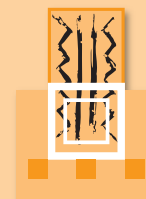




Annual Report 2012

African Studies Centre
Afrika-Studiecentrum
Leiden

2012



African
Studies
Centre

Annual Report 2012

African Studies Centre
Afrika-Studiecentrum
Leiden





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PREFACE

The African Studies Centre celebrated its 65th anniversary in 2012 by organizing a wide range of activities to interest new groups of people (including those in the commercial sector) in the Centre's research and documentation work. With the ASC-65 logo on its own postage stamp and ASC-65 activities clearly advertised on the ASC's updated website and elsewhere, this certainly happened. The most important jubilee activity was the conference entitled 'Africa Works!' that the Centre co-organized in Zeist with the Netherlands-African Business Council (NABC) at the end of October, and which was supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation and the FMO development bank. The conference attracted, in addition to Princess Máxima, over 500 participants from a wide variety of backgrounds in business, policy-making, the media, NGOs and the scientific community. The NABC and the ASC had jointly published a Dutch-language magazine (*Het Nieuwe Afrika*, The New Africa) that was widely distributed prior to the conference. This ASC-NABC collaboration was a sort of reunion because the Afrika Instituut, which started in 1947, had split into separate scientific (the ASC) and business (the NABC) units in 1958. Over the last few decades, the ASC has developed ties with relevant policy and NGO worlds in the Netherlands and Africa but its links with the business community have remained limited. It is hoped that this conference will have created opportunities for continued cooperation that can be developed in the near future. The ASC's web dossier on Business and Entrepreneurship in Africa, which can be found on the ASC website, shows how much the Centre's library has to offer. The conference also gave many of the ASC's research staff a chance to showcase the relevance of the Centre's work but it was equally a warning not to jump too quickly from Afro-pessimism to Afro-euphoria, as is happening a lot in business circles these days.

The other jubilee activities were organized either independently by the ASC or in cooperation with various institutes and organizations. The Dutch-language journal *Internationale Spectator*, published by Clingendael, the Netherlands Institute of International Relations, devoted an entire volume to Africa, to which many ASC staff contributed. The ASC Library made a nice booklet inviting people to go on 'Safari in Leiden' and organized guided tours for those who

wanted to see the historical ties there are between Leiden and Africa. We also produced a booklet of pictures of the history of the ASC for our own current and former members of staff; co-organized a Leiden-focused 'Africa in the Picture' film festival; and held, with IDEA, a debating contest on the subject of 'African Youth in the Netherlands and in Africa'. This attracted a lot of young people with a diaspora background and was so successful that we have decided to repeat it every year. The ASC also organized an auction to raise money for the Kakaran Foundation, which was started by a former director, Gerti Hesselings. And finally there was a Swahili play, put on by our colleagues and students from Leiden University's Department of African Languages, that gave us an opportunity to see what goes on in the Swahili-speaking part of Heaven. The corridors at the ASC were extra colourful in 2012 too because of particularly beautiful African art exhibitions. All in all, the ASC can look back on a busy but very enjoyable 2012 and we would like to thank everybody who helped to make it such a success!

Other things happened in addition to the ASC's jubilee activities in 2012. A start was made with our new research programme, a new management structure (with one research programme and an elected Chair of the new Researchers' Assembly, namely Benjamin Soares) and an updated and attractive website. The Board of Governors also changed, with Hans Opschoor as its newly appointed chairperson, and we welcomed Agnes van Ardenne and Bernard Berendsen as new members. The ASC is very grateful to Bea Ambags, whose term on the Board came to an end in 2012, for all the support she has given the ASC and for providing such valuable connections to the world of diplomacy.

Two important research-for-policy programmes came to an end in 2012: Tracking Development (with the KITLV in Leiden and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and the IS Academy's 'The State in Africa' (with the Directorate for Sub-Saharan Africa [DAF] at the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs). Journalist Dirk Vlasblom summarized the main conclusions and controversies that emerged from the Tracking Development project in Dutch (an English summary is to follow) and the final products of the various



The ASC staff. Photo Petra van der Spek



Tracking Development activities will be rounded off in 2013. The IS Academy held a final conference to highlight the relevance of its research findings for the Ministry's new focus and knowledge policy. The sequel to Tracking Development is 'Initiating and Sustaining Developmental Regimes in Africa' and arrangements for continued cooperation with the Africa Directorate at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are being planned.

2012 also saw another farewell conference, this time in honour of Prof. Wim van Binsbergen, one of the ASC's prominent and prolific anthropologists. He was retiring after a long career at the ASC where, in recent years, he had focused on cultural globalization in connection with virtuality, Information and Communication Technology, ethnicity and religion. The conference was on Asia-Africa relationships in pre-1500 times and brought together an interesting mix of historians, archaeologists, language specialists and anthropologists who spent two days exchanging fascinating opinions and visions.

There were many new research products in 2012 and the ASC was delighted that the *Africa Yearbook*, which has been co-edited by researcher Klaas van

Walraven since 2004, was awarded the prestigious Conover-Porter Award 2012. This is presented every two years by the Africana Librarians' Council of the US African Studies Association and recognizes outstanding achievement in Africana bibliography and reference tools. Another of the ASC's senior researchers, Mirjam de Bruijn, started her VICI project in 2012, combining this with her professorship at Leiden University and developing her well-publicized work for the ASC on mobile phones and mobility in Africa.

In 2013, the ASC will continue its new research programme, its collaborative research-group activities, its Research Masters programme in African Studies and its contributions to the CERES research school, officially launch its ASC Community and the related Country Meetings, continue to contribute to the planned Leiden Global network, and maintain its many old and new contacts outside academia in the run-up to the European Conference on African Studies in Lisbon. After all its celebrations in 2012, the ASC is ready for its next 65 years!

Ton Dietz
Director



Sjaan van Marrewijk
1947-2012

It was with the deepest sadness that the African Studies Centre learned of the sudden death of Sjaan van Marrewijk on 24 November 2012. Sjaan had left the ASC in 2010 but had been a dedicated librarian at the Centre for more than twenty years and loved her work on the lending and information desk where she supported numerous students and researchers in their quest for information about Africa. She was 'one of the faces of the ASC' for many years and visitors and staff alike will always remember her warmth, enthusiasm and friendliness.





RESEARCH PROGRAMME

8 Introduction

Since it was founded 65 years ago, the African Studies Centre (ASC) in Leiden has become one of the world's leading centres for the study and dissemination of knowledge about Africa. Its academic research, which is primarily in the social sciences and the humanities, has a strong empirical base and is also attentive to policy debates in Africa, the Netherlands and elsewhere. The ASC has an extensive library and documentation centre with one of the best Africana collections in Europe. The Centre has close connections with colleagues in global and area studies elsewhere in Leiden and the Netherlands, with Africanists in the Netherlands and Europe (especially through AEGIS, the African Studies in Europe group) and with colleagues in Africa (through CODESRIA and other networks), Asia and the Americas.

The ASC's new research programme for 2012-2016 is entitled 'Africa and Global Restructuring'. It officially began in January 2012 following an external evaluation, internal consultations (with research staff presenting their 'research dreams') and advice from the Scientific Advisory Council (*Wetenschappelijke Raad van Advies*). The final go-ahead was given by the Board of Governors (*Curatorium*). This section of the Annual Report highlights the new research programme and its major areas of focus. Many of the ASC's publications that appeared in 2012 (see the Publications section in the Appendix) were the result of work done as part of the previous research programme with its three research groups (Connections and Transformations; Economy, Environment and Exploitation; and Social Movements and Political Culture in Africa). Since January 2012, there has been one research programme that encompasses four focus areas, and six collaborative research groups. Individual researchers may be members of more than one collaborative research group and can work in one or more of the focus areas. The publications and activities of individual researchers may therefore appear under more than one focus area.

The ASC's new research cycle seeks to better understand Africa within the recent historical juncture of global restructuring. The proliferation of new economic, political and cultural alliances since the 1990s, the recent global economic crisis and the emergence of new global powers indicate a global restructuring in which Africa's place is markedly different from what it was just a decade ago. Within this rapidly changing global context, various countries in Africa, even some without oil or mineral wealth, have been experiencing relatively high rates of economic growth. There has been increasing demand for African resources, most notably oil, minerals and land, shifting patterns of trade and exchange, as well as considerable discussion about new investment opportunities in Africa and the continent's ties with partners in Asia and Latin America. Africa's rapidly growing population is youthful and urbanized, and many Africans are benefiting from improved health and well-being. Other important trends in Africa include the emergence of a sizeable middle class, on-going religious dynamism and cultural creativity, and the spread of new technologies, such as the mobile telephone and satellite television. The ASC is attempting to understand this accelerated change in relation to earlier political economic configurations, shifting patterns of inequality and access to resources, and forms of conflict in Africa. It thus links processes that can be considered to take place at micro levels to macro-level developments.

The Centre positions its research, educational programmes, documentation and outreach work within this larger context of Africa in a world of change. In addition to its linkages with the wider academic community, it is in close contact with major actors in the Netherlands, including policy makers, NGOs, the business community and others with an interest in Africa. The ASC is contributing to the current focus areas of Dutch government policy, namely security and the rule of law, food security, water issues, and sexual and reproductive health and rights, while still maintaining its academic independence and its own research agenda.

The ASC's research programme for 2012-2016 focuses on the following major areas:

- Resources and well-being
- Constellations of governance
- Identification and belonging in a media age
- Africa's global connections

These four areas are interconnected and are being studied with flexible and shifting emphasis by the Centre's researchers and members of the newly formed ASC Community. Africa's position in global restructuring is closely linked to demands for its resources, which has an impact on material and immaterial aspects of well-being as well as patterns of exclusion, inequality and poverty on the continent. Markets rather than states are nowadays seen as the major drivers of change and the shifts in power relations between state and non-state, local, national and transnational actors require critical analysis. New constellations of governance are marked by considerable contradictions and zones of conflict with major implications for resource use, the sharing of Africa's increased wealth and the well-being of Africans. Processes of identification and modes of belonging, notably people's hopes, plans and aspirations, are also being influenced by global restructuring. At the same time, processes of identification and belonging are helping to shape political and economic changes as new alliances are forged, which may also help generate adversity and conflict. New information and communication technologies are increasingly important factors in these dynamics. For Africans in Africa and beyond, global restructuring means connecting to a multitude of old and new players from across the globe. For Europe and Africanists, these developments pose new challenges that the ASC is taking up in its research programme.

There are clear linkages between the ASC's four main research topics and the four focus areas in the development policy of the Minister for International Trade and Development Cooperation. The business development and food-security policy domain has a strong connection with the ASC's research on resources and well-being and additional links to the other ASC research subjects. The water policy domain is clearly connected with subjects that

come under 'resources and well-being' as well, and governance and Africa's global connections are important in attempts to understand Africa's water-policy issues. The sexual and reproductive health and rights policy domain has close linkages to the ASC's identification and belonging research but is also connected to elements of the resources and well-being topic and research on Africa's global connections. Finally, the security and rule of law policy domain has obvious overlap with the ASC's governance research topic and there is also a link to Africa's global connections too. The ASC's research and documentation offer robust research-based insights into contexts relevant for all four major policy domains and the ten African focus countries of the Netherlands development policy, but also in a wider regional and Africa-wide orientation. In 2012 the ASC proved itself to be able to fruitfully connect the worlds of research with those of business, policy and civil society.

The ASC's more general publications and activities in 2012 are presented below before the focus moves on to each of the four specific research areas, a list of researchers who visited the Centre as part of its Visiting Fellowship programme and a statistical overview of the ASC's publications. A detailed list of all the publications produced by ASC staff in 2012 can be found in the Appendix to this Annual Report.

Africa Yearbook

As usual, the ASC contributed to the *Africa Yearbook* that is published by Brill Publishers and gives a comprehensive overview of political and economic developments in Sub-Saharan Africa in the previous calendar year. The *Africa Yearbook 2012* was the 8th edition and provides information about events and developments in 2011. Klaas van Walraven was again one of the co-editors (with Andreas Mehler from the Institut für Afrika-Kunde in Hamburg and Henning Melber from the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation in Uppsala) and contributed chapters on West Africa and Niger. Other ASC staff also contributed chapters: Jan Abbink (on Ethiopia and Somalia), Han van Dijk (Chad), Ineke van Kessel (South Africa) and Martin van Vliet (Mali). At the African Studies Association's annual conference, it was announced that the *Africa Yearbook* had won the important Conover-Porter Award for 2012.

Area Studies in General

Klaas van Walraven wrote about macro-economic changes in Africa, Stephen Ellis about Nigeria and Ton Dietz about development in a broad sense for a special issue of the *Internationale Spectator* (in Dutch) that was devoted to Africa. Jan Hoorweg continued his work on the Kenya Coast with an updated bibliography. Ton Dietz also wrote a short history of Africa for the Dutch-language business magazine *Management Scope*, and contributed a monthly column on a variety of issues in and about Africa in *OneWorld Magazine* (in Dutch). Jos Damen produced various contributions for the world of information specialists in 2012 as well as a study of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century letters that were sent from Ghana to the Netherlands. In addition, the ASC published a working paper by visiting fellow Solani Ngobeni on scholarly publishing in Africa and the challenges facing African university presses.

The ASC at 65!

The joint publication of a magazine about the 'new Africa' by the ASC and the Netherlands Business Council in 2012 was one of the celebrations to mark the 65th anniversary of the Afrika Instituut (the predecessor of the ASC and the Netherlands-African Business Council). Researchers wrote about the activities of the ASC and their view of the new and 'booming' Africa. Another anniversary activity involved a booklet by Edith de Roos and Jos Damen entitled 'Safari in Leiden' that invited readers to see the city's historic ties with the continent.

Research focus areas

A: Resources and Well-being

Africa presents a wide range of opportunities for research in the fields of economic development and well-being. These are apparent in the life histories and plans of individuals when considering people's aspirations and dreams for a better life but are also manifest in the diverse planned development and change models that the state, international donors and non-state actors have initiated and promoted, and private companies' investment and strategic plans. People

have exploited and transformed natural and other (financial, human) resources to create economic, social, political and cultural networks and institutions locally, regionally and (trans-) nationally, and have thus been involved in processes of inclusion as well as exclusion. Over time, individual and collective plans for improved well-being may have worked out differently because people live and work in highly volatile, uncertain and often adverse social, economic and political conditions, and the intentions and aspirations of some clash with those of others.

Central to this field of inquiry is how individual and collective plans and actions affect Africans' trajectories to improved well-being at the level of the individual, local community, region and the state within the context of global restructuring. More specifically, the ASC is aiming to arrive at a better understanding of (i) how people in contemporary Africa perceive the role of and use Africa's main physical resources, namely (arable) land, mineral resources, livestock, physical infrastructure, water and labour; in their trajectories towards improved well-being; (ii) how these perceptions and uses relate to and interact with the economic, social and political contexts that are increasingly being shaped by today's global restructuring (including various transnational companies with headquarters across the globe); and (iii) the effects of individual and collective plans and trajectories on the productive potential and sustainability of these resources. The focal points in this field of inquiry include (i) possibilities for improved well-being in terms of land, water and food security and more inclusive access to these resources; (ii) issues of food, land, water and youth (un)employment in and around Africa's expanding urban centres and cities; and (iii) the effects of changing perceptions and the use of resources on the quality of life and human development (physical and mental health, nutrition, educational level, skills). One specific project's focus is the impact of expanding food, water and energy demands from Africa's urban centres on rural hinterlands, competing claims to land and water for the export production of food, biofuel and other agricultural products, the implications for food security in urban and rural settings, and cooperation and conflict over natural resources.



Children at Lanfierra Primary School in northwest Burkina Faso. Photo Michiel van den Bergh

Livelihoods, Risks, Interventions and Development

With increasing questions surrounding development aid and its effectiveness and politicians and the general public demanding 'proof of impact', new challenges are presenting themselves for scientists who want to contribute to development-oriented debates while still maintaining their scholarly independence. The ASC is contributing to these debates in various ways. More generally, it is attempting to show that a bottom-up perspective of 'impact assessment' is possible and can provide useful results. The PADev project, in which the ASC has been one of the research partners, is proof of the value of 'participatory assessment of development'. Ton Dietz contributed a chapter on such methods to a book on local governance and poverty in developing nations and, with the help of Qiu Li from Hunan University, produced a Chinese-language contribution for the African Studies journal published in Jinhua, China. The livelihoods approach is still one of the main ingredients here but is increasingly being used as part of institutional analysis. Risk assessment,

group formation for shared risk-taking and enforcement mechanisms are a growing field of study, sometimes with a specific gender focus. Marleen Dekker contributed two publications to this field of study that were based on research in villages in Sub-Saharan Africa. A special form of risk coping (and of extreme exploitation) was presented by Akinyinka Akinyoade and Francesco Carchedi in an English- and Italian-language book focusing on the trafficking of people from Nigeria to Sicily that was published by the Italian publishers Ediesse. Research into the impact of government-initiated programmes on household formation was carried out in Zimbabwe, where Marleen Dekker and Bill Kinsey from the Ruzivo Trust studied the effects of resettlement programmes on household formation in Zimbabwe. Visiting fellow Raphael Babatunde produced an ASC working paper on the effects of off-farm income diversification on agricultural production in rural Nigeria and visiting fellow Adalbertus Kamanzi published four ASC working papers while at the ASC, all dealing in one way or another with livelihood issues but touching on additional key ASC research themes too. He explored the value of banana production among the Haya in northwestern Tanzania; wrote about the so-called vignette methodology as a way of enriching ethnographic studies; connected the experience of a degrading environment and the discourse of development; and co-authored an essay on using power analysis to study participation in Tanzania.

Tracking Development

The Tracking Development project, which compared the growth and transformation trajectories of South East Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, formally came to an end in 2012. The 2013 volume in the Centre's African Dynamics series will present its results and findings, while science journalist Dirk Vlasblom wrote a summary booklet in Dutch on the project (*Een kwestie van goed boeren*). An English version (*The Richer Harvest*) is scheduled to appear in 2013. The two Asian PhD students in the programme defended their PhDs in Amsterdam on 19 April 2012: Ahmed Helmy Fuady's compared elites and economic policies in Indonesia and Nigeria between 1966 and 1998, and Leang Un investigated the educational policies and development in Uganda and Cambodia from the end of the civil war (in both countries) until the present.

12 Reaching the Unreachables: Aiming Towards Inclusive Development

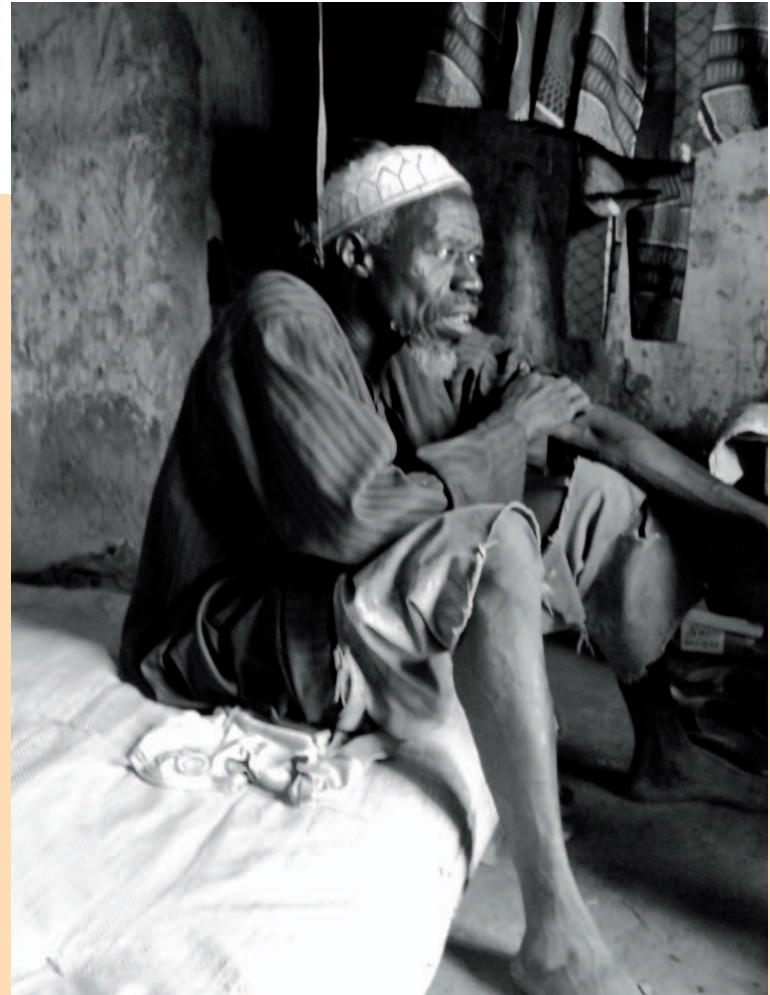
The PADev (Participatory Assessment of Development) research project started to focus on the assessment of development interventions from the perception of recipients in Burkina Faso and Ghana in 2007. One of the most important and striking conclusions of the study was its failure to reach the poor and the very poor, i.e. the bulk of interventions were not reaching these groups.

This important conclusion left some development organizations wondering whether they should adjust their targeting practices or if they should redefine their target groups. For the Dutch development organization Woord en Daad the choice was obvious: they wanted to reach the very poorest people and agreed to fund a part of my PhD research on targeting the very poor.

This research which is being carried out in Bangladesh, Benin and Ethiopia, focuses on why (locally defined) very poor people are often isolated from development initiatives, who these people really are and what struggles they face. The reason for including Bangladesh in the project is to try and connect Asian experiences (in a country where NGOs are experimenting with and developing methods of reaching the very poor) with African experiences. Prof. Ton Dietz, the Director of the ASC, is supervising this research project with Dr Nicky Pouw from the University of Amsterdam.

Initial Findings from Benin

The research in Benin took place in three villages in the north of the country around a town called Nikki. It was once again striking that hardly any of those who were locally regarded as the very poorest were included in a development initiative. The reason for this is twofold. On the one hand, the very poor are excluded from the society they live in simply because they belong to the 'bottom of the pile' and hence lack a strong social safety net. Even their families may sometimes shun them. On the other hand, the very poor exclude themselves from actively participating in society at the same time as they lack



One of the participants in Anika's research project on the ultra-poor. Photo Anika Altaf

self-confidence, have low self-esteem and do not feel welcome even in their own communities. This psychological aspect of poverty is underestimated by development organizations and in the literature. Increasing understanding of this and other aspects of poverty will certainly help to ensure greater inclusion of the very poor in development projects.

Anika Altaf

Both PhD researchers had been connected to the ASC's research partner, the KITLV. The two African PhD students, who are based at the ASC, spent 2012 finalizing their theses for defence in 2013. Blandina Kilama compared the cashew-nut sectors in Vietnam and Tanzania, while Bethuel Kinuthia researched foreign direct investment in the industrial sectors in Kenya and Malaysia. And the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs decided in 2012 to support a sequel to Tracking Development, the 'Initiating and Sustaining Developmental Regimes in Africa' project, in which the ASC and the UK-based Overseas Development Institute will work together.

Vulnerable Groups

The ASC continued to study and publish on various marginalized economic groups in Africa. Jan Hoorweg and his group published a study on the socioeconomic conditions of artisanal fishermen on the Kenya Coast and the ASC also published a book (in the African Studies Collection) by visiting fellow Adalbertus Kamanzi on fisheries and gender relations at the Lake Victoria landing sites in Tanzania. Marcel Rutten and visiting fellow Moses Mwangi published on the impact of electronic monetary transactions for mobile livestock keepers in Kenya, which linked up with the research focus area of identification and belonging in a media age. And Ton Dietz and his fellow researchers wrote an article on developments in sugarcane production in Mauritius and their effect on farmers and factories. The ASC published Ntewusu Samuel Aniegye's PhD study on the socioeconomic history of northern traders and transporters in Accra. In addition, Robert Romborah Simiyu defended his PhD thesis on gender dynamics in urban agriculture in Eldoret, Kenya, which highlighted the impact of the 2007-2008 post-election violence on the city's poor neighbourhoods too.

Food and Water Security

The ASC has long had an interest in food and water security, subjects that are again high on the Dutch political agenda for supporting development. Akinyinka Akinyoade, André Leliveld and colleagues from the PBL did an explorative study on food security in Sub-Saharan Africa; Ton Dietz wrote



Children fetching water for their family's livestock, Guidougou, northwest Burkina Faso.

Photo Michiel van den Bergh

about the promises of African agriculture and with André Leliveld on lessons that Africa's agriculture could learn from South East Asia according to the Tracking Development project. In cooperation with Wijnand Klaver, Sebastiaan Soeters and Anika Altaf, Ton Dietz produced an information poster to highlight the dynamics of agricultural consumption and production between 1961 and 2009 in selected African countries, including the ten current focus countries of Dutch development assistance. And with Dick Foeken, Sebastiaan Soeters and Nel de Vink, he created an information poster and map showing how Africa has

14 Urban Food Security

The demand for a stake in Africa's agricultural potential is rising. China and several countries in the Middle East are increasingly looking to tap Africa's agricultural potential to help feed their own populations, whilst Europe continues to dominate the coffee, flower, tea and cocoa export sectors. Africa of course has its own growing food requirements too and demand is most notably being driven by the continent's rapid urbanization, which is now considered the fastest on earth.

To establish food-secure cities, the agricultural output of staple foods will need to grow at least as fast as Africa's cities. In most African countries, agriculture has indeed shown a promising start in its response to this challenge, although yields still remain the lowest on the planet. However, increased production alone will not be enough. Market linkages will need to be strengthened and smallholder farmers will have to turn themselves into entrepreneurs. Instead of engaging in subsistence farming, they will be required to see farming as a business. But herein lies enormous potential: linking smallholder farmers with rising urban consumption may in fact induce both rural and urban development.

To ensure this happens, the mechanics of the local food supply chains, which begin with smallholder farmers and end with urban consumers, will require strengthening if Africa's cities are to become food secure on the one hand, and its farmers are to benefit from the growing demand for food from the continent's urban centres on the other. Who are the actors in the urban food chains and how do they relate to one another? How can such chains be bolstered so as to reduce post-harvest loss and increase market access as well as access to inputs? And how do urban supply chains act and react to the other demands being placed on Africa's agricultural systems, such as production for export and biofuel?

Challenges abound in attempts to unearth and understand how urban food chains in Africa work and the trends that will determine how they will perform in the future. What is perhaps most notable is the dearth of relevant data. The ASC has initiated a research collaborative to examine the plans for food-secure and sustainable cities and hopes to make a meaningful contribution to discussions concerning food-secure cities now and in the future.

Sebastian Soeters



The Hawkers Market in Nairobi's Central Business District. Photo Sebastian Soeters

changed from being a continent of states to a continent of cities, with a focus on the impact that the continent's rapid urbanization and its growing middle class are having on hinterland agriculture. Considerable work was carried out in 2012 to develop these themes within the Agrohubs Collaborative Group and to develop a larger project called AGRIHUBS: Africa's Green Revolution: Indicators of Hope, Urbanization, Business Development and State Agency. Urban and peri-urban agriculture has been a niche for ASC research over the last decade. Connecting water and agriculture, Ton Dietz and colleagues Mathew Kurian *et al.* wrote about the reuse of urban wastewater in peri-urban agriculture. PhD student Michiel van den Bergh published the first results of his study on the impact of land-use changes (mainly expanding crop cultivation) in the Sahel on long-distance migratory birds, which connects the ASC's socioeconomic research with research relating to changes in the natural environment in Africa. Linked to his work in Wageningen, ASC researcher Han van Dijk finalized the supervision of three PhD projects on food production and on natural resources management in Asia (but with relevance for Africa as well).

Urban Water

Urban water security was the focus of Dick Foeken and visiting fellow Sam Owuor's case study of a community water-supply project in Kisumu, Kenya and of a second study of water interventions for the urban poor in a small urban centre in southwestern Kenya. Rural water supplies in the Maasai areas of Kenya were investigated by Marcel Rutten and visiting fellow Moses Mwangi who concentrated on innovations in shallow water wells, increased conflict and water scarcity as a result of competing demands, such as those from the expanding export-oriented flower industry. Three ASC Infosheets were produced by Marcel Rutten and Ulrich Pickmeier and Joost Aarts (both from Radboud University Nijmegen) and Moses Mwangi (SEKU, Kenya) to highlight the results of the CoCooN programme that is studying aspects of conflict and cooperation around water access and distribution in Kenya.

Innovations

To understand Africa's current economic dynamics, it is important to take a long-term view and compare innovations that have transformed Africa. The 2012 volume in the African Dynamics series, which was edited by Jan-Bart Gewald, André Leliveld and Leiden University's Iva Peša, studied 'transforming innovations', with André Leliveld and his colleagues Cees van Beers (TU Delft) and Peter Knoringa (ISS/EUR) using the example of Unilever's soap-powder sachets to illustrate what they call 'frugal innovations'. These contributions are partly a result of a VIDI research programme, coordinated by Jan-Bart Gewald, on the history of innovations in Africa. Sebastiaan Soeters, one of the PhD students in this programme and who graduated in 2012, did research into how the introduction of motorized transportation has shaped the social and economic lives of the rapidly growing urban population in Tamale in northern Ghana.



Sebastiaan Soeters's PhD defence, Leiden University, 8 May. Photo Katja Soeters



16 **B: Constellations of Governance: Social Roots, Political Conjunctures**

Governance, a term that emerged in the late 1980s, is an object of both scholarly study and policy approaches and is usually understood as the system of political management and a public good. In Africa, governance in this sense has remained deeply problematic despite economic dynamism and growth in many countries over the last few decades. In light of the continued challenges surrounding governance and uncertain donor-country policies towards Africa with major shifts in the 'aid industry', there are signs of a rethinking of the scope and role of the state in Africa and notable reinterpretations of the history of Africa's late-colonial and early post-colonial states, both in mainstream social-science discourses and among policy makers. The ASC is studying these dynamics to observe and understand public debates on and contestations of politics, representation and governance that have led to new political experiments, hesitant democratic reforms but also movements of authoritarian restoration and outbreaks of violent conflict. In addition to the persistence of durable socio-political and ethno-regional fault lines in many African societies, scholarly attention is required to understand the effects of the 'rolling back' of the state following the liberalization policies and World Bank-inspired structural adjustment programmes that have been implemented since the 1980s. These have contributed to what have become known as 'weak' or 'fragile' states on the one hand, and the proliferation of non-state governance arrangements and public-private partnerships on the other. Relations between central/federal and local-level state bureaucracies and power holders have in some cases changed dramatically. And those between modern or formal (pseudo-)state agencies and traditional, indigenous or informal ones have also shifted. The weakening of centralist, authoritarian state regimes has propelled regional, non-political or neo-traditional actors to the forefront, for example ethno-regional movements, criminal groups, religiously based organizations and youth groups. Such actors and new forms of conflict have stimulated scholarly interest in emerging socio-political and institutional dynamics beyond the state. Rethinking the role of the state follows on from increased interest in Africa and among scholars in the preconditions of a strong state and 'developmental dictatorship' concepts

behind such metaphors as 'dragon', 'tiger' and 'samba' that refer to the emerging economies in Asia and Latin America and their impact on and relevance for Africa. It also questions the role of the military and joint military, economic and legal arrangements between African states and others at the sub-regional, regional and continental levels, including the African Union and/or other geopolitical actors.

Within this field of research, understanding politics in Africa entails studying such complex constellations of governance and uncovering the (local and global) powers behind governance-in-action. The focus of the ASC's research in this context is on participatory reassessments of Africa's own post-independence histories, the relevance of classical periodization (colonial, post-colonial), current aspirations concerning governance and politics among the various actors (state, business, political and religious groups and individuals) and issues related to security and the rule of law, an ideal upheld by many Africans and one that is also prominent in current Dutch-government policies towards Africa.

The Role of the State

Research being done at the ASC also focuses on the role of the state in Africa. Jan Abbink studied Ethiopia's ethnically based federalism and is concerned about such a system of governance. He and Dr Tobias Hagmann (from Roskilde University, Denmark) also evaluated the years of Ethiopia's revolutionary democracy and co-edited a special edition of the *Journal of Eastern African Studies* on this topic. As part of his research for the Tracking Development project, Akinyinka Akinyoade published a chapter on ministerial tenure stability and its connection with national development, comparing Indonesia and Nigeria. Benjamin Soares was invited to publish a piece on the on-going crisis in Mali for *The New York Times* and Martin van Vliet wrote about Mali's predicament and the challenges of retaking northern Mali for the Combating Terrorism Centre at West Point in the US. They and other members of the ASC research community spent a great deal of time following developments in and commenting on Mali and the broader region. Martin van Vliet published an article on this complex conflict entitled 'While the African Lions are Roaring, the Sahel is on Fire' (in



Dutch) and Benjamin Soares wrote an editorial about the recent chaos in Mali for *Anthropology Today*. Another Sahelian country that received considerable research attention at the ASC was Niger. Klaas van Waltraven finalized his extensive study of the politics of decolonization and insurrection in this strategic country, which has major uranium deposits, and this will appear as a monograph in 2013. He also published a chapter on the Sawaba movement in the 2012 volume in the African Dynamics series. The ASC also published a working paper by Daan Beekers and Bas van Gool (both from the VU University, Amsterdam) on post-colonial governance in Sub-Saharan Africa as a shift from patronage to neopatrimonialism.

The IS Academy on the State in Africa

To mark the end of the IS Academy's 'The State in Africa', the ASC and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized a successful final conference to discuss the programme's findings in the light of the Dutch government's new multi-annual plans for development collaboration for its ten African focus countries. Two of the programme's PhD students graduated in 2012: Melle Leenstra defended his PhD on the instrumentalization of Zambia's health sector and Lotje de Vries defended her thesis entitled 'Facing Frontiers, Everyday Practice of State-building in South Sudan' that gives a transnational perspective on regional fragility and the construction of the South Sudanese state as viewed from peripheral border regions.

Political Parties

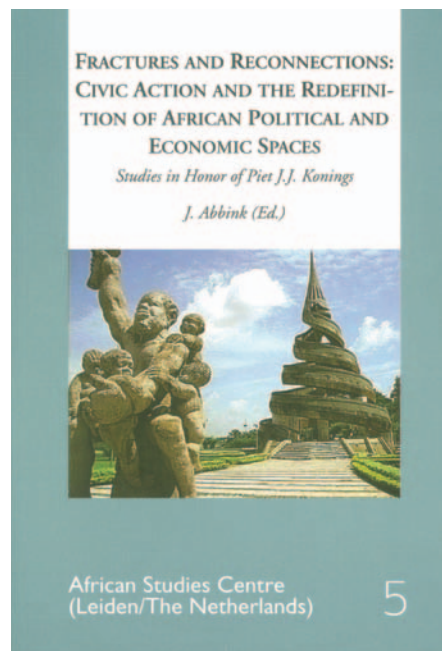
In 2012, Stephen Ellis published a landmark book on South Africa's ANC party and its history in exile. The relationship between politics and crime during this period was also highlighted in a journal article for the *South African Historical Journal*. Martin van Vliet published a book chapter about shifts in the political party landscape in Mali, a country that has long been viewed in donor circles as a success story when it comes to good governance. Stephen Ellis's on-going research on transnational organized crime and its shady connections with politics and the state in Africa resulted in a chapter on Nigeria in a handbook about organized crime. And Ineke van Kessel continued her work on the trajectories of former UDF activists in post-apartheid South Africa and she

shared her concerns about the contemporary ANC in her contribution to the *Internationale Spectator*.

Civic Action

Studying politics and governance in Africa cannot be done without considering the role of civic action and non-governmental organizations. Jan Abbink edited a book on civic action and the redefinition of African political and economic spaces as a tribute to Piet Konings, an ASC researcher who spent much of his academic life studying civic movements in Africa, including trade unions. The current emphasis at the ASC on the shifting context of African labour movements is a continuation of his work. The new research was initially commissioned by the CNV, one of the Dutch labour unions, but it has also

led to the formation of a new collaborative group (to start in 2013) that will broaden the ASC's research on labour. Stephen Ellis and Prof. Sakhela Buhlungu (from the University of Pretoria) wrote a chapter about the trade-union movement in South Africa and its tangled relationship with the state since the year 2000. The ASC was also involved in a study of the role of transnational and local civil society in the Niger Delta and, in cooperation with Cordaid which is one of the major Dutch support organizations for African NGOs, Akinyinka Akinyoade published a report

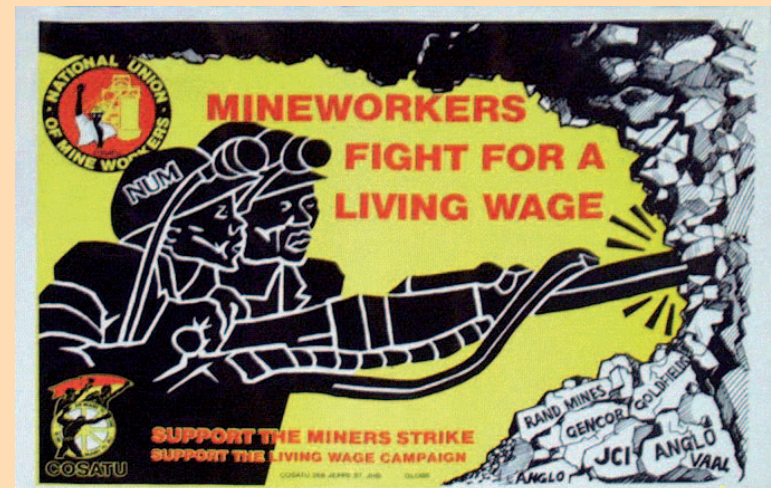


18 Trade Unions and Labour Issues in Africa

The ASC has conducted eight country studies over the last three years to analyse the economic and political contexts in which partner trade unions of CNV International have to operate and manoeuvre. They were all commissioned by the international department of this Dutch trade union and, together, the studies (of Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea, Madagascar, Niger, Senegal, South Africa and Togo) provide a fascinating account of the challenges and struggles trade unions face in Africa today. Some common issues can be distilled from them. Strong alliances with or interventions by national governments are the rule rather than the exception, and these compromise the unions' independence and their role as a countervailing power in society. Most trade unions represent formal-sector workers only and are struggling to reach informal-sector workers, who still constitute the majority of the workforce in Africa. In many countries, an effective social dialogue that brings together representatives from government, trade unions and employers is lacking although the legislation is in place, as it is for many other labour issues. But, as a representative in the Togo study put it: 'words cannot be eaten'.

There are huge variations between African countries in how labour legislation and political arenas around labour issues are shaped. The latter raises intriguing questions regarding the role of international organizations (such as the ILO) and donors that promote trade unionism, social dialogue, labour legislation and the like in African countries. The country studies seem to suggest that a one-size-fits-all approach does not work and they highlight the importance of a political-economy and situational analysis of labour-related issues in African countries in order to better understand local dynamics. Particularly as a result of the work of Piet Konings, the ASC has a strong record concerning this type of analysis. A new ASC research collaborative entitled 'Trade Unions and Labour Issues in Africa' has been set up to build on this legacy.

Several African economies have shown unprecedented economic growth in the last fifteen years. At the same time, income inequalities are growing and



trade unions, NGOs, civic organizations and individual voters in Africa are asking critical questions about how inclusive and sustainable this economic growth actually is. And internationally too, the donor policy agenda seems to be moving towards an 'inclusiveness agenda', as is manifest in the UNDP's 'Inclusive Development' agenda and the ILO's 'Decent Work for All' programme. This emphasizes once again the importance of labour studies in African Studies, a field to which the ASC will continue to contribute.

André Leliveld



on the negotiations over the oil-spill regulatory mechanism in Nigeria. African faith-based organizations and religious movements are an important part of civil society too and Stephen Ellis and Gerrie ter Haar published a chapter on religion and politics in Africa.

Conflict, Violence and Security Issues

Conflicts and security issues are a major part of the ASC's research. In his contribution to the *Internationale Spectator*, Jan Abbink wrote about security issues and dilemmas in the Horn of Africa and also published a keynote lecture on the Arab Spring in North Africa. Many of Africa's governance-based conflicts are related to access to and the use of natural resources. Jan Abbink produced a journal article on the developmental discourse and contested visions of the new Ethiopian Omo River Dam, Mayke Kaag published a report on accountability in land governance in Senegal for the IS Academy on Land Issues at the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (of which the ASC is also



Ewaso Ng'iro North river. Photo Joost Aarts

a member) and Maru Shete, a new PhD student in the same programme, started research on foreign land acquisitions in Ethiopia. Despite the challenges of convening a research team in Kenya, research into cooperation and conflict on natural resources (CoCooN) produced its first results. Together with research partner and visiting fellow Moses Mwangi and various students, Marcel Rutten published three ASC Infosheets: one was on local perspectives on biofuels in Kenya's Tana Delta, the second covered the functioning of water user associations in the Ewaso Ng'iro River Basin and the third dealt with the geopolitical and historical aspects of local conflicts over natural resources in Kenya. Marcel Rutten and various colleagues published two reports on the Tana Delta in Kenya for the Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment. Previous research by Ton Dietz and his research partners into natural resources and violent conflict in northern Kenya resulted in an article on the link between violent conflict, climate dynamics and local institutions in the *Journal of Peace Research* and a chapter considering long-term empirical evidence and dominant theories in a volume on spaces of insecurity in Kenya (published by the ASC in its African Studies Collection). Finally, research collaboration with Tropenbos International and the University of Amsterdam resulted in a contribution to a professional newsletter on forestry research on interactive governance for conflict management in Ghana. The project's main PhD researcher, Mercy Derkyi, defended her PhD in 2012 and it was published in the African Studies Collection under the title *Fighting over Forest: Interactive Governance of Conflicts over Forest and Tree Resources in Ghana's High Forest Zone*.

C: Identification and Belonging in a Media Age

Understanding how people identify themselves and others, and modes of belonging and exclusion have long been central in research at the ASC. This field of inquiry is extending research on identification and belonging in Africa to the current era of global restructuring and the media revolution. The proliferation of new media and communication technologies, most recently the mobile telephone and the Internet but also older mass media such as television, has led to important changes in Africa and has dramatically extended the possibilities for communication over space and time. The role of such media in shifting

20 modes of identification and belonging in Africa in relation to current global political economic changes is, however, not yet well understood.

With the spread of new media and communication technologies, there seems to be a wider range of modes of identification, belonging and possibilities for self-definition. These have become resources in many people's attempts to make a living and get ahead. Such modes of identification and belonging are symbolic resources interlinked with others, such as land and financial resources, that can be mobilized to build alliances and connections with some, or are alternately deployed to delink from and work against others. A slum dweller in a megacity might be an actor in the informal economy and a middle-class professional could be involved in the provisioning of services in the more formal economy. Both are able to draw upon and emphasize particular modes of identification – ethnicity, region, home village, religion, language and/or politics and culture – that are increasingly mediatized. Indeed, their multiple identifications might entail complex links with a home village and villagers for mutual assistance, a religious community, economic and/or leisure networks, and kin in the diaspora. A wealthy businessman who invests in land in his home village to develop a plantation for biofuel might also draw on identification with 'home' but may simultaneously position himself in relation to international business interests and possible investment partners, not to mention the national political field. These phenomena raise important questions about citizenship, transnationalism and multiple forms of identification, as well as shifting norms, values and worldviews.

In its research in this area, the ASC is interested in key moments when identification and belonging are expressed in social, cultural and political forms – rituals of the life course (marriages and funerals), cultural creativity in music, the visual arts, material culture and language, including literature and journalism as well as more popular linguistic forms such as *patois*, slang and SMS usage, and diverse forms of political action and expression and how these change over time, including their mediatization. The focus is particularly on new media, the emergent networks created due to shifting definitions of belonging and

modes of identification, and the changing resources available to individuals and groups. Detailed empirical research is also being explored to see how shifting identifications could lead to new alliances and networks, influence norms, values and worldviews, also in the field of sexual and reproductive rights, facilitate access to new resources, engender forms of exclusion and relations of inequality, or even fuel outright conflict.

Ethnicity

The political role of ethnicity straddles the research focus on governance and on identification. Jan Abbink published an article on political ethnicity in Ethiopia in the *Journal of Eastern African Studies* and Inge Brinkman wrote an article about cultural landscapes during the war in southeastern Angola. Wouter van Beek's publications also focused on ethnicity and included *The Dancing Dead: Ritual and Religion among the Kapsiki/Higi of North Cameroon and Northeastern Nigeria* (published by Oxford University Press), a major monograph of an indigenous religion. In a volume on blacksmiths, he published chapters on ironwork and concepts of femininity as well as on brass casting and masculinity among the Kapsiki and Higi on the Cameroon-Nigeria border. He focused on masks as a social arena among the Dogon of Mali in a volume he co-edited on African tourism, and on the production of identity through songs and performances in a volume documenting oral genres in Africa.

Connections and Identity

Mirjam de Bruijn and Rijk van Dijk co-authored an article on ethnographies of linking in anthropology and co-edited *The Social Life of Connectivity in Africa*, which is a theoretical reflection on the social life of connections in Africa. Mirjam de Bruijn and Inge Brinkman contributed a chapter on research practices in connections research to this volume, while Rijk van Dijk wrote about urban youth, marriage and sexuality in Botswana compared to experiences in the country's rural areas. Much of Mirjam de Bruijn's current work deals with the impact of mobile-phone technology on socioeconomic dynamics. She published a journal article on this, wrote about her fieldwork experiences in Cameroon for the Africa special of the *Internationale Spectator* and started her VICI research,

which is being carried out in cooperation with Leiden University's History Department. And she and Inge Brinkman published an ASC working paper on the effects and meaning of the mobile phone in different areas in Sudan and South Sudan that discussed the results of research carried out in collaboration with a mobile-phone company. Marcel Rutten and visiting fellow Moses Mwangi published a chapter about mobile cash systems (M-Pesa) for Kenyan mobile pastoralists in the ASC's African Dynamics volume on innovations.

Elite Perceptions

Jan Abbink and Dr Tijo Salverda (from the University of Pretoria) edited a volume on the anthropology of elites, including studies on the complexities of distinction, as well as the cultural politics of elites. Wouter van Beek and Annette Schmidt (from the National Museum of Ethnography in Leiden) co-edited a volume on the dynamics of cultural tourism, to which Ineke van Kessel also contributed a chapter on heritage tourism in South Africa. Wouter van Beek connected his studies on ritual and tourist experiences in a study on weddings and the use of water in Africa. A special study of identity, governance and economy was published by the ASC in its African Studies Collection, namely Arnold Pannenborg's PhD thesis that investigated money, politics and foul play in football. Visiting fellow Gary Baines published an ASC working paper about SADF veterans' digital memories and dissenting discourses on the Internet. And the winner of the Africa Thesis Award for 2012 was Nkululeko Mabandla's '*Lahla Ngubo: The Continuities and Discontinuities of a South African Black Middle Class*'.

Religion, Healthcare and Sexuality

Several publications on the sociology of religion, healthcare and sexuality in Africa were produced in 2012. Rijk van Dijk co-edited a volume and contributed a chapter about religion and AIDS treatment in Africa, as well as an introduction to a book on AIDS and transnational connections. The ASC published Jonathan Mensah Dapaah's PhD thesis on the HIV/AIDS-related experiences of patients, nurses and doctors in two Ghanaian hospitals and Rijk van Dijk co-edited a special issue of a journal on counselling, sexuality and intimacy as well as making a contribution on counselling and relational

uncertainty among Christian groups in Botswana and writing a chapter on innovations in wedding ceremonies in the African Dynamics series. Rijk van Dijk and Astrid Bochow from the Max Planck Institute in Halle, Germany edited a special issue of the *Journal of Religion in Africa* on Christianity, sexuality and reproduction in Southern Africa and they also contributed an article to this journal on 'religious heterotopia' in Christian creations of sexual and reproductive relationships. Wouter van Beek wrote about the rituals around health therapies in Africa and, more generally, about personal and institutional purity in Mormonism. PhD student Harry Leyten also published an article on missionary collections as a shared cultural heritage in the Netherlands.

Islam and Muslim Politics

Benjamin Soares's co-edited volume entitled *Islam and Muslim Politics in Africa* was translated into Arabic by a Cairo-based academic and Mayke Kaag contributed a chapter to it on Islamic NGOs in Chad. Jan Abbink wrote about transformations in Islam and communal relations in Ethiopia and Benjamin Soares traced the changes in the intersection of Islam and politics over time in Mali. He also co-edited a special contribution on Islam in West Africa for the online resource *Oxford Islamic Studies Online*.



Religion and Developmentalism

An approach connecting identity studies with studies on development was used by Rijk van Dijk in his publication on Pentecostalism as a developmental ideology in Ghanaian migrant communities. As the editor of *African Diaspora*, he is indirectly involved in research on the African diaspora and its cultural dynamics. He is also involved in research among members of a Pentecostal community in The Hague and wrote a chapter about birth rituals among Ghanaian Pentecostals there for a volume on new festive ceremonies and rituals in the Netherlands, and another on the moral life of the gift and reciprocal relations in this community. One of his previous publications on Pentecostalism among the Ghanaian diaspora community was also translated into Italian.

D: Africa's Global Connections

With the emergence of the new global powers such as China, India, Brazil, Turkey and the Gulf States, the world has become increasingly multipolar in geopolitical terms. What does this multipolarity mean for Africa? How will Africa fare when faced with possible mounting struggles over its raw materials and resources (such as land, water, biomass and mineral resources) and escalating bids for hegemony by different global players? What will happen to new streams of finance and knowledge production and exchange, and the reorientation of Africa's networks? Does this new historical conjuncture offer African countries and social groups room for negotiation and manoeuvre, and will this lead to greater growth and stronger institutions? Such questions are particularly acute given Africa's potential to take advantage of the so-called demographic dividend with so many Africans being young and, even more importantly, healthier and better educated than in the past and poised to enter the workforce.

This theme combines an interest in Africa's changing economic and political linkages to the world with evolving social, political, economic and cultural networks that link Africa and Africans to other parts of the globe, including African diasporas. By taking an African vantage point and highlighting the agency of African groups *vis-à-vis* external actors, this field of enquiry challenges



victimizing views of the continent and shows how African strategies towards these actors are having a significant effect in helping to shape today's world, not least because choices that orientate themselves to new poles and partners are eroding western hegemony in political, economic and cultural domains. The focus of the ASC's research ranges from studies at the local level (new entrepreneurial partnerships, humanitarian and educational encounters, and changing cultural orientations) to the national level (bilateral economic and diplomatic agreements) and the international level (changing alliances in international fora such as the UN). And since the African diaspora is an increasingly important actor in the forging and reinforcing of new global linkages and relationships, it too is receiving particular attention. This research aims to contribute to an understanding of the building processes and the effects of an emerging multipolar world that is shaping new economic and political topographies in Africa and beyond. The ASC's research focuses on: (i) new and changing connections facilitated by technological and institutional innovations; (ii) Africa's position in the global division of labour, world trade and investment patterns, including the shadowy sides such as international fraud and organized crime; (iii) the political consequences of new partnerships and alliances; and (iv) the cultural economy of Africa's linkages with the rest of the world.

Africa and the World in Ancient Times

Although the ASC has long conducted research with a global or transcontinental outlook, the new emphasis on Africa and the world makes it

an even more prominent theme. Wim van Binsbergen, who retired in 2012, was studying this for many years but with a focus on ancient history and his farewell conference was therefore on ancient Asia-Africa connections. He has also published on pre- or protohistoric cosmological substrates that link Eurasia and North America with Africa in *Quest: An African Journal of Philosophy* that he edits. He explained the need to rethink Africa's transcontinental continuities in pre- and protohistory in the *First Yearbook of Chinese African Studies* and also wrote about intercultural philosophy on transcendence, spirituality and healing, connecting Plato and Africa.

Multifocality

The ASC's new research focus is mainly contemporary and requires a multi-regional and multi-agency approach in which the relationships between Africa and the BRIC countries and others will feature prominently. The Centre intends to work more closely with the International Institute of Asian Studies in Leiden as part of the planned LIGA network (Leiden Institute of Global and Area Studies or 'Leiden Global'). The ASC is also planning to study African agency from a variety of perspectives with colleagues from its ASC Community such as Peter Konijn and his team in 'Knowing Emerging Powers'. Stephen Ellis wrote an essay about China using Africa as a testing ground for its role as a world power for the *IIAS Newsletter*.

Transnational Linkages

The 2012 publications list highlights the diversity of the studies being carried out at the ASC on this topic. Mayke Kaag published a chapter comparing Islamic NGOs in Chad and Senegal as well as one on transnational Islamic NGOs in Chad. Ton Dietz and his colleague Qiu Li wrote (in Chinese) on European aid to Africa and methods of participatory assessment of development for the Chinese-language *African Studies*. Akinyinka Akinyoade and Bethuel Kinuthia considered the impact of its diaspora on development in Kenya. And there were various publications on international tourism in Africa that consider the different forms of international and intercultural exchanges. The same is true for research

and publications focusing on foreign investments that make use of Africa's natural and human potential. The ASC also published Emmanuel Nyankwelli's PhD thesis on foreign investments in gold mining in Tanzania and their impact on poverty alleviation.

Focus on Contemporary Issues But with a Touch of History

Although the focus in this research area is on contemporary issues, there are occasionally studies with a more historical approach. For example, in 2012 Ineke van Kessel published a book chapter on the recruitment practices of the Dutch colonial army in what was formerly the Gold Coast.

An Overview of Research Time and Publications

Senior researchers at the African Studies Centre spent in total 15 fte on a variety of activities, of which almost half (7 fte) were on research, 1.5 fte on PhD supervision, 1.5 fte on other teaching activities (including involvement in the Research Masters in African Studies), 3 fte on research management and providing services to the academic community of Africanists and scholars in general (including ASC's publication series but also work as journal and book series editors, on academic juries, managing research projects and researchers) and 2 fte on providing services to the non-academic community (media activities, public debates, policy makers, NGOs and business in both the Netherlands and Africa).

The ASC's research staff produced 160 publications in 2012. Of these, 40% were refereed publications for academics, while the others were PhD theses and non-refereed publications for a mainly academic audience and publications aimed at non-academic users such as policy makers, NGOs, business people, the education sector and/or the media in the Netherlands (often in Dutch) and in Africa (mainly in English but also sometimes in French). A few of the ASC's publications were in Arabic, Chinese and Italian but the vast majority were in English. Most were single-authored publications and the multi-authored publications were frequently co-authored with African colleagues.

Many publications were monographs (including PhD theses), edited volumes or book chapters and there were 23 contributions to academic journals. The ASC's fruitful relationship with Brill Publishers in Leiden again resulted in a rich harvest of collaborative products. The ASC has its own African Studies Collection (with nine volumes in 2012) and its own working paper series (with ten publications), including those written by ASC visiting fellows.



The ASC's publications cover most of Africa, including the ten countries in Africa that are currently the focus countries for Dutch development cooperation. In 2012 most attention was given to Kenya, Mali, Ghana, South Africa, Nigeria and Ethiopia. There were also numerous publications that straddled boundaries, including those between scientific disciplines. The ASC's publications cover anthropology, economics, geography, history, philosophy, political science and sociology, and some even touch on the natural, technical and medical sciences. Some are intentionally

transdisciplinary and cross the boundaries between academia and other knowledge-oriented agencies.

Visiting Fellows at the ASC

The ASC's Visiting Fellowship programme provides scholars from Africa with the opportunity to work at the ASC on data analysis and/or writing, often as part of a joint project with one or more of the Centre's staff. With access to the library and computer facilities at the ASC and Leiden University, others use the time to develop practical projects for implementation in their home countries. They also contribute to the ASC's seminar programme and enrich the Centre's research programme in many other ways too. The following eight fellows were at the ASC in 2012.



Dr Raphael Babatunde has been working in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Farm Management at the University of Ilorin, Nigeria since 1999 where he also coordinates the post-graduate programme. While he was at the ASC, he completed a study entitled 'Assessing the Role of Off-farm Income Diversification on Agricultural Food Production in Rural Nigeria'. He also gave a presentation on strategy concerning food security in Africa at the ASC's *Africa Works!* conference in Zeist in October.



Dr Sofiane Bouhdiba is a demographer at the Faculty of Human and Social Sciences at the University of Tunis. He specializes in issues of health and mortality, in particular causes of death, epidemiological transitions and the history of epidemics. During his time at the ASC, he worked on his forthcoming book on the history of epidemics in colonial Tunisia (1881-1956) and wrote a paper on the socio-demographic dimensions of the Arab Spring in an attempt to understand why Sub-Saharan Africans did not instigate similar revolts to those seen in North Africa.



Dr Gessesse Dessie is an Assistant Professor at the Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources in Ethiopia where he has been coordinating post-graduate climate change and development programmes since 2011. His ASC research was on the interaction between humans and their environment in the context of landscape dynamics, specifically on the role of the high-value stimulant leaf *khat* (*Catha edulis* Forsk.). He produced two papers on the subject and also worked on papers on higher education in forestry and natural resources and on the ethical discourse surrounding *khat* production and its consumption in Ethiopia.



Prof. Momar-Coumba Diop is a research professor at the Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire (IFAN) at Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar and a former technical adviser to the President of the Economic and Social Council of Senegal (1980-1981). He is also the founder of the Dakar-based *Centre de recherche sur les politiques sociales* (CREPOS). He used his time at the ASC to study the reform of the state in Senegal and West Africa and the role of information technologies.



Dr Adalbertus Kamanzi is from the Institute of Rural Development Planning (IRDP) in Dodoma, Tanzania, and is the Director of its Sikiliza Project. His work while at the ASC involved finalizing a manuscript entitled 'Accessing and Letting: Lessons Learnt from the Islands of Lake Victoria to Go beyond the Current HIV/AIDS Discourse'. He also wrote an ethnomethodological study on the influence of modernity on the 'ecosophies' of local people and on the state of public action and service delivery in Tanzania.



Solani Ngobeni is a former academic publisher and currently the Director of Publications at the Africa Institute of South Africa. He visited the ASC to finalize his PhD thesis on 'The Politics and State of Scholarly Publishing in South Africa: The Case of University Presses, Namely, Witwatersrand University Press, University of Cape Town Press, University of South Africa Press, University of Kwazulu-Natal Press and the HSRC Press'. He worked closely with the ASC Library while he was in Leiden.



Dr Samuel Owuor, who is from the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at the University of Nairobi in Kenya, made his fifth visit to the ASC as a visiting fellow in 2012. This gave him the opportunity to work on several publications on issues concerning urban development, governance and management; internal migration and urban-rural links; and water-sector reforms and interventions in Kenya's urban areas.



Dr Abdourahmane Seck, an anthropologist and historian from Senegal and an associate researcher at the LARTES-IFAN in Dakar and the Centre Jacques Berque in Rabat (Morocco), is a specialist on Islam and politics in Senegal. His work while at the ASC primarily involved writing papers on Islam in Senegal; West African youth and their socio-religious values; and the political situation in Senegal under former President A. Wade.

RESEARCH MASTERS IN AFRICAN STUDIES 2011-2012

26 The Research Masters in African Studies (RESMAAS) is a two-year MPhil offered by Leiden University together with the African Studies Centre for small groups of students (the 'Oxford Model'). Courses are given at the ASC in collaboration with CERES, the Research School for Resource Studies for Development that coordinates researchers from universities in the Netherlands offering international development studies. These institutions have all generously ensured that their staff can be available to participate in the lecture programme that involves contributions by a large number of Africanists from different disciplinary specializations. International as well as local (Dutch) students are eligible to apply for the RESMAAS and one or two of these students are often funded by competitive grant initiatives or other external funding. The ASC also participates in other CERES activities, such as its annual summer school and the training programme for PhD students.

Classes for the 2012 RESMAAS intake started in September with five students. Three of them are from Europe: Samuel Andreas Admasie (Sweden), Eefje Gilbert (Belgium) and Julia Froudine (the Netherlands). The other students are Peter Tse Angwafo from Cameroon who was awarded a grant thanks to a gift from the Rabobank and Michael Woldegiorgis Tedla from Eritrea who was awarded the Leiden University Excellence Scholarship (Platinum).

The second-year RESMAAS students returned to Leiden in the summer after successful fieldwork periods abroad. They had fieldwork reporting sessions and shared fascinating stories, experiences and photos with their fellow students before starting to write up their theses.

Six RESMAAS students graduated in 2012. Catherina Wilson's thesis entitled 'The Congolese Yankee: Language and Identity among Youth in Kisangani' was nominated for two prizes and was one of three theses short-listed for the Africa Thesis Award although the first prize went to the University of Cape Town's Nkululeko Mabandla for '*Lahla Ngubo: The Continuities and Discontinuities of a South African Black Middle Class*'. Catherina's thesis was also nominated for the Leiden University Fund (LUF) Thesis Prize and was complimented for its strong empirical base, sound methodology, critical use of theoretical insights and engaging style of writing. Catherina's supervisors were Maarten Mous (Leiden University) and Filip de Boeck (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven). Four students who were planning to complete their theses in 2012 experienced unexpected delays in their research but will graduate in 2013.

The Sounds of Young Afrikaners: A Search for Processes of Identification in Pretoria

November 17th 2012: 06.45: I park my car at the Voortrekker Monument in Pretoria. *Bakkies* (pick-up trucks) and old, white cars fill the fields and I see a few Oranje-Blanje-Blou flags – this was South Africa's official flag between 1928 and 1994. Thirty thousand people are gathering in the amphitheatre at the Voortrekker Monument for the Pretoria Musiekfees (Pretoria Music Festival). They've brought tents, beach umbrellas, camping chairs, cool boxes, and banners and flyers from various Afrikaner institutions.

But this is more than just a music festival. Celebrating Pretoria's and Solidariteit's birthdays (Solidariteit is the union that is organizing the event) is the main reason for the party, according to the flyer. But it soon becomes obvious that the day is all about an intended name change: Pretoria is going to become Tshwane. Among Afrikaners (and my research is focusing on Afrikaans-speaking whites), this is widely seen as just one of the many measures being taken in Pretoria to make the Afrikaners' culture, history and language disappear. Pretoria



Crowds at the Pretoria Music Festival. Photo Maïke Lolkema

is the centre of the Afrikaners' world and the base from which I am conducting my almost six months of fieldwork.

The Pretoria Musiekfees is the perfect place for participant observation for my research on the processes concerning identities among youth with an Afrikaner background who were born after 1994. What does popular music tell us about these processes of identification? I am visiting music festivals, performances and music stores and talking to as many people as possible – from university professors to Solidariteit leaders and students, many students.

The eighteen singers alternate between songs and stories about Afrikaans and Pretoria. Fredi Nest says: 'Dis lekker om te sing vir my eie mense!' (It's nice to sing for my people!); DJ Ossewa: 'Ons bly in Pretoria, ons is trots!' (We stay in Pretoria, we are proud!); and Steve Hofmeyr: 'Ons het nie die mag nie, ons het die krag!' (We don't have political power, but we have strength!).

A notebook was the only thing I brought with me and while I am making notes, the man next to me offers me one of his camping chairs. He then asks: 'Is jy van

die Rekord?' (Are you working for Die Rekord?). Die Rekord is a free Afrikaans newspaper that is covering all these initiatives. I had to disappoint him but am offered coffee, a cool drink and muffins by his daughter all the same. His name is Marius and he's about 40 years old, lives in Pretoria and works in the construction sector. All this 'political stuff' doesn't really matter to him he says, he has just come to hear Steve Hofmeyr. But when the announcer asks: 'Do we want Pretoria to change its name?', he, like many others, also shouts: 'No!'. He has to work this afternoon but didn't want to miss the music.

The links between popular music, processes of identification and politics in Pretoria today are complex.

Maïke Lolkema



Photo Maïke Lolkema



SPECIAL PROJECTS

28 The IS Academy

The IS Academy on 'The State in Africa' is a joint venture of the African Studies Centre (ASC) and the Sub-Saharan Africa Department (DAF) at the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Its State in Africa programme has provided opportunities for regular contact between ASC researchers and the Ministry on policy developments and encouraged consultation, collaboration and the exchange of information.

2012 was the last year of this programme and the final conference on *De IS-Academie en het Nederlands Afrika-beleid: De connectie tussen beleid en wetenschap* (The IS Academy and the Dutch Africa Policy: Connecting Policy Making and Scientific Enquiry) was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 10 May. The opening speech, which was given by Christiaan Rebergen (Deputy Director-General for International Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs), was followed by keynote addresses by Prof. Ton Dietz (Director, ASC) on the IS Academy's four-year programme and the Dutch Country Policy and Prof. Stephen Ellis (senior researcher, ASC) on scientific knowledge and policy on Africa. Ton Dietz then talked about the new thematic policy within the African context, and the Ministry's four focus areas (Security and the Rule of Law; Water; Food Security; Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights) and an additional topic (Good Governance) were also discussed. The writer and journalist Femke van Zeijl was in the chair and each theme was introduced by an IS Academy PhD student and Prof. Han van Dijk, one of the ASC's senior researchers. Ms Désirée Bonis (then Director, Africa Directorate and currently an MP) and Prof. Roel van der Veen (scientific advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) closed the day of discussion on the Ministry's knowledge-and-policy practices.

Three PhD students were selected by the Steering Committee for the State in Africa programme; two others were policy advisors at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the sixth was from the NIMD. Two of the six successfully defended their theses in 2012:

- Melle Leenstra (a policy advisor from the Ministry): 'Beyond the Façade: Instrumentalisation of the Zambian Health Sector', on 14 March in Leiden
- Lotje de Vries (selected by the Steering Committee): 'Facing Frontiers, Everyday Practice of State-Building in South Sudan', on 7 November in Wageningen

The NIMD PhD student and one of the three selected by the Steering Committee hope to finish their theses in 2013 and, having started his research later, the last of those chosen by the Steering Committee will complete his research in 2014. The second policy advisor unfortunately had to stop her research at the end of 2012.

IS Academy PhD Researchers

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Margot Leegwater: | 'Land Access and Ethnicity in Southeastern Rwanda' |
| Matthias Olthaar: | 'Opportunities for Smallholders in Value Chains: Sesame in Ethiopia and Tanzania' |
| Martin van Vliet: | 'An Empirical Study of the Democratic Consolidation Process in Mali' |

Small-Scale Sesame Production in Rural Ethiopia

'No, I don't believe you!', 'Seriously?!?!', 'You're kidding me...'. These were among the reactions I got when I told people in Humera how much I had paid for 27.5 grams of sesame seed in a supermarket in the Netherlands. Humera is a village in northwestern Ethiopia on the border with Eritrea and some 20 km from Sudan. It is the main village in a larger area called Kafta-Humera that is well-known for its sesame production. When driving in this area, you see almost nothing but sesame farms, which range in size from 1 ha to 7000 ha. Most of the sesame grown here is traded through the Ethiopia Commodity Exchange (ECX) that has a local warehouse in Humera. Small-scale farmers sell to cooperatives and spot-market traders who in turn sell to the ECX. The small-scale farmers receive between ETB 1600 and ETB 2500 (ETB: Ethiopian Birr) per quintal of sesame.

I was sitting under a tree near my hotel with some of the people I was working with for my data collection. They were among the very few (fewer than 10 in fact) people in Humera who speak English. It was the second time I had been there and since I would be working closely with them, I felt it was important to explain what exactly it was that had brought me to Humera. It is the kind of place where a lot of people would prefer not to be. Let me explain. Ethiopia is a mountainous country with a mostly pleasant climate, sufficient rainfall and many green areas. People like to live in these comfortable mountainous parts but there are also lowland areas where it is hot and dusty, there is little rainfall and consequently little flora. Humera is in such an area. When I tell people from the highlands that I am going to Humera, they normally tell me that I'm crazy and that they would never go there because of the heat, the malaria, the deadly sand fly and its proximity to Eritrea. People living in Humera find it hard too, and government officials even receive a 40% hardship allowance to encourage them not to move to somewhere else. For me, this means that I have quite a lot of explaining to do about why I would leave the Netherlands and go to Humera. I illustrate my motivation by showing them this little box of sesame for which I



Focus-group discussion in Humera, Ethiopia. (unknown photographer)

paid, if converted to ETB and quintals, some ETB 108,000 per quintal. Farmers in Humera receive around 2% of what I as a consumer pay in the Netherlands and so there are many questions to be answered. For example, which companies create value and which appropriate value in the production and marketing of sesame seed and its processed products? And, more importantly, what means do farmers have at their disposal to appropriate more of the value created? This is also the main question in my PhD research.

Answering these questions is not easy but my research is definitely going in the right direction. Though it is not yet finished, some interesting findings and practical implications are emerging. The current focus is on analysing the resources that are important for farmers, assessing how collective action can best be directed, and looking at the consequences of the institutional environment. Farmers definitely have the opportunity to appropriate more value from the value that is created, but change will not come overnight. I hope to have finished my research in about a year's time and will then present my final findings.

Matthias Olthaar

30 Consortium for development partnerships

The Dakar-based Council for the Development of Social Science Research (CODESRIA) and the African Studies Centre in Leiden have been involved in the Consortium for Development Partnerships (CDP) since the first projects started in 2006. CDP is an international research network that links research institutes and scholars who are interested in conducting collaborative research in Africa. With its policy-relevant research topics, CDP offers a unique intra-regional research network in Africa and provides opportunities for young scholars to collaborate and interact with more senior and experienced scholars, but also with policy makers and the development sector. Already in its second phase, the ASC coordinated three of the nine research projects in 2012:

- Local Governance and Decentralization (Mali and Burkina Faso)
- Local Dynamics of Conflict and Peace Building (Nigeria, Ghana, Ivory Coast and Mali)
- Media and Voice in Democracy (Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast and Benin)

The project's second phase ended with a final meeting of the Steering Committee in Dakar in June and the rest of the year was dedicated to developing the third phase and working on the researchers' publications. Each of the research projects is going to develop a 'research brief' in which the results are highlighted in an accessible and attractive format. They will be co-published by CODESRIA and the ASC.

CDP III

An expansion of the programme, both geographically and scientifically, is being prepared for the (third) phase. This will allow a consolidation of working methods, including the programme's capacity-building elements, while also exporting and sharing previous experiences. This approach will encourage new partners in both Africa and Europe to join the CDP and share their experiences and ideas in research that is to be expanded beyond the West African region.

The ASC and CODESRIA's Partnership

The ASC in Leiden has long-standing relations with CODESRIA in Dakar that were laid out in a Memorandum of Understanding between the two partner organizations. The CDP is one of their collaborative projects, in addition to regular exchanges between the library departments and the development of research agendas and joint publications. The most recent MoU to be signed covers the five-year period from 2012 to 2017.



Ton Dietz and Ebrima Sall (CODESRIA) signing a 2012-2017 MoU in Leiden, 14 September.

Photo Kim van Drie

LIBRARY, DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

Figures and Trends in 2012

| | 2011 | 2012 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Number of visitors | 3,876 | 3,144 |
| Loans | 5,436 | 4,718 |
| Requests for information | | |
| - by phone | 844 | 796 |
| - by email | 1,167 | 960 |
| New acquisitions (orders) | 3,025 | 2,907 |
| Items catalogued (including gifts) | 3,511 | 3,621 |
| Abstracts (<i>ASA Online</i>) | 1,519 | 1,459 |
| Subscriptions to <i>ASA Online</i> mailing list | 1,607 | 1,681 |
| Titles in ASC Library catalogue | 172,948 | 179,337 |
| Searches in ASC Library catalogue | 157,137 | 163,257 |
| Use of ASC link in ASC Library catalogue | 12,151 | 13,614 |
| Titles in Connecting-Africa | 32,569 | 34,434 |
| Connecting-Africa (visitors) | 12,522 | 30,732 |
| ASC website: unique visitors | 171,177 | 136,188 |
| ASC website: visited pages (excluding affiliated websites & robots) | 835,450 | 641,078 |
| AfricaBib (visitors excluding robots) | 101,689 | 190,663 |
| ASC Repository (downloads) | 65,665 | 118,824 |

Three developments and trends in 2012 need to be highlighted:

- the ever-increasing use of the ASC's digital library;
- the agreement with the Library of Congress to merge the LoC's Quarterly Index of African Periodical Literature with the ASC's AfricaBib database; and
- the ASC's on-going efforts to collect African literature and academic writing.

The increasing use of the ASC's digital library can be seen in the figures above, with the number of visitors to Connecting-Africa and the AfricaBib database doubling in 2012. Downloads from the ASC Repository at Leiden University rose from 65,665 to 118,824, with 21,235 of these being in Africa.

The shift from visits in person (to use the paper library) to online visits (the digital library) is logical and conforms with the general trend worldwide. The slight increase in loans and visitors to the ASC Library in 2011 did not continue in 2012: both figures fell by more than 10%. The ASC Library is promoting the use of its digital library by making its resources accessible online, with an increasing number of documents available as e-books and articles.

The Library of Congress and the African Studies Centre issued a joint statement in December 2012 about the merger of the ASC's AfricaBib database with that of the Quarterly Index of African Periodical Literature. This newly expanded bibliographic database will have almost 200,000 entries (see Box).





The ASC Library was present at the Zimbabwe International Book Fair, Harare Gardens. Photo: Gerard van de Bruinhorst

The ASC Library increased its collection in 2012 by adding nearly 3000 new books. It is worth mentioning that 200 of these came from the Library's acquisition trip to Zimbabwe and more than 700 others were unique gifts. The inclusion of 544 new e-docs in the ASC catalogue and 2000 in Connecting-Africa is a positive development for students and researchers in African Studies who can access the collection online from all over the world.

Collection Development, Acquisitions and Cataloguing

The ASC Library's annual acquisition trip is an important way of collecting books and other materials from African countries because many of the publications cannot be obtained through regular acquisition channels. The combination of such an acquisition trip with a book fair, meeting publishers and/or visits to libraries is an ideal way to collect African books. In 2012, Gerard van

de Bruinhorst visited the Zimbabwe International Book Fair in Harare Gardens and took the opportunity to buy books in Mutare and Bulawayo and visit the INDABA conference as well. More than 200 books, mainly fiction, history books and books on religion, philosophy and business, then made their way to the ASC in Leiden. The publication landscape in Zimbabwe seems to have changed, with small publishers and self-publishing now being popular but there are also, unfortunately, widespread distribution problems. The larger publishers no longer operate there or have become bookshops (for example, Books of Zimbabwe). In some cases, publication activities have been transferred to South Africa or the UK (for example, Lion Press) but there are still various important publishers active in Zimbabwe: Mambo Press, College Press, the University of Zimbabwe Press and Weaver Press.

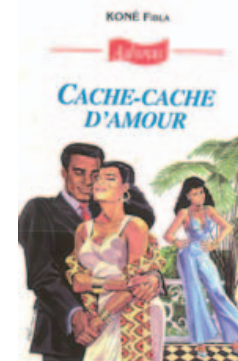
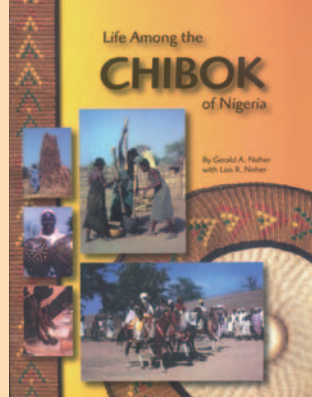
Book Donations: Ethiopia, Nyerere, Chibok, Sierra Leone and more

Book donations from visitors and scholars alike are always a welcome addition to the acquisition process and help to fill the gaps in the ASC's collection. Hundreds of books were donated to the ASC Library in 2012 and their unique qualities broaden its scope. It is impossible to mention here all the people who have helped the library to serve its patrons better but the staff would like to thank several of them in particular.

Twelve unique books from Ethiopia (on law and other subjects that cannot be traced in any other library) were donated anonymously in 2012. Some of the ASC's other benefactors include: Arnold Parzer (books on President Nyerere, Grace Ogot and others); the widow of Karoy Gludovacz; Solani Ngobeni from the Africa Institute of South Africa, Pretoria (30 books on the United States of Africa, Afrikology, occasional papers); Gerald A. Neher (*Life among the Chibok of Nigeria*); Laurens van der Laan (on Sierra Leone and other subjects); Gerard Linden; Jan Jansen (multimedia); David Millar (Ghana); and Chuma Nwokolo (*Diaries of a Dead African, The Ghost of Sani Abacha*). And the estate of A.P. van der Graaf donated a digital version of his short autobiography entitled *Mijn jaren in Holland (1909-1950) / My Years in Angola (1950-1970)* that can be accessed via the ASC catalogue.

ASC colleagues also donated books to the library: Ineke van Kessel (on South Africa, Zimbabwe, Mauritius, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Cape, criminology, elections, AIDS, Rhodes); Jan Abbink (Ethiopia); Maaike Westra (the detective Kubu); Wouter van Beek (unique dissertations); Linda van de Kamp (sexuality in Mozambique); Ton Dietz (development, drylands); and Jan-Bart Gewald (Uganda). And Stephen Ellis made it possible to acquire several books from Routledge on Islam, modernity, technology, music and organized crime.

Finally, a gift from a few years ago should also receive special mention too. NIZA (now the Dutch branch of *Action Aid*) donated several hundred books to the ASC Library that are now catalogued and include many interesting and unique books. The ASC Library is very grateful to everyone who donated materials to expand its collection in 2012.



Four 'Acquisition Highlights' were published on the ASC's website in 2012 in an attempt to bring some special books to the attention of a wider audience. The first (in Dutch) was about Robert Jacob Gordon (1743-1795), a Dutchman of Scottish descent whose life was recently described by Luc Panhuysen in the so-called Gordon Atlas that is amongst the treasures in the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam.

The second and third highlights were devoted to the French collection in the ASC Library. One of these was the ADORAS Collection of romantic fiction, 'when reading becomes passion'. And on a more serious note, there was an acquisition highlight devoted to Scholastique Mukasonga when the famous French *Prix Renaudot* was awarded to this promising Rwandan writer whose four books were already in the ASC Library.

The final acquisition highlight was a tribute to the 'literary mover and shaker' Ama Ata Aidoo from Ghana. The volume *Essays in Honour of Ama Ata Aidoo at 70: A Reader in African Cultural Studies* offers essays on literary criticism but also papers on such issues as African oratory, the new media, popular culture, African identity, race construction and gender.

In 2012, 3621 books were processed, including 741 gifts and 427 e-docs. In addition to articles covered for *ASA Online*, 887 journal articles were catalogued and 39 new titles of *Africana* journals were added to the ASC's online catalogue (many full-text), as were 90 new DVDs of African films.

Abstracting and Indexing

ASA Online, the ASC's abstracts journal, published 1459 abstracts and the number of subscribers to the journal's alert service rose (again), to 1681 in 2012. Contrary to its name, *ASA Online* was previously published in two versions: on paper and online. However due to decreasing demand for the hardcopy version and the effectiveness of the online version, *ASA Online* 37 was the last printed volume. The online abstracts are also included in *Africa-Wide Information*, a service provided by EBSCO Host. ASC Library staff also contributed bibliographic information and abstracts for publication in the *Journal of Religion in Africa* in 2012.

Quarterly Index of African Periodical Literature Merges with AfricaBib

December 2012 saw the announcement of the merger of two databases that are important to African Studies: the Quarterly Index of African Periodical Literature produced by the Library of Congress and the ASC's AfricaBib.

The Quarterly Index, which had been published by the Library of Congress since 1991, holds 51,000 bibliographic records from 750 journals from 29 African countries. It was normally scholarly journals that were selected for inclusion but other materials of a less scholarly nature were also chosen to cover subject areas not found in the more readily available literature (e.g. on prisons), organizations that do not frequently circulate their publications (e.g. NGOs) and each of the countries in Africa. The Quarterly Index is an essential bibliographic resource as few African journals are included in international indexing resources.

The data from the Quarterly Index will be added to the AfricaBib database that will now have almost 200,000 entries. Links to full-text journal articles will be added too, making the database even more valuable to scholars and students alike.

See: www.africabib.org



Web Dossiers

Three web dossiers were compiled in 2012 and 'Country Dossiers' on Kenya and Tanzania were also made for the ASC Community's first country meetings that were held on 13 November 2012 (see under External Communication and Outreach).

The first web dossier was on 'Water in Africa' and its release coincided with the international conference on 'Water Management Issues in Africa' that was held in Mauritius in March 2012 (see Box). The second was devoted to the 'African National Congress at 100' and was compiled to coincide with a conference that was organized on 10 September 2012 by the ASC, the International Institute of Social Studies and ISS-Scholas. The dossier contained a selection of titles published in the last ten years on the ANC's history and development before 1994 and how it has changed since the end of apartheid in 1994.

Another interesting web dossier was on business and entrepreneurship in Africa. Africa's economic potential inspired the Dutch entrepreneurs and academics who founded the Afrika Instituut in Rotterdam in 1947 and, with the exception of South Africa, little was known about Africa in the Netherlands at that time. The Afrika Instituut was set up with the aim of changing this and of tapping into the new possibilities Africa was perceived to offer in the wake of the Second World War and the independence of the former Dutch colony of Indonesia. However, within ten years of being established, the institute split, with the scientific branch moving to Leiden to become one of the world's largest African Studies research and documentation centres (ASC) and the business branch evolving into the Netherlands-African Business Council (NABC) in The Hague. To celebrate their 65th anniversary, the ASC and the NABC jointly organized an international conference in October (see elsewhere in this Annual Report). The title of the conference, namely 'Africa Works! 21st Century Trends', was a tongue-in-cheek reference to the 1999 publication *Africa Works*, Patrick Chabal and Jean-Pascal Daloz's controversial analysis of the workings of African politics and the continent's failed development. The web dossier produced by the ASC Library brought together interesting publications and links to full texts on the topic.



Web Dossier: Water in Africa

The ASC Library's first web dossier in 2012 was on Water in Africa. Water and sanitation is one of the focal points of Dutch development cooperation policy in Africa, in line with the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target of halving the number of people without access to safe drinking water by 2015. The web dossier coincided with the international conference on 'Water Management Issues in Africa' that was organized by the Network of African Science Academies (NASAC) in collaboration with the Netherlands Royal Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) in Port Louis, Mauritius from 29-31 March 2012.

The web dossier was based on the ASC Library's collection and highlighted the Centre's books, articles and online resources on water, water-supply issues, sanitation, water scarcity, water management and climate change. In addition to information on Africa in general and African river basins in particular, it included sections devoted to specific country cases, with a focus on those African countries selected by the Dutch government for development cooperation in the coming years, namely Benin, Burundi, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Sudan and Uganda. Each title in the dossier linked directly to the corresponding record in the ASC Library's online catalogue that provided additional bibliographic details, abstracts and links to full-text publications, where available. The dossier had an introduction by Marcel Rutten and concluded with a selection of links to relevant websites, such as the FAO's AquaStat: http://www.fao.org/nr/water/aquastat/water_res/index.stm

Professional Relations

The 7th annual meeting of the ELIAS (European Librarians in African Studies) on 'Acquisitions and Collections in African Studies: Strategies, Policies and Challenges' was held in Basel on 11 May. It attracted some 30 librarians and archivists from African Studies Centres across Europe and was an inspiring meeting with presentations by colleagues from Basel, Tervuren, Paris, London and Frankfurt and one on 'Patron-driven, Perpetual Access and Primary Sources' by the ASC's Gerard van de Bruinhorst.

The ASC Library organized several workshops and training sessions for students in 2012. It hosted students from the Hogeschool in Rotterdam, from the Research Masters in African Studies in Leiden and two groups of PhD students from Ethiopia. And various library staff attended workshops and seminars. To name just a few: a visit for special libraries to Google's Amsterdam headquarters; SWI meetings (for information specialists in social sciences); a FOBI seminar on library customers; the OCLC Contact Day; the EBSCO Information Day; the NVB's Jubilee Congress (Dutch Library Organization); and visits to the Peace Palace Library, NIN and Beeld en Geluid in Hilversum.

At a staff level, Ursula Oberst from the ASC used an internship at the Nordiska Afrika Institutet in Uppsala to broaden and share her knowledge of websites, communication, social media and library techniques on acquisition, thesauruses and digital documents. And in May, Solani Ngobeni, the Director of Publications at the Africa Institute of South Africa, was a visiting fellow at the ASC. His seminar on the role of scholarly publishers and research institutes in Africa was entitled 'Publish and Still Perish: The Challenges Facing Scholarly Publishers in Africa' and was subsequently published by the ASC.

Jos Damen (ASC) and Stefano Bellucci (IISG Amsterdam) both gave practical workshops on accessing African archives at a conference on archives of post-independence Africa that was organized by CODESRIA, the ASC and the University of California (MRG) in Dakar on 20-23 June. And a conference to mark SCOLMA's 50th anniversary was held at the Rothermere American



Old postcard of University College, Ibadan, Nigeria, from the Sjoerd Koopman Collection.

Institute in Oxford on 25-26 June. The theme 'Dis/connects: African Studies in the Digital Age' was discussed in no fewer than 25 papers on subjects ranging from Ugandan archives to the cartography of Sudan. The ASC contributed by putting together an exhibition of postcards of African libraries from 12 African countries, including some from Sjoerd Koopman's collection of 12,500 cards from 100 different countries. Several of these images were later used in Wikipedia entries on, for example, Witwatersrand University, Mowbray Public Library and the English architects Jane Drew and Maxwell Fry (Ibadan University). And Jos Damen presented a paper entitled 'Development and Cooperation: Beyond Open Access' at the IFLA/NVB conference on 'The Future of Information and Library Associations' in The Hague in early August.

The ASC Library boasts an extensive film collection with more than 1500 films from and on Africa, some of which are the archival collection of Amsterdam's Africa in the Picture film festival. Elvire Eijkman and Marieke van Winden co-

organized a mini African Film Festival in Leiden that was held in the Scheltema Complex on 28 October 2012. Organized in collaboration with the director of Africa in the Picture Heidi Lobato and the Leiden Film Festival, it attracted considerable public interest. The first film, *Phone Swap* (Nigeria), which was shown in the presence of the award-winning actor, producer and director Kunle Afolayan, was completely sold out. The four films on the programme were introduced by researchers from the ASC and others, including the Belgian historian and film expert Dr Guido Convents who talked about the Congolese film *Viva Riva!*.

By showing documentaries and feature films by African filmmakers from different countries (Burkina Faso, Congo, Nigeria and Zimbabwe) to an enthusiastic public not only of students and academics but also to a wider Leiden population, the ASC was able to realize its mission of promoting a better understanding of the historical, current and future social developments in Sub-Saharan Africa and to showcase its own unique film collection. The documentary 'When China meets Africa' by Nick and Marc Francis, which can be found in the Centre's collection, was screened at the ASC's 'Africa Works' conference in Zeist.



New ASC Website

The decision was made in 2011 to build a new ASC website that would look more contemporary and have improved functionality. The requirements were clear: It had to be modern in appearance and have more images; be safe, stable, well-structured and user friendly; provide up-to-date and extensive information; offer excellent search facilities; and enhance the appeal of the African Studies Centre among groups of persons interested in Africa.

Moving to a new website presented the opportunity to switch to a different CMS (Content Management System) and, after extensive investigation, the CMS Drupal (open source software) was chosen to ensure easier maintenance and updates. As the ASC is a scientific institute, the website's emphasis is first and foremost on providing information.

Creating a new, clearly structured website was only possible through collaboration and support from ASC colleagues, primarily Ursula Oberst, Willem Veerman and Harro Westra on the technical and functional side, supported by advisor Elli de Rijk, a former ASC librarian. However, building a website is a tough job and sighs of relief could be heard along the ASC corridors when the website went live on 2 July 2012.

The ASC also makes information on Africa and the ASC available via the following social media accounts:
www.twitter.com/ASCLeiden and www.facebook.com/ASCLeiden

The ASC Website

The Centre's website was less heavily used in 2012 with 136,188 unique visitors viewing 641,078 web pages. The main reason for fewer visitors to the website was the change from AWstats to Google Analytics, a new statistical program that is more widely used. The ASC also hosts other related websites such as AfricaBib; Connecting-Africa; and the AEGIS website. Anansi Masters, the website devoted to spider stories from Africa and South America, moved from the ASC to host its own website as of September 2012. The ASC's new website underwent a security scan in November 2012 that established that it was technologically secure.

The ASC's repository is hosted by Leiden University. Publications in the repository in the African Studies Collection were downloaded 118,824 times, with 21,235 of these being accessed in Africa. The ASC firmly backs the policy of Open Access and 1349 publications in the repository are freely available online. Publications by ASC staff were downloaded 90 times a year on average with the top countries in Africa for these downloads being Ethiopia (4492), South Africa (3464), Kenya (2513), Cameroon (2161) and Nigeria (1729).

The ASC mailing lists attracted a lot of new subscribers in 2012. The alert service for new ASC publications now stands at 1121 subscribers, for ASC seminars at 3802, for *Abstracts Online* at 1681, library acquisitions at 630 and web dossiers at 721.

EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

38 **The ASC Community and its Country Meetings**

The ASC Community is a group of ASC staff and external participants who are engaged with Africa either scientifically or non-scientifically and who have a link with the Netherlands. The Community was set up early in 2012 and by the end of the year totalled some 240 persons. Anyone interested in being a member of the ASC Community can choose to apply for one of the following options depending on their own personal level of involvement in Africa:

- Fellows: who have a PhD and have published at least three papers/books on Africa in the last five years;
- Affiliates: who are working on a PhD or Research Masters project relating to Africa; or
- Associates: who are professionally engaged with Africa in some other capacity than the two above-mentioned groups.

In addition to being invited to attend Country Meetings, all community members receive the ASC's monthly digital newsletter *Habari*; have their own page on the ASC website; can order ASC business cards; and can use the ASC's Alert Service to promote their articles and book publications. It is anticipated that these services will be expanded in the future.

The ASC started to organize its new 'Country Meetings' in the framework of the African Studies Centre Community towards the end of 2012 in collaboration with a number of agencies based in the Netherlands: the Netherlands Association of African Studies (NVAS), the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands-African Business Council (NABC), FMO, Partos (the Dutch association of NGOs working in international development), the NEDWORC Association, the CERES Research School, NWO-Wotro and the Broker. All the 'focus countries' as they are defined by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (and a few additional countries too) will be reviewed at these meetings: Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The aim is to discuss recent developments

in these countries from different perspectives and to link experiences from science, business, the media, civil society and policy/politics. A country dossier compiled by the ASC's Library, Information and Documentation Department and an electronic copy of the relevant chapter from the most recent edition of the *Africa Yearbook* are prepared for participants.

Seminars, Conferences and Study Days

Seminars on topics ranging from the role of journalism in exposing and fighting corruption in Nigeria to elections and democratization in the DRC and what Western donors can learn from China's approach in Africa were organized by the ASC in 2012. Some were informal lunch seminars, others were part of the ASC's regular Thursday afternoon series with invited speakers and there were also 'Africa Today' seminars on topical themes, for example a seminar by Prof. Hamdy Hassan from Cairo University and Zayed University Dubai on the Arab Spring and its impact on Sub-Saharan Africa.

Those that were particularly well attended included Laura Fair's seminar on the drive-in cinema in Dar es Salaam, John Markakis's on state building and conflict in the Horn of Africa and the seminar on mining-sector reforms in Ghana by William Tsuma. In response to the current crisis in Mali, the ASC, the Morocco Institute and Leiden University organized a special seminar on political instability and regional radicalization in Mali at the LU campus in The Hague.

The ASC invited various other African scholars in the Netherlands to give talks at the ASC, for instance Alcinda Honwana spoke on 'Youth in "Waithood": Transitions and Social Change' and Musa Dube about HIV/AIDS in Botswana. And in November, Prof. He Wenping, the Director of the African Studies Section of the Institute of West Asian & African Studies at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, held an impromptu lunch seminar on how far China can go in Africa. The ASC has agreed with the Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) that their visiting scholars from Africa will in future give regular seminars at the ASC during their stay in the Netherlands.



An international conference entitled 'Rethinking Africa's Transcontinental Continuities in Pre- and Protohistory' was organized to mark the retirement of Prof. Wim van Binsbergen in April 2012. The issues discussed by delegates including Alain Anselin, Yuri Berezkin, Cathérine Coquery-Vidrovitch, Dierk Lange, Ndu Life Njoku, Sanya Osha and Mike Rowlands were whether and to what extent (as is widely assumed) the roots of contemporary African predicaments and their possible solutions lie primarily in the recent conditions and developments of the 19th to the 21st centuries. And, to what extent can we discern transcontinental relations, and dynamics, of a much longer time span, shaping and reshaping in the course of pre- and proto-history African cultures, politics, economies and religions in close relation with the other continents?

The ASC also held various conferences outside the Netherlands. In April, it helped organize one entitled 'Religious Engagements with AIDS in Africa' at the Centre of African Studies in Copenhagen to set up an international group of experts on the theme, and a conference on 'New Media and Religious



Transformations in Africa', which was initiated by the ASC's Benjamin Soares, was held in Abuja, Nigeria in July. And the ASC, in cooperation with CODESRIA and the University of California African Studies Multicampus Research Group (MRG), organized a conference at the Gorée Institute on Gorée Island, Senegal in June on the archives of post-independence Africa and its diaspora. Workshops were offered on the nature of the colonial and post-colonial archive, archival absences, alternative archives and sources for history writing and the kinds of historical sources that can be used as a basis for post-independence and contemporary histories of Africa and its diaspora.



Ethiopian coffee ceremony at the NVAS Afrikastudiedag. Photo Marieke van Winden

NVAS Afrikastudiedag

The Netherlands Association of African Studies (NVAS), which is the umbrella association of Dutch Africanists with 360 members, organized their annual study day entitled 'Food in Africa. From Farm to Fingers' in October 2012. Their conference's venue is chosen every year depending on the subject, so it was appropriate that it was held at Wageningen University this year, with presentations, among others, on 'food networks' in Africa, supermarkets and local markets in food provisioning (Paul Hebinck) and food sovereignty (Hans

40 Eenhoorn). PhD students presented research posters and gave one-minute presentations, and the Entomology Department offered delegates 'insect snacks' accompanied by Tanzanian tea.

Afrikadag

The *Afrikadag*, which is organized annually by the Evert Vermeer Stichting, is an important Africa event in the Netherlands that generally attracts about 2000 visitors. It offers an opportunity for the ASC to showcase what it does, meet other institutions and individuals interested in Africa and sell ASC publications. This year it was held in Amsterdam on 17 November at three different venues: De Balie, Paradiso and the Barlaeus Gymnasium. The ASC had its usual booth and distributed its recently published booklet *Een kwestie van goed boeren. Economische ontwikkeling in Afrika en Zuid-Oost Azië vergeleken*, which is a summary of the Tracking Development project, as well as some of its older publications. The Centre also organized two workshops: Mirjam de Bruijn gave a presentation on 'Alternative Politics in the New Media: The Role of ICT in Reshaping the African Democratic Space' and Nkululeko Mabandla, the winner of the Africa Thesis Award 2012, gave a presentation describing his research (see below). The ASC was also involved in a workshop organized by the International Debate Education Association (IDEA) at which the winners of the ASC's own debating competition participated (see below). And, as in previous years, the ASC's director was available for short, one-to-one meetings, which were as lively as ever.



Africa Thesis Award

The Africa Thesis Award aims to encourage student research and writing on Africa and Africa-related issues and promote the study of African cultures and societies. It is presented annually to a student whose Masters thesis has been completed on the basis of research conducted on Africa. The members of the 2012 jury – Harry Wels (chair), Ineke van Kessel, Albert Bek, Alice Kubo and Bridget O'Laughlin – reviewed the 35 theses with differing theoretical and methodological perspectives that were submitted on a wide range of topics and African countries.

The Africa Thesis Award for 2012 was won by Nkululeko Mabandla from the University of Cape Town, South Africa for his thesis entitled '*Lahla Ngubo: The Continuities and Discontinuities of a South African Black Middle Class*'. It describes, in great historical detail, the formation of a landed middle class in Mthatha (or Umtata), the former Transkei, over three generations. The first generation is traced back to 1870 and the thesis convincingly shows how land and property were crucial elements in the formation and reproduction of the middle class there. This is a refreshingly new perspective since many more conventional studies argue that a middle class in the Transkei emerged from families involved in the administration of the Bantustans and who, through education, made it in the city. All the jury members were not only objectively convinced by Nkululeko's research, argument and analysis but were also seduced by his superb writing skills. The prize of €1000 was awarded in a short ceremony at the *Afrikadag* (see above) on 17 November when Nkululeko presented his award-winning thesis to the audience. The thesis is to be published in the ASC's African Studies Collection in 2013.

In second and third places were the theses 'Dragons in the Savannah: A Case Study of New Chinese Migrants in Tamale, Ghana' by Judith Zoetelief and 'The Congolese Yankee Language and Identity among Youth in Kisangani' by Catherina Wilson respectively.

See: www.ascleiden.nl/Publications/AfricanStudiesCollection.aspx.

Exhibitions

In 2012 the ASC again had exhibitions of photos and paintings on display in its corridors and in the Centre's library. These were much appreciated not only by the ASC staff but also by students, academics and visitors.

January-March: Paintings by Jon Eiselin

Originally from South Africa but currently based in Amsterdam, Jon has moved from a figurative to a non-figurative style of painting. Using the impressive energy of the ocean and its waves, the currents and meandering rivers as inspiration, his playful compositions, like water, appear to drift, float, flow and glide over his canvases.



One of Toyin Loye's paintings.

April-June: *The Work of Toyin Loye*

Toyin Loye experiments with different kinds of materials and recycled materials play a prominent role in his recent works. 'We do not easily throw things away in Africa, everything is given a second chance' has been the basis of his environmentally friendly creations. Toyin is a member of a royal house from Ijebu Jesa, Nigeria but now works in The Hague and has exhibited his work around the world.

July-September: *Edo Osagie's 'The Imagination of Freedom'*

The artist Edo Osagie, who is known for his expressive paintings, was born in Nigeria but, after an eventful life, now lives in Enschede. His work moves between abstraction and reality and is characterized by an exuberant palette. With his African roots offering an inexhaustible source of inspiration, many of his paintings can be seen as mental landscapes in which psychological, mythological and social themes play a role.

October-December: *Drawings by Barbara van Druuten*

In the autumn, the Leiden artist and designer Barbara van Druuten exhibited the illustrations she drew for her children's books *Mijn papa woont in Afrika* and *Hallo, wie ben jij?* and some of her other acrylic paintings. Her digital illustrations are a kind of 'dreamy' sinister, while her illustrative art is known for its bright colours and naïve style. Her work has been exhibited in many European countries.

Contact with the Media

The researchers at the African Studies Centre are regularly contacted by journalists for background information and also for (radio) interviews. These are mainly for BNR Nieuwsradio, Radio Netherlands Worldwide, Radio 1 (Met

het oog op morgen, *Villa VPRO*, *Bureau Buitenland* and *OVT*), Radio 4, Radio 6, BNN and foreign radio stations like Deutsche Welle. In 2012 many of these interviews were about the coup in Mali but there were others too on press freedom and repression in Ethiopia (Jan Abbink), Charles Taylor and Nigeria (Stephen Ellis), the celebration of the ANC's centenary (Ineke van Kessel) and the African Union and the EU's Nobel Peace Prize (Klaas van Walraven). Radio is the most popular medium but there were also requests for TV interviews. For example, Jan Abbink was on the *NOS op 3* news programme talking about the risks of travelling in Africa; Benjamin Soares gave a live television interview about Mali for France 24 and was also interviewed by Sidi Emjad in Nouakchott (Mauritania) for the Saudi Al-Thaqafiyya satellite television station about Islam and culture in West Africa; Marcel Rutten was in Khamis Rhamadan's documentary entitled 'Dangerous Flowers' on the cost-effectiveness and environmental problems related to flower production in Kenya; and Jan Abbink provided information for a Belgian television programme on the drought in the Horn of Africa.

ASC researchers also contributed to *Trouw*, the *NRC*, *De Volkskrant*, the *Leidsch Dagblad* and *De Standaard* in the Netherlands and Benjamin Soares was interviewed by *The New York Times* on Mali and the Tuareg uprising there. Some of the interviews given to the press related to specific ASC research, such as Mirjam de Bruijn's study of the impact of social media in Africa. And the ASC's Ton Dietz had a monthly column in *OneWorld* and also contributed to www.thebrokeronline.eu (of which the ASC is a strategic partner), to *Vice Versa* and to www.worldconnectors.nl.

The Clingendael Institute's *Internationale Spectator* dedicated its May edition entirely to Africa to mark the ASC's 65th anniversary and ASC researchers contributed articles on corruption in Nigeria, macro-level economic and political developments in Africa, Africa's mobile phone culture, discord in the ANC, the Horn of Africa as a regional zone of (in)security, and encouraging agricultural production in Africa using South East Asia as an example.

EVENTS TO MARK THE ASC'S 65th ANNIVERSARY

The Afrika Instituut, as the African Studies Centre was originally known, was founded on 12 August 1947. It consisted of a scientific documentation centre in Leiden and a trade office in Rotterdam, which later moved to The Hague and changed its name to the Netherlands-African Business Council (NABC), an organization of Dutch entrepreneurs working in Africa who promote sustainable development through their business activities. The African Studies Centre (ASC) was officially inaugurated as a scientific institute on 28 August 1958. In its early years, the Board of Governors was made up of business people, such as the Rotterdam banker Dr K.P. van der Mandele and scientists like Prof. F.M. Baron van Asbeck. Many well-known Africanists have worked at the African Studies Centre over the years, for example, Kofi Abrefa Busia, who was at the ASC from 1959 to 1962 and later became Prime Minister of Ghana.



The ASC has developed into a vibrant centre that is focused on research and documentation and in 2012 it celebrated its 65th anniversary. A variety of different events were organized to mark the event, some of which were undertaken in cooperation with the NABC.

Postage Stamp

Special-edition '65-year-anniversary' postage stamps highlighting the ASC's expertise and knowledge of Africa over the last 65 years were on sale in the library or could be ordered by email.

Photo Album of the Best Photos by ASC Staff

The Centre's anniversary was a good opportunity to put together an album of the best photos taken over the past 65 years. ASC researchers take numerous photos while on fieldwork in Africa and these depict the changes that have taken place in African societies since 1947. The winning photo, showing Wouter



The winning photo.

van Beek drinking in a traditional manner from one calabash with a local African man, was selected to go on the cover. The album also provides a record of the respective Boards of Governors and ASC Directors and the changes in the ASC library over the years.



Discovering Africa in Leiden. Photo Peter Soermens

Safari through Leiden

The ASC organized a guided tour in Leiden on 8 and 10 June past museums, monuments and shops that all have a special link with Africa in one way or another. Where did Nelson Mandela receive his honorary doctorate? Why is there an African head preserved in formaldehyde in Leiden? Where was the headquarters of the campaign to

boycott South African Outspan oranges? The route can easily be followed using the booklet entitled 'Safari in Leiden' and its explanatory map. The guided tours were fully booked so, due to popular demand, Brill Publishers is publishing an English version of the booklet in 2013.

Debating the Future of African Youth in Europe and Africa

After preparing sessions called 'After Summer Schools' in Utrecht, the final round of the ASC debating competition was held in Leiden on 25 and 26 October. Students debated issues such as how to make use of African talent;



Participants and coaches in the debating competition. Photo Rolf Kruger

how to create employment opportunities for youth in Africa; African higher education; whether European borders should be more open; and development cooperation. The final debate gave 10 students the chance to deliver a presentation to a jury of policy makers, academics and politicians (including the Leiden city councillor Roos van Gelderen who has the portfolio for Youth, Care and Well-being) before a public debate was held. The event was co-organized with the International Debate Education Association (IDEA) and attracted about 80 students. Its success has prompted the ASC to organize a similar event in late 2013.

how to create employment opportunities for youth in Africa; African higher education; whether European borders should be more open; and development cooperation. The final debate gave 10 students the chance to deliver a presentation to a jury of policy makers, academics and politicians



Kunle Afolayan, Nollywood producer who introduced his film *Phone Swap*, with film historian Guido Convents. Photo Elvire Eijkman

Swap and joined in the debate afterwards. The other films shown were *Maris de nuit* (Fabienne Kanor, Burkina Faso, Martinique), *Playing Warriors* (Rumbi Katedza, Zimbabwe) and *Viva Riva!* (Djo Tunda Wa Munga, Congo). The festival was generously sponsored by the *Leiden Cultuurfonds* and attracted about 100 people.

Africa Film Festival

For the first time in its history, the famous Dutch film festival 'Africa in the Picture' had Leiden showings in the Scheltema Theatre. The ASC helped to select four recent films from different African countries to show on the last (Sun) day of the Leiden Film Festival. All the films were introduced by an expert (some from the ASC), and filmmaker Kunle Afolayan (from Nigeria) was present at the screening of his film *Phone*

Het Nieuwe Afrika: An ASC & NABC Publication

October saw the publication of *Het Nieuwe Afrika*, a 60-page magazine co-produced by the ASC and the Netherlands-African Business Council. It aimed to end once and for all the image of Africa as a poor continent: Africa is booming and has a lot to offer to Dutch entrepreneurs. The magazine offered interviews with captains of industry, directors of NGOs and African businessmen who all explained their vision of Africa today, where some countries are showing spectacular growth figures. 180,000 copies of the magazine were printed and distributed amongst the readership of *OneWorld*, *Geografie* and *Het Financieele Dagblad*. It was also meant as a 'teaser' for the big international conference 'Africa Works!' that was to be held at the end of the month.



A toy motorcycle made out of waste material at the charity auction. Photo Stephan van den Burg

Charity Auction

A charity action was held on 8 November to raise money for the Kakaran Foundation, a small-scale association co-founded by former ASC Director Gerti Hesselting that provides healthcare and education for children in Senegal. Among the items up for auction were an original Zapiro cartoon that was signed by the South African artist himself and some beautiful African art and textiles. Thanks to the generous participation of the audience and the enthusiasm of guest auctioneer Harry Wels, the proceeds amounted to almost € 2500. An excellent result from an entertaining evening.

Play in Swahili

Farouk Topan's play *Aliyeonja Pepo* ('The One Who Tasted Heaven') was performed by second-year students from Leiden University's Department of African Languages and Cultures for the ASC on 13 December. The play was entirely in Swahili but an English summary was provided for those with a limited



Princess Máxima with the Organizing Committee at the Africa Works! conference. Photo Nicole Eerens



(or no) knowledge of Swahili. The JoHo World Experience Center in The Hague kindly hosted the evening and the proceeds all went to *Het Glazen Huis/Serious Request 2012* in Enschede.

‘Africa Works! 21st Century Trends’: The ASC & NABC Conference

The international conference entitled ‘Africa Works! 21st Century Trends’ was held on 29 and 30 October at the Hotel Theater Figi in Zeist, the Netherlands. It was the biggest event in the ASC and the Netherlands-African Business Council’s (NABC) joint 65th anniversary celebrations and was organized in cooperation with, among others, the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs



and Agentschap NL. The aim of the conference was to create a platform to discuss Africa today and in the future and shed light on the positive trends and opportunities that are unfolding on the continent. By bringing together Dutch and African companies, government officials, policy makers, NGOs, academics and others interested in Africa, it was hoped to better understand the trends emerging in Africa in the 21st century.

One of the highlights of the conference was the presence of Her Royal Highness Princess Máxima of the Netherlands as Guest of Honour at the plenary session on food security on Monday 29 October. Another was the interesting keynote address given by Ms Rosa Whitaker who is a specialist



Photo Koen van Weel © ANP

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in trade and investments in Africa and President of the Whitaker Group in Washington. In addition to inspirational keynote speeches by Stephen Ellis and Rob van Tulder, among others, the conference offered workshops and seminars at which experts from the business world, government, NGOs and knowledge institutes explored current themes and trends such as religious entrepreneurship, metropolitan food supply, economic growth and the partnership between Asia and Africa. The conference also provided delegates with the unique opportunity to have one-to-one discussions with staff working at Dutch embassies in Africa at the 'Meet the Embassy' sessions and the launch of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) fund by the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

The conference was considered a huge success by the participants and the media alike and was felt to have offered a diverse and dynamic cross-sector approach in terms of content and participants. Attendance figures exceeded expectations at more than 550 and the mix of delegates from business, academic organizations, NGOs, government and other organizations resulted in useful networking possibilities for everyone present.



GOVERNING BODIES AND PERSONNEL (on 31 December 2012)

Members of the Board of Governors

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Ms A.M.A. van Ardenne | President, Productschap Tuinbouw |
| Dr B.S.M. Berendsen | Former ambassador to Tanzania |
| Ms J. Groen | Journalist with the <i>Volkskrant</i> |
| A. Lenstra | Former Vice-President of Unilever |
| Prof. J.B. Opschoor (chair) | Institute of Social Studies & VU University |



The Board of Governors on 31 December 2012.

From left to right: Anton Lenstra, Bernard Berendsen, Janny Groen, Hans Opschoor, Trix Ambags (former Board member) and Agnes van Ardenne. Photo Gitty Petit

Members of the Scientific Advisory Council

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| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Dr F.K. Ameka | Leiden University |
| Dr B. Büscher | Institute of Social Studies |
| Prof. G.E. Frerks (chair) | University of Wageningen |
| Prof. J.W. Gunning | VU University Amsterdam |
| D.H.M. Hillhorst | Royal Tropical Institute, Amsterdam |
| Dr J.A.M.M. Jansen | Leiden University |
| Dr C.H.M. Lutz | University of Groningen |
| Dr E.M. Moyer | University of Amsterdam |
| Dr W. Nauta | Maastricht University |
| Dr N.R.M. Pouw | University of Amsterdam |
| Dr L. Smith | Radboud University |
| Dr M.J. Spierenburg | VU University, Amsterdam |
| Dr J. Voeten | Tilburg University |
| Dr P.D.M. Weesie | University of Groningen |
| Dr A.C.M. van Westen | Utrecht University |

48 Personnel

Director

Prof. A.J. Dietz

Research Staff (and their areas of specialization)

Prof. G.J. Abbink ethnicity, conflict management, religion, politics, ethnography, culture, the Horn of Africa

Dr A. Akinyoade demography, healthcare, education, media, Ghana, Nigeria, Mozambique, Namibia

Prof. W.E.A. van Beek religion, tourism, Mali, Cameroon, Southern Africa

Prof. W.M.J. van Binsbergen modern and traditional African knowledge in the framework of globalization, Botswana, Zambia

Dr I. Brinkman history, history of communication technology, Angola

Prof. M.E. de Bruijn mobility, social hierarchies, communication technology, West Africa

Dr M. Dekker social networks, (micro) insurance, land reform, economic development, poverty reduction, Ethiopia, South Africa, Zimbabwe

Prof. J.W.M. van Dijk forestry and agriculture, resource management, decentralization, law and governance, state formation, conflict, West Africa

Dr R.A. van Dijk new religious movements, AIDS, globalization, Botswana, Malawi, Ghana

Prof. S.D.K. Ellis religion and politics, history, West Africa, South Africa, Madagascar

Dr D.W.J. Foeken urban poverty, urban agriculture, urban water supply, Kenya

Dr J-B. Gewald social and political history, interaction between people and technology, Southern Africa

Prof. J.C. Hoorweg ecology and economics of the East African coast, Kenya

Dr M.M.A. Kaag migration, social change, development issues, local government, land use, West Africa

Dr W.M.J. van Kessel democratization, mass media, social movements, history, South Africa, Ghana

W. Klaver food and food security, urban agriculture, household economics, Kenya

Dr P.J.J. Konings civil society and social movements during economic and political liberalization, Ghana, Cameroon

Dr A.H.M. Leliveld social security, (micro) insurance, international aid, economic development, Uganda

Dr M.M.E.M. Rutten land reform, water issues, pastoralism, (eco)tourism, wildlife management, democratization, higher education, migration, fair trade, Kenya, East Africa

Dr B.F. Soares religion (Islam in particular), history, politics, West Africa

Dr S.R. Soeters urban development, food security, political science, history, Ghana, Kenya

Dr L.A. de Vries state-building, borderlands, social dynamics in (post-conflict) societies, development sociology, Sudan, West Africa

Dr K. van Walraven international relations, conflict management, rebellions, Niger, West Africa

Research Masters in African Studies

Dr A. Amha (coordinator) linguistics, the Horn of Africa

Dr H. Wels (director) structures of organizational cooperation, (private) wildlife conservation, Southern Africa

Resident PhD Students

A. Alemu Fanta; A. Altaf; M.S. Bekele; K. van Bommel; M.O.L. van den Bergh; I.C. Butter; F. Diallo; L. Djerandi; N. Djindil Syntiche; P. Justin; B. Kilama; B. Kinuthia; D. Kobusingye; A. Kronenburg; M.E. Leegwater; H.M. Leyten; S. Nasong'o; C.T. Nijenhuis; H. Nyamnjoh; D. Seli; D. Setume; R. Tchatchoua Djomo; E. Tegemoh; M. van Vliet

Library, Documentation and Information Department

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| J.C.M. Damen | head of department |
| M.M.O. Boin | documentalist |
| G.C. van de Bruinhorst | collection development |
| M.C.A. van Doorn | documentalist |
| E.M. Eijkman | documentalist |
| M.M. Kromhout | assistant librarian |
| M.B. van der Lee | assistant librarian |
| M. Oosterkamp | assistant librarian |
| K. Polman | documentalist |
| E.M. de Roos | assistant librarian |
| C.M. Sommeling | documentalist |
| P.G. Verkaik | assistant librarian |

Administrative Staff

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| J. Binnendijk | financial administrator |
| T. Blomsma-Peters | executive secretary to the director |
| H.W. van Drie | student assistant |
| U. Oberst | information specialist |
| G. Petit | project manager |
| A. Reeves | editor |
| L.A. van Rooijen | assistant financial administrator; publications manager |
| W. Veerman | programmer; computer manager |
| H.K. Westra | programmer; webmaster |
| M.A. Westra | HR administrator; visiting fellows and PhD coordinator |
| M.C.A. van Winden | PR coordinator |
| W.J. Zwart | publications assistant |

Visiting Fellows

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dr Raphael Babatunde | University of Ilorin, Nigeria |
| Dr Sofiane Bouhdiba | University of Tunis, Tunisia |
| Dr Gessesse Dessie | Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources, Ethiopia |
| Prof. Momar-Coumba Diop | Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal |
| Dr Adalbertus Kamanzi | Institute of Rural Development Planning (IRDP), Tanzania |
| Solani Ngoben | Africa Institute of South Africa, South Africa |
| Dr Samuel Owuor | University of Nairobi, Kenya |
| Dr Abdourahmane Seck | (non-affiliated) anthropologist & historian from Senegal |

The following members of staff left the ASC in 2012

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Dr J.K. van Donge | research staff |
| P. Both | student assistant |
| M.R. Lolkema | student assistant |



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

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| (in €'000) | 2011 | 2012 |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Income | | |
| Netherlands Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences | 3,052 | 2,846 |
| Projects for third parties | 1,077 | 996 |
| Other income (publications, etc.) | 404 | 420 |
| | ----- 4,533 | ----- 4,262 |
| Expenditures | | |
| Personnel | 2,560 | 2,492 |
| Institutional costs | 1,884 | 1,752 |
| Inventory depreciation | 15 | 16 |
| | ----- 4,459 | ----- 4,260 |

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Book Publications

Abbink, J., 'Dam Controversies: Contested Governance and Developmental Discourse on the Ethiopian Omo River Dam', *Social Anthropology* 20(2): 125-144.

Abbink, J., 'Ethnic-based Federalism and Ethnicity in Ethiopia: Reassessing the Experiment after 20 Years', *Journal of Eastern African Studies* 5(4): 596-618.

Abbink, J., 'Transformations of Islam and Communal Relations in Wällo, Ethiopia', in: B.F. Soares & R. Otayek (eds), **الإسلام وسياسة المسلمين في أفريقيا** Arabic translation of *Islam and Muslim Politics in Africa*, Cairo: al-Maktabah al-Akādīmiyah, pp. 107-133.

Abbink, J. & T. Salverda (eds), *The Anthropology of Elites: Power, Culture and the Complexities of Distinction*, New York/Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Abbink, J. & T. Salverda, 'Introduction: An Anthropological Perspective on Elite Power and the Cultural Politics of Elites', in: J. Abbink & T. Salverda (eds), *The Anthropology of Elites: Power, Culture and the Complexities of Distinction*, New York/Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 1-28.

Abbink, J. & T. Hagmann (eds), 'Ethiopia's Revolutionary Democracy, 1991-2011'. Special issue of the *Journal of Eastern African Studies* 5(2): 579-817.

Abbink, J. & T. Hagmann, 'Twenty Years of Revolutionary Democratic Ethiopia, 1991 to 2011: Introduction', *Journal of Eastern African Studies* 5(4): 579-595.

Akinyoade, A., 'Ministerial Tenure Stability and National Development: A Comparative Analysis of Nigeria and Indonesia from 1966 to 1999', in: W. Bokelmann, O. Akinwumi, U.M. Nwankwo & A.O. Agwuele (eds), *Overcoming African Leadership Challenges and Other Issues*, Berlin: Mediateam IT Educational Publishers, pp. 84-100.

Akinyoade, A. & F. Carchedi (eds), *Speranze violate. Cittadini Nigeriani gravemente sfruttati sul lavoro e in alter attività costrittive*, Rome: Ediesse.

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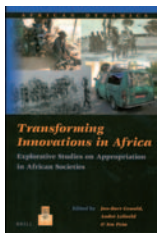
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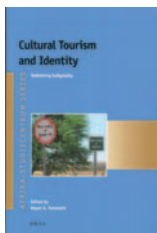
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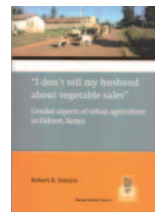
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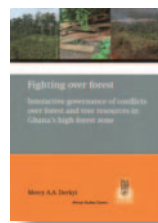


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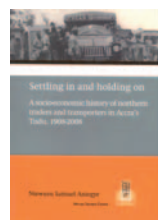
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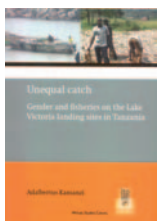
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Robert Simiyu (centre) and the committee that examined his PhD at Leiden University.

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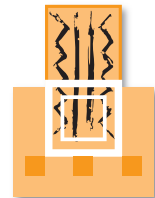
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