

FOCUS ON RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTES PLEINS FEUX SUR LES INSTITUTS DE RECHERCHE ET DE FORMATION

INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, KENYA

The Institute was established in 1965 as a multi-disciplinary as well as a multi-purpose organization focussing on social and economic issues of development in Kenya and in the rest of Africa.

FUNCTIONS

- a) To provide research opportunities, facilities and professional guidance, and in so doing enable a rapidly expanding number of Kenyan scholars to study the problems of development.
- b) To serve as a host institution to scholars from overseas engaged in research on Kenyan development problems.
- c) To disseminate its research findings to a wide and increasing range of public and private bodies at the national, regional and international level.

ADMINISTRATION

The IDS is governed by a board consisting of the following officers :

Vice-Chancellor of the University

Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Director of the Institute (Chairman of the Board)

All full members of the Institute's academic staff occupying established positions

Elected representatives from full-time academic staff not occupying established positions

Chairman, Department of Agricultural Economics

Chairman, Department of Economics

Chairman, Department of Geography

Chairman, Department of Government

Chairman, Department of Sociology

Director, Institute of African Studies

Dean, Faculty of Education

Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance & Planning

Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture

General Secretary, National Christian Council of Kenya

Executive Secretary, National Council of Science and Technology.

PUBLICATIONS

The research carried out at the Institute is shared with the community in various forms. Working Papers are produced for initial discussion of research proposals. These papers are discussed at regular seminars which take place at the IDS and to which all interested persons are welcome to attend. There are also the Discussions Papers which represent completed research and which have world-wide circulation. Many of these eventually find their way in local and overseas professional journals. In addition there are Occasional Papers which represent findings of larger research projects as well as the proceedings of conferences and workshops held under the auspices of the IDS.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The core support is provided by the University budget which for 1980/81 was K £ 50,000. In addition to this there are various other sources such as the Ministry of Economic Planning, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Swedish International Development Agency, the West German Friedrich Ebert Foundation, the Ford Foundation and many others.

INSTITUTE OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN STUDIES (ISAS)

The Institute of Southern African Studies was established in July, 1979 with a purpose to promote, plan and co-ordinate development-orientated, problem-orientated and policy-related research in the «priority fields» of Southern African Studies. It is a research and teaching institute whose area of interest is the Southern African region – Lesotho, Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, Mozambique, Republic of South Africa, Swaziland, Zaïre, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. This region is tied together by historic, cultural, political and economic forces which have far reaching implications for all who live in it. It is the aim of the Institute of Southern African Studies to unravel such forces and make them comprehensible to those decision makers who deal with the affairs of Southern Africa.

The research and teaching programmes of Institute of Southern African Studies will be directed at identifying those development and policy problems of Lesotho and Southern Africa of significance to the decision makers in the medium to long term range. Its approach to these problems is interdisciplinary in nature. The focus of the study/teaching activities of the institute will be concerned with seeking to understand the processes by which contemporary socio-economic issues, questions of human rights and social justice as well as the cultural heritage of the peoples of Southern Africa have come into being. The results of the Institute's research will be

directed at the solution of contemporary problems of vital concern to the socio-political and economic development of Lesotho and the Southern African region as a whole. The Institute endeavours to forge close links of scientific cooperation with the academic departments of the University, the community, scholars and Institutes elsewhere with similar objectives, as well as with governments and interested organisations of the region of Southern Africa.

The Institute of Southern African Studies Five-Year Development Plan, 1981–1986 approved by the Senate and the Councils as an integral part of the National University of Lesotho Five-Year Plan emphasises the commitment to both the research and teaching activities of the Institute. However, it is underlined that «the best approach and timing for the implementation of M. A. programme» will be explored as soon as research programmes are underway. In addition, the Institute is to have a Documentation and Publication Centre. The first batch of Research fellows to the Institute assumed duties by the beginning of the 1981/82 academic year.

For more information on the Institute write to: –

The Director,
Institute of Southern African Studies,
National University of Lesotho,
P.O. Box Roma 180,
LESOTHO.