

Norwegian Association for Development Research (NFU)

Annual General Meeting 2004

Time: Thursday 30 September 2004, 18:30

Venue: CDS/GHERA - University of Bergen, Scandic Hotel Bergen City

Draft Agenda

1. Constitute meeting and approve agenda
Election of Chair and two Reporters
Approval of agenda
2. NFU Annual report 2004
3. NFU Accounts 2004
4. NFU Membership fees 2005
5. Budget for 2005
6. Accounts for NFU Annual conference 2003 NIBR
(Not presented)
7. NFU Annual Conference 2005
Landscapes of Poverty – NORAGRIC – NAU
8. Incoming business
The NFU archives
9. Election

Norwegian association for Development Research (NFU)

Annual Report 2004

- for the period November 2003 - September 2004

Introduction

The NFU Board has during the period maintained the principal activities of the association.

- Conducted 4 Board meetings
- Consulted with the organisers of the NFU Annual Conference, CDS/GHERA - University of Bergen
- Published the NFU Newsletter, 1 issue.
- Been involved in the publishing of the Forum for Development Studies
- Undertaken representation to the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI)
- Initiated planning for a study of development studies at Norwegian institutions
- Made input to hearings and on issues related to development research
- Continued revision of information activities

The NFU Board members

The NFU Annual meeting 2003 was held at 23 October 2003 at *Fafo Institute for Applied Social Science*, Oslo. Minutes were published at the NFU web: www.nfuf.no. Following this meeting the composition of the NFU Board was as follows:

Chair:

Håkon Fottland, SEMUT, University of Tromsø.

Board members:

Tor Arve Benjaminsen, Noragric, Norwegian Agricultural University

Erik Blytt, SUM, University of Oslo

Einar Braathen, Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR)

Morten Bøås, Fafo Institute for Applied Social Science

Kjetil Fred Hansen, Idegruppen Nord Sør

Darley Jose Kjosavik, Noragric, Norwegian Agricultural University

Ragnhild Lund, Department of Geography, Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Arne Wiig, Chr. Michelsen Institute

Deputy Board members:

Bjørn Letnes, Dept. of Sociology and Political Science, Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Paul Opoku-Mensah, Centre for Development Studies, University of Bergen

Elisabeth Sandersen, KVINNFORSK, University of Tromsø

Tina Søreide, Chr. Michelsen Institute

Trond Vedeld, Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR)

Auditor:

Hans-Jørgen Christiansen, SUM, University of Oslo

Nomination committee:

Ruth Haug, Noragric, Norwegian Agricultural University, chair

Axel Borchgrevink, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI)

Siri Gloppen, Chr. Michelsen Institute

NFU Delegate to EADI:

Trond Vedeld, Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR)

NFU board meetings

The NFU board has in the period met 4 times; two of them in Oslo, the other two in Bergen. All elected members and deputies were invited to the initial meeting. Items discussed at the meetings range from statements on policy-hearings, comments to new research programs, discussions on making an overview of development studies at Norwegian institutions, and on how to make the association better known to new members.

At the meeting 23.04.2004, however, Ragnhild Lund informed that she due to other commitments could no longer serve as a Board member. The Board then requested Deputy Board member Bjørn Letnes (NTNU) to step into her place permanently until the next Annual meeting.

Work plan

At the initial meeting the Board discussed targets for the work. As none of the targets for the previous year could be mentioned as fulfilled one decided to extend them for 2004:

During 2004 one would primarily work towards increased recruitment to the association and with increased attention to development research policy.

The first target is achieved by recruitment campaigns. The second could be achieved by engaging in dialog with central actors for development research policy in Norway. Thus, in order to achieve both these objectives, NFU need to be an organisation embracing the diversity of Norwegian development researchers.

Such an organisation would in turn have 4 tasks:

- To be a forum for discussion of general research policy
- To contribute to publish a recognised journal
- To organise annual conferences as meeting grounds for Norwegian development researchers
- To be a source of information.

The present NFU Board consider that – apart form the Forum for Development Studies - there are room for significant improvement on the three other notes.

In practical terms it is important for NFU to become more visible and to use the NFU flyer more actively.

Members

For 2003, the number of members paying membership fees was 148. By the end of August 2004, NFU have a total of 237 registered members. Some of these are, however, likely to not respond to the 2nd notification for payment of membership fees and their membership will be stopped. Quite a number have also registered for new membership in connection with the Annual conference 2004.

The Board has discussed the option of establishing NFU-Chapters at local institutions as a means to increase the attention, discussion and interest in development research locally – and as a means to increase the number of members. Planning is made for a Chapter to be opened at NTNU in Trondheim in November.

Information

The newsletter *NFU Nytt*, and the *NFU website*, have been the channels of distributing information to NFU members.

One issue of *NFU nytt* has appeared since the Annual Meeting 2003, with Darley Jose Kjosavik, Noragric - AUN as Editor.

The NFU website: *www.nfuf.no* has also served as an important channel of information. A major upgrading of the contents has been undertaken by the web-editor Erik Blytt, SUM – UiO. Refinement of the graphics is, unfortunately, still outstanding.

The NFU-flyer and -poster are produced in numbers supposed to be available for some years.

Efforts have also been made to establish better contacts with other Nordic development researchers associations.

Development Research Policy

The NFU Board established a special committee on development research policy, consisting of Morten Bøås (Fafu), Ragnhild Lund (NTNU) and Arne Wiig (CMI).

The NFU has contributed with a comment to the Norwegian Research Council on their whitepaper on Poverty Research. One have further discussed various initiatives on interaction with the Norwegian Research Council, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education and Research.

EADI

Trond Vedeld, (NIBR), has served as Norway's representative on the Executive committee of EADI. See separate report. Costs for this has been covered by a special allocation from the Norwegian Research Council.

Forum for development studies

NUPI, in co-operation with NFU and with financial support from the Norwegian Research Council, publishes the *Forum for Development Studies*. The Journal is published twice a year with Olav Stokke (NUPI) as Editor. Tor Arve Benjaminsen has been the representative of the NFU Board in the Editorial committee.

The *Forum for Development Studies* has a practice of close scrutiny of submitted papers to ensure quality on one side, and which serves as guidance to young researchers in preparation of manuscripts on the other side. Presentations to the Annual Conference receive special attention.

The NFU Annual Conferences

The Annual Conference 2003 was hosted by NIBR – the Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research in Oslo 23 - 24 October 2003. The conference theme was: *Politics & Poverty*.

The Annual Conference 2004 is hosted by Centre for Development Studies/GHERA - University of Bergen, 30 September - 01 October 2004. The conference theme is: *Education, Knowledge and Development*.

The NFU Annual Conference is supported by the Norwegian Research Council / the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The NFU award

The NFU award was announced for 2004. However, as only one paper was submitted, the Board decided to not submit the single paper received for scrutiny by the Editorial Board of the *Forum for Development Studies*, which normally decides on the winning contribution. The Board advice that the incoming Board, based on eventual comments made at the Annual Meeting decides on new modalities for handling the NFU award.

Economic situation

NFUs economic situation is good and the association can make modest investments in order to increase our activities. The accounts show that we have achieved our income-target, and we have spent less than planned.

EADI work 2004 – Attachment to Annual Report NFU

Trond Vedeld
Executive Committee Member – EADI
Norwegian Association for Development Research
13.09.2004

EADI executive committee meeting April 2004, Malta and November 2004, Paris

This report summarises some recent events in EADI, focussing on EADI's Executive Committee meeting in Malta on the 24 April 2004.

General observations on EADI: EADI keeps evolving as an institution, with dynamic support from its Secretariat in Bonn. There are many new initiatives and initiatives that are gradually becoming institutionalised that are likely to have positive impacts in the years to come including efforts to strengthen networks around the Director's meeting, new education and training initiatives, information and knowledge management. Please visit www.eadi.org for further information.

EADI ExCo meeting in Malta: Key issues involves proposals to change the constitution (proposals to be presented in General Conference in Bonn), finding a solution to the funding of the Secretariat, improving and finding funding for the European Journal of Development Studies (EJDS), and preparing for the General Conference in Bonn, 22-24 September, 2005. This report covers mainly the ExCo meeting in Malta.

The ExCo meeting in Malta focussed among others on the following agenda points – apart from adoption of annual report 2003, accounts from 2003, and budget for 2004 and membership issues (e.g. NORAGRIC accepted as new member from Norway).

- Governance of the association
 - A strategic plan is being prepared (by the Interim Committee) to bring forward to the General Assembly a proposal for changing the constitution of EADI regarding the constitution of the governing bodies and frequency of meetings (of the Executive Committee)
- 11th General Conference in Bonn 2005 – the following points were agreed upon
 - The Working Groups should be at the heart of the General Conference, and also be visible in the plenary sessions
 - Each Working Group session should include an interactive element – and shift away from a focus on European policies towards integration of a southern perspective
 - The relation between the general theme of the Conference and the Working Group theme should be stressed
 - Transition countries should be left out in the title
 - Incentives for Working Groups to join would be thought out
 - Smaller and flexible sessions and panels would be included
 - A separate focus on European policies on the Saturday would hopefully help attract funding

- Sub-committees
 - Sub-committee on General Conferences
This sub-committee presented two alternative titles for the General Conference in Bonn 22-24 September, 2005 for the ExCo to consider: I) 'Insecurity and development' and II) 'Security and development' – with the following subtitle: 'Regional issues and policies for an interdependent world'. These titles were agreed upon by the ExCo with the Secretariate to work out final alternatives.
 - Sub-committee on Working groups
A new Working Group on Law and Development was accepted. The guidelines for finding were slightly revised. Procedures for workflow between convenors and the Secretariate in relation to the General Conference were presented to the ExCo. The Working Groups convenors would be represented at next ExCo.
 - Sub-committee on Knowledge Management and Publications
EJDR now had three editors; Andrew Mold, Paul Hoebink and Claire Mainguy – with Morten Boas as book editor. Susanne von Itter would act as Editorial Assistant. The Journal would come in four issues as of 2004 in order to work towards becoming included in the International Social Sciences Index. A new editorial board was composed. The [EL@AND](#) website was approved. And proceeding of the 10th General Conference sent to publisher. The ExCo agreed to push for negotiating with Taylor and Francis for publishing.
Regarding referees, the ExCo would help facilitate reviews among own networks – in addition to the Editorial Board.
 - Sub-committee on Training and Education
The Sub-committee discussed the next EADI International Summer School (held in Twente 29/8-8/9/2004). A European Master's group of universities has joined as partners. Relevant courses would be posted on the EADI website.
 - Sub-committee on Membership
A new infokit has been prepared and tested. An EADI award for best younger and older scholar would be considered. An EADI 30 years jubilee campaign would be promoted (and was agreed upon). Membership fee would not be raised. An
- Director's meeting (next meeting to be held in Geneva in December 2004)
- The next ExCo meeting to be held in Paris 19/20 November, 2004 – combined with a seminar: 'The state of development research in relation to European Development Cooperation'. Following this there will be an ExCo in Antwerpen 22-23 April, 2005.
- The General Conference will be in Bonn 22-24 September, 2004

Re Item 3. Accounts 2004 (See page 8 and 9).

Accounts for 2004, the period 01.10.2003 - 31.08.2004.

Auditors report (The accounts have been submitted to the Auditor, but we have not yet received the report in return.)

Re Item 4. Membership fees for 2005

Following discussions at the previous Annual meeting, the NFU Board suggests membership fees as follows:

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| • Institutional members | NOK 1.000 |
| • Regular members | NOK 400 |
| • Family membership (one subscr. to FORUM) | NOK 600 |
| • Student members, retired persons | NOK 200 |

Re Item 5. Budget for 2005 (See page 10)

Re Item 6. Accounts for the NFU Annual Conference 2003

(To be presented to the next Annual Meeting.)

Re Item 7. NFU Annual Conference 2005

Decided at the previous meeting:

Landscapes of Poverty – NORAGRIC – NAU, in June 2005

Re Item 8. Incoming proposals

Placement of the NFU Archives.

The NFU is building archives; letters, minutes, vouchers, reports, etc. that can be of relevance to studies of Norwegian involvement in development research. The positions of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer are shifting between persons sitting at different institutions, and normally the documents are handed over in an unorganised manner. It is then very beneficial to seek agreement with one institution that may have the responsibility of keeping the NFU archives on a permanent basis. The Board sees the Chr. Michelsen Institute as a central actor in Norwegian development research and suitable for such a task.

The Board seeks the approval of the Annual Meeting to enter negotiations with the Chr. Michelsen Institute with the purpose of entering into such an agreement.

Re Item 9. Elections (See page 11)

Proposal by the Electoral committee.

Forslag fra valgkomiteen

NFUs styre 2004-2005

(til vedtak på NFUs årsmøte i Bergen i september 2004)

Medlemmer til styret:

Håkon Fottland (UiTø leder), leder	(Re-election, 2 years)
Tor Arve Benjaminsen (Noragric/NLH)	(Continuing one more year)
Ketil Fred Hansen (Idegruppen Nord-Sør, Stavanger)	(Continuing one more year)
Morten Bøås (FAFO)	(Re-election, 2 years)
Guro Aandal (SUM/UiO)	(New, 2 years)
Darley Jose Kjosavik (Noragric/NLH)	(Continuing one more year)
Tina Søreide (CMI/Bergen)	(New, 2 years)
Elisabeth Sandersen (UiTø)	(New, 2 years)
Tale Baadshaug (NTNU)	(New, 2 years)

Varamedlemmer til styret:

Trond Vedeld (NIBR)	(Re-election, one year)
Asuncion St Clair (Institutt for Sosiologi, UiB)	(New, one year)
Kjetil Tronvoll (Senter for Menneskerettigheter, UiO)	(New, one year)
Atle Solberg (Institutt for sammenlignende politikk, UiB)	(New, one year)

Hans-Jørgen Oppi Christiansen (SUM/UiO): revisor

Valgkomite: Siri Gloppen (CMI), Ruth Haug (Noragric) og XXX