

Danish Development Research Network

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Short Professional Profile

I have been employed at Aarhus University since 1997. First, at the Centre for Tropical Ecosystems Research (cenTER Aarhus) as manager of the cenTER project portfolio. Since 2007 I have been the International Coordinator at the Department of Biological Sciences. I have built an extensive network of fellow researchers, managers and administrators in key positions in South East Asia.

I have been in charge of designing, implementing, evaluating and concluding projects related to Natural Resources Management, Tertiary Environmental Education, and Capacity Development through Research Collaboration mostly in South East Asia. Currently I am involved in a sustainable aquaculture project in the Mekong Delta and the Mangroves for the Future Initiative. In addition I have been coordinator of a global World Bank funded project "Principles for a Code of Conduct for the Management and Sustainable Use of Mangrove Ecosystems". The projects I have been involved in and managed have included collaboration with Ministries, Governmental agencies, universities, NGO's, and local people. In all our projects we aim to ensure local ownership, participation and knowledge development.

Motivation:

I think that the recent Danida Strategy is a bit light on the role of research and universities in relation to development. I would like to try to work to ensure that training, capacity development and research collaboration be more integrated into the overall Danish Overseas Assistance.

It was my intention when I ran for the board in 2008 - and was elected – to try to "bring DDRN closer to the members". I think the current board and secretariat have achieved this together by conducting board- and information meetings at a number of Danish Research Institutions, and in 2009 we conducted the General Assembly and Annual DDRN Meeting at Aarhus University. It is my hope that we can visit even more of the Danish resource base in the coming election period. If elected I will certainly keep pushing for this.

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