



PROGRAMME FOR LAND AND AGRARIAN STUDIES
annual report 2003



School of Government
University of the Western Cape

MISSION STATEMENT

PLAAS engages in research, training, policy development and advocacy in relation to land and agrarian reform, rural governance and natural resource management.

PLAAS is committed to social change that empowers the poor, builds democracy and enhances sustainable livelihoods. Gender equity is integral to these goals.

PLAAS aims for rigour in its scholarship, excellence in its training, and effectiveness in its policy support and advocacy. It strives to play a critical yet constructive role in processes of social, economic and political transformation.





DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Research that 'changes the world': Reflections on policy engagement

Applied social science researchers generally want to see their research influence policy and practice; those of a more activist bent seek to 'change the world, not simply to interpret it'.¹ In its mission statement PLAAS envisages a strong connection between its research projects and processes of policy development and advocacy. To this end we are guided by clear values and a commitment to 'social change that empowers the poor, builds democracy and enhances sustainable development... gender equity is integral to these goals' (PLAAS mission statement).

The macro- and micro-politics of policy making and programme implementation are complicated and often highly contested

It is relatively easy to reach agreement on a general statement of this kind, but applying and realising this vision is less straightforward. The macro- and micro-politics of policy making and programme implementation are complicated and often highly contested. In addition, PLAAS researchers do not always agree with one other on the content of policy recommendations or on strategies of engagement. They do, however, seek to learn from each other through discussion and debate on a rich and varied range of experiences.

Independent research and analysis of the highest quality is essential to inform debates on policy and its effective implementation

The year 2003 saw PLAAS staff engaging with policy-making processes in many contexts and with a range of actors and agencies (see pages 2 and 3). The basis of engagement in such processes should be rigorous and high-quality research on key policy issues and questions, but tension exists between engagement and clear-sighted research and analysis. Staff members continuously wrestle with the need to balance a value-driven commitment to social justice with the need for objectivity and critical distance from the interests of those who form the subject of our research.

'Speaking truth to power' is not a simple matter. The ranks of the powerless and oppressed often include aspirant elites seeking to climb the rungs of power to the 'top storey' of the house (the metaphor that the President recently used for our deeply divided and unequal society). The crosscutting divides are along lines of

¹ Karl Marx, *Theses on Feuerbach*, 1845



class, race, ethnicity, gender, religion and culture. Architectural blueprints for altering the house in order to overcome these divisions (or at least reduce their association with poverty and inequality) are not so easily drawn up. Independent research and analysis of the highest quality is therefore essential to inform debates on policy and its effective implementation.

Dissemination of the findings of applied research can sometimes influence the wider world, and so PLAAS publishes its own research reports, policy briefs and occasional papers, targeted at policy makers and civil society groupings that are unlikely to read academic journal articles or books. PLAAS researchers also make use of newspapers, radio and television interviews to communicate research findings and discuss the wider policy implications. Other outputs include commissioned reports for government departments or civil society initiatives. Academic publishing is important in that peer review of research projects encourages rigour, and PLAAS staff members are beginning to generate more 'accredited' publications.

In South Africa's new democracy, committed intellectuals sometimes wonder whether it is more effective to work in an advisory capacity for government, encourage informed public debate through critiques of government policy, or join activists in advocacy and lobbying activities. The choice, or combination of choices, depends on the preference of the individual researcher and on specific circumstances within a given policy arena – such as the degree of openness within a government department, or the strategic importance of civil society mobilisation on a given issue. These factors are dynamic and changing, and since they need constant re-assessment, a range of approaches may be appropriate.

Although diversity and differences in relation to engagement strategies within PLAAS exist and are accepted, a more difficult situation arises when one form of engagement (like an adversarial relationship with a particular department) is perceived to be having potentially negative impacts on the general profile of the organisation, with possible spill-over effects on the activities of colleagues. Internal debate and discussion among colleagues is vital, even when it is agreed that a research institution should not try to reach agreement on a particular policy stance or preferred form of engagement.

POLICY ENGAGEMENT IN 2003

- Participation in Western Cape provincial policy forums on poverty alleviation and food security strategies.
- Preparing a report on poverty and policy for the President's Office.
- Presentations to Parliament on poverty and food security.
- Forming part of a national task team to develop guidelines on the implementation of community-based natural resource management (CBNRM).
- Presentations to senior government officials of research findings on the progress of land reform.
- Participation in a high-profile international forum on conservation policy (the World Parks Congress).
- A presentation to SA Human Rights Commission hearings on the fishing industry.
- Facilitating submissions by community groupings and NGOs to parliamentary hearings on communal land rights legislation.
- Submissions to a Land Tribunal organised by a civil society grouping.
- Facilitation of learning events for the Landless People's Movement.

- Providing inputs to the People's Budget process.
- Participation in the Western Cape Alliance for Land and Agrarian Reform.
- Co-hosting of workshops with activist NGOs on a range of issues – ethical trade in the fruit and wine sectors, farm workers' rights, land restitution and communal land rights.



Internal debate and discussion among colleagues is vital, even when it is agreed that a research institution should not try to reach agreement on a particular policy stance or preferred form of engagement

Equally important to the PLAAS mission are our teaching and training activities. The Group Award from the university's Division for Life-Long Learning was awarded to PLAAS for its innovative approach to recognition of prior learning for entrants to our post-graduate programme. The award was received by Dr Edward Lahiff, who has done sterling work over the past four years in overseeing the growth and development of our teaching programme. In 2003 there were 34 post-graduate students registered at PLAAS, including five PhD students. Nine students were undertaking thesis research for an MPhil in Land and Agrarian Studies. One PLAAS staff member, Lungisile Ntsebeza, graduated with a PhD in Sociology from Rhodes University, and received highly complimentary comments from examiners.

A five-week training course on social science perspectives on natural resource management was held in August and September 2003 in Cape Town. It was organised by Webster Whande of PLAAS and Rick de Satgé of Developmental Services, in collaboration with the Centre for Applied Social Sciences (CASS) of the University of Zimbabwe, and the regional office of the World Conservation Union (IUCN-ROSA). Thirty-five natural resource management practitioners from the SADC region participated, and returned very positive evaluations.

PLAAS depends on support from donors and partner organisations, and has received generous core funding from the Ford Foundation since its inception in 1995. Efforts to secure substantial support from the university bore fruit in 2003 when PLAAS was awarded a Senior Lecturer/Researcher post, for a five-year period. The year also saw us develop a 'sustainability initiative', to be implemented over two years, aimed at securing the long-term viability of PLAAS. While we hope that this will reduce our need for donor support for core functions, donors and partners will continue to be the main source of research funds for PLAAS. To continue to secure these, we will have to demonstrate that our research is not purely academic, but does indeed help to 'change the world'.

Prof Ben Cousins



STAFFING

Director

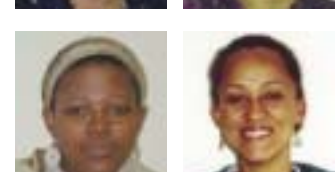
1. Prof Ben Cousins

Research and academic staff

2. Fadeela Ally (Researcher until December 2003)
3. Babalwa Bata (Research Assistant)
4. Dr Cobus de Swardt (Senior Researcher)
5. Dr Andries du Toit (Senior Researcher)
6. William Ellis (Researcher until July 2003)
7. Ruth Hall (Researcher)
8. Dr Mafaniso Hara (Senior Researcher)
9. Moenieba Isaacs (Researcher)
10. Dr Peter Jacobs (Researcher)
11. Dr Thembela Kepe (Senior Researcher)
12. Dr Edward Lahiff (Senior Researcher)
13. Dr Lungisile Ntsebeza (Senior Researcher until December 2003)
14. Zolile Ntshona (Researcher until April 2003)
15. Munyaradzi Saruchera (Researcher/Network Co-ordinator)
16. Barbara Tapela (Researcher from May 2003)
17. Lungiswa Tsolekile (Research Assistant)
18. Webster Whande (Researcher/Network Co-ordinator)

Administrative staff

19. Ursula Arends (Administrator until May 2003, Admin Manager from June 2003)
20. Natasha Emmett (Admin Manager until May 2003)
21. Lulekwa Gqiba (Administrator from June 2003)





- 22. Bealah Jacobs (Admin Assistant and Resource Centre)
- 23. Diana Josephus (Finance Assistant)
- 24. Edgar Joshua (Finance Manager)
- 25. Priscilla-Anne Lewis (Administrator from June 2003)
- 26. Vivian Magerman (Secretary/Receptionist)

PLAAS staff profile, December 2003

	Black		White	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
Academic	4	6	1	4
Administrative	6	1	0	0
Total	10	7	1	4

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

The major thrust of staff development activities at PLAAS to date has been ‘on-the-job’ training, hiring researchers for specific projects that create opportunities for post-graduate training, mainly in the form of dissertation-based degrees.

Staff member Lungisile Ntsebeza completed a PhD in Sociology (Rhodes) while working at PLAAS, and four researchers are currently registered for post-graduate degrees: Moenieba Isaacs (PhD, due to graduate in 2004); Fadeela Ally (MPhil, Family and Child Development, due to complete in 2004); Barbara Tapela (PhD, due to complete in 2005); and Webster Whande (MPhil, Land and Agrarian Studies, due to graduate in 2004).

As of December 2003, the majority of PLAAS staff (77%) were black, and 66% of researchers were black. In terms of gender, 50% of staff were women, but only 33% of researchers were women. There are ongoing attempts to recruit black female researchers, but this is not an easy task, perhaps due to the demanding character of rural field research.



RESEARCH AND NETWORKING FOCUS AREAS

Land reform and rural livelihoods

Land reform is a key component of the South African government's efforts to redress apartheid injustices and alleviate rural poverty. The programme is now in its tenth year and progress has been made: policies have been put in place, mechanisms of delivery have been developed and land has been transferred. However, widespread debate has occurred on questions of how to improve the programme, intensify the pace and scale of redistribution and restitution, better secure the land rights of farm dwellers and residents in communal areas, and how land reform policies can support the creation of viable livelihoods for rural people. In the **Evaluating Land and Agrarian Reform in South Africa (ELARSA)** project, PLAAS researchers Ruth Hall, Peter Jacobs and Edward Lahiff compared land reform targets to actual results achieved within the constraints of budgets and institutional capacity. The perspectives of diverse interest groups were represented in the research and the findings were widely disseminated through reports, workshops and various media. Eleven publications were produced by ELARSA, which was funded by the Foundation for Human Rights (see page 18).

The **Sustainable Livelihoods in Southern Africa (SLSA): Institutions, governance and policy processes** research programme, which started in 2000 and ended in 2003, was funded by the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID). It explored the challenges of institutional and policy reform around land, water and wild resources in particular locations in southern Africa. Case study sites were Zambezia in Mozambique, the Eastern Cape Wild Coast in South Africa and the Lowveld area of south-east Zimbabwe. This three-year programme was carried out with the University of Zimbabwe and Eduardo Mondlane University in Mozambique. It was co-ordinated by the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Sussex University. Dr Edward Lahiff of PLAAS co-ordinated the South African component of the project. Publications are listed on page 19.



POLICY ENGAGEMENT: LAND AND AGRARIAN REFORM

In 2003 Ruth Hall, Peter Jacobs and Edward Lahiff organised workshops for stakeholders in the land sector to report ELARSA's research findings on the implementation of land reform and to debate the policy lessons. They made presentations to the Director-General of DLA and to the National Treasury in August 2003. ELARSA organised a number of dissemination workshops and presentations in the second half of 2003, to run until early 2004, in Cape Town and in other provincial centres (Polokwane, Pietermaritzburg, Nelspruit, East London, Bloemfontein and Pretoria).

The South African component of SLSA culminated in a workshop in Umtata on 30 October 2003. Summaries of all the South African research papers were presented to an invited audience of 45 land and rural development practitioners and researchers, drawn from all spheres of government, academia and civil society. The opportunity was used to feed back the findings of the study to stakeholders, to raise the profile of PLAAS within the Eastern Cape and to explore opportunities for further interaction with policy makers.

The **Rural governance, land rights and sustainable livelihoods in South Africa: Policies and their delivery** project investigated the implementation of policies in respect of land tenure reform, local government reform and rural development aimed at creating sustainable livelihoods. There was a particular emphasis on the controversial role of traditional authorities, and the multiple and overlapping jurisdictions of diverse institutions in these areas. The project aimed to provide the government with detailed feedback about the overall coherence of its policy frameworks, on the feasibility of the programmes derived from these frameworks, on problems encountered in implementation, and on how these obstacles might be overcome. The project, led by Dr Lungisile Ntsebeza, was funded by the Swiss Agency for Development Co-operation (SDC).





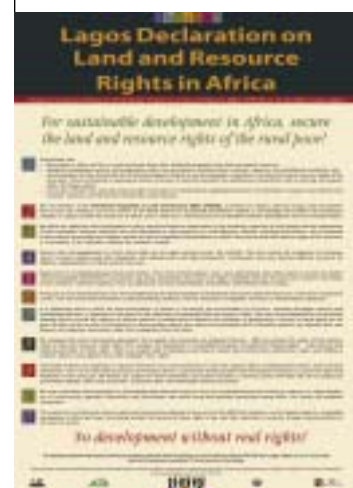
Research indicates that policies relating to common property resource management are as much shaped by political expediency as by technical considerations. Although communal tenure systems have been shown to have economic, social and ecological value, policies are still being made to privatise the commons or keep them under state control. 'Co-Govern' is a project that promotes common property in Africa by facilitating dialogue between researchers and professionals working on resource tenure issues in order to define a set of clear policy options. The programme is funded by the European Union, and is co-ordinated in southern Africa from PLAAS by Munyaradzi Saruchera. Other partners include the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), England; Groupe de Recherche et d'Action sur le Foncier (GRAF), Burkina Faso; Resource Conflict Institute (RECONCILE), Kenya; International Development Studies, Roskilde University, Denmark; Caledonia Centre for Social Development Land Programme, Scotland; Centre for International Environment and Development Studies (Noragric), Agricultural University of Norway.

Another initiative is the **Pan-African Programme on Land and Resource Rights (PAPLRR)** which is hosted and co-managed by the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS) in Nairobi, Kenya; Community Conservation and Development Initiatives in Lagos, Nigeria; the Social Research Centre at the American University of Cairo, Egypt; and PLAAS. The programme invites scholars, practitioners and advocacy groups across Africa to contribute to the development of policy, to promote land and resource rights, and to engage with relevant regional and international stakeholders. Land and resource tenure in local and national contexts as well as from the perspective of international trade and global environmental treaties are explored at sub-regional workshops. The Lagos Declaration on Land and Resource Rights in Africa (see picture) was launched by PAPLRR at the World Summit for Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002. In the second phase of the project – from October 2003 to December 2004 – the main focus is consolidation of first phase activities and identification and collaboration with appropriate networks. The programme is funded by the Ford Foundation and co-ordinated in southern Africa by Munyaradzi Saruchera of PLAAS.

The dynamics of poverty and land reform in Namaqualand is a three-year project launched in 2003 to investigate rural livelihoods, poverty and the impact of land reform in the former 'coloured' reserves of the Northern Cape. It is being undertaken

POLICY ENGAGEMENT: COMMUNAL LAND RIGHTS BILL

In 2002/3 PLAAS staff (Lungisile Ntsebeza, Ben Cousins and a contract worker, Aninka Claassens) collaborated closely with the National Land Committee and other civil society groups in a process of community consultations on the Bill. This included facilitating community groups and NGOs writing and presenting submissions to the parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Land Affairs, in November 2003. PLAAS maintains close working relations with the National Land Committee and many of its affiliates (for example, Nkuzi Development Association, the Association for Rural Advancement and the Border Rural Committee) and organisations within the Western Cape Alliance for Land and Agrarian Reform (for example, the Centre for Rural Legal Studies, Surplus People Project, the Legal Resources Centre and the Trust for Community Outreach and Education).



PLAAS hosted a PAPER workshop during May 2003, in Cape Town, attended by 43 participants from 20 African countries. Five commissioned papers and seven case studies were presented and discussed. As one of the partners in the Co-Govern project, PLAAS organised a workshop for 20 participants from seven countries, held in Cape Town in October 2003.

in close collaboration with Noragric. Drs Espen Sjaarstad and Tor Arve Benjaminsen of Noragric are the lead researchers from Norway, and the PLAAS component is co-ordinated by Dr Edward Lahiff, with field research being undertaken by Karin Kleinboo (of the Centre for Rural Legal Studies) and Harry May (of Surplus People Project). The project is co-funded by the National Research Foundation and the Norwegian Research Council. Data will be collected at three levels. Firstly, key stakeholders will be identified and interviewed. Secondly, households will be surveyed to determine *de facto* rights of access on the ground, and to collect information on stock levels, wealth, farm production and participation in interest groups. Thirdly, land-related conflicts will be investigated.



Human rights and governance in South Africa's land reform is a programme of collaboration between PLAAS and Noragric. It involves staff exchange visits and collaborative research, as well as research and study grants to two post-graduate students – one Norwegian and one South African – to engage in applied research on land reform and related issues in South Africa. The PLAAS component of the programme is co-ordinated by Dr Thembela Kepe, who is undertaking research on the links between biodiversity conservation and land reform. Barbara Tapela is engaged in research on integrated rural development strategies, socio-economic rights and sustainable livelihoods. The project is funded by the Norwegian Embassy and administered by the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights at the University of Oslo.





Community-based natural resource management (CBNRM)

POLICY ENGAGEMENT: CBNRM

Webster Whande of PLAAS is part of a national task team developing CBNRM guidelines for South Africa.

CBNRM in southern Africa: A regional programme of analysis and communication was launched in 1999 in conjunction with the Centre for Applied Social Studies (CASS) at the University of Zimbabwe. The programme facilitates communication of ideas and activities to other agencies in southern Africa, stimulates debate and promotes the concept of group-based systems of resource management as a viable and legitimate alternative to individualised, freehold-based systems. Annual regional workshops are held, and grants are made available for writing, research and networking visits between countries. Information is disseminated via a website, an e-mail discussion forum and a newsletter. Webster Whande was the co-ordinator of the PLAAS components of the first phase of the project. He participated in the proceedings of the World Parks Congress held in South Africa in 2003, and PLAAS published a book (see page 18) and a statement on protected areas which were disseminated at the congress. A Senior Researcher/Programme Manager was recruited in late 2003 to lead Phase 2 in collaboration with Whande. The second phase will run until 2006. The programme is co-funded by the Ford Foundation and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada.

A longstanding relationship continues between PLAAS and the Natural Resources group of the Centre for Development Co-operation Services at Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam. Dr Stephen Turner was seconded to PLAAS for four years (1997–2001) and continues to collaborate with PLAAS in a variety of ways, such as within the regional CBNRM networking programme.

Management and policy options for the sustainable development of communal rangelands and their communities in southern Africa (Maposda) is a multi-country, inter-disciplinary project focusing on three areas of communal rangelands, namely the Matsheng Villages in the Kalahari in Botswana, the villages in the Pelang-Bokong areas of the Maloti Mountains of Lesotho and Paulshoek, and other communal areas in Namaqualand, South Africa. The objective is to identify approaches to natural resource management systems, alternative livelihood strategies and viable policy options to improve the welfare of communities and the sustainable use of the rangeland. Project partners include the Centre for Arid Zone Studies (CAZS), University of Wales, Bangor;



the Institute for Plant Conservation (IPC) at the University of Cape Town; the Pyrenean Institute of Ecology, Spain (IPE); the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA); the Department of Environmental Science at the University of Botswana, and the National University of Lesotho. Dr Rick Rohde co-ordinates research on socio-economic aspects for PLAAS. The project is funded by the European Union.

Fisheries and marine resources

The **National Programme on Coastal and Fisheries Co-management** supports projects that facilitate co-management arrangements in relation to coastal and fisheries resources. It also promotes co-operation between such initiatives so that networking, information-sharing and problem-solving capacities can be increased. The programme identifies the conditions under which co-management is likely to succeed and assesses the appropriateness of strategies and co-management models for South Africa. It encourages users to be involved in and responsible for resource management, and creates links between coastal communities and the private sector in order to stimulate job creation. Through research, development and capacity-building activities, the project enables local users to participate in management, monitoring and conflict resolution.

This project is funded under a Norwegian-South African bilateral co-operation agreement and is co-ordinated by Dr Mafaniso Hara of PLAAS and Dr Merle Sowman of the University of Cape Town (UCT). The implementing agency is the Branch: Marine and Coastal Management, Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT). The executing agencies are the Environmental Evaluation Unit of UCT and PLAAS, who have subcontracted aspects of the work to regional service providers: the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Wildlife, Rhodes University (Eastern Cape) and Eco-Africa (Northern Cape).

Fisheries co-management: Knowledge base and institutional arrangements ('Knowfish') is a 30-month multi-disciplinary project investigating the information and institutions needed for effective fisheries co-management. Five co-management cases are being studied: the upper Zambezi River fishery and the North East swamps fishery, both in Zambia; the fishery in the South East arm of Lake Malawi; the shrimp fishery at the Sofala Bank in Mozambique and the pelagic fishery in South Africa. The project began in 2002 and brings together researchers

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR COASTAL COMMUNITIES

The capacity-building component of the co-management programme has been running since 2000. A training needs assessment was conducted in all four coastal provinces and training materials were developed and translated from English into Afrikaans, Xhosa and Zulu. Awareness-raising workshops have been conducted and skills development courses have been implemented. The project has supported the establishment of local co-management structures, and has appointed service providers and 100 trainers in different parts of the country. Fisher groups have been assisted with applications for quotas and permits.



from 10 institutions in southern Africa, the European Union and an EU member state as follows: PLAAS, South Africa; DEAT Branch: Marine and Coastal Management, South Africa; Centre for Applied Social Science, Zimbabwe; Fisheries Department, Malawi; Instituto de Desenvolvimento de Pesca de Pequena Escala, Mozambique; Department of Fisheries, Zambia; Institute for Fisheries Management and Coastal Community Development (IFM), Denmark (project lead institution); Wageningen University, Netherlands; University of Bergen, Norway; and Chr. Michelsen Institute, Norway. Overall project co-ordination is the responsibility of IFM while PLAAS ensures co-ordination within the southern Africa region. Dr Mafa Hara is the lead researcher and co-ordinator at PLAAS.

PLAAS organised a workshop from 1–5 December 2003 to mark the end of the four-year Phase II of the Worldwide Fisheries Co-management Project and 10 years of German experience of implementation of co-management in Malawi. The project grouped countries from southern Africa (Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe) and South East Asia in collaboration with the World Fish Center based in Penang, Malaysia and the Institute for Fisheries Management and Coastal Community Development of Denmark. The objective of the project was the evaluation of fisheries co-management in terms of its contribution to the sustainability of the fisheries resources and fishing communities, efficiency of resource management and the equity of management outcomes. The 41 workshop participants comprised researchers, policy makers and research partners.

The challenge is to establish systems that involve local people in natural resource management

The Marine Living Resources Act (MLRA) of 1998 recognises subsistence fishers as a legitimate user group and requires identification of zones for their use. The challenge is to establish systems that involve local people in natural resource management. Research on **Management of community-based fisheries in the Western and Eastern Cape** was started at PLAAS in 1999 with funding from the Norwegian Council of Universities' Committee for Development Research and Education (NUFU). Moenieba Isaacs is the lead researcher, in collaboration with Prof Bjørn Hersoug of the University of Tromsø in Norway. This project analyses transformation processes taking place in the fishing industry between 1994 and 2002, focusing on communities at Elands Bay, Hout Bay, Mossel Bay and Jeffrey's Bay. Research topics include the macro-economic and political context within which the transformation of the fishing industry is being attempted; the background to the promulgation of the MLRA; the socio-economic conditions of South African fishing communities; responses by various players to new conditions; and the extent to which the implementation of policy and the allocation of quotas deviates from the underlying intentions and goals of the MLRA. Isaacs submitted her PhD thesis on this topic late in 2003.



Chronic poverty

Poverty reduction is one of the most important challenges facing South Africa and its people. After ten years of democracy, enormous improvements in living standards have been made – but poverty and inequality persist. Increasingly it is clear that it is necessary to understand the longitudinal dynamics of poverty: how people move into and out of poverty, and the factors that support or undermine their attempts to escape poverty. In particular, it is necessary to explore the factors that trap people in chronic poverty – sometimes for lifetimes and indeed generations. People who are likely to experience chronic poverty include those living in marginal rural areas and urban ghettos, the elderly and the disabled, HIV/Aids sufferers, child-headed households, the displaced and refugees, and those who experience social discrimination in its many and varied forms.

The PLAAS project on **Chronic poverty and development policy**, began in late 2000. It is part of a major international research initiative (the Chronic Poverty Research Centre) undertaken in collaboration with the Institute for Development Policy and Management (IDPM) at the University of Manchester and other research units in the UK and in Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, and Uganda. Recognising that chronically poor people are the least likely to benefit from contemporary national and international development efforts, the project seeks to explore the social dynamics of poverty traps. The aim is also to provide policy guidance on the reduction of chronic poverty. A close partnership with the School of Public Health at the University of the Western Cape has been formed to undertake research on the nutritional and health aspects of chronic poverty. The project is funded by the UK Department for International Development.

The first phase of the project spans a five-year period from 2001–2005. In 2003 PLAAS researchers Dr Cobus de Swardt, Dr Andries du Toit, Lungiswa Tsolekile and Fadeela Ally continued their field research in rural Eastern Cape (Mount Frere and Xhalanga), rural Western Cape (Ceres) and urban Western Cape (the townships of Khayelitsha and Nyanga in Cape Town). A questionnaire used to survey a total of 1 410 households in three research sites has accumulated data relating to poor people's circumstances, health and food issues. This information will be translated, over the next five years, into an extensive, high-quality and policy-relevant longitudinal data set on chronic poverty.

POLICY ENGAGEMENT: POLICY REDUCTION

In 2003 Drs Cobus de Swardt and Andries du Toit engaged with a wide variety of national and international government bodies and civil society groupings to report their research findings on poverty dynamics and discuss the policy implications. This included commissioned reports for the President's Office and the Cabinet. They were consulted on poverty policies by senior Western Cape government officials, including Marius Fransman (Western Cape Minister for Poverty Alleviation), Alan Roberts (poverty alleviation co-ordinator), Ricardo Wessels (Western Cape Premier's office), Tasneem Essop (Western Cape Minister for Transport) and Ivan Toms (Director of Health, City of Cape Town).



THE EXTENT OF CHRONIC POVERTY

Initial findings are that nearly a quarter of all South African households are living in chronic poverty (this correlates with studies that show that about a quarter of all children under the age of six are stunted as a result of chronic under-nutrition), and that 70% of the chronically poor live in the rural areas. Findings also show that the bulk of anti-poverty expenditure in the country is directed into social security grants and subsidised health care, making the social security system the largest and one of the most functional anti-poverty instruments at our disposal.

Ongoing research includes a follow-up study of 60 households in Mount Frere relating to social security and HIV/Aids; daily monitoring of 63 households in the same community, focusing on food, health, income, borrowings, expenses, acquisition of resources, and interviews with 34 households in the Mooiblom informal settlement in Ceres on issues of vulnerability. A survey of 600 households in Khayelitsha was initiated at the end of 2002.





TEACHING AND TRAINING

The PLAAS post-graduate teaching programme, under the direction of Dr Edward Lahiff, is undertaken in close collaboration with the Legal Resources Centre and various academic departments at UWC, the University of Cape Town and the University of Stellenbosch. In 2003, 21 new students registered for the programme – seven for the post-graduate Diploma and 14 for the MPhil in Land and Agrarian Studies. In total, 34 post-graduate students were registered at PLAAS in 2003, including five PhD and nine MPhil students. PLAAS won the Group Award from UWC’s Division for Life-Long Learning for its innovative approach to recognition of prior learning for entrants to the post-graduate programme.

PLAAS has been a major provider of short course training to the land and agrarian reform sector. Since 1996, in association with Rick de Satgé of Developmental Services, PLAAS has designed and delivered a range of short courses customised to meet the needs of different government departments and NGOs. These courses have incorporated a wide range of participatory training methods, analytic activities, scenarios and case studies. Certain courses have involved field-based learning sessions with participants engaging in guided fieldwork activities.



SOME PLAAS SHORT COURSES SINCE 1996

- *Tenure basics: Understanding tenure systems in terms of historical issues and the challenges of implementing tenure reform:* for the Department of Land Affairs (DLA) and land sector NGOs.
- *Restitution: The Restitution of Land Rights Act and practical processes for handling claims:* for the Land Claims Commission and NGOs in the land sector.
- *Redistribution policy and procedures: The policy and practice of land redistribution:* for DLA staff.
- *Implementing the Extension of Security of Tenure Act (ESTA): the capacity, systems and practical skills required to implement the Act,* for DLA and NGO staff.
- *Participatory planning for effective legal entities:* for DLA and NGO staff.
- *Land use and livelihoods:* theoretical and practical aspects of planning for sustainable livelihoods, for NGO staff.
- *The integration of environmental planning into land reform:* a combination of foundation courses and field-based training, for DLA and other government officials.

- *Forest policy, legislation and participatory forest management: new paradigms in forest management and implementation of legislation:* for the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry.
- *Governance in community-based natural resource management:* for CBNRM practitioners from southern Africa.

A five-week course on social science perspectives on natural resource management was designed and implemented by PLAAS in Cape Town in 2003 in collaboration with the Centre for Applied Social Sciences (CASS) and the World Conservation Union (IUCN-ROSA). Earlier versions of this course were run in Zimbabwe. Thirty-five natural resource management practitioners and policy makers from the Southern African Development Community region participated in the programme, which focused on livelihoods, poverty, resource tenure and institutions. Fieldwork in the Oceanview community near Kommetjie in the Cape Peninsula was facilitated by PLAAS staff member Moenieba Isaacs.





2003 PUBLICATIONS

PLAAS publications

Book

No. 3. Webster Whande, Thembela Kepe & Marshall Murphree (eds). *Local communities, equity and conservation in southern Africa: A synthesis of lessons learnt and recommendations from a southern African technical workshop.*

Evaluating land and agrarian reform in South Africa (ELARSA) series

No. 1. Peter Jacobs, Edward Lahiff & Ruth Hall. *Land redistribution.*

No. 2. Ruth Hall. *Rural restitution.*

No. 3. Ruth Hall. *Farm tenure.*

No. 4. Peter Jacobs. *Support for agricultural development.*

No. 5. Megan Anderson & Kobus Pienaar. *Municipal commonage.*

No. 6. Sue Bannister. *Rural settlement.*

No. 7. David Mayson. *Joint ventures.*

No. 8. Maura Andrew, Andrew Ainslie & Charlie Shackleton. *Land use and livelihoods.*

A report on the subject of communal tenure was intended to be **no. 9** in this series, but the policy framework is in such a state of flux that publication will be delayed until greater clarity emerges.

No. 10. Ruth Hall, Peter Jacobs & Edward Lahiff. *Final report.*

Land reform and agrarian change in southern Africa occasional paper series

No. 25. Thembela Kepe, Rachel Wynberg & William Ellis. *Land reform and biodiversity conservation in South Africa: Complementary or in conflict?*

Policy brief series: Debating land reform and rural development

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Research report series

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Sustainable Livelihoods in Southern Africa research papers

No. 5. Zolile Ntshona and Edward Lahiff. *Rural development, institutional change and livelihoods in the Eastern Cape, South Africa: A case study of Mdudwa Village.*

No. 6. Zolile Ntshona & Caroline Ashley. *Transforming roles but not reality? Private sector and community involvement in tourism and forestry development on the Wild Coast, South Africa.*

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No. 19. Edward Lahiff. *The politics of land reform in southern Africa.*

Sustainable livelihoods in southern Africa (SLSA) theme papers

SLSA team. *Decentralisations in practice in southern Africa.*

SLSA team. *Rights talk and rights practice: Challenges for southern Africa.*

SLSA team. *The rural poor, the private sector and markets: Changing interactions in southern Africa.*

Selected academic publications by PLAAS staff

Cousins, B. 2003. The Zimbabwe crisis in its wider context: the politics of land, democracy and development in southern Africa, in *Unfinished business: Rethinking land, state and citizenship in Zimbabwe*, edited by A Hammar, B Raftopolous and S Jensen. Harare: Weaver Press.

Cousins, B and Claassens, A. 2003. Communal land tenure in South Africa: Livelihoods, rights, institutions. *Development Update*, 4(3).

De Swardt, C. 2003. Eastern Cape case study, in *Trends and policy challenges in the rural economy: Four provincial case studies*, edited by Michael Aliber. Pretoria: Human Sciences Research Council.

Brown, M, **Du Toit**, A & Jacobs, L. 2003. *Behind the label: A workers' audit of the working and living conditions on selected wine farms in the Western Cape.* Cape Town: Women on Farms Project, Labour Research Service and Programme for Land and Agrarian Studies, University of the Western Cape.

Hall, R. 2003. A comparative analysis of land reform in South Africa and Zimbabwe, in *Unfinished business: The land crisis in southern Africa*, edited by Margaret Lee and Karen Colvard. Johannesburg: Africa Institute.

Hall, R & Williams, G. 2003. Land reform in South Africa: Problems and prospects, in *From Cape to Congo: Southern Africa's evolving security challenges*, edited by Mwesiga Baregu and Chris Landsberg. New York: Lynne Rienner Publishers.



Hara, M. 2003. Co-management of natural resources: Theory and the attendant assumptions, in *Waves of change: Coastal and fisheries co-management in southern Africa*, edited by M Hauck and M Sowman. Cape Town. University of Cape Town Press:13–36.

Hara, M & Nielsen, J. 2003. A decade of fisheries co-management in Africa: Going back to the roots? Empowering fishing communities? Or just an illusion? in *The fisheries co-management experience: Accomplishments, challenges and prospects*, edited by DC Wilson, JR Nielsen and P Degnbol.. Dordrecht, the Netherlands: Kluwer.

Hara, M, Nielsen, J, Degnbol P, Viswanathan, K, Ahmed, M & Abdullah, N. 2003. Fisheries co-management: An institutional innovation? Lessons from South East Asia and Southern Africa. *Marine Policy*.

Isaacs, M. 2003. Need, greed and politics: Transformation process in the fishing industry. *South African Labour Bulletin*, 27(4), August.

Kepe, T. 2003. Use, control and value of craft material Cyperus textillis: Perspectives from a Mpondo Village, South Africa. *South African Geographical Journal*, 85(2):152–7.

Kepe, T. 2003. Cannabis sativa and rural livelihoods in South Africa: Politics of cultivation, trade and value in Pondoland. *Development Southern Africa*, 20(5):603–13.

Lahiff, E. 2003. Land policies and practices in *Towards a just South Africa: The political economy of natural resource wealth*, edited by D Reed and M de Wit. Pretoria: Council for Scientific and Industrial Research/World Wildlife Fund.

Ntsebeza, L. 2003. Democracy in South Africa's countryside: Is there a role for traditional authorities? *Development Update*, 4(1).

Saruchera, M. 2002/3. Exploring wildlife policy issues and the potential of conservancies as a complementary land-use option for rural communities: A case study of the Save Valley Conservancy, in *Conservancies as complementary land reform models in southern Africa: Insights on case studies from Zimbabwe and Namibia*, edited by C Machena & F Mutepfa. Harare: Zimbabwe Environmental Research Organization.

Tapela, B, Thompson, L & Mukheli, A. 2003. *Gender perspectives in integrated water resources management in the Save Catchment Area of Zimbabwe*. Cape Town: Centre for Southern African Studies, University of the Western Cape. (Water and security working paper.)

SEMINARS

PLAAS hosted the following seminars in 2003:

- Prof John Oxland, School of Law and Justice, Southern Cross University, Australia. 'The recognition in Australian law of native title to land' (17 February 2003).
- Dr Rick Rohde and Munyaradzi Saruchera, PLAAS. 'Scottish commons andcrofting tenure' (13 March 2003).
- Peter Jacobs, PLAAS. 'Poverty and Land Access in South Africa: Is land important?' (11 April 2003).
- Julian Quan, Land policy advisor: DFID and Natural Resources Institute; University of Greenwich. 'What can South Africa learn from the land reform in Brazil?' (10 September 2003).



PLAAS INCOME AND EXPENDITURE, 2003

INCOME	(5 241 066)
International Development Research Centre	(314 544)
European Union: INCO-DEV Knowfish	(502 957)
MILAGRE: HTS Development Ltd.	(107 591)
National Land Committee	(200 000)
Siemenpuu Foundation	(260 904)
Swiss Agency for Development Co-operation	(28 200)
Institute for Development Studies	(408 928)
Foundation for Human Rights	(531 797)
ICLARM: World Fish Center	(106 996)
University of Manchester	(198 831)
European Union: Co-Govern	(160 272)
Ford Foundation	(1 038 883)
IUCN: World Conservation Union	(40 432)
GTZ and World Fish Center	(228 969)
DEAT: Marine & Coastal Management	(175 000)
Labour Research Services	(20 000)
Norwegian Centre for Human Rights	(669 034)
Publications income	(32 940)
Other income	(214 786)
EXPENDITURE	8 436 730
Personnel costs	4 136 758
Operational costs	513 651
Staff development	21 346
Organisational support	583 517
Equipment	57 868
Research costs	615 831
Teaching and training	116 878
Resource centre	84 532
Dissemination	1 715 781
Travel and accommodation	590 569
Opening Balance at beginning of the year	(5 684 914)
Inter-account transfers	(715 017)
Prior year adjustments	(1 700)
Net movements for the year	3 195 665
ACCUMULATED (SURPLUS) FOR THE YEAR	(3 205 966)

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