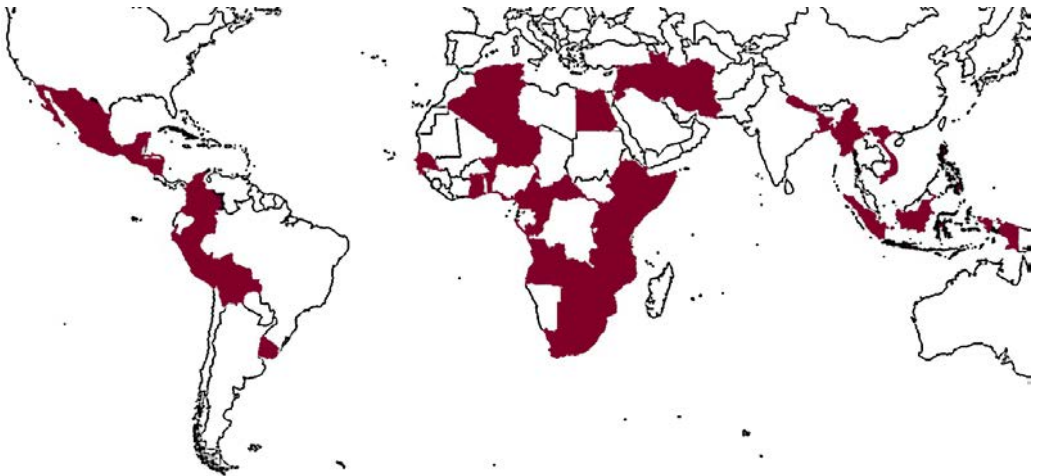


Sapienza for International Development Cooperation

Strategies, Projects, Actions

edited by

Carlo Giovanni Cereti and Francesca Giofrè



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In copertina: elaborazione grafica a cura della prof.ssa Francesca Giofrè.

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Preamble

Antonella Polimeni – Rectress of Sapienza University of Rome

As the Rectress of Sapienza University of Rome since less than six months, I am particularly pleased to present the academic community of our University with this publication which introduces the activities of our students and teaching staff in the area of international development cooperation.

As a matter of fact, I still fully subscribe to one of the articles included in the Charter of Principles in International Development Cooperation adopted by Sapienza in 2007: “ ... Sapienza – University of Rome affirms the centrality of research and training in international development cooperation “(art. V) thereby underlining the strategic objective of an inclusive community in which research, training and third mission activities aim at fostering the development of human resources, primarily by building capacity in partner countries.

International cooperation is the main instrument to develop the university’s third mission dimension in the international field, mainly targeting areas in Asia, Africa and South America that represent the future of humanity, ranking high in European 21st century priorities.

Proof of this are the projects financed by the Italian Development Cooperation Agency (AICS) such as the Partnership for Knowledge program, where Sapienza coordinates the platform dedicated to Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Tourism. We also consider important our membership in the University Council for Development Cooperation (CUCS - Consiglio Universitario per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo) an international cooperation network promoted by CRUI. In recent years together with five other Italian universities, Sapienza has created the Italian Higher Education with Africa Foundation aiming at the promotion of Italian transnational education in the African continent.

Similarly, we are a proud member of the CIVIS European Alliance that has a focus on cooperation with Africa and the wider Mediterranean.

Finally, a special thanks goes to Prof. Eugenio Gaudio who preceded me at the helm of Sapienza and who was well able to promote international cooperation, an area that is at once innovative, challenging and ethically significant for our community. We shall continue along the path traced in recent years to fully achieve the goals on the UN Agenda 2030.

Foreword

Eugenio Gaudio – Rector of Sapienza University of Rome 2014 – 2020

In 2015, the United Nations, following on the path undertaken with the 2000-2015 Millennium Goals, approved the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. The Agenda is divided into 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which target all areas of social and economic development and aim at sustainability in a broad sense and on a global scale.

“Sapienza” University of Rome, aware that realizing the 2030 Agenda requires a strong involvement of all the components of society, committed itself to the development idea proposed and supported by the United Nations.

Education for all, technology transfer, the promotion of culture and the protection of cultural heritage, relations with the territory, international networks, development cooperation, attention to energy saving and the protection of the environment and ecosystems, sustainable mobility are all priority issues for our University and inspire both our scientific and didactic activities.

Sapienza offers many international development cooperation projects of the highest quality that target a great many geographical areas, covering an enormous width of subjects. We are particularly proud of our ongoing cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation and its Director for Development, Giorgio Marrapodi, as well as with the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, led by Luca Maestripieri. Furthermore, we are proud of closely collaborating with the Rome UN pole, including FAO here represented by Fernando Ayala, Special Adviser Partnerships and South-South Cooperation Division and Jean Luois Tuoadi, Special Coordinator for Parliamentary Alliances Partnerships and South-South Cooperation Division.

Sapienza is proud of its study courses dedicated to development cooperation that answer to the pressing request for wide-ranging, qualified, and international training by students, both Italian and international, on this topic.

The University development cooperation projects include interventions to promote cultural specificities and the preservation of artistic heritage, such as support for the Fort Apollonia Museum in Ghana and the safeguarding of cultural heritage in Iraqi Kurdistan, but also urban development projects, programs addressing climate change, e. g. in Dar El Salaam in Tanzania, and studies on the conservation of biodiversity in Mozambique, all sponsored both by national and international bodies.

Our projects in the medical field are important and innovative, ranging from the training of paramedical personnel in Benin, to the surgical support offered in Burkina Faso, and again remote training in Iraq and the cooperation with hospitals in Chad or our program with the University of Sana'a in Yemen, all in highly critical contexts.

Sapienza currently has more than a thousand institutional agreements with non-EU institutions in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America while collaboration with other European universities has been strengthened, first of all through our participation in the outstanding CIVIS Alliance. Sapienza is also a proud member of the Italian Higher Education with Africa Foundation, a consortium of six leading Italian universities supported by our Ministry of University and Research that will play a leading role in fostering Italy's role in Africa.

Over the last three years, Sapienza has provided around 430,000.00 euros out of its own funds for cooperation projects with partner university institutions in developing countries. This choice turned out to be strategic since it had an undeniable positive impact on our University, since we conceive this funding as seed money to develop larger international projects.

Finally, the present volume best represents the integration between a renewed vision of international cooperation and the role Sapienza will play in Italian and European strategies of internationalization of knowledge and knowledge transfer.

Sapienza in International Development. Strategies, Projects, Initiatives

Carlo Giovanni Cereti, Francesca Giofrè – Sapienza University of Rome

Every two years Sapienza organizes a conference dedicated to development cooperation. In December 2018, we thought about organizing it when we received the proposal of hosting the SPHERE Conference in Rome, and we thought to link the two events, because the topics were somehow correlated. The European Union network SPHERE, Support and Promotion for Higher Education Reform Experts, organized the Higher Education Reform Experts (HERE) Conference on 12 and 13 of December in Sapienza, Rome, focusing on a pragmatic, hands-on approach, exploring and showcasing specific collaborative, international projects in which HERE are involved, which have a policy reform impact or other potential impact in their countries. For that reason Sapienza organized the Conference “Sapienza in International Development: Strategies, Projects, Initiatives” with the collaboration of Foundation Rome Sapienza, a day before in the 11th of December, to involve more people attending HERE Conference to participate and to show the Sapienza activities in the development cooperation. The Conference took place in the Aula Magna of Rectorate in Sapienza and it has been dedicated to the presentation of the projects that Sapienza is leading or partnering in the whole world within the frame of development cooperation, with a special emphasis on capacity building actions in the four main geographical areas identified as: Africa, MENA countries, Latin America and Asia. The event focused on development cooperation strategies and policies of Sapienza with the intervention of the Italian Development Cooperation Agency and our Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Sapienza professors, researchers and students presented initiatives, activities and projects in the field development cooperation.

The papers, organized by geographical areas, testify to the important results of the international cooperation.

The volume describes Sapienza's cooperation policies conveying a full picture of the strategical geographical areas of cooperation for Sapienza.

The Sapienza for International Development Cooperation event was organized thanks to the synergy between the Scientific Committee and ARI, Sapienza's Area for International Cooperation, hereby we also wish to thank Prof. Bruno Botta, Vice President for International Affairs and Prof. Antonello Biagini, President of Sapienza Foundation; moreover we wish to thank our special guests Giorgio Marrapodi, General Director for Development Cooperation at Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the politician, academic, writer and journalist Jean-Léonard Touadi. Thank you to all for helping us in making our project come true.

International Development Cooperation at Sapienza University of Rome

Carlo Giovanni Cereti – Sapienza University of Rome

Sapienza international cooperation activities aim at contributing significantly to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) included in the Agenda 2030 adopted by United Nation (UN) member countries. The mission of a university consists primarily in teaching, doing research and carrying out ‘third mission activities’. Therefore, our University will contribute to achieving the goals of Agenda 2030 by addressing primarily SDG 4 “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and provide lifelong learning opportunities for all”, through its daily teaching activity”. Moreover, a research university such as Sapienza will also actively contribute to reaching each and all the 17 SDGs, by doing research, fostering development and promoting capacity building actions.

Sapienza, as a leading training and research institution in Europe, also plays a leading role in promoting education and implementing courses on development cooperation. It is now many years that Sapienza has been actively promoting an engagement in International Cooperation, an ethic imperative for any institution focusing on higher education. Sapienza’s Senate has approved the Charter of Principles for International Development Cooperation in 2007, followed by the definition of an agenda for International Development Cooperation in 2015¹. Since 2012 every second year Sapienza organizes conferences dedicated to International Cooperation discussing our methodological approach to development cooperation in the international setting, the volume that you are now looking at contains the proceedings of

¹ The draft of Agenda is available at https://www.uniroma1.it/sites/default/files/field_file_allegati/agenda_for_development.pdf

the most recent of these conferences, held at Sapienza in the autumn of 2018. Proudly, in 2019 Sapienza has signed the manifest for an inclusive university promoted by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which builds on the results of several European and national projects dedicated to migrants and refugees that were run by Sapienza. Finally, in the international field, 'third mission activities' mainly consist in doing capacity building and development cooperation actions aiming at fostering sustainable growth in countries throughout the world.

The inspiring principles of our action are well summarized in the preamble of Agenda 2030:

"This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. We recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.

All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan. We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to heal and secure our planet. We are determined to take the bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world on to a sustainable and resilient path. As we embark on this collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets which we are announcing today demonstrate the scale and ambition of this new universal Agenda. They seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what they did not achieve. They seek to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. They are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental."

Sapienza activities in international cooperation intend to promote a better and more sustainable human society, a society able to tackle the environmental, economic and social challenges of the 21st century, a society centering on the human being, a society which is tolerant, inclusive, committed to effectively protect and include every human being, especially the poor, the weak, and those who have been forced to flee danger, hunger and warfare.

The COVID-19 emergency has challenged many, if not all, of our earlier production patterns. It has challenged economic paradigms, models on how to provide services to wider society, working methods. It has challenged our way of teaching and doing research. Today we are living in a sort of watershed between what we may call a “pre-” and a “post-virus” society. Like all moments of crisis, the COVID-19 emergency is also a moment of great opportunities. In the present academic year Sapienza will deliver all its teaching both on-line and in classroom, opening extraordinary possibilities to strengthen international cooperation through distance-learning that should slowly develop into a blended-teaching model aimed at addressing both Italian and foreign students through a more challenging learning methodology.

The firm belief in the importance of international cooperation, led Sapienza’s leadership to dedicate a growing amount of our budget to achieving this aim. In fact, the funding for International Cooperation projects taken from Sapienza’s own budget has grown from € 120.000 in 2016, to € 150.000 in 2017, € 160.000 in 2018, € 200.000 in 2019 and the same amount has been kept in 2020, notwithstanding the COVID-19 crisis, thus confirming the firm commitment of our pro tempore Rector, Prof. Eugenio Gaudio, to promoting this specific sector in the broader framework of our university’s international strategy.

In the last three years Sapienza has achieved important goals in the area of international relations. First of all, it is today an active member of Europe’s largest university consortium, the CIVIS, a European Civic University Alliance.² Sapienza strongly believes that the CIVIS alliance is and will be an important instrument to build our international dimension today and in coming years. It will quite certainly be important in an intra-European perspective, funneling EU projects to our universities through the different programs and promoting integration to build the new and more integrated Europe we all very much look forward to achieving in the near future. It will also be an important instrument of our policies toward countries outside the EU, first of all towards the wider Mediterranean and Africa since these are the regions CIVIS has chosen to focus on.

Moreover, I strongly believe that the ample specter of research interests present in our universities, together with the focus of the CIVIS consortium on the wider Mediterranean and Africa, will allow

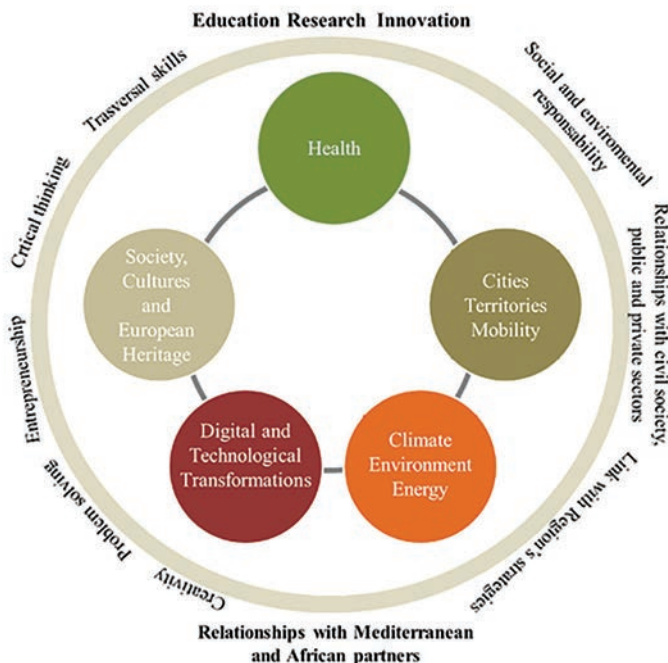
² <https://civis.eu/en>.

us as a consortium to implement strategies that will provide training for students interested in different aspects of human knowledge. Synergies between hard sciences and human sciences, research in each of the disciplinary sectors that constitute the backbone of our universities are essential to reaching the goals of Agenda 2030.

CIVIS will address the challenges of modernity through a composite strategy, identifying five European thematic hubs, by integrating mobility within Europe as well as with non-European countries, by developing eight open labs and by fostering relations with Mediterranean and African mirror networks.

In fact, the five global, societal challenges are identified by the CIVIS consortium in and divided into five thematic hubs, based “on CIVIS mission and values” and connected to the SDGs listed in Agenda 2030:

1. Health;
2. Cities, Territories and Mobility;
3. Climate, Environment, Energy;
4. Digital and Technological Transformations;
5. Society, Cultures and European Heritage.



CIVIS consortium: thematic hubs.

CIVIS plans to actively pursue the 17 SDGs in a holistic approach that only a university alliance such as ours can provide. A specific Work Package in the architecture of the CIVIS alliance is entirely dedicated to promoting ties with the Mediterranean and Africa by developing an integrated approach to cross mediterranean research and education.

In these troubled days, education faces new challenges that introduce new opportunities. The Erasmus program has already started to develop distant-learning strategies and the CIVIS alliance will be called to work on this theme as well. In our context this is all-the-more true for our action targeting dialogue and collaboration with countries outside the European Union, where we all aim at developing our collaboration with the wider Mediterranean area and with the African Continent, fostering virtual mobility that tomorrow will yield place to more advanced forms of blended mobility allowing further international integration.

Africa is very important for Sapienza University of Rome, we already have many ongoing collaborations with African countries, and we plan to strengthen and extend our collaborations in the coming years. To this end six prestigious Italian universities joined forces to create the Italian Higher Education with Africa Foundation (IHEA Foundation), an international development cooperation project to support young African talents and promote the growth of local universities.

Sapienza University of Rome, together with the Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna, the Polytechnic University of Milan, the University of Florence, the University of Naples Federico II, and the University of Padua founded IHEA Foundation to promote the creation of a multidisciplinary university program, addressing the needs African continent.

Together with our partners, the Foundation aims at supporting the development of international programs for teaching, training, capacity building and research. Among our short-term objectives is the support of African education systems in times of crisis, starting with a strategic action based on three distinctive pillars: a virtual mobility program, short-term courses and schools, Bachelor and Master degrees, aimed at training a new generation of highly qualified researchers and teachers.

Moreover, I also wish to draw attention on an important project promoted by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS): the Platforms for Knowledge program, which foresees four different

platforms, that will be critical to developing inter-university collaboration aiming at developing further collaboration in the chosen fields. The platforms focus their attention in specific topics, they are:

- Platform 1 'Rural development and spatial management'
- Platform 2 'Health, water, sanitation and hygiene'
- Platform 3 'Sustainable energy, environment and industrial innovation'
- Platform 4 'Cultural heritage and sustainable tourism'.

Sapienza coordinates Platform 4, which aims at building value around cultural heritage and sustainable tourism as engines for sustainable development. The academic offer in this field trains experts in the conservation of cultural heritage, as well as it provides graduates with the competences required to fill highly qualified roles of responsibility in tourist destinations and tourism companies, tour operators, travel agencies, hospitality, tourist attractions and event organization agencies, nationally and internationally. Applicants may also choose to specialize in the hard sciences, applying advanced technologies to the field of cultural heritage or even spatial planners able to solve complex problems related to the current situation and the future of our cities and territories. All together they will be able to tackle environmental sustainability, social inclusion, landscape and heritage preservation.

Platform 4 counts eight full partners and three associated partners: Sapienza University of Rome (coordinator), Università di Bologna, Università di Firenze, Università di Roma 3, Università di Napoli "Orientale", Università di Pisa, Università di Torino, Università di Cagliari, Politecnico di Torino (Partner), Università di Milano, Politecnico di Milano, Università di Salerno (Associated Partner).

Today we host in our teaching programs, PhD, MAs and MScs students from Jordan, Lebanon, Cuba, El Salvador; Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Myanmar, Sudan, Pakistan e Tunisia. Once again, our aim is to prepare students able to compete in an international context in which challenges that are global, systemic, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary.

The project is funded in the framework of a development cooperation action, and therefore it targets the field of cooperation and development where the geographical areas of reference are the countries with the most critical socio-economic situations.

Moreover, we do not want to facilitate brain drain of any kind. Quite on the contrary, our students should in the future return to their home countries in order to foster models of cultural heritage preservation and sustainable tourism, which promote local development by empowering local communities that should be the ones that profit from an increase in tourism, a knowledge-able and knowledge-seeking tourism, not endangering local traditions and communities.

Today it is all the more needed, in each and every international cooperation activity, to primarily think about people and their ability to become protagonists of change processes. In a sustainable environment outside Europe, cultural heritage – tangible and intangible - must be safeguarded by local communities who appreciate and comprehend its potential in promoting sustainable tourism and, therefore, sustainable growth. The United Nations Agenda 2030 and the African Union Agenda 2063 have both relaunched the theme of the centrality of the person in economic processes. This is the heart of the activity of university cooperation, an activity centering on teaching and research. The actions we are doing in the field of cultural heritage and sustainable tourism are multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary, never limited to human sciences alone. This holistic approach is likely to have a deep impact on a number of other SDGs, such as SGG 1 (No poverty), SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (Reduce inequalities) and SDG 12 (Responsible production and consumption).

In the framework of our international cooperation projects in order to strengthen our action towards the countries of the MENA region (Middle East/North Africa) and Africa, of Asia, Latin America and Oceania, it is necessary to further develop relations with institutions responsible for the management of international cooperation funds, some examples are:

- AICS (Italian Development Cooperation Agency) or similar agencies in other European countries. The Development agencies normally provide funds for bilateral activities and AICS is now trying to develop a line dedicated to universities, not yet fully operational.
- DGCI (MAECI) or similar departments at Ministries of Foreign Affairs. Often in charge of multilateral activities, running relationships with UN agencies.

A research University such as Sapienza must also tap European funding provided by the Union itself through its executive agencies, which in the field of International Cooperation first of all means:

- DEVCO - European cooperation funds agency that manages large trust funds, some of which may also be used by universities.
- EACEA - Erasmus CBHE Programme, capacity building in higher education (KA2).

Rome hosts one of the large UN seats in Europe, the main agency being FAO that acts as the pivot of the United Nation's agri-food and food security hub. Moreover, in the field of cultural heritage ICCROM, a research institute related to UNESCO is also an important asset in our city, and so are the local offices of UHNCR, UNDESA, ILO, the World Bank, UNIDO, etc. In fact, FAO is one of CIVIS official partner organizations.

To improve its international cooperation actions, Sapienza intends to further develop a close collaboration with the UN and plans to foster relations with UN agencies (FAO, UNESCO, UNDP, etc.) to access multilateral cooperation funds and actively participate in multilateral projects. Similarly, we intend to promote pro-active cooperation with intergovernmental agencies and NGOs for the common management of cooperation projects. In this context it will be appropriate to coordinate with the many international stakeholders that share our goals, activities in the field of sustainability and development cooperation. In order to strongly pursue the objectives of the third mission in the international sphere, it is appropriate and necessary to further strengthen CIVIS Work Package 5 that should take in due consideration aspects such as virtual mobility as a mean to develop cooperation with "mirror universities" across the Mediterranean and Africa.

The COVID-19 crisis has made it difficult to organize in-classroom international courses, summer schools, workshops. It has also made it difficult for many of us to travel and to pursue our own projects with our friends and partners around the world. However, it has provided a unique possibility to rethink our international cooperation strategies, so as to be ready for a more dynamic and interconnected world.

I shall not dwell in describing the many activities carried out by Sapienza around the world, since this is the object of a very detailed article by my co-editor, Prof. Francesca Giofré, where those interested will find all requested information.

Last but not least, one must mention the presence of an Interfaculty Degree programs area on Cooperation and Development at Sapienza University of Rome, which was first established in the academic year 2007-2008, and today comprehends a Bachelor's Degree in International Cooperation and Development (L-37) and a Master's Degree in Development Sciences and International Cooperation (LM-81) both managed by the Department of Communication and Social Research. All those interested may read the detailed paper that Prof. Marco Cilento, President of the Interfaculty degree program area in Cooperation and Development, has contributed to this volume.

This is but a step in the long way we have come along since many years ago Sapienza has started working in International Development Cooperation, Prof. Eugenio Gaudio's six six year Rectorate Rectorate has further forwarded and strengthened our action and we now look forward with pride for what has been done and expectation for what will be done. In the six years term of our Rectress, Antonella Polimeni. Continuing along the path traced in recent years, we aim at employing the limited internal funding available today to act as seed money for larger national and international projects, thus further promoting international cooperation activities, including mobility with countries outside the European Union, fostering the birth of new joint degrees with foreign universities, of common research and development projects aiming at further establishing Sapienza as a global player in international cooperation.

Sapienza Foundation.

Section of the International Cooperation

Antonello Folco Biagini – Sapienza Foundation 2015 – 2021

The Roma Sapienza Foundation, thanks to a special section, has been carrying out an important international cooperation activity since 2013, also through a specific Section.

The main objective is to develop planning, higher education and professional training in areas of universal humanitarian, economic, technological, health, education and capacity building cooperation. Making use of an intense activity of relations and accreditation at cultural and scientific institutions and public administrations in other countries, it aims to boost applied research activities, as well as to develop opportunities for comparison between students, doctoral students, doctorates and teachers high scientific-professional experience at national and international level.

More specifically, it promotes cooperation agreements with associations, organizations and other national and foreign bodies, in order to encourage and coordinate participation in international research and international cooperation projects.

The activities carried out include: 1) the “Innovation and Development Strategies” conference, in collaboration with the AISES association directed by Prof. Valerio de Luca, with the coordination of Prof. Roberto Pasca di Magliano; 2) the organization of the Conference “Reform of development cooperation, Expo and Agenda 2015”, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in 2014.

It supports the promoters of project proposals in the context of international initiatives of competence. How, it has already been done in September 2015, for the organization and participation in the Conference promoted by Positive Planet (Milan), Migrant Banking and Remittances for Entrepreneurship and Social Business: Where do we stand?

It also proposes participation in national and international networks in the field of research and professional training. However, didactic collaborations for the organization of the first level Master “International Cooperation, Finance and Development” at Unitelma Sapienza have already been realized.

As, it has already been tested in 2015, the Conference “Food cooperation and safety between technologies and businesses” has been organized at Sapienza within SapiExpo, with the patronage and participation of AISE, International Careers, Diplomacy, Gambero Rosso. The event, which was attended by numerous experts and academics, was divided into three thematic tables: a) Food cooperation between objectives and challenges; b) Products and technologies between quality and food safety; c) Training, businesses and territories.

Different topics emerged food cooperation policy were discussed and contributed to Italy new international policy introduced by the Development Cooperation Reform Law.

The Development Cooperation section of the Foundation. Provides technical and operational assistance for the presentation of project proposals in the context of national and international programs of international cooperation, aimed at promoting initiatives regarding research and professional training. In 2016, it adopted the analysis the Italian Law on Development Cooperation Policy reform (law no.125, 12 August 2014) and proposed improvements to increase the effectiveness of cooperation actions, through measures capable of empowering the beneficiaries on bottom-up projects and to direct it to the most needy countries (from which migratory flows driven by poverty and economic crisis originate) - in the same context was the discussion - paper on “New strategies of the Sovereign Wealth Funds”, created by Roberto Pasca di Magliano and Daniele Terriaca with the collaboration of Nabilah abo Dehaman.

It also manages participation in national and international programs and the implementation of research projects and execution of related activities; for example, in 2016, testimonies from external experts were collected as part of the “Around Cooperation” seminar cycle, the summaries of which are periodically reported in the Foundation’s newsletter.

It also organizes meetings and meetings with foreign partners and institutions and international and organization of meetings, seminars and conferences. In 2016, for example, the conference “Italy towards

a new Cooperation: knowing the law 125/2014” was held with the participation of the Director General of the Italian Agency for Cooperation, Dr. Laura Frigenti. During the event diplomas were awarded for participation in the training course in monitoring and evaluation for cooperation and humanitarian interventions organized by prof. Cilento and Morana (Coris, Sapienza); in 2017 - the Conference “Microfinance and social responsibility”, in collaboration with Rotary International and several Rotary Clubs in Rome; in 2018 - the Conference “Finance for Start-ups and Companies” in collaboration with the EFFEBI group, an association that supports the development of innovative companies, followed in 2019 by the Conference, in collaboration with Nuova Accademia, “Economics, Ethics and Finance: multidisciplinary reflections ”and presentation of the book Theocracy and Technocracy.

In 2019, through the International Cooperation Section, conferences and debates have been organized on issues related to development and micro-credit policies. In particular, drawing inspiration from the results of a study carried out by the collaboration of Sapienza with Unitelma on the virtuous effects generated by measures aimed at human capital, an interesting workshop on Sub Saharan Africa was organized on the effects of development cooperation policies with the participation of speakers and testimonials. Furthermore, the debate on the New African Deal – Endogenous Development and the role of Microfinance in Sub-Saharan African countries was opened, in which prof. Mario Morcellini (President of the Scientific Council of the Roma Sapienza Foundation), Luca Maestriperi (DG Agency for Cooperation, MAECI), Roberta Iannone (Sapienza), Mario La Torre (Sapienza), Vincenza Lomonaco (Ambassador of Italy to international organizations in Rome), Roberto Ridolfi (FAO), Roberto Pasca di Magliano (Unitelma Sapienza).

In addition to all the activities, since 2016 two scholarships for master thesis on international communication and development cooperation topics were granted.

Finally, the Cooperation Section has also developed multiple initiatives within its institutional activities with a direct involvement of the University of Rome La Sapienza, in particular with the Degree Course in Cooperation and Development and International Relations, and with the higher education school School of Financial Cooperation and Development (CHALLENGES) of Unitelma Sapienza.

Sapienza in Development Cooperation and the Area for Internationalization

Maria Ester Scarano – Sapienza University of Rome

Sapienza University of Rome, consistently with its mission and values, as identified and declined in the Statute, has offered – and offers – strong support for the many international activities promoted by the faculties, departments and teachers and which today are still more significant than in the past due to the transformations of the current international context in which great economic, social and cultural challenges are taking shape. In 2015, the United Nations, continuing the path undertaken with the 2000-2015 Millennium Goals, approved the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. The Agenda is divided into 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which concern all areas of social and economic development and aim at sustainability in a broad sense and on a global scale. Sapienza, aware that the realization of the 2030 Agenda requires a strong involvement of all the components of society - in particular of the institutions operating in the sector of knowledge and education - is careful to direct its actions towards the idea of development proposed and supported by the United Nations. Education for all, technology transfer, the promotion of culture and the protection of cultural heritage, relations with the territory, international networks, development cooperation, attention to energy saving and the protection of the environment and ecosystems, sustainable mobility are priority themes for the University and inform both the scientific and didactic activity and the planning and administrative management.

Sapienza offers a large number of international development cooperation projects characterized, moreover, by high levels of quality, extremely interesting for the breadth of the geographical areas and the reference issues, as well as for the considerable amount of funding acquired, both through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through international organizations and with access to many European funding channels.

These are wide-ranging collaborations, which involve international organizations in various capacities, including FAO, with which Sapienza entered into an important and innovative Memorandum of Understanding on 3 November 2016 aimed at enhancing the educational and scientific role of the university. in joint *institutional / capacity building* actions and for participation in international research programs jointly with developing partner countries.

The number of degree and Phd programs dedicated to development cooperation that our university offers confirms, in fact, the pressing request and the need for specific qualified and international training on the part of Italian and international students.

The development cooperation projects developed by Sapienza also include many interventions to promote cultural specificities and the preservation of artistic heritage, such as support for the Fort Apollonia Museum in Ghana and the safeguarding of cultural heritage in Iraqi Kurdistan, but also climate change cooperation projects, as an example, in Dar El Salaam in Tanzania and the studies on the conservation of biodiversity in Mozambique, in which Sapienza invests and acquires resources, both nationally (MAECI, MUR, etc.) and internationally (European Commission, World Bank, etc.).

There are also numerous interventions in the global health and medicine from medical staff training in Benin, to the surgical support offered in Burkina Faso, passing through distance learning courses in Iraq and the agreement with hospitals in Chad up to collaboration programs with the University of Sana'a in Yemen, to programs and interventions addressed to help populations in highly critical contexts recover from post traumatic situations.

The interventions presented in this publication are proof of the degree of attractiveness of our system and of the competitive logic in the quality and excellence that is being pursued - promoted and / or encouraged by Governance - also through careful management of funding aimed at achieving the strategic objectives of the university, among which the internationalization of teaching and research is absolutely paramount.

The commitment of a university administration such as that of Sapienza - and in particular of the Internationalization Area - is to guarantee the maximum administrative and financial support possible for collaboration and structured mobility initiatives with universities from third countries, as well as welcome and support actions for the

many students and researchers from different countries of the world (including, from countries considered to be developing).

To this end, since 2009 the Internationalization Area has launched a program to support the training and research programs of Sapienza with universities and research centers in developing countries through a specific competitive tender aimed at financing training and research projects and programs with institutions, research bodies, universities in developing countries.

Over the past three years, Sapienza has paid out, from its own budget, a good 430,000.00 euros to finance these projects with an undeniable positive impact on our university.

The funded projects have allowed the achievement of important results in the medical area, in the renewable technologies sector, in the support of training and professional systems, in the urban and territorial planning sector (with particular reference to the area of Kenya and Tanzania); indeed, some of these have continued their activities and acquired important external financing.

In 2018 Sapienza has welcomed mobile students from the following non-EU countries, including those adhering to the Erasmus + ICM program: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bosnia, Brazil, China, Colombia, Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Philippines, Georgia, Japan, Jordan, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Kosovo, Lebanon, Morocco, Mexico, Montenegro, Myanmar, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Russia, Serbia, Syria, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tunisia, Ukraine and Uruguay.

Conversely, many Sapienza outgoing students have chosen as their destination, in addition to the countries participating in the Erasmus + program: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Korea, Egypt, Japan, India, Iran, Israel, Morocco, Mexico, Peru, Russia, Serbia, United States, South Africa, Taiwan, Tunisia, Uruguay.

Sapienza also supports the international mobility of professors, researchers, graduate students and postgraduates, as well as the hospitality of foreign scholars in the context of projects formalized by international inter-university agreements.

In this regard, it is useful to mention the intense international scientific and cultural collaboration activity developed by our university over the last few years with more than 1,000 inter-institutional agreements currently active and over 600 implementation protocols for joint research projects: a framework within which collaborations with non-

EU institutions in Asia, Africa, Middle East, Canada, North and Latin America have increased, while in the meantime the link with European universities was strengthening, also, most recently, through the establishment of the prestigious CIVIS Alliance.

This volume intends to underline the integration between a renewed vision of cooperation and the role of the Italian University in the strategies of internationalization of knowledge and research.

Role and presence that will be even better highlighted within the CIVIS Alliance, within which work is being carried out on the promotion of innovative partnerships in a multilateral dimension with African and Mediterranean countries and on the definition of a CIVIS label for a shared strategy of cooperation in the same areas.

Cooperation Maps

Francesca Giofrè – Sapienza University of Rome

Sapienza's effort in the sector of cooperation is long and consolidated. In 2010, it witnessed the foundation of a dedicated sector "Development cooperation, networking and support for the planning of financial resources", as a part of the International Area. This sector defines cooperation strategies and future guidelines. It promotes quality and innovative partnership initiatives to focus on Sapienza strategic areas of excellence. Within this framework, many activities are implemented: mobility of professors and researchers to and from developing/emerging countries; exchange of skills; synergy and optimization of resources and objectives; improvement of access to technological know-how and financial opportunities; enhancing/strengthening decentralized cooperation forms, with particular attention to the most vulnerable groups, as well as the long-term sustainability of the development actions.

The Sapienza actions and activities fit within the broader process of implementation at the global and national level of the Agenda 2030 adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015. The Agenda has the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in its core, and it puts at the base the five 'P': People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnership. The Agenda puts the people at the center of attention as the main promoter of sustainable development actions. It considers the local governments the most important partner for the implementation of its stated principles.

Academic institutions play a strategic role in this process. The interdependence between the North and South of the world is evident, and despite the differences between 'local' and 'global', North and South,

there is a principle of interdependence among the various policies that can no longer be neglected in academic cooperation. Within this scenario, Sapienza offers various financing channels to support cooperation activities, according to its three main missions – teaching, scientific research and third mission- and its strategic plans.

This paper aims to provide a picture of the cooperation maps and the networks through the elaboration of the data given by Sapienza International Office International Office. In particular, the article discusses two typologies of data: 1) the results of the yearly call for funds open to all Sapienza professors and researchers for development aid programs, between 2016 and 2019; 2) the number and typologies of general framework agreements, the executive agreements and other agreements, made with countries of the Global South, before 2014 and in the period from 2014 to 2019.

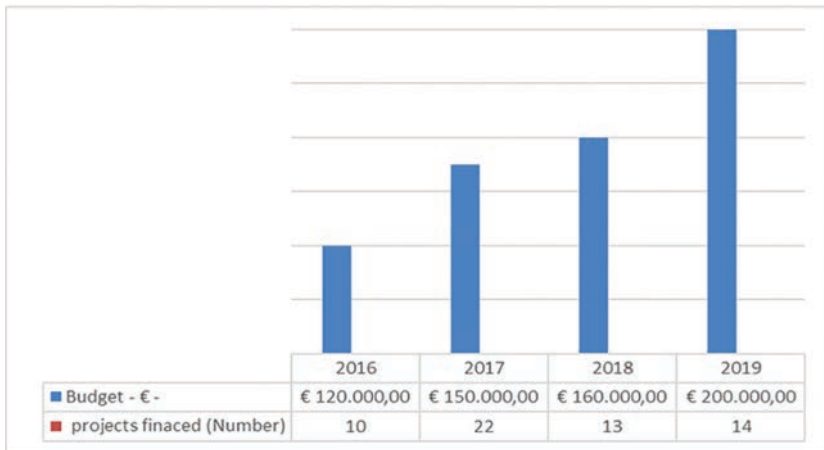
Sapienza and development aid programs

Every year Sapienza finances the development aid programs/projects proposed by researchers and professors, on a competitive basis. The eligible countries and territories are those recognized at the international level as low and middle-income countries, based on the Gross National Income (GNI) per capita. The principal sources of the list (table 1) is the Development Assistance Committee (DAC-OECD) list, it maps all countries and territories eligible to receive official development assistance (ODA) according to GNI per capita published by the World Bank; this list also includes the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) as defined by the United Nations. Sapienza updates this list every year, including some countries as a priority for its cooperation strategies, for example, the countries of the Balkan area in the 2017 call.

The funds' availability increased constantly between the years 2016-2019. By comparing the grants available in 2016 and 2019, it increased by 67% (table 2), highlighting major attention on this strategic sector, and a will to reduce the number of financed projects and increase the budget/financing of each project.

Tab. 1. Eligible countries and territories for development aid programs/projects. Source DAC List of ODA recipients (Flows 2018, 2019 and 2020).

African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Countries		Latin American Countries	
(ACP) Countries		high priority	non priority
Antigua e Barbuda Bahamas Barbados Dominica Figi Grenada Guyana Giamaica Isole Cook Isole Marshall Isole Palau Isole Salomone Kiribati Nauru Niue	Papua Nuova Guinea Repubblica Dominicana Saint Kitts e Nevis Santa Lucia Saint Vincent e Grenadine Samoa Stati Federati di Micronesia Suriname Timor Est Tonga Trinidad e Tobago Tuvalu Vanuatu	Algeria Cisgiordania e Striscia di Ghaza (Territori Palestinesi) Egitto Iran Iraq Israele Giordania Libano Libia Marocco Siria Tunisia Yemen	Argentina Belize Brasile Colombia Costa Rica Cuba Ecuador Guyana Messico Panama Paraguay Perù Suriname Venezuela
African Countries Angola Benin Botswana Burkina Faso Burundi Camerun Capo Verde Ciad Comore Costa d'Avorio Gibuti Guinea Equatoriale Eritrea Eswatini (ex Swaziland) Etiopia Gabon Gambia Ghana Guinea Guinea-Bissau Kenya Lesotho Liberia Madagascar Malawi Mali		Mauritania Mauritius Mozambico Namibia Niger Nigeria Repubblica Centrafricana Repubblica Democratica del Congo Repubblica Democratica di São Tomé e Príncipe Ruanda Senegal Seychelles Sierra Leone Somalia Sudan del Sud Sudan Tanzania Togo Uganda Zambia Zimbabwe	

Tab. 2. Development aid programs budget: years 2016 – 2019.

The typologies of projects financed are:

- pilot projects or feasibility studies aimed to support the submission of project proposals - in which Sapienza is coordinator or co-coordinator - to the European and international calls for funding.
- complementary activities aimed to co-finance additional actions not foreseen in projects that were financed by national, European, or international bodies.
- networking and best practices exchange between European universities and partner institutions in developing countries, aimed to set up short or intensive courses, also winter/summer schools, as well as advanced training for students, graduates, young researchers, and Ph.D. students.

The projects eligible must include actions of capacity and institutional building, according to the definition given by the EU Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA).

The elaborated data shows that the 59 cooperation projects financed (2016-2019) are distributed in the following areas and countries:

- n. 33 projects in Africa (Benin, Cameroon, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Niger, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ruanda, Senegal, Somalia, Tanzania, Zambia, South Africa);
- n.6 projects in the Middle East and North Africa (Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia);

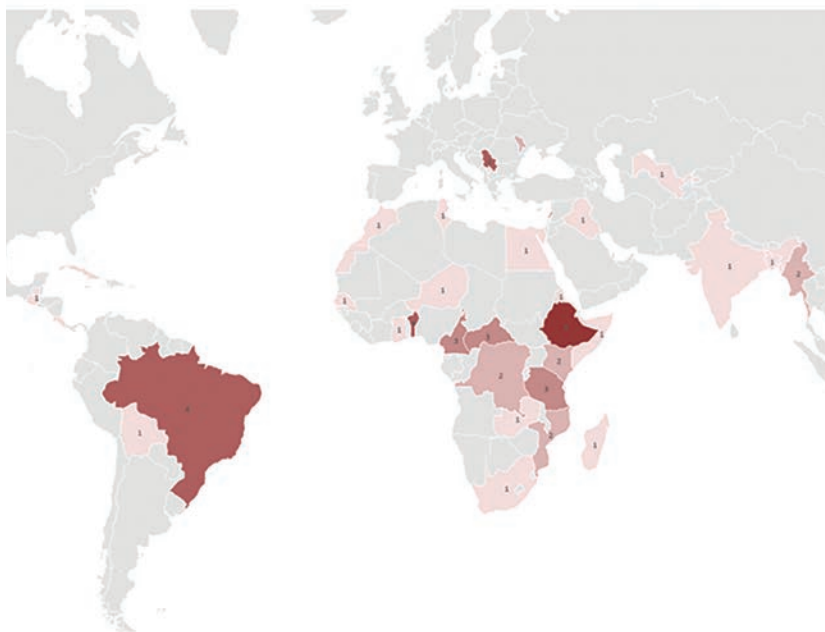
- n. 8 projects in Latin American (Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala);
- n. 5 projects in Asia (Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Uzbekistan);
- n. 7 projects in Europe (Serbia, Moldavia, Kosovo).

It is interesting to notice the strong presence of Sapienza in Africa, especially with 5 projects in Ethiopia, 4 projects in Benin, followed by Cameroon, Central African Republic, and Tanzania, where 3 projects are activated in each country.

It must be taken into consideration that some of these projects are one-to-one national projects. Others are multi-country projects that include a network of multiple partners. To simplify and avoid double-counting, each multi-country project was listed/counted only one time in the first country listed in the project's list of partners. Accordingly, that project was demonstrated in that country's position on (Map 1).

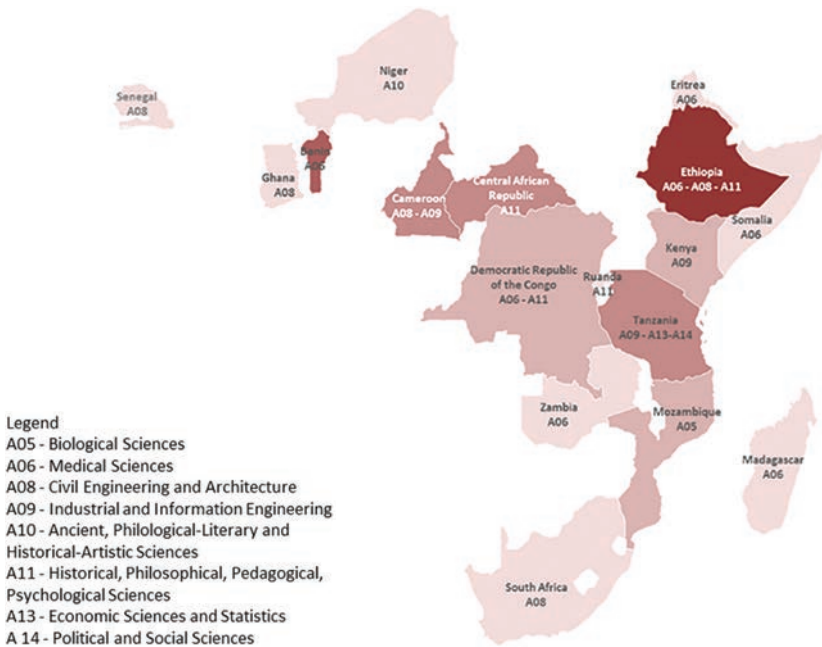
This, however, indicates that these 59 projects are not limited to the countries mentioned above and that Sapienza is present - through its projects - in many other locations.

Map 1. Sapienza in cooperation: countries and number of projects financed (2016 - 2019).

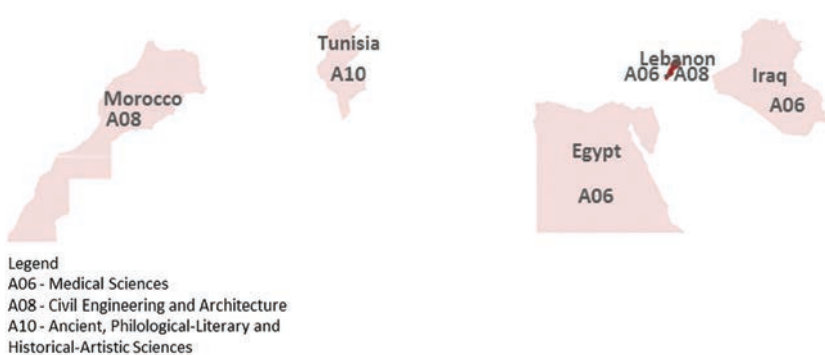


Mapping the projects' titles and the scientific profile of Sapienza's coordinators, the analysis shows the projects' distribution according to the wider scientific and teaching macro areas of interest. The results, represented in the following maps, show that typically some disciplinary areas and their topics, are developed in a specific country for the long-term. This trend can be read positively through the strengthening of each project's results and enhancing academic cooperation in its broader sense.

Map 2. Sapienza with Africa: scientific and teaching macro area.



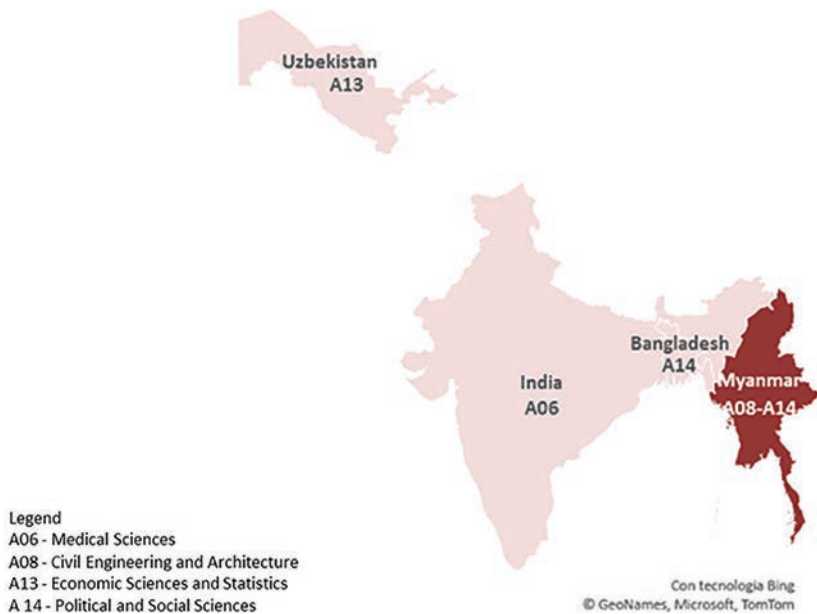
Map 3. Sapienza with Middle East and North Africa: scientific and teaching macro area.



Map 4. Sapienza with Latin America: scientific and teaching macro area.



Map 5. Sapienza with Asia: scientific and teaching macro areas.



In Europe, the scientific and teaching macro-areas are physical sciences (A02); medical sciences (A06) and civil engineering and architecture (A08) in Serbia; physical sciences (A02) in Moldavia, and political and social sciences (A14) in Kosovo.

Tab. 2. Sapienza and development aid programs in the world: scientific and teaching macro areas.

Scientific and teaching macro areas	Africa	Middle East and North Africa	Latin America	Asia	Europe
A02 - Physical Sciences					
A05 - Biological Sciences					
A06 - Medical Sciences					
A08 - Civil Engineering and Architecture					
A09 - Industrial and Information Engineering					
A10 - Ancient, Philological-Literary and Historical-Artistic Sciences					
A11 - Historical, Philosophical, Pedagogical, Psychological Sciences					
A13 - Economic Sciences and Statistics					
A 14 - Political and Social Sciences					

The projects focus on the area of Civil Engineering and Architecture followed by the area of Medical Science that sees a wider presence around the world.

Sapienza in agreements: the network

Sapienza International Agreement Unit, a part of the International Relations Area, promotes, manages, and supports, among other activities, the development of different kinds of agreements with institutions, mainly academic ones, all over the world. This analysis shows only the quantity of agreements and their typologies aiming to picture the current networks of Sapienza. Every year Sapienza opens a call to finance researchers and professors' mobility within this network and to fund the projects they present based on a competitive evaluation process/procedure.

Sapienza identifies five typologies of agreements, as follow:

1. General Framework Agreements, promote, and develop collaboration between Sapienza University and its partner institutions. Under the umbrella of the Framework Agreements, usually signed by the Rector. Different kinds of Executive Protocols can be developed in specific areas of interest.
2. Executive Protocols define the mobility rules for researchers, teachers, and PhD students within one or more teaching and/or research areas, directly through faculties, departments or research centers;
3. Agreements for Cultural and Scientific Cooperation, promote cultural and scientific collaboration with partner institutions on specific research and/or teaching area, regulating the mobility conditions of teachers, researchers, and PhD students;
4. Multilateral Agreements, subscribed with multiple partners;
5. Other agreements, subscribed with a range of institutions (i.e., ministries, international organisations, etc.).

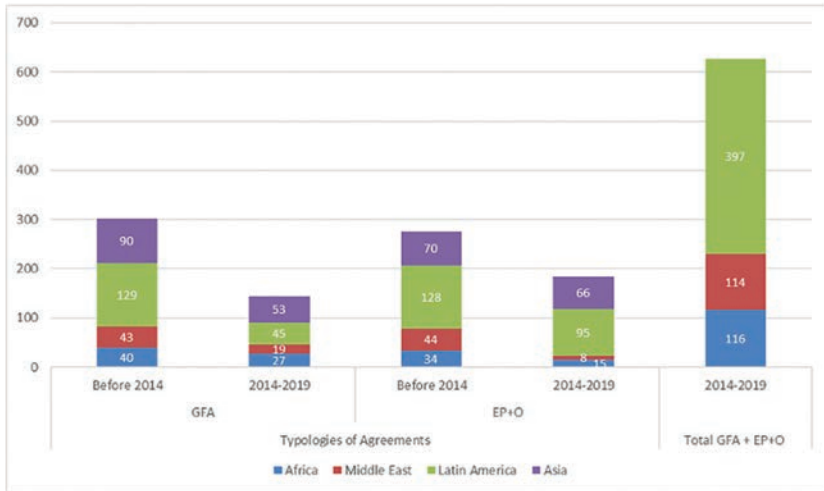
The maps discussed below, show Sapienza network in terms of current agreements, not only in the countries as shown in table 1, but considering a wide range of countries in the geographical areas of Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, and Asia, the so-called Global South. Some of the countries in these areas are not considered developing countries or emerging countries anymore, and for this reason, the emphasis should be placed on 'internationalization' instead of 'cooperation'.

The data gathered include two typologies of agreements: The General Framework Agreements (GFA), and all the others as the Executive Protocols, Agreements for Cultural and Scientific Cooperation, etc. (EP+Others).

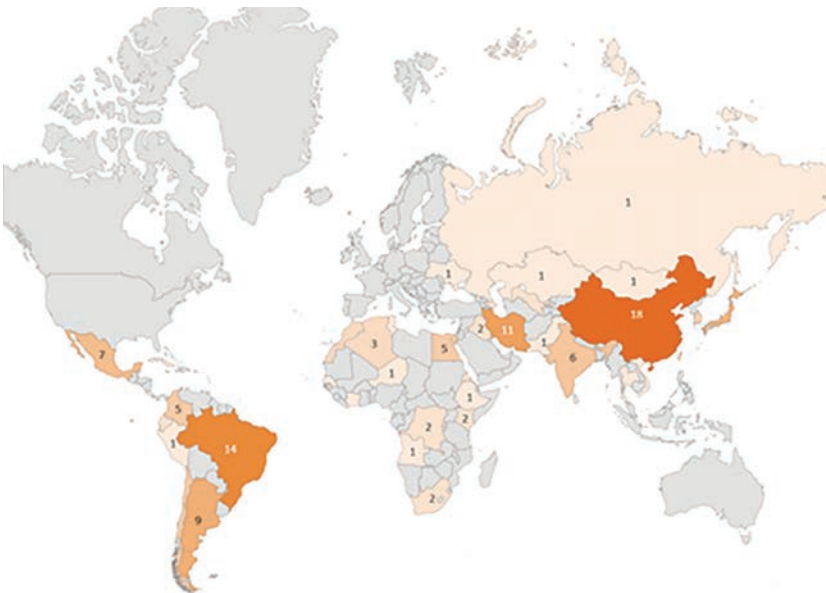
The table below shows the increase in agreements in the period 2014–2019, compared to the previous one. In general terms, it is evident that Sapienza has a broad network, especially with institutions in Latin America.

The exploration goes on considering the geographical distribution of the GA and EA+O activated in the period 2014-2016.

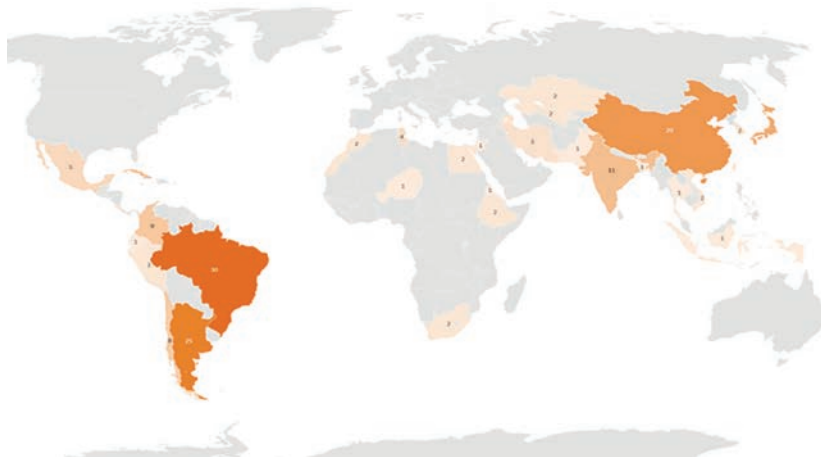
Tab. 4. Sapienza’ network: geographical areas, typologies, and number of agreements.



Map 6. Sapienza and General Framework Agreements (GFA) – period 2014-2016.



Map 7. Sapienza and Executive Protocols + others (EP+O) – period 2014-2016.



Sapienza in a wider cooperation scenario

Sapienza's activities in the field of cooperation are variable and they go beyond the actions mentioned in this article. To name some of them, Sapienza is the main coordinator, or partner, of several Erasmus + projects with other academic institutions and/or organizations of the Global South (<https://www.uniroma1.it/it/pagina/progetti-del-programma-erasmus-2014-2020>). It is part of several international networks that include various developing countries (i.e. Thethys, Consortium of Euro-Mediterranean Universities; EURAS, Eurasian Universities Union). Sapienza also leads the platform of "Partnership for knowledge, cultural heritage and sustainable tourism" inside the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation. The list of actions is long and it testifies a constant commitment of Sapienza – and its team of researchers, professors, and administrative staff members – to strengthen the cooperation sector and continuously invest in development.

The Educational Area of Cooperation and Development: Assets and Mission

Marco Cilento – Sapienza University of Rome

Speaking today of International Cooperation and Development means to refer to a context that has changed profoundly since just 10 years ago. If in the recent past an asymmetric definition of cooperation prevailed, based on a vertical dimension of the type countries of the First World and Third World countries, donor countries and beneficiary countries, the present context is based on the horizontal and equal meaning, a kind of participatory cooperation. Another aspect that has been greatly accentuated in recent years is the ethical-value connotation of cooperation, inspired by solidarity, development, peace, empowerment; not only a simple area of foreign policy.

This profound transformation of the inspiring principles of cooperation, also from the lexical point of view, has certainly been encouraged, if not determined, by the approval, September 25, 2015, within the framework of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (Sustainable Development Goals – Sdgs articulated in 169 Targets to be achieved by 2030. It is a historical event, from different points of view. In fact:

- a clear assessment has been made of the unsustainability of the current development model, not only in environmental terms, but also in economic and social terms. In this way, and this is the highly innovative nature of the Agenda, the idea that sustainability is only an environmental issue is definitively overcome and an integrated vision of the different dimensions of development is affirmed;
- all countries are called to contribute to the effort to bring the world on a sustainable path, no longer distinguishing between developed, emerging and developing countries, although clearly the problems may differ depending on the level of development achieved. This

- means that each country must commit itself to defining its own sustainable development strategy that will enable it to reach the Sdgs, relying on the results achieved in a process coordinated by the UN;
- the implementation of the Agenda requires a strong involvement of all components of society, from businesses to the public sector, from civil society to philanthropic institutions, from universities and research centres to information and culture professionals.

Therefore, all the objectives and strategies of international cooperation have changed radically, with a view to achieving the Sdgs; consequently, also the guidelines. The university training strategies in the field of Cooperation and Development had to adapt to the new global scenario.

Sapienza University of Rome, starting from the academic year 2007-2008, has established a Didactic Area of Cooperation and Development which includes a Basic Bachelor's Degree in International Cooperation and Development (graduation class L-37) and a two-year Master's Degree in Development Sciences and International Cooperation (LM-81). Following the establishment of the Didactic Area, the Degree Courses of Cooperation at the time active at the Faculties of Political Sciences, Sociology and Communication, Humanities and Economics merged into a single course of Bachelor's and Master degree. In the first phase, it was the Faculty of Political Sciences to administer the course; starting from the academic year 2013-2014, the Didactic Area is led by the Department of Communication and Social Research.

What are the strengths of the Didactic Area of Cooperation and Development? And what are the prospects? We try to focus on some aspects that have allowed the degree courses of Cooperation to reach considerable levels of merit, and visibility, within the University.

Interdisciplinarity

As already pointed out, the Didactic Area is characterized by being inter-cultural and inter-departmental. The virtuous aspect of the intertwining of different areal competences is, of course, interdisciplinarity. This is absolutely essential for all those who want to be involved in cooperation and, therefore, to study its main lines. The cooperation and development expert, or anyone who wants to work in international cooperation contexts, must have a global vision and transversal skills

in all disciplinary and cultural fields. The degree courses of Sapienza, responding to these needs, offer an extremely rich and heterogeneous educational courses ranging from history to sociology, from economics to politicalology, from anthropology to psychology, from the right to demography; in addition, there are more distinctly technical-scientific disciplines, from botany to food science, to design, to statistics. Not marginal is the study of foreign languages, primarily the vehicular languages of cooperation - English, French and Spanish. Particularly valued are the so-called "area studies": the specificity of the most relevant territorial contexts for international cooperation are deepened, always in an interdisciplinary way, by specific teachings related to Africa, to Latin America and Eurasia.

Taking into account a socio-cultural context in continuous evolution and differentiation such as that of cooperation, the Didactic Area has provided, especially at the level of Master degree, applied activities as workshops and integrative activities aimed at providing the basic tools for students to deal with an increasingly fragmented and articulated labour market.

Internationalization

The Courses of Cooperation and Development, by definition and by constitution, cannot disregard a marked international footprint. The backbone of the process of internationalization of Sapienza cooperation degree courses is certainly represented by the presence, at the Master Degree level, of a curriculum entirely taught in English, called "Economics for Development" and, from 2020-2021, "Political, Economic and Social Studies". It is not a simple replica in English of the teaching modules already provided in Italian, but the international curriculum is designed to give a broader training to Italian students and, above all, to attract students and professionals from many parts of the world. In fact, the English curriculum is systematically attended by about a hundred students a year from about 40 different countries around the world. In particular, the attractiveness of the course is directed to developing countries; this factor is really virtuous, not only in terms of teaching but also, and above all, from a cultural point of view as it promotes the introduction of our Italian students into the realities and experiences of colleagues from countries that, hopefully, will become their areas of professional interest after graduation. The

exchange of experiences and visits with students from different backgrounds certainly brings an enrichment also from the organizational point of view, both as regards the administrative and governance front.

Another “flagship” of the Sapienza Cooperation Degree Courses is represented by the Double Degree programs. The first in terms of time, and certainly more popular, is with the University of Norte in Barranquilla (Colombia): this is one of the five most prestigious Colombian universities, highly quoted in development studies. So far more than 50 students (incoming and outgoing) have been able to take advantage of this opportunity, concluding their university course with a title recognized in both systems (Italian and Colombian). In some cases, the experience of our students in the South American country has led them to continue their professional experience on the spot. More recently, and in the process of consolidation, the Double Degree Course with Al-Farabi Kazakh National University of Almaty (Kazakhstan). In the latter case, we are dealing with a former Soviet country, which is undergoing great economic growth, which can give a more complete view of the role of international cooperation in new contexts. In addition to the many Erasmus Agreements, Cooperation Degree Courses can benefit from a large number of Agreements outside the EU with universities of great importance for those who study, and is about to apply for jobs work, in countries identified as priority areas of International Cooperation interventions, in particular in Latin America, Africa and East Asia.

Third mission

Another important prerogative of the Courses of Cooperation and Development is the activation and intensification of networks of contacts with institutions and agencies and organizations operating in the field. In recent years there has been a marked increase in agreements with the main actors of cooperation, with which events, seminars, workshops have been organized; within the framework of some conventions, teaching modules have been provided by experienced teachers who bring the added value of their professional experience in the training of students. In addition, through the Job Soul platform, students can access internships provided by many organizations and diplomatic missions and embassies in Italy of many states. The agreements signed so far concern the main Ngos, the the well known OO.II., UN agencies, development agencies.

The setting up of the network of external contacts led to, in the last two years, the organization of the Career Day of Cooperation. It was an event organized by the Didactic Area of Cooperation and Development and LazioDisco, at the headquarters of Porta futuro University. On that occasion, a large number of organizations in the sector were able to exhibit, through stands and special presentations, the guidelines of their recruitment policies and HR. The students, equipped with their own CV, consulted the experts of the various organizations present in order to measure their skills and possibly propose themselves from the point of view of professional opportunities. The event, in the past two editions, saw the participation of a large number of students and, in general, people interested in the sector.

Prospect

The medium-term prospects of the Cooperation and Development Didactic Area are linked to the consolidation of teaching and organization activities, as well as the enhancement of further visibility and usability at the institutions cooperation development actions. On the first front, the objective is to find an administrative and management structure of teaching, able to optimize the enormous potential of degree courses. On the second side, work is under way to formalize, as soon as possible, the already consolidated forms of collaboration with the two largest national institutions in the field of Cooperation: The Directorate-General for Development Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation.

Methods and Tools to study Violence Against Women: The Experience of a Summer School in Tanzania

Fiorenza Deriu – Sapienza University of Rome

Country Partners

Italy, Department of Statistical Science of Sapienza University of Rome

Tanzania, Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (Eastc) of Dar Es Salaam

Abstract

This article presents the experience of a one-week Summer School, held in Tanzania at the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (Eastc) of Dar-Es-Salaam in 2018, focusing on statistics for studying violence against women. Moving from some evidences concerning the phenomenon in this Country, the article describes the main steps followed to manage the activities, to define the main contents of the course, as well as the methodology adopted, the communication strategy used, the correlate benefits driven into the students' training programme, and any further contact acquired for engaging civil society representatives in future initiatives. In this regard, a public talk on *Gender Equality: the contribute of official statistics to contrast violence against women* was hosted by the Italian Embassy in Dar-Es-Salaam inviting numerous thematic experts from international organizations and agencies. The Summer School has offered 30 hours classes, and 15 extra hours for student assistance; 46 student registrations were recorded, and 35 students on average were attending classes daily. Participants came from both academic and public institutions, and from associations, organizations, and private companies, representatives of the civil society. A group of participants came from the National Institute of Statistics of Botswana. In the article some evidences about the long term impact of the project are presented.

Introduction

The project described in this paper, concerning the realization of a Summer School on Methods and Tools to study Violence Against Women (VaW), was started in 2017 and completed in 2018. The idea moved from the need to improve knowledge and competencies on the most used methods and techniques to collect and analyse data on VaW in countries included in the DAC list of Oecd for getting Official Development Assistance (ODA) funding¹. Actually, Tanzania was, and still is, one of the recipient countries included in that list. Anyway, the choice to propose this training course to the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (Eastc) of Dar-Es-Salaam was twofold.

On the one side, in May 2016 the Eastc, thanks to the facilitating intervention of the Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development (Aics), signed an Agreement for cooperation with both the Departments of Statistical Science of Sapienza University of Rome, and of Padua University; and with the Italian National Institute of Statistics (Istat). The agreement clearly aimed at strengthening the statistical competencies of both students and scholars in that country in some study fields, such as population statistics, survey methodologies, multivariate statistics, and in the use of some specific statistical packages for professionals.

On the other side, there was evidence of the high rates of domestic violence (DV) recorded among Tanzanian women; a dramatic figure confirmed by more recent studies (Halim, Mzilangwe at al., 2019). At the same time, these studies confirm the importance to enhance statistical competencies, in order to both make more in depth analysis of the phenomenon, and supporting effective strategies to contrast, and prevent women from DV.

“My husband beat me to the extent that he destroyed my one leg, but I never report anywhere because I love him and he beat me because he loves me too”.

¹ These consist of all low and middle income countries based on gross national income (GNI) per capita as published by the World Bank, with the exception of G8 members, EU members, and countries with a firm date for entry into the EU. The list also includes all of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) as defined by the United Nations (UN). <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/daclist.htm>

This statement, reported in a web article published by Maria John Mtambalike (2013), is representative of the cultural acceptance of domestic violence in Tanzania. A WHO report refers that in Dar Es Salaam 56% of women who have suffered from violence from their partner do not ask for help because they consider that act as “normal”, as a proof of love, and not so severe to justify a request of help (2003).

Anyway, it does not seem being an issue affecting just this country because, it is well-known that, in many other countries around the world, at every latitude and longitude, stereotypes and gender discriminations are still widely spread. In Italy, as an example, the Women’s Safety Survey reports that just 35% of women aged 16-70 who have experienced violence from partner or ex-partner along their life consider that act a crime, and one out of five believes that it was just something happened (Istat, 2005).

In 2005, and then in 2010, the Tanzanian Vice President’s Office has published the National Strategy for Growth and Poverty Reduction (MKUKUTA) that, in Cluster III, addresses in a specific way the issue of personal and material security, in order to reduce crime, and eliminate sexual abuse and domestic violence. The MKUKUTA II (2010-2015) confirms the strong commitment of the Government towards women’s protection from gender-based and domestic violence, stepping up awareness campaigns for citizens to be able to act swiftly and report sex-related and all other forms of abuse and harassment against women; instituting special programs in law and order agencies for tackling domestic, children, and gender-based violence. Unfortunately, scientific literature shows how, despite the impressive economic growth of about 6 percent per annum that the country has enjoyed, many challenges afforded in the strategy have not been met, yet (Kazungu, Cheyo, 2014). Especially if we look at data on domestic violence.

In fact, women continue being at a disproportionately high risk of physical, sexual and psychological violence within domestic environment. Data from the Tanzanian Demographic and Health Survey (2015-16 TDHS)² reports that “40% of women aged 15-49 have ever

² TDHS-2015-16 is the “fifth survey of its kind and follows those implemented in 1991-92 (TDHS), 1996 (TDHS), 2004-05 (TDHS), and 2010 (TDHS). A nationally representative sample of about 13,400 households was selected. All women age 15-49 who were usual residents of the selected households or who slept in the households the night before the survey were eligible for the survey. The survey

experienced physical violence, and 17% have ever experience sexual violence. Nearly three quarters of ever-married women experienced marital control by their husbands/partners. Half of all ever-married women have ever experienced spousal violence, most commonly physical violence (39%) and emotional violence (36%); 14% have experienced sexual violence” (TDHS 2015-16: 367).

But the worst news is that there has been no change in women’s experience of either physical violence or emotional violence since the 2010 TDHS. That is happening even if the Tanzanian Constitution explicitly includes women’s rights, and since 2012, the Government has approved some important women protection and support rules and programmes, and the issues of violence against women and gender-violence have both gained major interest in the political agenda. At the same time, some regulations still embed some gender unbalances that impact on the daily life of many women. As an example, in the Penal Code still remains a critical exemption when the rape, that is considered a crime, occurs inside a married couple (UN Women, 2009).³ In fact, in this case, it is not punished.

Anyway, there is also another face of the medal to consider.

In some case, as an example in Zanzibar, where the percentage of spousal violence in 2015 is increasing, as well as the sharply increase in the number and percentage of sexual offences recorded by the Ministry of Home Affairs in 2007, the negative trends seem not only be due to an increase in their incidence, rather to an improvement in women’s awareness about their rights and, as a consequence, to their more frequent access to formal bodies of legal and social support, social support and justice (Tanzania GIB, 2010). A significant contribu-

resulted in about 13,000 interviews of women age 15-49. As with prior surveys, the main objectives of the 2015 TDHS survey were to provide up-to-date information on fertility and childhood mortality levels; fertility preferences; awareness, approval, and use of family planning methods; maternal and child health; and knowledge and attitudes toward HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs)” (Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey and Malaria Indicator Survey 2015-16 Final Report:405). A specific module is devoted to study domestic violence.

³ The Sexual Offences Special Provisions Act amended section 130 of the Penal Code with regard to rape, but retained the marital rape exemption as follows: Section 130: (2) A male person commits the offence of rape if he has sexual intercourse with a girl or woman under circumstances falling under any of the following descriptions: (a) not being his wife or being his wife, who is separated from him without her consenting to it at the time of the sexual intercourse (UN Women, 2009) CEDAW/C/TZA/Q/6/Add.1 p. 6

tion has actually come from the numerous campaigns promoted by the Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA) since its foundation, dated 1986. TAMWA is also editor of the *Sauti ya Siti Review* (Women's Voice) aimed at shedding light on gender equality and correlated topics. On the same line of action, in 2009 a National Campaign against gender-based violence, violence against children, and the killings of albinos was launched. The Campaign addressed domestic violence, extra judicial killings, female genital mutilation, and unsafe traditional practices customary practices. The Government of Tanzania, in collaboration with various stakeholders, undertook several measures to enhance women's legal literacy and rights through media and sensitization programmes (UN Women, 2009)⁴.

This general frame confirms the importance of continuing studying the phenomenon, strengthening research capacities and competencies, in order to provide policy makers with valuable information, on which basis to design adequate interventions to contrast and prevent violence against women.

In this paper the first paragraph describes the main goals and specific objective of the Summer School as well as the ongoing process of the whole project; the second one, presents the main activities performed, the engagement of both the civil society and the international community operating in Dar Es Salaam; the third one, discusses on the main results reached and the impact recorded after the end of the activities; and finally, some conclusive notes.

Main goals, objective and processes

The rationale of the Summer School on "Methods and Tools to Study Violence Against Women" is mainly based on the following three lines of action: knowledge, application, and action (Fig. 1). It is at the intersection of these three actions that the expected results may be reached.

Knowledge, application and action are part of a learning process not only aimed at training attendants, but also oriented to increase awareness about violence, and empower students' agency. The knowl-

⁴ At this link more details about hte Campaign <https://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/fr/countries/africa/united-republic-of-tanzania/2009/national-campaign-against-gender-based-violence>

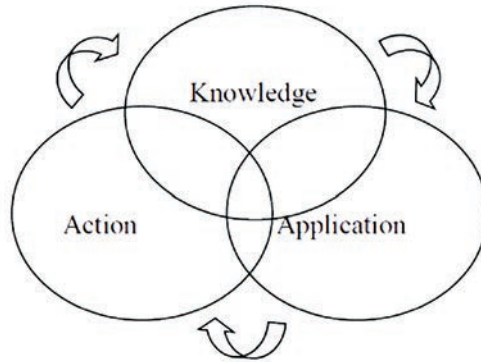


Fig. 1. Diagram of the project rationale.

edge dimension represents the starting point of this process. Course **participants** are introduced to a more in depth knowledge of methodologies and statistical techniques used to study the phenomenon of violence. They need to know the definitions used, with respect to the conceptualization of violence against women; as well as to learn how some algorithms works. Anyway, knowledge is not enough. In fact, it is worth accompanying theoretical knowledge to its concrete application, accessing to real data and addressing specific research questions and technical issues. This part of the learning process requires practicing on data. Last but not least, practice should move into action. Action is twofold: on the one side, it means that attendants are expected to profit from the Course increasing their capabilities and competencies for the analysis of the topic, becoming more autonomous in managing research processes; on the other side, they are expected to become more active social actors in the civil society. In fact, a secondary objective of the Course concerns the increase in awareness about the meaning of violence, and its cultural implications; as well as the empowerment of students' agency and voice to contribute to public opinion change.

Moving from this framework, the main goals of the project were defined as follow:

- to introduce students to the most advanced methodologies to design surveys on violence against women according to the UN guidelines;
- to improve statistical capacity building;
- to provide members of organizations and institutions belonging to public and private bodies with additional knowledge on gender equality and women's empowerment through research training and public debate.

In order to turn these main goals into activities, the following specific objectives were set out:

- to provide students with a review of the most advanced studies on violence against women at international level, with a specific focus on definitions and concepts as well as on methodological and technical issues recommended by the UN for both stand-alone surveys and *ad-hoc* modules;
- to introduce attendants to the most advanced multivariate models and data classification techniques using Tanzanian data, building up prevalence measures of VaW and complex indicators, analysing secondary data, etc.;
- to train students in planning, building up and implementing electronic questionnaires to collect data in web surveys, using a free web platform;
- to create occasions for debating/discussing at the local level violence against women issues, encouraging the participation of local and international actors interested in sharing experiences and ideas.

The main Project Activities

How did we meet the above mentioned objectives?

The type of activities planned in the project concerned a) the participants need analysis analysis, and the joint design of the training programme with our project partner; b) the realization of the Summer School; c) the engagement of the civil society; 4) the evaluation of the intervention after six months its conclusion.

In order to strengthen the commitment of our project partner, represented by the Eastc Rector,⁵ fully engaging him in the process of the training program design, a two-days kick-off meeting was held in Rome, from 22nd to 23rd June 2017, hosted by the Dpt. of Statistical Science of Sapienza. Actually, this meeting was the occasion to reach two relevant objectives:

- a) to reach an agreement on the content of each course included in the training programme of the Summer School, as well as on the management details;
- b) to create an occasion for the Eastc Rector to meet all the Italian representatives of the Agreement signed in May 2016 among the Dpt. of

⁵ Prof. Frank Mkumbo.

Statistical Science of Sapienza; the Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development (AICS), and the University of Padua in order to reach an agreement on a further joined training work plan funded by AICS.

This last point represented an added value for the project. In fact, it enabled us to integrate the Summer School within a wider training programme including a large number of other statistical courses offered by both Sapienza and Padua Universities.

During the meeting the three lecturers⁶, members of the Summer Schools teaching staff, presented to the Eastc Rector the programme proposal of the courses they were in charge of, in order to agree on them with the project partner. The courses, to be held during the week 12th-17th February 2018, addressed three main topics focusing on: a) survey methodologies and tools to study violence against women; b) the estimation of prevalence, and the computation of key indicators useful to the analysis of the risk factors related to the phenomenon; and finally, c) the application of some multivariate techniques to study VaW.

Moreover, the communication strategy was agreed with the Eastc Rector, in order to reach the higher number as possible of students, PhDs, and researchers, who may be interested in to the Summer School training. So, in large advance, the Summer School was published on the Eastc website, calling students to apply for the course filling their data in a specific form for enrolment. This communication strategy enabled us to reach a large number of people. Having in advance data on participants, it was very useful for lecturers preparing the teaching materials, because students' background, and starting level of statistical knowledge was quite clear. Participants came from both academic institutions (students, lecturers, researchers)⁷, and civil society, associations, organizations, and private companies (professionals, officials, manager, employees).⁸

⁶ The three lecturers were: prof. Fiorenza Deriu for the Course on "Survey methodologies and tools to study violence against women"; prof. Maria Brigida Ferraro for the Course on "Multivariate techniques to study violence against women"; prof. Susanna Levantesi for the Course on Prevalence, statistical indicators and analysis of risk factors for violence against women".

⁷ 17 from Eastc; 6 from the University of Dar Es Salaam (UDSM); 4 from the University of Dodoma (UDOM); 2 from Sokoine University of Agriculture of Dar Es Salaam (SUA); 2 from the Open Univeristy of Tanzania (OUT); 1 from ARDHI Tanzania University; 1 from Mzumbe University.

⁸ 5 from the National Institute of Statistics of Botswana; 5 statistical consultants – free

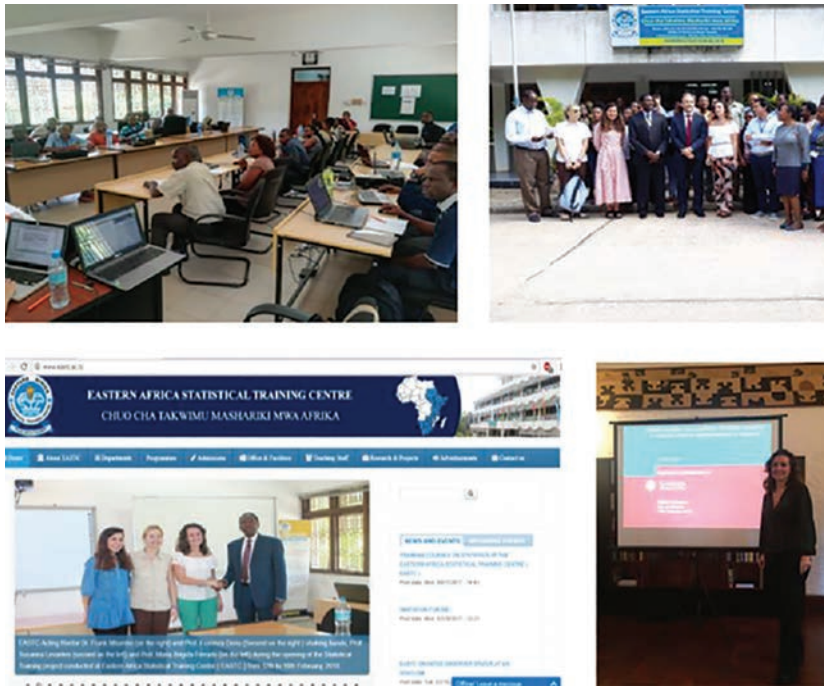


Fig. 2. Some key circumstances of the Summer School at Eastc – Dar Es Salaam – 2018.

In February 2018 the Summer School was run: we recorded 46 students enrolled; on average 35 of them were attending classes every day. Thirty hours classes were taught;⁹15 extra hours were added for students’ support,¹⁰ in order to give assistance to students for their thesis, PhD research projects, exercises. In the images below some particular circumstances of the Summer School are shown.

The photo on the left top shows the class; the one on the right top, the class group the final day of the course. In the middle the Italian Ambassador in Tanzania, H. E. Roberto Mengoni, on his right in the following order, the Eastc Rector, prof. F. Mkumbo, prof. M.B. Ferraro, and prof. S. Levantesi; on his left, prof. Fiorenza Deriu. The photo on the left bottom, the opening event of the Summer School published on the homepage of the Eastc website; on the right bottom, the presentation of F. Deriu during the Talk at the Italian Embassy in Dar Es Salaam

lance; 1 from AFRICARE; 2 from National Institute of Transport (NIT).

⁹ From 9,00 a.m. to 1,00 p.m. in the morning, and from 2,00 p.m. to 4,00 p.m. in the afternoon.

¹⁰ 1 extra hour every day by each professor, after the end of the class.

The Summer School closing event was appreciated by the participation of the Italian Ambassador in Tanzania¹¹ who chaired, together with the Eastc Rector, the Ceremony awarding the Certificates of Attendance to the training programme (Fig. 2).

During the stay in Dar Es Salaam the project manager¹² worked also to the engagement of the civil society in a debate on the role of official statistics in supporting policy making to contrast and prevent violence against women as well as on women's equality related issues. At this aim, thanks to the interest of the Italian Embassy in the topic, the project manager was invited to give a Public Talk titled "Gender Equality: the contribute of official statistics to contrast violence against women"¹³ (Fig. 2). The talk addressed two main points concerning the main problems affecting the data collection despite the significant steps forward done; the consequences that a partial, biased, or lacking information may have on policy planning to contrast and prevent violence against women. Finally, a promotional video about an innovative Sapienza project to prevent violence against women was shown to the audience. Many representatives from public bodies partner of cooperation projects in the statistical field (Eastc; Tanzania National Bureau of Statistics; Registration, Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency); head of diplomatic missions; officers responsible for cooperation and development; experts on gender issues; and officers of international organizations engaged in fighting violence against women (UN – Women, Unfpa, Unaids, WeWorld etc.) attended the event.¹⁴ This event was the occasion to establish some relationships that, in the following months, have created new opportunities of collaboration.

¹¹ H.E. Roberto Mengoni.

¹² Prof. Fiorenza Deriu.

¹³ The public talk was given by prof. Fiorenza Deriu on 15th February 2018, at 6,00 p.m. hosted by the Italian Embassy in Dar Es Salaam.

¹⁴ Head of Cooperation – Embassy of Sweden; Head of Cooperation Embassy of Ireland; Head of Cooperation Embassy of Canada; Ambassador of Norway; Political Councillor – Embassy of Spain; Coordinator EU Gender Focal Point, EU Tanzania; Gender Specialist World Bank; UN Gender Specialist – Coordinator of the Tanzania Development Partner Group Tanzania on Gender Equality; USAID – Gender Specialist; UNAIDS – Gender Specialist; Gender Specialist/ EU Tanzania Governance section (2 repr); Gender Specialist Embassy of Germany; Gender Specialist Embassy of Poland; Programme Manager – Statistics UE Tanzania; Tanzania National Bureau of Statistics; We World Tanzania; Eastc.

The most relevant results

The project was monitored during its realization, and evaluated in its effectiveness and impact as by the end as after 6 months its conclusion. The indicators of participation were largely higher than those expected, in terms of number of students enrolled, attending classes, and variety of their roles (students, PhDs, researchers from local agencies and organizations, academics, etc.). Students showed also a high level of satisfaction with the teaching methodologies used, oriented to a strongly practical approach, made up of laboratory sessions, working groups and class simulations.

After 6 months the conclusion of the Summer School, and still now at over one-year distance, students continue contacting us via e-mail to submit their thesis projects, to receive some advice on specific data analysis issues, to introduce their applications to our International Master of Science study programmes (MoS in Data Science, more specifically). In a couple of cases we have put some students in contact with Tanzanian associations in order to better match their needs, and start traineeship reciprocally profitable.

Moreover, in the long run, the programme manager has also started her cooperation with two organizations that were attending the public talk, such as WeWorld and Acra Foundation. Thanks to WeWorld it was possible to both present the experience of the Summer School in occasion of the event launching the IV Edition of the WeWorld Index Report, and, after that, give a personal contribution on a research on violence against women. Anyway, the most relevant impact result concerns the scientific support given until now to Acra Foundation in two local surveys on Zanzibar Municipal Services, funded by the World Bank, and carried out in the Stone Town area. The surveys were aimed at identifying community perceptions, views and opinions with regard to the services rendered by the council. In Spring 2018, an Italian PhD student was prepared in Italy to train in Zanzibar the local enumerators in charge for the field data collection. The research collaboration has been replied in 2019 with a young Master of Science graduate, who has taken charge of this. In this way, an effective collaboration has been put in place, between the Italian statistical staff and Tanzanian students and professionals of statistical science.

Conclusive considerations

The project of the Summer School has without any doubt shed light on the added value that may stem from a very limited budget provision. The strength points of the initiative have been above described, putting into evidence the potentiality of such an intervention.

Anyway, we cannot, and we should not ignore the limits and the weaknesses of such initiatives. The first, main limit is that this project cannot be replicated accessing to the same funds or accessing to the saving of the same project. In this case, the project had a saving that might be used to replicate the experience, in the same, or different, country. Anyway the bureaucracy did not permit it.

Secondly, the project has shown that a training programme to improve statistical competences on a sensitive issue such as VaW can also become a precious opportunity to raise debate about women and men roles in the couple and in the family, about respect and gender equality, and about a new way to conceive the relationships between them. But, once again, isolated interventions that may can have positive effects in short term, are less likely to be the same in the medium and long term. Cultural changes in stereotypes and prejudices need long term actions.

Hence, the lesson learned from this experience may suggest the creation of a Sapienza Fund devoted to sustain the transfer and the reproduction of good practices that could effectively accompany a process of profitable collaboration with those countries that are more in need.

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Safer Africa. Innovating Dialogue and Problems Appraisal for a Safer Africa

Luca Persia – Sapienza University of Rome

Countries involved in the project Europe and Africa

17 partners: www.safer africa.eu/partners

Duration: 36 months (1 October 2016 - 30 September 2019)

Funding: 2.85 million €

www.safer africa.eu

www.africanroadsafetyobservatory.org

Abstract

Africa is the worst performing continent in road safety: the fatality rate, 26.6 per 100.000 inhabitants, is almost three times that of Europe's and fatalities per capita are projected to double from 2015 to 2030 (WHO, 2015). This is mainly due to the fact that Emerging Economies are experiencing increases in traffic, for which their traffic systems are not sufficiently prepared.

On one hand, there is a significant demand for data and knowledge to be used for road safety-related decision making. On the other hand, there is a substantial lack of a reliable and detailed knowledge on road casualties in terms of the number of road accidents and fatalities occurring and on the factors leading to road accidents or affecting their consequences. Funded under the Horizon 2020 Programme, SaferAfrica aimed to establish a Dialogue Platform between Africa and Europe focused on road safety management, contributing to the reinforcement of the endogenous African capabilities through the dissemination of the EU know-how and the creation of African Road Safety Observatory.

The project activities are oriented to the "Safe System" approach and grouped in four pillars: Road Safety Knowledge & Data; Road

Safety & Traffic management Capacity Review; Capacity Building & Training; Sharing of Good Practices. The concept of SaferAfrica is based on the idea that Europe can play an important role by supporting African countries in improving road safety and achieving the Action Plan targets (African Road Safety Action Plan 2011-2020). In this view, the project aims at building favorable conditions and opportunities for the effective implementation of road safety actions in African countries by setting up a Dialogue Platform between Africa and Europe.

SaferAfrica is an Horizon 2020 EC-funded project with the objective of combining the African and European expertise on road safety through the involvement of key players in a Dialogue Platform. The general goal is to support the implementation of the *African Road Safety Action Plan* and of the *African Road Safety Charter*, as well as fostering the adoption of specific initiatives, in accordance with those leading documents.

SaferAfrica is founded on experiences and research results gained by the Consortium members through participation in international projects like the following, financed by the European Commission: SafetyNET, SafetyCube, ESTEEM, DaCoTa, SUNflower.

The project officially started the 1st of October 2016 and has a duration of three years.

SaferAfrica is run by an international consortium, coordinated by the Research Centre for Transport and Logistics (CTL) of “Sapienza” University of Rome and composed by 17 European and African partners.

The overall concept of SaferAfrica is depicted by a pyramid, articulated in three levels, (Figure 1). The top of the pyramid represents road safety and traffic management actions oriented to the “Safe System approach”. The other two levels represent the Dialogue Platform. Of these two levels, the higher one is a decision-making level, namely the Institutional level (in blue), while the lower one constitutes the Technical level (in red). These two levels are closely interconnected to foster the appropriate match between African road safety policy evolution, application, knowledge enhancement and institutional delivery capacity.

The pyramid is based on the four building blocks, defined according to the priorities highlighted by the Africa Road Safety Action Plan mid-term review¹:

¹ Based on the United Nation’s (UN’s) “2011-2020 a Decade of Action for Road Safety”, the African Union (AU) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

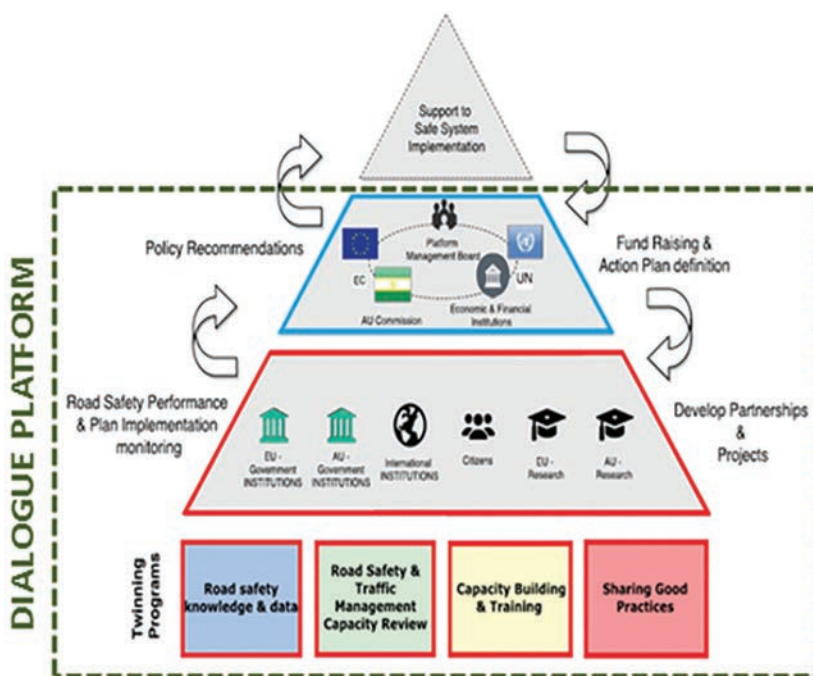


Fig. 1. The SaferAfrica pyramid.

1. Road safety knowledge and data with the specific objective of setting up the African Road Safety Observatory;
2. Road safety and traffic management capacity reviews;
3. Capacity building and training;
4. The sharing of good practices.

Up to date, the project led to a number of important achievements, the most prominent one is the two-levels Dialogue Platform (DP). The Institutional level of the DP comprises representatives of existing international institutions and competent authorities at the country and continent levels tackling regulatory, financing and planning issues in the different fields involved in road safety, in order to effectively influence the process towards the African road safety improvement: European Commission (EC), African Union (AU), World Bank (WB), African Development Bank (AfDB), Federation Internationale de

(UNECA) defined the *African Road Safety Action Plan 2011-2020*. In 2015, UNECA conducted a Mid-term Review of the Action Plan to assess the progress made by each country. The output of this review is constituted in the *Roadmap for Accelerating the Implementation of the African Road Safety Action Plan*.

l'Automobile (FIA), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Africa Transport Policy Program (SSATP), World Road Association (PIARC), World Health Organization (WHO), International Road Transport Union (IRU), International Traffic Forum (ITF). The Technical level of the DP comprises both African and European government and research institutions, international institutions and organisations for citizen representation (e.g. NGOs).

The SaferAfrica Dialogue platform built up a living community of 192 stakeholders from 42 African countries consistently interacting to foster the planned actions of awareness and knowledge building for road safety governance. The Euro-African Dialogue involved four Dialogue Platform workshops organized in Europe and Africa with the participation of African stakeholders involved in the project and the most prominent international organizations active in the field of road safety (Marrakech -11th October 2017; Athens - 27th April 2018; Abidjan 8th November 2018 and Brussels 4th April 2019), eight webinars, dedicated web consultations and country meetings in the five countries interested by road safety management capacity reviews.

SaferAfrica supports national and local governments in better understanding current weaknesses and country needs in road safety management, by training skilled people and by providing ready to implement projects and examples of international good practices.

Based on international methodologies, road safety and traffic management capacity reviews at the country level were carried out in five African countries, namely: Cameroon, Tunisia, Burkina Faso, Kenya, and South Africa. The overall objectives of the capacity review, following engagement with the senior management of the key agencies were: to systematically assess the state of road safety and traffic management with a view towards developing funded remedial and sustainable activities; to summarize the strengths and weaknesses of capacities across the road safety management system in the dimensions of results, interventions and institutional delivery; to reach consensus amongst the key agencies about next steps.

Another important key finding is the development of the African Road Safety Observatory (www.africanroadsafetyobservatory.org), a web portal that combines both the traditional functions of gathering, analysing and sharing road safety data and a more innovative one aimed at actively involves road users and stakeholders to report road safety issues. The African Road Safety Observatory works as an in-

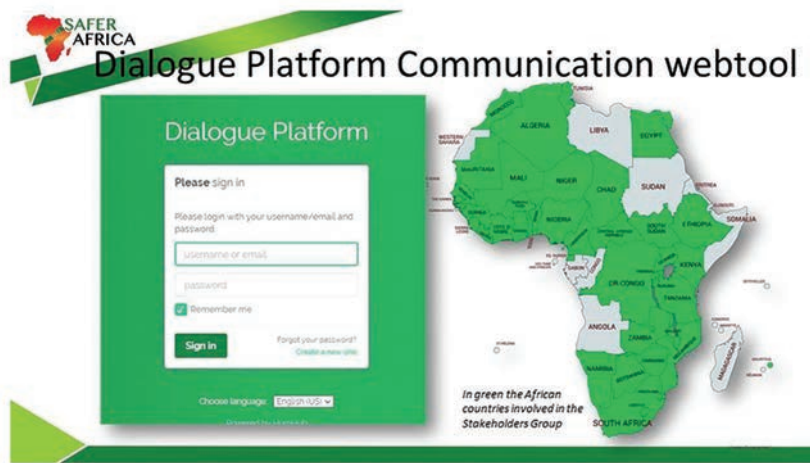


Fig. 2. Dialogue Platform Communication webtool.

teractive space where relevant road safety needs facing African countries can be highlighted, while experiences presented and solutions discussed. The online portal, available for any device, includes freely accessible knowledge resources and tools - such as statistics, maps, reports and fact sheets – as well as dialogue and crowdsourcing functions with a view to enabling experts, institutional stakeholders and end users to take part.

A relevant target of SaferAfrica was also to identify training needs and to develop capacity building programs on road safety in African countries. To this aim a two-level curriculum has been developed. The first level provides a general introduction course on the basic issues of road safety, taking into account the five pillars defined by the UN Decade of Action. The course is offered on a E-learning platform included in the African Road Safety Observatory and can be either followed on an individual basis, or as an embedded learning tool in an existing education. The level-2 course can be seen as a group of specialization in one or more modules. A manual for Train-the-Trainer courses on road safety and a pilot course in Cameroon has been realized together with a Twinning project on road safety research between Sapienza University of Rome and Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Travaux Publics ((ENSTP, Cameroon). Best practices were analyzed and shared through the SaferAfrica Good practices factsheets. A transferability tool has been developed and presented to support the discussion by appraising the potential barriers to the implementation when a measure is proposed in a

different context. New knowledge was developed and made available. New road safety data coming from stakeholders' surveys on road safety management, opinions and perceptions gathered through crowdsourcing and a survey on cultural values on road behaviors. Thanks to the analyses of gathered data and the already available information, new evidence on risk factors and policy needs have been produced at country and regional level.

Training in Biodiversity and Biotechnology for Sustainable Development. Projects financed by the Italian Cooperation Agency in Mozambique

Elisa Taviani – University of Sassari

Rodolfo Negri – Sapienza University of Rome

Piero Cappuccinelli – University of Sassari

Mauro M. Colombo – Universidade E. Mondlane

Abstract

For more than a decade, the Department of Biomedical Sciences of the University of Sassari in collaboration with the Department of Biology and Biotechnology C. Darwin of the University of Rome has been engaged in university cooperation programs in Mozambique. All initiatives were centered on supporting research and training at the Eduardo Mondlane University of Maputo, first with the Faculty of Medicine (2003-2009), and in recent years (since 2009) with the Center for Biotechnology and the Museum of Natural History. In 2015 the Polo Museale of Sapienza University of Rome joined the partnership to support the Museum of Natural History. These projects were funded by the General Directorate for Cooperation and Development of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy, and more recently by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation. They aimed at promoting post graduate training in the field of biotechnology and fostering applied research to face environmental conservation and public health challenges. In particular the intervention focused to design and develop research lines in the area of biodiversity conservation and zoonotic diseases: 20 researchers were trained and 15 research lines were developed and supported through the activities of the last project. Furthermore, the projects established and supported five editions of the School of Master in Biotechnology held at the Center of Biotechnology of the Eduardo Mondlane University.

Introduction

The project has been engaged for many years in university cooperation initiatives in Mozambique. The activities were centered on supporting

research and training at the Eduardo Mondlane University of Maputo, first with the Faculty of Medicine (2003-2009) and in recent years (since 2009) with the Center for Biotechnology (CB-UEM) and the Museum of Natural History (MHN-UEM). In 2015 also the Polo Museale of Sapienza University of Rome has been collaborating to support the Museum. The projects were funded by the General Directorate for Cooperation and Development of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy, and more recently by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation.

The cooperation programs of the Department of Biomedical Sciences of the University of Sassari and the Department of Biology and Biotechnology C. Darwin of the University of Rome started in 2003 in collaboration with the Faculty of Medicine (2003-2009) within the project "Technical Assistance Program to the Faculties of Medicine, Architecture and Agronomy", funded by the General Directorate for Cooperation and Development (DGCS) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy. In its final phase (2007-2009) the program funded a pilot initiative to support the establishment of the Center of Biotechnology of the Eduardo Mondlane University (CB -UEM).

On the basis of that positive experience, the DGCS funded a project specifically conceived with the CB-UEM for the "Training and updating of researchers of the Center of Biotechnology of the UEM, AID9397" (2010-2014), co-financed by the Italian institutions of Sardegna Ricerche and the University of Sassari, Rome and Pisa. During this phase, the CB-UEM, proved to be an institution capable of developing applied research, training highly qualified researchers (also through the Master in Biotechnology) and supporting other public institutions in the domain of biotechnology.

In 2015, a new project "Training of researchers and managers in the area of biotechnology - UEM, AID 10524" began with the duration of eighteen months (ended in April 2017), co-financed by the University of Sassari, Rome and Sapienza Polo Museale, which, in addition to the CB-UEM, also involved the Museum of Natural History of Maputo, a Eduardo Mondlane University institution (MHN-UEM).

The initiative currently underway, "Training in biodiversity and biotechnology for environmental conservation and sustainable development - AID 11096", relates to a high-level specialized training in biotechnology, as part of a broader Italian commitment aimed at capacity building and at developing the human resources necessary for the national programs of the Mozambican Government to reduce poverty and improve food security and health.

The project pays particular attention to environmental and health challenges, by strengthening the advanced research activity carried out by the CB-UEM, in partnership with the MHN-UEM and in synergy with other relevant institutions of the UEM, the Mozambican government and the private sector.

The Rector of the University and the Scientific Direction of the UEM have, numerous times, recognized the activities of the CB-UEM as fundamental institution for the development of excellence, and the capacity of producing highly skilled staff for the development of research in biotechnology, thus identifying the Italian Cooperation and the Italian Universities as reliable and competent partners. To reinforce the role played by the CB-UEM and the relationship with the Italian Cooperation, the Minister of Science and Technology of Mozambique, confirmed the importance of Italian university cooperation programs held at CB-UEM for the realization of the National Plan for the Development of Biotechnology, explicitly requesting specific interventions to support it.

Below is a brief description of the Mozambican institutions involved in the projects.

The UEM Biotechnology Center

In May 2005, the Eduardo Mondlane University supported by Italian cooperation, established the UEM Biotechnology Center (CB-UEM), with the aim of providing a space for modern research, to innovate education and academic culture and to open up concrete prospects to a new generation of researchers motivated by technological innovation. The CB-UEM, located within the campus of the Faculty of Veterinary Science, is institutionally placed as a biomedical inter-faculty center, (Agronomy, Medicine, Veterinary Science and Sciences), a model of great interest for maximizing human and material resources and playing a significant role in the connection of research activities within the UEM. Thanks to advanced, highly equipped laboratories, the CB provides technical assistance to the other Faculties laboratories, staff training, transfer of know-how and implementation of research through scientific collaborations focusing on the propagation and application of biotechnology. The laboratories, currently totally rehabilitated, cover an area of more than 1000 m², and are supplemented by installations for small and large animal research.



Fig. 1. Trypanosome research at the Centre of Biotechnology, photo by Elisa Taviani.

The Maputo Natural History Museum

The MHN-UEM, a precious scientific heritage of the UEM, represents a reference point for environmental issues related to biodiversity and conservation, and became the location of new research and training initiatives. The Museum, officially created in 1913, is one of the oldest museums in Mozambique. Since its origin the Museum included hundreds of specimens of animals, insects and fish of undoubted naturalistic and scientific value, and ethnographic objects acquired over time. The area of the Museum consists of an exhibition building of 2200 m² and the administration and laboratories buildings of about 800 m².

The research activities mainly concern the biology, ecology and conservation of Mozambican fauna species, with particular interest in entomology, marine mammals (dolphins and dugong), fish, wetland birds and buffalo populations.

Details of the current Project

Training in Biodiversity and Biotechnology for environmental conservation and sustainable development, AID 11096

Duration: 24 months (2017- 2019)



Fig. 2. Museum of Natural History of Maputo, main entrance, photo by Elisa Taviani.

Budget in euros:

AICS	1.000.000
Italian Universities	360.000
CB UEM	52.000
MHN-UEM	18.000
Total	1.430.000

Italian institutions: Dipartimento Scienze Biomediche (DSBM), Università di Sassari, Dipartimento Biologia e Biotecnologia “Charles Darwin” (DBBCD), Università Sapienza Roma and Polo Museale, Università Sapienza Roma

Mozambican institutions: Centro de Biotecnologia, Universidade E. Mondlane and Museu de Historia Natural, Universidade E. Mondlane.

Collaborations:

- Dipartimento di Scienze Agrarie, Forestali e Alimentari, Università di Torino
- Dipartimento di Scienze Chimiche, della Vita e della Sostenibilità Ambientale, Università di Parma
- Istituto di Ricerca sugli Ecosistemi Terrestri, CNR, Roma
- Istituto per la Protezione Sostenibile delle Piante, CNR, Torino
- Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Sardegna, IZSS
- Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale Abruzzo e Molise

- SECOSUD Project, Università Sapienza Roma
- Agricultural Research Services, USDA, MD, USA
- Dep. Veterinary Tropical Diseases, Univ. Pretoria
- Institute of Water Education, DELFT, Netherland

Objective

General

To contribute to the training of the researchers and teachers of the CB-UEM and MHN-UEM for the solution of environmental and health challenges in Mozambique.

Specific

- To strengthen the research for the control of endemic, transmissible, epidemic and genetic, human, animal and plant diseases.
- To promote the sustainable use of natural resources and the conservation of the national biodiversity, through the extensive study of animal and plant species.
- To contribute to train technical and scientific managers of the environment and health at the institutional level (ministries and local administrations) and public and private teachers (universities and colleges).
- To contribute to providing researchers and laboratory technicians for the application of biotechnology necessary for advancement of the private sector.

Activities

1. Post graduate education in the field of biotechnology at the UEM Master's School in Biotechnology and training of researchers from the Biotechnology Center and the Natural History Museum.
2. Design and implementation of research lines in the area of biodiversity and zoonotic diseases in the Biotechnology Center and in the Natural History Museum.
3. Enhancement and adaptation to the operating and safety standards of the teaching and research laboratories of the Biotechnology Center and the Natural History Museum; promoting a digital documentation platform for UEM institutions and of competent Ministries in

order to create a working environment for the solution of challenges related to environmental conservation and public health.

Training and research are the core activities of the project and are specifically detailed below.

Master in Biotechnology

The Master School in Biotechnology has benefited from the financial and operational support of all previous projects since 2010, and, as today, has completed 4 cycles, the fifth being in progress. The average number of participants per cycle is 12 students. The present initiative aimed at supporting the fifth cycle of the Master's program through the intervention of Italian University professors and accompanying the students in the elaboration of the thesis protocols that are developed in the second year of the course. In addition to Italian and Mozambican teachers, also French, South African and Portuguese professors participate in the Master School, offering an international learning environment.

Didactic objectives: Acquisition of basic, specialized skills by young Mozambican graduates in biotechnology. At the end of the two year course, the students will be able to understand and analyse



Fig. 3. Master in Biotechnology practical lesson, photo by Elisa Taviani.

the fundamentals of the biotechnology science, to manage and implement a research project, and to be able to apply their expertise to the solution of national problems.

First year. Theoretical and practical lessons in the following modules:

- Molecular characterization for the study of populations (human, animal and plant genetic markers).
- Identification of pathogenicity factors in microorganisms (bacteria, viruses, fungi).
- Study of mobile genetic elements in microorganisms of biotechnological interest.
- Molecular epidemiology of human, animal and plant diseases.
- Genetic adaptation markers for the selection of animal and vegetable varieties for commercial use.
- Use of organisms and microorganisms for environmental monitoring of pollution.
- Use of microorganisms for environmental bioremediation.
- Qualitative and quantitative monitoring techniques for the presence of genetically modified organisms.
- Immuno-molecular diagnostics of human, animal and plant diseases.
- Development of immuno-molecular diagnostic kits for commercial use.
- Genomics of organisms of biotechnological interest (sequences, real time PCR techniques and microarrays).
- Proteomics of organisms of biotechnological interest and identification of natural substances for industrial use.

Second year. Elaboration of an experimental thesis theme with a molecular approach.

Design and development of research lines at the Biotechnology Center and Museum of Natural History

1. Diagnostics and molecular epidemiology of communicable diseases, concerning human, animal and plant health, with a prokaryotic, eukaryotic and viral aetiology and their possible vectors. Development of new molecular diagnostic tests, immunological and molecular characterizations of the pathogenic species; identification and molecular characterization of pathogenic organisms present in the environment; development of diagnostic kits with commercial application.

- Profile of the hemoglobinopathies in new-borns of the gynaecology and obstetrics service of the Central Hospital of Maputo. CB-UEM.
 - Reassessment of PCR-RFLP AD2 using isolated strains of *Trypanosoma congolense* resistant and sensitive to acetazine diminazene. CB-UEM.
 - Production and evaluation of monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies against the cytoplasmic malate dehydrogenase of *Trypanosoma congolense* for use in the diagnosis of African animal trypanosome. CB-UEM.
 - Detection of phytoplasma vectors due to lethal yellowing of the coconut, by transmission test. CB-UEM.
 - Search for potential etiologic agents in ticks of the Limpopo National Park, Massingir district. CB-UEM.
2. Genetic characterization of populations: Collection of specimens, characterization and identification of animal and plant species of scientific, environmental and economic interest, for the study and environmentally sustainable use of natural resources, with particular attention to biodiversity, wildlife and entomology. Observatory for the use of genetic resources. Ethno-anthropology studies on genetic-molecular bases.
- Biology and phylogeny of the *Lethrinidae* family (genus *Lethrinus*) of the coral reef of the Mozambican coast: a contribution to the taxonomic revision. MHN-EMU.
 - Genetic structure of populations of *Teretrius nigrescens* (Coleoptera: Histeridae), predator of the invasive parasite insect of stored cereals *Prostephanus truncatus* (Coleoptera: Bostrichidae), in the districts of Matutuine and Magude, province of Maputo. MHN-EMU.
 - Study of the genetics of buffaloes in Mozambique, MHN-UEM.
 - Study of the variation of *Oreochromis niloticus* (tilapia) in the southern region of Mozambique. MHN-EMU.
3. Study of the impact of anthropic activities on the natural environment: ecology and climate change, territorial planning for the balance between conservation and agriculture areas, and addressing the human/wildlife conflict. Development of environmental monitoring methods: assessment of the environmental impact of pollutants through sensitive organisms and development of specific molecular probes; control of genetically modified organisms.

- Evaluation of the exposure of Tilápia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) to mercury in the Rio Revuè river based on the expression of metalotionina. CB-UEM.
- Study of pathogenic bacteria of tilapia in aquaculture tanks in Mozambique. CB-UEM.
- Water supply and sanitation in small cities: urban-rural intersection (activity within SMALL project). CB-UEM.

Results

The AID11096 project is currently ongoing and will end in May 2020 (due to an extension of 8 months), and to date, with respect to the General Operating Plan conceived at the beginning of the project, all expected results have been obtained, as confirmed by the evaluation of our reports made by AICS and our Scientific Committee. Furthermore, no significant hindrances were encountered and the collaboration between all different parties involved was excellent.

A total of 15 research projects have been developed with the scientific and technical assistance of the Italian Universities, including 4 Master's theses and 8 research grants and autonomous projects, that have produced 7 presentations at scientific conferences, 5 publication in an international journal and 4 communications on television for scientific dissemination, as well as 2 project presentation seminars held by scholars engaged in research within our project.

It should also be noted that in the field of biodiversity research, 2 new species of freshwater fish and 2 new species of insects have been identified (scientific articles are being developed). Similarly, 3 manuscripts are being prepared with the results of the research projects to be submitted to international journals.

An intense field activity was carried out for a total of 31 specific field trips, in order to collect samples for laboratory, genetic, morphological and clinical analyzes, applying molecular techniques, both at the Biotechnology Center and at the Museum of Natural History. At this regard, it is necessary to mention that with the previous project (AID 10524) 2 laboratories at the Museum of Natural History were installed *ex novo*, the genetic characterization lab and preparation of zoological specimens lab, while within the current project, the new the entomology laboratory was completed.

The project supported the 5th cycle of the Master in Biotechnology (ongoing) by granting 6 scholarships, through the financial and technical support of Italian university professors holding several Master classes, and by assisting the 4 master theses of the 4th cycle and 2 master theses of the 5th cycle. In addition, 7 Mozambican researchers benefited of internships in Italy for training and research collaboration, at the University of Sassari, Sapienza University of Rome and the University of Parma. Overall, at least 20 Mozambican researchers have been involved in training activities held by the program at different levels.

All this was possible thanks to the intense commitment of the Mozambican colleagues and to the activity carried out by the Italian partners, consisting of 33 short and long missions of Italian professors and researchers in Mozambique. Among these, it is worth a mention the mission of the Polo Museale of Sapienza, which produced a precise and in-depth evaluation of the current state of the Maputo Natural History Museum.

In conclusion, the most significant outcome of the activities of these 10 years of cooperation between Italian Universities, the Center of Biotechnology and the Natural History Museum, consists in having implemented the culture and the methods of the scientific research, and having created an international environment of relations and scientific collaborations between the two Countries, which remain an indisputable and precious heritage¹.

Acknowledgements

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¹ Continuity to the activities described will be given by a broader three-year cooperation project financed by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation: BioForMoz.

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Collaborative Project Aimed at improving Histological Diagnoses in Pediatric Tumors

Stefania Uccini, Luigi Ruco – Sapienza University of Rome

Mazin F. Al-Jadiry, Salma A. Al-Hadad – Baghdad College of Medicine

Countries involved: Italy and Iraq

Abstract

In the present report we describe the cooperative project between the Pediatric Oncology Unit of the Children's Welfare Teaching Hospital of the University of Baghdad and the Pathology Unit of the Department of Clinical and Molecular Medicine, Sapienza University, started in November 2007 and still ongoing. The project consists in reviewing histological diagnoses of pediatric tumors at our Department. Original diagnoses were made by Iraqi Pathologists in Iraq. Paraffin blocks of 1228 tumor samples were reviewed. The original diagnosis was consistently modified in approximately 10% of cases. In about 20% of cases only minor changes were introduced. It became evident that most mistakes were due to poor quality of the technical procedures adopted in Iraq, and, overall, to poor use of molecular techniques, such as immunohistochemistry and DNA analysis. In 2013 we visited the Pathology Lab in Iraq. We observed that Iraqi Pathologists only rarely used confirmative molecular studies to support their diagnosis. To our surprise, this was not due to absence of instruments; their major problem was *how to use the instruments they already had*. Absence of these information was the consequence of the cultural isolation of Iraq caused by the long-lasting war. To improve the situation two young Iraqi Pathologists were invited to spend a month in our Lab. The efficacy of our approach was demonstrated by a consistent decrease of the number of incorrect diagnoses. Moreover, the collaboration with Iraq allowed investigation of pediatric tumors extremely rare in Western countries which gave origin to ten publications on international journals. Cooptation of our Iraqi colleagues in the international scientific community was particularly appreciated because was felt as a break of their cultural isolation.

Histological tumor diagnosis in Iraq and in Italy

The cooperation between the Pediatric Oncology Unit of the Children's Welfare Teaching Hospital of the University of Baghdad and the Pathology Unit of the Department of Clinical and Molecular Medicine, Sapienza University, started in November 2007 and is still ongoing. The collaborative project consists in reviewing histological diagnoses of pediatric tumors (second opinion) at our Department. Original diagnoses were made by Iraqi Pathologists in Iraq, and in most of the cases they were based solely on microscopical examination of histological tissue sections stained with Hematoxylin&Eosin.

In the period November 2007 – to this day, paraffin blocks of 1228 tumor samples were sent from Iraq to our Department using a courier. Paraffin blocks contained fragments of formalin-fixed tumor samples (Fig. 1) and could resist for long periods of time (even years) at room temperature without any major deterioration. Tumors more frequently observed were malignant lymphoma, neuroblastoma, Wilms tumor, rhabdomyosarcoma, Ewing sarcoma/PNET, germ cell tumors, retinoblastoma (Table 1).

The original diagnosis made by Iraqi Pathologists was consistently modified by us in approximately 10% of cases, thus implying a major change in therapeutic strategy. In about 20% of cases only minor changes were introduced in the diagnosis, which, however, did not affect the therapeutic strategy. During the reviewing process, we reached the conclusion that most mistakes were due to poor quality of the technical procedures adopted in Iraq, and overall, to poor use of molecular techniques, such as immunohistochemistry and DNA analysis; these latter are nowadays believed to be essential for a tumor diagnosis in Western countries.

In 2013 we had the opportunity to visit the Pathology Lab in Iraq (Fig. 2). During the visit we confirmed our first impression. In fact, Iraqi Pathologists had a good theoretical knowledge of tumor pathology, were highly skillful in recognizing histological lesions by microscopical examination, but only rarely used confirmative molecular studies to support their diagnosis. To our surprise, poor use of supportive technologies was not due to absence of instruments. In fact, they had an automated immunostainer similar to the one in use in our Lab (Fig. 3).

Talking with our Colleagues we understood that their major problem was *how to use the instruments they already had*, especially in terms of selecting appropriate reagents to support a specific diagnosis. This “practical”

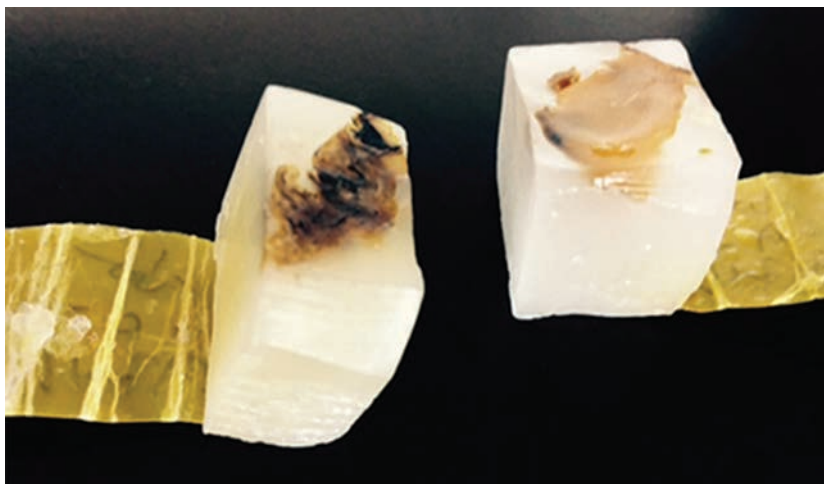


Fig. 1. Paraffin blocks containing fragments of formalin-fixed tumor tissue sent by courier to our laboratory from Iraq.

information is rarely present in Scientific Medical Journals or in Medical books, and is generally acquired in the daily practice during Residency Programs for Pathologists. Absence of these information was the consequence of the cultural isolation of Iraq caused by the long-lasting war. In fact, on one side during this period few doctors from Western countries went to visit Iraq; on the other side, Iraqi doctors encountered major difficulties in obtaining visa to visit Western countries. We decided to be involved in improving this situation, and we wrote an official invitation

Table 1. Tumor types more frequently diagnosed in Iraqi children in a series of 1228 cases.

Tumor type	n. of cases
Malignant Lymphoma	397
Kidney Wilms tumors	95
Neuroblastoma	85
Rhabdomyosarcoma	72
Soft tissue tumors	70
Ewing sarcoma/PNET	55
Germ cell tumors	35
Retinoblastoma	10
Hepatoblastoma	9
Other tumors	400
Total cases reviewed	1228



Fig. 2. Visit at the Pathology Lab of the Children's Welfare Teaching Hospital of the University of Baghdad in 2013 where we had the opportunity to exchange our opinions with Iraqi Colleagues.

letter for a young Iraqi Pathologist to spend a month in Rome, at the Pathology Lab of the Department of Clinical and Molecular Medicine, Sapienza University. The first Iraqi Pathologist joined us in July 2013, and a similar experience was repeated in February 2019 with a second Iraqi Pathologist. During their stay, they were introduced in our daily practice of diagnostic tumor pathology. Using this approach, the two Pathologists had the opportunity to know the theoretical and the practical pathways which we usually use to reach a specific tumor diagnosis.

The efficacy of our approach was demonstrated by a consistent decrease of the number of incorrect diagnoses made by Iraqi Pathologists following their stage in Italy. One major advance was introduction of immunohistochemistry for differential diagnosis among different pediatric tumors with similar morphology. Some difficulties remained in making correct diagnosis and classification of malignant lymphomas and of soft tissue tumors. It has to be emphasized that in Western countries diagnosis of these tumors is considered very difficult and may require a second opinion from a dedicated sub-specialist. This experience was highly appreciated also by the Italian Pathologists who had the opportunity of a close interaction with their Middle-East professional counterpart.



Fig. 3. Interiors of the Pathology Lab of the Children's Welfare Teaching Hospital of the University of Baghdad. Spaces, organization and instruments are undistinguishable from those present in Italian laboratories.

Description and molecular characterization of malignant lymphomas rarely observed in Western countries

The collaboration with Iraq gave us the possibility to investigate the histopathological features of pediatric tumors extremely rare in Western countries. Those studies gave origin to ten publications on international journals. The most interesting results were obtained in the characterization of some lymphoproliferative disorders associated with Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) infection. It was shown that epidemiology of pediatric Hodgkin lymphoma in Iraq is dramatically different from that generally observed in Western countries ref. n.3; in fact, the disease is frequently observed in children <14 years of age in Iraq, whereas is extremely rare in children of that age in Italy. In another study it was shown that Iraqi children may develop a rare form of EBV+ lymphoma (EBV+ Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma) which was not previously described in children of Western countries ref. n.5. Finally, we have observed that clinical presentation of Burkitt lymphoma (BL), another EBV-related lymphoma, is significantly different in Iraq as compared to Western countries ref. n.7; in fact, Iraqi children have a high incidence of EBV+ BL which affects primarily the small intestine (terminal ileum). In our reports we have suggested the possibility that EBV infection

at an early age may represent one of the major causes differentiating Iraqi and Italian children. In fact, EBV infection in Iraq, in other Asian countries, in Africa and in South America occurs in >90% of children by the age of 2 years, whereas in Western countries EBV infection occurs during adolescence. In our opinion, EBV infection at an early age (<2 years), when the immune system is still largely immature, may facilitate the development of EBV-related malignant lymphomas.

EBV is usually transmitted through saliva and the first site of infection is the oro-pharyngeal cavity. It seems reasonable to postulate that EBV infection in Iraqi children is transmitted by infected mothers. Since the percentage of EBV+ adults in Iraq and in Italy is similar (>90%), it seems possible that precocious infection of Iraqi children is due to social habits which are uncommon in Western countries. For instance, it was reported that in India some mothers use their fingers to clean the teeth of the baby; in this way infected saliva deriving from the mouth of the mother can be introduced in the mouth of the baby.

It is well-known that EBV infection *per se* does not allow lymphoma development. Thus, it seems possible that other co-factors, perhaps some specific bacterial infections, play a crucial role in favoring the development of EBV-related lymphomas in Iraq. Evidence supporting this view was provided by the observation that a high percentage of cases of EBV+ BL in Iraq affect the small intestine, whereas in Africa the same disease affects mainly the facial bones. A possible explanation is that different, but equally effective, cofactors sustain the development of the disease in the two Countries. Identification of these cofactors would be crucial for a better comprehension of pathogenesis EBV+ BL and could be relevant also for its prevention and therapy.

The scientific collaboration with the Pediatric Oncology Unit of the Children's Welfare Teaching Hospital of the University of Baghdad reached at least two different targets:

- a) An advancement of the knowledge in the field of EBV-related lymphomas.
- b) A cooptation in the international scientific community of our Iraqi colleagues. In fact, all the molecular studies were performed in Italy at the Pathology Lab of the Department of Clinical and Molecular Medicine of Sapienza University. Nevertheless, all the clinical information were provided by the Iraqi Colleagues. Furthermore, in all studies, they had a significant role in elaborating the study design

and in writing the conclusive scientific report. Our Colleagues were grateful to us for this contribution, because allowed them to be re-connected with the international scientific medical community. In the past, in Iraq there was a strong connection with UK and with the British medical community. British doctors gave a significant contribution *in loco* in establishing hospitals and universities where Iraqi doctors were educated. More recently, the long-lasting Iraqi war destroyed all these connections leaving Iraqi people at their destiny in a cultural isolation. Our collaboration is a small attempt to break this isolation and to update the medical knowledge of Iraqi doctors in the field of oncological pediatric pathology.

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Sapienza's Ethnological Investigations in Mexico: from Observation to Cooperation and Restitution¹

Alessandro Lupo – Sapienza University of Rome

Abstract

The article presents the most recent research developments of the Italian Ethnological Mission in Mexico, which covered a wide thematic spectrum and increased the restitution to indigenous populations of ethnographic materials collected over the last 45 years. It highlights the relevance of issues such as medical anthropology and health management, and the new forms and uses of the indigenous material and intangible cultural heritage, such as oral traditions, music and dance.

Ethnological research among the indigenous peoples of Mexico started under the direction of Italo Signorini over forty years ago, in 1973, when the Italian Ethnological Mission of Sapienza University was founded. Recently, the Mission has undertaken several initiatives aimed at the restitution of research results to the scientific community, to state institutions, and more directly to indigenous communities. During early fieldwork campaigns, research was mainly aimed at documenting the specific knowledge, practices and social institutions of well-circumscribed ethnic groups: the Huave of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, in the state of Oaxaca, and the Nahua of the Sierra de Puebla. Following classic ethnographic monographs on Mesoamerica of the second half of the 20th century, the focus here was on political-religious organizations, kinship terminologies and godparenthood, cosmologies and knowledge of the human being, classifications of the natural world, oral traditions and ritual practices. Alongside such issues, considerable importance was given to ethnomedical

¹ The term "restitution" is employed here to convey the ethical implications of sharing research results, giving voice to the communities studied.

knowledge, therapeutic practices and the difficult interaction among native populations, traditional healers and public health institutions. These had, since the 1970s, slowly begun to penetrate even most peripheral areas by promoting hygiene practices and implementing public health programmes among the Native populations.

The establishment of a Master degree in Ethno-Anthropological Disciplines at Sapienza in the early 2000s led to the institutionalization of field research for all master graduates and to an increase in the number of Ph.D. students focusing on Mexico. Accordingly, the mission research activities increased and extended in territorial scope, with the inclusion of Purépecha-speaking (or Tarascan) peoples of Michoacán, Tarahumara of Chihuahua, Yaqui of Sonora, Nahuatl of Veracruz, Michoacán and the slopes of the volcanoes in the states of Mexico and Puebla, Otomí of Hidalgo and Tlaxcala, Zapotec, Chontal and Zoque of Chiapas, Maya of Chiapas and Yucatán, as well as the mestizo population in the cities of Oaxaca and Tuxtla Gutiérrez. An increase in range and a renewal of research topics also followed, as well as the possibility of coordinating surveys across different regions, which increased their comparative and explanatory potential.

This has been especially evident in the field of medical anthropology. Here, research has evolved from the mere study of indigenous conceptions of body, illness, local specialists and traditional healing



Fig. 1. Nahua women awaiting medical consultation at a public health facility in the municipality of Cuetzalan (Puebla), January 2010, photo by Silvia Scippa.

practices, to the critical examination of themes such as the relationship between native populations and health institutions (Milano, 2008), issues pertaining to communication with health personnel and consequent lack of patients' compliance (Scippa, 2013), structural and organizational deficiencies, misunderstandings and forms of structural violence affecting indigenous populations - in particular women.

Concerning these topics, it is worth mentioning research paper conducted on the shortcomings of prevention strategies of cervico-uterine cancer (in Yucatán and Chiapas; see D'Eredità, 2014 and Valenti, 2017), on the management of reproductive health and related issues of domestic violence (in Chiapas, Puebla and Oaxaca; see Cosentino, 2014 and Donat, 2017), on dietary behavior and diabetes (in Oaxaca and Puebla; see Rizzoni, 2013), and on blood donation and its management (in Oaxaca and Puebla; see Rizzoni, 2016).

Such variety and wealth of ethnographic materials, analyses and critical reflection, accumulated over the past twenty years, has been made available through the usual channels supplied by scientific publishing. However, these often clash with language barriers, translation costs, limited circulation typical of specialized journals and book series. As a result, access to scientific publications is often limited for scholars from the host countries, and practically non-existent within indigenous communities. Therefore, we decided to engage the institutions that had welcomed our researchers by promoting opportunities to share the results of our research with them.

An example of this was the meeting "Salud indígena e instituciones sanitarias en la Sierra de Puebla", which took place in September 2014 at the Hospital of Cuetzalan del Progreso. A research program carried out in that very institution and in the surrounding area was presented by six Mission researchers. The audience was formed mainly by health workers and a few Nahuatl and mestizo patients. The topics covered included blood donation and management, prevention and treatment of tuberculosis and eating disorders, contraception and problems of reproductive health among native women. In parallel, an academic meeting entitled "Antropología médica e instituciones sanitarias: investigaciones recientes de la Misión Etnológica Italiana en México y el Posgrado de Antropología en Salud de la UNAM" was held in Mexico City, at the Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine of *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México*. The meeting offered an opportunity for Masters and Ph.D. graduates from Sapienza and UNAM

to compare their methodologies of investigation, theoretical perspectives, as well as research topics and results. Despite these initial efforts, it is still unlikely that research produced by the Sapienza Ethnological Mission could have tangible repercussions. Structural problems hamper the project, such as chronic lack of resources and personnel in health structures (especially in peripheral regions); very high mobility of such personnel and their lack of training on the cultural and social dimension of health and illness phenomena; challenges in communicating with the bearers of cultural models profoundly different to biomedical ones. Evidently, a great deal of work remains to be done, including perhaps the implementation of multidisciplinary collaboration among Italian and Mexican researchers from different disciplines.

However, the field of medical anthropology is not the only area of cooperation established with the Mission's Mexican interlocutors. It is worth mentioning periodical teaching activities at Mexican academic institutions (such as the aforementioned *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México*, the *Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia* in Mexico City, the *Universidad Veracruzana* of Xalapa, and the *Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla*), as well as research conducted jointly with the *Museo Nacional de Antropología* of Mexico City. The latter is carried out through fieldwork among the Nahuatl of the Sierra of Puebla and the Otomí and the Nahuatl of the Sierra de Hidalgo, as well as by focusing on archeological artifacts in museological contexts. Notable in this regard is the research conducted by Valeria Bellomia – Ph.D. graduate in History, Anthropology, Religions at Sapienza – on musical instruments made of human bone. These artifacts, idiophones played by rubbing on their engraved notches with a shell or a bone, are part of the sacrificial and religious practices of pre-Hispanic Mexican civilizations. Specimens are preserved at the “Museo delle Civiltà” in Rome and at several other Mexican Museums. In Dr. Bellomia's research, special attention has been devoted to modes of preservation and showcasing (Bellomia and Fiore, 2020). One of the outcomes is expected to be a renewal in their fruition, including more careful historical contextualization and the possibility of listening to their sound.

However, the ways of collaboration and so far mentioned concern mainly Mexican institutions. The native communities we have studied have instead been subject to investigations and forms of sharing of native peoples' intangible cultural heritage, such as ethnopharmacology, oral traditions (both ritual and narrative), music and dance practices

(Lupo, 2019). Some of these are of colonial derivation, like the Nahua dance of the Conquest or the more syncretic Huave Snake dance; others have ancient, pre-Hispanic origins, like the famous Flying-pole dance (*Palo Volador*), which recently acquired UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity status.

The forms of restitution we have recently started implementing are also a response to the importance that indigenous communities attribute to the wealth of data and materials gathered in nearly half a century by the Sapienza Ethnological Mission. With teachers from Huave bilingual schools of San Mateo del Mar we focused on a rich corpus of historical-mythological narratives. This raw material can form the basis for a school curriculum that consciously supports the safeguarding of indigenous identity, as well as provides sources for innovative forms of self-produced artistic expression. Good examples include the short videos about important founding myths of the oral Huave tradition, realized with the support of the Ministry of Education of the state of Oaxaca. This narrative corpus is now accessible in audio format, and has been carefully transcribed, translated and commented on, in order to be made available to indigenous teachers in digital form, since their schools have recently acquired access to the Internet.

Starting this year – thanks to a project funded by Sapienza University – the Mission has endeavored to digitize, archive and make accessible on-line a large repertoire of audiovisual documents concerning the dances and songs of the Nahua municipality of Cuetzalan. The repertoire was acquired by Sapienza and stored at the audiovisual laboratory “Diego Carpitella” of the Department of History, Anthropology, Religions, Art History and Performing Arts. Traditional dances have been filmed, recorded and studied here since the early 1990s. As with all forms of orally transmitted traditional knowledge, processes of continuous transformations over time have to be taken into account. Several innovations have been introduced in recent times, such as new habits for the Voladores, inspired by now forgotten pre-colonial models, which enhance the the potential appeal of dance to tourists (Tuzi, 2013). In this regard, the opportunity to access such historical repertoire offers native communities and specialists precious means for preserving, promoting and enhancing their particular forms of artistic expression.

An interesting development of these collaborations – made possible by the support of the Mexican Embassy in Italy – was the Italian tour of dance group “Voladores Cabelleros Aguila”, from Cuetzalan. The



Fig. 2. Voladores “Caballeros Aguila” from Cuetzalan performing in Sapienza Aula Magna on March 14th, 2019, photo by Valeria Bellomia.

group was the main attraction at the Almond Blossom Festival of Agrigento, in March 2019, and it finally performed at Sapienza Aula Magna, where students had the opportunity to see first-hand the dances the Mission had been studying for decades.

In the past such types of cooperation, involving a University institution and the people studied by Italian ethnologists, would have been difficult to imagine. It demonstrates how much increased interconnection and mobility in today’s world can offer to scientific research, and their potential applied outcomes.

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Cultural Heritage: Ancient Cities Research and Management between Mexico and Italy

Luisa Migliorati – Sapienza University of Rome

Abstract

The paper presents the research activities on the foundation and evolution of cities in Roman Italy and in pre and post-colonial Mexico that are carried out with the collaboration between the Department of Ancient World Studies in Sapienza and two Mexican Universities (Nacional Autónoma of Mexico City and Autónoma de Yucatán). The comparison between different research experiences, also based on the different consistencies of urban fabrics, produces very interesting results. The formal comparison of urban layouts and distribution criteria of colonial foundations is also possible on the basis of the political ideology that inspires the Roman State and the Kingdom of Spain.

A topic which currently the Partners tackle is the relationship between the ancient and the modern layer in permanent settlements, as well as protection actions on ancient structures in rural context. The difficult management of this relationship creates rich debates.

The didactic aspect includes the organization of courses, seminars, practical activities involving students, post-graduates and doctoral students.

As it is generally known, placed within the frame of Anthropology, Archaeology has been a tool of Mexican government unite all the peoples living within Mexico boundaries, but with so different origins. And, as a matter of fact, the first agreement on Cultural Heritage between Sapienza and UNAM (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México) was put into effect through the Instituto de Investigaciones Antropológicas, where archaeologists have a strong educational basis in anthropology and work side by side with anthropologists. So it was not a chance if the first link

with UNAM occurred through the responsibility of the long-lasting Sapienza ethnological mission in Mexico, directed by Alessandro Lupo. Hence, we went on collaborating and in 2004 the first major monographic exhibition on the Aztecs in Italy was associated to an international meeting to illustrate the state of real knowledge of the archaeological, artistic and documentary heritage of the 16th century Aztec world, following the vicissitudes of the Nahua people from the fall of Tenochtitlan till today. The proceedings were published in 2006 granted by several Institutions from both Countries (Lupo, López Luján, Migliorati, 2006).

The action was a convincing push for the Sapienza newborn (2002/03) course in American Archaeology. Two years later, the executive protocol of the general framework agreement for a scientific and educational cooperation was signed.

The title itself of the project, *Old/New World: comparing knowledge and methodologies*, shows the will to exchange experience in research methods; but the aim was also to insert Sapienza amongst the European universities where courses on Mesoamerican archaeology are offered, widening the cultural and educational horizons of archaeology in Italy, which was still out of the teaching circuit on the subject.

By the way, Sapienza has been the unique Italian university having American archaeology teaching.

We were able to organize a curriculum on American studies within the "Archaeology" master course of Lettere e Filosofia Faculty. Unfortunately it was stopped in 2011, due to the lack of funding and to the shortsightedness of the master course of Archaeology newly reunified after a few years division in separate faculties.

At present we host seminars and conferences which are attended by both archaeology and anthropology students. The interest in Mesoamerican archaeology is shown by Master and PhD students who develop thesis work under the supervision of Mexican colleagues and mine within the frame of Ancient Topography discipline. It is worth mentioning the very interesting results Dr. Gaia Carosi reached with a project on diachronic analysis of urban modifications in Xoclán (Mérida, Yucatán), a topic which urged to be investigated as present urban development risks to cancel any trace of the Past: not only pre-colombian data, but first colonial ones too, leading people to forget even their recent Past!

The cooperation Sapienza-UNAM aimed also to reinforce the specific interest in the archaeological field that in Mexico is still almost incorporated in the anthropological sphere. Moreover the project proposed



Fig. 1. Integration of Heritage Buildings in urban surroundings. Left: Brescia: Roman basilica walls incorporated into a modern building. Right: Izamal – Yucatán: maya pyramid in fenced area, photos by author.

promoting the relevance of residential architecture in pre-Columbian studies; as a matter of fact, specialists' analysis still focuses mostly the sacred areas, religion and cults, overlooking dwellings and routes; but indeed it's clearly understandable that return in terms of public interest and fund raising is wider if referred to the findings coming from sacred areas which are surely more impressive.

Following the strong interest shown by some other Mexican colleagues in ancient urbanism studies, in 2015 the cooperation framework was widened by an agreement with the Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, whose Faculty of Architecture has targets much closer to the ones of Ancient Topography discipline in Italy. The project title *Studies in colonial urbanism between antiquity and modern age* shows that the methodological and scientific contribution to the ongoing debate on the relationship ancient/current layers in the historic centers of permanent settlements in Yucatan can make a significant support to the practical implementation.

In the capital of Yucatán the local close links between the Faculty of Architecture and the town planning Office of the Municipality have given rise to a Master degree in Historical Buildings Heritage; so they have a very deep interest in the Sapienza research on multilayered cities, using field investigation, archives research, analysis of different map types and a wide interdisciplinary approach; a focus is given to philological analysis of historical cartography compared to present one; the comparing result can reveal archaeological 'hot zones' and address the research right to most probable archaeological structures.

The fields of ancient topography and ancient urbanism are well-represented research areas in Sapienza and participation in conferences and workshops dealing with those topics is often requested by foreign Institutions.

As for Latin America, the methodology of topographic and urbanistic research can be conveyed to the ongoing studies on both pre and post Columbian towns; but, besides methodology, from an architectural and urban planning point of view, the closest link is with the post-Columbian cities.

The effects of the colonial activity carried out by Rome in the Mediterranean since the 4th c. BC and the same activity on behalf of the Kingdom of Spain in the New World in the 16th-17th c. are comparable, although the operations are placed in different chronological periods and the social outcomes were different. The tools for the management of territorial expansion by centralized Powers pass through the foundation of cities which become the territorial representatives of the new Empire.

And, concerning architecture, the underlying logic in colonial cities can be strictly related to the European ones and research on structural continuity in permanent settlements can be applied to the analysis of the buildings pertaining to Yucatán pre-modern phases. From the point of view of Sapienza it is very stimulating to compare with other issues: new cities founded in different cultural situation; the Spanish post-Columbian colonies were affected by the theoretical and practical Renaissance contribution in Europe, where scholars were rediscovering and translating the essays of Vitruvius and Leon Battista Alberti on architecture and cities.

For instance, the role played by the “plaza” in the New World planned colonies recalls Vitruvius statement on the importance of defining the surface of public area from the points of view of the location and of the modular calculation within the project plan.

So an outcome of cooperation is the transferring of methodology on urban studies. Periodically I give a course on Ancient Urbanism to students of UADY School of Specialization in Architecture for the curriculum of Cultural Heritage Buildings. Teaching includes also the history of the city in the Mediterranean, since the topic is a basic part of the local education on urban history and in particular the roots of local urbanism are underlined, as Mérida historic centre preserves the traces of the Spanish colonial layout.

On field practical lectures were implemented by survey in Mérida to do research on colonial structures, identifying and documenting

buildings or single walls pertaining to the colonial city, but also documenting the scarce remains of pre-columbian civilizations which can be seen inserted in modern buildings; even the location of blocks which pertained to maya pyramids and platforms can suggest the presence of pre-columbine structures dismantled due to religious, political or utilitarian (reuse in new buildings) causes. The outcomes of this specific practical activity were thematic maps of Mérida districts at a detailed scale (archaeological map, operating map, zoning map), but the work turned to be also a contribution to local strategic plan.

On the other side Sapienza staff exploit the staying to deepen the research on Mexican new towns.

The agreement on the cultural and scientific level has found logical completion in the exchange of master, postgraduate and PhD students. The student mobility training activities strengthens the relationships between the research groups of the two Universities.

The cooperation appears also in the research carried on by Mexican scholars about the Greek and Roman origin of decorative elements inserted in local colonial architecture of the 16th -18th centuries, above all churches and monasteries.

Last but not least, the topic “Cultural Heritage and the management of Heritage Buildings” has raised a very keen interest during scientific meetings. In both Countries, restoration, enhancement, reuse of

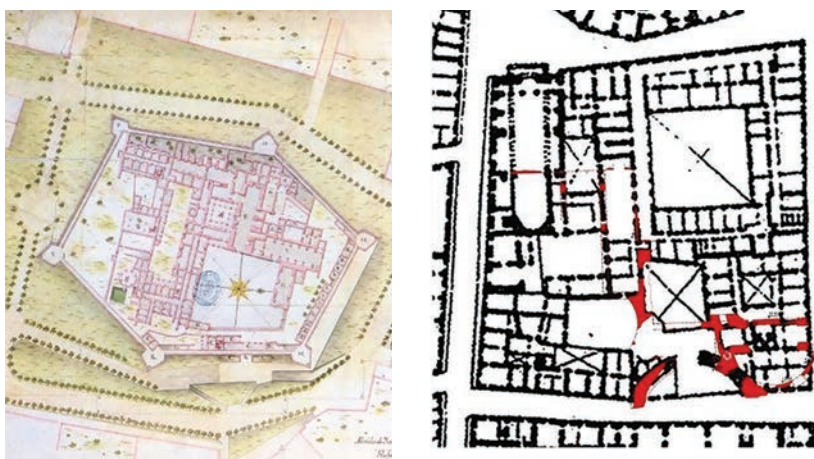


Fig. 2. Detail scale urban maps. Left: Mérida – Yucatán: plan by Rafael Llobet 1788. Right: Rome: block in Campus Martius: in red, Roman walls reused in current urban pattern after Migliorati 2015.

historic buildings are arguments of great relevance, which reflect on the ongoing European Actions on the integration of Historical Buildings into their surroundings. We had remarkable debates comparing the different methodologies and the problems raised by the management of Heritage Buildings.

The Rinascente Mall inaugurated in 2017 in Rome hosts a stretch of a Roman aqueduct in the basement. The current situation can't fail to impress, but it shows to be a fairly good compromise between archaeology and present life. The relationship between ancient and actual structural levels in permanent settlements is problematic in Yucatán, where the maya archaeological parks are located mostly in the suburban areas, often exposed to uncontrolled urban enlargement. On the other hand, colonial towns are often superimposed to precedent ones and it is a frequent situation that they, in turn, lie below the subsequent, modern ones and are often cancelled by new buildings.

In conclusion, the comparison with the civilizations of the Mediterranean basin and in particular with the architecture of Roman civilization is used to foster interdisciplinary relations between scholars of archaeology and architecture to collaborate in spatial planning and in restoration.

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The Right to Health at the End of Life: Palliative Care in Italy and in Peru¹

Giovanna Razzano, Silvia Lazzari – Sapienza University of Rome

Introduction

The international cooperation programme consists of a comparative study on the right to palliative care (PC) in Italy and Peru, as part of the right to health at the end of life, in the context of an exchange programme between Sapienza University of Rome and Piura University of Peru. Recently Maria Laura Malespina, Associate Professor of Civil Law in the Faculty of Law at Piura University (Lima Campus), stayed for three months in Rome (from December 2017 to February 2018) as Visiting Professor at the Department of Law and Economic Studies of Sapienza for a joint study of the topic with Giovanna Razzano, Associate Professor of Public Law in the above mentioned Department. During the same time the Italian Parliament was approving the Law n. 219/2017, on informed consent and advanced healthcare directives, relevant to end of life issues (Razzano, 2019a); during this time in Italy there was a lively debate, both in civil society and among scholars, because of the ethical, legal and clinical problems posed by the reform law.

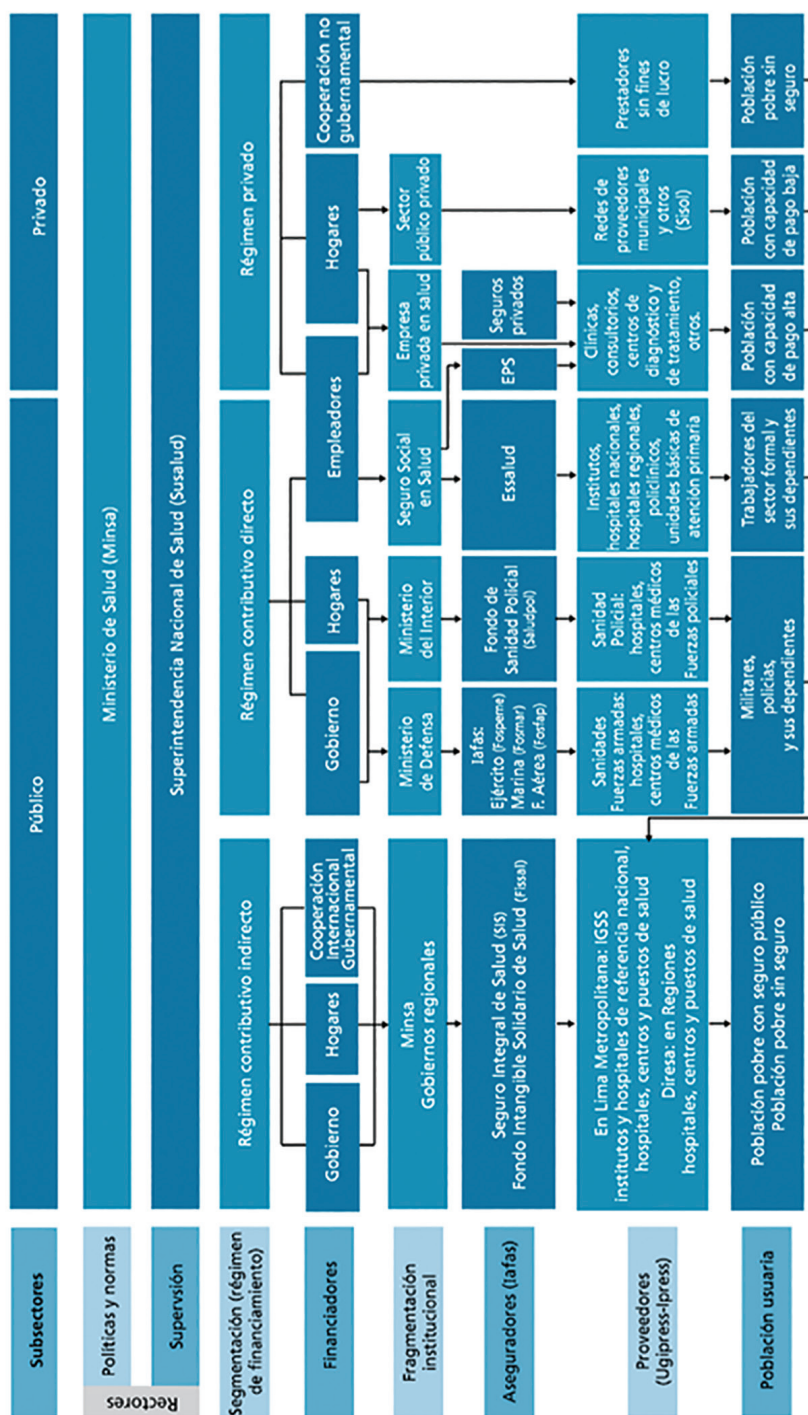
Thanks to this bilateral agreement between Sapienza and Piura University, it was also possible that Silvia Lazzari, a student of the degree course in Law, enrolled in Sapienza at the School for Advanced Studies, enjoyed a period of internship in Piura University (during the first six months of the 2017/2018 academic year) and, after graduating, carried out a brief study on the Peruvian healthcare system, that is shown below.

¹ The work is the result of collaboration between the Authors. However, Prof. G. Razzano wrote paragraphs 1 and 3, while Dr. S. Lazzari wrote paragraph 2.

The right to health in Peru: a general overview

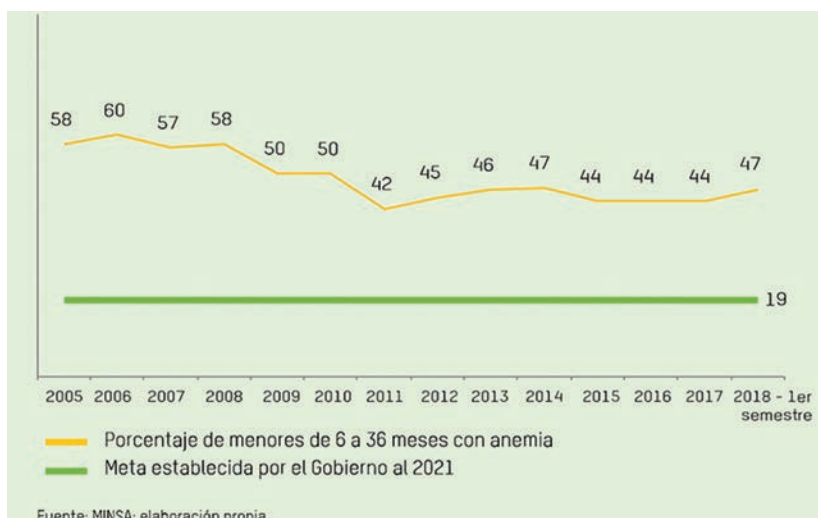
The Peruvian Constitution (the “*Constitución Política del Perú*”), does not encompass the right to health among the fundamental rights protected by the Constitution, whilst among the social and economic rights (*Capítulo II – De los derechos sociales y económicos*). In this respect, article 7 “*Derecho a la salud. Protección al discapacitado*” states that “*todos tienen derecho a la protección de su salud, la del medio familiar y la de la comunidad, así como el deber de contribuir a su promoción y defensa*”. Under the mentioned article, the Peruvian Constitution seems to grant an individual right to health as well as a collective right to health in the family and social dimension (“*la del medio familiar y la de la comunidad*”). Moreover, under article 11, the Peruvian State has the legal obligation to grant everybody’s access to healthcare through public, private or mixed institutions. Therefore, the right to health in Peru seems to have a strong programmatic content rather than a self-executive nature, consequently the positive action of the State is essential to give effect to the constitutional right.

The Peruvian health care system went through several reforms aimed at granting a widespread access to the healthcare. As it emerges from the graphic below (Alcade-Rabanal J., et al., 2016), it is characterized by (i) a strong fragmentation and a division between the public and the private sector, both supervised by the *Superintendencia Nacional de Salud* (“SUSALUD”), an entity under the Ministry of Health, established in the 2009 with Law no. 29344 and reformed in 2013 by Legislative Decree no. 1158; (ii) three different kinds of financing regime: (a) “*indirecto*” or subsidiary, which is dedicated to people in need; (b) “*directo*” which is financed by direct and compulsory contributions from workers; and (c) “*privado*” financed through the direct payment of the healthcare services; (iii) a strong role for the insurance sector with different insurers for each kind of financing regime, the “*Iafas*” (“*Instituciones administradoras de fondos del aseguramiento en salud*”): (a) the “*Seguro Integral de Salud - Sis*” and the “*Fondo Intangible Solidario de Salud - Fissal*”; (b) the “*Fospeme*” (for the military), the “*Fosmar*” (for the marina), the “*Fosfap*” (for the aeronautics), “*Fondo de Sanidad Policial*” (for the police) and “*Essalud*” (for other workers); (c) “*EPS*” and other *seguros privados*.



It is worth nothing that in Peru, as well as in many other Latin American countries, the need for universal healthcare insurance has been debated since the beginning of 2000 as part of the right to health. In Peru, it was affirmed in 2009 by Law no. 29344 "*Ley marco de aseguramiento universal en salud*", notwithstanding the considerable opposition of public opinion and professional colleges. The mentioned law was aimed at granting and regulating the universal health insurance system in order to endow everybody the full and progressive right to social health security. The main principles of this system are settled out in article 4 as follows: (i) universality; (ii) solidarity-based financing system; (iii) unity for the goal; (iv) integrity of the action; (v) fairness; (vi) irreversibility; and (vii) widespread participation. Moreover, based on the mentioned law, a minimum coverage of health services was established in the PEAS, the "*Plan Esencial de Aseguramiento en Salud*". Finally, the Decree no. 008-2010-SA affirmed that the affiliation to an insurance scheme was mandatory and established the different insurance regimes, as described above, based on each individual socioeconomic characteristic (EsSalud, 2013). After the reform, a strong increase in the access to insurance occurred and the *Seguro Integral de Salud – Sis-* founded in the 2002 and mostly dedicated to poor people-emerged as the main Iafas (Alcade-Rabanal J., et al., 2016). Observing the goals reached in the last ten years there is no doubt that the peruvian healthcare system has been expanding and improving (PAHO, 2017a; PAHO, 2017b).

Without prejudice to the above, Peru (Oxfam 2019a), together with the other Latin American countries (Lusting, 2015), still have to deal with a very hard issue which is intimately linked to the right to health: social inequality (Barreto, 2017; Bascolo et al., 2020). Based on Oxfam's Report (Oxfam 2019b), the years 2017 and 2018 were sadly characterized for a downgrading of the measures taken in the social field, entailing growing inequality and severe impacts on the access to health. A significant evidence of that should be recognized in the increase in childhood anemia, a disease that entails a lower physical and mental development in children. In Peru this kind of disease affects about half of the children under three years of age, more than double of the OCDE's average. For this reason, in the 2017 the "*Plan Nacional para la Reducción y control de la anemia Materno Infantil y la Desnutrición Crónica Infantil en el Peru: 2017-2021*" was formally adopted, but, as showed in the graph below, between the 2017 and the 2018 the cases of childhood



anemia appear to have increased rather than reduced, due to the absence of effective measures.

In conclusion, a social-equality oriented approach seems to be of paramount importance to actually grant everyone's access to health-care. A cornerstone of this kind of approach should be identified in the respect for the dignity of the human person, which, pursuant to article 1 of the Peruvian Constitution, is the ultimate aim of the State and of the society as whole.

Palliative care in Italy and in Peru

The starting point of the comparative study on the right to PC is the recognition of it as a primary human right by the World Health Organization (WHO) (Brennan, 2007; Connor, Sepulveda Bermedo, 2014). According to WHO's definition (WHO, 1990), PC involves a holistic approach, taking care of the patient's physical, spiritual and psychological wellbeing; it marked a new beginning, not only for the care of the dying but for the practice of medicine to a person as a whole (Saunders, 1990; 1995; 2008). PC is fundamental to improve quality of life, comfort and human dignity for individuals, being an effective person-centred health service that values patients' needs (WHO, 2013) and it is an essential part of the right to health, as well as a fundamental task of the education and training of medical doctors and healthcare personnel (Arias-Casais et al., 2019).

Recently the European Association of Palliative Care (EAPC) pointed out as 20-25% of all the patients need palliative care; that inappropriate hospitalization for people who need palliative care in the last six months of life impacts 70% of healthcare costs; that 35-45% of hospital beds are occupied by patients who need palliative care (EAPC, 2018). Lastly, on November 2018, the Parliamentary Assembly of Council of Europe adopted resolution 2249/2018, *The provision of palliative care in Europe*. The document is based on two main considerations: the first points out that hundreds of thousands of people in Europe still do not have access to adequate palliative care services and remain in a deep suffering condition for months or years, when this could be avoided with adequate treatment; the second one, on the other hand, concerns the issue of rationalizing the expenses of the health system, which is often used in an improperly way aggravating the costs. The main reason for the last is the lack of a prompt identification of the PC needs, with consequent difficulty to find services that offer good PC assistance. The resolution also recognizes the silent but essential role that is played by millions of informal caregivers who take care of the sick people for emotional reasons; figures who are destined to grow in the future, and who deserve all kinds of support from the institutions. Consequently, the resolution asks the acceding States to invest adequate resources in PC as it is a fundamental human right; also calls for integration at all levels of PC, especially where there are chronic patients and people resorting to life-saving treatments. States are then invited to remove bureaucratic and legal obstacles for the appropriate use of analgesics, including opioid drugs; to eliminate barriers that hinder informal caregivers from taking care of their loved ones and taking into account their needs; to invest in professional training in PC, both by qualifying it as a medical discipline, and by including it in the basic and daily training of medical doctors and nurses. The resolution also calls for increasing awareness of PC with media tools and information campaigns and for increasing collaboration between civil society and public institutions in structuring dedicated services. Finally, it invites governments to consult patients who resort to life-support treatments or live in addictive situations, with their families and associations, on issues pertaining to correct development policies in PC.

Furthermore, there is a negative relationship between poverty and the development of PC (Barbera L. et al., 2010; Cotogni P. et al., 2017; SIAARTI, 2013; Cohen J. et al., 2008; Brumley R. et al., 2007; Starks

H. et al., 2013). In Latin America, in particular, the main problem is still insufficient PC coverage, so that international support is necessary (Pastrana T. et al., 2012).

From a legal point of view the current Italian Law N. 38/2010 «Disposizioni per garantire l'accesso alle cure palliative e alla terapia del dolore» on the right to palliative care and pain therapy represents an interesting model, also useful for those legal systems, such as the Peruvian one, which are starting to introduce PC into its healthcare. According to the Italian law, PC assistance is qualified as «essential level of assistance and a priority objective of the national health system» and offers an interdisciplinary approach, according to WHO definition (treatment of pain and other physical, psychosocial and spiritual suffering). PC are also provided for children and their families and the right of access to pain drugs therapy is recognized too. At the moment Italy is trying to include PC in the basic training of medical doctors and other PC professionals, through specific Master Courses. Another challenge is to guarantee the PC throughout the whole national territory, since there are still gaps and shortcomings in many Regions. It is also necessary to implement early home PC. Italian pediatric hospices are still too few and the entire pediatric network is still lacking. As revealed by a survey conducted by the Social Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, only 10% of children who need PC have a chance to actually get it (Razzano, 2019b).

On the other hand, Peru has recently approved the Law N. 30846, “Ley que crea el Plan Nacional de cuidados paliativos para enfermedades oncológicas y no oncológicas” (19 Sep 2018), which authorizes to create a national PC plan. According to the law, the Ministry of Health is responsible for implementing the plan and convening specialized public and private companies and scientific societies. PC are therefore included in the National Health System, in order to achieve the improvement of the quality of life for the patients and for their families with an interdisciplinary approach (Art. 3). For having already passed these stages, the Italian legislation and the studies of the changes that took place in Italy are very useful to contribute in the discussion raised in the current Peruvian context. The cooperation program helped to form a new awareness. As advisor of the Instituto Nacional de Salud del Niño (the largest public children’s hospital in the country), Prof. Maria Laura Malespina is now involved in issues like the dignity of the patient who is under-age, informed consent for minors, ethics and legislation and the interdisciplinary approach in PC (which has been part

of the hospital care since 2014). In addition to the interest of the Faculty of Law in the related legal and social issues, the Faculty of Medicine of Piura has also created the “Department of Basic Sciences and Bioethics”, which is focusing on situations such as those described.

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Promoting Burmese Multi-ethnic Cultural Identity through the Redesign of Yangon National Museum, Myanmar

Simona M. C. Salvo – Sapienza University of Rome

Abstract

Myanmar is an emerging South-Eastern developing country facing a number of important political, social, economic and cultural challenges that are redefining the country's political, economic and social environment.

Since the beginning of this transition process, Italy has supported the commitment of the Burmese government in preserving its cultural, natural and environmental heritage. As Aung San Suu Kyi, during her last visit to Rome, requested collaboration to develop and upgrade the Burmese museums through training and education, times were mature to develop a project answering to the call for funding opened by Sapienza in 2017 in favour of cooperation activities with developing countries, with the aim of implementing a training project with a people-centred approach.

The project was then developed by Simona Salvo, professor at the Department of Architectural History Representation and Restoration, with support from Andrea Grimaldi, professor at the Department of Architectural Design, and in partnership with Cecilia Brighi Secretary General of *Italia Birmania. Insieme*, a non-profit institution with a time long engagement in supporting the social and cultural development of Burma.

The general objective of the project was founded on the assumption that culture and heritage, if correctly presented and offered to fruition, are effective means for peace and social inclusion, especially in the current Burmese socio-cultural and political fragmented framework.

The project to train employees and professionals of the National Museum of Yangon has been carried out in February 2019 in terms of a 'pilot project' extendable to other National Burmese museums, namely

those in Mandalay and in Naypidaw. As part of the cooperation project, the training activity was followed-up by the visit of a two-member delegation to Rome in April 2019 with the aim of offering a better understanding of the Italian cultural context and museums visiting its museums and conservation laboratories.

The Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs of Myanmar and the Directorate of the National Museum of Yangon expressed their appreciation to the objectives and to the implementation of the project. In addition, the project has networked with ICCROM and other Burmese institutions, such as Yangon Heritage Trust.

On behalf of this experience, we look forward to future developments within academic and cultural cooperation among Sapienza and Burmese academic institutions.

The specificities of a South-East Asia developing country

Myanmar, also known as Burma, is a rather small country wedged between the two Asian 'giants', India and China, playing as 'buffer' zone with a strategic role within the Asian chessboard (Myint-U, 2011). The country results a mosaic of eight main ethnic groups - Kachin, Kayah, Chin, Mon, Bamar, Rakhine, Shan - which originally inhabited the territory and today correspond to as many administrative regions that gather more than 135 different ethnolinguistic groups. This diversity gives shape to an intricate and problematic composition.

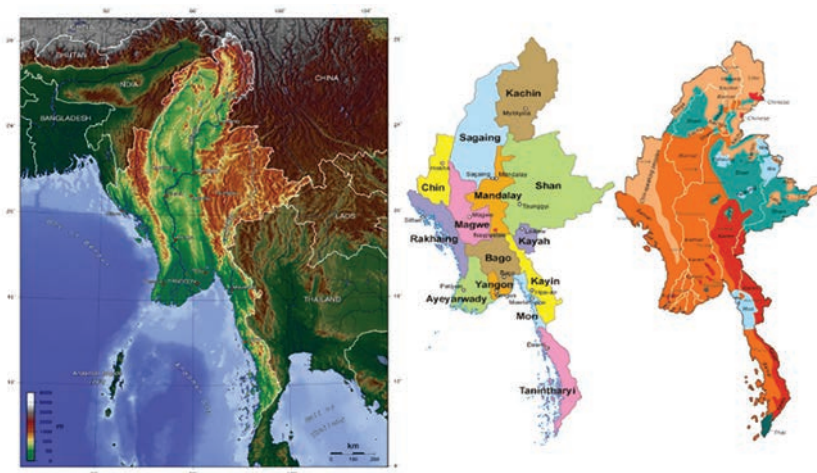


Fig. 1. Physical political map of Myanmar, administrative regions and prevalent ethno-linguistic groups: Kachin, Kayah, Chin, Mon, Bamar, Rakhine, Shan (© Wikipedia).

The modern history of Myanmar started in 1948 as the country gained independence from the UK, which had reduced the much beloved 'Jewel of the Crown' to a colony in 1824. In the following years the country undertook the so-called 'Burmese way to socialism', which lasted until the economy was nationalized, and political and religious parties were banned by the military junta which took over the power in 1962 establishing a dictatorship. By the end of the Eighties, Myanmar was officially identified by the United Nations as one of the least developed countries

in the world. Social conditions were so disastrous to unchain the people's reaction into mass demonstrations. This is when Aung San Suu Kyi - daughter of Aung Sa, modern-day Myanmar father of the Nation - started the National League for Democracy (NLD) and was therefore put under house arrest by the military government in 1989.

As national elections occurred in 1990, NLD gained momentum obtaining 392 over 492 representatives, but the result remained unrecognized by the military junta. Still, the way to a semi-civilian democracy had been opened by then, paving the way to the 'Saffron Revolution' of 2007, again harshly repressed by the military leaders.

The end of the country's military rule was declared in 2011, but only in 2015 the leader Thein Sein held new elections that brought NLD to majority and Aung San Suu Kyi to become State Counsellor. Since then, the country has started opening up and experiencing a positive trend towards socio-economic reforms.

In this position, and after having won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991, Aung San Suu Kyi has struggled to raise the social and cultural conditions of the Burmese people, investing her 1.3 million USD prize in favour of the establishment of health and education trust. Her motto "Together with the people" was based on the aim of establishing the rule of law in the country to enhance democracy, acquire social inclusion, and trigger a cultural change to accelerate peace-keeping processes. The highest and most ambitious goal was to solve ethnic and religious conflicts - the true plague of the country also tightened



Fig. 2. Aung San Suu Kyi, 1991 Nobel Peace Prize (© Wikipedia).

by corruption and religious tensions - especially in Rakhine, Kachin and Nord Shan regions where some very aimed federal constitutional reforms are at deadlock (Myint-U (2001).

This is the framework within which the Rohingya issue exploded in 2017, giving international evidence to the ethnic conflict.

Statistics issued in 2016 by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs offer a clear idea of the Burmese social, economic and cultural composition: among 59.1 million Burmese people, 34% live in urban environment, while 66% are located in rural contexts where poverty concentrates at its most and where the amount of educated people is lower than 5%, meaning that only 54 % of the children reach school, 6,5 % of the young reach high school diploma and only 0,7% adults receive professional training. Among 33.9 million workers, 70% are employed in agriculture, while 23% are in the third sector and only 7% in industry. The threshold of this developing country – which, unexpectedly, reaches a development rate at 8,5% and boasts a very young population - is marked by the yearly income that amounts to 868 USD, among the lowest in the OCSE average. Still, 13.9% National budget is dedicated to military expenses, while only 13% covers health and education expenses.

By no doubt Myanmar, albeit developing, is a poor country that suffers the consequences of the mixed ethnic and religious composition of its population. Religious and political discrimination is, in part, the consequence of the long-lasting and still surviving dictatorship, which has often fallen in the violation of human rights and has produced stale bureaucracy and corruption in the national institutions. The country is today still in need of modern infrastructures - such as roads, hospitals, and schools – which struggle to rank the minimum development, notwithstanding conspicuous investments from Eastern and Western countries (Fallow, 2011).

In contrast to the socio-economic situation, the country boasts undoubtable strengths. Starting from the cited strategic geographical position (which should not only be considered under political and military understanding, but also in terms on ‘nearness’ to other Asian countries with great potentials), Myanmar is also rich in agricultural resources, being this a primary activity of the country, in raw materials (rice, timber, minerals, gas, oil) and in renewable hydroelectric energy.

In our realm of interest, Burma boasts very extended cultural resources several exceptional natural and cultural touristic sites comparable to other more notable regional neighbours such as Thailand and



Fig. 3. Bagan, view of the archaeological site, photo by Salvo 2019.

Cambodia. These represent a true asset and retain enormous potential to enhance the population's learning and acceptance of the Nation's cultural heterogeneity, but also in consideration of the strong touristic appeal they exercise on the national and international public.

Yet, the cultural heritage is an economic asset of the country that nobody has properly valued nor exploited. Despite the awesome mixed landscape that the country offers to the public, Myanmar has achieved only one nomination over the fifteen candidatures¹ presented to UNESCO World Heritage List in the last fifteen years, namely the Ancient Pyu Cities nominated in 2014². As stated by Facchinetti, this refusal can

¹ Candidatures presented to Unesco referred to: Bagan Archaeological Area and Monuments (1996), Wooden Monasteries of Konbaung Period in the area of Mandalay (1996); Badah-lin and associated caves (1996); ancient cities of Upper Myanmar: Innwa, Amarapura, Sagaing, Mingun, Mandalay (1996); Myauk-U Archaeological site (1996); Inle Lake (1996); Mon cities of Bago and Hanthawaddy (1996); Ayeyawady River Corridor (2014); Northern Mountain Forest Complex (2014); Indawgyi Lake Wildlife Sanctuary (2014); Natma Taung National Park (2014); Myeik Archipelago (2014); Hukaung Valley Wildlife Sanctuary (2014); Taninthayi Forest Corridor (2014). Lately, the candidature of Bagan Archaeological Area, with its more than 2200 pagodas, has finally gained nomination in 2019.

² The site is composed of three ancient cities located in the Irrawady basin: Halin, Beikthano and Sri Ksetra, which date back to 200 BC to 900 AD. These are the remains of the Pyu kingdoms, which exhibit the ancient Buddhist culture and its originality in Myanmar.

be understood as resistance of the international community to the fact that «most archaeological sites in Myanmar have been neglected or selectively politicised to foster the legitimisation of the military regime, and to serve its political ambitions» (Facchinetti, 2014).

2. Italian/Burmese cooperation within cultural heritage

Within the difficult ongoing developing process, today Myanmar faces a number of important political, social, economic and cultural challenges, first of which the struggle to balance economic welfare while maintaining cultural identity, well aware that changes produced by development are irreversible. In order to avoid unreparable damages on cultural heritage similar to those happened in other Asian countries – one of which the fallout of mass tourism – leader Aung San Suu Kyi has promoted and encouraged common actions for the preservation of the country's cultural, historical, environmental and architectural heritage throughout the implementation and management of cultural programs (Brighi, 2017). In this framework, and since the beginning of the transition process, Italy has supported the commitment of the Burmese government to the preservation of its cultural and environmental heritage. If it is true that Myanmar is a land of opportunity for local and international stakeholders, then for Italy it represents the place where to enact cultural awareness achieved in centuries of history and to gain proof of the validity of methodologies, principles and practices in the realm of cultural heritage conservation.

The idea of building a cooperation project in favor of the Burmese community started in October 2015 in occasion of a seminar on *Interrelation between Ancient and contemporary cities. Dialogue and exchange of experiences*, organized by *Italia Birmania. Insieme*³ and held at Sapienza's Post-Graduate School for Architectural Conservation and Landscape with representatives of Burmese Institutions and Italian experts in various fields, sparking the collaboration between *Italia Birmania. Insieme* and Sapienza. As Aung San Suu Kyi then visited Rome in May 2017,

³ *Italia Birmania. Insieme* is a non-profit organization that promotes and supports projects, cultural exchanges, research, and training regarding economics politics and culture, genders studies, conservation of cultural and natural heritage between Myanmar and Italy. It supports social dialogue, industrial connections, sustainable agriculture programs and the promotion of fundamental rights, responsible investments and the enhancement of ethnic diversity in the Asian Country.

asking *Italia Birmania. Insieme* to implement a cooperation project to develop, update and requalify Burmese museums as social attractors and cultural developers, the layout of our work had been displayed.

According to Aung San Suu Kyi's openminded and forward-looking vision, museums should not only conserve and enhance the national cultural heritage, but also become social attractors and means to educate the population, especially in the Burmese multi-ethnic and multi-religious composition, thereby supporting peacekeeping and social inclusion among the population. The dissemination of cultural values and the correct display of the artefacts in well designed museums should promote a better understanding of the various ethnic and religious identities that compose the Burmese mosaic, becoming a positive and strong social attractor within its society in view of the cultural, political social and economic development.

Further encouragement to such Italian-Burmese cooperation came in June 2017, in occasion of the general meeting on "Urban integrated conservation and inclusive intelligent cities with the Yangon Region" hosted by ICCROM under the Patronage of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of Culture, which represented a further occasion of collaboration with Sapienza University⁴.

As Sapienza opened the call for funding cooperation projects with developing countries in November 2017, times were mature to develop a response to Aung San Suu Kyi's request to implement a project to develop and upgrade Burmese museums through training and education.

The project proposal was prepared under the scientific coordination of Simona Salvo⁵, together with Andrea Grimaldi, expert in interior design,

⁴ Three representatives participated to the meeting, namely Annamaria Giovenale Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Luciano Saso Delegate for International Mobility, and Simona Salvo.

⁵ Salvo is Associate Professor at the Department of History Representation and Restoration of Architecture. She is architect, holds a Master of Science in Architecture and a PhD in Architectural Conservation. Her fields of interest are focused on theoretical and methodological issues concerning architectural conservation, especially of modern and contemporary architecture, and on the dissemination of Italian conservation principles and theories in today's globalized culture. Salvo has academic and scientific experience in Western and Eastern Institutions and is responsible for various academic agreements between Sapienza and other academic institutions and has participated to research expeditions of national and international relevance. She has widely published on scientific reviews, encyclopedias and books, and has authored articles and books about the conservation of modern architecture.



Fig. 4. The National Museum of Yangon within the urban context, photo by Salvo, 2019.

museography and exhibition design,⁶ in partnership with Cecilia Brighi, director general of *Italia Birmania. Insieme*, who has become thereafter partner of this initiative, actively contributing to its activities. The idea was to develop training in collaboration with Yangon's National Museum regarding principles and methodology of museum design in strict consideration of social issues, as highlighted in the project title "Training in the redesign of Burmese Museums with a people-centred approach"⁷.

We therefore outlined a pilot project to train employees, administrators and professionals of the Burmese National Museum - namely Yangon's Mandalay's and Naypidaw's National Museums - in order to promote a better understanding and enhancement of the country's ethnic and cultural diversity. We believed that dissemination about

⁶ Andrea Grimaldi is associate professor in Interior Design at Sapienza's Department of Architectural Design at Sapienza and has coordinated the program in Interior and Exhibition Design from 2007 to today. He has taught Museography and Exhibition and Interior Design and Interior Design in undergraduate and graduate programs and is currently responsible of the Final Design Studio in Interior and Exhibition Design in the five-year program in Architecture. He has designed, with others, various exhibition projects and museums, among which the exhibition inside the Metro C Station 'San Giovanni' in Rome.

⁷ The initial budget of the project mounted up to 25.000,00 €, 15.000,00 € to be funded by Sapienza and 10.000,00 by "Italia Birmania. Insieme"; the project was instead awarded with 7.500,00 €, requiring a substantial cut-off to the number of outgoing and incoming participants.



Fig. 5. Artworks conserved at the National Museum of Yangon.

design principles for a correct display of the museum artifacts was necessary to achieve the goal, *i.e.* to communicate shareable and understandable cultural values to the Burmese society.

The project met a first partner in Yangon National Museum, the most prestigious of the country but very needy of a thorough reorganization and redesign; once implemented positively, the project was meant to be easily extended to other museums of the country. The Ministry for Religious Affairs and Culture of Myanmar and the Directorate of the National Museum of Yangon immediately expressed their appreciation regarding the objectives of the proposed project and its willingness to cooperate. In addition, the project has networked with ICCROM and other Burmese institutions – such as Yangon Heritage Trust and the Ministry of Cultural and Religious Affairs.

A letter of intent was firstly signed by Dr. Nang Lao Ngin, Director of Yangon National Museum, to become the corresponding partner of the training activity in Yangon⁸. According to the Director, this museum

⁸ Yangon National Museum, founded in 1952 following the Burmese independence, is located in a four-storey building surrounded by a vast but semi-abandoned garden, and consists of 14 vast halls. The collection conserves pieces witnessing the Burmese ancient alphabet, epigraphy and calligraphy, works of the Yatanabon period, funerary inscriptions of the 9th BC of the Pyu period, paintings from Neolithic to Bagan, Inwa, Amarapura e Konanbung periods, ancient clothing and embroidered ornaments used during royal ceremonies assessing the variety of cultural and ethnic groups, bronze and Neolithic armoury, vases, urns, necklaces of the Pyu period, musical instruments and rural tools. The museum counts 110 employees and has received 70.000 visitors in 2017.

suffers an old-fashioned organization which does not enhance its extraordinary cultural heritage. The collection is exhibited in a very traditional way, is badly lit and explanations are displayed in Burmese language only, making the museum less attractive to the international public. She therefore asked to concentrate the training activities on main topics such as: the reorganization of the museum halls, the layout for temporary exhibitions, principles of refurbishment of lighting and equipment, elements of communication and digital information.

On behalf of these requests, we outlined the training agenda which spanned from a general overview on the Italian cultural context to principles of museography, including an outline of Italian masters of museum design, such as Carlo Scarpa, Franco Albini and Guido Canali, and including the description of significant case studies and a framing of today's principles of museum design⁹.

The agenda of the project consisted of three main activities: organization of the project (June 2018 - December 2018); development of training activity in Yangon (February 2019); hosting of the Burmese delegation in Rome (April 2019). Core was the training activity organized at the Yangon National Museum in favor of 12 participants¹⁰, supported by the Department of Architecture of Yangon Technological University, by the Yangon Region Government, and by the Burmese Ministry of Cultural and Religious Affairs.

As part of the cooperation project, following up the training activity, a delegation of two members¹¹ was invited to visit Rome in April 2019, in order to offer a better understanding of the Italian cultural context. This was the occasion to establish collaboration among individuals and academic institutions, and to encourage the undersigning of a Memory of Understanding between Sapienza and the Yangon Technological University, Department of Architecture. The delegation was therefore invited to various initiatives, such as visits to conservation laboratories at ISCR - Istituto Superiore per la Conservazione e il

⁹ Training activity entitled "Museography and Museology: the Italian Experience" took place in Yangon from February 11th to 19th 2019.

¹⁰ Namely Le Ye Mon, Sa Mon Kyaw, Hmu Sandra Khin, Aye Thidar Oo, Htet Htet Lioin, Nu Nu Aye, Soe Min Htwe, Khin Cho Cho Han, Zin Rwe Han, Su Su, Thet Oo, Thaw Tar Aung, plus auditors among local experts and employees of other national Burmese museums.

¹¹ Namely dr. Hmu Sandra Khin from Naypidaw National Museum and dr. Su Su, Director of the Department of Architecture at Mandalay Technological University.



Fig. 6. Group photo at Yangon National Museum with teaching staff and participants; in the background museum's main attraction, the Sihasana Throne or 'Royal Throne of Lion', originally located in the royal palace, photo by Salvo 2019.

Restauero of the Italian Ministry of Culture, and to Rome's main museums and cultural sites, such as the Vatican Museums and the Central Archaeological area.

3. Aims and further perspectives

The implementation of this cooperation project, which we believe to have been very successful, has also developed contacts with the Burmese Ministry of Science and Technology, with the Department of Architecture of Mandalay Technological University and with Yangon's Heritage Trust. A possible future development of activities, we have already started, is also referred to the extension of training activities to Mrauk U Archaeological Museum, Burma's most ancient institution of the sort, founded in 1904 and located in one of the country's most evocative archaeological areas. Here we intend to also gain cooperation in favor of Mrauk U's nomination to UNESCO World Heritage List. Unfortunately, the conflict between the Central government and the Rohingya population based in Rakhine, to which Mrauk U is central, harshened to the point that the area was closed due to military fire, hindering our aim, at least for the time being (Wade, 2017).

Cooperation expectations have been further inhibited by the very recent military coup d'état (2021), which has brought back the country back to the dark days of the dictatorship, burning the benefits of a luster-long period of democracy.

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The Protic Project. Outcomes from a ICT4D Action Research in Rural Bangladesh

Mauro Sarrica, Mara Matta – Sapienza University of Rome

Larry Stillman, Thomas Denison – Monash University, Melbourne

Abstract

PROTIC (Participatory Research and Ownership with Technology, Information and Change) is a large-scale ICTs for development (ICT4D) project in Bangladesh (2015-2019). It is international and interdisciplinary in scope, led by the Monash University Centre for Organizational and Social Informatics (Melbourne) in partnership with Oxfam Bangladesh. PROTIC also involves a number of Bangladeshi universities, including the University of Dhaka, and local NGOs, sociologists, community development workers, IT experts and a number of researchers and practitioners working at the crossroad of disciplinary domains.

The results of the project are complex. In brief the project has had direct impacts on food production and villager sustainability, and affected researchers' views on how such impacts via ICT information should be researched. It has also strongly influenced Oxfam's thinking about ICT4D and the place of information and knowledge flows and transactions in its own practice.

In this contribution we introduce our approach to ICTs in community and development projects, and outline the ICTs scenario in Bangladesh. The PROTIC project is then discussed, and finally, some examples and results from the project will be used to critically illustrate how research and practices are intertwined in cooperation activities.

1. Othering processes and faulty analogies

Community informatics (CI) and Information and Communications Technology for Development (ICT4D) are two closely related

areas whose projects focus on the social appropriation and transformative approach to ICTs and the design of information systems to meet the needs of communities. The first question CI and ICT4D projects often have to face is: do 'they' really need ICTs? That often actually means: aren't they people in poverty who have more important priorities in their lives? And, do they have the resources to take advantage of technologies?

These questions are not easy to answer. Indeed, ICT4D projects are not exempt from critiques related to techno-determinism, neo-colonialist attitudes, the commodification of communities, and concerns about power imbalances. These critiques require serious consideration of the way the actors that are engaged in ICT4D projects are represented and perceive each other. Defining 'who we are' and 'who they are' serves basic psychological functions but may also lead to justifying and maintaining social inequalities, defining social causality based on stereotypes, even beyond our own consciousness (Tajfel, 1981). This may result in faulty analogies between 'our' and 'their' needs, or biased perceptions of irreconcilable distance between the 'developed' and the 'developing' countries. ICT4D projects based on these implicit assumptions often express a techno-salvific and prescriptive attitude towards the way others *have* to be empowered and the role that ICTs must play in this mechanism.

On the contrary, in our opinion, the effectiveness of an ICT4D intervention depends on an emic approach to culture and on its capacity to build locally meaningful and sustainable interventions (Sarrica et al., 2019). We argue that it is fundamental to recognise the situated cultural, economic, technological capabilities while at the same time recognising the structural inequalities that make people struggle with basic needs. Local needs, community agency, and situated meanings are thus as important as structural inequalities and materiality in building the relationship with technologies. In this sense, ICTs are neither *the* solution nor as *one-tool-fits-all*, but a platform that increasingly mediates and enables particular aspects of development (Heeks, 2016). Moreover, the constant change in platforms means that we cannot even generalize about ICTs. Following Donnerwe should rather consider that ICT4D is engaged with "multitudes of Internets [...] appropriated, shaped, and reinvented by their users in an innumerable variety of contexts and cultures" (Donner, 2015, p. 5).

The initial questions should thus be rephrased into: how can this project, which includes ICTs, contribute to foster well-being and capabilities at individual and community level?

2. ICTs in contemporary Bangladesh

Novak romantically depicted Bangladesh ‘not so much a land upon water as water upon a land’ (Novak, 1993, p. 22). Bangladesh is one of the most crowded, young and fragile countries on the planet. It has half the size of Italy and a population of 160 million citizens, mostly living in villages. In remote areas for villagers the only means to travel is by foot, rickshaw, or slow, dangerous buses. Private cars are rare. Boat travel is often slow and expensive, and in the dry season settlements become inaccessible, except by inadequate roads and tracks. The country’s delicate ecosystem is also affected by floods, cyclone and earthquakes as well as by human activities that affect food security and livelihoods.

In this context, ICTs significantly contribute to managing ordinary needs and emergencies. The reaction to portable network since the late 1990s has been bewildering (Aminuzzaman et al., 2003). As indicated by the BD Telecommunication Regulatory Commission, cell phone subscriptions raised from 133 (Dec. 2015) to 162.5 million (Aug. 2019). Most individuals still have old mobile telephones. At the end of July 2019, more than 90 million people also accessed the Internet at least once in the preceding 90 days period by mobile phones with only about another 5.7 million via an ISP linked to a PC or laptop. In this unique situation, NGOs and the Government consider mobiles as tools for developing a knowledge-driven society (Rashid, 2017), however, social and interdisciplinary studies that add to technical and engineering competence are needed to achieve this goal beyond aspirational discourse (Hasan, 2016).

Access to information and to mobile phones is also a gendered matter in Bangladesh. A recent report highlights that 82% of adult males own a mobile phone, in contrast to 55% of women, and that 34% of men access mobile Internet services in contrast to 13% of women (Rowntree, 2018), and rural culture frowns upon women’s independent communications. Consequently, gender has to be considered as central to all discussions about improving life opportunities (including ICTs) in Bangladesh (Guhathakurta and Banu, 2016; Laizu et al., 2010).

Bangladesh-focused ICT4D research argues that access to mobiles can have positive outcomes such as reductions in travel times and isolation, increasing material affluence, improving health, education and livelihood. (Alam, Yusuf, and Coghill, 2010; Elder, Samarajiva, Gillwald, & Galperin, 2013; Rahman, Abdullah, Haroon, & Tooheen, 2013). And, despite known cultural constraints, studies suggest that phones have begun to have an impact in at least 5 areas of rural women lives: social security; social status; economic mobility; disaster and emergency response and, bridging the digital divide.

3. PROTIC a project with women in rural Bangladesh

Bearing upon these premises, the PROTIC team works with rural Bangladeshi communities, with a specific focus on engaging women, with the aim to improve their agricultural and related knowledge and skills, reducing dependency on others for information or support.

At present, the project has been working in the far north-west of Bangladesh and in the southern mangroves' region, though a third community in Sylhet has been involved at a later stage of the project (Fig. 1). These areas represent different ecological and economic systems, which are affected by a variety of problems and challenges. For example, the north-west area is heavily dependent on river flows and crops, whereas the south community traditional aquaculture economy and small farming are increasingly affected by climate change and the spread of shrimp farms. Nearby villages have also been considered, in order to take into account the spread of ICTs in rural Bangladesh beyond PROTIC.

PROTIC provided one hundred women in each project village with smartphones and, more importantly, supported locals with specific training on how to use them. Training has



Fig. 1. Protic communities location.

been developed by local NGOs that have long-term engagement with the communities, and are structured around community events, one-to-one explanations and monthly meetings which provide a community-based feed-back loop for the project.

PROTIC has developed Bengali-language interactive and localised information services which provide timely, accurate, and reliable information including crops, livestock, fisheries alerts and advice, localized climate information, and disaster alerts. As a detailed example of grass-roots action, SMS information was provided alongside training in animal vaccination, allowing for mass inoculation of ducks in the village in areas that are chronically affected by staff shortages in veterinary services. PROTIC also addresses social entitlement rights and benefits, and health issues with participants, providing access to access to information that enables women to improve their and their communities' well-being.

A mixed method approach has been implemented to evaluate the transformations in the communities involved. The data collected includes quantitative surveys, in-depth interviews, notes of meetings with project staff, monthly meetings, as well transcripts and ethnographic observation of Internet use and multimedia products created by the villagers themselves (Sarrica et al., 2019;).

Researchers and academics associated with the project regularly visit or spend time on site, meet with women involved in the project and with project staff, engage with local NGOs, main NGOs and policy makers. Their goal is not just to collect data but to discuss next steps of the projects with the community involved, and to understand with stakeholders and policy makers whether and how the outcomes of the project can be scaled-up to meet the needs of other Bangladeshi communities.

4. Outcomes with local community

A comparison of quantitative self-reported well-being shows that whereas project and control village did not show significant differences as regards well being perceived one year before the data collection (T1), the respondents involved in the project perceived a significantly ($p < .01$) higher sense of well-being (T2) and felt even more optimistic than respondents from control villages when asked to foresee their situation a year from now (T3).

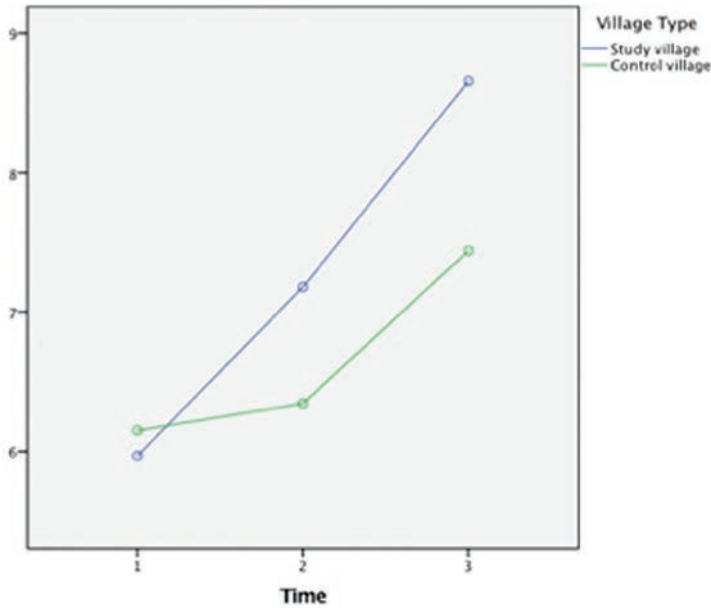


Fig. 2. Perceived overall well being in Study and Control villages.

Note: GLM - repeated measures. T1: How did you feel one year ago? T2: How do you feel now? T3: How will you feel one year from now? Scale range 1 to 10.

Increase in Well Being is also significantly ($p < .01$) higher for study village than control village for $\Delta T1 - T2$ and $\Delta T2 - T3$.

The qualitative data clarify that because of training and support, PROTIC participants acquired new competencies and felt more entitled to use mobile phones in their everyday practices:

My communication network developed more. Earlier I rarely used my husband's phone. But now I can call anyone. It is also helping my family. I can talk to the teachers of my children. I can communicate with my parents in India. Earlier I was not comfortable to talk with them on my husband's phone.

Some women had come to be seen as 'information hubs' for the community, thanks to their multi-media skills in sharing images and capacity to contact the 'right person'. They contacted the call centre to get trustworthy information about agriculture, they organised transportation of people and goods, and they felt entitled to call an ambulance:

When anyone from our village needs a solution for agricultural or poultry related problems, then they come to me and I ring the call centre. If I need any transportation, then I can call auto or rickshaw van pullers. I haven't called for an ambulance yet.

Significantly, women we met felt empowered, in a way that differs from the hyper-individualised empowerment familiar from the Anglo-American tradition of research. They were part of families and larger collectivities:

My mother was also surprised at how I am managing this! This is to my credit.

5. Next steps with local communities

Even though the use of smartphones is still limited to the basic calling functions, it is possible to foresee that the strong visual culture in the engaged communities will favour a shift to visual and multimedia communication. The shift from painting informative panels, walls or public billboards to posting photos (e.g. on Facebook) is an emerging practice, and we expect that women will be interested in developing this skill in the near future (Fig. 3).

*When the vegetable garden or crops field get spoiled, then **I take photos and send them to the call centre.** They give us many suggestions.*

Increasing and giving space to women's agency is probably one of the main future targets. Anecdotally, some women suggested a sexual health app for young women of the community, and this shows their capacity to translate the competences in the project to other new domains (i.e. health). Increased literacy and the use of visual media also provided us with preliminary insights about citizens' journalism or for building local archives, which will for the first time collect and preserve information about matters that are relevant for the community. In this sense, the next step is working for the project to be sustainable after its end: top-down information will be, in our expectation, substituted by locally-owned knowledge about agriculture, farming, fisheries, human rights and any other issue that is perceived as relevant, by locals and for the locals. In fact, a very simple form of this is the use, by a number of women, of notebooks to keep notes on the information and knowledge that they have acquired for the project. Given the collective orientation of the community, we expect that some women and the local NGOs involved in the project will be increasingly recognised as mediators between the local needs and the possibility offered by the web.

Some of the villagers have suggested that in the future, perhaps, only a few 'specialists' in their local hub will need to have high-level device phone skills and others will rely more on personal contact in an information centre, memory, personal networks, and paper documentation.



Fig. 3. Visual culture, from painted panels to Facebook.

At the same time, this enhanced and expanded communicative network brings new problems, concerning, for example jealousy within and between villagers, the use of the Internet as a new space for reproducing power inequalities, and cyberbullying and harassment and identity theft. Of course, none of these problems are particularly original and are known in any country. But here, we see the transfer of virtual problems into village environment where the effects can be especially distressing and problem-solving complex. Project staff will need to work harder with local participants to achieve more responsive and responsible forms of ICT literacy, including a capacity to engage in protective behaviour.

6. Outcomes and next steps with the research communities

A project like PROTIC brings transformations to all the actors involved, including researchers, policy makers, practitioners. From this perspective, working in the field poses continuous challenges to the ways we interpret participatory approaches and the meaning of empowerment.

Are the women involved really the ones who drive this change, or are they still perceived -and perceive themselves- as beneficiaries? Digitalization and Women's Empowerment are two mantras of national political leaders in Bangladesh, as in many other countries. In this context, the vision of a Digital Bangladesh is crucially based on the creation of a circle of trust among the people involved, where it would be important to understand whether young women simply repeat these slogans or interpret and use them to their advantage.

How can we combine empowerment with respecting obligations in the local social system and avoiding disruption? PROTIC has sensitized us to the importance of the family, group and collective in Bangladeshi

society, as well as gendered roles, hierarchical rules and patronage systems. However, any project is a project of change and, in the name of respect for rules (social, cultural, religious, political), it could end up not being effective, or only having marginal effects. Of course, being able to call an ambulance or receive news and information on the harvest, together with other practical things, remain important necessities that have been met. It would certainly be interesting to see how requests related to more sensitive issues (e.g. an APP on women sexual health) can be supported without reproducing the power inequalities engendered by patriarchy, and other forms of discrimination (e.g. treating sexual health as functional only at procreation). This change in norms, to be effective, requires time and listening space and should involve not just the village, but in their own ways NGOs and government organisations we have worked with at a national and local level.

PROTIC has seeded to change both in the village and with its institutional partners. It has served as a catalyst to form a network for research and intervention. It blurred the boundaries between researchers and practitioners, enabling a mutual learning as regards intervention, data management, and project evaluation. This result was also made possible thanks to Sapienza funds for international cooperation: in 2018 more than 40 scholars from Europe, Australia, Asia, met in Rome for an intensive workshop entitled *Technology and Society: Diversity, Development and Community Change*.

The next challenges will be to identify ways to transform the specific case study into theoretical contributions to the developing of the CI and ICT4D field. This will only be possible if the insights offered by communication studies, psychology, anthropology, and social science will combine with the insights of field practice and ICT specialists to influence policy makers and stakeholders. In this sense PROTIC experience confirmed us that in a world increasingly characterised by the massive use of technologies for information and communication, only interdisciplinary perspectives – including continuing interaction between research and social action – can contribute to benefit from ICTs to address the major challenges that poverty, isolation, climate change, lack of access to information pose to the life of billions of people.

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POSTER SESSION

Fabio Attorre

fabio.attorre@uniroma1.it

Department of Environmental Biology - Faculty of Mathematics, Physics, and Natural Sciences

SECOSUD II – Conservation and Equitable Use of Biological Diversity in the SADC region 2015-2020

Keywords

Biodiversity Conservation, Sustainable Development, Southern Africa

Abstract

SECOSUD II Project ("Conservation and equitable use of biological diversity in the SADC region") is funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, and jointly implemented by Sapienza University of Rome and Eduardo Mondlane University of Maputo. The project operates in the framework of the three Rio Conventions of the United Nations on environment: the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The aim is to strengthen the capacity of the scientific network of the SADC region, particularly the reference centers for ecosystem-based land planning and management, and to fill the gap existing between scientific research and governmental institutions in charge of environmental management. This will help research institutions to fulfill their function of science and knowledge development, and also provide administrative bodies with adequate instruments and capacities to address the challenges of environmental conservation and sustainable development.

Aims

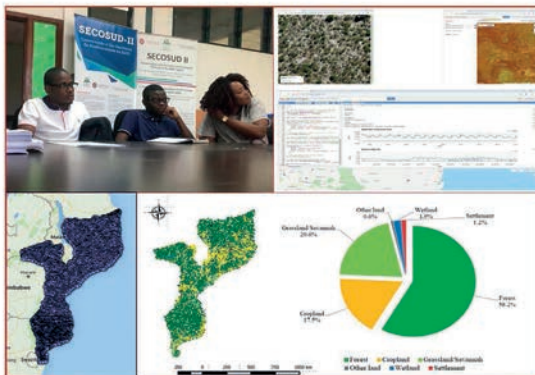
- Consolidating the capacities of decision-makers responsible for land planning and management of natural resources.
- Promoting their use in support of the harmonization of land management processes at the national, regional and international level.
- Boosting biodiversity conservation and sustainable economic development in the SADC region, consistently with the CBD goals and in synergy with those of UNCCD and UNFCCC.

Results

- A Biodiversity Network of Mozambique (<http://bionomo.herokuapp.com/en/>) has been developed in order to collect, organize and make available biodiversity data to support effective conservation strategies at national scale. Similar tools are being developed for Swaziland and Zimbabwe.

- Land assessment at scale have been conducted for Mozambique, South Africa and Swaziland using Collect Earth, an innovative tool developed in collaboration with FAO and Google to support the implementation of strategies to combat the desertification and adapt to climate change.

- Transboundary protected areas management tool for fire, water and biodiversity have been developed, in particular for the Great Limpopo Conservation area (Kruger-Limpopo National parks).



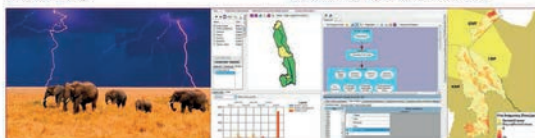
Collect Earth training course: Augmented Visual Interpretation tool; Sample design for Mozambique: Distribution of Land Use in Mozambique



Digitalization of biodiversity data collection for Biodiversity Network of Mozambique



Homepage of GBIF-BID project "Mobilizing primary biodiversity data for Mozambican species of conservation concern"



Transboundary protected areas management tools

Fabio Attorre Associate Professor of Ecosystem approach to biodiversity conservation at the Department of Environmental Biology of Sapienza University of Rome, has a PhD in Botany on the use of GIS and remote sensing tool for vegetation mapping and protected areas planning. For more than 15 years he has been working as a researcher and scientific coordinator on international cooperation projects dealing with biodiversity conservation, protected areas planning and management, integrated sustainable management of natural resources, assessment of climate change impacts on species and ecosystems. Areas of intervention include Southern Africa, Middle East (Yemen and Tunisia), South America (Peru and Ecuador), Balkans (Albania and Montenegro), Pacific (Papua New Guinea and Samoa).

Research team
 Marcello Vitale
 Luca Modirrousta
 Giuseppe Sappa
 Maurizio Barbieri
 Alfredo Guller
 Stefano De Felici
 Roberto Valentini
 Piercarlo Zingari
 Mario Meazza
 Lorenzo Ricci
 Gianluca Pio Zaffarato
 Marco Francesco Falchetta
 Edoardo Sepp

Nicola Boccella

nicola.boccella@uniroma1.it

Department of Legal, philosophical and economic studies - Faculty of Law

Support to the democratic transition process in Tunisia

Keywords

Democratic transition, Tunisia, training of the human capital

Abstract

The Project "Support to the democratic transition process in Tunisia" was carried out in cooperation with the MAECI - Directorate General for Development Cooperation. The training project mainly focused on the training of skills to accompany the Tunisian institutions in the democratic transition process, through the consolidation of specific competences of the national human capital working at institutions responsible for the democratic development and the Good Governance. The initiative was part of a consolidated path, requested and supported by the Tunisian authorities, responding to the needs of innovative training, with characteristics of socio-cultural exchange.

Aims

- To increase knowledge and to consolidate the skills of Tunisian public officials.
- To promote communication and relational processes between several institutions.
- To promote the adoption of shared strategies and tools for the protection and promotion of human rights.

Results

The main result has been the provision of an advanced training course, addressed to 19 Tunisian officials, working at the following institutions:

- Tunisian Parliament
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Women Affairs, Family and Children
- Ministry of the Interior
- Ministry of Development, Investment and International Cooperation

The screenshot shows the Sapienza University website for the course "Sostegno al processo di transazione democratica in Tunisia [28154]". The page includes the university logo, navigation links (STUDENTI, LAUREATI, TERRITORIO, CONTATTI), and a search bar. The main content area provides details about the course, including its identifier (28154), type (high-level course), and start year (2014/2015). It also lists the director (Prof. Nicola Maria Boccella) and contact information for the faculty and administrative services. A sidebar on the right contains contact details for the director and administrative services, including a phone number and email address.



Nicola Boccella Professor of Political Economics at the Department of Legal, Philosophical and Economic Studies of Sapienza University of Rome, is coordinator of the Institute of Economics and Finance at the Faculty of Law in the same University. He has directed numerous researches on the theme of local development, also in relation to the valorisation of Cultural Heritage, and on the professional training of economic and cultural operators.

Research team

Scientific Committee:

Nicola Boccella, Director
 Emanuela Benini
 Riccardo Migliori
 Imen Ben Mohamed
 Giovanna Montella
 Adriana Piga
 Angelo Quarto

For the course realisation:

Nicola Boccella, Director
 Renata Inbruglia, Responsible for the Educational secretary
 Angelo Quarto, Tutor
 Irene Salerno, Responsible for the educational material
 Serena Saquella, Technical coordination
 Cecilia Zecchinelli, Mentor

Teachers:

Cristiana Abbafati, Teresa Abano,
 Emanuela Benini, Stefano Burchi,
 Carmelo Cedrone, Maria Civita
 Campobasso, Francesca Maria
 Corrado, Daniela Esposito, Tania Groppli,
 Francesco Gui, Francesca Lufi, Ugo
 Meoiconda, Giovanni Merlino,
 Riccardo Migliori, Giovanna Montella,
 Alfredo Ottaviani, Franco Pittau,
 Barbara Terenzi, Giulia Vassallo,
 Stefano Volpicelli, Claudia Zaccari

Daniela De Leo

daniela.deleo@uniroma1.it

Department of Planning, Design and Technology of Architecture - Faculty of Architecture

COO-PER-AZIONE-DAKAR_ Institutional and capacity building actions

For the strengthening and supporting the development of the urban planning department of the School of Architecture and Civil Engineering of Dakar

April 2018- July 2019**Keywords**Urban planning Training Technical skills
Cooperation**Abstract**

The objective of the project is to strengthen the disciplinary and technical skills of the IPP, Institut Polytechnique Panafricain (School of Architecture and Civil Engineering of Dakar). As a partner university institution, it will mainly benefit from a targeted action to strengthen the current training capacities in favor of the local institutions, the city and the neighboring territory.

Starting from the exchange and direct comparison and the joint planning of a work (realized with the interaction with local associations and professional associations), this international cooperation project aims to carry out a profound capacity building action aimed at laying the foundations for the creation of a competent and active institutional subject in urban research and specialized training, connected to local and national networks.

Aims

- collaboration with the Departments of territorial planning and geography of public Universities to support them in strengthening the capacity to absorb the deficit related to research and professional training on complex urban phenomena and on the management of territorial transformation
- structuring actions aimed at research and training in the field of urban studies
- analysis and definition of policies, programs in progress and their results also in relation to the demand for innovation of the social actors and professional bodies involved
- start of the creation of a research laboratory equipped with a "école doctorale" and a second level Master's course, also with reference to the professionalizing training model of the Urban-Urbanistica Master for Public Administration (of the same department of the proponents)

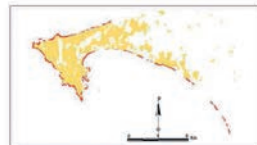
Results

The expected results of the project are

- strengthening research and training capacities
- consolidation of training structures (possibly with the reopening of the department) through a closer relationship with the demand from local institutions and third sector organizations
- creation of a solid cooperation network interaction between training institutions, local and third sector associations.
- creation of a research laboratory with école doctorale and a second level Master's course



The district towns and peri-urban centers of the urban area of Dakar



Disaster scenario in Dakar. Level of exposure to floods and coastal erosion



Aerial photo of Dakar: District of Ngor and Ouakam

Daniela De Leo

She is a tenured researcher and Assistant professor in Urban Planning at Sapienza University in Rome. The current research focuses on conflicts as field in which are faced some important challenges for the Urban Planning theories and practices. Moreover, she has conducted and coordinated some research activities abroad such in Nablus, in East Jerusalem, in Beirut, but also at the MIT, UoT, British Columbia and U.Bruxelles.

Giada Leone

She is architect and urban planner, student at the Urban Planning for the Public Administration second level Master with experience in cooperation project in South America and Africa.

Research team

Daniela De Leo
Giada Leone

Francesca Giofrè

francesca.giofre@uniroma1.it

Dipartimento Planning Design Technology of Architecture – Faculty of Architecture



European project design and management In the South MediTerranean region period 2016-2019 (co-financed by the Erasmus+ programme KA2)

Keywords

Modernization Accessibility Internationalization

Abstract

EuNIT is a European project that aims, to increase international activity in Higher Education Institutions (HEI) in the Southern Mediterranean region. The project involves 16 partners and 6 associated partners from Croatia, France, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya and Spain and has been co-financed by the Erasmus+ programme for the amount of 1 million euros.

Lead Contractor:

Université d'Aix-Marseille, France

Partners:

Mediterranean Universities Union, Italy
 Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza", Italy
 Università di Messina, Italy
 Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, Spain
 Universitat de Barcelona, Spain
 Université Nice Sophia Antipolis, France
 University of Split, Croatia
 Princess Sumaya University for Technology, Jordan
 Yarmouk University, Jordan
 Université Antonin, Lebanon
 Université Saint-Joseph de Beyrouth, Lebanon
 Université de Balamand, Lebanon
 Misurata University, Libya
 University of Tripoli, Libya
 University of Zawia, Libya

Aims

- 1) Training of 24 university staff to develop European project design and management units.
- 2) Develop online course on European project management. The EuNIT project will develop innovative tools such as online courses (MOOCs) open to everyone interested in European project management and make it accessible through e-learning platforms.
- 3) Creation of a regional network of HEIs. To support the participation of South Mediterranean HEIs in European projects, the EuNIT project plans to set up a regional network of HEIs in order to gather and exchange good practices and experience in project design and management, but also to train a greater number of staff.

Results

The EuNIT project is still ongoing.
<https://www.eunitproject.eu/>



16 April 2018 - 17 April 2018 EuNIT mid-term meeting at La Sapienza University, Rome



12-16 March 2018 'Practical placement session' for University of Balamand, Lebanon at La Sapienza University, Rome



17-18-19 October 2017 'Research Training Session' for Yarmouk University and Tripoli University, at La Sapienza University, Rome

Francesca Giofrè Architect, PHD, Associated Professor, Vice Dean of Faculty of Architecture (since 2015). Research areas: Innovation in design process; Innovation in urban regeneration; design for all. Member of Teachers College PHD in "Regeneration and recovery of the settlements" (2004-10) and since 2013 of PHD "Engineering-based Architecture and Urban Planning". Member of scientific board; teaching coordinator, of the II level Master's in "Architecture for Health" (2004-2014) co-financed by MAECI. Faculty Coordinator for extra EU student's mobility. She has part of scientific board and organization committee of international student's workshop on Healthy City (Quaternale, Belgrade, Brazil, etc.). Delegate by Rector for Thetsy Consortium of Euro-Mediterranean Universities and for AISI's Association of Italian and Serbian Scientists and Scholars. Since 2017 she is part of Sapienza Commissions: Internationalization and Quality and Innovation in Teaching. She is the coordinator of project KA2 financed by EU "Healthy Urban Environment: developing higher education in architecture and construction in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2018-2021).

Research team
 Mohamed Ebeley
 Sapienza International Relations Office
 Sapienza Research and Technology
 Transfer Support Area

Giovanni Laneve

giovanni.laneve@uniroma1.it

Department of Astronautics, Electrical and Energetics Engineering - School of Aerospace Engineering

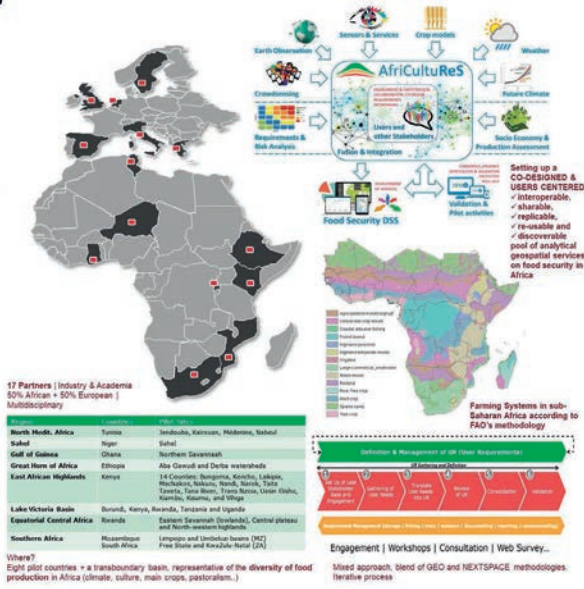
AfriCultuReS: Enhancing Food Security in African AgriCultural Systems with the support of Remote Sensing

Keywords (max 4)

Earth Observation satellite, crop monitoring, forecasting, food security.

Abstract

AfriCultuReS (AFRICan AgriCULTUral Systems with the Support of REmote Sensing) is the Horizon 2020 project that won a call on using Earth Observation assets for improving food security in Africa. The project has 17 partners, 7 of which are located in African countries (Tunisia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Ghana, Rwanda, Mozambique, South Africa) and receives about €8.5 million of EU funding. It is one of the cornerstones of the strategy of the European Commission to intensify the cooperation with African partners, contributing to the European Union – African Union partnership while promoting and supporting the activities of the Group on Earth Observation (GEO) and its flagships (e.g. GEOGLAM), regional initiatives, EuroGEOSS and AfriGEOSS. The project brings together a large variety of data from different sources such as satellites, e.g. from the EU's Copernicus programme, ground based observations and models. It develops crop yield predictions and other services and decision support tools for policy makers. The project's strength is the strong African participation and the significant involvement of users in the development of services and tools that the project is delivering. The project adheres to open data policies and will make also the tools developed in the project open source. This openness is crucial for tools dealing with food security as it ensures transparent decision-making on this important issue.



Aims

AfriCultuReS aims to design, implement and demonstrate an integrated agricultural monitoring and early warning system that will support decision making in the field of food security. AfriCultuReS delivers a broad range of climatic, production, biophysical and economic information, for various regions in Africa. AfriCultuReS applies geospatial science to sustainable agricultural development, natural resource management, biodiversity conservation, and poverty alleviation in Africa. The project will push forward the services provided by current systems, with innovative fusion of data from multiple sources (EO, in-situ, citizen-based crowdsourcing, climate services and weather, crop models) in a vertical manner. Geospatial products are combined in a spatial Decision Support System (DSS) to enrich decision making and risk assessment.



AfriCultuReS is envisaged to be a GEO (GEOGLAM, AfriGEOSS, EuroGEOSS), Copernicus and GMES & Africa contributing action. AfriCultuReS partners are heavily involved in GEO, Copernicus and GMES & Africa

Giovanni Laneve Associated Professor of Satellite remote sensing: acquisition systems and data processing methods at Scuola di Ingegneria Aerospaziale di Spazienza Università di Roma. Since 1987 he has been involved in the space activities of the Centro di Ricerca Progetto San Marco regarding satellite control and scientific data processing. His activity in remote sensing concerns the development of automated procedure based on MSG/SEVIRI, LANDSAT/OLI, SENTINEL-2, TERRA/MODIS; for monitoring floating vegetation and detecting invasive weeds (water hyacinth) (Lake Victoria); monitoring agricultural areas; detecting oil spill in water bodies (Lake Maracabò); detecting forest fires; monitoring fire hazard; monitoring burned areas and provide the severity maps. He has been recently the coordinator of the FP7 project PREFER, the ODSM European Civil Protection project, the SBAM project funded by Italian Space Agency. He is the scientific responsible of the EOSIAL (EO Satellite Image Analysis Lab, <http://eosial.prim.unroma1.it/>) laboratory. The Lab owns a Eurostar 378 drone equipped with a multi-spectral camera and instruments for in situ measurements (LAI,2000, Duster, thermal camera).

Research team
Lorenzo Fusilli
Pablo Manzietti
Roberto Luciani
Riccardo Orsi
Mohamed Hejazi
Mariangela Dejana
Ramon Bueno Morales

Giovanni Laneve

giovanni.laneve@uniroma1.it

Department of Astronautics, Electrical and Energetics Engineering - School of Aerospace Engineering

SBAM: Satellite Based Agricultural Monitoring

Keywords

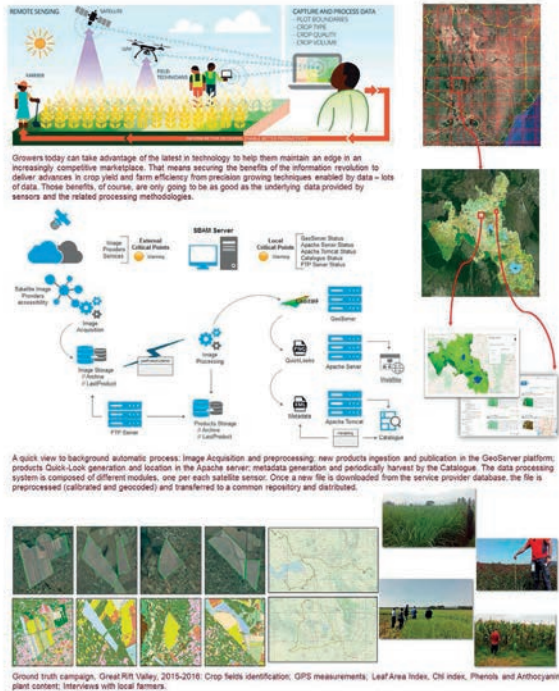
Earth Observation satellite, crop monitoring, forecasting, food security.

Abstract

Agricultural activities conducted in the Great Rift Valley of Kenya, show a significant decline of productivity levels. This phenomenon is mainly related to limited availability of water resources, lack of supporting irrigation and harvesting techniques ineffectiveness. Production risks reduction is closely related with a better use of water resources and a better understanding of the effects resulting from the multiple interactions between climate, agricultural vegetation, soil type and crops management techniques. A remote and automatic agricultural monitoring system is presented as an effective alternative to the most traditional in situ measurements and observations. We investigated the use of phenological data extracted from satellite imagery combined with crop calendar and supported by agro-ecological zoning. In accurate crop classification and monitoring, Vegetation indices extracted from Landsat 8 imagery are capable to track the vegetation development through the year; phenological profiles can be extracted and implemented into a multi-temporal automatic classification process to detect agricultural vegetated areas and to discriminate among different crop species. The FAO crop water productivity model AquaCrop was calibrated for wheat and maize yield mapping in the central highland of Kenya, handling both environmental and phenological data. When properly calibrated, AquaCrop reliability implies that it can be used in developing new and site specific strategies for field and water resources management techniques improvement.

Aims

An agricultural environment monitoring server system for monitoring information concerning an outdoors agricultural production utilizing remote sensed data has been implemented at the Department of Physics of the University of Nairobi. An agricultural monitoring system provides environmental monitoring services and facility controlling services, and thus maintains the crop growing conditions optimal status. Existing monitoring systems are mostly applied in closed agricultural scenery (like greenhouses) and not in outdoors locations. It could be expected that the use of such a system could contribute to increase crop yields and improve quality in the agricultural field by supporting the decision making process through the analysis of collected information.



Giovanni Laneve Associated Professor of Satellite remote sensing: acquisition systems and data processing methods at Scuola di Ingegneria Aerospaziale di Sapienza Università di Roma. Since 1987 he has been involved in the space activities of the Centro di Ricerca Progetto San Marco regarding satellite control and scientific data processing. His activity in remote sensing concerns the development of automated procedure based on MSG/SEVIRI, LANDSAT/OLI, SENTINEL2/MSI, TERRAMODIS, for: monitoring floating vegetation and detecting invasive weeds (water hyacinth) (Lake Victoria); monitoring agricultural areas; detecting oil spill in water bodies (Lake Maracabó); detecting forest fires; monitoring fire hazard; monitoring burned areas and provide fire severity maps. He has been recently the coordinator of the FP7 project PREFER, the CODIP European Civil Protection project, the SBAM project funded by Italian Space Agency. He is the scientific responsible of the EOGIAL (EO Satellite Image Analysis Lab, <http://eogial.psm.uniroma1.it>) laboratory. The Lab, owns a Esarotro SFB drone equipped with a multi-spectral camera and instruments for in situ measurements (LAI2200, Dualex, thermal camera).

Research team
Roberto Luciani
Munzer Jalajah
Cobus Ooms 1989
Lorenzo Fuilli
Pablo Marzaletti



Acknowledgement
This project has been funded by Italian Space Agency in the framework of the ASI - Sapienza Agreement.

Pierluigi Montalbano

pierluigi.montalbano@uniroma1.it

Department of Economics and Social Sciences - Faculty of Political Science, Sociology, and Communication Science

An integrated framework between World Bank Living Standards Measurement Study - Integrated Survey on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA) and FAO - MAFAP: the case of Tanzania and Uganda

Keywords

Nominal rates of protection, Spatial price heterogeneity, Small-holder farmers, Maize value chain.

Abstract

The calculations of the so-called nominal rates of protection (NRPs), rely on the non-trivial assumption of a nationally-representative market pathway. This is mainly due to the chronic shortage of data in developing countries. Although in competitive systems spatial arbitrage should in theory lower price differences across markets to the level of transaction costs, in Tanzania and Uganda there is substantive evidence of imperfect spatial price transmission due to several different factors such as market power, transport and marketing costs, government interventions and asymmetric information.

The aim of this project, financed by FAO MAFAP and carried out by the Department of Economics and Social Sciences of Sapienza, is to reconcile the evidence of spatial heterogeneity with the policymakers' need for synthetic indicators on agricultural price incentives. We achieve this goal by computing spatially-disaggregated estimates of NRPs of farmer data in Tanzania and Uganda taken from the World Bank Living Standards Measurement Study - Integrated Survey on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA) data collection.

Aims

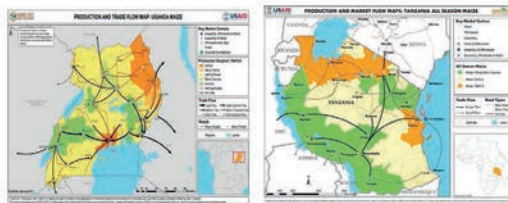
– propose a multi-step procedure to build regionally disaggregated NRPs in a data-scarce environment;

– test empirically this multi-step procedure to the case of maize value chain in Tanzania and Uganda.

This is a pilot study that can be easily extended to other crops and countries. The choice of maize is motivated by its dichotomous role as food security crop for the country and as export commodity towards the East Africa Community.

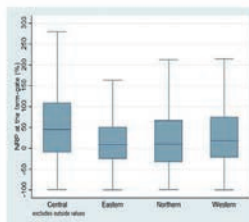
Results

Our results show that spatial heterogeneity is a key component of NRPs for maize farmers in Tanzania and Uganda. This finding has far-reaching policy implications: i) it shows that the implicit assumption of a nationally-representative market pathway is unrealistic; and ii) pan-national policy interventions may exacerbate, rather than reduce, price distortions along the chain.

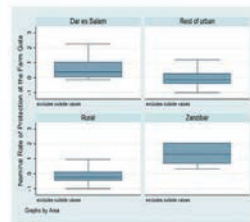


FEWSNET Market and Production Trade Flow Maps - Uganda

FEWSNET Market and Production Trade Flow Maps - Tanzania



NRPs at the farm gate by region (2009-2012) in Uganda



NRPs at the farm gate by area (2009-2012) in Tanzania

Pierluigi Montalbano Associate Professor of International Economic Policy at Sapienza University of Rome (IT) and Associate Faculty at Department of Economics, University of Sussex (UK). He is chair holder of the Jean Monnet Chair on "Reframing EU Trade Policy for Development" and Director of MSc on "Migration and Development" in Sapienza University of Rome (IT). He is also member of the Centro Ricerche Economiche e Sociali Rossa-Doria in Roma Tre University and of the Italian Centre for International Development (CICID) in University of Tor Vergata, Rome. He is author and co-author of several, national and international articles and scientific publications and invited speakers at several national and international conferences and seminars.

Research team
 Marco Letta, Sapienza University of Rome
 Emiliano Magrin, FAO
 Irene Staffler, Sapienza University of Rome

Piergaspare Palumbo

piergaspares.palumbo@uniroma1.it
 Dipartimento di Scienze Chirurgiche

Academic collaboration program between Sapienza Rome University Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry and Mekelle University Faculty of Medicine to organize post-graduation teaching program, scientific events and common scientific research lines

Ongoing

Keywords (max 4)

Surgery, Teaching, Cooperation, Management

Abstract

"Ayder University" in Mekelle, established in 1991, is the largest and the most active academic institution in Tigray area, in the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. "Sapienza University of Rome" has been joining this cooperation on August 22nd, 2008, with a deal renewed on September 19th, 2014 and valid until 2020. In the context of this arrangement, active partnerships with Literature and Architecture faculties are under way, on December 1st, 2012 the executive collaboration protocol between the Medical Faculties was signed. It's relevant to underline the presence in the neighboring county of Quha of an Italian hospital, recognized in the Foreign Italian Hospitals network, where Italian physicians and surgeons perform clinical practice.

Aims

In line with the principles of the Charter of International Relations for Sapienza University, the collaboration between the Medical Faculty of the two institutions will be based on the following:

- identification of shareable educational methods, which could make possible the students exchange in the short-medium term under agreed and verifiable arrangements (tutor institutions)
- sharing the training of specialists in surgery and in all other activities considered of common interest (specialization training, master, Ph. D.)
- participation in common research projects
- organization and participation in scientific conferences, which could be arranged in the institutional forum of the Universities involved.

Results

As planned, in accordance with Lazio Chirurgia Solidale (no profit organization active for a long time at the Quha Hospital), the first multidisciplinary workshop took place. The first week was devoted to Surgery, a Day Surgery and Health management expert, a laparoscopic surgeon and two general surgeons participated to the activities, which were held at the Ayder Hospital in Mekelle, with the involvement both to the final exams of the residents in General Surgery and Thoracic Surgery, and to the surgery performed in the operating theatre of the hospital. A surgery session dedicated to thyroid surgery and to inguinal hernia repair with high technology prosthesis took place at the Quha Hospital, with the collaboration of a surgeon of Mekelle University. On October 10th, an afternoon frontal lesson was held at the Medicine Faculty of Mekelle, which was attended by senior physicians and both Ethiopian and Italian residents. A small group of Italian students coming from Torino University was present too. The second week activities, carried out in the same way of those of previous week, involved a specialist in prenatal ultrasound and the responsible for the Quha Hospital Analysis Laboratory. All the specialists were from Sapienza University of Rome.



Ayder Hospital: Mekelle University teaching hospital. First multidisciplinary workshop on surgical activities, prenatal ultrasound diagnostic and lab analysis interpretation.



Ayder Hospital: clinical discussion



Ayder Hospital: Surgical training



Quha Hospital: Surgical training



Ayder Hospital: prenatal ultrasound

It was moreover confirmed the availability of funds in order to host an Ethiopian specialist for a one-month training at the Rome General Hospital and the possibility of providing to another specialist an online English Master registration about "Neonatology in limited resources countries".

The letters appreciating the activities held, sent by the Medicine Faculty President of Mekelle University and by the Ayder Hospital Chief Medical Officer, represent a positive feedback, useful for assessing the success of the initiative. The workshop conduct, moreover, allowed to highlight a few aspects, which will inspire the planning of future activities.

Prof. Piergaspare Palumbo, Aggregate Professor of Surgery, Surgical Sciences Department, Medicine and Dentistry Faculty - Sapienza University of Rome

Members of the research project
 Prof. Alberto Angelici
 Dott. ssa Sofia Usai
 Dott. Bruno Perotti
 Dott. Francesco Lancelotti
 Dott. ssa Giulia Pizzardi

Roberto Pasca di Magliano

roberto.pasca@uniroma1.it

CEMAS - Centro di ricerca cooperazione con l'Eurasia, il Mediterraneo e l'Africa Sub-Sahariana
Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Development of a training model in the strengthening of microfinance in Uganda

Keywords

Microfinance Education
Local implementation
Dissemination model in African countries

Abstract

The project achieved main results as follows:

- organization of a specialized course to improve professional capabilities of local experts working in the field of microfinance in Uganda;
 - implementation of the sustainability to be achieved in terms of microfinance projects' dissemination by helping the new operators to the introduction of new initiatives in remote areas;
 - improvement of the mobility of trained human resources in order to develop a comparative approach to microfinance, in particular to the issue of microinsurance;
 - creation of an internet portal, in both Italian and English, to open an interesting communicative window;
 - improvement of the availability of relevant data in order to assess the progress and the impact of microfinance projects;
 - sharing micro-entrepreneurial experiences that can create positive externalities to further expand productive activities;
 - dissemination of best practices that will improve entrepreneurial skills, fostering greater impact on the socio-economic context (**to be done by 2019**)
- Up to now the project results have been collected on three publications, whose contributions have been subjected to a scientific evaluation and approval of the scientific direction.
1. The Socio-Economic Impact of Microfinance: the case of "Wekembe"
 2. The Uganda Microinsurance Contest
 3. Microfinance course – concept papers

Aims

- analysis of the ongoing microfinance experiences in Uganda in collaboration with Alitis (research center of the Catholic University of Milan)
- selection of local experts to be invited to a specialization school in Sapienza, Rome
- development of a finalised educational project
- building of a web site
- investigation on the effects of microcredit and microinsurance in the Uganda context
- draft of a dissemination model devoted to impact analysis (to be completed by 2019)



microfinance course

CONCEPT PAPERS

"La Sapienza" Rome | Italy February 29th - March 24th 2016

Roberto Pasca di Magliano Professor of Growth Economics at Sapienza University of Rome; member of the scientific committee of Fondazione Roma Sapienza and coordinator of the International Cooperation section; Professor of Economics and Business Management, Director of the Master in International Cooperation Finance and Development and Director of the EFCB Business Finance Laboratory at Unilems Sapienza Rome. He was full Professor of Political Economics, Development Economics and of Growth Economics, President of the didactic Area of Cooperation and Development, member of the Department of Social and Economic Sciences and of the research center CEMAS at Sapienza University of Rome. He has held the following posts: economic advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs - development cooperation (1982-85); economic adviser to the Minister of Agriculture (1993); president of research centers in agriculture (1998-2005); general director of business incentives (Ministry of Productive Activities, 2000-2005); economic advisor for international trade (Ministry of Economic Development, 2000-11). Specialization at London School of Economics, UCLA University Berkeley. Author of many papers on development and growth economics, economic policy.

Research team
Marina de Angelis
Franz Cinque
Giovanni Casillo
Roberto Moro Visconti
Raffaello Lombardo
Andrea Ranelli
Nabiyah abo Delman

Luca Persia

luca.persia@uniroma1.it

Department of Civil Construction and Environmental Engineering (DICEA) - Faculty of Civil and Industrial Engineering

SaferAfrica

Innovating Dialogue and Problems Appraisal for a Safer Africa (2016- ongoing)

Keywords Road Safety, Data Collection, Safe System Approach, Euro-African Dialogue

Abstract

SaferAfrica project, funded by Horizon 2020, supported by a Consortium of 17 African and European countries (Figure 5) aims at establishing a Dialogue Platform between Africa and Europe focused on road safety management, contributing to the reinforcement of the endogenous African capabilities through the dissemination of the EU know-how and the creation of African Road Safety Observatory (Figure 3).

The project activities are oriented to the 'Safe System' approach and grouped in four pillars: Road Safety Knowledge & Data, Road Safety & Traffic management Capacity Review, Capacity Building & Training, Sharing of Good Practices. The concept of SaferAfrica is based on the idea that Europe can play an important role by supporting African countries in improving road safety and achieving the Action Plan targets (African Road Safety Action Plan 2011-2020). In this view, the project aims at building favorable conditions and opportunities for the effective implementation of road safety actions in African countries by setting up a Dialogue Platform between Africa and Europe.

Aims

The overall concept of SaferAfrica is depicted by a pyramid articulated in three levels (Figure 2). The top of the pyramid represents road safety and traffic management actions oriented to the 'Safe System approach'. The other two levels represent the Dialogue Platform. Of these two levels, the higher one is a decision-making level, namely the Institutional level (in blue), while the lower one constitutes the Technical level (in red). These two levels are closely interconnected to foster the appropriate match between African road safety policy evolution, application, knowledge enhancement and institutional delivery capacity.

Results

The projects led to a number of important achievements, the most prominent one is the two-levels Dialogue Platform (DP). The Institutional level of the DP comprises representatives of 10 top level international institutions active in the field of road safety, while the Technical level involves more than 180 African Stakeholders coming from the African countries (Figure 4). Another important key finding is the development of the African Road Safety Observatory. The web portal includes various knowledge and tools, such as statistics, reviews, trends at national and continental levels and it is integrated with crowdsourcing functions. Here citizens can report a road safety related problem or even propose a solution.



Figure 1 SaferAfrica website: www.saferfrica.eu



Figure 2 SaferAfrica Overall Concept



Figure 3 African RSO www.africanroadsafetyobservatory.org

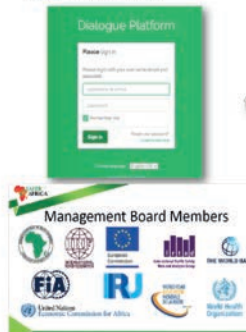


Figure 4 SaferAfrica Dialogue Platform: MIB Members and African Stakeholders involved



Luca Persia Associate Professor at Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering Department (DICEA), Sapienza University of Rome and Director of the Centre for Transport and Logistics. Luca Persia has been studying transport systems for twenty years, with a specific focus on urban passenger transport systems and road safety. During these years, he has conducted various research activities and combined them with experiences of practical applications. He has joined in National and International research projects, feasibility studies, as well as traffic, road safety and inf-mobility plans. He is also active in educational activities such as University courses, organization of scientific conferences, review of articles for International scientific journals, and coordination of various projects. His main fields of research are: Road Accident Analysis and Safety Countermeasures Planning; Safety Measures for Bicycle Mobility; Sustainable Transport Policies; Intelligent Transport Systems; Transport Pricing Measures. During the last years, Luca Persia has mainly focused his research activity on methodologies and tools that improve road safety.



Figure 5 SaferAfrica Consortium

Giuliana Vinci

giuliana.vinci@uniroma1.it
 Department of Management

**Waste biomass for local sustainable development in Kenya
 2017-2018**

Keywords

Biomass Biogas Technology Training

Abstract

The first objective of the cooperation between the Department of Management of Sapienza University of Rome and the Department of Sociology and Psychology of Moi University in Kenya is the enhancement of natural capital as an engine of sustainable economic growth, through training and research. The project is focused on rural areas with the aim of promoting sustainable economic development. This will act as multiplier and accelerator of processes to improve the living conditions of Kenyan population. In this framework, it is important to integrate the research methodology to apply and the relevant environmental issues that will emerge from the training of the local rural population, to encourage the implementation of knowledge and actions related to the sustainable development paradigms.

Aims

The project compares two different biomass transformation systems for gas production: combustion and biogas. The evaluation of costs and benefits in the three dimensions (environmental, economic and social) led the implementation of a sustainable growth model, in the strong sustainability paradigm. The biogas production process uses biomass from waste, according to the model of the closed (circular) economy cycle, valuing waste products that would remain so unused. The evaluation will consider the economic, environmental and social costs of the two transformation systems, according to some quantitative variables, giving them a weighted value on the effects of sustainable development.

Results

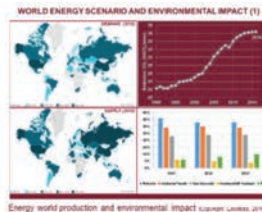
The cooperation project between Italy and Kenya integrates public and private stakeholders for the creation of a contacts system. This cooperation has the aim to encourage investment in the production of biogas with a low environmental impact and to contribute to sustainable economic growth and to promote the environmental standards, with direct effects on improving the living conditions of the local population. After investigating the effects of the biomass use for biogas production in the two different systems (combustion and biogas), under the strong sustainability report, we proceeded not only to training, but also to the publication of results and their promulgation in the academic world.



AFRICA and Kenya



SDGs (in red) consistent with the project



Energy world production and environmental impact (European Commission, 2016)



Bioenergy provides 10% of global energy supply, but its use and consumption vary geographically



Rural population of Kenya

Marco Cileto Aggregate professor of Political Science at the CoRIS Department of Sapienza University of Rome
Fabrizio D'Acunzio Full Professor of Commodity Sciences at the Department of Management of Sapienza University of Rome
Laura Gobbi Full Professor of Commodity Sciences at the Department of Management of Sapienza University of Rome
Martina Musanna Ph.D. in Commodity Sciences at the Department of Management of Sapienza University of Rome
Mattia Rapa Ph.D. candidate in Commodity Sciences at the Department of Management of Sapienza University of Rome
Roberto Ruggieri Associate professor of Political Science at the Department of Management of Sapienza University of Rome
Giuliana Vinci Associate professor of Political Science at the Department of Management of Sapienza University of Rome

Research project components

Marco Cileto
 Fabrizio D'Acunzio
 Laura Gobbi
 Martina Musanna
 Mattia Rapa
 Roberto Ruggieri
 Giuliana Vinci

Francesca Giofrè

francesca.giofre@uniroma1.it

Department Planning Design Technology of Architecture – Faculty of Architecture

The participatory design workshop on Healthy City, Mixco, Guatemala period 2016-2017 Co-financed by Sapienza University of Rome

Keywords

Learning in Higher Education
Architecture Healthy City Participatory Design

Abstract

An innovative teaching experience held at the Faculty of Architecture, University of San Carlos of Guatemala as part of the Professional Practice Program (Ejercicio Profesional Supervisado - EPS). 20 students and 9 professors, coordinated by 1 professor of Sapienza and 3 professors of the USAC, carried out a workshop on the theme of Healthy City in the Municipality of Mixco, with the support of the same. Through active learning, a 'depravity' of the teaching activity and a participatory confrontation activity through interviews and questionnaires with citizens and stakeholders, the students and professors worked in 4 groups for seven days creating a community of practice.

Aims

- 1) Training of professor of USAC
- 2) Developing a new learning methodology on the Healthy City topic
- 3) Training of students on active learning and active design
- 4) Envolving the citizen of Mixco in the participation process
- 5) Built a collaboration between Mixco Municipality and USAC

Results

- 9 professor trained
- 20 students trained
- 189 questionnaires made to the citizens
- 12 interviews realized to stakeholders
- 4 ideas design proposal for Mexico Municipality on the following topic: open spaces, transportation system; risk system; urban equipment and public services
- 1 methodology experimented.

Students were interested in the methodology and showed interest in the completion of the task. Assigned and working outside the classroom, for the first time, in contact with the local community, feel more motivated and involved. They improved their working capacity in group and acquired new skills. Even the professors who have worked with this methodology for the first time have recognized their potential in terms of increasing the number of students. The workshop creates a community of practice with the aim of producing organized and quality knowledge in terms of design.



Francesca Giofrè Architect, PH.D. Associated Professor, Vice Dean of Faculty of Architecture (since 2015). Research areas: innovation in design process; innovation in urban regeneration; design for all. Member of Teachers College PhD in 'Regeneration and recovery of the settlements' (2004-10) and since 2013 of PhD 'Engineering-based Architecture and Urban Planning'. Member of scientific board, teaching coordinator, of the II level 'Master's in Architecture for Health' (2004-2014) co-financed by MA3.CI. Faculty Coordinator for extra EU student's mobility. She has part of scientific board and organization committee of international student's workshop on Healthy City (Guatemala; Belgrade; Brasl; etc.). Delegate by Rector for Thetys Consortium of Euro-Mediterranean Universities and for AIS3 Association of Italian and Serbian Scientists and Scholars. Since 2017 she is part of Sapienza Commissions: Internationalization and Quality and Innovation in Teaching. She is the coordinator of project KA2 financed by EU 'Healthy Urban Environment' developing higher education in architecture and construction in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2018-2021).

Research team
Mario Raúl Rentería del León, USAC
Alexander Aguilar, USAC
Luis Khon Ortiz, USAC.

Carlo Giovanni Cereti

carlojovanni.cereti@uniroma1.it
 Department of Ancient World Studies - Faculty of Arts and Humanities

**Safeguard and Enhancement of the Cultural Heritage of the Kurdistan Region in Iraq
 2006-2019**

Keywords
 Kurdistan Cultural Heritage Technologies Training

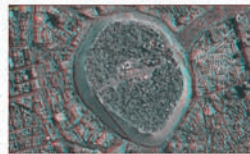
Abstract
 This cooperation project is rooted in an enduring experience which, since 2006, involves Italian and Kurdish teams in the field of Cultural-Heritage preservation, focusing on archaeological areas (the site of Paikuli and the Citadel of Erbil) and the provincial Museums of Erbil, Duhok and Sulaimaniyah. Over the years, the training of local staff has been a primal goal intended to meet the needs of the Kurdish institutions in terms of capacity building. The project is based on a wide range of integrated scientific activities, which see the commitment of several Italian professionals (archaeologists, numismatists, epigraphists, surveyors, architects and restorers) and the use of innovative technologies and methodologies applied to the regional cultural heritage.

Aims and Activities
 The scheduled training on the job and research activities primarily focus on the following subjects:
 - The Paikuli commemorative monument of the Sasanian king Narseh (293 – 302 CE), including the collection of the inscribed blocks of its inscription (Middle-Persian and Parthian), once decorating the monument walls and today stored at the Sulaimaniyah Museum
 - The catalogues of the numismatic collections belonging to the three regional museums
 - The Citadel of Erbil, with courses in archaeological investigations, which includes the use of geophysical methodologies, architectural and structural restoration, topography, photogrammetry, GIS
 - Thematic courses held in Ostia Antica/Rome for members of the Kurdish institutions

Results
 The multidisciplinary methodology has allowed to achieve meaningful scientific results while enhancing the institutions' capacity to plan the management and preservation of Museums collections and archaeological sites. In Paikuli, the use of new technologies enhanced the scientific researches on the inscription and provided innovative visual renderings of the architectural and decorative elements. The cataloguing of numismatic collections improved the appropriate preservation of the material, the museums exhibition of the coins and the isolation of modern forgeries. The geophysical prospections on the Citadel of Erbil provided outstanding data useful for planning archaeological activities on this UNESCO site.



3D Rendering of a high-relief basalt of Narseh from Paikuli



Analyzhs aerial photo of the Erbil Citadel



Graphic reconstruction of the Middle Persian (left) and Parthian (right) inscribed walls. The blocks of the Gamsari Museum Paikuli collection are represented with orthorectified images

Carlo Giovanni Cereti is Full Professor of Iranian Studies at Sapienza – University of Rome. Rector's delegate for International Cooperation and director of the winter school in Cultural Heritage in the Near and Middle East. Former Cultural Counselor (2009-2017) at the Italian Embassy in Rome, he collaborates with the UMRS 7028 "Mondes Iraniens et Indes" of CNRS and with the Institute for Technologies Applied to Cultural Heritage of CNR. He is also the coordinator of the Class of Humanities at the School for Advanced Studies of Sapienza University (SSAS) and the Director of the Mediterranean branch of the Association for the Study of Persianate Societies. His research focuses on pre-Islamic Iran, combining interests in historical-religious, philological and archaeological aspects of this area. He presently directs the Italian Archaeological Mission to Iraqi Kurdistan and the research project Transitional Dynamics in Iranian Society: From the Sasanians to Caliphal authority.

Research team
 Simona Aghaei
 Angela Bizzarro
 Emanuela Borgia
 Luca Collari
 Michela Di Cesare
 Arianna Di Orono
 Laura Ebner
 Barbara Falconi
 Roberta Giusti
 Camilla Innoni
 Alessandro Jala
 Dario Marletti
 Giuseppe Ranucci
 Gianfranco Terribili
 Alessandro Tili
 Omer Stefano Tili

Giuseppe Familiari

giuseppe.familiari@uniroma1.it

Department of Anatomical, Histological, Forensic and Orthopaedic Sciences - Faculty of Pharmacy and Medicine

Microenvironment Regulated Acetate Metabolism Pathway on Colorectal Metastasis and Prognosis (2018-ongoing)

Keywords

Colorectal cancer, cancer microenvironment, acetate metabolism

Abstract

Colorectal cancer is the third most common type of cancer worldwide, the second in Italy and the fifth in China. Unfortunately, colorectal cancer is in many cases diagnosed at an advanced stage because of its long latency period, so we often find ourselves in situations where the cancer has already produced metastases.

Metastases affect the survival and prognosis of patients; in fact, the 5-year survival rate of patients with early-stage colorectal cancer is about 90%, while at the stage where local metastases are found it is reduced to 69.2%, and at the stage where distant metastases are present only to 11.7%. Consequently, the metastatic process is the critical point of the study of this disease. The main phases of the metastatic process are represented by: local invasiveness, passage into the blood or lymphatic circle, arrest in the capillary district, endothelial permeation, colonization of heterotypic tissues, formation of another clinically detectable tumour. The metastatic process implies the acquisition of the capacities of migration, adhesion and invasion; these capacities develop in sequence due to the presence of a complex molecular path, the functioning of which has not yet been well clarified. To date, there is no effective clinical treatment to suppress metastases.

Aims

The overall aim of our project is to clarify the metabolic pathway (signaling network) that induces epithelomesenchymal transition (EMT) in colorectal cancer. This transition is regulated by the acetate/ACSS2/HIF-2 acetylating pathway; therefore the identification of the molecules fundamental for the production of metastases related to the acetate switch may allow the use of these same molecules as biological markers (biomarkers) for early detection, therapy and prognosis of colorectal cancer.

Results

- To identify the EMT biochemical pathway regulated by acetate/ACSS2/HIF-2, and the fundamental molecules for the process of metastasis of colorectal cancer.
- to characterize the ultrastructure of murine and human EMT cells, correlating morphological and biochemical data.
- The SBAI research unit will carry out a theoretical study of the photoacoustic properties of the cells of the EMT mouse model. The expected result is to identify molecules that give EMT cells different photoacoustic properties than normal cells.



Ancient Nanjing city wall at sunset on September 2018



Meeting with chinese research unit at Southeast University and at Institute of Product quality inspection in Nanjing on September 2018



Ancient Nanjing city wall and Xuanwu lake in the afternoon on September 2018

Giuseppe Familiari was born in Rome (Italy) on April 30, 1951, 1917. MD University of Rome "La Sapienza". Full Professor of Anatomy from 1999. II Faculty of Medicine University of Rome "La Sapienza". Present Appointment: Head of the Council of Medical Degree of the II Faculty of Medicine University of Rome "La Sapienza". Main research field: Biology of human and mammals reproduction. Publications: 94 articles or chapters in journals or books, and one volume on microscopic anatomy of reproductive system. 136 national and international Congress presentations. He is member of: "European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology", "Italian Society of Anatomy", "Italian Society of Electron Microscopy", "Italian Society of Embryology, Reproduction and Research", "Italian Society of Reproduction and "Italian Society of Pathology of Reproduction".

Research team
Prof. Michele Rocca
Prof. Roberto Li Voli

Chinese Research Team
Prof. Rui Chen
Dr. Wang Shuzi

Marco Cilento

marco.cilento@uniroma1.it

Department of Communication and Social Research - Faculty of Political Science, Sociology, and Communication Science

SAFE HARBOR - An EU operation to tackle gaps in cross-border cooperation of training providers

Keywords

Privacy Formazione Tecnologia GDPR

Abstract

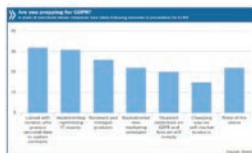
Technology development over the last few years has raised the need for greater protection of personal data as data sharing and data collection has grown exponentially, and personal information made public by citizens continues to increase. In addition, economic and social integration, a direct consequence of market functioning, has led to a considerable increase in cross-border data flows even at a digital level, with the need to ensure a higher level of protection.

SAFE HARBOR project seeks to tackle the delicate problem of legal training of European legal practitioners to enhance knowledge of EU substantive and procedural law in the specific area of the right to the processing of personal data, for better harmonization with the national legal systems of the Member States.



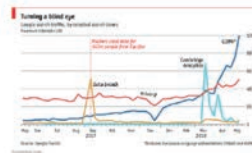
Aims

- To contribute to the effective and coherent application of EU Regulation 2016/679 and EU Directive 2016/680
- To form lawyers and other legal practitioners in EU Regulation 2016/679 and EU Directive 2016/680
- To enhance a common European legal culture on Data Regulation and Protection
- To improve cross-border cooperation of training providers at different level
- To expand EU law general training offer.



Extracting information

Company name	Size of staff	Address
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Results

- Increased knowledge of EU Regulation 2016/679 and EU Directive 2016/680
- Improved mutual trust between legal practitioners in cross-border judicial cooperation training events;
- Improved cooperation of training providers at different levels
- Increased awareness on the added value and scope of application of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights among lawyers and practitioners to strengthen fundamental rights protection across the EU.

Marco Cilento Aggregate Professor of Political Science at the Department of Communication and Social Research of Sapienza University. President of the Didactic Interfaculty Area of "Cooperation and Development" and member of CEMAS - Interdepartmental Center for Scientific Research and Cooperation with Eurasia, the Mediterranean and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Dario Noschese Contract Professor of Laboratory of policies and programs for projects design at the Department of Communication and Social Research of Sapienza University. Member of the European Registry of Euro-project designers & Manager of the Europe Project Forum Foundation in Amsterdam, CEO and founder of PROGEU for the definition and coordination of programs and development projects of public, private and third sector organizations.

Research team
 Mattia Angelini (Progeu - Italy)
 Roland Opatan (Faculty of Law - University of Shkodra - Albania)
 Gianluca Di Assenzio (Codacores - Italy)
 Lazar Iuliana Mihaiela (Infocores - Romania)
 Anisa Dragutshila (Kosova - Greece)
 Kirsina Čelýšte (Vartolagi Balkan - Lithuania)
 Michela Petrone (Ebit - Italy)

Giuliana Mazzoni

giuliana.mazzoni@uniroma1.it

Department of Dynamic and Clinical Psychology - Faculty of Medicine and Psychology

An Investigation on the Neural Basis of Hypnosis and Suggestibility 2018-2020

Keywords

Brain imaging, Suggestibility, Pain

Abstract

The efficacy of hypnosis and suggestion has been reported for purposes such as treating irritable bowel syndrome (available under the National Health Service), eliminating pain, alleviating depression and anxiety, treating obesity, and there is evidence that they can be used to manipulate cognitive and perceptual processing. The great effectiveness of suggestions given in hypnosis have also been extensively studied in the modulation of pain perception (see Fig 1a and 1b). Despite these widespread applications, critical questions remain unanswered. For example, it is not known why some people in the population respond extraordinarily well to suggestions, whereas others do not respond at all. Approximately 20-25% of the population are good responders and present a major decrease in perceived pain intensity, to the point of having major surgical interventions without any anesthetic. Is there a neurobiological basis to suggestibility, and are there specific brain markers that predict the individual level of suggestibility? Brain markers are examined in samples taken from the whole spectrum of the population, highly suggestible individuals, very low suggestible individuals, and, importantly, people who are medium in suggestibility. This section of the population is rarely included in neuroimaging studies relating to suggestibility, and very little is known about how they differ neurobiologically from those high or low in suggestibility. The proposed study aims to uncover the variability in brain structure/network connectivity that is associated with the spectrum of responsiveness to hypnotic and waking suggestibility.

Aims

- Identify brain markers for high suggestibility in pain perception
- Identify brain markers predicting genetic individual suggestibility
- Identify characteristics and neurobiological underpinnings in medium suggestibility, that represent the majority of the population

Results

The investigation is currently under way. Previous work in our lab has shown that occipital areas specifically involved in colour perception (e.g. lingual gyrus) are activated (Fig 2, top) when after a hypnotic induction participants claim to see colour in a pattern that displays only shades of grey. Other work from our lab has demonstrated that in a neutral resting state suggestibility seems to be correlated with increased activity in parts of the anterior default mode network (Fig 3, blue areas). In the same resting state non-suggestible individuals present greater activation in subthalamic areas only (Fig 3, red areas).

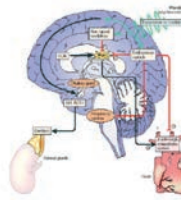


Fig. 1a Neurobiology of pain (Benedetti et al, 2005)

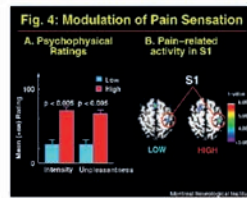


Fig. 4 Modulation of pain in hypnosis (Razouk, 1998)

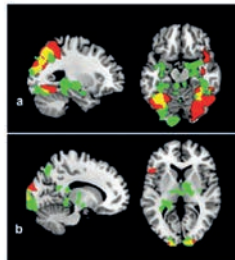


Fig 2 Brain activation following task instructions to hallucinate colour (top) or hallucinate grey areas after a hypnotic induction

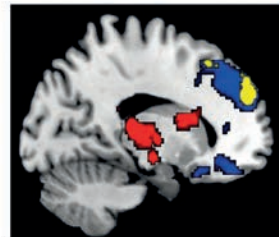


Fig 3 Brain activation in resting state after a hypnotic induction in high (blue) and low (red) suggestible individuals

Giuliana Mazzoni Professore ordinario di Psicologia presso il Dipartimento di Psicologia dinamica e clinica della Sapienza, Università di Roma, e autore di più di 150 lavori scientifici pubblicati su riviste internazionali, varie monografie, più di 250 presentazioni a convegni internazionali, e numerosi grants internazionali. Fino al 1° novembre 2018 professore ordinario di Psicologia e neuroscienze presso la University of Hull, nel Regno Unito, e internazionale editor della rivista scientifica Applied Cognitive Psychology, membro dell'Editorial Board della rivista scientifica Psychology of Consciousness, membro del counseling board della rivista di legge Quersello, internazionale reviewer del Research Excellence Exercise del governo Romano. Il suo lavoro è stato oggetto di vasta attenzione da parte dei media internazionali (tra molti, BBC, BBC4, Channel, National Swedish TV, London Times, Daily Mirror, The Independent, SuperQuark). In precedenza era stata membro del Program in Placebo Studies, University of Harvard (USA), Reader presso la University of Plymouth (UK), Associate Professor, Seton Hall University (USA), Professore Associato, Università della Calabria, Ricercatore, Università di Firenze. Postdoctoral Fellow University of Washington, USA. Ha ricevuto vari premi tra cui due Fulbright Scholarships del governo americano.

Research team

William McGeehan, U Strathclyde (UK)
Annelena Vermeir, U Sheffield (UK)
Ingrid Kirisch, Harvard University (USA)

Alberta Fabbricotti

alberta.fabbricotti@uniroma1.it
 Department of Law, Philosophy and Economic Studies - Faculty of Law

**The Global Fight against Cultural Terrorism
 2017- ongoing**

Keywords

Cultural Heritage, Terrorism, International Law, Transnational Law

Abstract

The around-the-globe video diffusion of the destruction of the world cultural heritage monuments by Daesh, such as the ancient Syrian city of Palmyra, has shocked the entire humanity. Attacks against greatly celebrated cultural sites are pursued by Daesh and other terrorist groups with the aim of erasing the legacies of the cradle of Western culture or to wipe out cultures different from the terrorists own. The remnants of the destructive attacks are then sold by the terrorist group on the international black market of artefacts, which is estimated to be one of the main sources of the group self-financing. Because of the destruction of the world cultural heritage, the whole humanity feels it has been deprived of part of itself, and this, regardless of the geographical localization of the ruined artefact or of the identification of that cultural property with a given civilization.

How can this universal human feeling be defined in legal terms? Does it give rise to any individual and/or collective subjective legal situation deserving protection and redress? What tools are available to the international community to fight against the destruction and loss of antiquities by terrorist groups and to repair damages? The present research suggests a ground-breaking approach to answering these and other connected questions, which consists in intersecting different legal and non-legal disciplines, theoretical paradigms and research methodologies. The fight against cultural terrorism is proving to be an amazing example of the development of a 'global law', meaning the creation and implementation of complementary legal tools, irrespective of their systematic legal provenance.

Aims

– The theoretical and scientific target of the research is to give evidence of how many and different legal (and political) domains – at international, national, local levels – are engaged in the struggle against cultural terrorism and how these domains interconnect and complement one another

–As a concrete outcome, the research aims at providing a synergic and interactive map of the legal and operational (for purpose of security, anti-smuggling, artefacts restoration) tools, for the use of all interested actors involved, such as institutions, agents, operators, museums, civil society.



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Source: www.littonelcochito.it/27-febbraio-2001-distruzione-dei-buddha-di-bamiyan/



Source: <https://www.iffegale.it/persona/news/finesco-venedica-buddha-con-un-centro-culturale-bamiyan>



The poster of the film *Monuments Men* directed by George Clooney in 2014

Alberta Fabbricotti Associate Professor in International law at the Department of Legal, philosophical and economic studies at Sapienza University of Rome. She is a Member of the Steering Committee of the Sapienza Advanced Professional Course in Diritto e nuove tecnologie per la valorizzazione dei beni culturali (Law and New Technologies for the Enhancement of Cultural Heritage). She holds a Ph.D in International Law from Sapienza University, Rome (1998).

Alberta has published two monographs, the first on immigration and asylum in European law and the second on the legal relationship between regional trade agreements and the WTO, edited the collected volumes *The Political Economy of International Law* (2018) and *Il diritto al cognome materno* (2017), and authored many articles in the areas of international economic law, international protection of human rights and refugee law.

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Gian Luca Gregori e Romeo Dell'Era
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Strategies, Projects, Actions
Carlo Giovanni Cereti and Francesca Giofrè

The volume presents the interventions of the speakers and the posters of the professors of Sapienza University of Rome as evidence of the results achieved in international cooperation with a special emphasis on capacity building actions in the main geographical areas identified as: Africa, Mena countries and Latin America and Asia. The materials were presented at the University Conference “Sapienza in International Development: Strategies, Projects, Initiatives” held in Rome, at the Aula Magna of Sapienza University of Rome, on 11 December 2018 and organized with the collaboration of the Roma Sapienza Foundation.

The volume also presents in its introductory part a moment of reflection on the geographical areas of cooperation of greatest interest and strategic for Sapienza.

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