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ASCL ORGANIZATION PER 1 JANUARY 2016
For the African Studies Centre, 2015 was a year in which we finalized preparations to become part of Leiden University, as an interfaculty institute, while also embarking on activities to create more synergy between the African Studies Centre and other Africanists working in Leiden. At the end of this preface we will sketch the contours of the new situation.

2015 was also a year in which we lost our most successful researcher, Professor Stephen Ellis. Elsewhere in the Annual Report you will find a tribute to Stephen. To remember him we renamed our Annual Lecture and the inaugural Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture took place in December 2015 with the renowned American journalist Howard French.

Researchers at the ASC have contributed to many activities in the past year: we were heavily involved in the ECAS conference in Paris; the NVAS day about technology in Africa that took place in Delft, with a contribution by Jan-Bart Gewald about Colonel ‘Rocket Man’ E.F.M. Nkoloso in Zambia; and the Africa Day in Amsterdam, where the ASC played leading roles in a debate about China in Africa and in a discussion about migration. In addition, the ASC organized many own seminars and ASC community days, and there were two major meetings of the Knowledge Platform on Inclusive Development, one in Nairobi and one in Leiden, coordinated by Marleen Dekker and Karin Nijenhuis and with input from researchers, support staff, and library staff. We started a new, externally funded project on Ghana that arrived with Michel Doortmont and a number of new PhD students, and another new project on disability support thanks to Willem Elbers. We also held two conferences together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, about radicalization in West Africa, prepared by Stephen Ellis and Benjamin Soares.

Among our many new publications, the new African Dynamics book is worth mentioning. This edition is co-edited by Akinyinka Akinyoade and Jan-Bart Gewald, and is a product of the collaborative research group on Roads to Prosperity. The work that our librarians continue to do is remarkable: the new alert service, the Country Portal, and the service provided to visitors to our Library continues to receive much praise. For instance, the author of Heineken in Afrika, Olivier van Beemen, fondly mentions the support he received, and Willem-Hendrik Gispen, former Rector Magnificus of Utrecht University, praised the Library, and Ella Verkaik in particular, when he launched his book about the African Kingfisher and its metaphorical importance in African storytelling at Vogelbescherming in Zeist. Jos Damen and Ton Dietz were presented with a copy of the book at the event and were thanked for the Library’s great support.

Rijk van Dijk gave his inaugural lecture in Amsterdam, and Benjamin Soares also started his position there as a special professor during 2015. The ASC celebrated the life and times of Wouter van Beek, in Leiden, where he launched his autobiography, and in Tilburg, where he gave his valedictory lecture. Wouter’s beautiful pictures of his beloved fieldwork areas adorned the ASC’s walls for a while! There was a farewell seminar and party for Wijnand Klaver, and postdoc Laura Mann left us for a permanent position at the London School of Economics. And there were successful and rewarding PhD ceremonies supervised by ASC professors, including those for Harrie Leyten (Tilburg), Margot Leegwater (VU) and Angela Kronenburg Garcia (Wageningen).

We also underwent a Mid-term Review in 2015, which was followed by many serious discussions with many different people and agencies about our integration into Leiden University as well as the start of the Leiden African Studies Assembly. The scientific and organizational diplomacy needed for the integration was provided by careful collaboration between Jos Damen, Maaike Westra, and Ton Dietz, with support from members of the Executive Board (EB) and the Personeelsvertegenwoordiging (PVT). The successful and smooth start of Leiden African Studies Assembly (LeidenASA) would not have been possible without the involvement of Paul Lange (and his volunteers) and Mirjam de Bruijn. The ASC’s finance department has had to shoulder a lot of hard work (and there is more to come…) and Jan Binnendijk, Gitty Petit, and Lenie van Rooijen did not have the easiest of years. Lenie has joined the Financial Shared Service Centre at Leiden University and we thank her for many years of diligence and care. We thanked her for her diligence and care throughout the years. Institute Manager Jan Binnendijk’s solid leadership of the ASC’s finances
Jan Abbink and Benjamin Soares stepped down from the EB. Jan-Bart Gewald, supported by Akinyinka Akinyoade, will now lead our Researchers’ Assembly, while Mayke Kaag will be in charge of education and ‘outreach’, as a member of our Executive Board. There was more intensive teaching in 2015 and this will continue to grow in the years to come, not least because we have taken on more teaching duties for the MA in African Studies, in addition to our strong involvement in the Research Masters programme. The ASC co-organized the ‘And Now Africa’ course in early 2015 at the University of Amsterdam, which was to be repeated in 2016 (once again with support from Karin Nijenhuis and many ASC lecturers). The ASC was involved in co-developing and teaching the new Masters programme for African Studies (and the University not only received reaccreditation, but was also awarded praise and high marks, which is remarkable for a programme that was almost forced to stop).

It must be said that many at the ASC have become worried about recent developments in Africa, and in the world, which have a major impact on the way we do research and the way we teach and relate to our non-academic partners. But we now undertake our activities in a situation that sees the ASC’s future position greatly strengthened, under the umbrella of a university that has embraced Africa as one of its core areas, and with a plan to make ‘Africa’ a cornerstone of the growing collaboration between Leiden University on the one hand, and Delft University of Technology, and Erasmus University in Rotterdam on the other, based on solid groundwork in the Frugal Innovation team, so well led by André Leliveld.

From 1 January 2016 we become ASCL, proudly adding ‘Leiden’ to the ‘African Studies Centre’. The new situation has been agreed as follows:

- The ASCL will be an interfaculty institute, with a Board consisting of three representatives of the three most related Faculties: Humanities (its Dean will chair the Board), Social Sciences (its Dean), and Law (its Dean will be represented by the Director of the Van Vollenhoven Institute).
- The ASCL will continue to have its own library, its own Executive Board (EB), and its Researchers’ Assembly (RA), with an elected Chair and co-Chair. There will be an Institute Manager.
- The EB will consist of the Director (Ton Dietz as Chair), the Institute Manager (Jan Binnendijk), the head of the Library, Documentation and Information Services (Jos Damen, also Vice-Director), the elected chair of the RA (Jan-Bart Gewald), and an appointed senior member of staff co-ordinating teaching and outreach (Mayke Kaag). Trudi Blomsma is the EB’s secretary, and the EB meets once a month.
- The ASCL will have a Works Council (Dienstraad) with [recently] elected members representing the scientific senior staff (Rijk van Dijk, also acting as Chair), the junior research staff, including PhD candidates (Agnieszka Kazimierczuk), the support staff (Willem Veerman), and the Library staff (Elvire Eijkman).
- The ASCL will continue to have an Academic Advisory Council, acting as a bridge to Africanists in the Netherlands outside the ASCL. Its Chair continues to be Marja Spierenburg. Two specialized librarians have recently joined, including the Head of the University Library Leiden, to support greater synergy between the two libraries.
Leiden University has started a university-wide Africa strategy, which brings together more than 100 senior Africanists (and many junior scholars and others) in a Leiden African Studies Assembly (LeidenASA). The University leadership donated €1.2 million for four years, to enable better synergy between ASCL and other Leiden-based Africanists, and between the Libraries, and to support long-term broad partnerships with African knowledge institutes. LeidenASA will be led by Ton Dietz and Mirjam de Bruijn, under the responsibility of the ASCL Board, and in consultation with the University leadership. There will be a LeidenASA core group, with representatives of all relevant research groups in Leiden. It is the intention to further develop LeidenASA in the direction of the alliance between Leiden, Delft, and Rotterdam. It is also the intention to develop partnerships with African knowledge institutes together with relevant knowledge partners in the Netherlands.

The Stichting Afrika-Studiecentrum (Foundation for African Studies; which governed the ASC until 31 December 2015) will continue to exist: it is the owner of all books, journals, and other relevant material and digital heritage accumulated in the Library of the African Studies Centre prior to 31 December 2015; it can suggest the appointment of special professorships; and it organizes a Societal Panel that will advise both the Director of the ASCL and the Board. The Board of the Stichting comprises Ms Agnes van Ardenne and Dr. Bernard Berendsen. The Societal Panel will be co-chaired by them, and will consist of a selection of relevant societal partners of the ASCL and of LeidenASA.

The ASCL will have its own professors and its own graduate school.

The ASC’s reserve fund has been handed over to Leiden University, but is earmarked for future utilization by the ASCL. The reserves as declared by the accountants at the end of 2015 are €817,667.

The ASCL’s position will be re-evaluated in 2020. It is the intention that around that year the ASCL will also move from its current premises to the new Humanities buildings, and close to other LeidenGlobal partners (the ASCL was one of its founding institutes).

The ASCL will take over the ASC’s role as permanent member of the Board of AEGIS, the European association of African Studies Centres.

On 16 December an agreement was signed on the integration of the ASC into Leiden University. The unofficial ties between the two institutions have now become formal. From left to right: Ton Dietz, Agnes van Ardenne, Carel Stolker.

Ton Dietz
Director
Stephen Ellis (1953-2015)

Journée d’étude en hommage à Stephen Ellis

Vendredi 3 juin 2016, 8h45 - 18h

Journée organisée par Solofa Randriana (Institut d’Etudes Avancées de Paris), Pierre Bolley (Institut des Mondes Africains, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne), Didier Nativel (Université Paris-Diderot) et Samuel Sanchez (IRD).

Sadly, Prof. Stephen Ellis died on 29 July 2015. Three years ago Stephen was diagnosed with leukaemia. With great admiration we saw how Stephen coped with his illness, and, until very recently, worked on a book about his most recent research: http://www.hurstpublishers.com/book/this-present-darkness/.

Many obituaries have been published by colleagues all over the world. Stephen Ellis was born in Nottingham, the United Kingdom, on 13 June 1953. He studied modern history at the University of Oxford where he did his doctoral exam in 1981. He studied a revolt in Madagascar in the late 1890s, published by Cambridge University Press as the Rising of the Red Shawls in 1985. Later, he published a book about Madagascar in French, Un Complot à Madagascar (1990).

In 1979-1980, he worked as a lecturer at the University of Madagascar, but that was not his first time in Africa: when he was eighteen years old he worked as a teacher in Cameroon. Between 1982 and 1986 he worked for Amnesty International in London, followed by a position as Editor for Africa Confidential. In 1991-1994, Stephen became the General Secretary and later Director of the African Studies Centre in Leiden, followed by an assignment for the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (which resulted in his book Africa Now, published in 1996), and a position as senior researcher at the ASC. He was also appointed Desmond Tutu Professor at the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam in 2008.

Stephen Ellis is the ASC’s most prominent scholar, and a key researcher in African Studies in the world. The Library has 82 of his publications, many of which deal with recent or historical political developments in Africa or, often writing with his wife, Gerrie ter Haar, about religion in Africa. He wrote extensively about South Africa, Madagascar, Liberia and Nigeria, but also about Togo, Zambia, and Sierra Leone. His most popular book is The Criminalization

Ton Dietz

“Professor Ellis was by far the most accomplished and dedicated scholar of Africa of his generation”.

Lansana Gberie, Institute for Security Studies, Addis Ababa

“If there ever was a giant baobab it was Stephen Ellis”.

Paul Nugent, Professor of Comparative African History and President of AEGIS

“A gem truly lost”.

Mohamed Bangura, Special Court for Sierra Leone

“Er gaat een erudiet, indrukwekkend, maar vooral ook enorm aardig en toegankelijke mens verloren”.

André Haspels, former Ambassador to South Africa

Seminar at Ibadan University in Nigeria, 2007.
The African Studies Centre (ASC) is the national knowledge centre on Africa in the Netherlands. The ASC undertakes research and is involved in teaching about Africa and aims to promote a better understanding of and insight into historical, current, and future developments in Africa. As of 2016, the ASC is an interfaculty institute of Leiden University and a world-famous library and documentation centre that is open to the general public. Visit our website at www.ascleiden.nl

How to find the ASC

The ASC is located in the Pieter de la Court building, Leiden University.
The only centre for the study and dissemination of knowledge about Africa in the Netherlands, the African Studies Centre is also a major hub for the promotion of African Studies in Europe and beyond, with strong links to colleagues in Africa and elsewhere in the world. The ASC’s research staff – comprising core research staff, associated researchers, and PhD students – work mainly in the social sciences and the humanities. 2015 was the fourth year of the ASC’s current five-year 2012-2016 research programme, ‘Africa and Global Restructuring’, which has been extended for an additional year through 2017. During 2015, research staff continued to carry out both individual and collaborative research projects within this overarching programme, resulting in numerous academic publications as well as active engagement in public debates and exchanges with other academics, policymakers, including the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands Ministry of Defence, the media, NGOs, the business community, and the broader public. The ASC’s interests remain broad and the Centre has made significant contributions to research, publications, and public debate in 2015, briefly highlighted in this section.

The Researchers’ Assembly (RA) is the main forum for the ASC to discuss research plans and priorities, output, techniques for communicating research findings, and fundraising. The elected chair of the RA (Benjamin Soares) completed his second two-year term, and he and his deputy (Mayke Kaag) were replaced in December by the new chair (Jan-Bart Gewald) and his deputy (Akinyinka Akinyoade).

The ASC’s ongoing main research activities – both individual and collaborative – fall within the four interrelated thematic areas of the research programme:

**Resources and well-being**

Within the thematic area focusing on resources and well-being, in 2015 research staff members engaged in important academic and policy debates on agriculture, natural resources, food security, land governance, and development. Most notably, ASC staff members made significant and timely contributions through their research and publications to numerous debates about: so-called land-grabbing (Rutten & Uche); soil and water conservation (H. van Dijk); conflict over natural resources (Rutten); value-chains of forest products (Dietz); ecosystem management (Dietz); pressures on livelihoods (Abbink), and entrepreneurship among farmers (Leliveld) in a variety of different African countries and in comparative perspective; as well as research about the history of Dutch development assistance (Kazimierczuk). In addition, the ASC’s focus on household economics and livelihoods continued, with publications about the impact of community-based organizations and community-based health insurance schemes on household welfare (Dekker).

The ASC’s involvement in Developmental Regimes in Africa (DRA), the follow-up research project to the earlier Tracking Development project, highlighted, among other things, the importance of understanding agricultural ‘pockets of effectiveness’ and the linkages between growing cities as markets for regional agricultural produce (Dietz & Leliveld).

**Constellations of governance**

Using multidisciplinary approaches, ASC research staff contributed to ongoing academic debates about governance in a variety of settings in Africa. During 2015, several ASC researchers focused on politics, history, and religion from the micro- to the macro levels and from a comparative perspective. Ongoing research focused on such topics as: the political pressures influencing the developmental state (Mann); the social history of Ethiopia (Abbink); the history of organized crime (Ellis); Muslim-Christian encounters (Soares); and biographies of key twentieth-century African public figures, including E.F.M. Nkoloso, the founder of the Zambian space programme (Gewald) and Barthélemy Boganda, a nationalist politician in Congo (Van Walraven). ASC researchers published work within this broad thematic area on a range of topics, including: the history of the relation between transport and labour in colonial Zambia (Gewald); organized crime in Nigeria (Ellis); post-apartheid political formations in South Africa (Van Kessel); the aftermath of the 1974 Ethiopian revolution (Abbink); political agency in Mali (De Bruijn); ‘traditional’ blacksmithing (Van Beek); the intersection of Islam, the state and society in Senegal (Kaag); Muslim youths as
Identification and belonging in a media age

In the contemporary period where media – information and communication technologies (ICTs) and especially the mobile telephone – have become so important, research staff have continued the ASC’s long-standing research focus on understanding changing forms of identification and ways of belonging. In 2015, Rijk van Dijk held his inaugural lecture (‘Faith in Romance’) at the University of Amsterdam in which he drew attention to the ways Christian movements in Africa, middle-class Pentecostals in particular, increasingly focus in public messages on a rethinking of relationships, sexuality, and the body. Related ongoing research led to publications about secularization processes among Christians (R. van Dijk).

During 2015, Mirjam de Bruijn’s NWO-funded project in conjunction with Leiden University’s Institute of History, Connecting in Times of Duress, finalized field studies and published on the history of ICTs in Africa, ICTs and mobility, and mobile telephony in particular. De Bruijn began a new project to study mobile money in four different African countries: Cameroon, Congo, Senegal, and Zambia. Other ASC staff also focused on the digital age in Africa with some conducting research on the integration of ICTs into informal economies and the political economy of big data and digital data usage (Mann), and new mediatized Muslim public figures in comparative perspective (Soares). Others publications on media include a study of the human infrastructure of the mobile phone network (Mann) and case studies of the intersection of religion and media, particularly new media among youths (Soares).

Africa’s global connections

Given the increasingly multipolar character of the contemporary world, the ASC’s research programme seeks to understand such multipolarity and the implications for Africa of the rise of such powers as China, India, Brazil, Turkey, and the Gulf States. Concerned primarily with Africa’s changing connections with the world, research staff have focused on economics and development, on the one hand, and religion, especially Islam, on the other; and sometimes their intersection. Some of the work conducted within this thematic area includes: research on South-South cooperation, including Ethiopia’s engagement with China and India (Cheru); foreign business operations in Africa, such as the major business conglomerate Lonrho (Uche) as well as the business enterprises of Aliko Dangote, Africa’s wealthiest person (Akinoyoade & Uche); financial institutions regulation and regional integration in Africa (Uche); work on organized crime and its international connections in Africa (Ellis); Islamic NGOs from the Gulf in Africa (Kaag); and research on West African Muslims living and working in China (Soares).

Falling within the thematic areas of the research programme, ongoing ASC research activities are organized into individual research projects and collaborative research groups that bring together several ASC researchers along with associated members working on related issues and themes. Much of the ASC’s research is carried out in close cooperation with colleagues outside of the ASC and in concert with various partner institutions in Europe, Africa, and elsewhere in the world.

Collaborative Research Groups

Some of the ASC’s research is conducted within the rubric of the collaborative research groups (CRGs), each comprising between five and seven ASC researchers, various affiliated members, and a member of the ASC Library staff.

Rijk van Dijk, inaugural address at the University of Amsterdam.
History and Society in Northern Ghana

In 2015, the African Studies Centre welcomed the historical research, training, and documentation project ‘History and Society in Northern Ghana: Dagomba, Gonja and the Regional Perspective on Ghanaian History’. The project focuses on the Dagomba and Gonja peoples, polities and cultures in Northern Ghana. The project provides an opportunity for universities in Ghana and the Netherlands to cooperate in developing academic expertise and capacity in the fields of regional history/regional studies.

The privately funded project will run for five years and is coordinated in Leiden by Dr. Michel R. Doortmont, on secondment from the University of Groningen. The project is a close cooperation between the African Studies Centre and the Institute of African Studies at the University of Ghana at Legon (Accra), and the University for Development Studies in Tamale and Wa, represented by Dr. Samuel Ntewusu and Dr. Felix Longi, respectively.

Themes of study include: migration histories and state formation in (Northern) Ghana; the political, social-economic, and cultural context (or ethnography) of conflict and conflict resolution; the reformulation of social history from a peoples' point of view; expectations of statecraft in colonial and post-colonial society; and the contextual history of Northern Ghanaian culture and heritage. A project in which leading photographers will share their documentary and artistic vision on the region and the Gonja and Dagomba peoples is also part of the programme. This project will be established in cooperation with Noorderlicht Photography.

The project was officially launched in Tamale on 5 February 2015, in the presence of representatives from the participating universities, members of the diplomatic core, and politicians. Chiefs from the Dagomba and Gonja areas were in attendance too, and gave their blessing to the project, emphasizing the need for good academic research for Northern Ghana. In March, the ASC organized an introductory programme for representatives of the sponsor, African Tiger Holding Ltd., with meetings with the Rector and Dean of Humanities, a lecture, a visit to the ASC Library, and a tour of the African collection of the Museum Volkenkunde in Leiden.

During 2015, the project engaged in several activities, including the recruitment of six PhD students (two from the Netherlands and four from Ghana) who attended an induction course in Accra and Tamale (August). The project was presented in Leiden at an ASC seminar (19 April) and in Ibadan, Nigeria at the first conference of the African Studies Association of Africa (October).

In December, two research assistants from the research master programme Modern History and International Relations at the University of Groningen joined the project for a year. In the same month, the Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen (KNAW) approved Samuel Ntewusu’s KNAW Visiting Professorship to Leiden for 2016-2017.

Michel Doortmont
The ASC’s six active CRGs during 2015 are, in alphabetical order:

**Africa in the World: Rethinking Africa’s Global Connections**
(2012-present)
Convenor: Mayke Kaag (2012-present)
Researchers: Fantu Cheru, Ton Dietz, Stephen Ellis, Mayke Kaag, André Leliveld, Benjamin Soares, Chibuike Uche
Library staff member: Germa Seuren
Associated members: Julie Ndaya, Heinrich Matthee, Wiebe Nauta

This group explores Africa’s changing global linkages in an increasingly multipolar world. In addition to periodic meetings and the organization of seminars, several members went to Qatar in order to gain insight into the relations between Qatar and Africa. In Doha, the group visited the Qatar Research Council, Qatar University, the Aljazeera Center for Studies, and African embassies. Infosheets about Turkey-Africa and South Korea-Africa relations were also published. The CRG was actively involved in the preparation of the Bandung 60 Conference in Leiden in June and the Africa-Asia Conference in Accra in September. Members of the group were instrumental in developing the ASC’s external relations. For instance, Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) were signed with Beijing Foreign Studies University and the South-Korea Africa Future Strategy Center.
The project ‘Dutch Multinational Businesses, Dutch Government And The Promotion Of Productive Employment In Sub-Sahara Africa: A Comparative Study Of Kenya And Nigeria’ aims at understanding the nature of the relationship between multinational businesses and their host- and home governments, and how this influences the character of such companies. The project is part of the research agenda of the Knowledge Platform Development Policies and is funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs through NWO-WOTRO. The research, using Kenya as its main study and Nigeria as a comparative study, explores how stakeholders can reduce institutional and operational tensions that affect multinational businesses in Africa.

In Kenya, the focus is on floriculture and energy. Floriculture was chosen due to a long involvement and concentration of Dutch businesses in the sector and the role it plays in Kenyan-Dutch trade relations. (Sustainable) Energy was chosen for this study as it was identified by the Dutch Embassy in Nairobi as one of the key sectors attracting Dutch investments in Kenya and deepening Dutch-Kenyan economic relations. In Kenya, ASCL works together with the University of Nairobi and Kenyan Association of Manufacturers (KAM).

In Nigeria, the focus is on three Dutch multinational companies: Heineken (Nigerian Breweries), Tulip Cacao Nigeria, and FrieslandCampina Nigeria. The particular aim of the project in Nigeria is to examine how national companies can be better integrated in the value chain of (Dutch) Multinational Companies (MNCs). A Nigerian researcher is being supported by local partners: the African Heritage Institution (AHI) and Enugu Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (ECCIMA).

The study uses a mixed methods approach. It started with an extensive literature review and analysis of existing policies (Dutch, Kenyan, Nigerian, and international) related to private sector development and productive employment. During the field research, qualitative interviews will be conducted, as well as quantitative self-administered surveys. In addition, participatory methods will facilitate focus group discussions.

In 2015, junior researchers were busy developing a theoretical framework and mapping the business activities of Dutch multinational corporations (MNCs) in the focus countries. They also prepared historical overviews of policies and institutions in Kenya, Nigeria, and the Netherlands with a focus on productive employment and private sector development. To discuss the draft papers and promote the project, junior researchers attended conferences in Belgium and the UK. To date, one paper has been published as an ASC Working Paper and in an open-access peer-reviewed journal.

Chibuike Uche / Akinyinka Akinyoade / Agnieszka Kazimierczuk
**Conflict in Africa: Trajectories of Power, Competition and Civic (Dis-)engagement** (2014-present)

Convenor: Han van Dijk (2014-present)
Researchers: Jan Abbink, Wouter van Beek, Mirjam de Bruijn, Han van Dijk, Mayke Kaag
Library staff member: Edith de Roos
PhD Affiliates: Abreham Alemu, Margot Leegwater, Martin van Vliet
External affiliates: Alexander Meckelburg (University of Hamburg), André van Dokkum (VU Amsterdam)

This CRG focuses on the making of authority and legitimacy, as well as conflict escalation and mediation in contemporary Africa. In addition to analysing how people devise local solutions for survival and livelihoods, the research group collects field data and contributes to discussions on security and the rule of law in Africa in policy debates and international development efforts. A workshop entitled ‘Governance and Connections in Africa’s Contemporary Conflicts’ was held in collaboration with the International Centre for Counter Terrorism (ICCT) in the Hague. The workshop consisted of panels that focused on different regions of conflict in Africa. The organizers plan to translate the workshop outcomes into policy briefs, blog entries and academic publications.

**Food Security and the African City** (2012-present)

Convenor: Akinyinka Akinyoade (2014-)
Researchers: Akinyinka Akinyoade, Ton Dietz, Dick Foeken, Wijnand Klaver, André Leliveld, Marcel Rutten
Library staff member: Heleen Smits
External affiliates: Samuel Owuor (ASC fellow, University of Nairobi), Stefan Jansen

This CRG convenes ASC researchers and affiliated researchers working on questions of food security and urban food systems in Africa in particular. During 2015, the CRG sent a representative to attend the Conference on Agrarian Policies and Rural Transformation in Southern Africa held in Bologna where the CRG’s volume, *Digging Deeper: Inside Africa’s Agricultural, Food and Nutrition Dynamics* (African Dynamics, 2014) was publicized. In September, CRG members participated in the kick-off programme of a scoping study at the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which resulted in Ton Dietz being invited to conduct a scoping study about regional agricultural trade in West Africa, related to issues of food security, economic development, and security.
Increasing Political Leverage of Informal and Formal Workers’ Organizations for Inclusive Development

In October 2014, the research project ‘Increasing Political Leverage of Informal and Formal Workers’ Organizations for Inclusive Development in Ghana and Benin’ was initiated, coordinated by Dr. Mayke Kaag and in collaboration with a consortium of African and European workers’ organizations and knowledge institutes. Other ASC researchers involved are Dr. André Leliveld, Zjos Vlaminck, and Kassim Assouma. The project is part of the research agenda of the Knowledge Platform Inclusive Development Policies (INCLUDE), funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs through NWO-WOTRO.

The project seeks insights into the roles of trade unions and informal workers’ organizations as strategic actors for inclusive development in Ghana and Benin by investigating their political leverage over decent work for informal workers. An important goal of this interdisciplinary multi-stakeholder research is to assist international donors in creating effective support structures for workers’ organizations in Ghana and Benin and to enable trade unions and informal workers’ organizations to effectively promote decent work for all workers. The research focuses on four study areas: Suame Magazine, a mechanics working zone in Kumasi, Ghana; the textile sector in Ghana; taxi-moto drivers (zemidjans) in Cotonou’s Dantokpa Market, Benin; and the vendors in Dantokpa Market.

Throughout 2015, researchers conducted: a mapping of recent manifestations of collective action by trade unions and informal workers’ organizations in defence of informal workers’ labour rights in Ghana and Benin; a scoping exercise of the key trends in thinking and practice of development actors regarding the informal economy and informal workers; a survey measuring decent work deficits amongst informal workers, as well as their perceptions on the modes of operation of trade unions and informal workers’ organizations; and qualitative case studies of collective action amongst informal workers at Makola market in Ghana and amongst Dankopta market traders and zemidjan in Benin.

The mappings in Ghana and Benin show that there is a long history of organizing in the informal economy in both countries and a wide diversity of organization strategies. The initial results of the development chain analysis show an increased interest in ‘labour’ within development thinking, acknowledgement of the importance of the informal economy as a driver for development in Africa, but also a lack of understanding of how informal workers operate and organize. A current trend in development projects in general is to focus on business development and entrepreneurial opportunities within the informal economy. The surveys captured the level of decent work deficits, as well as motives for, and perceptions on organizing in the informal economy among workers in the selected sub sectors. Key insights from the case studies include: a lack of a shared ‘worker’ identity among informal workers in the study areas; discrepancy between motives for collective action among leaders of informal workers’ organizations and members; the influence of partisan politics on the power and legitimacy of various workers’ organizations; and the (conflictual) impact of international donors on power hierarchies among various groups of informal workers.

Zjos Vlaminck
In 2015, the members of the collaborative research group Trade Unions and Labour Issues in Africa (TULIA) were active in several domains. Within the strategic actors project on 'political leverage of informal workers organizations in Ghana and Benin', Kassim Assouma and Zjos Vlaminck finalized their mapping studies and started fieldwork. Cyriaque Edon, William Baah-Boateng, and André Leliveld conducted a large sample survey among informal workers in Benin and Ghana on 'decent' working conditions and perceptions of voice and representation. The CRG made significant progress on an edited volume about contemporary labour issues, which will appear in 2016. For CNV International, of which the ASC is a knowledge partner, Mayke Kaag conducted an update study for Benin. CNV commissioned a new series of studies on several countries in North Africa to begin in 2016. Along with colleagues from SOAS, University of London, TULIA also organized a roundtable (‘The Precariat in Africa’) in Leiden with keynote speeches by Guy Standing, Jan Bremen, and Dorcas Ansah.
And Now Africa

The brand new Bachelor course And Now Africa took place at the University of Amsterdam between January and April 2015. The course, organized by the Institute of Interdisciplinary Studies (UvA) in collaboration with the ASC, was designed for students and others who are interested in Africa and want to know more about current developments on the continent. Twelve sessions, including a panel debate at the end of the course, provided food for thought about the context of ‘Africa Rising’. Africa is rising, but for whom? Where and how does economic growth take place and can it be seen as transformation? What are the consequences of rapid population growth and urbanization? What about the youth revolution? What about culture and religion? The course was divided into a broad range of topics: images of Africa; interpreting Africa’s long history; nature and conflict; population growth; inclusive development; financing Africa’s investments; innovation in Africa; emerging powers in Africa; African states and politics; Christianity, sexuality and human rights; and Muslim politics in contemporary Africa. The panel debate focused on ‘Africa works, but for whom?’ Each session consisted of a lecture by a prominent academic expert and an interview-based discussion with a practitioner from the field (including representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, civil society organizations, private sector and journalists). Explicit attention was also paid to the ‘African perspective’. In total, 30 Africa experts participated in the course. On behalf of the ASC, Ton Dietz coordinated the course (together with Nicky Pouw, UvA) and Karin Nijenhuis (together with Karen Witsenburg) facilitated the interviews and debates with practitioners. Many ASC staff participated in the course, including: Jos Damen; Stephen Ellis; Akinyinka Akinyoade; Chibuike Uche; Mayke Kaag; Klaas van Walraven; Rijk van Dijk; and Benjamin Soares. The highly successful course attracted nearly 150 participants. It also received a review in (19 May 2015). The second edition of And Now Africa started in February 2016.

Karin Nijenhuis
Rethinking Contemporary African History and Historiography (2012-2015)
Researchers: Ton Dietz, Mirjam de Bruijn Stephen Ellis, Jan-Bart Gewald, Ineke van Kessel, Benjamin Soares, Chibuike Uche, Klaas van Walraven
Library staff member: Elvire Eijkman

This CRG is currently the largest collaborative group at the ASC, and it brings together those broadly interested in questions of history and historiography in Africa. It serves mostly as a forum for the exchange of ideas. Following the untimely death of the group’s convenor Stephen Ellis, Jan-Bart Gewald became the new convenor and held several planning meetings for the exchange of ideas. In the coming years, the CRG has decided to focus its attention on the question of biography in African history and plans to organize a conference and edit a collection of papers around the theme of twentieth-century African biographies for the 2018 volume of *African Dynamics*.

Roads to Prosperity and Social Zones of Transit: Comparing Southern and West Africa through Time (2012-2015)
Convenor: Jan-Bart Gewald (2012-2015)
Researchers: Akinyinka Akinyoade, Marleen Dekker, Rijk van Dijk, Jan-Bart Gewald, André Leliveld
Library staff member: Machteld Oosterkamp

This CRG brought together researchers who aimed to understand the rise and transformation of certain places in Africa that became marked as spaces of transit for people who were and are in search of better socio-economic prospects. The CRG successfully wound up its activities, publishing their case studies about migrants who have failed to reach their envisaged end destination and remain ‘stuck’ en route to their final goal in Botswana, the DRC, Ghana, South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe in the 2015 *African Dynamics* volume, *African Roads to Prosperity: People en Route to Socio-Cultural and Economic Transformations* (African Dynamics Series, 2015). This edited volume is based on papers that were presented at two workshops held in Leiden, and brings together in a comparative analysis the various outcomes of the process of mobility and the experience of spaces and times of transit across gender-, generational-, and class differences. These experiences were investigated by members of the CRG and invited colleagues in Africa within the context of the CRG and presented in the book, giving insight into some of the socio-cultural and economic transformations that have taken place in African societies in the last century. Particularly striking for the CRG members was the pervasiveness of mobility in the continent, as well as the many and varied strategies deployed by people to deal with the liminality that is engendered by mobility.

ASC researchers: Time spent on different tasks
In addition to the PhD students, junior research assistants, visiting fellows and guest researchers working at and around the African Studies Centre, in 2015 a core group of 22 senior ASC researchers spent a total of 15.5 fte on a variety of activities in 2015, of which 7.35 fte on research and publications (47%), 1.0 fte on PhD supervision (6%), 2.55 fte on other forms of teaching (16% at Research Masters, Masters, Honours and Bachelors levels), 2.45 fte on services to the academic community (including management of the ASC), and 2.15 fte on services to the non-academic community. We published a similar breakdown of ASC researchers’ time in 2013, and if we compare these two years we can see the following trends:

- A slight increase in the total time available for ASC senior researchers (from 15.2 to 15.5 fte; core budget cuts could be more than compensated for by spending time on externally funded projects and by hiring project staff for these projects).
- An increase of ‘pure’ research time, from 6.9 fte (45%) to 7.35 fte (47%), as intended, but not yet at the level of 50% that was formulated.
- A stabilization of time spent on PhD supervision (1 fte in 2013 and 2015).
- An increase of time spent on teaching (from 2.3 fte to 2.55, i.e. from 15% in 2013 to 16% in 2015), as intended; we expect this increase to continue in the years ahead.
Voice4Thought

Voice4Thought (V4T) is a valorization project by the University of Leiden and the ‘Connecting In times of Duress’ programme (www.connecting-in-times-of-duress.nl; www.voice4thought.org). It started in 2013 as an idea for a documentary on engaged people in the research area (Nigeria, Chad, Cameroon, CAR, Congo DRC, Mali and Uganda) of the Connecting in Times of Duress team (Leiden University), then grew to a fully independent project ‘Voice4Thought’. This project was launched on 27 November 2014 and culminated in the establishment of the Voice4Thought Foundation on 29 April 2016.

While our world gets smaller; opposing views between social, ethic, and religious groups become starker; bringing fear and uncertainty. Voice4Thought wants to be a hallmark for the production of alternative knowledge concerning current social and political issues in order to create a more nuanced public dialogue. This new knowledge is produced by people who make us think critically – a Voice for Thought. We offer a platform for people to bring an alternative story and their efforts to bring about constructive and peaceful change.

In 2015, V4T produced further insights into the biographies of voices. A leading Voice in the project is Didier Lalaye, alias Croquemort, a Chadian slammer and urban poet. He visited the Netherlands from 1 June to 30 August 2015 for a writing retreat and to give several performances. His texts call for the interpretation and understanding of the situation in Chad, one of the world’s poorest countries, where the president took power by force in 1990. His predecessor was finally brought to justice in 2015. A preliminary publication on Didier Lalaye’s biography can be found at the V4T website. In 2015, we also followed a painter in Congo and later in France.

The first edition of the Voice4Thought festival was held in August 2015. The theme was ‘political activism in West and Central Africa’. It was organized in Leiden and comprised concerts, debates, films, art and photo exhibitions, and, most importantly, the engaging of artists with the Dutch public (see http://voice4thought.org/festival). In 2016, the festival will take place in Leiden from 21-25 September. The theme will be ‘People in Motion’.

The Voice4Thought project is supported by: Leiden University; Leiden Global; African Studies Centre Leiden; the city of Leiden; the Institute for Information, Communication and Development; Radio Netherlands Worldwide Media; VPRO Buitenland; Both Ends; CRASH (Centre de Recherche en Anthropologie et Sciences Humaines, Ndjameña, Chad), Dakar University, Langaa (a research and publication centre in Cameroon).

Mirjam de Bruijn
A reduction in time spent on (internal and external) academic management and support duties: from 2.7 fte in 2013 to 2.45 fte in 2015 (i.e. from 18% to 16%), as intended.

A slight reduction in time spent by ASC senior researchers on services to the non-academic community: from 2.2 fte to 2.15 fte (i.e. from 15% to 14%).

For the ASC as a whole, the time devoted to services to the non-academic community increased (e.g. we accepted the secretariat of the Knowledge Platform for Inclusive Development). But there was a deliberate strategy to involve the support staff more effectively in those services to the non-academic community, e.g. in co-organizing the ASC’s Community Country Days, and by employing a social media expert. This left researchers with time to increase their academic involvement in debates and activities with the worlds of policy, business, NGOs, and journalism, with lower transaction costs.

**Brief overview of the publications by ASC staff in 2015**

In 2015, staff belonging to the African Studies Centre in Leiden (co-)produced 145 publications. Most of these were in English (129), some in Dutch (13) and a few in French (3). The table below gives an overview of the types of publications. Most of the ASC's publications are either refereed scientific publications or publications for a wider audience (policymakers, business people, NGOs, journalists, teachers, the general public). The last category reflects the many relatively 'new' forms of outreach (infosheets, poster maps, policy briefs, blogs, columns), much of it immediately accessible online. The ASC also actively tries to encourage scientific publications to become ‘open access’, either immediately or after a (brief) ‘embargo period’.

**Publications by ASC staff in 2015, types of publications**

The ASC also encourages co-productions with African authors. Of the 63 academic refereed publications, 31 were either by ASC staff with an African background, and/or together with co-writers working in Africa. Some of the other publications were also produced together with authors with an African background.

If we look at the countries about which ASC authors and their collaborators wrote in 2015, Ethiopia was predominant (16), followed by Ghana (8), Cameroon (8), Kenya (7), Nigeria (6), Zambia (4), Uganda (4), South Africa (3), Central African Republic (3), Tanzania (3), and Senegal (3). In total, ASC publications highlighted situations in 23 different African countries. In addition

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many publications were about more general Africanist topics, and a growing number of publications link Africa to other continents, or compare African situations with those elsewhere, particularly in Asia.

In 2015, publications by current senior staff of the ASC were cited more than 2200 times (and if we add our retired honorary fellows more than 2600 times), although mostly older publications. The most cited publication by an ASC senior researcher this year was Stephen Ellis’ *Criminalization of the State in Africa* (co-authored with Jean-François Bayart and Béatrice Hibou, 1999) as well as his *Mask of Anarchy* (about the war in Liberia, also 1999), two ASC classics, both cited 66 times.

**Tracking Development**

The Tracking Development project ended in 2015 with the publication of the final results in a book written by David Henley: *Asia-Africa Development Divergence. A Question of Intent*. It was published by Zed Press in London, and highlights the agrarian roots of development success, varieties of rural bias and the elements of what he calls the developmental mindset. This monograph complements the African Dynamics book *Asian Tigers, African Lions*, published by Brill in 2013, a co-production of the African Studies Centre, KITLV, and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In addition, two ASC related scholars, who successfully defended their PhD theses in 2013, and who resumed their work for the University of Nairobi (Bethuel Kinuthia) and for REPOA in Tanzania (Blandina Kilama), each published two important papers in 2015.
Abamfo O. Atiemo
Abamfo Ofori Atiemo is a Senior Lecturer and former Head of the Department for the Study of Religions, University of Ghana, Legon. He obtained his PhD from the Free University of Amsterdam, after studying for MPhil and BA degrees in the Study of Religions at the University of Ghana. He also holds qualifications from the Institute of Social Studies (ISS) in The Hague and the Trinity Theological Seminary at Legon in Ghana.

He teaches Comparative/History of Religion and his research interests include: religion and human rights; Hinduism in Ghana (with special interest in African Hindus); evil and popular piety in Ghanaian Christianity and Islam.


During his fellowship he worked on the topic, ‘Myth and Nation Building: A Religious History of Ghana’.

Abel E. Ezeoha
Abel E. Ezeoha is a development economist affiliated to Ebonyi State University, Nigeria. His research on ‘Corporate Nationality and Competition for Corporate Finance in Africa’ won the 2009 CODESRIA Advance Research fellowship. He has published on a number of interesting development issues in Africa, including: Industrial Development Banking in Nigeria: A Forty-Year Failed Experiment; FDI Flows to Sub-Saharan Africa: The Impact of Finance, Institutions, and Natural Resource Endowment; and Financial Determinants of International Remittance Flows to the Sub-Saharan African Region.

Abdourahamane Idrissa
Abdourahamane Idrissa is a political scientist. He studied Philosophy and Political Science at the University of Dakar, in Senegal, before moving to the United States on a Fulbright Scholarship. He obtained a PhD from the University of Florida in 2009. Postdoctoral work at the Universities of Oxford and Princeton, as a Global Leader Fellow (2nd Cohort), helped him to develop expertise in the political economy of West Africa.

He has published several book chapters and journal articles in both English and French, primarily on Niger and the Sahelian region. Currently, he is working on West African regionalism, security governance and political Islam. He is based in Niamey, where, in 2014, he established a think tank on political economy and governance in the Sahel and West Africa.
News from former visiting fellows

**Nurit Hashimshony-Yaffe**
Following her stay at the ASC in 2014, Nurit Hashimshony-Yaffe became a Senior Lecturer at the School of Government and Society, University of Birmingham, in 2015. Her paper (with Hadas Yaron) ‘In the Absence of States, Transnationalism, and Asylum – Eritrean Refugees in Israel’, will be published in *African Diaspora*. She has also contributed to the INCLUDE programme with ‘Bottom to top’ Inclusiveness’, (see [http://includeplatform.net/contribution/bottom-top-inclusiveness/](http://includeplatform.net/contribution/bottom-top-inclusiveness/)). Nurit Hashimshony-Yaffe has started a new research project ‘Pastoralist Communities Organizing in a Changing Society in Contemporary Kenya’.

**Daniel Spence**
Since his fellowship in 2014, Daniel Spence has published two books: *Colonial Naval Culture and British Imperialism, 1922-67* (2015), which he worked on during his time at ASC and *A History of the Royal Navy: Empire and Imperialism* (2015). He has also published a number of peer-reviewed articles, book reviews and chapters for edited volumes. Subsequent to his fellowship, he was promoted to Senior Lecturer in Colonial and Postcolonial Studies at the University of the Free State, South Africa, where he is currently Assistant Director of the International Studies Group. He has also been appointed as a Research Affiliate to the University of Sydney’s Australian Research Council Laureate project, ‘Race and Ethnicity in the Global South’. Spence is about to embark on a new oral history project examining conceptions of Britishness, national identity, and colonialism in the UK’s remaining overseas territories.

**Bekele Gutema**

**Kees van der Waal**
Kees van der Waal, who was a visiting fellow at the ASC in 2014, retired at the end of 2014 and is now Emeritus Professor in Social Anthropology at the University of Stellenbosch. His recent publications include ‘Long Walk from Volkekunde to Anthropology: Reflections on Representing the Human in South Africa’, *Anthropology Southern Africa*, 38 (3&4):216-234 and ‘Humanizing De-Afrikanerized South African Anthropology (comment on article of Becker and Spiegel)’, *American Anthropologist* 117(4):766-768. He is currently writing the book ‘Conversations in the History of Anthropology in South Africa’, with John Sharp, Ilana van Wyk and Jimmy Pieterse for a series on Anthropology in Africa as well as one on the social history of Berlyn, a village in the South African Lowveld and ethnographic notes on transformations in the South African Lowveld.

**Romain Dittgen**
Since the conclusion of a joint ASC-IIAS fellowship in 2014, Romain Dittgen has relocated to Johannesburg, initially to take up a position as Senior Researcher in the Foreign Policy Programme at the South African Institute of International Affairs. He has continued to focus on Africa’s engagement with external partners, specifically with China, including organizing an African Think Tank Initiative, bringing together think tanks and research institutes from across the continent, the African Development Bank as well as the African Union to Commission to discuss how African institutions should position themselves and engage with external partners. He has also been involved in a project examining China’s role in the domain of governance capacity building in three African countries (Zimbabwe, South Sudan and Ethiopia). In February 2016, Dittgen joined the South African Research Chair in Spatial Analysis and City Planning at the University of the Witwatersrand where he investigates social innovations in the context of large-scale urban developments. This is part of the research project ‘Governing the Future City: A Comparative Analysis of Governance Innovations in Large-Scale Urban Developments in Shanghai, London, Johannesburg’, jointly undertaken by University College London and Wits University.
Christopher Lee

Christopher J. Lee is a Research Associate at the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research (WISER) at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. He received his PhD in African history from Stanford University. Trained as a socio-cultural historian, his teaching and research interests concern the social, political, and intellectual histories of southern Africa. His recent work has addressed decolonization and the politics of the Indian Ocean during the Cold War. He is the editor of *Making a World After Empire: The Bandung Moment and Its Political Afterlives* (2010) and the author of *Unreasonable Histories: Nativism, Multiracial Lives and the Genealogical Imagination in British Africa* (2014).

Victor Onyebuke

Victor Udemezue Onyebuke is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning of the University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus (Nigeria). Dr. Onyebuke holds MA and BA degrees in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Nigeria, a Postgraduate Diploma in Urban Land Policy & Implementation from the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (now IHS-Erasmus University) in Rotterdam and a PhD in Geography and Environmental Science from the Stellenbosch University. His research interests include globalization, urban land use dynamics, urban informality, and inclusive planning. He co-authored a chapter in *Planning and the Case Study Method in Africa: The Planners in Dirty Shoes* (2014), edited by James Duminy, *et al*., on the coercive and contradictory practices of planning in (re)locating informal businesses in Enugu, Nigeria. Dr. Onyebuke’s articles have appeared in several journals, including *Cities*, *Urban Forum*, and *Habitat International*. His ASC research focused on ‘Globalization, Football and Emerging Urban “Tribes”: Fans of the European Leagues in a Nigerian city’.
From Idol to Art

One advantage of writing a PhD thesis during old age is the opportunity to reflect on one’s career and search for recurring themes. In my life these were objects-with-power, as I call them, but they have been given pejorative names, such as idols, fetishes, gris-gris, juju and others. I was confronted with these objects-with-power as a missionary in Ghana (1961-1971), as a student of social anthropology at the University of Oxford (1973-1976), and as the Africa curator at the Amsterdam Tropenmuseum (1975-1995). When I registered as a PhD candidate at Tilburg University in 2009, I was welcomed as a ‘reflective practitioner’; hence I titled my thesis From Idol to Art. African Objects-with-Power: A Challenge for Missionaries, Anthropologists and Museum Curators. The book covers the period 1850-2000.

When missionaries arrived in Africa in the nineteenth century, bringing Africans the glad tidings of the gospel, they knew little or nothing about African religions. To them, Africans were pagan and superstitious. This approach remained their trademark until well into the twentieth century, as is clear from their writings, missionary exhibitions and sermons. It was a means to justify their interference in African affairs. Building schools and hospitals, promoting the emancipation of Africans in the world barely disguised their true mission. Their missionary doctrine of plantatio ecclesiae (the planting of the church) succeeded in establishing a church in every nook and cranny of the continent with some 150 million members.

Anthropologists did not do fieldwork in Africa until the twentieth century. Some discovered what they called the ‘emic account’: Africans’ own perceptions of their reality. Later, they searched for phenomena characteristic of a culture or society: key-symbols or master-symbols. Unfortunately, these new insights have had little impact on existing stereotypes.

Curators of ethnographic museums rarely did research in Africa, relying heavily on the accounts of travellers, diplomats, and missionaries, and the objects that they brought home. Thus, a number of stereotypes about Africa remained unchallenged. Gradually, a change in the appreciation of objects-with-power arose, when these were discovered and presented as art objects. After African nations became independent in the second half of the twentieth century, these museums experienced an existential crisis: increasingly, their collections became historical heritage, while they failed to establish successful relationships with modern Africa.

Harrie Leyten
PhD Theses Defended in 2015

ASC staff (co-) supervised almost 80 PhD students based both at the ASC and at different universities in the Netherlands and Africa in 2015. The subjects of their research varied from ecosystem changes in Burkina Faso to society and change in Ghana and Arabization and technologies of communication in Chad.

The following PhD students defended their theses in 2015 (only ASC promotors are mentioned):

**Angela Kronenburg García**
*Contesting Control: Land and Forest in the Struggle for Loita Maasai Self-Government in Kenya*
13 April at Wageningen University
Promotor: Prof. Han van Dijk

**Harrie Leyten**
*From Idol to Art: African ‘Objects with Power’: A Challenge for Missionaries, Anthropologists and Museum curators*
15 April at Tilburg University
Promotor: Prof. Wouter van Beek
This ethnographic study examines the direct and indirect effects of interventions targeting land tenure and forest management as they articulate with existing social, political, and legal practices and processes among the Loita Maasai of Kenya. In particular, it considers the state-led yet foreign-funded land adjudication programme of the 1960s that sought to convert Kenya’s pastoral lands into privately owned group ranches; the attempt by the local authority, Narok County Council, to turn the Naimina Enkiyio Forest into a nature reserve for tourism in the 1990s; and a forest co-management project that was partially carried out by IUCN in the early 2000s. It shows how, faced with these and other interventions as well as pressure from neighbouring communities, the Loita Maasai struggle to maintain access and control over the land they inhabit and the forest they use. Though they have been on the losing side in territorial struggles with neighbouring Purko Maasai and (non-Maasai) Sonjo, they have successfully navigated policies and projects driven by the state, NGOs and environmental organizations to retain access and control of their land and forest. This is remarkable given that similar interventions in other parts of Kenya since the colonial period eventually led to loss of land and exclusion from forest areas for the local people. The three interventions considered in this study eventually failed. Nevertheless, they triggered processes that changed the way people engage with the land and forest, with each other, and with outsiders on these issues.

This PhD thesis engages with literature on ‘governmentality’ (Foucault 2001), ‘governmental interventions’ (Li 2007) and ‘the art of not being governed’ (Scott 2009), and employs an analytical approach that combines insights from political ecology, legal anthropology, and political anthropology. Focusing on the processes of change in the domains of land tenure, forest access, and leadership, it demonstrates how the struggle to maintain control over land and forest is interlaced and embedded in a more subtle struggle for self-government and for ‘not being (too) governed’ by the state and other powerful, external agencies. It draws five major conclusions: (i) Loita leaders must ensure their continued control over matters relating to land tenure and forest use and access if they are to maintain a degree of self-government in relation to the state and other actors; (ii) when it comes to land, forest, and leadership, social change in Loita is best understood in the context of a larger, transnational and historically produced arena that revolves around governmentality and political struggle; (iii) this is a society in flux that was captured by taking a historically embedded actor-oriented approach and linking governmentality and political ecology; (iv) the process of making property in Loita reflects a shift from a tenure practice, where access regulated the use of land, to an arrangement whereby individual property is increasingly becoming the norm; and (v) in the process of property-in-the-making, the way people are now identifying and defining themselves is also changing and this, in turn, is compromising the long-running struggle by Loita leaders for autonomy and for ‘not being governed’. This study was published in 2015 as ‘Contesting Control: Land and Forest in the Struggle for Loita Maasai Self-government in Kenya’ in the African Studies Collection No. 58.

Angela Kronenburg García
Modesta Medard
A Social Analysis of Contested Fishing Practices in Lake Victoria, Tanzania
28 April at Wageningen University
Promotor: Prof. Han van Dijk

André van Dokkum
Politics, History and Conceptions of Democracy in Barue District, Mozambique
9 June at the VU University, Amsterdam
Promotor: Prof. Jan Abbink

Abreham Alemu
Ethnicity and Local Identity in the Folklore of the South-western Oromo of Ethiopia: A Comparative Study
16 June at the VU University, Amsterdam
Promotor: Prof. Jan Abbink

Margot Leegwater
Sharing Scarcity: Land Access and Social Relations in Southeast Rwanda
16 September at the VU University, Amsterdam
Promotor: Prof. Jan Abbink

Matteo Grilli
3 November at Leiden University
Promotor: Prof. Jan-Bart Gewald

Zelalem Yilma Debebe
Essays on the Economics of Health-Risk and Insurance
4 December at the Erasmus University Rotterdam
Co-promotor: Dr. Marleen Dekker
Drinking in the Desert

Fieldwork in Namibia is a wonderful experience: the beautiful and dramatic landscapes, vast distances, and scattered towns form an impressive backdrop to my research. I feel privileged being here, living in this diverse country while analysing the relationships between markets and state. The production and consumption of beer is used as a case study to examine such a relationship. This means not only drinking beer, but also doing archival research, conducting interviews, and getting acquainted with the extensive historiography. It turns out that the history of beer is closely intertwined with the general history of Namibia: it is an important economic market with cultural and political implications. One example is the apartheid era when, indigenous people were not allowed to buy and consume liquor: beer became a marker of racial identity. Nowadays, the situation is very different and Namibian beer is world renowned, winning international prizes for its quality. The historical roots of this story are largely unknown, and by finding old photographs and newspapers, listening to stories and analysing artifacts, the narrative slowly comes together.

Tycho van der Hoog
The Research Masters in African Studies (ResMAAS) is a two-year MA programme of the ASC at Leiden University. In 2014/2015 seven students of the programme obtained their diploma. Two of the seven graduated with honours with overall cumulative grades above 8.0: Tanja Hendriks’ thesis ‘Home is Always Home. (Former) Street Youth in Blantyre, Malawi, and the Fluidity of Constructing Home’ was awarded a 9 out of 10; Rafaël Verbuyst also earned a 9 for his thesis ‘Claiming Cape Town. Ethnographic Interpretations of Khoisan Activism and Land Claims’. To access these and other ResMA African Studies theses, see the Leiden Repository (https://openaccess.leidenuniv.nl/handle/1887/25119).

In the same academic year, three second-year students started fieldwork in Africa (Ghana, Cameroon, and Namibia), making way for seven new first-year ResMA African Studies students to start course work at the ASC in Leiden.

2014/15 has been an important preparatory year for ResMAAS’ second re-accreditation (the previous one was obtained in May 2010). The re-accreditation will hopefully be granted within the 2016/2017 academic year, which is ResMAAS’ tenth anniversary. Since its inception in September 2006, approximately 70 students have graduated from the programme. Most of them now work in Africa, Europe, America, and Australia, employed in government offices, NGOs, in academia or in private business. A number of former ResMA students have recently obtained their PhDs in the Netherlands, Germany, and Denmark. For these alumni as well as our current and prospective students, and Africanists in general, we look forward to reporting good news about the proceedings of the re-accreditation process and related ResMAAS news next year!

**Research Masters Theses Completed in 2015**

**David Drengk**
Pushing (Social) Boundaries: Social History of Surfing and People between 1960 and 1990 at South Africa’s Wild Coast

**Affoh Guenneguez**
Le processus d’appropriation symbolique d’une ancienne capitale colonial patrimonialisée. Cas de la ‘Ville Historique de Grand-Bassam’ en Côte d’Ivoire

**Tanja Hendriks**
Home is always home. (Former) Street Youth in Blantyre, Malawi, and the Fluidity of Constructing Home

**Ida Ræder Taraldsen**
Who are you Wearing? An Exploration of Expressions of Identity among Gay Men in Cape Town, South Africa

**Rafael Verbuyst**
Claiming Cape Town. Ethnographic Interpretations of Khoisan Activism and Land Claims
**Knowledge Platform on Inclusive Development**

While most African countries have registered high growth in the last decade, a large number of people remain excluded from the benefits of this progress. More inclusive development requires policies for economic transformation, productive employment, and social protection, to ensure that vulnerable and poor groups, especially young people and women, benefit from growth. However, such inclusive policies can only be realized if they are supported by coalitions of strategic actors across state and society that can overcome resistance to change among the ruling political and commercial elites.

INCLUDE, one of five knowledge platforms established by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, supports research in these fields and brings the results (and existing knowledge) to policymakers and practitioners. The ASC hosts the Secretariat of INCLUDE.

A number of international research groups have been selected by NWO-WOTRO to address pressing policy questions on the themes of productive employment and strategic actors; in addition, in 2015 funding was awarded to research groups that investigate the cost-effectiveness of social protection interventions in order to achieve inclusive growth. Several of these research groups held their kick-off meetings in 2015, for instance ‘Breaking the Vicious Circle between Poverty and Ill-Health’ in May, in Nairobi.

Also in May, INCLUDE and the African Economic Research Consortium organized the working conference ‘Building Policy-Knowledge Communities for Inclusive Development in Africa’ in Nairobi. The conference explored how INCLUDE can cooperate with African organizations and think tanks in knowledge sharing and uptake around the research projects supported by the platform. The conference was attended by a wide range of stakeholders, including Platform members, researchers, policymakers, and practitioners from international development organizations and NGOs.

Another major activity in 2015 was the online public consultation by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs on how to promote inclusiveness in the policy agenda on trade and international cooperation. This consultation ran on the INCLUDE website and served as input for the policy letter that Minister Lilianne Ploumen sent to Parliament in spring. The consultation process resulted in 106 expert contributions, including a substantial number of contributions from Africa.

In October, more than 80 participants from a wide range of countries gathered in Leiden for the INCLUDE working conference ‘What Works to Promote Employment Prospects for Women and Youth: Policy-Knowledge Interactions for Inclusive Development in Africa’. The conference strengthened exchange between Dutch and African scientists, policymakers, and practitioners on employment prospects for women and youth in Africa – a theme that is at the heart of INCLUDE’s knowledge agenda.

More on INCLUDE: [www.includeplatform.net](http://www.includeplatform.net) or follow us on twitter: @INCLUDEplatform or on Facebook: @IncludeKnowledgePlatform
Figures and Trends in 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of visitors</td>
<td>3697</td>
<td>3927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans</td>
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<td>4383</td>
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<td>Requests for information</td>
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<tr>
<td>by phone / in the library</td>
<td>831</td>
<td>784</td>
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<tr>
<td>by email</td>
<td>1285</td>
<td>1644</td>
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<tr>
<td>New acquisitions</td>
<td>3276</td>
<td>2818</td>
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<td>Items catalogued (including gifts)</td>
<td>3573</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abstracts (ASA Online)</td>
<td>1571</td>
<td>1578</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions to ASA Online mailing list</td>
<td>1605</td>
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<td>Titles in ASC Library catalogue</td>
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<td>Searches in ASC Library catalogue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Titles in Connecting-Africa</td>
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<td>Connecting-Africa (unique visitors)</td>
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<td>26,297</td>
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<td>AfricaBib (unique visitors excl. robots)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASC Repository (downloads)</td>
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<td>305,447</td>
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Four highlights from the ASC Library in 2015
- the database AfricaBib was included in Google Scholar
- the new alert service was expanded and improved
- a book acquisition trip to Ghana
- Coutinho Collection (photographs Senegal & Guinea-Bissau) digitized
Main goals: Unique collections, open access

The paper collection of the ASC Library is unique in the Netherlands: 47,000 books are unique copies in the Netherlands, and up to 10 per cent of the books are unique in the world. The Library staff strives to add unique books, films and other material to the collection. The Library aims to be as open as possible and make information available to the world – online open access. In 2015, this was achieved by adding new paper books from Africa to the collection, including books bought during an acquisition trip to Ghana. We also ensure as much information as possible is available free online. There were more than 300,000 downloads from the ASC repository, 25,000 came from Africa. In addition, there were >60,000 pageviews and downloads from Connecting-Africa and ASC’s e-docs.

Collection development, acquisitions and cataloguing

This year’s acquisition trip was to Ghana. The journey was made by Elvire Eijkman, who travelled to Accra in November 2015 to update the Ghana collection. The last trip to Ghana was made five years earlier by Gerard van de Bruinhorst. The 13th Ghana International Book Fair was the main reason for the trip, but Eijkman also visited the University of Legon (which has an Institute of African Studies), and she went to several bookshops in the capital, notably EPP Book Services and Vidya’s Bookstore, and to Assembly Press, the printer of official government publications. One of the rare books acquired (to date no other library in the Western world has a copy) was Hilla Limann. Scholar - diplomat - statesman - president of the republic of Ghana, 24th September 1979 to 31st of December 1981. A biography. This book, written by Ivan Addae-Mensah, sheds new light on Limann, who was elected president in 1979, but whose government was overthrown on 31 December 1981 by Jerry Rawlings. In total more than 150 publications and several films were acquired during this trip. http://www.ascleiden.nl/news/ghana-international-book-fair-acquisition-trip-accra
In 2015, the ASC Library received archival material from Professor Franz von Benda-Beckmann (1941-2013), notably, field notes written and publications collected during his research on legal pluralism in Malawi in 1967. Franz von Benda-Beckmann obtained his PhD in law with his dissertation ‘Rechtspluralismus in Malawi. Geschichtliche Entwicklung und heutige Problematik’ at the University of Kiel in 1970. (The English version of this dissertation – ‘Legal Pluralism in Malawi. Historical development and contemporary problems’ is freely available online via the ASC catalogue.) In 1981, Von Benda-Beckmann was appointed professor of law and rural development in developing countries at Wageningen University.

The archive contains handwritten notes in English and German about the Malawian legal system and legislation (court decisions, notes of his conversations with Local Court Chairmen). Furthermore, the archive includes copies of National Assembly Debates (Hansard) of the Parliament of Malawi (1967, 1969); an incomplete edition of the Laws of Nyasaland in Force on the 1st Day of January, 1957; ordinances of the Malawian Government (1964-1969); and annual reports of the Ministry of Justice. The archives were donated by gentle concession of Keebet von Benda-Beckmann. An enlarged archival description was made available via the ASC website.
AfricaBib improved and included in Google Scholar

During the last months of 2014, Google Scholar approached the African Studies Centre and was granted permission to index the AfricaBib database and use the metadata in Google Scholar. In practice, this means that the more than 222,000 records in AfricaBib will be more visible to scholars and other interested persons, and that more scholarly publications about and from Africa will receive the attention they deserve.

One-stop searching

As of January 2015, it is possible to search through all records simultaneously in a one-stop search. AfricaBib consists of six bibliographic databases, totaling 222,000 records, many with links to full text: periodical literature from Africa, and material on African women, women travellers, Islam in Africa, Kenya Coast and water in Africa. In 2012, the Quarterly Index of African Periodical Literature (QIAPL) from the Library of Congress was included in the database Africana periodical literature. The database is heavily used, with more than 300,000 unique visitors a year, and more than 14 million records viewed in 2015.

Information services, indexing & abstracting

The new Leiden Alert Service on African Studies (LASA), introduced in 2014, has been a success. The complete project (by Germa Seuren and Ursula Oberst) consisted of several components, the first three of which were realized in 2015: the development of a personalized email alert service on a certain topic or country (or a combination of the two), the redesign of the Library’s acquisitions list (published weekly) and the semi-automatic import of journal articles into the Library catalogue. As of December 2015, the new alert service had over 200 subscribers. The semi-automatic import of journal articles has enabled the library to maintain the level of abstract production despite decrease in staff.

3237 books were processed in 2015, including 478 e-docs (open access) and 1249 gifts. In addition to the 1578 articles covered for ASA Online, 391 journal articles were catalogued and 28 new titles of Africana journals were added to the ASC’s online catalogue (many with full text), as were 92 new DVDs of shortlisted novel The Fishermen by Chigozie Obioma (Nigeria); The courage of ||kabbo, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the publication of Specimens of Bushman folklore, the proceedings of a conference relating to the famous |Xam and Ikung archive of Wilhelm Bleek and Lucy Lloyd in South Africa; African crime fiction highlighting a number of new acquisitions of crime novels; Renewable Energy (RE) in Africa, the first highlight on a free online, open access publication: Africa power sector. Planning and prospects for renewable energy (http://opc-ascl.oclc.org:1080/PPN?PPN=392769654); The maestro, The magistrate and the mathematician, a Zimbabwean novel by Tendai Huchu; The Bloody Miracle & Forerunners (two recent South African documentaries) and Ojijo: Politics of Poverty: the Odinga curse to the Luos!, a political and ideological pamphlet blaming Prime Minister Raila Odinga and more generally the (Luo) Odinga family for not having brought ‘an iota of development to Luoland’. This series of highlights illustrates the scope and diversity of the collection. More highlights can be found on the ASC website.
African films. The acquisitions list is published weekly and has been redesigned to make it more attractive. The acquisitions list has 498 subscribers.

**Web dossiers**

Web dossiers group the information on a current topic and make the information available in context. Every web dossier has an introduction, written by a specialist, links to the descriptions of books and journal articles in the catalogue and gives a list of annotated links to electronic resources and relevant websites.

In 2015 four web dossiers were produced:

- Muslim scholars in Africa (coinciding with a workshop on the same topic co-organized by LUCIS and the African Studies Centre on 23 April 2015)
- Renewable energy in Africa (on the occasion of the NVAS Day on Africa and Technology, October 17 — introduction written by Iva Pesa)
- Alcohol in Africa (introduction written by Paul Nugent, Edinburgh)
- Africa-Asia relations (in connection with the ASC research collaborative group ‘Africa in the world — introduction written by Mayke Kaag)

**Professional relations**

- The outreach and valorization of knowledge about Africa is of key importance. The ASC Library contributed to this in several ways in 2015.
- (Co-)Organizing panels and presentations, e.g. the panel ‘Publish or perish in African studies’ at the 6th ECAS Conference at Sorbonne University in Paris and the 9th ELIAS meeting (for librarians in African studies) at BULAC (Bibliothèque universitaire des langues et civilisations) in Paris (both in July 2015).
- Giving presentations, guided tours and information sessions for a wider audience. The library served diverse groups in 2015: colleagues from the International Criminal Court, an educational delegation from Ghana, students from Groningen, Rotterdam, Leiden and The Hague, personnel of African embassies in the Netherlands, Dutch diplomats, librarians from Naturalis Museum, PhDs, junior researchers and many others. Information specialist Heleen Smits gave a talk at the University of Khartoum about the Lumun language (subject of her PhD thesis) in which she also promoted the ASC's digital library and information services.
- Making country dossiers with relevant recent (online) literature for the country meetings at the ASC, in 2015 on Namibia, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia.
- Improving knowledge about Africa in Wikipedia, by giving talks (Jos Damen & Ingeborg Verheul during the OCLC EMEA Conference The Art of invention, in Florence, February 2015), at the 17th International Grey Literature Conference at the KNAW Trippenhuis Amsterdam (Dec. 2015), and by making information about Africa available via Wikipedia.
- Further developing the Africa Country Portal, a portal giving trustworthy open access information about all 54 countries in Africa, grouped by country. (http://countryportal.ascleiden.nl)
Microbiologist Roel Coutinho (formerly RIVM & University of Amsterdam, now Utrecht University) worked in Senegal and Guinea-Bissau in 1973 and 1974. Coutinho worked as a medical doctor in the so called ‘liberated areas’ controlled by PAIGC. PAIGC was a political and military movement fighting against Portuguese rule in Guinea-Bissau. During his work he shot more than 1250 photographs (negatives and slides). A selection of 750 photographs was digitized in 2015 and made accessible via Wikimedia with a Creative Commons license, which means that these photographs are free to use. The selection can be found at Wikimedia Commons.

The photographs provide a good view of daily life during the liberation struggle against Portugal. The photographs show schools, shops, medical treatments and military activities. Examples include: children and soldiers in class rooms; medical operations in the field; shot down planes; shops; dances; and vaccinations. The first president of Guinea-Bissau (Luís Cabral) can be seen in the a photograph taken during the wedding of the prime minister of Guinea Bissau, Francisco Mendes (nom de guerre: Chico Té).

The Coutinho Collection was donated to the African Studies Centre Leiden by Roel Coutinho. The idea to digitize the photographs and ‘donate’ them to Wikimedia under a Creative Commons license came from Jos Damen. Slides and negatives were digitized by GMS Digitaliseert in Alblasserdam. The metadata (descriptions) were structured and translated into English and Portuguese by Michele Portatadino. Harro Westra took care of technical implementations and Wikipedian Hans Muller uploaded the 750 images to Wikimedia Commons. The project was funded by ASC Leiden. There are plans for a booklet and a small exhibition, hopefully also to be held in Bissau.
ASC Community and Country Meetings

By the end of 2015, the ASC Community had reached more than 500 members.
Four country meetings were organized in 2015 in Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Namibia, and Nigeria.

The meeting for Nigeria was held not long after the elections and focused on the economic future of the country under the new government. Lectures were given by Dr. Dele Olowu (consultant on governance and capacity development) and Dr. David Ehrhardt (Assistant Professor in International Development, Leiden University College). In the panel discussion following the speeches, the speakers were joined by Eruore Peace Quadt (Nigerian-Netherlands Solutions). The meeting was moderated by Dr. Akinyinka Akinyoade (ASC).

The Namibia meeting was organized in the framework of 25 years of independence. Lectures were given by Prof. Jan-Bart Gewald (ASCL), Leonor Jonker (Utrecht University) and Dr. Stasja Koot (International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) of Erasmus University Rotterdam). The topics of their lectures varied from controversy surrounding the return and retention of Nambian skulls from Germany to the effect of tourism on Bushmen in Namibia.

The Burkina Faso meeting was organized in cooperation with the Burkina Faso Platform in the Netherlands. Lectures were given by Dr. Sabine Luning (Leiden University) on the political transitions in relation to discussions on mining activities, and Jaap Bijl (Laboratoire Citoyennetés and ACE-RECIT) on local governance in the light of the new political climate. They were joined in the panel discussion by Prof. Han van Dijk (ASC), Gaetan Ouedraogo (Chair Faso Yelle), and Bouba Kone (entrepreneur).
The meeting was moderated by Freek Harmelink (Honorary Consul).

The Ethiopia meeting was organized as an indirect result to the Ethiopian elections, earlier in 2015. Lectures were given by Prof. Jan Abbink (ASC) on the political and social dynamics of a society in transition, by Johannes Borger (RVO) on doing business in Ethiopia, and by Mattijs Renden (Cordaid) on inclusive economic development in Ethiopia. In the second part of the meeting, the lecturers joined a discussion panel and Q&A with the audience, guided by discussion leader Mesfin Aman. The meeting was moderated by Jos van Beurden.

Before each meeting, Edith de Roos (librarian) gave a brief introduction to what the ASC Library has to offer. She also prepared a country dossier for each meeting.

The Community country meetings are generally attended by a wide variety of visitors: academics, students, media, NGOs, policymakers, representatives of embassies/consulates, and the general public with an interest in Africa. After each meeting there is always time for networking over drinks.

If you would like to become a member of the Community or if you would like to be informed about upcoming country meetings, please send an email to: asccommunity@ascleiden.nl

LeidenASA

At the end of 2015, the Leiden African Studies Assembly was established as a network for the purpose of developing a Leiden University Africa policy and to act as a platform for cooperation between the university’s Africa specialists. Leiden University has allocated 1.2 million euros for this programme, which will be coordinated by the African Studies Centre. These funds will be used for events, collaboration with African partners, education development, library acquisition and more.
Seminars and Special Events

This year the ASC organized some 35 seminars on diverse topics relating to a wide range of countries. On 22 January, Stephen Ellis gave a seminar entitled ‘A history of Nigerian organized crime’, in which he lifted the veil on the subject of his forthcoming book, *This Present Darkness* (Hurst Publishers). A very special seminar, as this would be the last he would ever give in the ASC seminar series.

In March, we organized a seminar ‘Histories of the present – A painter, a filmmaker and a researcher reflect on visualizing the past in Kinshasa’. Belgian Filmmaker Cécile Michel and Congolese painter Sapin Makengele reflected on their collaboration in 2010–2011 for *The Phantoms of Lovanium*, a documentary about the memory of state violence in Congo-Kinshasa. The seminar included a screening of the film.

Another well attended seminar was Jos van Beurden’s ‘Post-colonial cultural relations and the return of art objects’. For over twenty years, Jos has focused on the protection, theft and smuggling of cultural and historical treasures of vulnerable states and peoples.

The ASC collaborated with the Movies that Matter Film festival by screening the documentary *The Supreme Price* with the Nigerian human rights activist Hafsat Abiola in attendance. The film focuses on Hafsat Abiola, who was about to graduate from Harvard when her mother was murdered. Her father died in prison two years later. She now heads a progressive movement to empower women and dismantle the patriarchal structure of Nigerian society.

Other seminars were: ‘The Islamic State and Jihad in Africa’; ‘New media and the politics of distinction in Kruger National Park’; ‘The twentieth-century South African wine industry’; ‘The Dangote Cement success story’; and ‘Lampedusa: Caught between shipwreck and tourism’.

The best attended seminar in 2015 was on the ‘Human rights situation in Eritrea’, given by Sheila Keetharuth, from the Commission of Inquiry for Eritrea. Ms. Keetharuth presented her report on the human rights situation in Eritrea for the UN Human Rights Commission last June. The report describes a dire human rights situation: torture during police questioning, inhuman prison conditions, disappearances, executions and arbitrary arrests. Children’s rights are also abused due to long military service, which prevents youth from continuing their education. Young Eritreans flee the country en masse. After Syria, it is the country most refugees entering Europe originate from.

The Netherlands Association of African Studies (NVAS) organized its annual Africa Day ‘Africa and technology’ in cooperation with UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education in Delft. The day provided a platform for research on technologies that are present in Africa or are aimed at improving life in Africa.
In December, journalist/author/photographer Howard French gave the third ASC Annual public lecture on ‘How today’s China-Africa encounter came about and what it means for the world’. He talked about the processes that began drawing large numbers of new Chinese migrants to Africa in the early to mid-1990s, and then spoke of the global geopolitical and economic setting that pushed events in this direction, albeit with some surprising outcomes. These include the end of Maoism, the launch of China’s reform era, the end of the Cold War, and the so-called War on Terror.

Howard French is an associate professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism and has been a senior foreign correspondent with The New York Times. The ASC Annual public lecture is now called the Stephen Ellis Annual lecture in honour of our ASC colleague who died in 2015.

**ASC Master Thesis Award**

The winner of the Africa Thesis Award 2015 was Merel van ’t Wout, for her thesis ‘Entrepreneurs by the grace of God: Life and work of seamstresses in Bolgatanga, Ghana’. Van ’t Wout completed her research master in Modern History and International Relations cum laude at the University of Groningen. Based on the material presented in this thesis, Van ’t Wout argues that the theoretical arguments underlying efforts to advance entrepreneurship among the poor are fundamentally flawed.

**ASC in the Media and Press Contacts**

ASC researchers are regularly contacted by journalists for background information and for interviews. In 2015, ASC researchers were asked by media to talk about Boko Haram (Klaas van Walraven on Radio 1, BNR, Deutsche Welle; Akinyinka Akinyoade on the radio programme Een Vandaag), Al-Shabaab attacks on the Kenyan coast (Marcel Rutten for BNR Radio) and the Mali peace process (Ben Soares for IRIN News). In addition, journalists approached us about the political and social situation in Eritrea (Jan Abbink for Radio 1). Our seminar speaker from Nigeria, Prof. Eghosa Osaghae, gave an interview to the Noordhollands Dagblad, which was also published in the Leidsch Dagblad, Haarlems Dagblad and Gooi en Eemlander. He provided an analysis of the ethno-
relational conflicts in Nigeria and talked about the dynamics of conflict mobility through the prisms of connections and governance.

Ton Dietz was interviewed for Nuffic’s Transfer magazine about universities in South Africa and the South African government’s aim to create more PhD positions. This was in response to the map of ‘No go areas in the world and Africa’ produced by the ASC. Following the lecture series ‘And now Africa’, co-organized by the ASC and the University of Amsterdam, Ton Dietz was interviewed by the University’s Folia magazine on the growing academic interest in Africa. This resulted in the article ‘Academisch Afrika’.

In June, Rijk van Dijk was interviewed by various radio programmes and newspapers following his inaugural lecture ‘Faith in Romance. Toward an Anthropology of Romantic Relationships, Sexuality and Responsibility in African Christianities’.

On a more historical note, Ineke van Kessel was interviewed on 17 March by the EO Radio programme ‘Dit is de nacht’ about the abolition of apartheid in South Africa following the (white) referendum of 17 March 1992. Opzij magazine interviewed Marcel Rutten about FGM and alternative rites de passage among the Maasai in Kenya.

In the framework of the project Voice4Thought, part of the Connecting in Times of Duress programme, Mirjam de Bruijn invited Didier Lalaye (Chad), a medical doctor-cum-slam artist, to express his views on Western and Central African society. His visit was covered widely in the press, including in the NRC, Leidsch Dagblad and on Radio 1 and BNR.

In June, Trouw published an article on hyperinflation in Zimbabwe, for which Marleen Dekker was interviewed. She also gave interviews on INCLUDE working conferences.

During the World Cup Football in Brazil, Wouter van Beek was asked to comment on the Cameroon national football team for Radio Brasil, Radio 1’s World Cup programme.

The Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam asked South Africa expert Jan-Bart Gewald to provide information and contacts for the forthcoming exhibition on Holland South Africa contacts.

Following the launch of Olivier van Beemen’s book, Heineken in Africa, Ton Dietz and Akinyinka Akinyoade were quoted in the Volkskrant article ‘Heineken in Afrika – niet zo fraai als Rutte beweert’, commenting on the relation between urbanization and beer consumption.

Later in the year, another article appeared in the Volkskrant on xenophobia in South Africa, based on an interview with the 2014 ASC Africa Thesis Award winner Pedzisai Maedzai.

The death of Stephen Ellis in July led to extensive media coverage. There were obituaries and tributes in Dutch newspapers such as the Volkskrant and NRC and journals like Elsevier, but also in many foreign publications, including Jeune Afrique, Madagascar Tribune, The Independent and Africa Confidential.
Exhibitions

Exhibitions of photographs and paintings were on display in the ASC's corridors and in the Library in 2015. Once again, the diverse art forms attracted much attention and comments from staff, students, academics, and visitors to the Pieter de la Court Building. The following artists exhibited their work in 2015:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Exhibition title</th>
<th>The exhibits</th>
<th>Country of origin</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deo Kyakulagira and Musa Katurama</td>
<td>Ebifananyi (Likenesses)</td>
<td>Since 2013, initiator Andrea Stultiens has been doing PhD research on photo collections in Uganda. The photos have not previously been exhibited. Stultiens examines the narrative possibilities of the photos and how these stories relate to other histories from and about Uganda.</td>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>15 January – 1 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pieter de Kleer</td>
<td>Photos of wall paintings in Ethiopian churches</td>
<td>The paintings represent scenes from the Old and New Testament and scenes of the history of the Ethiopian Orthodox (Christian) Church. The Orthodox Church in Ethiopia has a 1500 year-old painting tradition.</td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>1 April – 29 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artist</td>
<td>Exhibition title</td>
<td>The exhibits</td>
<td>Country of origin</td>
<td>Dates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marloes Janson</td>
<td>The spiritual highway.</td>
<td>Together with award-winning Nigerian photographer Akintunde Akinleye, anthropologist Marloes Janson spent the summer of 2013 mapping the most important and busiest Nigerian road - the 120 kilometre long Lagos-Ibadan Expressway. While it has failed to link north and south Nigeria, the road has become a ‘Spiritual Highway’, owing to the fact that numerous Christian and Muslim prayer camps have sprung up along the highway.</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>1 July – 30 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Religious world making in Megacity Lagos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ibrahim Diallo</td>
<td>Vive la paix, Paintings</td>
<td>Diallo’s work represents images of West African traditions and culture, such as dance and music, and he depicts daily life in the community of Casamance (southern Senegal), where time seems to stand still and traditions are kept alive. Love is a great source of inspiration, along with the essence of living (together); his work reflects his belief that both are a path to world peace and the future. He depicts the beauty of the traditional versus the need for progress.</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>6 October – 31 December</td>
</tr>
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</table>
GOVERNING BODIES AND PERSONNEL (on 31 December 2015)

Members of the Board of Governors
Ms A.M.A. van Ardenne-van der Hoeven (Chair)  Former Minister for Development Cooperation
Dr B.S.M. Berendsen  Former ambassador to Tanzania
Ms J. Groen  Journalist with the Volkskrant
A.Lenstra  Former Vice President of Unilever
Prof. J.B. Opschoor (Vice Chair)  Institute of Social Studies and VU University Amsterdam

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Dr E. Bähre  Leiden University
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Dr J. Voeten  Tilburg University
Dr P.D.M. Weesie  University of Groningen
Dr A.C.M. van Westen  Utrecht University
Prof. P. van der Zaag  UNESCO-IHE
Dr F. Zaal  Royal Tropical Institute, Amsterdam

Personnel

Director
Prof. A.J. Dietz

Research staff (and their areas of specialization)
Prof. G.J. Abbink  ethnicity, conflict management, religion, politics, ethnography, culture, Horn of Africa demography, healthcare, education, media, Ghana, Nigeria, Mozambique, Namibia
Dr A. Akinyoade  coordinator of the Research Masters in African Studies (ResMAAS), Afro-Asiatic languages, linguistics, Horn of Africa
Dr A. Amha  mobility, social hierarchies, communication technology, West Africa
Prof. M.E. de Bruijn  religion, tourism, Cameroon, Mali, Southern Africa
Prof. W.E.A. van Beek (retired)  modern and traditional African knowledge in the framework of globalization, Botswana, Zambia
Prof. W.M.J. van Binsbergen (retired)  social networks, (micro) insurance, land reform, economic development, poverty reduction, Ethiopia, South Africa, Zimbabwe
Dr M. Dekker  forestry and agriculture, resource management, decentralization, law and governance, state formation, conflict, West Africa.
Prof. J.W.M. van Dijk  Director of the Research Masters African Studies
Prof. A.C.M. van Westen  new religious movements, HIV/AIDS, globalization, Botswana, Ghana, Malawi
Dr D.W.J. Foeken (retired)  urban poverty, urban agriculture, urban water management, Kenya
Prof. J.B. Gewald  social and political history, interaction between people and technology, Southern Africa
Prof. J.C. Hoorweg (retired)  ecology and economics of the East African coast, Kenya
Dr M.M.A. Kaag  migration, social change, development issues, local government, land use, West Africa
Dr W.M.J. van Kessel (retired)  democratization, mass media, social movements, history, Ghana, South Africa
W. Klaver (retired)  food and food security, urban agriculture, household economics, Kenya
Dr A.H.M. Leliveld  social security, (micro) insurance, international aid, economic development, Uganda
Dr M.M.E.M. Rutten  land reform, water issues, pastoralism, (eco)tourism, wildlife management, democratization, higher education, migration, fair trade, Kenya, East Africa
Prof. B.F. Soares  religion (Islam in particular), history, politics, West Africa
Prof. C.U. Uche  political economy, business and financial history, financial institutions regulation and regional integration
Dr K. van Walraven  international relations, conflict management, rebellions, Niger, West Africa

**Project researchers**

K. Assouma  geography, urban dynamics, population studies
I.C. Butter  remittances, mobile financial services (MFS), mobile money, connectivity, ICT’s, socio-economic networks, Senegal, Congo DRC, Cameroon, Zambia
Dr M.R. Doortmont  political history, social economic history, development, conflict, conflict resolution, Islam, Christianity, Ghana, Northern Ghana, Togo, Ivory Coast, Gonja, Dagomba, Kokomba, Mamprusi
Dr W.J. Elbers  lobby and advocacy, disability, civil society, NGOs, Ghana, Cameroon, Sierra Leone
A. Kazimierczuk  dynamics of the institutional relationship between multinational business and their home- and host-governments and how it impacts on the ability of the multinationals to actively engage in productive employment and inclusive growth in their host countries
Dr. A. Kronenburg  Maasai, political ecology, legal anthropology, political anthropology, governmentality, land tenure, natural resource conflict, natural resource governance, leadership, drylands, (agro-)pastoralism, Kenya
P. Lange  Southern and Western Africa, political economy, private sector development, conflict and fragility
Dr M. van Leeuwen  sociology of rural development, conflict and peacebuilding in developing countries, Burundi, Uganda, Southern Sudan
Dr C.T. Nijenhuis: Knowledge Manager for INCLUDE Knowledge Platform on Inclusive Development Policies. Inclusive development, political ecology, human geography, law, legal and political anthropology, land governance and conflict, farmer-herder relations, drylands, mobility, rule of law, judiciary, NGOs, knowledge-policy interaction, capacity building, Mali, Benin, Uganda.

Dr I. Peša: historical dimensions of frugal innovations with a focus on innovation, technology, entrepreneurship and local development.

Z. Vlaminck: international politics, development evaluation and management, trade unions and labour issues.

Publications manager: Dr H. Wels - structures of organizational cooperation, (private) wildlife conservation, Southern Africa.

PhD Students resident at the ASC:
A. Altaf; K. Assouma; A.M. Baron; M.S. Bekele; M.O.L. van den Bergh; I.C. Butter; N. Cézar; F. Diallo; L. Djerandi; P. Justin; D. Kobusingye; A.S. Nasong’o; G. Petit; M. Schomaker; D. Setume; R. Tchatchoua Djomo; E. Tegemoh; M. van Vliet; M.L. van ‘t Wout

Library, Documentation and Information Department:
Dr G.C. van de Bruinhorst - collection development
J. C. M. Damen - head of department
E. M. Eijkman - collection development
M. Härnquist - assistant librarian (volunteer)
M. M. Kromhout - assistant librarian
M. B. van der Lee - assistant librarian
U. Oberst - information specialist
M. Oosterkamp - assistant librarian, publications assistant
A. E. Peereboom-Robson - information specialist
M. Portatadino - student assistant
E. M. de Roos - information specialist
M. M. Seuren - information specialist
H. J. Smits - assistant librarian
P. G. Verkaik - assistant librarian

Administrative staff:
J. Binnendijk - financial administrator
T. Blomsma-Peters - executive secretary to the director
G. Petit - project manager
L. A. van Rooijen - assistant financial administrator, publications assistant
R. T. Heijs - student assistant
M. C. A. van Winden - PR coordinator, communications
W. Veerman - programme, computer manager
F. Veldkamp - web editor
H. K. Westra - programmer, webmaster
M. A. Westra - HR manager, visiting fellows and PhD coordinator
A. L. Yeadell-Moore - English language editor
W. J. Zwart - publications assistant
**Visiting fellows**

Dr A.O. Atiemo
- Head of department for the study for the Study of Religions, University of Ghana, Legon

Dr S. Bezabeh
- Anthropologist, previously a post-doctoral fellow at École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris

Dr A.E. Ezeoha
- Development economist affiliated to Ebonyi State University, Nigeria

Dr A. Idrissa
- Nigerien political scientist

Dr C. Lee
- Research associate at the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research (WISER) at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

Dr V. Onyebueke
- Assistant lecturer in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning of the University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus

**Self financed visitors**

A. Gurmu
- Lecturer at Addis Ababa University and currently a PhD candidate in Peace and Security Studies affiliated to the Institute for Peace and Security Studies of Addis Ababa University

K. Sherry
- PhD student at the University of Cape Town and chair of Rural Rehab South Africa (RuReSA)

**The following members of staff left the ASC in 2015**

A. Altaf
- PhD researcher

M.O.L. van den Bergh
- PhD researcher

I.G. Butter
- Assistant

Prof. S.D.K. Ellis
- Senior researcher. Stephen Ellis passed away on 29 July 2015

W. Klaver
- Researcher

L.E. Mann
- Postdoctoral researcher

A.S.R. Reeves
- Editor
## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

### Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences</td>
<td>2,658</td>
<td>2,701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects for third parties</td>
<td>921</td>
<td>1,509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income (publications, etc.)</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3,981</td>
<td>4,515</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>2,809</td>
<td>2,324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional costs</td>
<td>1,474</td>
<td>2,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory depreciation</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>4,300</td>
<td>4,361</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Publications by ASC staff 2015

Peer-reviewed journal articles and book publications


**Non-refereed journal articles and book publications**


**Publications for a wider audience**


• Quest for citizenship of the Fulbe (semi)nomads in Central Mali. 12 October 2015. [Blog post]

Bruijn, M.E. de, ICTs and the emergence of international protest in Central Africa. The Broker Online. 29 June 2015. [Blog post]

Bruijn, M.E. de, www.voice4throught.org [Website]


Butter, I., WD CAR: Unexpected forces that shape Chadian citizenship: from fluid to fixed belonging? January 2015 [Web article].


• Africa in Qatar – Qatar in Africa. 16 March 2015. [Blog post]
• African students go abroad, but hesitate to come to the Netherlands. 23 April 2015. [Blog post]
• Uneasy knowledge: Egypt’s potential collapse. 5 November 2015. [Blog post]
• Heineken in Afrika, het nieuwe boek van Olivier van Beemen. 16 November 2015. [Blog post]
• Co-Create South Africa? Co-create access to universities! 30 November 2015. [Blog post]


Hoorweg, J., *Kenya coast portal: Manual & information sheets.* 2015 [internal publication; available on demand]


**Book and film reviews**


Publications by the ASC

**African Dynamics Series**
African Dynamics is an annual publication that presents the results of current research at the ASC. The contents of each volume consist of a selection of papers that were presented at an ASC conference by ASC staff members or researchers from elsewhere. African Dynamics is published by Brill Academic Publishers.

**African roads to prosperity: People en route to socio-cultural and economic transformations**
Editors: A. Akinyoade & J.B. Gewald (vol. 14)

**Afrika-Studiecentrum Series**
The Afrika-Studiecentrum Series aims to present the best of African studies in the field of social sciences in the Netherlands. Publication in the series is open to all Dutch africanists and also to African scholars who are affiliated to a Dutch academic institution. The series is published by Brill Academic Publishers. Within this Afrika-Studiecentrum Series there is a special series focusing on South Africa in collaboration with SAVUSA (South Africa - VU University Amsterdam - Strategic Alliances).

**Securing wilderness landscapes in South Africa: Nick Steele, private wildlife conservancies and saving rhinos**
H. Wels (vol. 34)

**David Livingstone and the myth of African poverty and disease: A close examination of his writing on the pre-colonial era**
S. Rijpma (vol. 35)

**Africa Yearbook**
The Africa Yearbook covers major domestic political developments, the foreign policy and socio-economic trends in sub-Saharan Africa – all related to developments in one calendar year. The Yearbook contains articles on all sub-Saharan states, each of the four sub-regions (West, Central, Eastern, Southern Africa) focusing on major cross-border developments and sub-regional organizations as well as one article on continental developments and one on African-European relations. While the articles have thorough academic quality, the Yearbook is mainly oriented to the requirements of a large range of target groups: students, politicians, diplomats, administrators, journalists, teachers, practitioners in the field of development aid as well as business people. The series is published by Brill Academic Publishers.

**Africa Yearbook: Politics, economy and society South of the Sahara in 2014**
S. Elischer, R. Hofmeier, A. Mehler & H. Melber (vol. 11)

**African Studies Collection**
This series is open to all Dutch africanist authors as well as African scholars affiliated to Dutch academic institutions. The African Studies Collection includes PhD dissertations, monographs and edited volumes and also publishes high-quality Masters theses. Books in this series are not externally reviewed and volumes other than PhD theses are usually assessed internally for quality.

**Consuming democracy: Local agencies & liberal peace in the Democratic Republic of Congo**
M. de Goede (vol. 57)
Contesting control: Land and forest in the struggle for Loita Maasai self-government in Kenya
A. Kronenburg García (vol. 58)

From idol to art: African ‘objects with power’: a challenge for missionaries, anthropologists and museum curators
H. Leyten (vol. 59)

Sharing scarcity: Land access and social relations in Southeast Rwanda
M. Leegwater (vol. 60)

Forged in the Great War: People, transport, and labour, the establishment of colonial rule in Zambia, 1890-1920
J.B. Gewald (vol. 61)

African Public Administration and Management Series
This series is the result of an agreement between the African Studies Centre Leiden, Groningen University and Mzumbe University in Tanzania. The aim of the series is to record the research of Tanzanian scholars in African public administration and management and to distribute its results amongst all that are interested in what public administration and public management looks like in this African country. To ensure the academic quality, the publications in this series are subject to peer review by scholars affiliated with the University of Groningen. The publication of the series is made possible by funding from the Netherlands Organisation for International Cooperation in Higher Education (Nuffic).

Public administration in Tanzania: Current issues and challenges
K. de Ridder, B. Emans, R. Hulst & A. Tollenaar (vol. 3)

Langaa and the African Studies Centre Leiden series
This series is the result of an agreement between the African Studies Centre and the Langaa Research and Publishing Common Initiative Group in Cameroon. The aim of the series is (1) to publish book manuscripts of both African and non-African scholars and (2) to reduce the gap between African and non-African publishing. To ensure the academic quality, all books in this series are subject to double-blind peer review.

Téléphonie et mobilité au Mali
N. Keita

Global warning: An ethnography of the encounter between global and local climate-change discourses in the Bamenda Grassfields, Cameroon
S. de Wit

Karthala and the African Studies Centre Leiden series
État, sociétés et islam au Sénégal. Un air de nouveau temps?
A. Seck, M. Kaag, C. Gueye & A.S. Fall (eds)

ASC Working Papers
Working papers can be considered as ‘work in progress’. The series is open to all Dutch africanists as well as African scholars affiliated to a Dutch academic institution.

A postal history of the First World War in Africa and its aftermath - German colonies: I German Togo
A.J. Dietz (vol. 116)

A postal history of the First World War in Africa and its aftermath - German colonies: II Kamerun
A.J. Dietz (vol. 117)
A postal history of the First World War in Africa and its aftermath - German colonies: III Deutsch-Südwestafrika (SWA)
A.J. Dietz (vol. 118)

A postal history of the First World War in Africa and its aftermath - German colonies: IV Deutsch-Ostafrika / German East Africa (GEA)
A.J. Dietz (vol. 119)

Globalisation, football and emerging urban ‘tribes’: Fans of the European leagues in a Nigerian city
V.U. Onyebueke (vol. 120)

The impact and legacies of German colonialism in Kete Krachi, North-Eastern Ghana
S.A. Ntewusu (vol. 121)

Historical overview of development policies and institutions in the Netherlands, in the context of private sector development and (productive) employment creation
A. Kazimierczuk (vol. 122)

From billions to trillions: Is the financing for development agenda universal and inclusive?
M. Eeckhout (vol. 123)

Land grabbing and formalization in Africa: A critical inquiry
H. Stein & S. Cunningham (vol. 124)

**ASC Infosheets**

ASC Infosheets are intended for policy-makers, journalists, aid workers and the general public and briefly describe the results of ASC research.

The impact of Ethiopia’s community-based health insurance on household economic welfare: A policy brief
Z. Yilma, A. Mebratie, R. Sparrow, M. Dekker, G. Alemu & A.S. Bedi (vol. 23)

Turkey in Africa: Where economic diplomacy meets Islamic appeal
A. Paolo (vol. 24)

Defining, targeting and reaching the very poor in Bangladesh, Benin and Ethiopia
A. Altaf & A.J. Dietz (vol. 25)

South Korea in Africa: From arbitrary foreign policy to win-win ideology
E.B. Kanik & M.M.A. Kaag (vol. 26)

**ASC Thematic Maps**

Thematic maps with infographics, published by the ASCL.
There were no publications in this series in 2015.

**West African Politics and Society (WAPOSO) Series**

This series is the result of an agreement between the African Studies Centre Leiden, and the French Institute for Research in Africa / Institut Français de Recherche en Afrique (IFRA-Nigeria), based at the University of Ibadan and at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. The series aims at publishing original, cutting-edge research work produced by West African, especially Nigerian, scholars in different fields within the Social Sciences and the Humanities, including Political science, History, Anthropology and sociology. Nigeria will occupy a central position in the series, but publications on transnational and regional issues will also be included. To ensure the academic quality, all books in this series are subject to double-blind peer review.

There were no publications in this series in 2015.
**ASC Occasional Publications**

Occasional publications are publications that do not fit in any other ASC series. It consists of small booklets for specific events (anniversaries, farewell booklets), research summaries for a wider audience in booklet form, ASC research brochures and books in Dutch.

**Liberia: from the love of liberty to paradise lost**
F. van der Kraaij (vol. 21)

**Thuis in Afrika: een dubbelleven**
W.E.A. van Beek (vol. 22)

**Social entrepreneurship in Uganda: exploring a different approach in development**
A.H.M. Leliveld (vol. 23)

**African Studies Abstracts Online (ASA Online)**

ASA Online succeeds the printed abstracts journal of the African Studies Centre Leiden, published since 1968, first as Documentatieblad, then as African Studies Abstracts (1994-2002). It provides a quarterly overview of journal articles and edited works on Africa in the field of the social sciences and the humanities available in the ASCL library.

**Web dossiers (online)**

Web dossiers were introduced by the ASCL documentation staff in 2001 as a new form of literature survey combining print material with electronic resources and web-based information. The dossiers deal with topical issues in African Studies and are usually published to coincide with a conference or event or with recent developments in Africa. They appear on average three or four times a year.

A web dossier typically consists of an introduction to the subject, a selection of titles - both books and articles - from the collection of the ASCL Library and annotated links to electronic resources and relevant websites. Titles are linked directly to the corresponding records in the online catalogue, which provides abstracts and lending information.

All material included in the dossiers can either be borrowed or accessed in the library.

- Muslim scholars in Africa (April)
- Renewable energy in Africa (October)
- Alcohol in Africa (November)
- Africa-Asia relations (December)
SEMINARS

22 January
A history of Nigerian organized crime
Stephen Ellis

29 January
Anticipating the revolt: A new view of military mutinies in West and Central Africa
Maggie Dwyer

19 February
Do African elites really want to emulate a Chinese ‘model’ of development?
Elsje Fourie

10 March
Histories of the Present - A Painter, a Filmmaker, and a Researcher Reflect on Visualizing the Past in Kinshasa
Cécile Michel & Sapin Makengele

12 March
Post-colonial cultural relations and the return of art objects
Jos van Beurden

25 March
Film The Supreme Price
Hafsat Abiola

26 March
Unreasonable histories: Nativism, multiracial lives, and the genealogical imagination in British Africa
Christopher Lee

2 April
Reassessing fortress conservation? New media and the politics of distinction in Kruger National Park
Bram Büscher

9 April
Society and change in Northern Ghana: Dagomba, Gonja, and the regional perspective on Ghanaian history
Samuel Ntewusu & Michel Doortmont

16 April
Message in a bottle: Race, consumption and advertising in the twentieth century South African wine industry
Paul Nugent

23 April
Knowledge = Power: Politics and formal education in the precolonial Kongo kingdom
Inge Brinkman

13 May
Capital, Citizens and Ruling Elites: Asia and the West in the Red Sea Littoral
Samson Bezabeh

21 May
Dangote Cement Plc: An African Success Story?
Chibuike Uche & Akinyinka Akinyoade
28 May  
Religious business and the violation of human rights in Africa today  
Dieudonné Zognong

3 June  
Chinese labour on the French Congo-Océan railway in 1929  
Julia Martinez

4 June  
Can African countries successfully implement industrial policy?  
Lindsay Whitfield

8 June  
Africa’s digital dividend - mapping the shift from tech transfer to indigenous innovation  
Gregg Pascal Zachary

11 June  
Data as the new oil? The developmental potential of big data for African countries  
Laura Mann

2 July  
Africa Europe Migration: Lampedusa caught between shipwreck and tourism  
Anna Arnone

3 July  
Les violences ordinaires dans l’Afrique contemporaine: le monde humanitaire  
Sylvie Ayimpam & Jacky Bouju

7 September  
No system, no politics? Iconoclastic disruptions in contemporary South Africa and their theoretical misrecognition  
Antonádia Borges

16 September  
Seminar: Scarcity, Security and Sustainability: Bottom-up perspectives from rural Rwanda  
Several speakers. Organized by Margot Leegwater on the occasion of her PhD defence

17 September  
Seminar: The Spiritual Highway: Religious World Making in Megacity Lagos  
Marloes Janson

24 September  
Underground Politics in Turbulent Times: Social Dynamics of Gold Mining Projects in Burkina Faso  
Sabine Luning

29 September  
Human rights situation in Eritrea  
Sheila B. Keetharuth

5 November  
Liberia, Ebola, and the pitfalls of single-minded state-building objectives  
Robtel Neajai Pailey

Robtel Neajai Pailey gave a seminar on 5 November on Liberia.
**6 November**
Book presentation *Thuis in Afrika, een dubelleven*
Wouter van Beek & Erica Terpstra

**10 November**
The fabled manuscripts of Timbuktu
Charles Stewart

**26 November**
Homosexuality in Africa, a dangerous love?
Bart Luirink & Madeleine Maurick

**3 December**
Digging deeper than before. Social and technical change in artisanal gold mining in Siguiri, Guinea Conakry
Cristiano Lanzano

**15 December**
Nutrition in Sustainable Development – Africa on its way from undernutrition to obesity?
Thom Achterbosch & Patrick Kolsteren

**15 December**
Round table: An African precariat? Africa’s informal workers and inclusive development
Series of Round tables with SOAS

**10 December**
How today’s China-Africa encounter came about and what it means for the world
Howard W. French
Stephen Ellis Annual lecture

**14 December**
Conflict and Elections in the Central African Republic
Didier Kassaï & Pacôme Pabandji

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Wouter van Beek presenting the first copy of his memoirs to Erica Terpstra, with whom he cooperated on Mali and Namibia for her tv programme ‘Erica op Reis’.
COLOPHON

Annual Report 2015, African Studies Centre

Editors
Anna Yeadell and Marieke van Winden

Photographs
Wouter van Beek, Trudi Blomsma, Jos Damen, Elvire Eijkman, Dick Foeken, Tycho van der Hoog, Agnieszka Kazimierczuk, Monique Kromhout, Angela Kronenburg García, Margot Leegwater, Samuel Ntewusu, Fenneken Veldkamp, Zjos Vlaminck, Maaike Westra, Marieke van Winden, Merel van ’t Wout

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ENTREPRENEURS BY THE GRACE OF GOD
LIFE AND WORK OF SEAMSTRESSES IN BOLGATANGA, GHANA

MEREEL VAN 'T WOUT

African Studies Centre
Afrika-Studiecentrum
Leiden

Annual Report 2015