

# Projects completed before 2020

## **Successful African Firms and Institutional Change**

The research project 'Successful African Firms and Institutional Change' has been accepted by the Danida Research Council (also called the Consultative Research Committee for Development Research, abbreviated FFU). The project grant is approx. 8.950.000 DKK for the 4 ½ years project, which will run from 1st January 2012 to 30th June 2016. CBDS will undertake the research in collaboration with Roskilde University (Department of Society and Globalisation), University of Nairobi (Department for International Studies) Kenya, University of Dar-es-Salaam (the UD-Business School) Tanzania and University of Zambia (Department of Geography), Zambia. Contact: Søren Jeppesen

## **Vietnamese Clothing Retailers**

Lotte Thomsen (CBDS) explored how a number of Vietnamese clothing producers use the knowledge they have gained from working in global clothing value chains to move into the retail sector, focusing on the local and regional market. Contact: Lotte Thomsen

## **From Risk Management to Strategic Community Management: MNC Community Management Strategies**

This research centres on the impact of large-scale infrastructure projects on local communities in Armenia, and investigates the risks involved from a corporate perspective. The study involves the mining and renewable energy sectors where mining represent the experienced industry and renewables as the new industry. To obtain the aim of the project, it will be investigated how mining multinationals mitigating community risks and take these lessons to other industries like big infrastructure projects and renewable energy in other contexts. It is argued that, mining has significant experiences with these types of risks and that by investigating the lessons from mining it is possible to take these learning points and use them as a benchmark in other industries and thereby improve the management systems the companies use. You can read the PhD dissertation [here](#). Contact: PhD fellow Jacob Taarup

## **Building Stronger Universities**

As part of the Building Stronger Universities project, supported by Danida, Mette Morsing and Søren Jeppesen engage in an initiative that aims to establish a platform for research and the teaching of CSR at the University of Ghana. Søren Jeppesen also represents CBS in Access2innovation's steering committee – an initiative that unites the third world market, NGOs, universities and the world of commerce to work out solutions and allow business partners to access vast new markets with sustainable products that are in demand. Contact: Søren Jeppesen

## **Youth and Employment: the Role of Entrepreneurship in African Economies**

Søren Jeppesen and Thilde Langevang are the CBDS members of the research project which is lead by Department of Geography and Geology, University of Copenhagen, and includes partners in the UK (Global Entrepreneurship Monitor), Ghana, Zambia and Uganda. The project runs from 2009-2013, funded by the Danida Development

Research Council (FFU) and aims at investigating the role of entrepreneurship in employment generation for young people in selected African countries. The project focuses on four key areas (entrepreneurship, youth, enterprises and institutions) and their interaction. Contact: Søren Jeppesen

### **SMEs and CSR**

By examining small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the context of developing countries, this study shows that institutional contexts may not necessarily have a deterministic, constraining influence on the commitment of SMEs to CSR. It was shown that SMEs in fact often actively seek to shape the broader institutional environment to make themselves look good. A special issue of *Business & Society* was written based on the project, which was conducted in collaboration with four universities and practitioners from the Inter-American Development Bank, the Antea Group and the International Labour Organization.

Contact: Peter Lund-Thomsen

### **The Research Philosophy of Critical Realism and its Relevance for Business and Development Studies**

Critical realism has emerged as an alternative research philosophy to positivism and constructivism in the 1970s and carved out a position of relevance in social science studies during the 1990s and 2000s. The project aims critically assessing its strength and weaknesses for business and development studies in the 2010s and outlining routes of incremental and radical revisions of its foundation in research philosophy.

Contact: Peter Wad

### **The Rise and Fall of Enterprise Unionism in Malaysia**

Based on several field trips in Malaysia from the days of government-supported in-house unionism in the early 1980s to legalization of enterprise unions in the foreign controlled electronics industry in the end of the 1980s to the political acceptance of the option for regional electronic industry unions in the end of the 2000s, the research project aims to explain the rise and fall of enterprise unions in the Malaysian society as a case of institutional change mediated by Malaysian politics, business dynamics, industrial trade unions and civil society organizations. Contact: Peter Wad

### **Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship in Mali**

The research is commissioned by the Royal Danish Embassy in Bamako as part of the preparation of a new Growth and Employment Programme in Mali. The study examines the factors that enhance and constrain young people's efforts at generating decent employment and viable entrepreneurship activities in different rural and urban localities. The study is led by Thilde Langevang (CBDS) and Isaïe Dougnon (FLASH, University of Bamako). Contact: Thilde Langevang

### **Linkages and Resource Flows between MNCs and Local Firms**

Empirical study of Danish affiliates and their local partners in Argentina. The project addresses the direct linkages between parent multinational companies, their affiliates and local host country firms and study the impact on competitive advantages. The analysis is based on a model of the relationships and resource flows between parent company, the affiliate and the local partner firms. Empirically it builds on information collected in spring 2009 from the population of Danish firms established in Argentina.

Because the Danish firms are mainly locating in Argentina for market seeking reasons the project provides an insight to the linkages and resource flows related to downstream activities going to the distributors and customers that are of more significant importance than suppliers and subcontractors. The project is undertaken in Cooperation with Professor Hector Rocha, IAE Business School in Pilar, Argentina and the Danish-Argentinean Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Buenos Aires. Preliminary papers from the project have been presented at the EIBA conference in Valencia December 2009 and the Iberoamerican Academy of Management Conference at the IAE Business School in Argentina. Contact: Michael Wendelbo Hansen

### **Enhancement of Research Capacity in International Business and Internationalization of Vietnamese Companies**

The purpose of the project is, through research cooperation, to enhance the research capacity in international business within the Vietnamese partner universities. Partners in the project are, besides CBS, National Economics University (NEU) and Foreign Trade University (FTU) in Hanoi, Vietnam and Aalborg University (AAU), Denmark. Contact: Michael Wendelbo Hansen

### **Towards a Critical Framework on Corporate Social and Environmental Responsibility in the South**

Elaboration of a critical research agenda on CSER in the South. Special interests include donor funding and the sustainability of CSER interventions in the South, public-private partnerships, and the role of community-based accountability strategies (Post-doc project). Contact: Peter Lund-Thomsen

### **Outsourcing of Knowledge – Intensive Activities**

Working title: Offshore outsourcing of knowledge intensive activities: the interaction between companies in Denmark and in developing countries and the dynamic effects in the companies. The project investigates the interaction between the Danish companies and the recipient companies, including the dynamic effects at both ends, which are created as a result of these business linkages. (PhD project) Contact: Peter Ørberg

### **Investigating Corporate Social and Environmental Responsibility in the South**

International Research Network on Business, Development and Society, investigating Corporate Social and Environmental Responsibility in the South. With partners in UK, US, India, Pakistan, South Africa, Kenya and Argentina. Read more at: [bdsnetwork.cbs.dk](http://bdsnetwork.cbs.dk) Contact: Søren Jeppesen

### **Global Companies, Global Unions**

Research investigates the options of global unionisation within global value chains and transnational companies. Contact: Peter Wad

### **Performance of Strategic Alliances between Danish Firms and Firms in Developing Countries**

PhD project: The project is on performance of Danida supported international strategic alliances between Danish firms and firms in various developing countries. From the point of view of Danida the alliances have the ultimate objective of contributing to economic

growth and poverty reduction, while the immediate objective of the alliances is to contribute to improving performance of the participating firms in the developing countries. This project focuses on investigating the factors influencing the achievement of this immediate objective of improved firm performance and the approach of the project is built primarily on the literature on international strategic alliances Contact: Jeppe Christoffersen

### **Outsourcing for Development (OUD)**

A two years project beginning early 2006, coordinated by Michael W. Hansen, and with the participation of Søren Jeppesen, Henrik Schaumburg-Müller, Peter Ørberg and Peter Wad from CBDS and John Kuada and Olav Jull Sørensen from Aalborg University. Contact: Michael W. Hansen

### **The International Sporting Goods Industry**

"Global Value Chains, Industrial Clusters, and Corporate Responsibility in the International Sporting Goods Industry" is a project investigating whether joint corporate responsibility initiatives in Pakistan and India enhance or undermine the competitiveness of local producers and the conditions of workers vis-à-vis their Chinese counterparts that have not engaged in similar joint corporate responsibility initiatives. Contact: Peter Lund-Thomsen