

Annual Report

2007

**Centre for Development and
the Environment**

University of Oslo

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Annual Report of the Board

SUM's goal is to contribute to the development of the University as a leading international institution for research in sustainable development. The challenges for the University are reinforced by the United Nations' designation of 2005 – 2015 as the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. SUM's Strategic Plan 2005 – 2009 sets out broad aims and specific objectives and tasks for research, teaching, networking, information and administration.

SUM's ambition is to be Norway's leading institution for research on sustainable development, and the centre now has very substantial experience in undertaking the kind of interdisciplinary collaboration which is necessary for achieving this task. In addition to producing high quality research of its own, SUM seeks also to encourage others at the university to engage in this topic.

During 2007, recruitment of staff and several new projects have broadened SUM's profile as an interdisciplinary centre, drawing from expertise not only in the social sciences and the humanities but also increasingly in the natural sciences, medicine, law and business management - both from within the University of Oslo and through extended institutional cooperation.

SUM's projects range widely in geographic terms: across Africa, Asia and Latin America – as well as Norway and Europe.

Research

The research activities at the Centre continued at a high level throughout 2007, with 43 projects involving researchers from over 40 countries and a wide variety of academic disciplines.

Commencement of two new EU projects as well as recruitment of new PhD candidates made it possible to further strengthen SUM's interdisciplinary research linking environment and development. In December 2007, SUM obtained financing from the Research Council of Norway for two new large-scale, long-term interdisciplinary projects: *Sustainability for the 21st Century: Overcoming Limitations to Creative Adaptation in Addressing the Climate Challenge*, initiated by Professor Nina Witoszek and *Multi-disciplinary Approach to Explaining Differential Immunization Coverage* developed by Senior Researcher Sidsel Roalkvam and Professor Desmond McNeill. Each of these new projects is funded for a four-year period with a budget of NOK 10 million.

SUM participated in a new EU project *Land Use Policies and Sustainable Development in Developing Countries (LUPIS)* which was launched 1 February 2007 involving 16 institutes in 13 countries. Another new project, *Ethics, Rights and Poverty: Global Theory and National Practice*, led by Professor Desmond McNeill started up in 2007 with financing from the Research Council of Norway. The *Arne Naess Chair in Global Justice and the Environment* was launched in 2007 with the Inaugural Lecture given by the first chair holders – co-chairs Guest Professors James Lovelock and Stephan Harding.

As in previous years, SUM's projects were organized within the following four research areas:

- Global and Regional Governance for Sustainable Development
- Local Dynamics of Change in Developing Countries
- Environmental Values and Social Change
- Program for Research and Documentation for a Sustainable Society (ProSus)

Academic Courses

During 2007, five new research fellows joined SUM's *Interdisciplinary Research School in Development and Environment*, established in 2005, of whom four were externally financed. This brought the total number to 14 PhD students about half of whom are foreigners. Of the five fellows who completed their theses in 2006, three were recruited by SUM as project and teaching staff. One of these positions was financed through income from our teaching programmes. The PhD course *Sustainable consumption: Research Approaches and Interdisciplinary Challenges*, directed by Associate Professor Harold Wilhite, was held 10-12 January 2007.

SUM offers teaching at all levels, but gives priority to the graduate level. During 2007, SUM's courses were further developed and strengthened through expansion of topics central to SUM's research agenda.

SUM continued the international Master's degree *Culture, Environment and Sustainability (CES)* which was established in 2003. The programme had 20 new students enrolled in 2007. Of those already enrolled, 13 students received their MA diplomas during the year. Teaching at the undergraduate level continued without major changes, including a unit of 40 credits comprised of three courses which are incorporated in the programmes of the Faculty of Humanities, the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. Several measures were taken to improve and control the quality of SUM's courses in 2007. The Master's degree was evaluated as one of the best Master's degrees offered in English at the Faculty of Humanities.

Networking and Communication

Efforts have been made to encourage SUM researchers to publish in quality journals and publishing houses. In 2007, SUM researchers published three monographs and prepared three more for publication in 2008. In addition, SUM researchers published 11 articles in refereed journals and books.

Through participation in international seminars and conferences, SUM aims to place key environmental and development policy issues on the international agenda. In 2007, SUM staff presented their work at nearly 100 seminars and conferences of which over a third were in international fora including: UNESCO, UN Research Institute for Social Development, OHCHR, Commission of the European Communities, EU-GARNET, Latin American Studies Association, European Council for Energy Efficient Economy as well as various conferences and workshops organised through the European Union. Presentations were also made at, among others, the Universities of Oxford, Sussex, Aarhus, and The New School in New York.

Events organized by SUM are targeted primarily at researchers, university students and policy makers. Major events during 2007 included The Arne Næss Inaugural Lecture *What's Happening to Gaia?* on April 27th 2007 organized in cooperation with the *Oslo Sustainability Initiative*, an international project led by Professor Nina Witoszek. It was followed up by a symposium which took place on October 8th, *Beyond the Apocalypse: Creative Adaptation to Climate Change*. Each of these events attracted between 300 and 400 participants.

A conference on *Human Rights and Extreme Poverty in Africa* was organized in Kampala in October through the HUREP project led by Senior Researcher Dan Banik. In November the *Academic Network on Legal Empowerment of the Poor (ANLEP)* held a workshop in Oslo on *Legal Empowerment of the Poor* led by Banik, with high profiled participants including Arjun Sengupta, Chair of the UN Working Group on the Rights to Development, Human Rights Council in Geneva, who has made several visits to SUM as guest researcher.

In addition, the *Developing Countries Seminar Series (U-landsseminar)* held 14 seminars, the *Poverty and Development Seminar Series* 12 seminars, the *Network for Asia Studies* 10 seminars and the newly established seminar series on *Environmental Ethics* held two. In all, SUM's conferences and seminars attracted over 2500 people. SUM staff and guest researchers were involved in several films in 2007 including a film by NRK *James Lovelock: Jordens Advokat* with interviews with Professor Nina Witoszek and guest professors. James Lovelock and Stephan Harding. In addition, two of SUM's projects were featured on international television: The History Channel's *Digging for the Truth: Timbuktu* as well as follow-up on *Big Fish, Small Fry: Globalisation of the Lake Victoria Fisheries* which was distributed through Swedish television.

Evaluation

During the year SUM was evaluated by an external evaluation committee appointed by the Rector of the University. SUM was asked to prepare a self evaluation and status report. The final evaluation report, which is quite positive, concludes with certain proposals for change in organisation and mandate, which will be considered by the University Board during 2008.

Staff and Finances

SUM's Director, Bente Herstad, left in February to take up a new position as head of the Environment, Infrastructure and Energy Department in Norad. Professor Desmond McNeill took over for six months

during the process of recruitment of a replacement; and in August Professor Kristi Anne Stølen was appointed as new director.

Total revenues for 2006 were NOK 35 million of which 36% was general operational funds from the University of Oslo. Accounts for 2007 were finalized providing necessary provisions for 2008.

The number of staff included 1 director, 4 research leaders, 9 senior researchers, 14 Ph D students, 3 research assistants, 2 research, network and information coordinators, 5 guest researchers, and 10 administrative staff (corresponding to six man years). Regarding gender balance at SUM, women represented 50 % of research leaders, 57 % of senior researchers and Professors, 50% Ph D students, 50% of research assistants and 50% of administrative staff. SUM experienced a positive working environment. The green profile drawn up in 2003 led to improved recycling and reduced paper consumption.

The Board

The Board held six meetings during 2007.

Styrets årsberetning

SUMs mål er å bidra til at Universitetet i Oslo blir en internasjonalt ledende institusjon for forskning om bærekraftig utvikling. Dette målet er forankret i FNs “Tiåret for utdanning av bærekraftig utvikling” (*Decade of Education for Sustainable Development*). SUMs strategiske plan 2005 - 2009 presenterer mål og tiltak for senterets forskning, undervisning, nettverksbygging, formidling og administrasjon i planperioden.

SUMs ambisjon er å bli Norges ledende institusjon for forskning på bærekraftig utvikling og senteret har nå opparbeidet seg betydelig erfaring med tverrfaglig samarbeid som er nødvendig for å nå denne ambisjonen. I tillegg til å gjennomføre egen forskning av høy kvalitet, søker SUM også å være pådriver for forskning på bærekraftig utvikling ved andre enheter ved UiO.

Gjennom rekruttering av medarbeidere og flere nye prosjekter med ulike samarbeidspartnere har SUM i løpet av 2007 styrket sin profil som et tverrfaglig senter. Dette innebærer foruten deltakelse fra forskere med bakgrunn fra samfunnsfagene og humaniora, i økende grad samarbeid med forskere fra naturvitenskap, medisin og jus både fra Universitetet i Oslo og fra eksterne institusjoner.

Geografisk spenner SUMs forskning over et vidt område, land i Afrika, Asia og Latin-Amerika så vel som Norge og andre europeiske land.

Forskning

Senterets forskningsaktiviteter fortsatte på et høyt nivå gjennom 2007 med 43 prosjekter som omfatter forskere fra 40 land og en rekke akademiske disipliner. Oppstart av nye EU prosjekter samt rekruttering nye doktorgradsstipendiater gjorde det mulig å styrke SUMs tverrfaglige profil.

I desember 2007 fikk SUM tilsagn om finansiering fra Norges Forskningsråd til to større, tverrfaglige prosjekter: *Sustainability for the 21st Century: Overcoming Limitations to Creative Adaptation in Addressing the Climate Challenge*, initiert av professor Nina Witoszek og *Multi-disciplinary Approach to Explaining Differential Immunization Coverage* utviklet av seniorforsker Sidsel Roalkvam og professor Desmond McNeill. Disse nye prosjektene er finansiert for en fireårs periode med et budsjett på 10 millioner kroner hver.

Sammen med 15 institusjoner i 13 land, deltar SUM i et nytt EU-prosjekt: *Land Use Policies and Sustainable Development in Developing Countries (LUPIS)*, som startet opp 1. februar 2007. Et annet prosjekt, *Ethics, Rights and Poverty: Global Theory and National Practice*, ledet av professor Desmond McNeill startet opp i 2007 med finansiering fra Norges Forskningsråd. *Arne Naess Chair in*

Global Justice and the Environment ble lansert i 2007 med åpningsforedrag av gjesteprofessorene James Lovelock og Stephan Harding.

Som i tidligere år, var SUMs prosjekter organisert i følgende forskningsområder:

- Globalt styresett for miljø og utvikling
- Lokale endringer i utviklingsland
- Kulturbaserte holdninger til miljø og utvikling
- ProSus (Program for Research and Documentation for a Sustainable Society)

Undervisning

SUMs forskerskole, *Interdisciplinary Research School in Development and Environment*, etablert i 2005, har tiltrukket seg fem nye doktorgradsstipendiater i løpet av 2007, fire av disse er eksternt finansiert. Det totale antall doktorgradsstipendiater er nå 14 og rundt halvparten er fra utlandet. Tre av de fem stipendiatene som forsvarte sine avhandlinger i 2006, ble tilknyttet senteret som prosjekt- og undervisningsmedarbeidere. En av stillingene finansieres gjennom studiepoengproduksjon fra vår undervisning. Et doktorgradskurs, *Sustainable Consumption: Research Approaches and Interdisciplinary Challenges*, ledet av 1. amanuensis Harold Wilhite, ble holdt 10. - 12. januar 2007.

SUM tilbyr undervisning på alle nivå, men prioriterer master og doktorgradsnivå. I 2007 ble SUMs kurs styrket ved å knytte kurstemaene nærmere til forskningsagendaen.

Det ble tatt opp 27 studenter på den internasjonale mastergraden i *Culture, Environment and Sustainability* (CES). 13 studenter avla eksamen i løpet av året. Undervisningen på lavere nivå fortsatte uten store endringer og omfatter en emnegruppe med 3 emner og 40 studiepoeng. Emnegruppen er inkludert i programmene for Det humanistiske fakultet, Det samfunnsvitenskapelige fakultet og Det matematisk-naturvitenskapelige fakultet. Flere tiltak ble satt i verk for å forbedre og kontrollere kvaliteten på SUMs kurs i 2007. Mastergraden på SUM har blitt evaluert som en av de beste mastergradene som blir tilbudt på engelsk ved Det humanistiske fakultet.

Nettverk og formidling

SUM oppfordrer sine forskere til å publisere i anerkjente tidsskrifter og forlag. I løpet av 2007 publiserte SUM forskere sine resultater i tre monografier og forberedte tre til som blir publisert i 2008. I tillegg ble det publiserte 11 artikler i tidsskrifter og bøker med fagfelleevaluering.

Deltakelse på internasjonale konferanser er et av virkemidlene SUM benytter for å sette miljø- og utviklingssaker på den internasjonale agenda. Forskerne har presentert sine arbeider på rundt 100 konferanser, hvorav over en tredjedel var internasjonale: UNESCO, UN Research Institute for Social Development, OHCHR, Commission of the European Communities, EU-GARNET, Latin American Studies Association, European Council for Energy Efficient Economy og EU. Presentasjoner ble også gjort, blant annet ved universitetene i Oxford, Sussex, Aarhus og The New School in New York.

Målgruppen for SUMs arrangementer er hovedsakelig forskere, universitetsstudenter og politiske beslutningstakere. Et av de største SUM-arrangementene i løpet av 2007, The Arne Naess Inaugural Lecture *What's Happening to Gaia?*, fant sted 27. april. Dette arrangementet var organisert i samarbeid med *Oslo Sustainability Initiative*, et internasjonalt prosjekt ledet av professor Nina Witoszek. Arrangementet ble fulgt opp med et symposium den 8. oktober, *Beyond the Apocalypse: Creative Adaptation to Climate Change*. Hvert av disse arrangementene hadde mellom 300 og 400 deltakere.

En konferanse om *Human Rights and Extreme Poverty in Africa* ble organisert i Kampala i oktober under ledelse av seniorforsker Dan Banik. I november arrangerte *Academic Network on Legal Empowerment of the Poor* (ANLEP) også ledet av Banik en workshop i Oslo med tittelen: Legal Empowerment of the Poor. Blant deltakerne var professor Arjun Sengupta, formann i FNs *Arbeidsgruppe for rett til utvikling*, som har besøkt SUM ved flere anledninger som gjesteforsker.

I tillegg holdt *U-landsseminaret* 14 seminar, *Poverty and Development Seminar Series* 12 seminar, *Network for Asia Studies* 10 seminar og det nyetablerte seminarserien *Environmental Ethics* 2 seminar. Til sammen har SUMs konferanser og seminar tiltrukket seg over 2500 mennesker.

SUMs ansatte og gjesteforskere var involvert i flere filmer i 2007, blant annet en dokumentarfilm laget av NRK, *James Lovelock: Jordens Advokat*, med intervjuer av professor Nina Witoszek og gjesteprofessorene James Lovelock og Stephan Harding. I tillegg ble to av SUMs prosjekter vist på utenlandsk fjernsyn: The History Channel viste *Digging for the Truth: Timbuktu* samt oppfølgeren av *Big Fish, Small Fry: Globalisation of the Lake Victoria Fisheries* som ble distribuert av Svensk TV.

Evaluering

I løpet av året ble SUM evaluert av en ekstern evalueringskomité utnevnt av universitetets rektor. SUM utarbeidet i den forbindelse en selvevaluering og en statusrapport. Evalueringskomiteens rapport, som er overveiende positiv, konkluderer med forslag til noen justeringer av organisasjon og mandat. Den vil bli diskutert i universitetets styre våren 2008.

Økonomi og personale

SUMs direktør, Bente Herstad, sluttet i februar for å starte i ny stilling som leder av Avdeling for miljø, infrastruktur og energi i Norad. Professor Desmond McNeill fungerte i seks måneder under rekrutteringsprosessen av ny direktør. Professor Kristi Anne Stølen ble i august utnevnt som ny direktør for senteret.

De samlede inntektene i 2006 var på til sammen 35 millioner kroner. Grunnbevilgningen fra UiO utgjør 36% av de samlede inntekter. Regnskapet er gjort opp med positiv balanse, og gir følgelig en positiv overføring til 2008.

Personalsammensetningen i 2007 var: 1 direktør, 4 forskningsledere, 9 seniorforskere, 14 doktorstipendiater, 3 forskningsassistenter, 2 forsknings- og nettverksadministrative ansatte, 5 gjesteforskere og 10 administrative ansatte (tilsvarende 6 årsverk).

SUM har nå oppnådd en god kjønnsbalanse blant de ansatte. Kvinneandelen er som følger: 50% av forskningslederne, 57% av seniorforskerne, 50% av stipendiatene 50 % av forskningsassistentene og 50 % av de administrative.

Styret

Styret holdt seks møter i løpet av 2007.

RESEARCH

SUM promotes high academic quality in its research in order to support the University of Oslo's efforts to become a leading research institution on both national and international environment and development issues.

SUM's academic profile is based on the expertise of its academic staff, associated senior researchers, research fellows and extensive national and international research networks. This expertise provides an opportunity to draw linkages between global, regional and local processes of change in both rich and poor countries.

Thematically SUM's research covers a wide area: global institutions, governance and implementation of Norwegian and European environment and foreign policy, corporate social responsibility, reconstruction following local conflicts, democratization and poverty reduction in developing countries, local sustainable development in connection with energy and biological diversity in Norway and developing countries, cultural attitudes and ethics. These themes are represented within four research areas:

- Global and Regional Governance for Sustainable Development
- Local Dynamics of Change in Developing Countries
- Environmental Values and Social Change
- Program for Research and Documentation for a Sustainable Society (ProSus)

These four research areas are interdisciplinary and are each staffed by a research leader, senior researchers, research fellows and Master's students.

The geographic coverage of SUM's research is also wide, comprising research in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe.

Global and Regional Governance for Sustainable Development

The main objective of SUM's research area *Global and Regional Governance for Sustainable Development* is to develop a conceptual framework for, and generate knowledge about, policy processes, governance and negotiations between states, multilateral organisations, private companies, and other non-state organisations in the multilateral system.

This was another productive year, with several ongoing projects and one major new one: an ambitious, interdisciplinary study on immunization, involving collaborators from several different institutions in Norway and abroad. This will further extend our international contacts, which already include membership in the Network of Excellence on *Global Governance, Regionalisation and Regulation: The Role of the EU* (GARNET) coordinated by the Centre for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation (CSGR) in Warwick, UK. Several articles were produced by members of the group during the year, as well as *Development Issues in Global Governance: Public-Private Partnerships and Market Multilateralism*, published by Routledge in paperback and hardback. The latter was the subject of a book launch, in January 2007, at which Jan Art Scholte, University of Warwick, and others acted as commentators. This marked the end of this three-year project on multilateral organisations by Benedicte Bull and Desmond McNeill. Members of the group participated in an EU research proposal led by Sir Richard Jolly (IDS, Sussex) on Global Economic Governance, Europe and the UN. The proposal was short-listed but was, in the end, not approved.

With project preparation funding from the Research Council of Norway, Sidsel Roalkvam and Desmond McNeill developed a proposal for a major project on *Explaining Differential Immunization Coverage*. They organized a two-day workshop with potential collaborators from University of Oslo, and several institutions in Norway and abroad. The proposal was successful, receiving a grant of NOK 10 million over four years from the Research Council of Norway, and the project will be launched in January 2008. It addresses the question: Why, despite unfavourable political and economical circumstances, are some low-income countries and communities far more successful than others in immunizing children? There is a broad variation in uptake of and demand for vaccines. The reasons for this are only sketchily understood. The major focus of earlier research on this topic has been on the quality of supply and availability, neglecting social and political factors. This project focuses on the interface of demand and supply, placing social and political factors at the centre of analysis. The team includes researchers from:

- University of Oslo: the Section for International Health, Faculty of Medicine; Institute for Social Anthropology, Faculty of Social Sciences;
- Other Norwegian institutions: Fridtjof Nansen Institute (FNI) in Oslo, Chr. Michelsens Institute (CMI) in Bergen;
- International: College of Medicine at the University of Malawi; Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute in India; as well as collaborating institutions in USA, Australia, Netherlands and UK.

Four Master's students and three doctoral students, including Cecilie Nordfeldt from the Institute of Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo, will be attached to the project during spring 2008.

Development Ethics and Human Rights as the Basis for Global Poverty Reduction, another project focusing on multilateral organisations, led by Desmond McNeill in collaboration with Asun Lera St Clair, made substantial progress. This study analyzes how ethics and human rights is being, and may be, used to articulate the responsibilities of development agencies and their staff so as to guide and motivate their knowledge and policies. Empirical studies are being undertaken of the work of four multilateral institutions: the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, the Inter-American Development Bank, and UNESCO. During 2007 both McNeill and Asun Lera St Clair made presentations of ongoing research at various institutions including the Institute of Social Studies (ISS) in The Hague under the auspices of the GARNET, and the Norwegian Association for Development Studies (NFU). Two articles based on this project were published during the year: “Human Development: the Power of the Idea” in the *Journal of Human Development*; and “Equity, Development and the World Bank: Can ethics be put into practice?” in *The World Bank Legal Review: Law, Equity and Development* edited by D. Malek, Sage, C and M. Woolcock published by Kluwer Law International.

A new project, ***Ethics, Rights and Poverty: Global Theory and National Practice***, commenced in 2007 with financing from the Research Council of Norway. Project participants at SUM are Desmond McNeill (project leader), Dan Banik and Asun Lera St Clair. By focusing on an ethical understanding of the relationship between rights and poverty, the project critically examines the connection – or lack of it – between global theories and local practices, i.e. between abstract theorising and the ground-level challenges faced by UN practitioners.

The recent trend to view poverty as a ‘denial’ or ‘violation’ of basic human rights – concepts with both an ethical and a legal edge – offers a new type of grounding for poverty reduction strategies. It is unclear, however, what this actually implies in practice. The study focuses primarily on three key UN agencies which have been at the forefront of developing and using human rights based approaches (UNDP, UNICEF and OHCHR) and three countries in Africa (South Africa, Uganda, Malawi) and three countries in Asia (India, Bangladesh and Vietnam). A comparative study of these six countries representing a diversity of contexts and approaches, will shed light on the range of options for applying the HRBA framework.

Cooperating networks are GARNET and the World Universities Network (WUN). An international advisory group has been established for the project, including Sir Richard Jolly and professors Arjun Sengupta and Siddiq Osmani. A meeting with the reference group is planned for 2008-2009.

During 2007, fieldwork was undertaken by Dan Banik in Malawi, Uganda, India and Bangladesh. Maren Aase was recruited as a research fellow in May 2007. She is working on the role of human rights based approaches in development and their role in reducing vulnerability to extreme poverty in the natural hazard-prone Bengal region of India and Bangladesh.

The aim of the project ***Regional Integration, the Private Sector and Governance for Sustainable Development in Latin America*** is to study negotiation and implementation of free trade agreements in

Latin America with a focus on Chile and Central America. The project is implemented in cooperation with the University of Chile. Benedicte Bull continued work on her three-year post-doctoral research project during 2007; however she was on maternity leave for most of the period. Activities focused on dissemination of material collected during research in 2006 including two publications: "Policy Networks and Business Participation in Free Trade Negotiations in Chile" forthcoming in the *Journal of Latin America Studies*, Vol. 4, part 2, May 2008, as well as a submitted article "Free Trade Negotiations, Business Participation and the Impact on Environmental and Labour Regulation: The Case of Chile" which is under consideration.

Early in the year, SUM completed its involvement in the Inter-American Bank *Social Capital, Ethics and Development Initiative* funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to which Benedicte Bull, Asun Lera St. Clair and Desmond McNeill contributed.

Christopher Wright joined SUM as a guest researcher with the project *The G8 and Climate Change: Monitoring Compliance with Policy Commitments*. This international research project is financed through a London School of Economics / Alcoa Post-Doctoral Fellowship for the period 2007-09. The project provides independent, accurate and timely analysis of the climate policies introduced and implemented by the G8 countries and five large developing countries. The primary mission of the project is to assess whether these countries are following up the climate-related policy commitments they made at the previous G8 summit in areas such as climate mitigation, adaptation and renewable energy. The analysis is conducted by over 50 postgraduate students at the University of Oxford and the London School of Economics. The research group produced two reports, an Interim released on March 1, 2007, and a Final Report released on June 7, 2007 *The European Investment Bank: An analysis of its social guidelines for investments in developing countries*.

In August 2007, Wright was commissioned by Banktrack to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the social guidelines of the European Investment Bank (EIB), and compare these to those of other multilateral financial institutions as well as policy and guidelines issued by the European Commission. The findings were presented in a report at a Civil Society Organization -EIB workshop at the European Development Days in Lisbon, November 7-9 2007.

Maria Gjørberg, a doctoral student who joined the group in 2005 to carry out research on the *Political Economy of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)*, continued her work, with a focus on the Nordic countries. The aim of the study is to analyse the Nordic model for CSR. The main focus is on interactions between business and government and the influence of domestic institutions and policies on corporate practice. The main theoretical debates addressed in the project relate to globalisation, political economy and new modes of governance. In 2007, Gjørberg arranged a 5 week academic visit with Professor Charles Ragin at the University of Arizona, USA and collected data in Denmark and Sweden in collaboration with Copenhagen Business School and Stockholm School of Economics as part of the Nordic case study. She is on maternity leave from mid-2007 until mid-2008.

Irja Vormedal's PhD project, *The Role and Influence of Business in the International Climate Regime* consists of a series of case studies which investigate the nature and impact of business lobbying in multilateral climate negotiations. Activities in 2007 included several literature reviews and interviews held in Paris and Geneva in January and data collected at the Conference of the Parties (COP) in Bali in November. One journal article "The Influence of Business and Industry NGOs in the Negotiation of the Kyoto Mechanisms: The Case of Carbon Capture and Storage in the CDM", was accepted by MIT Press to be published in the peer reviewed journal *Global Environmental Politics*. Vormedal obtained a scholarship from the Fulbright Foundation to spend 6 months in 2008 at the MIT Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change.

SUM, in agreement with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is responsible for the secretariat of *The Reference Group for the Norway-Finland World Bank Trust Fund for Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development (TFESSD)* which advises the Norwegian and Finnish Ministries of Foreign Affairs on the progress, direction and usefulness of the TFESSD, and assists in promoting a substantial dialogue between the World Bank and the Norwegian and Finnish ESSD communities.

Cooperating institutions include Norad, the Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR), the Norwegian Ministry of the Environment, the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, and the World Bank. In 2007 McNeill (leader) and Tanja Winther (secretary) organised four regular meetings in the Reference Group and attended a TFESSD 2-day workshop and consultation meeting in Washington in November. The annual conference was held on May 8th and was jointly organized by the two secretariats of TFESSD (SUM) and the Bank's private sector infrastructure fund, respectively. The title of the conference was *Energy Access and Climate Change: the Role of the Private Sector and the World Bank Group*. It was hosted by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, held at Norad's premises in Oslo and attended by 100 people, including several participants from the World Bank Group.

A major evaluation of the Trust Fund was undertaken by COWI Consult, commissioned by the Evaluation Department of Norad, which concluded that the fund had successfully influenced the mainstreaming of selected sustainable development approaches, concepts and methods in Bank policy and operations, which it described as a significant achievement. The report also noted the satisfaction expressed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the work of the Reference Group, and of SUM.

Two guest researchers were attached to this research area in 2007. Erik G. Jansen from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs continued work on projects in Tanzania including the *Big Fish, Small Fry: Globalisation of the Lake Victoria Fisheries*. Wim Vanderkerckhove, Assistant Professor at the Department of Philosophy and Moral Sciences at University of Ghent in Belgium visited SUM from August to November 2007. Vanderkerckhove's research assesses the role of business ethics in the study of ethical problematic aspects of globalization.

Local Dynamics of Change in Developing Countries

The research area *Local Dynamics of Change in Developing Countries* addresses the complexity and diversity of the relationships between global and local processes. A key issue is to describe how local-level actors with roots in their own cultures and experiences, and given new opportunities, either initiate or adapt to change, or both. Under the leadership of Kristi Anne Stølen, research in this area is organized around four main topics: poverty, natural resource management, energy, and peace and conflict.

The year 2007 was very productive within this research area. A new EU-financed programme started in February, and the Academic Network on Legal Empowerment of the Poor, financed by Norad, was established in May. Both have connected SUM to a number of important international institutions and scholars and have generated intense activities in their respective fields. Two books based on fieldwork in India and Guatemala respectively were published by well-known international publishers and three based on research in India and Tanzania were finalized and accepted for publication in 2008.

Poverty and Development

Poverty is a multidimensional concept, and this interdisciplinary research on poverty, led by Dan Banik, focuses on a few interrelated issues concerning development and poverty reduction. For example, although low income is a major indicator of poverty, it is only one of several. The lives of the poor are characterised by deprivation and the lack of food, health, education, security and political influence. Focusing on disparities across countries and regions in terms of income poverty and standard of living, the programme studies both successes and failures, as well as lessons learnt from some of the world's best known safety-net-oriented programmes. Individual projects under this programme analyse various theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of development and poverty reduction.

The objective of the *Human Rights and Extreme Poverty (HUREP)* project is to contribute to the understanding of the relationship between human rights and poverty by:

- undertaking analysis and assessment studies in partnership with academic communities in developing countries that can help Norwegian and international efforts to address the urgent matter of poverty eradication as a human rights issue;
- encouraging and promoting empirical research on social justice and accountability of states and exploring public policies and law reforms aimed at legal and social empowerment of the poor by promoting, protecting and fulfilling human rights.

Activities of the project, which has financing from Norad, were as follows in 2007:

- Poverty and Development (PAD) seminars related to human rights and poverty at the University of Oslo;

- Participation by HUREP researchers, Dan Banik, Bård Anders Andreassen, Arjun Sengupta in expert seminar on human rights and extreme poverty, organised by the Human Rights Council, Geneva;
- Research visit to Malawi and Kenya;
- Professor Arjun Sengupta's visit to the University of Oslo, HUREP network meetings;
- Networking in China and preparation for HUREP conference 2008;
- HUREP international conference October 4 – 7 in Kampala, Uganda;
- Professor Arjun Sengupta's visit to the University of Oslo during October/November and attendance at the ANLEP workshop on Legal Empowerment of the Poor;
- Dan Banik's fieldwork in India and Bangladesh where he spent several months.

Established in May 2007 with financing from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the main purpose of *Academic Network on Legal Empowerment of the Poor (ANLEP)* is to undertake research and disseminate research findings on selected topics that have been crucial to the work of the Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor, including a focus on access to justice and rule of law, labour and property rights, socio-economic and political empowerment of women and human rights-based pro-poor governance. This research will be undertaken through a variety of activities which include workshops, joint publications, short-term exchange programme for faculty, doctoral courses on legal empowerment and visits by doctoral students from Europe and developing countries to partner institutions of the ANLEP network. A book with the title *Rights, Legal Empowerment and Pro-Poor Governance* was finalized and will be published with Ashgate Publishing in London 2008.

In connection with the ANLEP project, Alexander Vadala is preparing a doctoral dissertation in political science entitled *Politics and Famine Prevention in Ethiopia: The Case of Afar Pastoralists. The study examines the politics of famine prevention in Ethiopia* with particular emphasis on the pastoral mode of production. It focuses on the case of Afar pastoralists – a minority group in North-Eastern Ethiopia – analyzing the extent to which their marginalization in relation to the evolving political system in Ethiopia makes them vulnerable to famine.

Kenneth Bo Nielsen's continued his PhD project, *In Defence of the Land: Rural Social Movements and Urban Activists in India's West Bengal*, started up in August 2006. The project analyses the making of a rural social movement opposing government-directed forced land acquisition, and examines its impact on governance and policy. The study focuses on the interplay between rural protestors and urban activists, and their efforts to formulate common visions, agendas and political strategies for the movement. Importantly, as ethnography of a social movement from inception to decline, the study also explores the question of how social movements are unmade and why they oftentimes gradually lose momentum. One article (co-authored with Stig Toft Madsen) is in press with the journal *Critical Asian Studies*. Another article is forthcoming in an edited volume on *Legal Empowerment of the Poor* by Dan Banik.

Politics and Policy Processes in Food Security and Nutrition, a collaborative project between the University of Oslo with Dan Banik and the International Food Policy Research Institute in Washington

DC with James Garrett, critically explores the reasons for the lack of policy attention to food and nutrition issues, and investigates the influence of politics and policy processes, and the role of public action on policy choices and implementation outcomes..

Natural Resource Management

Sustainable use of natural resources refers to the use of renewable resources (soils, water, plants, and animals) for the production of goods – to meet changing human needs – while at the same time protecting and sustaining these resources. Poor people are particularly reliant on ecosystem services and on biological resources to support their day-to-day livelihoods and, with limited other resources, they are more vulnerable to environmental degradation. It is essential to understand that conservation cannot be seen in isolation from social, economic and political processes. The projects in this area comprise interdisciplinary work on the interrelationships between natural resources, and in particular biodiversity, policy, natural resources management regimes, land use change and sustainable harvesting of species by local communities.

Strategy and Methodology for Improved Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) - An integrated interdisciplinary assessment in four twinning river basins (STRIVER) - is an EU funded project over three years, from 1st July 2006, to develop interdisciplinary methods to assess and IWRM. The project will undertake IWRM in four selected twinned catchments: Glomma (Norway), Sesan, (Cambodia/Vietnam) Tejo/Tagus (Spain/Portugal) and Tungabhadra (India). The project is coordinated by the Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA), Haakon Thaulow, and by the Norwegian Institute for Agricultural and Environmental Research (BIOFORSK), Per Stålnacke.

Desmond McNeill and Ingrid Nesheim are responsible for the project component at SUM. In all 35 researchers are involved in the project, representing a range of disciplines: biology, law, hydrology, political science, and other social sciences. (From the UNESCO Centre, University of Dundee; Academy of Science and Technology, Hanoi, Vietnam; Instituto Pirenaico de Ecologica, Zaragoza, Spain; Instituto Superior Técnico, Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal; Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, India; Society for Promoting Participative Ecosystem Management, Pune, India; Centre for Development Research, Bonn University, Germany; LiU School of Management, Linköping University, Sweden; Water Research Institute - National Research Council, Italy.)

The STRIVER project has in 2007 organised one team meeting in Lisbon, Portugal and produced two deliverables. One of these, “The Conceptual IWRM Methodology” was the responsibility of SUM. The IWRM framework developed is to serve as the guiding strategy of the IWRM-approach in the STRIVER project. This strategy will be tested through practical application in the project and will be a significant input to a later deliverable on “The Final Guidelines for Inter-disciplinary Science Based IWRM Assessment Methodology”.

Land Use Policies and Sustainable Development in Developing Countries (LUPIS) is an EU funded project involving 16 institutes in 13 countries, which started on February 1, 2007 and will run for a

period of 42 months. The project will develop integrated assessment tools for sustainable development for application by scientists in a selected number of developing countries. Attention will be given to both natural and agricultural ecosystems. The project provides assessment procedures for documenting and understanding the impact of land use policies on sustainable development, taking into account multi-functionalities and European policy options on biodiversity, climate and trade.

The project leader is Floor Brouwer, Agricultural Economics Research Institute, The Netherlands. Desmond McNeill and Ingrid Nesheim are responsible for the project component at SUM. Kristi-Anne Stølen and Mariel Aguilar-Støen are also participating from SUM. The other collaborating institutions Centre for Agricultural Research for Developing Countries (CIRAD), Montpellier, France; Wageningen University, Landbouw-Economisch Instituut (LEI) and Alterra, in The Netherlands; Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF) in Germany; Institut des Régions Arides, Tunisia; Kenya Agricultural Research Institute; Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment in India; Nanjing Agricultural University in China; Institute of Rural Economy (IER) in Mali; Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia; Fundação Universidade de Brasília in Brazil; Université Gaston Berger in Senegal; Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique in Niger.

During this first year SUM has been responsible for the analytical framework of the project. More specifically, this deliverable seeks to relate research on policies and contexts of land use issues and problems in case study countries to the research and the development of tools and models for use in case studies in partner countries. The project has during this first year focused on the contextualisation of policies and tools to the situation in Mali, Kenya, Tunisia, China, India, Indonesia, and Brazil.

Articles based on Ingrid Nesheim's doctoral dissertation, *Vascular Plant Diversity and its Use in a Neotropical Rain Forest Inhabited by Migrants*, successfully defended in June 2006, are in the process of publication in international journals. In 2007 one article was published in *Journal of Vegetation Science* and another submitted to *Plant Ecology*.

Mariel Aguilar Støen's continued her PhD project entitled: *Gardens in the Forest: Use and Management of Plant Diversity in an Agro-landscape of Mexico*. Støen focuses among other things on how land tenure and management of different land-use types affect biodiversity in a coffee-producing district in Oaxaca, Mexico. It identifies drivers and consequences of changes in land-use among different categories of producers. Støen commenced the analysis of data from completed fieldwork in Mexico and published an article in *Biodiversity and Conservation*.

The aim of Tadesse Kassa's study towards a PhD in international water law is to reflect on the substantive contents and implications of *Legal Frameworks Providing for the Utilization of the Nile River Basin Water Resources*. By employing the appropriate theories and rules of the laws of nations, and consulting the diplomatic-historical context in which the agreements were constructed, Kasse will explore and scrutinize the substance of pertinent regional bilateral and multilateral treaty frameworks bearing impact on the right to utilize the Nile River. Kassa will ultimately investigate the precise legal connotation of the Nile treaties in contemporary international law, and expose the deficiencies and

prospects of current institutional and legal initiatives aiming at basin-wide management of the river. A brief period of fieldwork was undertaken in early 2007. Literature review has been the main activity during this first year.

Guro Aandahl's doctoral research project *The Sardar Sarovar Project in Gujarat: an Analysis of Ideas of Development, and a Case Study of Command Area Challenges*, involving fieldwork in Gujarat, India, is a study of the highly controversial Sardar Sarovar Dam Project (SSP). It is an analysis of the idea of 'development' embedded in the project. It explores what the government and the supporters of the SSP want to achieve through the project, and through which mechanisms they expect this to happen. It further explores the reception of the canal project and the Narmada water in a comparative case study of two villages in different parts of the command area in Gujarat. A central focus is the gap between plan and reality, and how local power relations may affect project implementation.

Energy

In the field of energy, three books based on results from two doctoral theses defended in 2006 have been completed and accepted for publication in 2008. Harold Wilhite's book *Consumption and the Transformation of Everyday Life: A View from South India* is to be published with Palgrave Macmillan. Tanja Winther's work, *The Impact of Electricity: Development Desires and Dilemmas* to be published by Berghahn Books, has involved expanding the discussions as to how the case of electricity in Zanzibar relates to the literature on development and sustainability. Updated data from field visits in 2005 and 2006 have been included. Thanks to a grant from the Norwegian Embassy in Dar es Salaam, a revised version of Winther's thesis on the *Social Implications of Electrification in Rural Zanzibar* has been finalized to be published in Swahili by SUM with UNIPUB.

Winther also participated in an evaluation of Norwegian power-related assistance for Norad executed by Scanteam AS. She was engaged as a quality assessor of reporting, in particular of field study reports. The evaluation was carried out in cooperation with the Christian Michelsen Institute (CMI) and Energi Data AS in Norway, VerdeAzul Consultoria in Maputo, and ENTEC Kathmandu, Nepal.

Wilhite continued his collaboration with the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research (CICERO) in the second year of the project entitled *Designing Information Measures to Promote Environmentally Sound Energy Consumption: an Interdisciplinary Approach*. The focus during this phase has been businesses and their motivation to purchase electricity based on renewable energy. Based on the results of the interviews conducted with 12 Norwegian companies, focus group discussions will be set up in early 2008 in order to explore how to best develop incentive and information policies to promote renewable energy.

Peace and Conflict

SUM's research on peace and conflict is focussed on both conflict and its aftermath. Kristi Anne Stølen's research for the project *Forced Migration: Reconstruction of Livelihoods and Identities among Guatemalan Returnees*, a study of Guatemalan peasants rebuilding their lives after years in

the crossfire, was completed in 2006 and resulted in several journal publications and a book entitled: ***Guatemalans in the Aftermath of Violence: The Refugees' Return*** published with the University of Pennsylvania Press in the Spring 2007. The book highlights the dynamics of violence in the armed conflict in Guatemala, the complex survival strategies of the refugees and the way they manage to reconstruct community and identity in the post-conflict situation.

Jennifer Schirmer' projects at SUM include a project financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on ***Peace Dialogues between Civil Society, State Armed Actors and Ex-Guerrillas in Colombia*** which is now in its 8th year. This project brings together diverse sectors of a socially divided society in the midst of conflict for tri-monthly dialogues on poverty, costs of war, land reform, paramilitarism, forced displacement, ceasefire and de-militarized zones for humanitarian exchange, among other topics. Its main purpose is to sustain pluralistic and democratic dialogues on peaceful resolution to the conflict. A second project, financed by the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is on ***International Humanitarian Law (IHL), Human Rights & State Armed Actors in Colombia*** and entails tri-monthly seminars for officers on the International Criminal Court and IHL at various military institutions with Colombian human rights and IHL lawyers from the Attorney General's Office and the University of Javeriana. This project was originally funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). A third project, also financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is the ***The National Liberation Army (ELN) Peace Process Project*** which provides detailed analyses, briefings and mappings on the ELN guerrilla and the progress of the peace process in Colombia.

Environmental Values and Social Change

SUM's research area ***Environmental Values and Social Change*** focuses on the study of social perceptions of and attitudes towards nature, and the ways in which these are created and changed in various cultural, political and institutional contexts. In 2006-7 the research agenda was expanded with three new components: 1) exploration of the role of cultural values in democratization processes in developing countries; 2) research on developing a humanist agenda in the project of sustainable development; 3) studies of the role of culture in creative adaptation to climate challenge.

The project ***Sustainability for the 21st Century: a Humanist Agenda*** aims to review and revitalize the Brundtland Report - and the notion of sustainability - in the new cultural, political and economic context of today. The project is executed by an international research group and led by Nina Witoszek. The main goal is to elaborate a synergic model which would be based on shifting the focus from the conserving, preserving core of the agenda of sustainable development to the transformative one.

Nina Witoszek is project leader and researchers come, respectively, from the University of Uppsala, Stanford University, Royal Institute of Technology, University of Florida, University of Lyon, European Institute in Florence, University of Milano, Reuters School of Journalism in Oxford, Stockholm University, Stockholm Environment Institute, Instituto Superior de Ciências do Trabalho e da Empresa, Lisbon, and the Norwegian School of Management, Oslo.

During 2007, the project was financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Norwegian Ministry of Environment. In December, the project was granted NOK 10 million by the Research Council of Norway. Work on the project involved several workshops and international conferences, including, among others, ***Sustainable Development: The Brundtland Report 20 Years Later***: a combined workshop and conference in Lisbon on 11-13 February 07 at Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Centro Ismaili. Further, the group participated in a preparation workshop held in Capri 9-12 April and made a presentation ***Our Common Future Twenty Years On*** at the Conference of the Commission for Sustainable Development in New York on 8 May 2007. Nina Witoszek edited a Report for the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs entitled ***Sustainability for the 21 Century: Writing Chapter 14 of Our Common Future***. In cooperation with the ***Arne Naess Chair in Global Justice and the Environment***, the group participated in two symposia with the chair holder James Lovelock (see below).

The purpose of the ***Arne Naess Chair in Global Justice and the Environment***, led by Nina Witoszek, is to encourage international scholars to promote new insights into research on development and the environment. While engaging with existing intellectual traditions, scholars are invited to offer creative ways of tackling challenges inherent in the process of globalization. James Lovelock and Stephan Harding were honoured as the first co-chairs making two visits each spending together three months in Oslo during 2007. James Lovelock is author of *The Gaia Theory*, *The Ages of Gaia*, *Homage to Gaia* and, more recently, *The Revenge of Gaia*. Stephen Harding is a lecturer at Schumacher College and a scholar known for his work on Gaia-theory and deep ecology. The Inaugural Lecture *What's Happening to Gaia?* took place on 27 April and a follow-up symposium and workshop *Beyond Apocalypse: Scenarios of Creative Adaptation to Climate Challenge* took place on 7-8 October. During 2007, the Arne Naess Chair was sponsored by the University of Oslo, Freedom of Expression Foundation and the British Council. In addition, Petter Olsen sponsored a workshop at Ramme Gaard and Basecamp Explorer Foundation sponsored a visit to Svalbard for James Lovelock.

The project ***Civilizational Role of Intellectuals in Peaceful Transition to Democracy: A Comparative Approach*** initiated by Nina Witoszek in 2006 is part of a study initiated by an international research consortium based at Warsaw University. The consortium includes a constellation of satellite studies which have as their main objective to explore the civilizational role of intellectual elites in modern history. More specifically, they are to provide insights into the way the intellectuals in various countries have contributed to maintaining empires, inciting national sentiments, initiating projects of national renewal, and influencing the process of peaceful transition to democracy. A related goal is to create a comparative model for studying the intelligentsia in the ex-communist countries and the intellectuals in former Western colonies.

A three-day conference held at Warsaw University in June was co-organized with funding from the Research Council of Norway on *Intelligentsia, Empire and Civilizations in 19th-20th Century*. Nina Witoszek presented a paper: "Four Weddings and a Funeral: Resisting the Empire Polish Style".

The aim of Karen Syse's PhD study *Rural Landscape Perceptions in Scotland* is to explore the shift in values and perceptions in Argyll in Scotland from 1950 – 2004. The focus of the study, a qualitative investigation emphasising a historical and comparative perspective, is on the rural population's identity and the way it is connected to landscapes at an individual and local level. Two articles have been accepted for publication in international journals: "Challenges in Conservation in Argyll" in *Landscape Research* and "Narratives about Heather in Hordaland" in *Ethnologie Française*. A third article: "Gavin Maxwell - The Lonely Naturalist" has been published in the *Journal of American studies in Scandinavia* Volume 39, fall 2007. Syse has made several presentations of her work at various Norwegian research institutions.

Espen Gamlund worked on his doctoral project which examines *The Morality of Forgiveness*. Gamlund argues that we should distinguish between two kinds or types of forgiveness; forgiveness as a gift in cases of unconditional forgiving, and forgiveness as a reactive attitude in cases of conditional forgiving. He argues further that there is a pro tanto duty to forgive repentant wrongdoers. That someone has a pro tanto duty to forgive a repentant wrongdoer means that he or she ought to forgive unless other considerations are morally overriding. Gamlund published two articles in academic journals and two newspaper articles and was active in the media with several interviews.

Kristian Bjørkdahl's PhD project *Animals after Rorty: Neo-Pragmatism and Human-Animal Relations*, is funded through the Ethics Programme. The objective of Bjørkdahl's study is to develop the neo-pragmatism of Richard Rorty and others within the field of animal ethics. Bjørkdahl came to SUM in November 2007 and has made presentations and participated in the Ethics Programme courses and seminars, and has an article forthcoming in *Filosofisk supplement*.

Isabelle Lamaud's PhD study *Discourse Analysis in the Global Environmental Governance* is financed by the Institute for Political Science in Bordeaux, France for a 3 year period starting October 2007. Lamaud aims at defining dominant discourses in global environmental governance and the way they influence the social construction of environmental issues. Drawing on the documents produced in international negotiations by international agencies as well as States representatives, private sector and NGO representatives, and scientific experts, she will question the epistemology sustaining the different discourses. The main issues will be the stance toward technical innovation, market and State regulation, and the relationship between human and nature. It will imply confronting the dominant discourse with neo-marxist and ecocentric approaches from a critical perspective. Her hypothesis is that the construction of environmental problems tends to draw on a positivist and technicist epistemology which should be deconstructed in order to understand the deep origins of the environmental crisis.

The Timbuktu Manuscripts Project, coordinated by Alida Jay Boye, has since the year 2000 aimed to preserve, promote and provide access to the cultural and literary heritage held in both public and private collections of Arabic manuscripts from the Timbuktu region in northern Mali. Through establishing international networks, training, and facilitating research activities, the project is increasing the capacity of the National Institute for Islamic Research and Higher Education (The

Ahmed Baba Institute) in Timbuktu to perform its essential missions of preservation, scientific exploitation and dissemination of the contents of the manuscripts. In the long run, this capacity will be extended to regional, national, and international collections of the literary heritage in Sub-Saharan Africa. The study has four highly integrated components: Research and Higher Education, Physical Conservation, Electronic Document Management (Digitisation), and Tourism and Dissemination.

The project, which is scheduled to terminate in 2008, has been carried out in close collaboration with the Memory of the World Program at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 2004 - 2007. The project coordinator presented the project at the International Advisory Board meeting of UNESCO's Memory of the World Program in Pretoria in June 2007. Besides on-going promotional, conservation, research and digitizing activities, specific project activities in 2007 included the training, testing and entering data into catalogue database on the manuscripts compiled in cooperation with the Institut de Recherche et l'Histoire des Textes (IRHT), CNRS in Paris. The project coordinator made two trips to Timbuktu to work on a film for the History Channel, to organize training in use of the database with project consultants and to work with the photographer for a book on the Timbuktu manuscripts. The book, written by John Hunwick and Alida Jay Boye is to be published in 2008 by Thames and Hudson.

Program for Research and Documentation for a Sustainable Society (ProSus)

In the area of strategic research, ProSus continued exciting work during 2007, in accordance with the “action plan” presented to SUM’s Board of Directors on November 27th 2006. The action plan involves research in four interlinked areas: 1) *Governmental strategies and environmental policy integration*, 2) *Innovation for sustainable development*, 3) *Promoting sustainable energy*, and 4) *Mandatory and voluntary Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) reporting*.

Governmental Strategies and Environmental Policy Integration (EPI) has for several years been central in ProSus’ work. EPI implies the incorporation of environmental objectives into all stages of policymaking in non-environmental policy sectors, with a specific recognition of this goal as a guiding principle for the planning and execution of policy. ProSus has developed an analytical framework with a definition of the EPI concept which emphasizes the need to combine vertical and horizontal dimensions.

Research on this area has continued in 2007 through participation in various projects. ProSus is now a full partner in the ***EPIGOV*** research project with funding from the EU Commission. The project focuses on modes of governance employed at global, EU, national and regional/local levels to support the integration of environmental concerns into other policy areas. ProSus has also been involved in several book projects, and has been asked to contribute with journal articles on this topic.

A comparative study related to EPI and the energy sector in the Nordic countries, focusing on renewable electricity, has been initiated in 2007. In addition, a comparative assessment of EPI and evaluation procedures of energy policies in Norway and Sweden was initiated. Both studies will be published during 2008, as part of the doctoral project of Jørgen Knudsen ***Governance for sustainable energy***.

In the area of *innovation for sustainable development* the project ***Exploring the Conditions for Adapting Existing Techno-industrial Processes to Ecological Premises (CondEcol)*** project was completed in 2007. The project is a multidisciplinary study of barriers and possibilities for promoting radical eco-friendly innovations in business and industry. The research was structured as a multi-disciplinary study of the conditions for moving existing production and consumption patterns in the direction of sustainable development. Particular reference was made to the promotion of renewable energy.

ProSus’ focus on *promoting renewable energy* has during the past year involved several projects, of which the book project ***Governance for Sustainable Energy in Europe (Susten)*** was the central and most demanding activity. The goal of the project has been to comparatively assess and analyze the effects of national contexts on the implementation of the EU’s RES-E Directive of 2001 for promoting more electricity from renewable sources. ProSus was the initiator and coordinator of the project, which

involved seven other leading research institutions in Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Ireland, the Netherlands, Austria and Spain.

Results from the project were compiled in a book edited by William M. Lafferty and Audun Ruud with the title *Promoting Sustainable Electricity in Europe: Challenging the Path Dependency of Dominant Energy Systems* to be published with Edward Elgar.

As a direct consequence of the CondEcol project, dialogue was established with SINTEF-NTNU in 2004. The initial involvement was related to the *Alternatives for the TRANSition to Sustainable Energy Services (Tranes)* project from 2005 and onwards. The objective of this project is to outline and evaluate likely technology portfolios, deployment paths and policy options to meet future energy service needs in a cost-effective and sustainable manner in a liberalized energy market environment.

In 2007 ProSus continued to provide the Tranes project with supplementary perspectives and variables on strategic management, governance mechanisms, policy instruments and implementation processes to enable a more sustainable energy future, but ProSus also strengthened its scientific dialogue and cooperation with Sintef/NTNU at large. In relation to the Tranes project, there has also been a scientific dialogue with researchers at the University of Maryland in the USA.

As part of the activities on renewable energy, work has been conducted on local opposition to wind power in the UK. An article is currently under review by European Environment, the Journal of European Environmental Politics. It specifically aims to understand the arguments, strategies and attitudes promoted by the polarized NGO “lobbies” involved in the wind power debate.

Activity within the area of *Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)* has been consolidated around environmental reporting. A new study has been conducted among the 100 largest corporations in Norway. This is well in line with the initial efforts undertaken from 2001 onwards and this latest work will then draw upon a total of five annual evaluations.

In the areas of monitoring and evaluation, an important activity continued to be the *Governance for Sustainable Development in the Nordic Region* or the *SusNordic Gateway*, which focuses on governance efforts and political dialogue towards sustainable development by combining the advantages of internet communications with innovative techniques for measuring and evaluation. The site has been revitalized in 2007, and is now updated on a weekly basis, in cooperation with the Ideas Bank.

One master student was supervised and financially supported with a ProSus stipend in 2007. This study was related to a comparative study of climate policy implementation in Norway and Sweden, and was finalized in December 2007.

ACADEMIC COURSES

SUM offers teaching at all levels. Of particular importance is the international Master's degree in *Culture, Environment and Sustainability (CES)*. In 2007, in all 20 new students enrolled in this program; and of those already enrolled, 13 received their MA diplomas.

At the bachelor level, SUM's three courses incorporate students from the Faculty of Humanities, the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences.

In 2007, a few adjustments were made to the existing courses, based on evaluations from the students and post-course discussions with the teachers. Additionally, an external sensor controlled the grading of exams, and an academic council for SUM's educational activities were established.

Research School in Development and Environment Studies

SUM was designated as an *Interdisciplinary Research School in Development and Environment Studies* at the University in 2005, and 2007 was a year of consolidation. Seminars, workshops and a three-day intensive PhD course all created exciting possibilities for bringing together young researchers from different faculties to exchange knowledge of new research methods with the aim of developing holistic, innovative, and interdisciplinary approaches. Research fellows affiliated with SUM constitute the core of the School, but participants from several institutes at the University of Oslo as well as other institutions also took part in the activities. Hilde Reinertsen (Master Student), recruited in 2006 to assist Desmond McNeill, the Director of the School, continued as part-time Secretary.

Seminar Series

During 2007, ten seminars were held. Seminars last two hours and consist of a presentation followed by a student commentator (from the group) and a senior commentator. This year the total number associated with the School numbered 17, from three faculties – the Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Law; attendance at each seminar varied from 6 – 12. Feedback from the students continues to be positive.

Workshops

The seminar series evaluations from autumn 2006 pointed to a wish among the participants to engage more directly with methodological questions during the School seminars. Based on this, the School organized two informal, half-day workshops for research fellows affiliated with SUM. In February, a workshop was held on interview techniques and the methodological and ethical challenges involved in

conducting and analyzing interviews. A workshop on “observant participation” held in March was attended by 7 research fellows.

Doctoral Course

The PhD course ***Sustainable consumption: Research Approaches and Interdisciplinary Challenges*** was held 10-12 January 2007. The aim of the course, directed by Harold Wilhite at SUM, was to explore theoretical approaches and methodological challenges associated with the study of consumption, focusing especially on how to facilitate inter-disciplinary research on the subject. The other lecturers were Professor Marianne Lien, Dept of Anthropology, University of Oslo; Professor Elizabeth Shove, Department of Sociology, University of Lancaster; and Professor Desmond McNeill. This was an extremely intensive and demanding course, including innovative group exercises. There were 13 participants, from Norway (8), Sweden (4) and UK (1). The evaluation, based on questionnaires from all 13, was remarkably positive, not only with regard to the ‘marks’ given for overall course content and lectures, but also additional comments emphasizing the creative and challenging nature of the course.

Research Fellows at SUM

During 2007, SUM attracted five new fellows of whom four were externally financed. This brought the total number to 14 PhD candidates, about half of whom are foreigners. Of the five fellows who completed their theses in 2006, three were subsequently recruited by SUM as project and teaching staff.

Master’s Degree Courses

SUM’s international Master’s degree, ***Culture, Environment and Sustainability (CES)***, established in 2003, aims to provide students with insights into the socio-cultural and political dimensions of sustainable development at both the local and global level. The course was initiated and led by Nina Witoszek from 2003 – 2005 and Harold Wilhite has been the Director since November 2005.

The course introduces students to the complexities of interdisciplinary research on development and the environment. It covers a range of relevant topics, including environmental history and ethics, cross-cultural perspectives on the environment, development theory, poverty alleviation and sustainable consumption. The course draws on case studies based on current projects conducted by SUM researchers and affiliated scholars. SUM is the main source of course leaders, lecturers, seminar leaders and thesis advisors for the programme of study.

The CES degree offers four compulsory and several elective courses to first year students, and thesis supervision to second year students. Altogether, 164 students applied to take the degree in 2007 among these 48 self-financing international applicants and 61 quota applicants. In all 20 students were offered and confirmed acceptance of admission, of these two quota students, one from Uganda and one from Russia.

Including the new intake, a total of 50 students were enrolled to take the degree in 2007. Of these students, 13 delivered their theses, successfully completed their oral exam and were awarded a Master of Philosophy Degree in 2007. This is the same number as achieved their Master's degrees in 2006.

In addition to the CES Master's degree, SUM hosts Master's students from other degree programmes at the University. The presence of students from other programmes is important for the SUM's interdisciplinary study environment. In 2007, nine Master's students from other degree programs at the University of Oslo had a desk in the study hall at SUM. Two of these Master's students received financing through the Erik Blytt scholarship.

Courses offered in 2007 at SUM at the Master's level were:

- SUM 4011A - *Research Methods (I)*, led by Harold Wilhite
- SUM 4014 - *Environmental Philosophy and Ethics*, led by Per Ariansen
- SUM 4011B - *Research Methods (II)*, led by Desmond McNeill
- SUM 4012- *Cross-Cultural Perspectives on the Environment*, led by Nina Witoszek
- SUM 4000 - *Development and Environment: Theory and Policy Challenges*, led by Harold Wilhite
- SUM 4019 - *Consumption, Sustainability and Social Change*, led by Harold Wilhite

These six courses had an average of 19 students enrolled in each course. In all 1080 credits were produced.

SUM, in cooperation with the Department of Political Science, offered an additional Master's degree course *The Politics of Poverty*, taught by Dan Banik for the third consecutive year.

SUM hosted the annual **International Summer School Master's** course *Energy Planning and Sustainable Development* (ISS-SUM 4180) led by Harold Wilhite, Chris Butters and Tanja Winther. In 2007, a total of 24 students attended representing 19 countries. The course lasted for 6 weeks. It was held at SUM and included one week's excursion to visit energy plants, ecological buildings and relevant institutions. Several of SUM's researchers contributed with lectures in addition to other external researchers and experts in this field. Evaluations by students indicate a significant level of satisfaction. Their presence and engagement is also considered a value for staff at SUM.

Bachelor level courses

SUM's teaching units at the Bachelor's level include a course group equivalent to 40 credits composed of the following three topics:

- SUM 1000 *Human Development and Environment*, led by Irja Vormedal, 10 credits
- SUM 3000 *Development and Environment – Theory and Practice*, led by Harold Wilhite, 20 credits
- SUM 3011 *Interdisciplinary Research Methods*, led by Harold Wilhite, 10 credits.

These units are incorporated in the programmes at the Faculty of Humanities, the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. In 2007, these courses had an attendance of 70 students. SUM1000 is the most popular course, with as many as 43 students.

Course Developments

Several measures were taken to improve and control the quality of SUM's courses in 2007. All courses are evaluated by the students and courses adjusted accordingly. An external sensor also quality checks the evaluations of each exam. The Director has two information meetings per semester with students. Based on these evaluations, and post-course discussions between lecturers, several improvements were made in 2007:

- SUM 4011a included more natural science and quantitative methods
- SUM 4011b was changed so as to focus more on the students' project descriptions; and the requirements of the course changed from examination to approved project description.
- A change in some courses from 6 double lectures and 6 seminars to 8 double lectures and 4 seminars, in order to give more room for input from lecturers.
- The syllabus was changed and updated in various courses.

Additionally, an academic council, consisting of representatives from Master's students and research fellows, course leaders and lecturers was formed. The council meets three times a year to discuss academic issues. Also, stricter deadlines for delivering the thesis were introduced, in order to motivate the students to deliver their theses within the scheduled two years.

NETWORKING AND COMMUNICATION

The main goal of SUM's Communication and Networking activities is to disseminate knowledge about national and international environment and development issues and thereby strengthen SUM's status as a leading university centre for environmental and development research. SUM will achieve this by: promoting quality and impact in the dissemination of its research findings to the general public; contributing to innovation and development work with research-based knowledge; providing better access to the University's sources of knowledge; developing further cooperation with the Norwegian school system; and making a more coordinated effort to improve the University's contact with society. SUM uses the Internet as the primary channel for dissemination of information to the general public, supplemented by targeted and focused newsletters around given themes distributed through SUM's networks.

Publications

In order to stimulate publishing of articles by SUM researchers in leading international peer-review journals SUM staff identifies relevant channels and assists researchers and doctoral students in submitting articles and books for publication.

In 2007, SUM researchers published three monographs, one with the University of Pennsylvania Press *Guatemalans in the Aftermath of Violence. The Refugees' Return* by Kristi Anne Stølen and two with Routledge: *Starvation and India's Democracy* by Dan Banik, and *Development Issues in Global Governance: Public-Private Partnerships and Market Multilateralism* by Benedicte Bull and Desmond McNeill. SUM researchers published 23 articles in international refereed journals and 16 book chapters, maintaining SUM's overall publishing volume over the previous four years.

Media

SUM continued to experience great interest from the media in connection with debates initiated through conferences, seminars, personal interviews and feature articles. As in previous years, SUM researchers received extensive media coverage also in 2007. James Lovelock's visits to Oslo resulted in 19 articles in Norwegian newspapers and journals including articles and interviews written by SUM researchers Nina Witoszek and Espen Gamlund in *Aftenposten* and *Dagbladet*. Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation (NRK) produced a documentary film entitled *James Lovelock: Jordens advokat* which was shown in prime time in December 2007. In addition, Lovelock was interviewed for

three other programmes: NRK's *Schrödingers katt* on climate change, NRK on *Energy's Future*, and Partner Digital Thinking Network for a programme entitled *100 Voices of Sustainable Futures*. A Japanese film team interviewed Lovelock at SUM and a German film team interviewed him on Svalbard.

SUM, in cooperation with Intermedia, received funding from the University of Oslo and the Norwegian Embassy in Dar-es-Salaam to develop an English and French version of the film *Big Fish, Small Fry: Globalisation of the Lake Victoria Fisheries*, based on research by Eirik G. Jansen, guest researcher at SUM. The project was presented at the *Forskningstorget* in September 2007. Jansen continued to be special advisor to Hubert Sauper for follow-up of the Academy Award nominated documentary film *Darwin's Nightmare* which was inspired by SUM's film *Big Fish, Small Fry*.

Internet

Several new websites were launched in 2007 including *Business and Governance* sum.uio.no/research/bg/, *ANLEP* sum.uio.no/research/poverty/anlep/, and the *Arne Naess Chair* sum.uio.no/arne_naess. ProSus has through 2007 revised and updated the *SusNordic Gateway*. The site provides information in English on a broad range of Nordic governance activities for sustainable development, while at the same time monitoring and evaluating policy efforts as they evolve. The project aims to combine highly focused information mediation with innovative techniques for normative and comparative evaluation. The motivating idea behind the project is that a timely evaluation of relevant unfolding events will have a strong impact on promoting a political dialogue for change towards a more sustainable society. The focus is particularly related to energy and climate issues. Given the current consolidation taken place, the *SusNordic Gateway* is accordingly reflecting the core operational idea of ProSus. The site is being operated in a cooperative relationship with The Ideas Bank.

Conferences/Seminars/Workshops

The Arne Naess Inaugural Lecture was part of the symposium *What's Happening to Gaia?* on April 27th 2007 in Aud. 1 at Georg Sverdrups Hus. The symposium was organized in cooperation with the *Oslo Sustainability Initiative*, an international project led by Nina Witoszek and financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the British Council. There were ca. 400 people in the audience in the April symposium. The second symposium: *Beyond the Apocalypse: Creative Adaptation to Climate Change*, took place October 8th in the Gamle Festsal at the University of Oslo with some 300 participants attending. This symposium was also co-financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the British Council and was followed by a workshop on October 9th at Ramme Gaard, sponsored by Petter Olsen.

Lovelock and Harding held three seminars at SUM during their first visit to Oslo and had several meetings with Master's students at SUM. During their second visit, Lovelock was the keynote speaker at the NVE's Norwegian Energy Conference, held seminars at CICERO and the Norwegian University of Life Sciences.

Through the HUREP project based at SUM, a conference was organized in Kampala 4 -6 October on *Human Rights and Extreme Poverty in Africa*. The ANLEP network, also based at SUM, organised a workshop on *Rights, Legal Empowerment and Pro-Poor Governance* in October.

Dan Banik's book *Starvation and India's Democracy* published by Routledge was launched in May with commentators including Professor Peter Townsend, London School of Economics, Professor Kalle Moene, Dept. of Economics, University of Oslo and Professor Arjun Sengupta, visiting Professor at SUM from the Centre for Development and Human Rights, New Delhi Adjunct Professor and Harvard University. Professor Sengupta also held seminar at SUM *Eradicating Extreme Poverty: the Human Rights Alternative*.

The book *Development Issues in global Governance: Public-Private Partnerships and Market Multilateralism* by Desmond McNeill and Benedicte Bull published with Routledge was launched at the Faculty Club at the University of Oslo in January. SUM was co-organiser with Norad for the seminar *Energy Access and Climate Change: The Role of the Private Sector and the World Bank Group* in April.

In addition, the *Developing Countries Seminar Series (U-landsseminar)* held 14 seminars, the *Poverty and Development Seminar Series* held 12 seminars, and the *Network for Asia Studies* held 10 seminars. The newly established *Environmental Ethics seminar* series held 2 seminars.

Networking

SUM has established both formal and informal national, Nordic and international networks for researchers, teachers, and policy-makers. Formal networks are maintained through institutional or individual agreements while informal networks are maintained through organisation and participation in seminars and conferences, publications, newsletters and various internet channels. Five issues of *Summa Summarum*, SUM's electronic newsletter, were distributed through SUM's mailing list to nearly 1400 individuals.

Collaboration

Researchers at SUM collaborate with a number of Norwegian research institutions outside of the University of Oslo (including CICERO, the University of Bergen, Christian Michelsen's Institute (CMI), Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR), the Norwegian School of Management (BI), the Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA), The Fridtjof Nansen Institute (FNI), the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, University of Trondheim (NTNU), Norsk Hydro, Sintef, The Ministry of the Environment, and Western Norway Research Institute and the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (UMB). SUM researchers collaborate with researchers from institutions from over 40 countries including 19 European Countries (Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Switzerland, Spain,UK) and 21 countries outside of Europe (Australia, Brazil, Cambodia, Chile, China, Columbia, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Tunisia, USA, Vietnam).

International appointments

SUM's networks are also fostered through a variety of appointments in international fora, hosting of guest researchers as well as long-term visits at Universities and research institutions abroad. Desmond McNeill continued as Vice-president of the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI), participating in a number of meetings in Bonn and elsewhere. He is also collaborating in a new EU-funded seminar series (NORFACE): *Evidence, knowledge and power in international development policy and practice*, in collaboration with institutions in Finland, Denmark and UK. McNeill spent the last four months of the year as a Visiting Researcher at the University of Oxford. His primary affiliation was to the James Martin Institute for Science and Civilization, at the Said Business School, University of Oxford; and secondary affiliation to the Department of International Development (Queen Elizabeth House).

Harold Wilhite was appointed member of the Panel of Experts for the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) from January 2007. Wilhite is also member of the Board of the European Council for an Energy Efficient Economy in Paris (2007-2009). Kristi-Anne Stølen is member of various committees at the University of Oslo as well as being a member of the National Council for Development Research and Member of External Advisory Council on Women in Development, The Inter-American Development Bank. Guro Aandahl is member of the Board of the Norwegian Association for Development Studies (2005-2008). Christopher Wright, visiting researcher at SUM was appointed Executive Director of the G8 Research Group-Oxford. Mariel Aqilar Støen is representative for research fellows in the Research Council of the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. Benedicte Bull is on the Editorial Board of *Forum for Developing Studies* published by the Norwegian Institute of Foreign Affairs (NUPI). Dan Banik is Board Member of the Crown Prince and Crown Princess' Humanitarian Fund. ProSus is member of the ENSURE: European Network for Sustainable Urban and Regional Research as well as TRANSES: European-American research network on "Alternatives for the transition to sustainable energy services in Europe".

Conference presentations

In 2007, SUM staff presented their work at nearly 100 seminars and conferences of which over a third were international including:

- Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR) Expert seminar: *Extreme poverty and human rights* in Geneva;
- UNESCO's meeting of *International Experts for the Memory of the World Programme* in Pretoria;
- UN Research Institute for Social Development Conference on *Business, Social Policy and Corporate Political Influence in Developing Countries* in Geneva;
- *Meeting of Experts on Sustainable Development Research* at the Commission of the European Communities in Brussels;

- Seventh International Conference on Ethics and International Development: *Accountability, Responsibility and Integrity* in Kampala;
- EU-GARNET Workshop on *Ethics, Responsibility and Expertise in the Multilateral Development System* in The Hague;
- The Extra-ordinary seminar series for distinguished visitors to the Department of International Development, Oxford University;
- Conference on Democracy, Development and Civil Society in India;
- Latin American Studies Association (LASA) in Canada;
- UK Government's Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs workshop in London on *Achieving a Sustainable Low-Carbon Society*;
- European Council for an Energy Efficient Economy in Nice;
- European Development Days organised by the European Union in Lisboa.

The Network for Asian Studies (Asianettverket)

Founded in 1996 by Norwegian “Asianists”, The Network for Asian Studies (*Asianettverket*), based at SUM, has promoted Asian studies in the social sciences and the humanities in Norway.

In 2007, the Network organized a dozen guest lectures and seminars, focusing on the two themes Human Rights in China and Islam in Asia in a historical context. Most of the activities took place at SUM, but some were organized in cooperation with other units at the University of Oslo. The academic highlight of the Network in 2007 was the Annual Lecture, which took place on December 10 at the Georg Sverdrups hus. The invited speaker was Professor Richard Eaton from the University of Arizona, who spoke about “Islam in India 622 – 2007: An Historical Framework”. The theme was thus part of the ongoing seminar on Islam in Asia.

The Network continued to develop its other core activities. A major effort in 2007 has been to completely redesign our website (*asianettverket.no*). The weekly electronic Newsletter has also been upgraded. The number of addressees continues to be around 1,100. Information services to academia, the public and in particular media are steadily increasing. Among others, the Asia network has given significant advice to the new China programme at the Norwegian Institute for Defense Studies (ISF).

The annual award for “best Master’s thesis on Asia at Norwegian universities” was this year shared between Astrid Hovden, Department of Religious Studies, University of Bergen: *Ritual, place and memory – maintenance of religious festival traditions in contemporary Lhasa*, and Jon Henrik Ziegler Remme, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Oslo: *Significant Relations: Ritual and person among the Ifugaos*. The annual Master’s course for students focusing on Asian topics, which until now has taken place in the beginning of December, had to be cancelled this year because of too few participants. Efforts are being made to find a more suitable time for this popular course to accommodate the different academic schedules for the various disciplines.

Finally, as 2007 was the final year in a three-year grant period from Norad, the Coordinator and Steering Committee carried out extensive discussions about the future of the network. This resulted in

an application to Norad for an ambitious expansion of the network activities for a new three-year period (2008-10). Norad has renewed the grant for a three-year period; however, more in line with the present annual budget of NOK 500,000.

Environmental Ethics Seminars "Seminalet i Miljøetik"

This seminar series was initiated by Espen Gamlund within the Ethics Programme. SUM hosted two seminars in 2007, one with Hans Kolstad and one with Arne Johan Vetlesen. So far the Seminars have been a success, with an average of 20 attendants.

Poverty and Development (PAD) Seminar Series

The Poverty and Development Seminars launched by Dan Banik in 2005 continued in 2007 targeting researchers and students working on poverty issues. The topics for the twelve seminars held in 2007 included peace building, human rights in development, social exclusion, African development management, gender equality and empowerment, decentralization strategies, the global water crisis and developing country debt. Among notable speakers were Professor Mary Robinson (Columbia University), Professor Göran Hydén (University of Florida), Professor Thomas Pogge (Columbia University), Professor Arjun Sengupta (Centre for Development and Human Rights, New Delhi) and Professor Peter Townsend (London School of Economics).

The Seminar Series on Developing Countries ("Ulandsseminar") was organized in cooperation with the Norwegian Students' and Academics' International Assistance Fund (SAIH). Each seminar was co-organized by a student or youth organisation. The series totalled 14 seminars. The seminar series maintained its popularity throughout the year with an average attendance of over 70 students, researchers and policy-makers.

The African Literary Heritage of Timbuktu Network is reinforced through the Timbuktu Manuscripts Project website www.sum.uio.no/timbuktu which had an average of 127 visits or 856 hits daily, a 20% increase from the previous year. Alida Jay Boye participated in the production of a film for the History Channel featuring the manuscripts project. A book on the Timbuktu manuscripts written together with Professor John O. Hunwick at Northwestern University will be published in 2008 by Thames and Hudson with photographs from an exhibition developed by his son Joseph Hunwick for IslamExpo at Alexandra Palace in London in 2006.

SUM PUBLICATIONS 2007

The following books were published by SUM researchers:

- Banik, Dan. *Starvation and India's Democracy*. London and New York: Routledge 2007. ISBN 978-0-415-40729-8
- Bull, Benedicte; McNeill, Desmond. *Development Issues in Global Governance: Public-Private Partnerships and Market Multilateralism*. London: Routledge 2007. ISBN 13:978-0-415-3933. 218 s.
- Stølen, Kristi Anne. *Guatemalans in the Aftermath of Violence. The Refugees' Return*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press 2007. ISBN 0-8122-4008-1. 236 s.

The following articles by SUM researchers were published in international journals and books:

- Aguilar-Støen, Mariel ; Moe, Stein, R. "Medicinal plant conservation and management: distribution of wild and cultivated species in eight countries". *Biodiversity and Conservation* 2007;16(6):1973-1981
- Bull, Benedicte. "Comparing critical junctures the democratic inclusion of social movements in Norway and Latin America". *Forum for Development Studies* 2007(1):63-89
- Bull, Benedicte. "Trade liberalization and the spread of regulatory institutions: The case of Chile". *Regulation and Governance* 2007;1(4):372-384
- Lafferty, William M; Larsen, Olav Mosvold; Knudsen, Jørgen Kjetil. "Pursuing sustainable development in Norway: The challenge of living up to Brundtland at home". *European Environment* 2007;17:177-188
- McNeill, Desmond. "'Human Development': the Power of the Idea". *Journal of Human Development* 2007;8(1):5-22
- McNeill, Desmond. Social Capital or Sociality? Methodological contrasts between economics and other social sciences. I: *Economics and the Social Sciences: Boundaries, Interaction and Integration*. UK: Edward Elgar Publishing 2007. ISBN 978-1-84064-790-7
- Nesheim, Ingrid; Økland, Rune Halvorsen. "Do vine species in neotropical forests see the forest or the trees?" *Journal of Vegetation Science* 2007;18:395-404
- Schirmer, Jennifer. Review of Canadian documentary by Mary Ellen Davis. "Guatemala: Haunted Land". *The Americas* 2007
- Syse, Karen V Lykke. "Gavin Maxwell - the lonely naturalist". *American Studies in Scandinavia* 2007;39(2):97-109
- Witoszek, Nina. "Friendship and Revolution in Poland: the Eros and Ethos of the Committee for Workers' Defense (KOR)." *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy* 2007;10(2)
- Witoszek, Nina. "Oświecenie bez gilotynty: przypadek Skandynawii ("The Enlightenment without the Guillotine: the Case of Scandinavia"), *Acta Sueco-Polonica*, Nr. 14, 2007, Autumn 2007, ISSN 1104-3431. *Acta Sueco-Polonica* 2007;14:59-80

In 2007, two reports were published within SUM's publication series:

- Exploring the conditions for adapting existing techno-industrial processes to ecological premises: A summary of the CondEcol project*. ProSus Report 1/07 by Audun Ruud, William M. Lafferty, Rolf Marstrander and Olav Mosvold Larsen
- An assessment of experiences in the U.S.A. with power and emissions disclosure information for energy consumers*. SUM Report Nr. 14 by Harold Wilhite prepared in cooperation with CICERO.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Accounts 2007
Centre for Development and the Environment, University of Oslo

Income	2006	2007
Funding from the University of Oslo		
Basic allocation from the University of Oslo	11 089 832	12 411 833
Teaching substitutes	582 510	357 690
Total from the University of Oslo	11 672 342	12 769 523
External funding		
SUM's research areas		
Global and Regional Governance	2 482 834	3 210 287
Local Dynamics of Change in Developing Countries	3 718 322	5 811 623
Environmental Values and Social Change	972 200	2 790 277
Program for Research and Documentation for a Sustainable Society	4 746 474	2 809 620
Overhead	1 988 055	1 525 958
Total external funding	13 907 885	16 147 766
Provisions		
Capital, positive deviation, postponed activities ProSus	2 083 739	2 769 395
Provisions for 4th year research fellows	1 000 000	1 000 000
Bridge financing	600 000	800 000
Strategic funds, including Arne Naess Chair	1 851 186	1 615 713
Total transfers	5 534 925	6 185 108
Total Income	31 115 152	35 102 397

Expenses	2006	2007
Internally financed activities		
Personnel	9 508 139	9 406 596
Administration	3 282 326	2 884 419
Dissemination/Communication	387 840	389 390
Teaching	1 426 045	2 037 730
Research	4 411 928	4 095 058
Operations	3 591 844	3 380 069
Internal rent	1 734 393	1 659 000
Administration	1 013 537	903 566
Dissemination/Communication	167 306	58 276
Teaching	69 022	60 012
Research	607 587	699 215
Total internally financed activities	13 099 983	12 786 666
Externally financed activities		
Personnel	7 765 669	6 543 567
Global and Regional Governance	1 778 285	2 305 375
Local Dynamics of Change in Developing Countries	1 837 101	1 836 096
Environmental Values and Social Change	657 700	332 213
Program for Research and Documentation for a Sustainable Society	3 492 583	2 069 882
Operations	4 064 392	7 857 578
Global and Regional Governance	704 549	904 912
Local Dynamics of Change in Developing Countries	1 953 221	3 975 527
Environmental Values and Social Change	314 500	2 458 064
Program for Research and Documentation for a Sustainable Society	1 092 122	519 076
Total externally financed expenses	11 830 061	14 401 145
Provision for 2008		
Capital, positive deviation, postponed activities Prosus	2 769 395	2 990 058
Provisions for 4th year research fellows bridge financing	1 000 000	1 000 000
Shared positions	800 000	800 000
Strategic funds	1 615 713	880 529
Salary commitments		1 300 000
University of Oslo's recovery of unused funds 2006 - Main allocation		944 000
Total transfers	6 185 108	7 914 587
Total expenses: Internal, external and transfers	31 115 151	35 102 397
Total operations		
Expenses	31 115 151	35 102 397
Income	31 115 152	35 102 397
Result - transfer to 2008	0	0

SUM BOARD MEMBERS

From the faculties	Affiliation	Substitute representatives
Professor Hans Christian Bugge (Chair)	Faculty of Law	Professor Anne Hellum
Professor Dag Hessen (Vice Chair)	Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences	Professor Eli Olaug Hole
Professor Ingse Skattum	Faculty of Humanities	Researcher Oddrun Grønvik
Førsteamanuensis Karin Dokken	Faculty of Social Science	Professor Halvor Mehlum
Professor Gunnar Bjune	Faculties of Medicine/Education	Professor Doris Jorde
External members		
Counsellor Cecilie Willoch	Ministry of Foreign Affairs/ Ministry of the Environment	Director Guri Sandborg
Managing Director Morten Eriksen	Forum for utvikling og miljø (ForUM)	
Staff representatives		
Mariel Aguilar Støen	Academic staff	Harold Wilhite
Hans-Jørgen Oppi Christiansen	Administrative staff	
Student representatives		
Hilde Reinertsen Knut Johan Øen		Matthew Smith Mai Simonsen

SUM STAFF

Director(s)

Stølen, Kristi-Anne	Social Anthropology	15 Aug – 31 Dec.
McNeill, Desmond	Political Economy	16 Feb – 14 Aug
Bente Herstad	Biology	1 Jan – 15 Feb

Research Leaders

Lafferty, William M.	Political Science	Program for Research and Documentation for a Sustainable Society (ProSus)
McNeill, Desmond	Political Economy	Global and Regional Governance for Sustainable Development
Stølen, Kristi Anne	Social Anthropology	Local Dynamics of Change in Developing Countries
Witoszek, Nina	Philosophy and History of Culture	Environmental Values and Social Change

Senior Researchers

Banik, Dan	Political Science	Local Dynamics of Change
Bull, Benedicte	Political Science	Global and Regional Governance
Nesheim, Ingrid	Biology	Local Dynamics of Change
Næss, Arne	Philosophy	Environmental Values and Social Change
Roaldkvam, Sidsel	Social Anthropology	Global and Regional Governance
Ruud, Audun	Political Science	ProSus
Schirmer, Jennifer	Anthropology	Local Dynamics of Change
Wilhite, Harold	Social Anthropology	Local Dynamics of Change
Winther, Tanja	Siv.ing/Social Anthropology	Local Dynamics of Change

Research fellows

Bjørkdahl, Kristian	Philosophy	Environmental Values and Social Change
Chimgonda, Justice	Economics/Development Studies	Local Dynamics of Change
Gamlund, Espen	Philosophy	Environmental Values and Social Change
Gjølberg, Maria	Political Science	Global and Regional Governance
Nielsen, Kenneth	Social Anthropology	Local Dynamics of Change
Støen, Mariel Aguilar	Biology and Development	Local Dynamics of Change
Syse, Karen V. Lykke	Ethnology	Environmental Values and Social Change
Vandala, Alexander	Political Science	Local Dynamics of Change
Vormedal, Irja	Political Science	Global and Regional Governance
Woldetsadik, Tadessa Kassa 07.03 – 31.12	Law	Local Dynamics of Change
Aandahl, Guro	Human Geography	Local Dynamics of Change
Aase, Maren	Political Science	Local Dynamics of Change
Isabelle Lamaud	Political Science	Environmental Values and Social Change

Researchers, Guest Researchers and Advisors

Ehrenclou, Karoline 01.01 – 16.12	Culture, Environment and Sustainability	ProSus - Researcher
Vanderkerckhove, Wim 01.08 – 31.12	Philosophy	Global and Regional Governance Guest researcher
Jansen, Eirik J.	Social Anthropology	Global and Regional Governance Guest researcher
Guillen, Monica	Economics	Local Dynamics of Change Guest researcher
Knudsen, Jørgen	Political Science	ProSus - Researcher
Gramstad, Camilla Skjelsbæk 15.01 – 31.12	Culture, Environment and Sustainability	ProSus – Researcher 50%
Harding, Stephan	Ecologist	Environmental Values and Social Change Guest researcher
Lovelock, James	Biophysics	Environmental Values and Social Change Guest researcher
Marstrander, Rolf	Siv.ing	ProSus – Senior Advisor
Arjun Sengupta	Economics	Local Dynamics of Change – Guest researcher
Wright, Christopher	Political Economy	Global and Regional Governance

Research, Information and Network Administration

Boye, Alida Jay	History & Business Administration	Timbuktu Manuscripts Network Coordinator 20% Arne Naess Chair 20% Ulandsseminar 5% Information & Communication 55%
Bøckman, Harald	Sinology	Coordinator of The Asia Network 50%
Christiansen, Hans Jørgen Oppi Ruud, Audun	Economics Political Science	Research Coordinator ProSus

Research Assistants

Bardum, Henrik Thon	East Asian Studies	The Asia Network 50 %
Laumann, Kari	Culture, Environment and Sustainability	Environmental Values and Social Change
Næss, Kit Fai	Philosophy	Environmental Values and Social Change
Reinertsen, Hilde	History	Research School
Ruohonen, Tiina	Culture, Environment and Sustainability	Environmental Values and Social Change
Aase, Maren	Political Science	Local Dynamics of Change

Teaching

Johnsgård, Ann-Christin	Political Science	Educational Advisor 70%
Solstad, Gry	Culture, Environment and Sustainability	Educational Advisor Summer School 20%
Nesheim, Ingrid	Biology	Course Coordinator SUM 4011/SUM3011
Wilhite, Harold	Social Anthropology	Course Coordinator Summer School 15%, and Director CES 50%
Winther, Tanja	Social Anthropology	Course Coordinator CES and Summer School 35%
Vormedal, Irja	Political Science	Course Coordinator SUM 1000 25%
Ehrenclou, Karoline	Culture, Environment and Sustainability	Course Coordinator SUM 1000 25%

Administration

Egenberg, Gitte 01.07 – 31.12	Office Manager, Personnel
Norderud, Liv 01.01 – 31.05	Office Manager
Gramstad, Camilla Skjelsbæk 15.01 – 31.12	Administrative assistant 50%
Johnsgård, Ann-Christin 01.01– 31.09	Personnel 20% Archive, Receptionist, Education
Moradi, Hakim 01.01– 19.08	Receptionist, Accounting
Patel, Manhar	Economy and Accounting 50%
Ring, Kristoffer	IT-Consultant
Solstad, Gry 05.09 – 31.12	Assistant
Tvergrov, Arild Wanvik 01.01 – 17.10 18.10 – 31.12	IT-assistant, web design 100% 20%

SUM PROJECTS

1. Global and Regional Governance for Sustainable Development

<i>Explaining Differential Immunization Coverage: a multi-disciplinary approach (Project preparation)</i> Financing: Project preparation financed by RCN - New Project	Sidsel Roaldkvam
<i>Ethics, Rights and Poverty: Global Theory and National Practice</i> Financing: Research Council of Norway (RCN) - New Project	Desmond McNeill
<i>Development Ethics and Human Rights as the Basis for Global Poverty Reduction</i> Financing: RCN	Desmond McNeill & Asun Lera St. Clair
<i>Regionalization, the Private Sector and Governance for Sustainable Development in Latin America</i> Financing: RCN	Benedicte Bull
<i>The G8 and Climate Change: Monitoring Compliance with Policy Commitments</i> Financing: LSE / Alcoa Post-Doctoral Fellowship	Christopher Wright
<i>Political Economy Analysis of Corporate Social Responsibility</i> SUM/University of Oslo Doctoral Stipend	Maria Gjølberg
<i>The Role and Influence of Business in the International Climate regime</i> Financing: SUM/University of Oslo Doctoral Stipend	Irja Vormedal
<i>Reference Group to the Norway-Finland Trust Fund for Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development (TFESSD) at the World Bank</i> Financing: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Desmond McNeill
<i>Network for Asia Studies</i> Financing: RCN	Harald Bøckman
<i>Globalisation of the Lake Victoria Fisheries: Big Fish, Small Fry</i> Financing: University of Oslo and the Norwegian Embassy, Tanzania	Alida Jay Boye

2. Local Dynamics of Change in Developing Countries

<i>Land Use Policies and Sustainable Development in Developing Countries - LUPIS</i> Financing: European Union	Desmond McNeill/ Ingrid Nesheim
<i>Strategy and Methodology for Improved IWRM - An Integrated Interdisciplinary Assessment in Four Twinning River Basins. (STRIVER)</i> Financing: European Union	Desmond McNeill/ Ingrid Nesheim
<i>The Human Rights and Extreme Poverty (HUREP) Project</i> Financing: Norad.	Dan Banik
<i>Academic Network on Legal Empowerment of the Poor (ANLEP)</i> Financing: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Dan Banik
<i>Peace Dialogues between Civil Society, State Armed Actors and Ex-Guerrillas in Columbia</i> Financing: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Jennifer Schirmer
<i>ELN Peace Process Project</i> Financing: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Jennifer Schirmer
<i>International Humanitarian Law, Human Rights & State Armed Actors in Colombia</i> Financing: Swedish Foreign Ministry	Jennifer Schirmer
<i>Politics and Policy Processes in Food Security and Nutrition</i> Financing: RCN	Dan Banik
<i>Designing Information Measures to Promote Environmentally Sound Energy Consumption: an Interdisciplinary Approach.</i> CICERO	Hal Wilhite
<i>The Impact of Electricity: Development, Desires and Dilemmas: Book publication in English</i> Financing: Book publication in Swahili funded by Norwegian Embassy, Tanzania (MFA)	Tanja Winther
<i>Evaluation of Norwegian Power-related Assistance</i> Financing: Consultancy for Norad.	Tanja Winther
<i>The Sardar Sarovar Project in Gujarat: an analysis of ideas of development, and a case study of command area challenges</i> SUM/University of Oslo Doctoral fellowship with operational Financing: Fieldwork financed from RCN	Guro Aandahl
<i>Navigating Political Contexts and Socio-cultural Identities: A Comparative Study of two Civil Society Organisations, Trust and Democracy in Kolkata, India</i> Financing: SUM/University of Oslo Doctoral Stipend	Kenneth Bo Nielsen
<i>Gardens in the Forest : Use and Management of Plant Diversity in an Agro-landscape of Mexico</i> Financing: Doctoral fellowship financed by RCN	Mariel Aguilar Støen
<i>Politics and Famine Prevention in Ethiopia: The Case of Afar Pastoralists</i> Financing: Quota programme	Alexander Vadala

Legal Frameworks Providing for the Utilization of the Nile River Basin Water Resources
 Financing: Quota programme

Tadesse Kassa
Woldetsadik

3. Environmental Values and Social Change

Sustainability for the 21st Century:
 Financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the
 Financing: Ministry of the Environment. New funding NFR

Nina Witoszek

Arne Næss Chair in Global Justice and the Environment
 Financing: University of Oslo and the Freedom of Expression
 Foundation

Nina Witoszek

*Civilizational Role of Intellectuals in Peaceful Transition to
 Democracy: A Comparative Approach*
 Financing: Freedom of Expression Foundation

Nina Witoszek

Rural landscape perceptions in Scotland
 SUM/University of Oslo Doctoral fellowship with operational
 Financing: funding for fieldwork from RCN

Karen Lykke Syse

The Morality of Forgiveness
 Financing: The Ethics Programme

Espen Gamlund

Animals after Rorty: Neo-Pragmatism and Human-Animal Relations
 Financing: The Ethics Programme

Kristian Bjørkdahl

Discourse analysis in the global environmental governance
 Financing: Institute of Political Science, Bordeaux

Isabelle Lamaud

Timbuktu Manuscripts Project
 Financing: Norad and the Ford Foundation

Alida Jay Boye

*Ethical Challenges of the Twentieth Century: the Legacy of
 Oppositional Humanism in East Central Europe*
 – completed??

Nina Witoszek

4. Program for Research and Documentation for a Sustainable Society (ProSus)

EPI (Environmental Policy Integration)
 Financing: RCN

William Lafferty

*EPIGOV (Environmental Policy Integration and
 Multi-level Governance)*
 Financing: EU's 6th research framework
 programme. Project coordinated by Ecologic, Germany.
 ProSus participating as regular partner 2006-2008

William Lafferty

Governance for sustainable energy (PhD project)
 Financing: RCN

Jørgen Knudsen

<p><i>CondEcol (Exploring the Conditions for Adapting Existing Techno-industrial Processes to Ecological Premises)</i> Financing: RCN, Norsk Hydro and Statsbygg</p>	William Lafferty
<p><i>Tranes (Alternatives for the TRANSition to Sustainable Energy Services)</i> Financing: RCN/SINTEF</p>	Audun Ruud
<p><i>SUSTEN (Governance for Sustainable Energy in Europe)</i> <i>A book project</i> Financing: RCN</p>	William Lafferty
<p><i>Corporate environmental reporting</i> Financing: RCN</p>	Audun Ruud
<p><i>SusNordic Gateway</i> In cooperation with the Ideas Bank Financing: RCN</p>	William Lafferty