 8-10 from UK Research Councils (comprising approximately 35% overall research income) and the remainder from other research funders (government departments, development banks, NGOs and various multi-lateral donors).</p> <p>DEV impact is facilitated through a bespoke company with charitable status, International Development UEA (DEVCo), which is a specialized facility comprising 5.5 FTE (chief executive, company manager, finance officer and assistant, project development coordinator, and a training manager and assistant). All faculty members automatically join DEVCo and are set annual targets to fund 20% to 40% of their time through external funding sources, which can be for research but also engagement activities including advisory or consultancy work, training and development practice. DEV and DEVCo have extensive networks of stakeholders built over 40 years of research, training, consultancy and teaching.</p>
<p>b. Approach to impact</p> <p><i>(i) Promoting an impact-friendly environment.</i></p> <p>Faculty use the flexibility of the workload model (enabling externally funded buy-out from teaching and administration) and DEV's study leave allowance (one semester for every three years in teaching) to foster strong collaborations in developing countries. This recognises that impact generation often requires the development of trusting collaborations with user groups over long periods, as well as being in the right place at the right time. For example, in 2005 Rao was a founding adviser of a network of Indian NGOs concerned with women's access to land and has continued to work closely with them to influence national and state-level policymakers. DEV sometimes cross-subsidises these buy-outs, allowing lower overheads in recognition of their importance for impact. The workload model facilitates secondments to development organizations, such as two Senior Research Fellowships in the UK Department for International Development (DFID) since 2009. DEV supports applications for follow-on funding related to impact. For example, Sikor obtained an ESRC follow-on grant to convert longstanding research and engagement in Vietnam into influencing that country's pioneering National Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) Strategy.</p> <p>DEV recruits staff who combine academic excellence with past employment and strong links with user groups, including DFID, Oxfam, World Fish and the World Bank. This enhances DEV's capacity to link research with practice. New members of DEV are inducted into our ethos and approach, benefiting from the experience and mentoring of more senior staff. They have personal meetings with the DEVCo chief executive and support staff to assess, support and develop their potential for impactful research. Postgraduate research students (PGRs) also benefit from DEV's approach to facilitating impact. Since 2008, 37 PGR students have been contracted by DEVCo, often in projects related to their own doctoral research. For example, with support from DEV researchers Duvendack drew on her PhD to lead a systematic review of micro-finance for DFID. She presented its findings at the House of Commons, in a documentary for Norwegian Television, and in press interviews for The New Republic and The Guardian.</p> <p>Each year, DEVCo allocates several supplementary funding awards of up to £5000 each to staff. These include awards aimed at impact promotion, such as the development of a professional training course on the use of games in natural resources management. This arose from Lankford's 'River Basin Game', used as a conflict resolution tool by USAID in Afghanistan, as well as by</p>

Impact template (REF3a)

decision-makers in the Nile Basin and Tanzania.

(ii) Generating impact through research-led consultancy.

Between April 2011 and April 2013 DEV faculty participated in 107 projects. These projects included collaborations with 58 user organisations (evenly spread between multilateral organisations, bilateral aid agencies, charities and NGOs, government departments and private sector organisations) in 36 countries spanning every continent. The majority of these are research-led consultancy projects closely linked to previous academic research, an important route for converting research into non-academic impact, both directly and through indirect engagement and networking with key stakeholders. For example:

- Drawing on Guichaoua's previous research on Tuareg rebellions, DEVCo was commissioned by the International Crisis Group (ICG), a leading international think-tank, to produce a paper on the root causes of the 2012 Mali conflict. This paper was circulated to bilaterals, UN agencies and other key stakeholders. It has encouraged them to modify their established approach to aid governance and conflict resolution programmes in Mali. Through his association with ICG, Guichaoua was granted access to key high-level political and diplomatic stakeholders, who do not usually collaborate with purely academic researchers.
- Drawing on Serneels' research on health worker motivation and performance, DEVCo was commissioned by the World Bank and WHO to provide toolkits and training on assessing health worker attitudes and motivations for stakeholders and policymakers. Similar work in the education sector generated impacts such as the use of mobile phones to track teacher attendance by the Ugandan Ministry of Education.

(iii) Communicating research for impact.

DEV appointed a communications officer (2009 to 2011), and in 2012 appointed a permanent director of research communication. DEV's engagement with the media is not purely instrumental, but includes an academic interest in the way in which different forms of media engage with international development issues. DEV has a growing research and teaching programme in Media and International Development, including an MA in Media and International Development. This enhances our contacts with media organisations and our understanding of how to communicate research messages to enhance impact. For example, Jones collaborated with The Guardian on their global development work, including more than twenty blogs to the Katine website as well as contributions to the Global Development section (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/profile/benjones>). As part of this collaboration Jones was commissioned to conduct a review of the Katine Initiative for The Guardian and has reflected on this sort of engagement in the newspaper (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/katine/2010/oct/30/story-katine-anthropologist-ben-jones>).

DEV has a dedicated research microsite and blog, and makes full use of social media, policy briefs and newsletters to communicate with users. For example, a policy brief on the effects of Chinese competition on South African manufacturing led to reports in South African dailies and an interview on South African television, followed by approaches from business organizations and government officials. DEV also uses film and theatre to reach non-academic audiences. For example, to disseminate findings from their ESRC/MRC-funded research on HIV self-management in Uganda, Seeley and Russell worked with the School's Research Communications Director and a Ugandan film-maker to make a film about the transformative effects of ARV drugs on people's lives. The film (Luganda version) is being used by the project's Ugandan research partner, The AIDS Support Organisation, to build awareness about the benefits of getting tested and starting on ARVs.

As well as hosting workshops, professional training courses and conferences on the main UEA campus, DEV makes regular use of UEA's London conference facility to increase reach to research users in the capital. This includes stakeholder workshops on issues such as water justice, forest rights and HIV/AIDS. DEVCo send regular mailings to users and manages a network of

several thousand individuals from user organisations, with whom it has engaged since its creation in 1967. DEV has a dedicated impact webpage which provides examples of DEV “making a difference” beyond academia (<http://www.uea.ac.uk/international-development/research/impact>). UEA’s Press Office works closely with members of the School, including the provision of tailored training sessions.

c. Strategy and plans

DEV has developed a new research communication and impact strategy for 2013-18, establishing a network of contacts with other communications teams in relevant organisations, such as The Guardian’s Global Development Blog. This strategy includes the development of impact plans for each research group (see REF5). For example, the Behavioural Economics group plan identifies policy-relevant insights in human motivation emerging from its three recent and on-going ESRC/DFID grants on agricultural productivity. Building on the group’s existing engagement with the World Bank, IFPRI and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, among others, between 2013 and 2015 the group will run workshops with local/international users and produce a dedicated series of policy/media briefs, as well as oral policy briefs for local stakeholders.

DEV’s media capacity will be enhanced by a new official link with the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association, which already manages key projects from the same building. We will seek to strengthen DEV’s existing “impact culture” through a variety of ways, including individual staff impact monitoring, highlighting the importance of impact for promotions and new appointments, further developing the impact website, and holding internal staff workshops on impact generation. A new workload allocation model, to be introduced in 2014, will give equal weighting to engagement and impact facilitation, as to other aspects of research and to teaching. Every year an allocation of up to £10,000 will be earmarked from DEVCo’s financial surplus for impact enhancement activities. These initiatives will be supported by activities across the university, including the introduction in 2015 of a Social Science Faculty impact prize.

d. Relationship to case studies

The Regional Hunger and Vulnerability Programme (RHVP) arose from a previous research programme led by DEV which investigated the livelihoods of the rural poor and the drivers of their increasing vulnerability to food insecurity. This previous research was funded by DFID, allowing for substantial buyout of Ellis’s time, through DEVCo.

Building a case for extending social pension schemes in developing countries impact was reinforced by DEV’s buy out system which enabled secondments to DFID and WHO. Networks were strengthened through DEVCo consultancies with HelpAge, DFID, UNRISD and UN DESA.

Bringing HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment and care to fisherfolk represents unique multidisciplinary combinations that emerge from DEV’s research environment. DEV’s buy out system enabled secondments to FAO and a long-term placement at MRC in Uganda that enabled research findings to be incorporated into the programmes of these organizations by the researchers themselves.