![The Research Council of Norway]

# Evaluation of the Social Sciences in Norway

## Report from Panel 5 – Social Anthropology

### Evaluation
### Division for Science and the Research System

The Research Council
of Norway

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# Foreword

In 2017, the Research Council of Norway (RCN) appointed six panels to undertake a wide-ranging field evaluation of Social Sciences research in Norway. The panels comprised independent social scientists from a range of European countries. Each panel covered a specific research area within the social sciences. The panels worked from April 2017 until April 2018.

The Research Council commissioned the Nordic Institute for Studies in Innovation, Research and Higher Education (NIFU), Oslo, Norway, to provide scientific and project management support for all six panels. The NIFU team consisted of Mari Elken, Inge Ramberg, Vera Schwach and Silje Maria Tellmann, with Schwach as the head of the team.

Panel number 5 was responsible for assessing the research area of Social Anthropology. It included six members: Panel chair: Professor Jon P Mitchell, University of Sussex, UK; Professor Christina Garsten, Stockholm University, Sweden; Professor Anita Hardon, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands; Professor Nigel Rapport, St Andrews University, UK; Professor Mats Utas, Uppsala University, Sweden; Professor Emerita Pnina Werbner, Keele University, UK.

The panel was assisted by a scientific secretary, Dr Karis Petty, University of Sussex.

# Executive summary

Panel 5 evaluated 22 units in all, 11 institutional units, and 11 research groups. The evaluation included university departments of social anthropology, social anthropologists working in interdisciplinary units at universities, and social anthropologists working in interdisciplinary research institutes.

Norwegian social anthropology is a significant force within the discipline internationally. Its researchers have a strong commitment to empirical research based on long-term, immersive fieldwork conducted among different populations across the world. At its best, Norwegian social anthropology makes important contributions to – and indeed leads – international debate within the discipline. The depth of knowledge and understanding developed through fieldwork also enables Norwegian social anthropologists to have significant societal impact and public engagement. It is highly successful in terms of both overall research quality and societal impact.

That said, research quality is somewhat unevenly distributed, both regionally within Norway and across the different types of institution within which social anthropologists work. While a number of interdisciplinary units (in both the university and institute sector) produce high-quality research, in others the applied or policy orientation appears to be narrowing the scope of research and limiting the analytical ambition and empirical depth of anthropological research. Among the university departments, there is a marked North-South divide, with the main Bergen-Oslo axis providing the highest-quality research, and institutions further North rather lagging behind.

Institutionally across the discipline, there is heavy reliance on individual motivation among researchers to develop their own research agendas, funding applications and high-ranking output. Steps could be taken to develop coherent and concrete support to enable more collective strategizing and actively enable researchers to develop their writing skills, for both funders and publishers. In the institute sector in particular, but also in other interdisciplinary contexts, steps could be taken to enable social anthropologists to preserve their identity as social anthropologists – particularly by preserving the integrity of long-term fieldwork, and freeing up time for researchers to develop analytical and comparative agendas. Across the board, more could be done to target higher-profile international journals and publishers. Quality is high, but it could have a wider audience. National and international networks could be strengthened, particularly to lift the quality of the weaker, northern institutions. Combining this with a more pro-active international recruitment strategy could further improve research quality.

At all levels, steps should be taken to preserve and maintain the integrity of social anthropology as a discipline. Its success in terms of both scientific quality and societal impact has been rooted in long-term fieldwork and a global outlook. If these are threatened, then so too is Norwegian Social Anthropology, and with it one of the genuine highlights of Norwegian Social Science.

# Sammendrag

Panel 5 evaluerte til sammen 22 enheter, hvorav elleve var institusjonelle enheter og elleve var forskningsgrupper. Evalueringen omfattet sosialantropologer som arbeider på institutter for sosialantropologi og i tverrfaglige enheter ved universiteter, samt sosialantropologer som arbeider ved tverrfaglige forskningsinstitutter.

Norsk sosialantropologi har betydelig faglig tyngde internasjonalt. Forskerne har et dypt engasjement for empirisk forskning basert på langvarig feltarbeid blant ulike folkegrupper rundt om i verden. På sitt beste yter norsk sosialantropologi viktige bidrag til – og leder endog – den internasjonale faglige debatten. Dybden i den kunnskapen og forståelsen norske sosialantropologer har opparbeidet gjennom feltarbeid, har også gitt dem betydelig påvirkningskraft i samfunnet og et stort engasjement i offentligheten. Både når det gjelder kvaliteten på forskningen og betydningen for samfunnet, må faget sies å være svært vellykket.

Når det er sagt, er forskningskvaliteten noe ujevnt fordelt både regionalt i Norge og på de ulike typene institusjoner som sosialantropologer arbeider i. Selv om en rekke tverrfaglige enheter (både ved universitetene og i instituttsektoren) produserer forskning av høy kvalitet, synes den anvendte eller politisk orienterte forskningen hos andre å begrense forskningens omfang og redusere den analytiske ambisjonen og empiriske dybden i antropologisk forskning. Mellom de sosialantropologiske instituttene ved universitetene går det et markert nord-sør-skille idet hovedaksen Bergen–Oslo har den høyeste forskningskvaliteten, mens institusjoner lenger nord relativt sett ligger etter.

På tvers av institusjonene innen faget, avhenger mye av den enkelte forsker og deres personlige motivasjon for å utvikle egne forskningsagendaer, søke om midler og oppnå høyt rangerte resultater. Det kan treffes tiltak for å utvikle konkret støtte for å legge til rette for mer kollektivt strategiarbeid og aktivt gi forskerne mulighet til å utvikle sine skriveferdigheter, både med tanke på finansiering og publisering. Spesielt i instituttsektoren, men også i andre tverrfaglige sammenhenger, kan det treffes tiltak for å sette sosialantropologer i stand til å bevare sin identitet som sosialantropologer – spesielt ved å ta vare på det langvarige feltarbeidet og frigjøre tid for forskerne til å utvikle analytiske og komparative tilnærminger. Generelt kan det gjøres mer for å sikte seg inn mot mer høyprofilerte internasjonale tidsskrift og forleggere. Kvaliteten er høy, men man når ikke ut til et stort nok publikum. Nasjonale og internasjonale nettverk kan styrkes, ikke minst for å heve kvaliteten på de svakeste institusjonene i Nord-Norge. Kombineres dette med en mer proaktiv internasjonal rekrutteringsstrategi, kan forskningskvaliteten heves ytterligere.

Det bør treffes tiltak på alle nivåer for å bevare og opprettholde sosialantropologien som fag. Fagets suksess, både når det gjelder forskningskvalitet og på fagets betydning for samfunnet, er tuftet på langvarig feltarbeid og globalt utsyn. Om dette blir truet, blir også norsk sosialantropologi truet, og med dét et av de virkelige lyspunktene i norsk samfunnsvitenskap.

# 1 Scope and scale of the evaluation

According to its mandate one of the central tasks assigned to the Research Council of Norway is to conduct field evaluations of Norwegian research, that is, reviews of how entire fields, disciplines/research areas and academic institutions are performing in the national and international context. They provide an outsider's view of the research area under evaluation, and provide feedback on its strengths and weaknesses. The conclusions form the basis for recommendations on the future development of the research under evaluation, and provide input on national research policy and funding schemes in Norway. Moreover, they are expected to provide insight, advice and recommendations that the institutions can use to enhance their own research standards.

The evaluation of Social Sciences (SAMEVAL) aims to:

- Review the present state of social science research in Norway.
- Form the basis for recommendations on the future development of research within the various fields of the social sciences in Norway.
- Provide insight, advice and recommendations for the institutions evaluated that can be used to enhance their own research standards.
- Expand the knowledge base used to develop funding instruments in the Research Council
- Provide input on research policy to the Norwegian Government.

This evaluation of the social sciences comprises six research areas: geography, economics, political science, sociology, social anthropology and economic-administrative research. The practice of field evaluation is long established in Norway. The Research Council has previously undertaken national, subject-specific evaluations of nearly all research areas involved in the current evaluation, with one exception: economic-administrative research. This is the first time this area has been singled out as a separate subject for evaluation.

As a point of departure, to identify, select and classify the relevant research social science areas and the researchers involved in each of the areas, the Research Council of Norway categorised the areas of social sciences using the definitions used in the Norwegian Centre for Research Data's (NSD's) register of scientific publication channels. All institutions with social science research as part of their activities were invited to take part. The Research Council sent each institution an overview of the researchers' publication data (2013–2016) from CRIStin (Current Research Information System In Norway). The institutions made the final decision to include researchers in the evaluation, and to which research area panel. The Research Council decided that research groups in all research areas had to consist of at least five members. The researchers had to be employed by the institution as of 1 October 2016, and they could not be listed if they were included in other ongoing evaluations.

This evaluation is more extensive than previous subject-specific evaluations, both with regard to the number of research fields and researchers to be evaluated, and with regard to the breadth of source material to be taken into account. The evaluation includes a total of 3,005 social scientists. It involves 42 institutions in the social sciences, 27 of which are faculties /departments at the universities and university colleges, and 15 are units at publicly financed social science research institutes (see Appendix B). The review also comprises 136 research groups.

The current undertaking is more than a mere update of earlier reviews in the field of social sciences. It spearheads a new practice of field evaluation, taking the recent evaluation of the Humanities as its model. In doing so, it includes three new and innovative features. Firstly, in addition to assessing

research areas at the national and institutional level, the evaluation includes reviews of formalised research groups. Societal relevance is a second new dimension, while the third new dimension is the interplay between research, teaching and education.

## 1.1 Terms of reference

According to the terms of reference from the Research Council (Appendix A), the overall aims of the evaluation of the research panels are to:

- review the scientific quality of Norwegian research in the social sciences in an international context;
- provide a critical review of the strength and weaknesses of the fields of research nationally, at the institutional level and for a number of designated research groups;
- identify the research groups that have achieved a high international level in their research
- assess the role of organisational strategies and leadership in promoting the quality of research, education and knowledge exchange;
- assess the extent to which previous evaluations have been used by the institutions in their strategic planning;
- investigate the extent of interdisciplinary research at the institutions and in the research groups;
- investigate the relevance and social impact of social sciences research in Norway in general and in particular its potential to address targeted societal challenges as defined in the Norwegian Government's Long-term plan for research and higher education;[1]
- review the role of the Research Council of Norway in funding research activities in the social sciences.

## 1.2 A comprehensive evaluation

The Research Council has undertaken national, subject-specific evaluations of nearly all research areas in the social sciences since the turn of the millennium. The evaluations have usually confined themselves to one or a limited number of institutions, disciplines or fields. An evaluation of *social anthropology* was carried out in 2011, covering a total of 9 units and 88 researchers. G*eographical research* was also evaluated in the same year, in 2011, based on an assessment of seven research environments including 57 researchers. *Sociological research* was evaluated in 2010, comprising 13 research units and 177 researchers. In 2007, the evaluation of *economic research* comprised 20 units selected by the Research Council, and encompassed a total of 345 persons. Finally, a review of *political science research* was conducted in 2002, comprising 19 units and 164 researchers.

Since 2010, the Research Council has launched evaluations that cover larger research fields. An earlier example of what can been seen as a new tendency was the comprehensive evaluation of the scientific fields of biology, medicine and healthcare in 2011.[2] This was followed by a broad review of the fundamental engineering sciences,[3] and, a few years later, the social science research institutes.[4] In

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[1] Kunnskapsdepartementet (2014).
[2] RCN (2011).
[3] RCN (2015).
[4] RCN (2017d).

the context of the social sciences, the novel design for the evaluation of the Humanities is an important model for a new practice. A broad evaluation of the field of the Humanities in Norway started in 2016, and was finalised in June 2017.[5] As mentioned, the set-up for the present assessment of social sciences follows the design from the Humanities evaluation, where an assessment of the humanities' societal relevance and impact of research, and the interplay between research and education were new features.

### 1.2.1 Societal impact of the social sciences

The terms of reference for this evaluation expressly combine established practice with new practice. The requirement to assess the societal relevance and impact of research in their area is a novel assessment practice. It calls for explorative searches for the various forms and channels through which knowledge from social science research may be seen to impact on activities in various spheres and areas of society. In a broader perspective, this is a response to concern about the need to enhance the impact research has on society.

In addition to a general search for demonstrated societal impact of scientific activity, the terms of reference for the evaluation of social sciences were to be viewed in the context of the five thematic priority areas and one scientific ambition set out in the Norwegian Government's Long-term plan for research and higher education from 2014.[6]

The six priorities are:
- seas and oceans;
- climate, environment and clean energy;
- public sector renewal, better and more effective welfare, health and care services;
- enabling technologies;
- innovative and adaptable industry;
- world-leading academic groups.

The definition of, and model for, societal impact in the Research Council's evaluations is derived from the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF) in the United Kingdom. In the REF, societal impact is defined as: 'any effect on, change or benefit to the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life, beyond academia' (Research Excellence Framework (REF), United Kingdom, 2014).

### 1.2.2 The interplay between research and education

This evaluation includes another new feature in that it also investigates the links between research and education. This follows up an objective stressed in the above-mentioned Norwegian Long-term plan for research and higher education. The Long-term plan states that interaction between research, teaching and education should be taken more strongly into account in the policy for research and higher education. In line with this political objective, this evaluation of social sciences has focused actively on the connection between research and education. The political backdrop to this initiative was that the Norwegian Ministry for Education and Research had in 2014 encouraged the Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education, (hereafter NOKUT)[7] to explore possibilities for joint assessments of education and research.[8]

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[5] RCN (2017).

[6] Kunnskapsdepartementet (2014).

[7] NOKUT (Nasjonalt organ for kvalitet i utdanningen) is an independent expert body under the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research.

[8] Kunnskapsdepartementet (2014b).

This political initiative has been followed up in two ways in the social sciences evaluation. Firstly, all the six research area panels were asked to take into account the interplay between research and education, including the impact of research on teaching. Secondly, three of the six research areas, namely sociology, political science and economics, were subjected to a 'pilot' evaluation, with a view to testing useful strategies and methods for an integrated education-research evaluation.

## 1.3 The overall evaluation process of the social sciences

The complete evaluation of the social sciences consisted of four elements: 1) three education panels, 2) six research panels, 3) an interplay panel for the combined evaluation of research and education, and finally, 4) a principal evaluation committee for the evaluation of all six social science research areas.

The work was divided into three phases, which partly overlapped.

**In the first phase,** the Research Council and NOKUT assumed responsibility for the research and education evaluations, respectively. Six research panels and three education panels worked independently. Each panel wrote an assessment report.

The six research areas were:
Panel 1: Geography
Panel 2: Economics
Panel 3: Political Science
Panel 4: Sociology
Panel 5: Social Anthropology
Panel 6: Economic-Administrative Research Area

**In the second phase,** NOKUT, in cooperation with the Research Council, took responsibility for a mixed education and research evaluation within three of the six research areas: sociology, political science and economics. The evaluation took the form of three different interplay panels: education and research in sociology, in political science and economics, respectively. Each panel consisted of two members.

**In the third phase,** the Research Council asked the chairs of the six research panels to form a general evaluation panel, this being the principal committee tasked with reviewing the six social science research areas as a whole. The panel wrote an assessment report.

Figure 1 visualises the overall structure of the evaluation of research and education in the social sciences and the placement of the Social Anthropology research panel in the overall evaluation.

**Figure 1 The overall structure of the evaluation of research and education in social sciences**

| Education panels (NOKUT) | Interplay panels (NOKUT & RCN) | Research panels (RCN) | Principal evaluation committee (RCN) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Political Science | Political Science | Political Science | |
| Sociology | Sociology | Sociology | Principal research evaluation |
| Economics | Economics | Economics | |
| | | Geography | |
| | | Social Anthropology | |
| | | Economic-Administrative research area | |
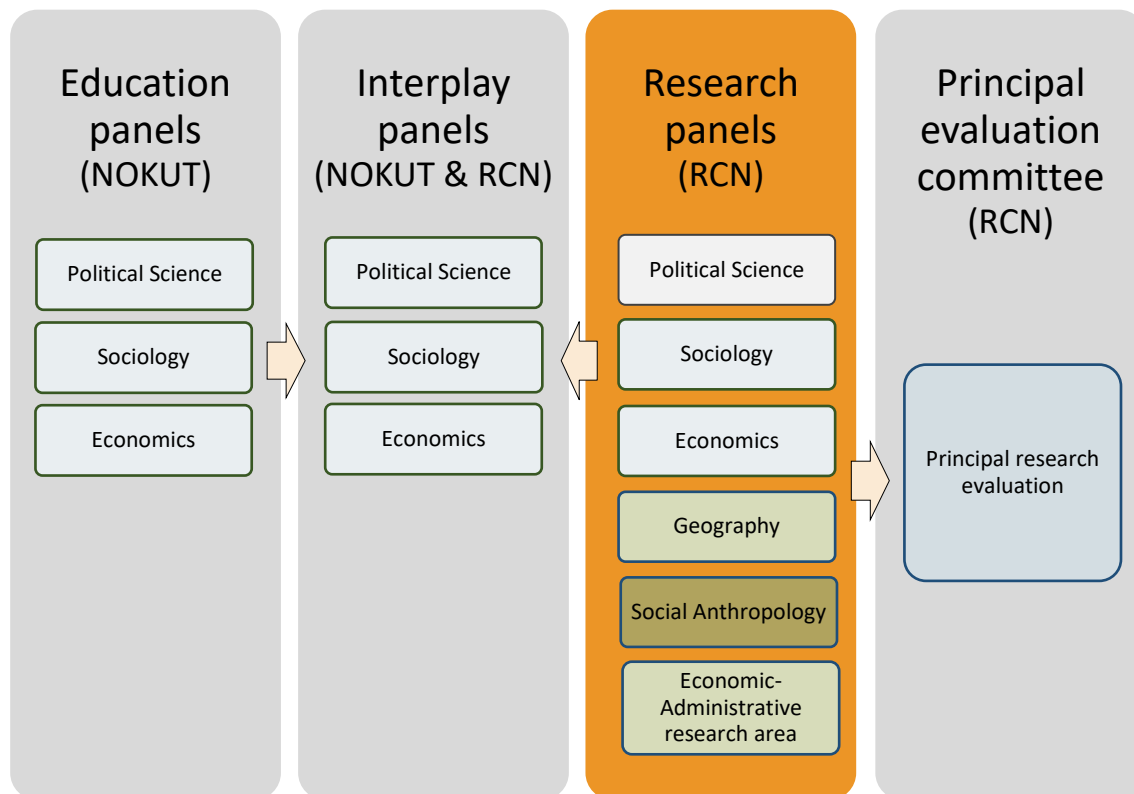
## 1.3.1 The six research areas: panels and process

Panels of international experts, mainly from the Nordic countries and Northern Europe, carried out the evaluations. Each research panel had from six to nine members; all the panels had the same terms of reference, and they used identical approaches and templates in their assessments. A common denominator for all the reviewers was the aim of evaluating research with respect to its scientific quality and relevance in the broad sense. The panels were put together to cover different sub-fields within each research area.

The members of the Social Anthropology panel were:

- Panel chair: Professor Jon Mitchell, University of Sussex, UK
- Professor Christina Garsten, Stockholm University, Sweden
- Professor Anita Hardon, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Professor Nigel Rapport, St Andrews University, UK
- Professor Mats Utas, Uppsala University, Sweden
- Professor Emerita Pnina Werbner, Keele University, UK

The panel was assisted by a scientific secretary, Dr Karis Petty, University of Sussex.

## 1.3.2 The organisational units and entities

The evaluation of the six research areas embraced four levels as listed below and shown in Figure 2.

Please note that the primary objects of this evaluation are the researchers and their research groups. They constituted the research area within each institution, and are the primary object of assessment, not the institutions as such.

### National research area

An overall national review of the state-of-the-art in the research area was a goal for the evaluation. Hence, the evaluation at the national level includes comparing the quality of Norwegian research with international scientific quality. In order to conclude on the national level, the panel drew on their evaluations of institutions, research areas within the institutions and research groups.

### Institution

Institution refers to either an independent research institution/research institute or to the faculty level of a higher education institution (cf. Institutional self-assessment, p. 1, Appendix C). The aims of the reviews at the institutional level were to assess how the research area was constituted and organised at the institution, also including the institutional strategies pursued with a view to developing research performance and scientific quality.

### Research area within the institution

A research area is defined as a research discipline corresponding to the area covered by a panel (cf. Institutional self-assessment, p. 4, Appendix C). The examination of research performance and scientific quality was intended to review the state-of-the-art and encourage further development of research and scientific quality. In addition, the evaluation of ongoing individual and collective work was intended to provide a national overview of the research field. This level will in several cases cut across organisational units, but the rationale is to highlight each discipline corresponding to the relevant panel (Ibid. p.1).

### Research groups

The intention of including research groups was to enable peer reviews of research topics and scientific quality, and to evaluate the interaction between researchers who form a topical /theoretical/methodical-based group and the institutional level (i.e. the research area within the institution/institute).

In order to be defined as a research group in the evaluation of social sciences, the number of researchers had to fulfil four specified criteria. In addition to common work on a joint topic, the Research Council required: 1) that the group should perform research at a high level internationally, and be able to document it through a set of sub-criteria; 2) the group should have at least five members at least three of whom had to employed at the institution, and at least two of whom had to hold a tenured position; 3) the group had to have a specific intention/aim and an organisational structure, and it had to describe it according to the specifications listed in the matrix for the self-assessment report (cf. Research group self-assessment, Appendix E); and 4) the group should be registered in CRIStin (the Current Research Information System in Norway).[9] For more details, please see SAMEVAL. *Innmelding av forskergrupper* [in Norwegian], Appendix D, see also Research group self-assessment, Appendix E.

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[9] CRIStin is a common, national system for registering scientific results and research activities. The members of CRIStin are the public research institutes, the universities and university colleges, and the public health trusts: www.cristin.no.

**Figure 2 The organisational units and entities in the evaluation of social sciences**



### 1.3.3  Criteria for the assessment

All six panels based their work on a uniform set of criteria against which they reported their findings.

**National research area**
- Organisation, leadership and strategy
- Follow-up of earlier evaluations
- Research cooperation/networking (nationally and internationally)
- Research personnel: including recruitment, training, gender balance and mobility
- Research production and scientific quality
- Interplay between research and education: impact on teaching
- Balance between teaching and research
- Societal relevance and impact
- Profile, strengths and weaknesses

**Institution**
- Organisation, leadership and strategy
- Institutional follow-up of previous evaluations
- Research environment
- Resources and infrastructure
- Research personnel, including recruitment, training, gender balance and mobility
- Research production and scientific quality
- Interplay between research and education
- Societal relevance and impact

**The research area within the institution**
- Organisation, leadership and strategy
- Institutional follow-up of previous evaluations
- Research environment (i.e. seminars, summer schools, guest lectures etc.)
- Resources and infrastructure

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- Research personnel, including recruitment, training, gender balance and mobility
- Research production and scientific quality
- Interplay between research and education (including impact on teaching)
- Societal relevance and impact

**Research groups**
- Organisation, leadership and strategies
- Research personnel, including recruitment, training, gender balance and mobility
- Research production and scientific quality
- Networking
- Interplay between research and education: (if relevant) impact on teaching
- Societal relevance and impact: (if relevant) exchange of knowledge / cooperation with other private and public sector actors.

See Appendix I for information on how the criteria were implemented.

# 1.4 Data and review process

The evaluation draws on a comprehensive set of data. The Social Anthropology panel based its assessment on the written self-assessments submitted by the institutions and a qualitative assessment of the submitted publications. Further bibliometric data from the analysis by Damvad Analytics, Denmark commissioned by the Research Council, and further data on the funding of social science were used to contextualise and/or confirm the panel's qualitative evaluation. The panel chair met with the institutions, primarily to supplement and clarify information provided in the self-assessments.

Building from the bottom, the assessments of individual scientific output fed into the evaluations of the research groups and research area, while the self-assessment reports for the research groups fed into the institutional research evaluation and the assessment of the research area. The self-assessments from the institutions contributed to the assessment of the research area within the institution. The report on personnel and bibliometrics (publications) was considered at the research group level, the institutional level and national research area level. Societal impact cases were considered at the group and area level. The research area evaluations were used by the field panels to build a picture of national performance within the research field covered by the panel reports.

The panels also based their assessment on data on funding and personnel, as well as information from earlier institutional and disciplinary evaluations from the Research Council and policy documents from the Government.

See Appendix G for information on time frames for assessments and bibliometric data.

**Institutional self-assessment reports**

Reports were submitted by all the research-performing units. They included quantitative and qualitative information at the institutional level (called level 1 in the self-assessment template), and at the level of the disciplines/research areas corresponding to the panels (called level 2 in the self-assessment template).

The following were enclosed with the self-assessments report from each unit:
- A list of the 10 most important publications for each research area;
- A list of 10 dissemination activities;
- Societal impact cases for each discipline showing important dissemination and knowledge exchange results, (the impact cases were optional);
- An analysis of **s**trengths, **w**eaknesses, **o**pportunities and **t**hreats (a SWOT analysis)
- A form (number 2): Target audience for scientific publications;
- A form (number 3): Research matching the priorities set out in the Norwegian Government's Long-term plan for research and higher education and in other relevant policy documents;
- An overview of study programmes.

The templates for institutional self-assessments and publications are attached to the report as Appendices C and J.

### Self-assessment reports for research groups

The institutions were given an opportunity to include research groups in the evaluation. The reviews by the research panels were based on self-assessments and other documentation. The data included quantitative data on group members and funding, qualitative information on various aspects of the research activities and CVs for all the members of the groups. In addition, each group had the option of submitting one copy of a scientific publication for each member included in the evaluation, as well as case studies of the societal impact of their research.

The template for research groups is attached to the report as Appendices E and K.

### Societal impact cases

Reflecting the novel approach of including societal impact in the evaluation (cf.1.2.1), the institutions were invited to include case studies documenting a broader non-academic, societal impact of their research. Participation was optional.

### Bibliometric report

The Research Council of Norway (RCN) commissioned an analysis of publications and personnel dedicated to social science research for the evaluation.

Damvad Analytics conducted the analysis, mainly basing its work on data from the following sources: the Norwegian Centre for Research Data (NSD); the Current Research Information System in Norway (CRIStin) and the National Researcher Register for which NIFU is responsible. Damvad Analytics added bibliometric data from Elsevier's Scopus database and Google Scholar to enhance the analysis of the internationally published scientific material.

The RCN defined the framework for Damvad's analysis, and decided to include the following elements:
- The total scientific output within social science for Norway;
- The institutions involved in social science in Norway;
- The research personnel engaged in social science in Norway.

For an overview of the publishing in Social Anthropology, please see Appendix F: Damvad Fact sheet for Social Anthropology.

**Funding data**

Data and information on financial resources and funding (cf. 2.2) are based on:

- Report on Science and Technology Indicators for Norway: (Norges forskningsråd, Det norske forsknings- og innovasjonssystemet – statistikk og indikatorer, Norges forskningsråd, Lysaker, 2016; https://www.forskningsradet.no/prognett-indikatorrapporten/Home_page/1224698172612
- NIFU, Norwegian Research and Development (R&D) statistics and indicators, https://www.nifu.no/en/statistics-indicators/nokkeltall/
- Research Council of Norway, The Project Databank, https://www.forskningsradet.no/prosjektbanken/#/Sprak=en.
- The Research Council of Norway, Social sciences research in Norway 2010–2016: Funding streams and funding instruments. Report submitted to the principal committee for the Research Council's evaluation of the Social Sciences (SAMEVAL), report for internal use by SAMEVAL evaluators (ref. page 1, first section) unpublished report, undated (2017): 11 pages.

In addition, section 2.2 draws on:

- The Research Council of Norway, *Report on Science and Technology Indicators for Norway 2017*, The Research Council of Norway, Lysaker, 2017; https://www.forskningsradet.no/prognett-indikatorrapporten/Science_and_Technology_2017/1254031943643

**Other relevant publications provided by the Research Council**

*Earlier evaluations commissioned by the Research Council*

- Relevant disciplinary evaluations (please see the reference list for details)
- The Research Council of Norway: *Evaluation of the Humanities in Norway. Reports from the panels and the principal evaluation committee.*
- *Evaluation of the Social Science Institutes. Panel Report, January 2017*, the Research Council of Norway, Lysaker.

*National plans and strategies for research policy*

- The Research Council of Norway, *Research for Innovation and Sustainability. Strategy for the Research Council of Norway 2015–2020*, 2015.
- Kunnskapsdepartementet, *Meld. St. 7 (2014–2015), Langtidsplan for forskning og høyere utdanning 2015–2024*, [The Royal Norwegian Ministry for Research and Higher Education, Long-term plan for research and higher education 2015–2024], 2015, [in Norwegian].

*Official reports on the status of higher education:*

- Kunnskapsdepartementet, Meld. St. 18 (2014–2015). *Melding til Stortinget. Konsentrasjon for kvalitet. Strukturreform i universitets- og høyskolesektoren*, 2015 [White paper, no. 18 (2014–2015), Concentration for quality. Structural reforms across the universities and university colleges, The Royal Norwegian Ministry for Research and Education, Oslo 2015] [in Norwegian].
- Kunnskapsdepartementet, *Tilstandsrapport for høyere utdanning 2017*, Rapport, 2017 [The Royal Norwegian Ministry for Research and Education, Status Report for Higher Education, Report, 2017] [in Norwegian].

### 1.4.1 Process and assessment tools

The Research Council set up 'SharePoint' (a Microsoft Office 365 program), and all background material and other data and documents were deposited there. The panel shared files and work in progress in SharePoint.

**Panel meetings and work**

The social anthropology panel held three one-day meetings: in May, September and December 2018. In addition, the panel chair joined the other panel chairs for two one-day panel chair meetings, held in April and September 2017.

The chair carried out the interviews with the 11 institutions on behalf of the panel over four days in late October 2017 (see the section *Meetings with the institutions*). The panel secretary took minutes from the interviews. In between the meetings, the members were in contact by email.

The panel divided the assessments and writing among the members. The secretariat from NIFU had chief responsibility for providing factsheets, as well as Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 of the report.

**Assessment tools**

In order to ensure that all the dimensions were covered, and to ensure a uniform evaluation across the six different research areas, the secretariat at NIFU provided the panels with assessment tools.

These were:
- A template for research and scientific quality: numerical grading, see Table 1;
- A template for assessments of the units: institutions and research groups, see Appendix H;
- A template for assessment of the ten most important publications listed by the institutions, see Appendix I;
- A template for assessment of the publications of listed members of research groups, see Appendix J.
- The panels used the following description as the basis for their scoring of scientific quality.

**Table 1 Scientific quality, numerical scale**

| Scale | Criteria |
|---|---|
| **5 Excellent** | Original research at the international forefront. The unit has a very high productivity. The unit [the institution /research group] undertakes excellent, original research, and publishes it in outstanding international channels for scientific and scholarly publications. Its researchers present ongoing research regularly at recognised, international scientific conferences. |
| **4 Very good** | Research with a high degree of originality, and a scientific profile with a high degree of publications in high quality channels for scientific and scholarly publications. The unit has a high productivity. The researchers participate habitually at international scientific conferences. The research is decisively very relevant to the knowledge production in the field internationally. |
| **3 Good** | Research of a good international standard. The unit has an acceptable productivity, and contributes to the development within its field. The researchers participate at scientific conferences. |
| **2 Fair** | Research of an acceptable, but moderate standard. The productivity at the unit is modest, and with few original contributions to the field internationally. |
| **1 Weak** | Research of insufficient quality and with a meagre scientific publication profile. The productivity is low. |

**Meetings with the institutions**

The panels supplemented the written documentation and data with information provided by the institutions in interviews. The meetings took place at Hotel Park Inn within walking distance of Gardermoen Airport, Oslo. The six panel chairs conducted the interviews. Each institution was interviewed individually. The panels had prepared the questions beforehand and sent the list to the institutions two weeks in advance. The lists contained both general and panel-specific questions. The interviews allowed for elaboration and discussion of issues of importance to the panel's assessments. The panel's secretaries took extensive minutes of the meetings. The minutes were shared with all panel members.

**Fact checking by institutions**

Institutions were given the opportunity to provide a fact check of the assessment texts after the panels assessments were completed. The check did not include the grades or final evaluations, as the institutions were asked only to correct any factual errors. New and updated information was not included.


# 1.5 The panel's comments on the evaluation

The panel is confident that it has provided a robust evaluation of the available material, but it wishes to make the following observations about the limitations of the exercise:

Firstly, the material for evaluation was highly selective. A limited range of published material was presented (the 'best 10' per unit), and a limited number of research groups and researcher CVs were submitted. This meant that the panel was only able to view a selected slice of the total anthropological community in Norway. These selective elements were contextualised in relation to overall demographic and policy data that often derived from the faculty level, which made it difficult to identify patterns specific to Social Anthropology. In particular, it was difficult to identify the balance between PhDs, more junior and more senior researchers with a view to identifying particularly up-and-coming areas of research strength. The panel would have preferred a more inclusive procedure, mirroring evaluations elsewhere (e.g. the Netherlands) in which all paid researchers are included in the assessments. In addition, more information on PhDs and the content of their research would have enabled the panel to acquire a firmer grasp of the full range of Social Anthropology as it is practised in Norway.

Secondly, the research groups in particular seem to be especially selective. It was not always clear how research groups were established, and what their actual 'social life' consisted of. The concept of 'research group' as established in the review appeared to be more the product of a particular managerial concern. The panel was concerned that the high priority given to research groups had the effect of under-reporting research by highly productive researchers not included in research groups, and 'hiding away' potentially less productive researchers. In the evaluation, it was difficult to identify whether or not otherwise strong departments or units nevertheless had an 'unproductive tail'.

Thirdly, the available quantitative data were difficult to incorporate into the evaluation. Data on funding streams were reported differently by different units, and bibliographic data were not as reliable as might be hoped. After some discussion, it was agreed to base the evaluation on a qualitative assessment of the self-evaluations and published submissions, and to only use data on the percentage of publications in level 1/2 channels, scientific impact in comparison with the OECD, and the number of publications per researcher, to confirm judgements made in the qualitative review.

Finally, the Social Anthropology panel was presented with a relatively high percentage of inter-disciplinary research to evaluate. Of the 11 institutional units evaluated, 7 were interdisciplinary units in either the university sector or the independent research institute sector. Most of the interdisciplinary research evaluated was derived from social anthropologists working in interdisciplinary environments and posed few problems for the panel. However, some units in the evaluation were non-anthropological, and even explicitly stated in their self-evaluations that they are 'not social anthropologists'. In these cases, the panel agreed to evaluate the units on their own terms (i.e. not in relation to the disciplinary standards of Social Anthropology), and it is confident in these evaluations. However, this does raise issues about the legitimacy of submitting non-disciplinary units to disciplinary evaluation panels.

# 2  The context: Social Sciences and Social Anthropology in Norway

## 2.1 The research system

The Norwegian research and innovation system is divided into three levels: the political, the strategic and the performing level. At the political level, the system is characterised by notable pluralism, as all the ministries are in principle responsible for financing long-term and short-term public research and experimental development activity (R&D) within their areas of responsibility. This governing principle for responsibility is called the 'sector principle'. In practice, the R&D budgets are concentrated, as five ministries account for 85 per cent of public R&D expenditure. The Ministry of Education and Research alone allocates around 50 per cent of the total funding, and it is also responsible for coordinating national funding.

The second level is the strategic level, which includes the Research Council of Norway (and also an innovation agency, Innovation Norway); see more below. The Research Council fulfils functions that in many other countries are shared between a range of institutions at the second level. The same applies to the national innovation agency.

The third, performing level in the area of social sciences consists of a variety of institutions: universities, specialised universities and university colleges, as well as some private higher education institutions and nominally independent, public and private institutes. The institute sector is a common term for this group of units that is relatively heterogeneous in terms of institute size, profile and legal status. Overall, there are around 100 research institutions, about half of which are commonly referred to as research institutes. The group includes public oriented institutes and institutes that focus on private enterprise and carry out contract research for Norwegian and foreign companies, museums and hospitals (with the exception of university hospitals). The institute sector accounts for 23 per cent of the total national R&D. The institutions fall into three groups. First, the majority of the units (appr. 40) fall under the guidelines for governmental funding of research institutes and receive their core funding from the Research Council of Norway. With one exception, all the research institutes in this evaluation receive their core funding from the Research Council (for details see 2.1.1.). The second group consists of a few government research institutes, that receive their basic funding directly from a ministry. None of these government institutes is represented in this evaluation. The third group of institutions in the institute sector comprises about 40 private and public institutions, which to a greater or lesser extent perform R&D as part of their activity.[10] Only one institution in this category is included in the evaluation of social sciences – the Norwegian Institute of Public Health (Folkehelseinstituttet).[11]

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[10] https://www.forskningsradet.no/prognett-indikatorrapporten/Tabellsett_2016/1254021688842; (Indikatorrapporten, 2016, table B.03 instituttsektor [in Norwegian only].

[11] Statistics Norway's (Statistisk sentralbyrå (SSB)) unit for research with 75–100 research positions is not included in the evaluation of economics; the same applies to Norges bank [The Central Bank of Norway], which has 10–15 research positions. SSB wanted to take part in the evaluation of economics, but since SSB had not reported its publication data to CRIStin (in the years 2013–2016), the Research Council had to decline the request.

The fifteen social research institutes included in this evaluation are mainly thematically oriented towards public management.[12] Their activities can be roughly divided into four thematic, partly overlapping areas: 1) international affairs and foreign relations; 2) environmental policy; 3) the economic foundation, structure and development of the welfare state, and 4) regionally based issues.

## 2.1.1 National funding streams and instruments

The main funding streams of relevance to the evaluation of social sciences are: 1) funding for universities and university colleges with an integrated R&D component, and 2) funds allocated via the Research Council of Norway (see below).

The universities and university colleges receive a substantial proportion of their R&D budgets as core funding from the government ('general university funds'). The funding is closely linked to student numbers and teaching positions. In this, the growth of social sciences in the higher education sector reflects the large number of students taking subjects such as economics and education. The social sciences and humanities receive the highest percentage of basic funding among the research fields. In 2015, social sciences received around 76 per cent of their R&D expenditure as core funding, whereas the fields of engineering and technology and natural sciences received just below 60 per cent as basic funding in the same year.[13] Other sources of income include funding from the Research Council, the EU and other (national, Nordic and international) competitive funding bodies.

**Research Council: core funding for public research institutes[14]**
Unlike the universities, the research institutes rely heavily on a high share of external funding, through commissioned research and open competitions. As mentioned in section 2.1., the majority of these institutes fall under the guidelines for government funding of research institutes and receive their core funding from the Research Council. The Research Council administers the government core funding for all the 12 research institutes involved in this evaluation. The level of core funding varies from 6 per cent of turnover at the lowest, to 21 percent. On average, the funding is around 13 per cent for the units taking part in this evaluation.[15] The core grant consists of two parts: a fixed amount, and an amount determined by performance. To qualify for a core grant, the unit must:

- Undertake research of interest to Norwegian business and industry, government or society at large;
- Maintain disciplinary and scientific competence, demonstrated through scientific publications;
- Conduct research activities on a sufficient scale to permit the development of significant competence and research capacity within the organisation;
- Have a variety of sources of research income and compete in open national and international competitions for research funding;
- Not pay dividends or provide, either directly or indirectly, benefits to the owner or close stakeholders.

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[12] RCN (2017): 37; https://www.forskningsradet.no/prognett-indikatorrapporten/Science_and_Technology_2017/1254031943643; For an extensive account of the social science institute sector, see RCN (2017b): 18–32.

[13] NIFU, FoU-statistikkbanken (NIFU, R&D statistics bank), 'Field of science. Source of funding. R&D expenditure, in million NOK, 2015; http://www.foustatistikkbanken.no.

[14] Technical term: Basic allocation to research institutes, cf. www.forskningsradet.no/eng, read 13.12.2017; Forskningsrådet, prosjektbanken.no, the core funding for all social research institutes was NOK 261.9 million in 2016, www.forskningsradet.no/prosjektbanken, read 14.12.2017.

[15] NIFU, FoU-statistikkbanken, (NIFU, R&D statistics bank), «Key figures for research institutes, Current income by category of funds», 2016, http://www.foustatistikkbanken.no

The performance-based part of the core grant is aimed at achieving a sound balance between scientific quality and societal relevance. The distribution of this part of the grant is based on four performance indicators, weighted on the basis of a relevance component:

- Commission-based income from national sources (45 per cent)
- Scientific publications, expressed as the number and level of scientific publications registered in the CRIStin database (30 per cent);
- Income from international sources (20 per cent);
- The number of doctoral degrees awarded to staff or students who are funded more than fifty per cent by the institute (5 per cent).[16]

**The Research Council and the competition for national funding**

The research institutes rely heavily on external funding. A substantial part of their income is commission-based funding, mainly from the public administration, such as ministries and government agencies at the national level. In addition, the institutes and the universities compete for the same financial support from national (and Nordic) sources, and funding from the Research Council plays a significant role in the institutes' knowledge production. The Research Council provides funding for a wide range of activities, ranging from research infrastructure and networks to programmes, projects and centres of excellence. Here, the focus will be on selected funding schemes of general importance to the social sciences: networking, centres of excellence, independent projects (FRIPRO)/ basic research programmes; policy-oriented programmes ('handlingsrettede programmer') and large-scale programmes ('store programmer'). Compared with natural science, technology and medicine, the humanities and social sciences display a more stable pattern in terms of funding schemes.

Since 2002, research groups have been selected for funding for up to ten years through a targeted centres scheme. The first round concerned general, disciplinary and interdisciplinary centres of excellence. Subsequently, new types of thematic, specialised, targeted centres have been established., All the centres have the same aim, however: to promote research of high scientific quality. Social scientists have been part of some of these centres and many of the groups have been interdisciplinary within the social sciences, but also across other fields of science.[17] ESOP at the University of Oslo is one example. A spin-off effect has been the institutional initiatives, whereby universities have targeted existing research groups and established their own local groups and centres of excellence.

According to the RCN, there seems to have been a tendency recently to increase funding through large-scale programmes, especially in the fields of climate and energy research.[18] The large-scale programmes are important for the social sciences as a whole. The thematic programmes are the RCN's response to the government's, long-term political priorities: the seas and oceans; climate,

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[16] Research Council of Norway, "Public basic funding for research institutes", read 11.12.2018; https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/Public_basic_funding/1254010731867; NIFU, FoU-statistikkbanken, nøkkeltall for forskningsinstitutter [in Norwegian], www.nifu.no.

[17] Research Council of Norway, centres of excellence: https://www.forskningsradet.no/prognett-sff_I/1253978073056; https://www.forskningsradet.no/prognett-sff_II/1253978083956; https://www.forskningsradet.no/prognett-sff_III/1253978083961; https://www.forskningsradet.no/prognett-sff/Nyheter/Ti_nye_sentre_for_fremragende_forskning/1254025392105/p1224067001855: Centres for environment friendly Energy Research (FME), https://www.forskningsradet.no/prognett-energisenter/Om_sentrene/1222932140880.

[18] The Research Council of Norway, Social sciences research in Norway 2010–2016, unpublished report, undated (2017): 11 pages

environment and clean energy; public sector renewal, better and more effective welfare, health and care services; enabling technologies; innovative and adaptable industry, and world-leading academic groups (cf. 1.2.1).[19]

In 2016, social scientists at units in Norway received NOK 989 million from the Research Council (excluding core funding of the institutes);[20] 55.8 per cent (NOK 698.9 million) of the RCN support concerned programmes, while 11.5 per cent (143.7 million NOK) went to independent projects (FRIPRO). Researchers at the research institutes were involved in policy-oriented programmes to a larger extent than their peers at the universities, with 54 per cent (NOK 377.6 million) going to the research institutes, and 42.5 per cent (NOK 297 million) to the universities. A similar difference applies in relation to involvement in large-scale programmes: social scientists at the research institutes participated more often in large-scale programmes with national priority, especially in the fields of energy, climate, health and fish farming, than did their colleagues at the universities.

On the other hand, the universities received more funding from independent projects, NOK 77.7 million compared with NOK 45.5 million for the research institutes.

## 2.1.2 Internationalisation and international funding

The main sources of funding for research activities in Norway are national sources, but international funding has become more important in recent decades. This development is linked to a general trend towards internationalisation, which has been a hallmark of the Norwegian R&D system since the mid-1990s. Internationalisation is currently a notable dimension of the domestic R&D system.[21] The indicators supporting this statement are many: at present, more than two-thirds of Norwegian scientific articles have a non-Norwegian co-author, compared with 17 per cent in the early 1980s.[22] The number of Norwegian exchange students abroad has doubled since the mid-1990s, and the number of PhD students from abroad reflects the same trend. Twenty years ago, 10 per cent of doctoral degrees were awarded to foreign candidates, while in 2017 the percentage was 38.[23]

From the mid-2000s, there has been a noteworthy increase in foreign R&D funding and strengthening of European research cooperation.[24] In this context, the EU's research programmes have been an influential force. Until the Seventh Framework Programme (2007), the EU programmes were generally of limited scope, with the main emphasis on technology and applied research. Since 2007, budgets have increased significantly, due to the portfolio of programmes and a support mechanism that has embraced a wider set of topics and goals. The EU's programmes now include a broader range of research-performing units and areas – also social sciences. Hence, at present, the EU Framework Programme is an importance source of funding for many countries, Norway included. At the domestic level, a number of measures have been put in place to strengthen Norway's participation in the programmes. By June 2017, 1.81 per cent of the funds announced in Horizon 2020 (H2020) were awarded to researchers and institutions in Norway. The success rate is slightly below the official target of 2 per cent of total EU funding.[25]

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[19] Kunnskapsdepartementet (2014).
[20] This description is an overview and includes funding for all areas and units defined as social sciences in Norway. It thus encompasses institutions and researchers not listed for this evaluation.
[21] RCN (2017c): 6–7; see also pp. 56–61.
[22] RCN (2017c): 59–60; 69.
[23] RCN (2017c): 7, 49, 63.
[24] RCN (2017c): 56–58.
[25] RCN (2017c): 6; 72.

Among the seven Societal Challenges targeted by H2020, the fields most relevant to social scientists are the challenges: 'Europe in a changing world' (SC6) and 'Secure Societies' (SC7). In addition, challenges related to health and demographic change and to climate and environment are of relevance to social scientists. Within H2020, efforts are made to mobilise the disciplines of social sciences and humanities across the framework programme. The reason for this is that the perspectives of social sciences and humanities are seen as valuable in the development of interdisciplinary approaches to the European and global challenges.[26] The Norwegian success rate within Societal Challenges was above the 2 per cent target. In June 2016, the success rate reached 2.6 per cent.[27] According to the RCN, above average success rates in SC6 and SC7 indicate a clear engagement on the part of Norwegian social scientists in relation to these parts of the Societal Challenges.[28] The results for the H2020 excellence schemes are below average, however.[29]

## 2.2 The research area of Social Anthropology

### 2.2.1 Introduction

Social Anthropology has an illustrious history in Norway. Developed in the mid-twentieth century at the Ethnographic Museum in Oslo, Norwegian Social Anthropology has strong links with the Anglo-American traditions of socio-cultural anthropology, and many of its most prominent scholars trained in the UK and USA. Since the establishment of the first chair in Ethnography (1947), Norway has produced a number of world-leading social anthropologists with genuinely international reputations. It has played an important role in the development of Social Anthropology as a pan-European discipline, and established strong connections with both North American and European anthropological communities – the latter in particular through its periodic leadership of the European Association of Social Anthropologists (established in 1989), and a range of successful European-level networks and research grants.

Norwegian Social Anthropology is empirically-driven, rooted in a very strong tradition of intensive long-term fieldwork, and it has a deep commitment to ethnographic and anthropological work in both 'other' cultures and in Norway itself. Norwegian social anthropologists have had a strong commitment to public engagement and public commentary, framing national understandings of Norwegian society and its place within the world. This has become increasingly significant in the context of contemporary globalisation processes.

The first department of Social Anthropology was established in 1962, and by the 1980s there were four departments: University of Bergen, University of Oslo, University of Tromsø, and the Technical University in Trondheim (NTNU). These are still the only university departments of Social Anthropology, although Social Anthropology is also widely distributed in multidisciplinary units both within the university sector and outside it, in the independent research institute sector. Here, Norwegian scholars have played a leading role in the development of international agendas in the

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[26] The Research Council of Norway, Social sciences research in Norway 2010–2016: Funding streams and funding instruments, unpublished report, undated (2017): 11 pages.

[27] (2017c): 71–72.

[28] The Research Council of Norway, Social sciences research in Norway 2010–2016: Funding streams and funding instruments, p.11. By March 2017, the amount of funding for social scientists is: SC6, NOK 78.3 mill. + SC7, NOK 130.4 mill. = NOK 208.7 mill. of a total of  NOK 1,874 mill., or 11 per cent of the total funding available.

[29] (2017c): 11.

Anthropology of Development broadly conceived, the Anthropology of Medicine and the Anthropology of Multiculturalism.

In total, the panel evaluated 11 institutional units: the 4 university departments of Social Anthropology; 4 interdisciplinary units at universities or university colleges; and 3 independent research Institutes. The panel evaluated 11 research groups. There have been some notable changes since the previous evaluation, published in 2011 (RCN 2011), which evaluated 9 units. The Ethnography unit at the Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo (where Norwegian Social Anthropology originated) did not submit for evaluation this time, nor did the Section for Medical Anthropology at the University of Oslo. Norwegian Social Research (NOVA), which was evaluated last time, has been incorporated into a new interdisciplinary unit at Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences. There are four new units in the current evaluation: Fafo Institute for Labour and Social Research; Nordland Research Institute; The Department of International Environment and Development Studies, Noragric at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences; and VID Specialized University.

Social Anthropology in Norway has had a long-standing commitment to societal engagement in a variety of ways – from advising and developing policy to contributing to public debate on sensitive cultural issues. At the same time, Norwegian social anthropologists have consistently made a solid contribution to groundbreaking analytical and empirical developments at the forefront of the discipline internationally. This balance between engagement/impact and basic scientific research is not easy to maintain, but the panel argues that it is essential to maintain it for the long-term strength of Social Anthropology as a discipline in Norway.

**Figure 3 The units and numbers in Social Anthropology**
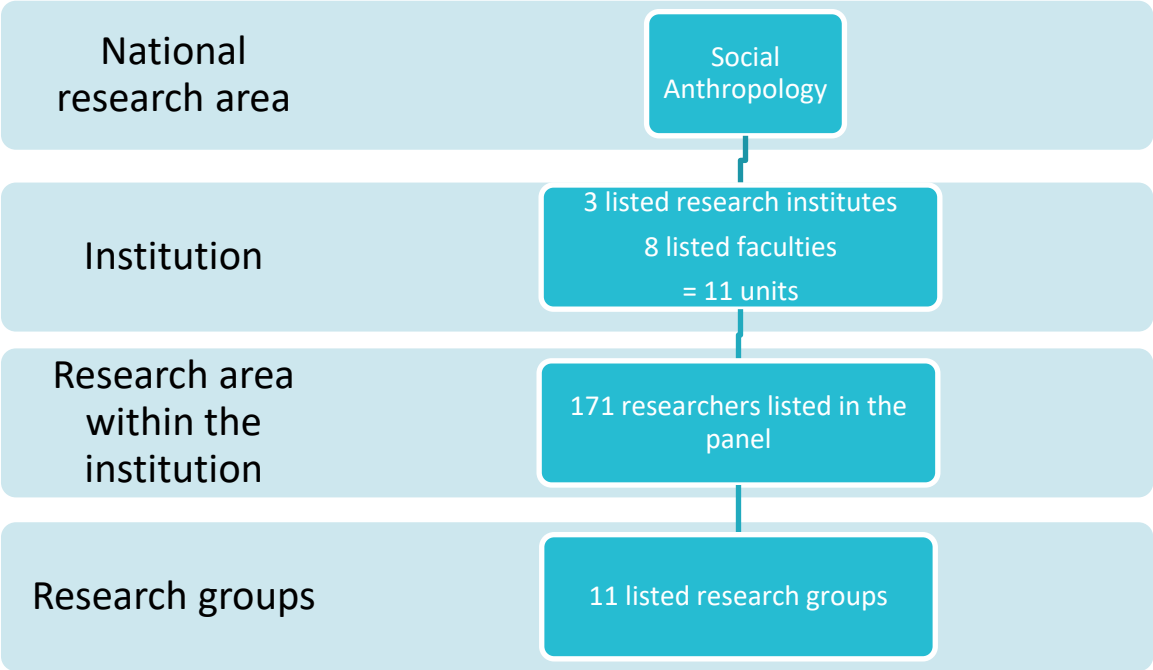
# 3 CMI Chr. Michelsen Institute

| CMI Chr. Michelsen Institute | | |
|---|---|---|

| Units included in the evaluation of social anthropology | CMI Chr. Michelsen Institute | Listed researchers | 10 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Listed research groups | 0 |
| | | No. of researchers in listed research groups | 0 |

| Other units of the faculty (institution) | |
|---|---|

**Training, recruitment and academic positions**

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **No. of PhD graduated at the institution per year** | | | |
| Male/Female | -/- | 1/- | -/- |
| Total per year | 0 | 1 | 0 |

**R&D expenditures and sources of funding (1000 NOK)**

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Funding of the institution** | | | |
| Total expenditures | 91 048 | 93 804 | 90 227 |
| **Types of funding** | | | |
| Core funding from the RCN | 14 905 | 15 077 | 15 662 |
| External funding, RCN | 23 499 | 30 555 | 24 755 |
| External funding EU | 0 | 73 | 69 |
| External funding, other sources | 55 434 | 47 284 | 51 281 |

**No. of positions announced / No. of qualified applicants per year**

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| PhD positions | -/- | 1/60 | -/- |
| Post.doc positions | -/- | -/- | -/- |
| Permanent positions | 1/50 | 2/85 | 4/120 |

**Education**

**Study programmes BA level**

-

**Study programmes MA level**

-

**Other:** Many of the positions at CMI are open to several disciplines.

Source: **The Research Council of Norway, Self-assessment report for the institution, 16/12960**

# 3.1 Social Anthropology at the institutional level

## 3.1.1 Organisation, leadership and strategy

CMI Chr. Michelsen Institute is guided by clear strategies and visions, and it is extremely well structured for national and international research collaboration. The institute has an efficient set-up for developing and submitting applied research proposals, as reflected in its success in attracting external funding. The institute has a good strategy for dissemination to stakeholders and the general public.

Its organisational structure includes four research directors, who each head two groups: a project development unit, which helps researchers to develop new projects, and a communications unit. CMI hosts seven thematic, multidisciplinary research groups. The research groups engage in systematic dialogue with key actors, donors and funders.

The institute also works closely with researchers from the University of Bergen and the Norwegian School of Economics in order to ensure a critical mass of researchers. The structure of the organisation and its leadership are appropriate and reflect its multidisciplinary mission. CMI's research themes are of high societal relevance.

The leadership could consider strengthening its strategy for academic excellence by using part of the core funding to increase the availability of non-project-specific research leave. This would enable researchers to further develop the scientific quality of their output.

## 3.1.2 Institutional follow-up of previous evaluations

CMI was evaluated as a research institute by the RCN in 2016/17, as well as in 2001 and 2006. According to the self-evaluation, they were praised each time: 'the level one would expect of a world leading Institute' (2016/17) and 'CMI successfully competes in the Champions League' (2006). In the 2011 evaluation of Social Anthropology, CMI was recommended to work to improve the quality of its publications, particularly through engagement in debates within mainstream Social Anthropology. The institute states that it has worked successfully to improve both the quality and the quantity of its publications. CMI has also strengthened its collaboration with the University of Oslo and the University of Bergen. The panel notes that its anthropological expertise mainly translates into Level 2 publications.

## 3.1.3 Resources and infrastructure

CMI is highly dependent on external funds – only 17% of its budget consists of core funding, although this does not affect the viability of the institute. It receives funding from diverse donors, including European and other global donors, which increases its sustainability.

It has the largest data collection of development-related literature in Norway, with significant upgrades during the past 5–10 years. The institute buys all new books that researchers demand and researchers have good e-access to journals, although the management is concerned that the access is not as good as it should be. The institute has made it easy to communicate research results, by providing good communications and social media support for its researchers.

## 3.1.4 Research environment

The institute has a very good library and research database. It is developing closer relations with the University of Bergen and the Norwegian School of Economics, including regular joint seminars. They also regularly invite top researchers to the institute.

The research environment is strongly project-based, with researchers spending roughly 70% of their time on project research and 20% on broader scholarship or research development. Within this framework, there is flexibility for researchers to take research leave at other institutions or organisations, particularly in the Global South.

### 3.1.5  Research personnel

CMI includes a substantial number of social anthropologists (10 included in the self-assessment) in its research programmes, including two recent recruits from Italy and the USA. A large number of applicants are reported for new positions, indicating that the CMI is an attractive employer for anthropologists. In the past three years, only one PhD position was advertised in Social Anthropology. CMI research personnel are of very good international standing. Researchers are recruited internationally and CMI has a good international reputation. There is a good gender balance in leading positions (50/50) and 44% of research staff are women, while 90% of researchers at the institute have a PhD, which is good for an applied research institute. Researchers are encouraged to take research leave and trips in an international environment abroad.

### 3.1.6  Research production and scientific quality

The social anthropologists at CMI carry out cutting edge and highly societally relevant research on urban poverty, violence, natural resources and religion. Moreover, they are well connected with international networks of researchers, indicating the quality of their work. For example, their work on violence in Pakistan and Sudan is recognised, both within anthropology and in policy arenas, as an incisive analysis of the complexities of the conflicts. This work includes research on gender-based violence that has resulted in a forthcoming book published by the prestigious University of California Press.

Overall, 70% of CMI publications (N=23) are in Level 2 journals, including key specialised and regional journals. The group has also produced three edited volumes. Publication impact is high (1.51) compared to the OECD average. The publications show a good spread with regard to topics.

<div align="right">Assessment of scientific quality: 4 – very good</div>

### 3.1.7  Interplay between research and education

CMI is not a teaching institute. Some researchers teach at other universities, however. Although CMI is not a teaching institution, it allows room and some funding for PhDs. One PhD from CMI has graduated in anthropology in the last three years. CMI also caters for MA students. The most successful MA student will be offered a research assistant position and encouraged to apply for a PhD project.

### 3.1.8  Societal relevance and impact

CMI aims to generate and communicate research-based knowledge that contributes to and addresses development challenges. To achieve this, the institute has a well-developed strategy for interaction with users. In the project design phase, key stakeholders are identified and multiple communication channels are used for dissemination purposes, with brief communications to stakeholders such as policymakers, who value concise and clear advice. Moreover, the strategy is multi-layered, with individual researchers being responsible for blogs and op-eds.

CMI submitted one impact case study, which describes how research conducted at the institute contributed significantly to diplomatic efforts relating to peace and sexual violence in Sudan. It is clear that the strong regional expertise of anthropologists at this institute has increased the impact.

This engagement dates back to the 1970s. CMI's research on legislation that affects women (with particular attention to rape legislation and the effect of women's quotas in state and federal legislatures) has had important societal impact more recently. It informed the UN's Special Rapporteur about violence against women during her visit to Sudan in 2015. A publication on sexual violence has been used in a complaint to the African Commission on Human and People's Rights from REDRESS and the African Centre. Publications have played a central role in building capacity among members of parliament in Eastern Sudan, they have informed legislative debates and have been circulated by Sudanese activists.

### 3.1.9  Overall assessment

CMI is a high-class research institute where social anthropologists play a key role. A number of its researchers are well known in the international sphere for their expertise in issues relating to international development. It has an important role in the dissemination of research to a wide public, including policymakers and development practitioners. As an institute that is reliant on external resources, CMI succeeds in balancing the demands of the funding bodies with the more scientific agenda needed for the publication of high-quality research.

### 3.1.10 Feedback

While impressed by the way CMI has integrated anthropological researchers in its research programme, the panel has a few recommendations to further improve the scientific impact of the research conducted:

- CMI could consider giving researchers earmarked time to write for high scientific impact journals across a number of externally funded studies, where possible in collaboration with anthropologists from academic Social Anthropology departments in Norway and elsewhere.
- The institute could consider involving more PhD students from the South in its programmes in collaboration with their academic partners, to help develop capacity in development studies in the countries where they conduct research.
- Closer collaboration with other development research institutes in Europe on the core areas of expertise could help to strengthen the institute's EU funding base.

# 4  Fafo Institute for Labour and Social Research

| Fafo Institute for Labour and Social Research | | |
|---|---|---|

| Units included in the evaluation of social anthropology | - Fafo Institute for Labour and Social Research |
|---|---|

| Listed researchers | 6 |
|---|---|
| Listed research groups | 0 |
| No. of researchers in listed research groups | 0 |

**Other units of the faculty (institution)**

***Training, recruitment and academic positions***

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***No. of PhD graduated at the institution per year*** | | | |
| Male/Female | -/- | -/1 | 1/- |
| Total per year | - | 1 | 1 |

***R&D expenditures and sources of funding (1000 NOK)***

***No. of positions announced / No. of qualified applicants per year***

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***Funding of the institution*** | | | |
| Total expenditures | 121 538 | 115 014 | 103 662 |

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| PhD positions | 2/5 | -/- | -/- |
| Post.doc positions | -/- | -/- | -/- |
| Permanent positions | -/- | -/- | 3/27 |

***Types of funding***

***Education***

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Core funding from the RCN | 15 758 | 17 278 | 18 301 |
| External funding, RCN | 23 618 | 20 319 | 27 564 |
| External funding EU | 650 | 2 230 | 1 974 |
| External funding, other sources | 82 055 | 77 081 | 57 118 |

**Study programmes BA level**

-

**Study programmes MA level**

-

**Other**

Source: **The Research Council of Norway, Self-assessment report for the institution, 16/12960**

# 4.1 Social Anthropology at the institutional level

## 4.1.1 Organisation, leadership and strategy

Fafo is an institute that carries out applied labour and social science research in both Norway and the rest of the world. Research is organised in four clusters: 1. Labour relations and labour markets, 2. Rights and security, 3. Migration, integration and skills, 4. Welfare and living conditions.

Fafo recruits experienced researchers, PhD candidates and younger scholars with MA degrees. The institute allocates resources to support PhD degrees. In 2014 it recruited two PhDs, in 2015 no new researchers, and in 2016 three permanent researchers. The three research clusters in this evaluation all show good results and have solid national and international funding and networks.

Although anthropological research can potentially be carried out in all clusters, in reality the institute mainly employs sociologists, political scientists and legal scholars. In the self-evaluation, it is highlighted that Fafo is cross-disciplinary and that it does not make sense to separate the disciplines (they use the same self-evaluation for Sociology, Political Science and Anthropology). The self-evaluation does not emphasise Social Anthropology, and the publications submitted include a number written by scholars who are not anthropologists, and that are not very anthropological in focus. During the interview element of the evaluation, Fafo anthropologists referred to it being 'difficult to be a traditional anthropologist' at Fafo and that research is 'more about anthropological techniques (than themes or topics)'.

## 4.1.2 Institutional follow-up of previous evaluations

Fafo was evaluated during the 2010 evaluation of Sociology, but was not allocated any RCN resources of its own. Fafo was not evaluated in the previous Social Anthropology evaluation. Fafo was evaluated in the 2017 review of independent research institutes, and was praised for the high quality of its research output. There were no specific recommendations from that review, but it did recognise that Fafo had itself expressed an ambition to improve the scientific quality and quantity of its output.

## 4.1.3 Resources and infrastructure

Fafo appears to have a well-functioning structure that promotes high-quality research. Despite relatively low core funding from the Research Council of Norway, it has an impressive production of knowledge on Norway and beyond. Researchers at the institute find their own external funding and frequently produce reports and grey papers instead of presenting research in leading journals and academic presses.

For an institute with low core funding, Fafo's performance is excellent. The amount of funding raised by the institute is impressive, with the total for 2016 amounting to NOK 103,662,000, including funding from both public and private Norwegian sources, with 30% from business-sector organisations, in addition to the EU and other international sources. Also, due to the lack of core funding, Fafo researchers tend to spend a large proportion of their time on funding applications. The infrastructural set-up with archives and resources is good overall.

## 4.1.4 Research environment

The organisation organises a series of conferences, including a large biannual conference, and seminars that are well attended by the public and prominent civil servants, politicians, NGOs, journalists and public actors, as well as academics. The results are widely disseminated to the media, and in reports.

Fafo provides extra financial support for writing articles and also for participation in international conferences, and it encourages co-authorship between junior and senior researchers. By paying bonuses, Fafo also encourages researchers to publish in peer-reviewed journals and high-ranked academic presses.

Fafo is an excellent environment as regards encouragement and capacity for applying and being awarded external (both national and international) grants. However, since there are few anthropologists and since a social anthropological focus on research questions appears to be rare, it seems to be a less fruitful environment for anthropologists.

## 4.1.5 Research personnel

Researchers at Fafo range from very senior, experienced researchers to junior researchers at the beginning of their careers. Most are recruited from national institutions because of the requirement for Norwegian language fluency. There has been some difficulty, however, in recruiting PhDs in core areas such as labour relations. The institute has a gender imbalance in favour of women, with a majority of female employees, a female director, a management team consisting of five women and four men, and a board with six women and four men. A clear majority of the researchers are female (total 42 vs. 25 – and, according to Tableau data for Social Anthropologists, 7 vs. 1). A plan is in place for gender equity, including recruitment, training and resource distribution strategies.

Young doctoral students are supported financially and given supervision, and the institute supports international exchange programmes. In 2014 it recruited two PhDs, in 2015 no new researchers, and in 2016 three permanent researchers. In the SWOT analysis, the institute highlights the need for more academically oriented researchers, and a relative lack of senior professorial staff. Finally, Fafo does not have a policy for research or sabbatical leave.

## 4.1.6 Research production and scientific quality

Fafo is explicitly policy-driven and its stated goal is to produce high-quality, policy-oriented research, based on rigorous ethical and scientific standards, for core decision-making parties. Much of the research is commissioned. Three research clusters are submitted for evaluation in the areas of work, labour, refugees, welfare and the 'Nordic Model' (NordMod). They are listed as: (1) Labour Relations and the labour market; (2) Migration and Integration; and (3) Rights and security.

The institute has made significant contributions in these areas, responding to current events such as the EU enlargement, the rise in the number of refugees, human trafficking, changes in pension regimes, and in laws regarding rights and securitisation. Although Fafo is engaged in applied research and much of its production therefore takes the form of 'grey' literature, albeit of rigorous, high quality, its researchers do also publish in scientific journals or with academic publishers. The publications that came with the submission are rather impressive and of a high standard overall. Many of the journal articles are comparative, written collaboratively across different European or Nordic countries. Many use different quantitative and qualitative research methodologies.

Altogether, the listed Fafo researchers in the Social Anthropology data have published 16 chapters and articles, 44% of which appeared in Level 2 journals and publishers and 56% in Level 1. Their scientific impact in relation to the OECD is 1.14455. Taking into consideration that Fafo researchers mainly focus on commissioned policy work, this is very good.

Assessment of scientific quality: 4 – very good

### 4.1.7  Interplay between research and education

Fafo is not an institution that awards degrees, although some researchers lecture at Oslo universities and/or supervise students. There is currently no arrangement for Fafo researchers to teach students at Norwegian universities. The fact that Fafo allocates some resources for master's level researchers to further themselves in the university system narrows the gap between the institute and the teaching environment.

### 4.1.8  Societal relevance and impact

Fafo is clearly outstanding in the area of societal impact. Dissemination takes place through a wide range of media, conferences and publications.

In its self-evaluation, Fafo lists its relevance in relation to three of the six thematic priorities the Norwegian Government has set out in its Long-term plan (LTP): 1) public sector renewal, 2) enabling technologies, and 3) innovative and adaptable industry. Fafo also has a good number of publications within these three thematic priorities.

Fafo has a clear vision for research dissemination to a broader audience, including writing in newspapers, appearing in media and giving speeches and presentations to users of their research. It also has members of national expert commissions in policy areas. As it is funded by users, the knowledge it produces is presented to its users. Fafo's research is thus socially relevant to a very high degree. Research from Fafo has influenced decision-making in a range of institutions at different levels.

The impact studies highlight the importance of the contribution Fafo researchers have made. In the first case, the contribution concerned corporate liability for international crimes, human rights in business and the role of regulation in ensuring that businesses respect human rights. A second case concerned the provision of rapid feedback after the Wenchuan earthquake in China and during subsequent relief processes. It also developed a toolbox for carrying out rapid assessments. The third case highlights Fafo's role in developing assistance programmes for victims of trafficking. It also challenged the false dichotomy between forced and voluntary prostitution. The fourth case study involved industrial relations and, among other issues, the protection of whistleblowers, as well as guidelines on the surveillance of workers. In this area, it was involved in legislation and high-level decision-making. The final case concerned collective bargaining and the private-public pension mix.

### 4.1.9  Overall assessment

Fafo is an outstanding policy-oriented research institute that has carried out a wide range of research on many projects of both national and comparative relevance. The institute is very well structured and carries out an impressive amount of policy-relevant research. Grey literature is widely disseminated, which is praiseworthy for an institute that aims to produce policy-relevant research.

The institute has low core funding and is thus very dependent on its clients. One consequence of this is that it does not have sufficient resources to carry out long-term research or to spend more time writing for top academic publishers. Because all researchers must relentlessly hunt and account for financial resources, this is an environment that works best for the young and hungry. In the long run, those who are academically successful will find other institutes that will offer them better conditions. That researchers must, so to say, put their own food on the table also has the effect that few, if any established senior scholars would consider employment at the institute (a problem that is partly acknowledged in the SWOT analysis).

The panel did not find Fafo to be a fruitful environment for anthropological research. Research themes are indeed relevant, but human and infrastructural resources are scarce for social anthropologists. This could be developed, but the institute would need to adopt a funded strategy for this.

## 4.1.10 Feedback

Fafo is currently not an Institute with much anthropological research and resources. On the other hand, with its current research focus, the institute would benefit from employing social anthropologists. Our recommendations for an otherwise excellent institute would thus include:

- Strengthening its anthropological research staff and output
- Developing a needs analysis with a funded strategy for how to include anthropological research and anthropological knowledge
- Increasing the number of senior/tenured researchers in general, but anthropologists in particular
- Investigating structures that encourage researchers to develop (or regain) their identities as anthropologists
- In the next RCN evaluation, we highly encourage Fafo to submit a specific evaluation for Social Anthropology and not a joint one with Sociology and Political Science.

# 5  Nordland Research Institute

| Nordland Research Institute | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Units included in the evaluation of social anthropology | - Nordland Research Institute | Listed researchers | | 6 |
| | | Listed research groups | | 0 |
| | | No. of researchers in listed research groups | | 0 |
| Other units of the faculty (institution) | | *Training, recruitment and academic positions* | | |
| | | | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** |
| | | *No. of PhD graduated at the institution per year* | | |
| | | Male/Female | -/- | 1/- | -/- |
| | | Total per year | - | 1 | - |
| *R&D expenditures and sources of funding (1000 NOK)* | | *No. of positions announced / No. of qualified applicants per year\** | | |
| | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | |
| *Funding of the institution* | | PhD positions | 1/3 | -/- | -/- |
| Total expenditures | 30 236 | 29 802 | 32 915 | Post.doc positions | -/- | -/- | -/- |
| *Types of funding* | | Permanent positions | 2/2 | 6/17 | 5/19 |
| | | *Education* | | |
| Core funding from the RCN | 5 330 | 4 667 | 4 811 | **Study programmes BA level** |
| External funding, RCN | 9 127 | 10 029 | 7 684 | - |
| External funding EU | 0 | 0 | 0 | **Study programmes MA level** |
| External funding, other sources | 26 719 | 21 684 | 32 675 | - |
| | | **Other:** * Total numbers for applicants. Two social anthropologists were recruited in 2016. | | |

Source:  The Research Council of Norway, Self-assessment report for the institution, 16/12960

# 5.1 Social Anthropology at the institutional level

## 5.1.1 Organisation, leadership and strategy

Nordland Research Institute (NRI) was originally founded in 1979 as a private foundation. It subsequently became a limited company, co-owned by Nordland University (51% of shares) and the Nordlandsforskning Foundation (49% of shares). NRI has 47 employees, six of whom are social anthropologists. NRI is led by a managing director who is responsible for an administrative staff of four: an HR consultant, an economy consultant, a communication consultant and a project controller. This organisational structure facilitates the applied projects carried out by the institute.

Social Anthropology is one of four disciplinary specialisms in this evaluation (plus Geography, Sociology and Economics) of the institute, but other disciplines are also represented at NRI, such as political science, education, engineering, agriculture, fisheries etc. Research takes place in close cooperation between the social science disciplines. NRI has established three interdisciplinary research units led by research directors. They are Environment and Community; Welfare, Health and Work; and Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Regional Development.

In addition, there are seven research groups that cut across the research units. Three of them are prioritised as strategic research areas: Green Shift; Welfare Service Innovation; and Entrepreneurship and Innovation.

Social anthropologists contribute to Green shift and Welfare Service Innovation.
The researchers attached to Green Shift contribute to a Nordic Centre of Excellence on Adaptation to Climate Change in Reindeer Herding.

## 5.1.2 Institutional follow-up of previous evaluations

Social anthropological research at NRI was not included in the previous evaluation. In 2010, 'Sociological research in Norway' raised the strategic issue of whether NRI should emphasise sociology or multidisciplinarity, and recommended that publication profiles be improved.
To follow up, NRI decided to base itself on commissioned research in order to be responsive to 'principals' and what the Government see as relevant research and prioritised societal challenges.

The institute's goal is to be in a position to apply for Centre of Excellence, or Project Excellence funds by 2020. To achieve this, it has particular focus on: 1. Increasing the project portfolio; 2. Ensuring and supporting academic publications; 3. Building professional networks nationally and internationally; 4. Recruiting researchers with relevant competence.
These strategies are an appropriate response to the recommendations.

## 5.1.3 Resources and infrastructure

NRI assists each research group by providing: access to specialised databases (PANDA, register data); access to literature and libraries; analytic software (Quest Back, SPSS, NVivo etc.); renewing computers and other basic infrastructure every three years; continuously upgrading databases and software.

NRI is a limited company and totally dependent on external funding. NRI's annual report for 2016 states that 12% of its income came from core funding from the RCN, 58% from commissioned research (the latter consists of 61% funding from the RCN, 16% from Regional Research Funds in Norway, and 13% from the municipal sector), while 28% of external funding comes from research contracts based on open tenders (consists of funding from ministries and municipalities). The last 2% were from Interreg and EU grants.

The researchers operate in a highly competitive environment where success depends to a large degree on high academic profiles. The researchers compete against leading national and international

educational organisations, other research institutes, and consultants (but they also collaborate with some of these organisations).

Researchers are entitled to use 72% of their working time on externally funded projects. The remaining 28% is termed 'internal time' and is spent on initiating projects, meetings, administrative tasks etc.

### 5.1.4  Research environment

The institution's three programmes have high societal relevance, and the institute provides support for researchers applying for grants. The focus on conducting externally funded projects and securing new ones limits the time available for academic activities, such as seminars across the various research projects on cross-cutting and/or disciplinary issues and challenges.

The Green Shift research group has a strong collaboration with Norwegian and international universities (Nord University, Brown University, University of Tromsø, Bergen, Luleå), and a number of leading research institutes on climate change/nature-based industries in Norway and abroad (CICERO, Rokkan senteret, Stockholm Environmental Institute, Stockholm Resilience Center).

### 5.1.5  Research personnel

NRI follows the guidelines for gender equality set out in the Norwegian Limited Liability Companies Act. There is a preponderance of female researchers, and of women in leading positions. Over time, the intention is to achieve a better balance.

Recruitment on the basis of Scandinavian and English language competence is international; most recruits come from Scandinavia. There have been new permanent appointments in each of the past few years. In the past two years, the institute has recruited two social anthropologists and it now hosts six social anthropologists.

NRI advertises open positions once or twice each year to check the recruitment market, and to raise its profile. Over the pasts three years, the number of applicants has increased from 2 in 2015 to 19 in 2017. During this period, NRI has recruited 13 new researchers to permanent positions.

### 5.1.6  Research production and scientific quality

The 10 most significant publications provided for the anthropologists are chapters of edited books, articles in specialist journals or PhD theses. All of them are Level 1 publications. The impact of these publications is very low, although the quality of the publications submitted to the evaluation was reasonably good.

The anthropologists at this institute carry out applied studies on Climate/Environment and the Welfare Society. The anthropologists at the institute have published in specialised anthropological journals. The number of such anthropological publications is low, however.

Assessment of scientific quality: 3 – good

### 5.1.7  Interplay between research and education

NRI is not involved in teaching, other than supervising PhDs – with an output of completed PhD projects of 1–4 per year.

The panel suggests that Norland Research Institute could offer research internships/projects to students enrolled in master's programmes in Environment, Social Welfare and Entrepreneurship and Innovation, in Norway and elsewhere in Europe, to increase young scholars' familiarity with the institute's interesting research portfolio.

### 5.1.8 Societal relevance and impact

NRI has some overall goals for knowledge exchange by 2020, including: making knowledge exchange part of every researcher's job; including knowledge exchange in every project applied for (up to 10% of funds); participating actively in media (radio, newspapers, popular science); distributing an 'Expert list' to help media find someone who can comment on news.

One anthropological case study was provided: 'Climate change adaptation: Impact on policy and awareness'. It describes a number of funded projects examining the impacts and consequences of climate change for local communities, municipalities and primary industries (agriculture, fisheries, reindeer herding and aquaculture) in Norway. A bottom-up approach is deployed to identify particular local concerns. At the core of these projects are questions about whether and how the local level actors adapt to climate change and how climate change is linked to and interacts with changing socioeconomic, political and cultural conditions. In this field, the impact of the social anthropologists at the institute has been remarkable, including through the participation of a professor of anthropology in the IPCC, the involvement of several anthropologists in multiple assessment reports for the Arctic Council, as well as in Norwegian policy debates and commissions on climate change. The impact of the research is seen in changes to municipal plans and national / international adaptation policy, and increased knowledge about climate change, nationally and across sectors.

### 5.1.9 Overall assessment

The main objective of NRI is to be a good research institute and a preferred partner in national and international research cooperation.

However, NRI is a relatively small player in a competitive market based on tendering for research. This enables flexibility but also entails problems in terms of cash flow, long-term stability and organisational culture and history. The institute is highly dependent on external funding, which is also reflected in a number of the weaknesses presented in the SWOT table, notably the problem of projects being short-term, the lack of funding for the design of studies, and the problem of rejection rates.

The Social Anthropology produced is very closely tied to the intentions and timescale of the funders. Attempts are made to provide a local (emic) point of view on national policies and plans. The academic achievements of the anthropologists are minimal, with no Level 2 publications, suggesting that the institute is not conducive to high achievement in their research field.

### 5.1.10 Feedback

The panel proposes that the institute seek further core funding, freeing it from primarily having to work on externally funded projects. This would allow the institute to recruit internationally and undertake cross-cutting anthropological research based on insights from its ongoing and past project portfolio.

- The panel also advises the social anthropologists at NRI to publish in more general (as opposed to special-subject) periodicals and book series. In addition, edited collections from NRI conferences and monographs might be worth aiming for.
- The panel further recommends that anthropologists working at Nordland Research Institute consider working more closely with their colleagues in other institutions, such as the Domestication Programme at the University of Oslo, to generate more synergies in knowledge production.
- To conduct these additional tasks, the panel recommends that the institute find ways to support sabbaticals to further strengthen the academic impact of the applied studies conducted at the institute.
- The institute could further strengthen research collaboration with similar interdisciplinary research programmes in Europe to facilitate access to EU funds.

- Finally, the panel recommends Nordland Research Institute to establish relationships with relevant master's programmes to enable internships and junior research projects and increase the visibility of its highly relevant research among young scholars.

# 6 Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences/Faculty of Landscape and Society

| Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences (2014-2016)/ Faculty of Landscape and Society (2017–) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Units included in the evaluation of social anthropology | - Dept. of International Environment and Development Studies, Noragric | Listed researchers | 7 |
| | | Listed research groups | 1 |
| | | No. of researchers in listed research groups | 7 (10 CVs) |
| Other units of the faculty (institution) | - Dept. of Economics and Business<br>- Dept. of Landscape Planning (ILP) | *Training, recruitment and academic positions* | |

| | | | | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *No. of PhD graduated at the institution per year* | | | | | | |
| Male/Female | | | | 0/- | 1/- | -/1 |
| Total per year | | | | 0 | 1 | 1 |

*No. of positions announced / No. of qualified applicants per year*

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| PhD positions | 0/0 | 0/0 | 0/0 |
| Post.doc positions | 0/0 | 1/7 | 0/0 |
| Permanent positions | 0/0 | 0/0 | 0/0 |

*R&D expenditures and sources of funding (1000 NOK)*

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Funding of the institution* | | | |
| Total expenditures | 34 436 | 25 887 | 23 391 |
| *Types of funding* | | | |
| Core funding from the Norwegian gov. | 14 134 | 15 359 | 14 594 |
| External funding, RCN | 8 584 | 4 823 | 8 523 |
| External funding EU | 0 | 4 880 | 3 827 |
| External funding, other sources | 10 283 | 5 220 | 3 740 |

*Education*

**Study programmes BA level**

- International Environment and Development Studies

**Study programmes MA level**

- International Development Studies
- International Relations
- International Environment Studies

**Other**

**Source: The Research Council of Norway, Self-assessment report for the institution, 16/12960**

# 6.1 Social Anthropology at the institutional level

## 6.1.1 Organisation, leadership and strategy

Noragric has undergone reorganisation and has been a fully-fledged department of the Norwegian University of Life Sciences since 2005 - the Department of International Environment and Development Studies. A subsequent merger with the Norwegian College of Veterinary Medicine in 2014 led to the establishment of three faculties at the university, one being the Faculty of Social Sciences, to which the department belonged from 2014 to 2016. It still has its own board, however. In 2017, the department was merged with the Department of Landscape Planning in a new faculty of Landscape and Society. This appears to have undermined some existing leadership structures and deprived the department of its own administrators. The university has adopted a more centralised model of governance for personnel, administrative and financial matters. This restructuring and associated lack of decision-making power at department level, and the weak position of the social sciences in the university cannot be optimal for a concerted focus on research. In 2017–2018, a new 'strategy process' will be carried out by the university, faculty and department. As regards the future development of the department, a name change, for example to the School of Global Studies, has been discussed.

The department has a prominent international profile and a clear thematic strategy. It is divided into four research clusters under which academic staff are organised: Climate, Agriculture and Development; Environmental Governance; Conflict, Human Security and Development; Rights, Accountability and Power in Development. The clusters are thematic, interdisciplinary forums for knowledge exchange and the development of research initiatives. The research strategy is intended to combine critical social science with applied research, a combination that is successfully achieved, as is evident from the publications submitted. According to its submission, the department's long-term aim (2014–2018) is to become a leading academic institution in Norway in terms of producing and sharing knowledge about international development and the environment. The focus is on the developing world and southern Europe. From its publications, it is evident that the department encourages a good deal of international research collaboration. Indeed, the submission reports a long – and impressive – history of international collaboration, particularly with the Global South, as well as development cooperation with INGOs and Norwegian NGOs. It has also enjoyed considerable success in generating external income.

## 6.1.2 Institutional follow-up of previous evaluations

Following the Development Studies evaluation in 2007, the department expanded its definition of development to include globalisation as a process linking North and South, East and West, and it increased its focus on global environmental and climate changes and on international relations. Work on global issues, such as human environmental security relations, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and on international relations, was strengthened. The department also followed the advice to obtain funds from open calls, always insisting that quality and relevance are interrelated, and that development research should have a distinct place in Norway's research policy, not just in its aid policy. It prioritised social science recruitment, while maintaining interdisciplinary competence across the ecological and agricultural sciences.

The department has expanded its PhD and post-doctoral programmes. A comparative evaluation of Geography in 2011 by the RCN highlighted the leading role Noragric plays in Norway and its strong international networks, while recommending more national networking. This was subsequently achieved by establishing a national network, with three major conferences being held during the period 2013–15, led by the University of Bergen and Noragric. Generally, these changes appear to have enhanced the research environment.

### 6.1.3  Resources and infrastructure

The department faces funding challenges, with only two-thirds of its required annual income being funded by the university grant, and it has to raise funds externally, a challenge it manages to deal with successfully. The result is work overload, however. Much of the research funding comes from the Research Council of Norway and the EU, and the department has partnered very major, externally funded, collaborative programmes recently, with extensive international networking. Expanding and diversifying the department's sources of research funding has been a high priority during the period 2014–2018.

The institution's total R&D funding is about NOK 30.5 million, of which an impressive 52.45% (NOK 16 mill.) comes from external funding. Total expenditure on salaries and running costs is just over NOK 23 million. Core funding comes from the Norwegian Government through a university grant. It also receives funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A substantial amount comes from the RCN, and the rest from the EU, various foundations, INGOs and major national NGOs.

The University Library is unfortunately underfunded, so that departments have to use external income generation to co-fund journal subscriptions and books.

In terms of personnel, the department's main resources for research are staff time, including participation in networks and collaborative arrangements, and administrative capacity for research management. Time is secured through external income and the university allocation, and supported through an emphasis on protected time and sabbaticals. Participation in academic networks is funded through 'competence funds', taken from departmental surpluses from externally generated income.

### 6.1.4  Research environment

The department's goal is to explore central theoretical issues in international development studies, the social sciences and Social Anthropology. The research cluster RAPID, within Noragric, has also been a forum for discussion of the work and writings of group members. It organises seminars and discussions of group members and external scholars' work, translating common interests into research proposals. The group has read and discussed the writing of group members at its meetings. This has also been part of a broader strategy in all the research clusters to read unpublished work in order to make recommendations for improvements and thereby increase the likelihood of publication.

The department regularly welcomes visiting PhD researchers from partner universities in the South in sandwich arrangements, who normally spend three to six months at the department.

### 6.1.5  Research personnel

There are three female and 12 male full professors in the department, and much effort is currently being put into creating a better gender balance. The aim is to reach 40% female representation among both academic and administrative staff. To achieve this, the department has strengthened its emphasis on research leave (or sabbaticals) based on the general norm of every seven years, and every five years for female associate professors. Two female staff have attained professorships during 2013–2016 (and two men). Four female (Associate) Professor IIs have been recruited, partly utilising gender equality funding from the Norwegian University of Life Sciences, and they contribute to research, supervision and doctoral training.

As a rule, when making new appointments, the department offers permanent associate professor positions through open recruitment, with a career path to a professorship. Of five permanent staff recruited during 2014–2016, two came from national and three from international institutions. One of the new appointments was to a position as professor and four to positions as associate professors (one

of whom has since been promoted). Excellent appointments are said to have been made, and new staff are said to be making vital contributions to the academic environment.

## 6.1.6  Research production and scientific quality

The publications submitted are uniformly impressive and of excellent quality, and they make important contributions to the state of our knowledge. Research has focused upon rights, accountability and power: how different groups have gained, lost or retained access to key resources such as land, water, forests, and how they did so. There is also a focus on the governance and management of non-renewable resources, such as oil, gas and coal.

The empirical documentation of the research on which the submitted articles/books are based is exemplary, the level of critical thinking is high, the contextualisation in relation to the existing literature is impressive and the topics chosen for research seem to be important. The two books on the publication list, one on human rights in Africa, the other on water rights in South Africa, both constitute important landmarks. The articles are published in leading journals and make an original contribution to international debates – for example, on farm workers in Limpopo, land rights in Mozambique, trade unions and labour relations in the Niger Delta, Nigeria. Other articles were intriguing and revelatory, like the article on maize growing in the Andes in the face of climate change, or on forest rights in Zanzibar. There is some evidence of interdisciplinary research in the articles and one of the books. The overall proportion of Level 2 publications is 34%, while scientific impact relative to OECD levels is rather low, at 0.18.

Assessment of scientific quality: 4 – very good

## 6.1.7  Interplay between research and education

Within the research clusters, education and research are integrated in teaching and supervision, and education initiatives have been an important impetus for further academic recruitment and development. PhD and postdoc positions are funded through the university or via projects. The department also normally offers a six-month period to postdoc researchers for contributions to other academic activities, in particular teaching. Postdocs have a mentor, follow a research plan and are included in the department's personnel routines, such as appraisal interviews. The department has a policy whereby it seeks to facilitate participation by postdocs in applications for new research projects.

Approximately 35 PhD students are said to be enrolled in the department's PhD programme. In February 2017, three PhD positions were advertised after consultation among academic staff. Policies to facilitate academic careers and gender balance among professors were also taken into account in that connection. The department offers a fourth year to PhD candidates for enrolment in other academic activities, particularly teaching (it is alone at the university in doing so, and the arrangement is under pressure). Impressively, PhD candidates are recruited through institutional collaboration with universities in the Global South (though funding for this has decreased with the ending of the 'Quota' funding programme of the Norwegian Loan Fund for Education). There is a master's programme in International Development Studies; the first English-language bachelor programme in Norway (since 2005); a master's in International Environmental Studies; and the country's only master's programme in International Relations. Through its eight NORHED programmes, the department regularly welcomes visiting PhD researchers from partner universities in the South in sandwich arrangements, who normally spend three to six months at the department. There is a clearly set-out postgraduate programme, in addition to one bachelor's degree programme, and three master's degrees programmes. In 2016, five PhDs were awarded degrees, one of whom was an anthropologist. In 2017, there were two anthropologists out of 11.

All in all, then, the integration of postgraduate teaching and research is impressive.

### 6.1.8  Societal relevance and impact

Only one case was submitted separately. Entitled 'Flows and Practices: Integrated Water Resource Management in Africa,' the case raised questions about the appropriateness of the water management framework for five nations in Africa: Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe. The paper the study produced was the most highly cited paper in the 2016 Impact Factor window from the *International Journal of Water Resources Development.* The project was international, bringing together Northern and Southern universities, and it was led by Noragric. It included a large number of master's students. Findings were disseminated widely in three countries in the South, which led to collaboration with the Water Research Commission in South Africa. These findings have also been published in journals, and a book is in progress. Several policy papers have also been circulated in different countries.

In addition, two other programmes have had impact: 'RCN – In the shadow of a conflict: Impacts of Zimbabwe's land reform on rural poverty and development in Mozambique, South Africa and Zambia' and 'RCN - Land, Water and Poverty in South Africa'.

It should be noted that the department makes a signal contribution to two of Norway's priority areas - Climate, environment and clean energy, and World-leading academic groups.

### 6.1.9  Overall assessment

This seems to be a group of people who are committed to the Social Anthropology of Development, focusing their work on practical measures to improve the lives of people in the developing world. The emphasis is applied rather than analytical, and ethnographic rather than theoretical. Within this specific remit, the quality is high.

### 6.1.10 Feedback

Overall, the department is doing extremely well, and even expanding, under very trying circumstances. It should thus continue its efforts to promote research in the Global South in particular, and in collaboration with universities there as well as in Europe and the North. With this in mind, the panel makes the following recommendations:
- Further diversify the outlets in which researchers publish, and aim in particular for higher-profile journals.
- Diversify the links with other institutions and research groups.
- In order to establish a higher international profile, engage with 'environment' and 'development' as these concepts are configured and reconfigured in the wider world of Anthropology.

# 6.2 Research group: RAPID

### 6.2.1  Introduction

RAPID – an acronym of Rights, Accountability and Power in Development – is a relatively small research cluster (four assistant and full professors) within the Department of International Environment and Development Studies (Noragric). In the overall submission for the department, the cluster is defined from a disciplinary point of view as engaging in research in Social Anthropology and development studies. The contributions indicate that this includes sub-disciplines such as legal anthropology (research on rights), economic anthropology, political anthropology and labour studies. A good deal of the research is qualitative. The cluster clearly fosters a high-quality research environment and produces high-quality research, judging from the publications submitted.

According to its submission, RAPID is particularly interested in when, if and how different groups gain, lose or retain access to key resources such as land, water or forests. It also focuses on the governance and management of non-renewable resources such as oil, gas and coal and has in recent years worked on the politics of mineral extraction in Latin America and Africa. Within the university's broader themes, RAPID explores how power relations structure local struggles for social and environmental justice, and the unplanned consequences of legislation (e.g. for land, water or environmental protection). One central topic that was recently studied comparatively concerns rights-based approaches to water and who has access to water. The cluster always has an impressive array of international partners when it examines these issues.

## 6.2.2 Establishment and development

RAPID was formed in 2008 as part of a more general reorganisation of Noragric's research groups. The purpose of the research clusters is to bring together academic staff and PhD candidates who share related theoretical frameworks and research interests. The core group of RAPID brings diverse social science – mainly social anthropological – approaches to the framing of major themes in development studies. Based upon members' research interests and theoretical orientations, RAPID has focused on rights, accountability and power. It has contributed to a number of international research projects and consultancies focused on key contemporary international development issues.

## 6.2.3 Task and organisation

RAPID is one of four research groups/clusters within the Department of International Environment and Development at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. It aims to introduce a critical and largely anthropological view of processes of development, currently with a particular focus on Water Resource Management (mainly in Africa), the Extractive Industries (mainly in Latin America), and Energy (again mainly in Latin America). In relation to these themes, RAPID is a forum for discussing the work of group members, its task being to organise seminars and discussions of members and external scholars' work, and to formulate research proposals.

## 6.2.4 Organisation, leadership and strategy

RAPID's leadership consists of an elected chair and a deputy, the former participating in the departmental research committee. The role of the chair is to convene meetings, set an agenda, follow through on decisions made and report to the research committee. Members of the cluster are all self-selected, though with a strong preference for PhD candidates to follow the cluster of their main supervisor. Academic staff may participate in, and collaborate across, several research clusters. As such, it is a loose and flexible leadership structure, geared towards allowing high-quality research to develop organically, rather than being strongly centrally led.

Both research and teaching take place within the cluster, particularly at graduate level. Three new PhD appointments announced in February 2017 follow the research priorities (and projects) of the cluster.

There is a strong emphasis in the self-assessment on the role of the group in promoting intellectual discussion and exchange, with the aim of improving the publication rate and developing research grant proposals. How this works in practice, and the specific strategic focus of activities, is rather vaguely presented in the self-assessment. In terms of funding, there is a strong commitment to securing outside funding, but the core activities of the group are funded centrally by the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. The institution appears to be providing a safe administrative support environment to allow the research group to develop.

## 6.2.5  Research personnel

In 2016, there were two postdocs and one PhD student listed in Rapid, in addition to four full-time members of staff (two associate and two full professors), with a total of 11 publications between them. Excluding the PhD student, this is a ratio of 11:6 (just under 2). In the cluster, women have had prominent leadership positions in the last two major comparative projects/programmes.

With such small numbers, it is difficult to talk of gender ratios. A number of staff members have held other important administrative roles within the university and department, and are well placed to take RAPID's agendas forward. Although the research group as a whole appears to have a clear international focus, with a strong network and collaboration links, and a range of personnel who have trained in different institutional and national contexts, the strategy for broadening recruitment appears to be rather limited. This may be a matter of interpretation, as the self-assessment appears to refer to the recruitment of existing researchers at the university to the group, rather than external recruitment. This gives reason to question the medium- and long-term health of the group. Does it command the resources, and particularly posts, required to allow it to expand and/or replace group members?
Like the group as a whole, the career development of researchers at all levels appears to be rather loose, although the more formal needs may be dealt with at departmental or institutional level.

## 6.2.6  Research production and scientific quality

The submission's stated research aims and foci are backed up by the submitted publications, the overall quality of which is impressive, making an important contribution to the state of our knowledge. Gender perspectives have been incorporated into virtually all the projects. There is also evidence of a very high degree of international collaboration both with the Global South (most recently, with five African countries) and with European universities in different countries, with some research being funded by the EU.

The RAPID articles/books submitted display a high level of critical thinking, they are well contextualised in relation to the existing literature, and the topics chosen for research seem significant. The two books on the publication list, one on human rights in Africa, the other on water rights in South Africa, both appear to be important landmarks. The articles are published in leading development journals, and a number of them make original contributions to ongoing debates, for example the articles on farm workers in Limpopo, land rights in Mozambique, and trade unions and labour relations in the Niger Delta. Other articles were intriguing and revelatory like the article on maize growing in the Andes in the face of climate change, on forest rights in Zanzibar, or on human rights, violence and resource allocation in Columbia.

Inevitably, given the orientation of the research group, the central driving agenda for the work of the group is the relationship between state-led, NGO-led or business-led development processes and their reception/resistance/accommodation at local levels. The corpus of work presented shows a high commitment to the value of ethnography in exploring these processes.

Some submissions are local and subtly ethnographic, rather than dwelling on the complexities and dilemmas of the locals' engagement with the supralocal. Others locate the dynamics of particular contexts within broader socioeconomic and theoretical contexts to present a rich vision of how an anthropological approach can help us to understand development contexts. Yet others use an ethnographic sensibility to show how particular theoretical approaches can shed new light on, but also begin to help mitigate the problems of resource extraction and management. As a corpus, then, the output constitutes an important contribution to the ongoing interdisciplinary area of development studies, particularly the anthropological critique of planned development. It is clear from the CVs that some members of the cluster are distinguished scholars with international reputations.

### 6.2.7 Networking

RAPID is keyed into some very strong and internationally leading research networks, and it also works well and strongly with local national networks, both academic and practitioner/user networks. There is a strong emphasis on internationalisation within the group, and particularly for the more junior members (PhDs, postdocs).

### 6.2.8 Interplay between research and education

Members of the RAPID group use their own research actively in the teaching of courses at bachelor, master and PhD levels. Research informs the thematic and theoretical orientation of courses and programmes. The teaching is thus largely research-led, presumably teaching specific optional courses within the broader fields of Development Studies. Many graduate students are funded and participate in research projects. Collaboration with students has also resulted in various publications in peer-reviewed journals and in edited volumes. Teaching loads are heavy, particularly because lecturers aim to be up-to-date with recent developments in the field.

The group as a whole appears to be largely geared towards research rather than teaching, though it does make an important contribution at all levels, from BA to PhD. It is not clear from the self-assessment who exactly does the bulk of the teaching.

### 6.2.9 Societal relevance and impact

Only one impact case was provided. It is entitled 'Flows and Practices: Integrated Water Resource Management in Africa.' This particular case raised questions about the appropriateness of the water management framework for five nations in Africa: Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. The paper the study produced was the most highly cited paper in the 2016 Impact Factor window from the International Journal of Water Resources Development. The project was international, bringing together Northern and Southern universities, and it was led by a member of RAPID. It included a large number of master's students. Findings were disseminated widely in three countries in the South, which led to collaboration with the Water Research Commission in South Africa. These findings have also been published in journals, and a book is in progress. Several policy papers have also been circulated in different countries. In the panel's view, this was among the stronger impact case studies submitted to the evaluation, demonstrating substantive engagement and impact in the sphere of water resource management.

In addition, two other programmes have had impact: 'RCN – In the shadow of a conflict: Impacts of Zimbabwe's land reform on rural poverty and development in Mozambique, South Africa and Zambia' and 'RCN - Land, Water and Poverty in South Africa'. Both appear to have been conducted by RAPID. There is clear evidence of widespread engagement with non-academic partners: NGOs, government policymakers etc., and a commitment to this kind of dissemination.

It should be noted that the research group makes a signal contribution to two of Norway's priority areas - Climate, environment and clean energy, and World-leading academic groups.

### 6.2.10 Overall assessment

RAPID is a strong and committed group of scholars who work together on a range of interlocking agendas around the politics of development in relation to different types of resources, mainly water, energy and minerals.

The structure of the group is loose and flexible, which has the advantage of enabling research agendas to develop organically from the interests and preoccupations of particular scholars, although this does raise issues about the long-term development of the group. The group has been in existence for nearly 10 years, and has produced some really outstanding research. There does not appear to be an

imminent problem, but there may be a need for more structured strategic thinking to secure the group in the medium to long term.

Assessment of research group: 5 – excellent

## 6.2.11 Feedback

Despite its small size, the group is doing well, and even expanding, under very trying circumstances. The panel recommends that the group:

- Continue its efforts to promote research in the Global South, in particular through collaboration with universities there as well as in Europe and the North.
- Consider expanding by diversifying its regional or thematic focus – or both.

# 7 Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Faculty of Social and Educational Sciences

| **Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Faculty of Social and Educational Sciences** | | |
|---|---|---|

| Units included in the evaluation of social anthropology | - Dept. of Social Anthropology | Listed researchers | 11 |
|---|---|---|---|

| | | Listed research groups | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|

| | | No. of researchers in listed research groups | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|

| Other units of the faculty (institution) | - Dept. of Geography<br>- Dept. of Sociology and Political Science<br>- Dept. of Social Work<br>- Norwegian Centre for Child Research at the Dept. of Education and Lifelong Learning |
|---|---|

***Training, recruitment and academic positions***

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***No. of PhD graduated at the institution per year*** | | | |
| Male/Female | -/- | -/1 | -/2 |
| Total per year | - | 1 | 2 |

***No. of positions announced / No. of qualified applicants per year***

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| PhD positions | - | 1/5 | 1/1 |
| Post.doc positions | - | 1/3 | 1/4 |
| Permanent positions | - | - | 1/12 |

***R&D expenditures and sources of funding (1000 NOK)***

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***Funding of the institution*** | | | |
| Total expenditures | 87 029 | 85 986 | 86 136 |
| ***Types of funding*** | | | |
| Core funding from the Norwegian gov. | 68 342 | 68 410 | 65 880 |
| External funding, RCN | 15 944 | 15 547 | 17 494 |
| External funding EU | 846 | 1 418 | 1 696 |
| External funding, other sources | 1 897 | 611 | 1 066 |

***Education***

**Study programmes BA level**

- African Studies
- Social Anthropology

**Study programmes MA level**

- Master of Science in Social Anthropology
- Master of Science in Globalization: Transnationalism and Culture

**Other:** African Studies, Social Anthropology

Source:  The Research Council of Norway, Self-assessment report for the institution, 16/12960

# 7.1 Social Anthropology at the institutional level

## 7.1.1 Organisation, leadership and strategy

Social Anthropology is part of the Faculty of Social and Educational Sciences at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU). The department is organised in a traditional way under a head of department. There are currently 11 senior academic staff and there are plans to recruit two associate professors during 2017–18. The department has nine PhD students. One PhD student graduated in 2015 and two in 2016 (considerably fewer than in geography and sociology, but on a par with political science). A good career path programme is now in place, which is viewed in a positive light in the SWOT analysis.

NTNU prioritises research groups. This has been a positive process for the Anthropology department, but, as acknowledged in the SWOT analysis, they are yet not fully utilised. NTNU has created a special unit for research support and special support for applying for external funding, which, according to the self-evaluation, has increased the number of applications. Structuring work around research groups, also including the PhD students, was a measure taken after the 2011 evaluation. One of their tasks was to better organise research applications and increase publication. A sabbatical system is also in place in order to give researchers space to write and publish. The department is still self-critical, however, as it has not seen a sufficient increase in publications.

The Social Anthropology Department appears to be affected by a lack of resources for highly needed new recruitments. The department's research programme lacks focus and is not forward-looking. Rather it appears to follow the interests and historical engagement of academic staff.

## 7.1.2 Institutional follow-up of previous evaluations

The Anthropology Department was evaluated in 2010. The RCN subsequently allocated resources to strengthen research and awarded it a research project: The Hot Lava Edge of Cultural Flows. The creation of more distinct research groups, internationalisation efforts (for instance inviting distinguished international scholars) and career path structures are also initiatives that ought to be highlighted. Although the department sees these efforts in a positive light, it also emphasises that it has only come part of the way and that, especially when it comes to publication, it wants to achieve more.

In response to the 2010 review, the department has strengthened research groups in African (mainly Ethiopian) Studies, and Organization Anthropology and created a new programme on Mobility and Migration.

## 7.1.3 Resources and infrastructure

The department is a well-funded entity with 76% core funds from the Norwegian Government. Compared to international standards, a lecturer at NTNU has excellent possibilities for carrying out high-quality research. A well-funded sabbatical system provides a solid structure where research sojourns in international research environments are not just encouraged, but partly financed. The faculty provides resources to help with grant applications, which is very positive.

However, the Department of Anthropology appears to be under-resourced with regard to PhD students, compared with sociology. Furthermore, it has only been able to secure one long-term project, which ended in 2014.

### 7.1.4  Research environment

The department has a strategy for improving the research environment. The establishment of the Trondheim Biennial Colloquium in Social Anthropology has made it possible for researchers at the department to invite national and international researchers to discuss empirical research with the aim of publishing a special issue of a journal or an edited volume. Another initiative is a three-year programme funded by the faculty that enables the department to employ three adjunct professors, who have subsequently collaborated on joint applications for research funding.

PhD students are all part of one of the research groups and are supposed to present at the department's research seminars. They are also encouraged, and funded, to participate in conferences at home and abroad.

### 7.1.5  Research personnel

The department currently has 11 senior academic staff who carry out research as part of their ordinary positions (47% of their working hours). At the time of the self-assessment, there was one professor and eight associate professors, with one under review for promotion to full professor. Five of them were 61 years or older at the end of 2017. The rather high age of the associate professors could indicate that the department consists of a group of researchers who by and large have not been sufficiently successful in publishing, which, in turn, may indicate that the environment has not been the most conducive to high-quality research. Current plans for recruitment, the research groups, sabbaticals and a career path plan may help to change that, however.

As indicated above, the department is undergoing a generational shift, with most of the academic staff retiring. A well-directed and strategic plan for this shift is crucial for the continued success of the department. A lively PhD student environment and the planned hiring of junior researchers is a step in the right direction. The department currently has nine PhD students. One PhD student graduated in 2015 and two in 2016.

The faculty has a gender policy, although it is unclear how well it plays out at the departmental level. In the self-evaluation, there is no indication of the female/male ratio at the department.  The faculty's gender, mobility and career path programme appear to be much needed by the department.

### 7.1.6  Research production and scientific quality

The Anthropology Department at NTNU has a 6% publication share within Norwegian Anthropology, and had 13 publications listed in NPI between 2014 and 2016 (20 if affiliated researchers are included). Of these publications, only two book chapters were published at Level 2, resulting in a total publication record (including journals) of 8% in Level 2 and 92% in Level 1. Scientific impact is 0.75 compared to the OECD average (with affiliated researchers, the figure is 0.84). Furthermore, the Anthropology Department publishes much less than the other departments within the social science faculty at NTNU, and shows a significantly negative trend (minus 56%), publishing less from 2011 to 2016. There are thus good reasons for alarm.

Quality is not always visible in bibliometrics. All the submitted publications listed as the ten most important ones are from good to high quality, addressing important, although not that original, topics, within fields such as language, migration, poverty, urban space, teen marriages, land tenure, HIV/Aids, care in ICUs, child studies methods, storytelling and visual arts. With regard to geographic focus, Norway/Europe and East Africa come out strongly. Especially childhood studies, medicine and care, linguistics and migration emerge as more substantial topics among the submitted papers. Of the papers, five appear in Level 1 journals, three are book chapters in edited volumes, and one is not listed (the final article was not submitted, so we have disregarded it).

As pointed out in the self-evaluation, the number of publications is too small, especially taking into consideration that 11 senior academic staff have about 50% of their time available for doing research.

Assessment of scientific quality: 3 – good

### 7.1.7 Interplay between research and education

Senior academic staff normally teach for 47% of their working time, carry out research for 47% of their time and have 6% time for administration. In many ways, this appears to be an optimal situation, facilitating an interesting interplay between lecturers' research and their teaching. In the field of Organizational Anthropology, the department involves students in applied studies defined by stakeholders.

BA and MA students are invited to contact staff and research group members when deciding what topic they will write their theses about. PhD students are requested to participate in a research group. The department aims to establish contacts with manufacturing enterprises, which may enable students to participate in research. The department works together with other Anthropology departments in the country to offer courses to the nine PhD students enrolled in its programme.

### 7.1.8 Societal relevance and impact

The research groups Organizational Anthropology and Mobility and Migration (see Research group evaluation for more information on the latter) are highly socially relevant, with a focus on innovation and adaption within Norwegian manufacturing industry. These groups have established contacts with non-academic partners. The case studies outline various impacts of these studies, which benefit the companies as well as workers from diverse cultural backgrounds.

Within the research group Organizational Anthropology, research on the globalisation of Norwegian industry and the management of multicultural working life addresses the priority area of Innovative and Adaptable Industry. It also researches the movement of people (labour) across national boundaries, demonstrating that mobility and migration are constitutive of livelihoods, communities, economic development, and workplace innovation. The department's contribution has been to research working life actors' awareness and new and innovative ways of thinking about working life. In one of the impact case studies presented (Case Study 2), the purpose of the project was to help a Norwegian company that operates chemical factories all over the world to adapt common procedures and work practices to diverse cultural contexts. The study, which is in its early stages, focuses on implementation. The second case study (Case Study 1) has a rather similar but wider remit – the aim is to collaborate with private companies, and governmental and non-governmental organisations to solve specific problems of communication and cooperation in globalised, multicultural work environments. This project is also at an early stage.

The list of the 10 most important dissemination and knowledge exchanges over the past ten years includes three reports that focus on land and livestock in Ethiopia, two encyclopaedia entries, one note on a dialogue conference (faulty link), one web journal text (journal edited by NTNU) about the research of one staff researcher, one textbook chapter, and, finally, a Facebook entry and a Wordpress blog post about the 'Anthropology days' in Trondheim 2016. To some extent it shows the breadth of the department's work, but it also fails to show any deeper engagement with a broader public.

### 7.1.9  Overall assessment

With 11 senior academic staff and 9 PhD students, Anthropology at NTNU has a rather good basis for both research and teaching. The creation of research groups has been a positive development in the last few years, including senior and junior staff, PhD students, and also potentially MAs and BAs (and thus integrating research and teaching). In the self-assessment, it is acknowledged that the groups have so far not reached their full capacity.

Publishing remains a weak spot for Anthropology at NTNU. The department should continue to work on its publication strategy. Currently, researchers do not publish as much as the top anthropological communities in Norway. Furthermore, although generally of good quality, publications do not appear in level 2 outlets. A strategic approach to increasing publication and publishing in Level 2 channels would benefit the department.

With some exceptions, research at the department is socially relevant, although its impact on society at large is questionable. This could be improved by a better dissemination and communication strategy.

### 7.1.10 Feedback

Anthropology at NTNU seems to be in a reconstruction phase. For this programme to survive, new positions need to be created. The question is whether the department in its current condition will be able to attract academic excellence. New project funding is also needed. A refocusing of the programme on future strengths (possibly in Organizational Anthropology – which appears to be a unique selling point in the Norwegian Social Anthropology landscape) is needed.

- The department should carry out an evaluation of its structures and strategies, with a view to identifying how they can be adjusted to facilitate an increase in the quality and quantity of research output. A strategic approach to increase publications and publish in Level 2 journals and publishers is urgently needed.
- A more pronounced approach to procuring external funding should be put in place.
- Further utilising research groups may be one path to increasing the procurement of funding and publication. However, they should be further strengthened based on well-thought-out strategies.
- Rapidly aging senior academic staff is acknowledged as a problem in the self-assessment. A more pronounced strategy for hiring junior staff is therefore necessary as current researchers retire. Creating junior researcher positions and recruiting postdocs is a feasible path.
- Currently, the department consists of too many male researchers. When hiring new researchers, a strategy for increasing female members of the academic staff should be pursued in order to achieve a better gender balance.
- In order to increase social utility and visibility, clearer strategic goals should be adopted, both in the planning phase of new projects and in the dissemination context. This should be done in dialogue with practitioners. The Mobility and Migration research group and its subprojects Re-lab and 'Adaption' could serve as forerunners and inspiration.

## 7.2  Research group: Mobility and Migration

### 7.2.1  Introduction

The research focus of the group Mobility and Migration is on critically rethinking the relationship between space, time and livelihoods, alongside the current tendency to privilege non-movement over movement. This seems an interesting and worthwhile aim and the group appears to be developing its own distinctive approach and ethos. During the funding period, the network collaborated on seminars,

conferences and joint publications, and hosted distinguished visiting overseas professors. Furthermore, the group brings together individuals within the Department of Anthropology at NTNU working on themes relating to migration, globalisation and work (though the latter is not included in the research group title).

## 7.2.2 Establishment and development

The research group was formed in response to RCN funding for the Norwegian Network on the Anthropology of Mobilities (NAM) 2013–2016. In 2013, three members of staff and a postdoc obtained funding, together with staff at several other research institutes, for the formation of the Norwegian Network on the Anthropology of Mobilities. The NAM funding has now come to an end.

A large conference was held in 2015 and new funding has recently been obtained for research in Japan, Qatar and Oman in cooperation with Norwegian industries. This indicates that the research group is still dynamic and active.

## 7.2.3 Task and organisation

The aim is to engage with other scholarly work on migration and mobility, especially a) interconnections between geographical space, time and social mobility, and b) multicultural working life. The group mainly publishes in English in peer-reviewed scholarly journals, but it also cooperates with and disseminates results to non-academic partners in Norway.

## 7.2.4 Organisation, leadership and strategies

The group leader, a distinguished and experienced anthropologist with a good deal of fieldwork experience in Zambia and Ethiopia, is responsible for strategic development, plans for activities and budgeting, with support from the department and faculty. The group has secured some new funding since the NAM network funding came to an end.

## 7.2.5 Research personnel

Veteran researchers in the group have delivered high-quality research and achieved international standing. The group draws on staff members working on Organizational Anthropology, African Studies, the Anthropology of Christianity and various other interests (e.g. in Ireland, South America). Altogether eight CVs are presented for this group, so the assumption must be that there are eight group members. As far as we could tell from the spreadsheet, two researchers in their 30s are doctoral and postdoctoral students, while the permanent staff are older, 50 plus. There are more men than women. The impression from the spreadsheet is thus that there is a need to recruit more PhDs and younger members of staff. However, the self-assessment reports that, during the review period from 2007 to 2016, recruitment to the field of managing multicultural working life has been 'particularly high' within the group, i.e. five PhD research fellows, three postdoc positions, and one adjunct professorship. More recently, three PhD candidates have successfully defended their dissertations on other topics, two on labour migration, and one on mobility within Tamil transnational families.

## 7.2.6 Research production and scientific quality

Although there appear to be 7–8 members of the group, only four publications were submitted. This obviously affects the final rating. Of the four submissions, we judged one, on the revival of rituals in Zambia, to be outstanding. The other three were very professional, published in good journals, and were interesting. One, on language teaching for Polish migrants, was good though not particularly anthropological, while one, on risk perceptions in the shipping industry, was also good, but did not seem to be directly about 'mobility', and one on Menonites was also good. Judging from their CVs, the

publication record of members of the group is not bad, with all of them publishing in peer-reviewed journals during the review period, although productivity for most of them was generally relatively low.

### 7.2.7 Networking

The group has a wide international academic network, including well-known researchers. The group also has a good number of Norwegian institutes and individual researchers in its network. They make good use of these contacts in their publishing strategy, and also in efforts to secure funding. The group also has good contacts with Norwegian industry.

### 7.2.8 Interplay between research and education

This seems to be good, with high levels of incorporation of teaching and supervision. Group members teach and supervise at all academic levels and, through the group's organisation of conferences and methods courses, students at the department have participated in lectures and been taught by internationally renowned scholars. This appears to be a good by-product of the group's scholarly activities.

### 7.2.9 Societal relevance and impact

The research is clearly relevant to Norwegian society and the goals it has set itself. Of the two impact cases submitted, one project, Re-Lab, has just been established, with only two workshops with industry having been held so far. This project is at an early stage. The second project, Adaption, is also at an early stage. It aims to assist a Norwegian multinational company that operates chemical factories all over the world to adapt common procedures and work practices to diverse cultural contexts. *As these impact cases were submitted for review at the departmental level as well, they are discussed in more detail above.*

### 7.2.10 Overall assessment

Our impression is that this group has the potential to be viable and make a contribution in future. It does need support and funding, however.

Assessment of research group: 3 – good

### 7.2.11 Feedback

The unit would need to grow and recruit younger researchers. It does seem to have a distinct vision and is working on important themes for Norwegian society, although it could easily fall apart without support. Recommendations:

- Create a visionary statement with clear guiding tools for
  - securing research funds.
  - a publication strategy.
  - recruitment.
- Create an encompassing strategy for policy work, including the development of stronger links with Norwegian industry.

# 8 Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences, Centre for Welfare and Labour Research

| Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Science, Centre for Welfare and Labour Research | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Units included in the evaluation of social anthropology | Centre for Welfare and Labour Research (established in 2016) | | | Listed researchers | | 24 | |
| | | | | Listed research groups | | 1 | |
| | | | | No. of researchers in listed research groups | | 7 (9 CVs) | |
| Other units of the faculty (institution) | *Incorporated member institutes:* <br><br> * AFI – the Work Research Institute <br> * NIBR – Norwegian institute for urban and regional research <br> * NOVA – Norwegian social research <br> * SIFO – Consumption Research Norway | | | ***Training, recruitment and academic positions*** | | | |
| | | | | | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** |
| | | | | ***No. of PhD graduated at the institution per year*** | | | |
| | | | | Male/Female | -/- | -/- | -/- |
| ***R&D expenditures and sources of funding (1000 NOK)*** | | | | Total per year | - | - | - |
| | | | | ***No. of positions announced / No. of qualified applicants per year*** | | | |
| | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | | | | |
| ***Funding of the institution*** | | | | PhD positions | 1/16 | 1/9 | 8/56 |
| Total expenditures | - | - | 241 662 | Post.doc positions | -/- | -/- | -/- |
| | | | | Permanent positions | 7/260 | 7/135 | 10/90 |
| ***Types of funding*** | | | | ***Education*** | | | |
| Core funding from the Norwegian gov. | - | - | 82 241 | **Study programmes BA level** <br><br> - | | | |
| External funding, RCN | - | - | 64 335 | | | | |
| External funding EU | - | - | 7 676 | **Study programmes MA level** <br><br> - | | | |
| External funding, other sources | - | - | 86 977 | **Other** PhD candidates at SVA attend PhD programs at a University or University College, but are funded by and do their daily work at SVA. | | | |

Source: The Research Council of Norway, Self-assessment report for the institution, 16/12960

# 8.1 Social Anthropology at the institutional level

## 8.1.1 Organisation, leadership and strategy

The Centre for Welfare and Labour Research at Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences brought together four research institutes, mostly from the 'Institute sector' in Norwegian research, under the banner of SVA, which is now the largest applied social science institution in the country. Dominated by sociologists, SVA has 24 social anthropologists. The four institutes –Norwegian Social Research, The Work Research Institute, Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research and Consumption Research Norway – remain autonomous in the new structure, and social anthropologists are dispersed across the interdisciplinary institutes.

As a result of this 'federal' structure, social anthropologists do not have a specific disciplinary leadership structure or strategy. Instead, the overall objective of SVA is to integrate applied research and teaching that is driven by the researchers themselves – a 'bottom up' process. The strategic aim of SVA is to provide research-based knowledge for (welfare) state institutions and professionals.

There is relatively little explicit discussion of leadership and future strategy within Social Anthropology at SVA. The impression is that strategy emerges from individual research agendas, built into networks such as the Norwegian Network on the Anthropology of Mobilities (NAM) and research areas such as Media and Urban Youth. These individual strategies in turn engage with the agendas of the research funders.

## 8.1.2 Institutional follow-up of previous evaluations

This is a new centre as it is currently configured, so it was not involved in the previous evaluation. However, one of the constituent units, NOVA, was part of the previous assessment and was given two main recommendations:

1. to improve the profile of its publications – by increasing the number of its non-Norwegian language publications, and targeting more Level 2 journals
2. to collaborate more fully with other Anthropology departments

In addition, the lack of students at NOVA was regarded as a problem.

The new institution under which the old NOVA falls is clearly committed to improving the profile of its research, although, since its agenda is driven by applied research within commissioned projects, there are potential limits to this ambition.

There are regular publication seminars and financial support for participation in international conferences. This strategy has manifested itself in the outputs under review, which show a slightly higher proportion of work published in Level 2 outlets (12% compared to >5% in the last evaluation), and a higher proportion of work published in English. All 10 pieces reviewed are in English, while in the last review, 21.2% of publications were in English, the rest being in Norwegian.

The unit signals an overdependence on policy-related funding sources, which have regarded academic publishing as an 'added luxury' – focusing on policy implementation rather than scientific quality. While SVA notes a shift in this attitude, the way it is phrased is more passive and reactive, than proactive. It would be good to see a more concerted strategy that is not so reliant on the shifting attitudes of the funding bodies.

The integration with Oslo and Akershus University College has enabled the centre to begin to contribute to teaching programmes at master's and PhD levels. If/when Oslo and Akershus University

College is granted university status, this will expand the possibilities in this area, and SVA has a concrete ambition to develop courses specifically based on its research.

### 8.1.3  Resources and infrastructure

SVA resourcing is dominated by research grant funding – mostly from the Norwegian Government. This has a number of consequences for its ability to both develop academic careers and produce high-quality international scholarship. The agendas and timelines are inevitably governed by the requirements and orientations of the funders, and there are a number of places in the self-evaluation where the centre appears to be vulnerable to potential or actual changes in funding policy.

It also effectively limits specific Social Anthropology agendas, as the demands of funding bodies often limit the capacity for developing longer-term, fieldwork-based projects.

That said, 44% of the research budget derives from core funding, which is relatively high for a centre oriented towards conducting applied contract research. This should enable a good balance to be struck between project work and academic excellence, and enable more innovative research programming.

A number of ongoing and significant data sets are held by SVA, which commands significant resources.

### 8.1.4  Research environment

SVA holds regular seminars at which researchers present their own work for discussion. There are also writing days, where papers are presented for discussion. Social anthropologists have led the Norwegian Network on the Anthropology of Mobilities (NAM) and hosted seminars and workshops on child, youth and migration issues. There is no policy for sabbaticals for researchers, which makes it hard for social anthropologists to cultivate their disciplinary excellence.

### 8.1.5  Research personnel

SVA has qualified to use the HR Excellence in Research logo and implements the European Charter. SVA has no PhD programme, but approximately 20 PhDs do research on the centre's projects. SVA follows the government regulations on career development. There is a good gender balance within SVA, which is concerned with matching this by improving the recruitment of people with disabilities and from immigrant backgrounds, as well as balancing the age profile. This is a challenge because of a donor-driven research agenda that is often Norway-focused and requires high Norwegian language competence. SVA as a whole is rather 'top-heavy' in its demographic profile, and signals that it needs to counterbalance this with a proactive HR policy of recruiting and developing new talent.

### 8.1.6  Research production and scientific quality

The research produced by SVA social anthropologists is of a good standard relative to the international community. They publish highly relevant articles and reports in specialised journals. However, the output of the centre is mainly oriented towards a national audience, which is reflected in the relatively low percentage of Level 2 publications (12%). Furthermore, overall productivity per staff member appears to be relatively low, at 2.37 publication points per person. That said, the impact rating relative to the OECD is good, at 1.12.

Individual researchers have their own preferences about where to publish, and there does not appear to be any concrete mechanism for directing them towards higher-impact outlets.

The volume of ethnographic research carried out at the centre is impressive. There are three main themes to the research: multiculturalism and integration issues; asylum issues; and minority identity issues. The main research fields are multicultural Oslo – particularly the 'East Side' of Oslo, which seems

to be a very intensive research site for SVA anthropologists – and Rom communities in both Romania and Norway, with a third 'outlier' field among the Kumar caste in Kolkata.

The work on multiculturalism and integration, together with that on asylum issues, bears the hallmark of the policy-driven agendas that come from the funding agencies, but all contributions make substantive attempts to push analytical boundaries. There are some original and important attempts to innovate with methodology (for example, the development of the SPLOT analysis for integrating youth into spatial planning) and theory (for example, the use of Peircian semiotics to think through the relationship between hybridity and tradition among migrant youth). The work on Rom communities is less obviously policy-driven, though it still has a substantive applied agenda, and again contains some important and original contributions to theorising within the discipline. The paper on Nomadology is particularly notable in this respect.

While the work on Oslo could advance the 'state-of-the-art' in migration studies, this last piece on Nomadology has the potential to generate a broader social anthropological debate.

Much of the work conducted within the unit is interdisciplinary, though one might have expected even more given the remit of SVA as a whole. The work highlighted in the self-evaluation on youth, media and technology is an important example.

Assessment of scientific quality: 3 – good

## 8.1.7 Interplay between research and education

SVA makes a number of contributions to master's and PhD programmes, particularly through methods and CPD-type teaching in relation to ethnography and academic editing. As a primarily applied Anthropology unit, this is appropriate and it will seek to expand this remit as Oslo and Akershus University College goes forward to become a university.

The aim of integrating the research institutes into the University College for Applied Sciences was to link the societally relevant research conducted by these institutes to training programmes at the college. The anthropologists have developed innovative methods, including youth ethnography, which they use to train youth researchers as lay ethnographers.

## 8.1.8 Societal relevance and impact

SVA is primarily an 'applied' social science institute, so one would expect a high level of societal relevance and impact. It focuses strongly on issues relating to public sector renewal, with a particular strength in issues relating to migration and integration, but it has also developed expertise in urban youth and technology. There is a high level of 'user' engagement, and a wide range of public dissemination strategies, including research reports, stakeholder workshops, media contributions and participation in public policy commissions.

The social anthropologists make very important contributions to the multidisciplinary research projects by engaging people in defining problems and finding solutions. The centre should be commended for providing opportunities for such participatory and action-oriented research, which clearly has an impact both at policy level and in the communities where the studies are done.

Of the two Impact Case Studies submitted, the UrbAnthOslo submission is the more convincing, in terms of the feed-through from research activities into concrete and observable societal impact, although the ChildMig submission is also strong. While the former can clearly demonstrate an impact of SVA research on the lives and communities of Oslo youth (particularly migrant youth), the latter's impact is mainly evident at the level of policy and legislation.

### 8.1.9  Overall assessment

The unit has a strong commitment to a relatively focused range of research themes, driven largely by the policy agenda in Norway and Oslo. The research is ethnographically sensitive, and, in places, demonstrates to a broader interdisciplinary audience the value of both ethnographic and collaborative approaches to issues concerning youth identity, asylum and urbanism. The work has the potential to be both methodologically and theoretically innovative, though – as the self-assessment implies – SVA social anthropologists perhaps have less time and encouragement to push these agendas compared to those in other units.

### 8.1.10 Feedback

The panel recommends:

- Further integration of the constituent institutes of SVA to generate stronger cross-disciplinary ties and capitalise on the weight of expertise across the unit.
- Developing a stronger specific agenda or strategy for social anthropologists at SVA.
- Developing stronger mechanisms to encourage higher-impact research outputs. The quality of the applied and ethnographic work is strong, but it should appear in higher-profile publications to make more of a contribution to anthropological agendas – for example generating new frameworks for research, key ethnographic insights and/or new methodologies.
- Establishing a strategic and equitable policy for the allocation of sabbatical research leave.
- Developing a more consistent and strategic plan for international collaboration, particularly with European partners, to enable more EU funding, and to raise the profile of the unit within international Social Anthropology.

# 8.2 Research group: Responsible Innovation

### 8.2.1  Introduction

The research group on Responsible Innovation (RRI) is the only research group to be submitted to the Social Anthropology panel. This is a slight anomaly, as the principal researchers in RRI, and the disciplinary orientation of its outputs, are not part of mainstream Social Anthropology, and the overall Social Anthropology submission identified a number of research areas that might more obviously fit the remit of the Social Anthropology panel. That said, the panel has judged RRI on its merits as it sees them.

### 8.2.2  Establishment and development

RRI was established within the Work Research Institute (AFI) – one of the constituent research institutes of the SVA – in 2011. The group has been at the forefront of the development of a pan-European agenda around the assessment and development of responsible innovation in a variety of sectors.

### 8.2.3  Task and organisation

The group is currently dedicated to the development of high-quality publications resulting from consolidated research efforts, and the pursuit of further research funding, particularly in collaboration with EU colleagues.

The group's mandate is to deliver action-oriented and policy-relevant research in areas such as: Ethical, legal and social aspects of emerging science and technologies (ELSA); Governance of innovation

processes; Responsible, participatory and integrated innovation processes; and Risk and uncertainty related to health, safety and environmental consequences of new technology development.

Specific research interests include: the philosophical foundation for sustainability and responsibility; methods and practices of transdisciplinarity, transparency and dialogue; concepts of innovation (such as innovation system approaches) and their implications for responsibility; institutional and structural conditions for (responsible) research and innovation, such as codes of conducts, assessment practices, standards and patents; specific application fields such as biotechnologies, nanotechnologies, geo-engineering and ICTs (including welfare technologies and big data).

### 8.2.4 Organisation, leadership and strategies

The research group has emerged more or less organically from the research of its key member and leader, who over a number of years has consolidated a position as leader of a growing and well-connected research group. The expansion of the group has been based on a clear and logical strategy for grant acquisition, recruitment and internationalisation. There is much to be commended here.

There is a clear leadership structure for what appears to be a small and well-integrated group. The group meets regularly to discuss strategy and publication, and it welcomes national and international experts – both academics and practitioners – to discuss RRI (Responsible Research and Innovation). This helps to facilitate high quality research at present, but the group might wish to consider the implications of its planned future expansion.

There is a clear strategic focus that ties in well with the overall strategic aims of Oslo and Akershus University College as an institution. It is clear that publication and research funding strategies are fully integrated into the strategic aims of the group; they will be central to its development going forward.

### 8.2.5 Research personnel

The key research personnel appear to be very well qualified to deliver high-quality research. They are well connected internationally, as evidenced by the range of co-authors they publish with, and the inclusion of key international partners as members of the research group.

The research group is generally relatively young, particularly in comparison to the rest of HiAO as an institution, and there is very good representation of women within the group. The inclusion of PhD studentships within the research group is a very positive development, encouraging research group renewal and diversification.

The research group draws on multidisciplinary expertise across Oslo and Akershus University College, and has recruited appropriately from within Norway and internationally. Staff are encouraged to present their work and develop their publications, and to engage in international exchanges – all key members of the group have spent time in research environments outside Norway.

### 8.2.6 Research production and scientific quality

The RRI group is inherently interdisciplinary in its research and, according to the self-assessment, it has chosen to submit to the Social Anthropology panel in the absence of a specifically interdisciplinary panel. The main participants in the research group – both those internal to Oslo and Akershus University College and external participants – come from a range of different disciplinary backgrounds, and bring those backgrounds to bear on their research on RRI.

All members of the research group seem to be productive, largely through the production of peer-reviewed journal articles. In the context of Social Anthropology, they would be considered very productive, but this may be tempered by the fact that much of the work produced is co-authored, sometimes with a rather long list of co-authors.

In its publications, the group makes what appear to be significant contributions to an emergent and consolidating interdisciplinary field. Much of the work is aimed at the establishment of agendas within the broader European and international field of RRI, through large-scale reviews that establish patterns and identify agendas. Of particular note here is the article in *Science and Public Policy*, which appears to establish the agenda for research on the basis of science for/with society, rather than the more conventional 'science in society'.

Other work makes more specific contributions, either methodologically – for example, the development of the 'hotspot' database concept in applying RRI to contexts of community sustainability – or in relation to specific technologies: nanotechnology, smart glasses etc.

What emerges, then, is a set of contributions that balance the more 'macro' reviews of policy and practice in RRI with methodological innovation and more empirically driven case studies of the particular dilemmas and ambivalences associated with particular technologies. Some of the research areas identified in the self-assessment appear not to have filtered through to publication yet (for example, the Assisted Living projects), but there is no reason to see this as a cause for concern.

### 8.2.7 Networking

Judging by their co-authorships, the international profile of both listed and other members, participation in EU funding initiatives, and participation in international conferences, the group appears to be highly successful at establishing and consolidating both national and international research networks. The group aspires to become a significant international hub for research on RRI, and with judicious strategising and appropriate support, has the potential to realise this ambition.

### 8.2.8 Interplay between research and education

Teaching is not part of the group's core duties, but it supervises PhD students and mentors postdocs. In addition, approximately 170 bachelor's students in nursing and 30 master's students in occupational theory are involved in gathering data for the Assisted Living project.

Although the RRI is fundamentally a research group, in the self-assessment it refers to links between the group's activities and the broader Oslo and Akershus University College agenda to 'educate ethically aware and critically reflective candidates'. Both directly and indirectly, the group contributes to educating and raising awareness of RRI issues.

### 8.2.9 Societal relevance and impact

During its lifetime, the group has contributed to disseminating RRI in Norway through several meetings aimed at key users, stakeholders and academics.

The case study provided is called PRINTEGER. It contributes to the debate on the nature and mechanisms of scientific integrity by promoting a practice/workplace perspective. This perspective assumes that different ways of organising research will affect scientific integrity and, by extension, the likelihood of misconduct. In their own words, they 'reached out' to the parliamentary committee responsible for revising Norwegian research ethics legislation. Although their recommendations were not adopted in the final drafting of the new Act, they were taken up by two minority parties who cited them verbatim.

Shaping minority opinion might be said to be an impact of sorts, although, if the group could demonstrate a more direct concrete impact on policymaking, this would strengthen their claim for impact.

## 8.2.10 Overall assessment

This is an innovative and coherent, small research group that has clear goals and has been very active. It is a high-quality research group with a very good track record in terms of research funding, very strong international networks and a growing publication profile and reputation. As a relatively small group with some highly motivated and industrious personnel, it is currently reaping the benefits of previous and ongoing research funding and producing some significant, high-quality research.

The group as a whole seems to be on its way up. Given appropriate support, one would expect consolidation and expansion in the short to medium term. This may bring with it vulnerabilities in relation to leadership, career development and funding. It could be that, in the near future, further support is required from Oslo and Akershus University College or other core funders to secure the future of the group.

Assessment of research group: 4 – very good

## 8.2.11 Feedback

The panel recommends:

- The group should consider its relationship with more mainstream disciplinary scholars and scholarship. In particular, in relation to Social Anthropology, it should consider establishing links with scholars working on creativity, risk, innovation, morality, organisations and policy.
- The group should also target these more 'mainstream' disciplinary audiences in its publication strategy. Publishing in higher-profile and less specialised journals would improve the profile of the group. This could also be achieved by publishing edited collections of members' work with international publishers.

# 9 UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education

## UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education

| Units included in the evaluation of social anthropology | - Dept. of Social Sciences (including Sociology, Political Science, Social Anthropology and Community Planning, ISV)<br><br>- Centre for Sami Studies<br><br>- Dept. of Tourism and Northern Studies | Listed researchers | 13 |
|---|---|---|---|

| Listed research groups | - |
|---|---|

| No. of researchers in listed research groups | - |
|---|---|

**Other units of the faculty (institution)**

- Dept. of History, Archaeology and Religious Studies (IHR)

- Dept. of Language and Culture (ISK)

- Dept. of Philosophy (IFF)

- Dept. of Education (ILP)

- Centre for Peace Studies (CPS)
- Centre for Women's and Gender Research
- The Barents Institute

*Training, recruitment and academic positions*

|  | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *No. of PhD graduated at the institution per year* | | | |
| Male/Female | 0/1 | 0/0 | 0/1 |
| Total per year | 1 | 0 | 1 |

*No. of positions announced / No. of qualified applicants per year*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| PhD positions | 3/5 | 5/9 | 1/2 |
| Post.doc positions | 0/0 | 0/0 | 0/0 |
| Permanent positions | 1/1 | 1/3 | 1/3 |

*R&D expenditures and sources of funding (1000 NOK)*

|  | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Funding of the institution* | | | |
| Total expenditures | 30 696 | 35 716 | 37 523 |
| *Types of funding* | | | |
| Core funding from the Norwegian gov. | 29 153 | 33 421 | 35 561 |
| External funding, RCN | 636 | 502 | 327 |
| External funding EU | 46 | 630 | 478 |
| External funding, other sources | 860 | 1 161 | 1 154 |

*Education*

**Study programmes BA level**

- Social Anthropology

**Study programmes MA level**

- Social Anthropology
- Visual Cultural Studies

**Other**

Source: The Research Council of Norway, Self-assessment report for the institution, 16/12960

# 9.1 Social Anthropology at the institutional level

## 9.1.1 Organisation, leadership and strategy

Social Anthropology is part of the Department of Social Sciences within the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education at UiT The Arctic University of Norway. It shares departmental status with Community Planning, Political Science and Sociology. It is responsible for a BA, MA and PhD in Social Anthropology and an MA in Visual Culture Studies. The department is led by a Departmental Board, and Head of Department, who reports to the faculty level. Social Anthropology is concentrated on two main research areas: Comparative Indigenous Studies and Visual Culture Studies, both of which are established as research groups, but neither of which have been submitted to SAMEVAL as such.

Both these research groupings appear to derive from the research agenda of a strong leader. In the case of the Comparative Indigenous group, KURF, the leader has now retired but has been replaced by their own PhD students, thus establishing something of a legacy. Both groupings have broader comparative ambitions. They are better developed in KURF than in VCS, which appears to be rather rooted in the West-Africanist agendas of a small number of its members. This suggests that the past leadership has played a role in consolidating KURF's research specialism, and the self-evaluation indeed points towards a sense of responsibility towards the legacies of former researchers. This suggests that past research successes have been due to individually motivated researchers rather than a coherent strategy. The university has established support arrangements for applying for external funding, but it is not clear to what extent (if at all) they have been used by social anthropologists

The self-evaluation points towards a rather chronic problem of shortage of staff, and in this regard the shift from the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology to the current Social Sciences Department might be welcomed. Attention will need to be paid to ensuring that the demands of Social Anthropology are met within the new structure. There is evidence of recent/current investment in new professorial posts for both KURF and VCS, which is to be welcomed.

There is not much specific evidence of strategies for encouraging high-quality publication or research grant writing, though there is a sabbatical system in operation that rewards scientific productivity/output. The unit is rather modest in its appraisal of its ability to secure external funding, despite both KURF and VCS having attracted substantial funded projects.

## 9.1.2 Institutional follow-up of previous evaluations

The previous review was quite critical of the situation in Tromsø. The review recommended a substantial rethink of the place of Social Anthropology in the North of Norway, bolstering the VCS programme and generally improving both the quality of the research outputs and the level of external grant funding.

The review mentioned a sense of victimhood about the (then recent) merger with Archaeology.

While the faculty level sections of the self-assessment are clearly familiar with the issues raised in the previous review, and refer to a faculty follow-up plan, there seem to be lingering issues in relation to quality, funding, and the place of the VCS programme. In the self-evaluation, they list recommendations from that evaluation, but not how they have dealt with them. They mention a follow-up plan (FS-27/2011), but not how it has been carried out.

It is rather early to assess the full consequences of the more recent restructuring, but the new recruitment plans are promising. The plans for a new journal in the field of VCS are about to come to fruition. More broadly, there seems to be a more optimistic atmosphere among the social anthropologists at UiT.

### 9.1.3 Resources and infrastructure

There are strong repeated references here to lack of staff – which is being remedied, but has clearly hampered the ability of Social Anthropology at UiT to develop. This points towards a potential issue with administration under the previous Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, and is something that will need to be addressed in the new structure. Indeed, there appears to be a pressing need for more administrative support for the social anthropologists, which will be necessary to enable better publication and funding success.

The faculty and UiT as a whole appear to be blessed with good data collections of various types: historical, linguistic and cultural. UiT leads the national infrastructure project, National population register of Norway. It is not entirely clear how this benefits Anthropology. The Social Anthropology group would be very well served by developing a strategy for utilising these resources. Resources at the Giellatekno Centre for Saami Language Technology could benefit the research conducted on Sapmi.

### 9.1.4 Research environment

The research environment and events have been strongly linked to the two main research groupings. Recent conferences have focused on indigenous issues at the 'Whose Knowledge?' conference, and on the visual Anthropology partnership with Cameroon, at the VIAPOLY 'Infernal Paradise' conference. There appears to be a lack of more general ongoing research exchanges, summer schools etc.

### 9.1.5 Research personnel

A generational shift is currently taking place among anthropologists. Two professors have retired and two new members of staff have been recruited. This partly explains the relative lack of external funding applications. Nothing indicates, however, that new staff are hired on the basis of a clear vision or strategy – other than one 'visual' post and one 'indigenous/northern' post.

The key research personnel are clearly leading experts in their respective fields, though these fields appear to be rather narrowly constituted. The unit would benefit from the appointment of new professorial staff, since, although the gender balance appears to be positive at the moment, there seems to be a lack of strong leaders who are able to galvanise the group/s around a more general agenda.

It is not clear how widely personnel are recruited, although there are healthy numbers of non-Norwegian staff within the faculty as a whole. This is in line with UiT's strategy of internationalisation. Training and career development are also highly international, with an expectation that sabbatical leave be taken at non-Norwegian Universities. The procedures for career development are not specifically spelt out, although, given the status 'HR Excellence in Research', one would expect them to be in good shape.

There is a rather generous sabbatical system, which the social anthropologists would do well to take more advantage of to develop their research.

### 9.1.6 Research production and scientific quality

There is a real imbalance here between the KURF and VCS groups as regards their output – in both qualitative and quantitative terms. The vast majority of publications submitted relate to the Indigenous Studies agenda, covering education in Southwest Africa, ecology, gender and identity in Northern Norway, and cosmology in Amazonia. All these contributions are based on strong detailed ethnography, but lack broader comparative or theoretical ambition. To this extent, they are not advancing the state-of-the-art within the discipline to any particular extent.

There is limited external funding overall, but:

Members of KURF participated in an ERC project on indigenous people from 2010–15, from which a number of publications emerged.

The Visual Anthropology group was recently awarded a project together with universities in Maroua and Ngaoundere, building on long-term cooperation on both research and teaching. Within this environment, the group has produced both films and (forthcoming) publications.

Of the ten pieces presented, only one covers VCS, which is a surprising imbalance given the prominence given to VCS in the overall self-assessment. This is partly to do with the focus of the VCS scholars on the production of film: including two films and a 23-part series for Norwegian TV.

The balance between practitioner output and scientific output is always a vexed issue in Visual Anthropology, but the output could be given a higher profile.

Of the ten most important publications listed in the self-evaluation, only three were published after 2013. They list five journal articles in Level 1 journals and two books. The publications are based on solid research in classic anthropological fields. The Level 2 profile is very low (at 14%), and there are no publications in the top 10 journals.

Assessment of scientific quality: 2 – fair

### 9.1.7   Interplay between research and education

The unit teaches research-led masters' programmes in VCS and Indigenous Culture. Otherwise, the unit appears to be committed to research-led teaching through specific optional courses that draw on the work of the unit's researchers. An equal amount of time is allocated to teaching and research, with a nominal 5% of time being allocated to administration.

The self-assessment refers to difficulties with the relatively low status of teaching activity compared with research, and again to the staffing problems that have hampered the unit in recent years. The lower status of teaching could generate imbalances in terms of the teaching allocation, with more teaching being taken on by junior personnel, which is an issue that needs to be addressed.

All PhD students are part of a research group, and scholarships are awarded in order to carry out specific tasks in the research groups. This may not always benefit the PhD researchers and their ability to generate new research fields. Indeed, there appears to be a tendency within the unit to repeat the same research generation after generation.

### 9.1.8   Societal relevance and impact

UiT social anthropologists participate in public debates, are called as expert witnesses in court cases and publish/edit work aimed at the larger public.

The list of the ten most important disseminations includes some rather old material. Media entries are topped by 23 TV programmes (shown on national television 2011–15). Three reports, including one for the International Labour Organisation, are also worth mentioning.

Research at the department is highly socially relevant and some of the researchers make good contributions. Anthropologists at the department would benefit from a clearer dissemination strategy, however.

Of the two case studies offered, the Namibia case demonstrates a strong commitment to non-academic impact. This clearly had an important impact on the structure and status of local-language

education among the Namibian San groups. This is acknowledged by relevant local NGOs, who regard this work as an important resource for taking their agendas forward.

The VIAPOLY case study is less obviously generative of societal impact. It has had educational impact, through the establishment of Visual Anthropology at Cameroonian and Malian Universities, and broader impact through the dissemination and circulation of films at both film festivals and on Norwegian television. Given that this has been a substantial component of the research output of the VCS group as a whole, these impacts should be acknowledged, even though they are not quite the same as societal impact.

## 9.1.9 Overall assessment

The Anthropology environment at UiT is undergoing a generational shift, with two senior professors retiring. This would be a good time to strategically focus on restructuring research. The unit has recently undergone restructuring from a position where it appears to have not entirely thrived, to a new context that might have a potential to revitalise it. Some of the problems identified in the previous review persist. The quality of research work and levels of research income are relatively weak. Faculty-level procedures for encouraging and supporting research grant applications should be more fully utilised, and the unit should give thought to finding practical solutions to problems with grant applications and the writing process.

Research at the department is solid and is based on a long tradition of focused research on the Arctic and West/Central Africa, as well as a thematic focus on Visual Anthropology. While tradition is good, there is an obvious risk of getting stuck in a rut, and, while solid, research at UiT is not particularly original or explorative.

## 9.1.10 Feedback

The panel recommends:

- The unit should strengthen its publication strategy in high-ranking journals and publishers.
- Putting into place more concrete procedures for encouraging underproductive or unproductive researchers to publish their material – by setting up informal reading groups or writing workshops, and developing regular research and writing plans.
- Strengthening the levels of research collaboration both within the unit itself, and outside the unit in other parts of UiT, nationally and internationally.
- Building a stronger research environment, with more engagement with mainstream Anthropology at the national and international level. Establish regular research events that are not based on the needs of the established research groupings, but are more exploratory or general. Consider appointing Professor II post/s to assist with this.
- Strengthening support and a strategy for applying for external grant funding.
- Making better use of the available resources. For example, the sabbatical system – and particularly its international dimensions – and the UiT-based datasets.
- In general, the unit could be more ambitious, both ethnographically and thematically/theoretically.

# 10  University of Bergen, Faculty of Social Sciences

| University of Bergen, Faculty of Social Sciences | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Units included in the evaluation of social anthropology | - Dept. of Social Anthropology | | Listed researchers | | 39 | |
| | | | Listed research groups | | 2 | |
| | | | No. of researchers in listed research groups | | 20 (33 CVs) | |
| Other units of the faculty (institution) | - Dept. of Administration and Organization Theory<br>- Dept. of Comparative Politics<br>- Dept. of Economics<br>- Dept. of Geography<br>- Dept. of Information Science and Media Studies<br>- Dept. of Sociology | | *Training, recruitment and academic positions* | | | |
| | | | | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** |
| | | | *No. of PhD graduated at the institution per year* | | | |
| | | | Male/Female | 2/1 | 3/5 | 4/1 |
| *R&D expenditures and sources of funding (1000 NOK)* | | | Total per year | 3 | 8 | 5 |
| | | | *No. of positions announced / No. of qualified applicants per year* | | | |
| | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | | | |
| *Funding of the institution* | | | PhD positions | 7/42 | - | 1/1 |
| Total expenditures | 315 308 | 325 321 | 340 822 | Post.doc positions | - | 1/2 | - |
| | | | | Permanent positions | - | - | 1/1 |
| *Types of funding* | | | | | | |
| | | | *Education* | | | |
| Core funding from the Norwegian gov. | 269 519 | 270 769 | 275 476 | | | |
| | | | **Study programmes BA level** | | | |
| External funding, RCN | 31 451 | 34 521 | 36 741 | - Bachelor in Social Anthropology | | | |
| External funding EU | 1 681 | 6 656 | 7 525 | **Study programmes MA level** | | | |
| | | | - Master in Social Anthropology | | | |
| External funding, other sources | 12 646 | 13 377 | 21 080 | **Other** | | | |

Source:  The Research Council of Norway, Self-assessment report for the institution, 16/12960

# 10.1 Social Anthropology at the institutional level

## 10.1.1 Organisation, leadership and strategy

In terms of high-quality research environment and international standing, the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Bergen is a strong unit in both the faculty and the university as a whole. The department sits within an overall faculty, alongside six other departments. The head of department is the mediator between department-level processes and the faculty level, via the Forum for Heads of Department. The Department of Social Anthropology is relatively well-placed within the overall faculty structure. It has a high number of PhD students, has one of the faculty's two ERC research grants (Egalitarianism) and has secured one of the professorships funded by the ministry/Bergen Research Foundation.

The formal leadership structure is clear, although it also allows for levels of less formal leadership around research projects and larger research themes. There is also substantive research leadership embedded within the department's main research groups, with roughly 50% of academic staff enlisted in research groups. These groups revolve around the leadership of particular senior (mainly male) staff members, and are often linked to particular funded projects. This structure makes it possible to consolidate and coordinate research efforts around particular themes or issues, and clearly helps to facilitate high-quality research.

Outside these groups, the research environment has successfully nurtured smaller projects – either shorter-term funded or longer-term unfunded projects – around particular topics or foci (e.g. the *Norske Rom* group), and it also encourages independent individual work. The self-assessment estimates that one-third of published work comes from research that has no specific funding.

The unit also has a stable and clear research strategy as regards publication, international collaboration and funding, which, over the years, has contributed to the establishment of a high-quality department with international standards. The department's strategy appears to focus very strongly on encouraging high-quality publications, collaboration and the pursuit of external funding.

## 10.1.2 Institutional follow-up of previous evaluations

The department has to a large extent implemented recommendations from the previous review of social anthropological research in 2011 as regards theory development, the development of research methods and collaboration between Norwegian research institutions. The funding mechanism (ISP) put in place for this purpose is seen as important, and activities have been implemented to address the concerns expressed by the evaluation committees.

The department was criticised in the previous review for a tendency towards a 'big-man' culture of prominent leaders of projects or research groups. This had the effect of occluding and/or discouraging the pursuit of agendas outside those of the leaders. While this pattern appears to persist to some extent, it has been mitigated to a certain extent by a stronger focus on research groups with broader interests.

The project Denaturalizing Difference appears to have brought together colleagues from across the different groupings in the department and established a more collective set of agendas.

The previous report specifically mentioned a relative absence of work that engages with other national scholars on issues of direct concern to Norwegian society. This has been addressed by formally recognising the *Norske Rom* group as research group, though it is not clear how prominent it is within the department as a whole, as it seems to be more of an avenue for the development of student research rather than of staff research output.

In the previous evaluation report, it was noted that the distribution of publications was very uneven, and the number of 'unproductive' researchers too high. This appears to have been successfully addressed, partly by focusing on encouraging research groups and collective work.

### 10.1.3 Resources and infrastructure

The department has substantive and substantial support within the faculty and appears to be well resourced. Within the faculty as a whole, a substantial portion of the funding is state funding, granted through the university. It can be noted that this proportion has decreased in the last few years. The external funding base makes up 19 per cent of the expenditure, and has grown slightly over the last few years. The use of EU funding is very low (2.2 per cent), whereas funding from the RCN is higher (13.3 per cent).

Even though the department has a strong position in the faculty, there appears to be a lack of flexible financial resources at the departmental level. The self-assessment highlights the absence of specific resources/funding over which the department has control – such funds could give added flexibility, particularly when devising and building up new research projects or groupings.

A Committee of Infrastructure has been created with a mandate to plan, implement and run research infrastructure at the university. The Committee is intended to improve the exchange of information, and the coordination of infrastructure, and to make recommendations to and advise the University Board.

### 10.1.4 Research environment

The research environment in the department is characterised by thematic and theoretical heterogeneity, longstanding engagements in particular ethnographic regions, and a degree of organisational flexibility. While some researchers work independently and take part in and interact with the larger research community in the department and beyond through academic exchanges (informal research cooperation, conferences etc.), others are part of organised research groups and/or projects. The department has had a multiplicity of organisational forms over the last five to seven years, including concerted, cooperative research efforts (e.g. the projects *Challenging the State* (CHATS) and *De-naturalizing Difference,* and the research groups *Bergen Pacific Studies* (BPS) and *Egalitarianism Research group)*. These, and other concerted activities, have stimulated new and deeper forms of research collaboration within the department, but also with other partners at the national and international level.

Strategies for research development are based on the conviction that research develops best when researchers are given freedom to pursue their own research agendas, and through careful recruitment. The department emphasises the importance of scientific quality and the importance of conducting ethnographic fieldwork as crucial to the nature and continued existence of the discipline.

In addition to activities in groups and projects, department-wide academic debate is sustained through department seminars, as well as in the more informal presentations of projects, publications and ideas.

### 10.1.5 Research personnel

The University of Bergen is actively seeking accreditation from the European Commission as adherents to the European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers. Since 2009, it has practised a policy of adherence to the Charter and Code.

Within the Department of Social Anthropology, key research personnel are highly qualified, and the research groups also include a number of talented mid-level and junior scholars. A number of the more

junior scholars are consolidating their positions within the discipline. The central researchers are internationally recognised as top-level scholars in their fields of research and in the discipline as a whole. This, and the track record of the department demonstrate the high quality of key research personnel.

There is a certain gender imbalance at the leadership level, with female professors constituting 21 per cent. The fact that all the three main research leaders are men seems to match the pattern identified for the faculty as a whole, which has a 'significant male dominance' particularly among senior academic staff. That said, a number of more junior female members of the academic staff are beginning to establish names for themselves, and of the ten publications proposed as the 'most important' in recent years, four are by female members of staff. Female researchers are highly productive in terms of publication output. Likewise, while leadership is relatively concentrated around senior academic staff, there is also a strong cohort of younger scholars.

Recruitment is widely based, across a range of national and international contexts, to attract scholars of high quality. The department expresses a wish to concentrate its recruitment and renewal strategy on maximising research quality rather than on particular research expertise or the origin of applicants. Institutional renewal is ensured, for example, through the integration of junior scholars in research groups, in which they both contribute through their own research and are trained by senior scholars.

The department engages actively in career development in a number of ways, both formal and informal. A range of forums has been established for the discussion of research and development – from the established department seminar to weekly lunch gatherings and the annual work appraisal interviews. One important initiative was the decision to limit 'buying out' of tenured staff from teaching responsibilities, which has the effect of ensuring that more junior, non-tenured staff are not overburdened with teaching that they take on when more senior colleagues are on leave.

There is a strong commitment – including a financial commitment from the department – to support fieldwork as the key element of anthropological research.

## 10.1.6 Research production and scientific quality

The department has a strong international publication profile, with a high level of productivity (3.49 publication points per listed individual). Its particular profile revolves around the emphasis on ethnography and its interweaving with theoretical development and debate, often with a comparative ambition. The department appears to be particularly strong in the areas of politics, gender, development and religion/cosmology, with other research areas also represented. Many of the publications are firmly rooted in Anthropology, and primarily address an anthropological readership, although some have a more interdisciplinary ambition. Overall, the unit has contributed significantly to advancing the state-of-the-art in the discipline.

The Department of Social Anthropology in Bergen can be said to have a strong though not exclusive focus on the convergence of the social and the political – encompassing a particular social take on the political and a political take on the social. Many of the submitted publications arise from or relate to the research theme Challenging the State, and the conversations around this theme.

Outside this political focus, there is substantive work on Gender, in religion and in development, on Boundaries and place-making, and on Cosmology, broadly considered. There is a particular focus – though again not exclusively so – on revisiting classic anthropological topics in light of more contemporary social theory, in order to push the boundaries of analysis in new and original ways. So, for example, we learn new ways of approaching the state, hierarchy and cosmology, among other themes.

Although clearly engaged in critical and deep theoretical debate, the department's output has ethnographic sensibilities at its centre, and the publication profile shows a commitment to the holistic ambitions of the ethnographic monograph and the comparative ambitions of the edited essay collection, as well as the targeted scholarly impact of the well-chosen journal article.

Assessment of scientific quality: 5 – excellent

### 10.1.7 Interplay between research and education

The department has a clearly articulated strategy for integrating research and education, both at the organisational and the policy level. This is reflected in the organisational structure and management; study programmes are based on staff's research in a generic way, and also in the policy of limiting buy-outs of permanent staff for research purposes. The department is strongly committed to its teaching programmes.

The ratio of research to teaching is well balanced. The 'rule of thumb' time split of 46/46/8 between teaching, research and administration seems good as an ideal, though it would be good to know if staff are actually able to keep their administrative duties down to such an extent. If the figures are in reality an administrative fiction, then this may justify claims for more resources, or a reallocation of resources.

### 10.1.8 Societal relevance and impact

All four of the Impact Case Studies demonstrate a substantial commitment to generating societal impact beyond the limits of the academic world. Oriented around the work of senior professors in Eastern-Central Africa and in the Pacific, they demonstrate in their different ways the extent to which these scholars have engaged with broader political-military and socio-cultural constituencies in order to have an impact on broader society. The EU-Pacific case study demonstrates direct and substantive impact on policy, as the research group ECOPAS itself generated the EU's Pacific regional strategy. The MAROVO project generated a Marovo-language Environmental Encyclopedia, and the publication *Reef and Rainforest* for distribution in the Solomon Islands through UNESCO. Again, this demonstrates substantive impact beyond academia. The NUBA and RESOURCES case studies demonstrate efforts to affect the peace process and post-conflict development in Sudan.

It is perhaps a mark of the genre of the impact case study that none of them quite demonstrate precisely what impact the research generated and to what degree. This does not detract, however, from the quality of the efforts made to generate impact. There are a wide range of other dissemination practices cited in the self-assessment, which include dissemination to both Norwegian and non-Norwegian audiences, in a variety of relevant media.

### 10.1.9 Overall assessment

This is a very high ranking and productive Department of Social Anthropology that has diversified since the last review by expanding both its academic staff and research foci. The policy of combining tightly focused research groups with looser groupings around themes and grants, and allowing individual researchers the flexibility and freedom to pursue their own agendas seems to be generating high-quality research.

A little of the 'big-man' phenomenon is still observable in the outline, particularly given the arrival of a third senior male professor leading a research group. Much of the publishing is oriented around these high-achieving figures, and the department should be aware, firstly, of the potential to limit the scope of research that this might involve, and, secondly, of the succession issues that may arise. Overall, this is a very strong research unit.

## 10.1.10    Feedback

The tendency to organise research around strong senior research leaders has proven highly productive, but it poses challenges in terms of the scope of research topics that are encouraged, the opportunity structure for younger researchers, and in terms of succession. The panel therefore recommends:

- Ongoing reflection in the department about the balance between senior and less senior researchers' agendas
- Strategies for broadening publication patterns to include the entire academic staff should be continued and further strengthened.

# 10.2 Research group: Bergen Pacific Studies

## 10.2.1 Introduction

The Bergen Pacific Studies (BPS) research group is located in the Department of Social Anthropology, University of Bergen. Its development reflects the growth of research on Oceania since the 1990s, both in the department and at Bergen University Museum's cultural history collections.

## 10.2.2 Establishment and development

Established in 2005, over the last decade the group has grown in size and international members have been recruited. The Bergen Pacific Studies Research group has grown to become a productive Pacific-focused research centre within an Anthropology department of global ethnographic coverage. Since 2001, six PhDs on the Pacific Islands have been completed (two of whom are now full professors in Bergen), Five PhD students are currently being supervised by research group professors. Two postdoctoral fellows have been members of the group.

## 10.2.3 Task and organisation

The Bergen Pacific Studies (BPS) Research group has a clear organisational structure that has proven conducive to high-quality research, reflecting the ethnographic profile and theoretical distinction of the department as a whole. The research group also reflects the University of Bergen's overall strategic focus on comparative research and education on global social challenges.

## 10.2.4 Organisation, leadership and strategies

The group has a clear leadership, with senior researchers of international renown having been in charge since the group's inception. This gives the group a high degree of continuity and stability. The group is led by two senior professors who have successfully consolidated the group and nurtured a number of scholars who have come through the University of Bergen's departmental MA programme and PhD programme and become members of the academic staff and achieved leadership positions within the group. In the group's self-assessment, however, there is scant discussion of future leadership changes.

The strategic focus of the group is clearly spelled out. There is also a strong link to the overall departmental research strategy, as well as to the university's overall strategy. The group aims to provide a context for the production of high-quality research through a commitment to empirical, fieldwork-driven research in the Pacific region. Initially focusing on issues of cultural politics, heritage and tradition, the group's work now also encompasses issues of political economy, development broadly conceived, gender and religion, and sexuality. Although the leadership plays a strong coordinating and galvanising role, the group is explicitly oriented around the research agendas of individual researchers, which explains the variety. Despite this variety, the group has been able to draw

together central research threads within the region – both in Bergen and elsewhere – for example, to make a significant contribution to the development of EU policy in the region.

The strategic focus is open and focuses on a relatively informal process of nurturing high-quality publication and research grant applications. The publication strategy is a significant dimension of the overall strategic focus. Similarly, international research collaboration is given a prominent role, as is external funding. Basic funding and supplementary PhD positions are provided by the University of Bergen, while the group has a reasonable track record in terms of securing external funding from the RCN and EU sources. Less attention is given to national research collaboration.

## 10.2.5 Research personnel

Senior research personnel are highly qualified, also in relation to international standards. The key personnel are well qualified to deliver high-quality research and are either already well established or in the process of building substantial international reputations. There is a reasonable gender balance, and it is particularly significant that gender itself has become an important focus for the group. This is important, given the prominence of gender-based research within the region as a whole.

The group currently has researchers at various stages of their careers, which suggests healthy possibilities for leadership succession and renewal within the group. Personnel have not been particularly widely recruited, however. Most are 'home-grown' scholars, who emerge from BA and MA programmes into the PhD and thence to permanent posts. Indeed, this appears to be a deliberate strategy.

It is not entirely clear to what extent provision has been made for more institutionalised forms of training, career development and institutional renewal at research group level. Training and career development appear to emerge organically from the discursive environment of a lively and active research group. It is acknowledged, however, that there is a cyclical nature to this and it may be that ongoing support may be less available at certain times due to senior members' involvement in fieldwork and/or funded research projects.

## 10.2.6 Research production and scientific quality

The productivity, originality and international profile of the research group is excellent. Among its main strengths is a fine publication record, with publications in internationally renowned journals and with wide disciplinary reach. Some of the work is published in regional studies journals, while the strongest pieces are published in major international journals. The submission also includes 'grey' material, in the form of the substantial policy briefing document prepared by members of the Pacific Studies group in collaboration with colleagues elsewhere in Europe. More specifically, the research group has made substantive contributions to methodological advancement, to reorientation and interdisciplinary innovation in the ways in which Anthropology and adjacent disciplines can further our understanding of new formations of culture and politics in the Pacific region, in times of globalisation and a transformed political economy.

The broad range of contexts in which submissions are made demonstrates the degree of engagement members in the group have, not only with a broad-brush regional approach to issues of development, climate change and political economy, but also the valuable mobilisation of an anthropological-ethnographic sensibility in approaching these topics. An illustrative example here is the paper on 'land grab' politics. The publications show how strong, rich and deeply sedimented expertise is being brought to bear on pressing contemporary problems, in line with the department's focus on research that tackles global social challenges.

The other contributions demonstrate the strength of the relatively new direction within the group – the analysis of gender in relation to, and within, Pacific Christianities, and particularly Pentecostalism. Journal articles demonstrate a strong ethnographic sensibility while also making significant contributions to both regional debates and broader debates within the Anthropology of Christianity and Pentecostalism as a whole.

While the work on development and political economy is setting agendas internationally, the work on Pentecostalism is at this point in time contributing to, rather than starting new debates, but it is nevertheless fine research that is well presented.

There is a degree of interdisciplinary focus within the group's research, particularly through its engagement with museum studies, history, archaeology and heritage studies.

## 10.2.7 Networking

The group has strong international research networks, particularly within European and Australasian environments. A series of large external grants have allowed for frequent visits by international colleagues to Bergen, and visits by BPS scholars to collaborating institutions. Research collaboration in Bergen and travel to and research collaboration in the Pacific, as well as with universities in Europe and North America, has nurtured extensive and continuous networking, both within the anthropological discipline and beyond. Career paths of temporary staff (PhDs, postdocs) also reflect the broad exposure to international fields.

## 10.2.8 Interplay between research and education

The research group is well integrated into the department's educational curriculum. Particularly noteworthy is its strong link to the MA-level programme. The balance between teaching and research appears to be adequate and its distribution in accordance with overall Norwegian standards. It is not clear, however, how the distribution of teaching outlined in the self-assessment translates into individual workloads, and how these are distributed among teaching staff. The success group members have had in moving from an MA through a PhD and into permanent positions suggests that the substantive teaching contributions are of high quality and succeed in nurturing research talent into productivity and fundability.

## 10.2.9 Societal relevance and impact

Two different cases are mentioned:

The EU-funded ECOPAS project (European Consortium for Pacific Studies) coordinated by the research group and its director was commissioned to write the European Parliament's Development Strategy for the Pacific in 2013. The study, which was submitted to the European Parliament in 2014, has informed the EU's strategy for development cooperation with the Pacific. The EU-Pacific case study demonstrates direct and substantive impact on policy, as the research group ECOPAS generated the EU's Pacific regional strategy.

The second case involves the publication of a comprehensive Environmental Encyclopedia of the Marovol language in the Western Province of Solomon Islands, in the southwest Pacific. The book was published by UNESCO in 2005 as a demonstration example of vernacular language environmental education for the Pacific region, to counteract erosion of indigenous environmental knowledge in the school systems. This demonstrates substantive impact beyond the academic frame.

Both of these examples are evidence of high-quality impact on socially relevant issues, and of significant public engagement.

## 10.2.10      Overall assessment

This is a well-functioning and productive research group with a good international reputation and very strong networks. It has successfully created an environment for the production of high-quality research output and the acquisition of external funding. It has also demonstrated fine integration of teaching and research, and a high level of societal impact. There are slight concerns about the self-reproductive nature of the group, and whether the activities of the research group are sufficient to maintain and attract younger scholars over time.

<div align="right">Assessment of research group: 4 – very good</div>

## 10.2.11      Feedback

- The research group should consider enhancing its opportunities for attracting a larger number of mid-level researchers for longer engagements.
- Training and mentoring for mid-level researchers should also be enhanced, to help the research group to develop new research projects and encourage publication.
- The research group should consider adopting an active strategy for developing junior and mid-career researchers.
- The research group has succeeded in attracting external funding, but might consider enhancing its efforts towards this end to strengthen and diversify the resource base.

# 10.3 Research group: Egalitarianism

## 10.3.1 Introduction

The Egalitarianism research group's (ERG) scientific goals are directed towards analysing not only socioeconomic equality, but also emancipatory forces of socio-political restructuring that free human beings from constraint, allowing them to realise potential that has hitherto been hampered. These goals include breaking away from Eurocentric notions of equality.

## 10.3.2 Establishment and development

ERG draws on long-term research on politics, statehood and anthropological theory at the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Bergen.

## 10.3.3 Task and organisation

Since 2014, ERG has been organised around long-term fieldwork projects, workshops, dissemination activities and research collaborations that have been carried out individually.

Central to its establishment was a NOK 6.4 million Research Council of Norway-funded project, 'Challenging the State' (2004-2010), which involved many staff and PhD students. This led to a second phase of renewed ERG intensity with the ERC Advanced Grant 'Egalitarianism: Forms, Processes, Comparisons' (2014-2019). The structure and leadership of the group derives from the terms of delivery set by that funded project.

## 10.3.4 Organisation, leadership and strategy

ERG has a core leadership group from within Social Anthropology at the University of Bergen – including some members who are also members of other research groups. The structure is oriented around a series of stand-alone ethnographic projects that are brought together in the overall

comparative framework of the project. Communication is facilitated through regular skype meetings, and the group is subject to both an international advisory board and an institutional ethics procedure.

As of late 2016, ERG had a number of full-time researchers and five PhD students, as well as part- or full-time researchers in Europe, India and Australia. This leadership model, combined with a clear timetable of deliverables, appears to facilitate high-quality research output. There is a clarity to the project – and therefore to the group – that is rooted in international collaboration, and clearly based on external funding.

ERG has been strongly guided by the research agenda of its senior members, who have done a good job of galvanising interest around a set of important and challenging themes. There is a slight question, however, about the long-term sustainability of this research group (and perhaps its successor), given this apparent dependence on these senior figures as guides.

## 10.3.5 Research personnel

Fourteen members are listed: 4 female and 10 male. Four permanent members of staff, two temporary members, five PhD students and three postdocs are listed. ERG has an international group of PhD students and postdoctoral fellows.

The key research personnel are very highly qualified to deliver high-quality research and they have solid international standing. This applies in particular to its senior members. The group also has a strong group of international non-listed members, who act in an advisory capacity.

The group has clearly been able to recruit widely to a range of PhD and postdoctoral positions to generate a genuinely international community of more junior scholars. (There were 80 applicants for 4 PhD positions and 31 applicants for 2 postdoctoral positions.) The core remains rooted in the academic staff in Bergen. As such, the overall profile is slightly male-top-heavy (i.e. senior members are mostly male), which reproduces the dynamics of both the department and faculty.

The group organises regular training activities, including both live and virtual workshops and more innovative training methods, such as writing-publishing activities and a dedicated workshop that generated ECTS credits at PhD level. It is not explicitly stated, but the PhD training can be expected to dovetail with that of the departmental PhD programme.

## 10.3.6 Research production and scientific quality

ERG is still in a fieldwork-intensive period, where findings have yet to be fully developed. However, dissemination of research findings has begun, including blog posts, interviews and web reports, as well as books and papers. Publications between 2014 and 2016 can be summarised as follows: 5 monographs, 7 anthologies, 22 journal articles, 27 book chapters, 4 reports and 23 blog posts. Since then, members of ERG have maintained this trajectory, with 108 publications being registered at Bergen, 38% in Level 1 outlets and 62% in Level 2, and a score of 0.82 relative to the OECD.

This group has a very well-honed publication strategy that, over the years, has led to high levels of productivity and high-quality research output. Junior scholars are clearly successfully nurtured into positions from which they are able to generate research output early in their careers, although many of these outputs are channelled through outlets that bear the hallmark of the PI's sponsorship: the edited collection on Charlie Hebdo published in his Berghahn series; and other contributions to the journal *Social Analysis*, of which the PI was founding editor. This could be thought of as either a limiting or an enabling strategy, but it works well to induct more junior researchers into the world of publishing, and does establish a platform for some very promising research.

Besides these contributions, the three research monographs presented are very strong and demonstrate the success of the earlier CHATS discussions. We might anticipate similar high-quality output as Egalitarianism moves forward. The group demonstrates attention to the relationship between critical social theory and empirical, ethnographic detail in understanding the complex relationships between the state, society, violence and political ideology. For the most part, the contributions presented are grouped around a tight agenda (or agendas) within the Anthropology of Politics.

The group has certainly advanced the state-of-the-art within the Anthropology of the State, and has begun to do so within the context of the theme of egalitarianism per se. It is not particularly interdisciplinary, but should not be criticised for its resolutely disciplinary approach to the issues concerned.

External funding has been secured from the ERC Advanced Grant. ERG also collaborates on projects with funding from the Sutasoma Foundation, the Australian Research Council, the Marie Skłodowska-Curie scheme, E. Griffith University Fellowship and the Wenner Gren Foundation. The research group has also supplemented ERC's original project grant through substantial PhD, postdoctoral, researcher and administrative positions and other resources.

### 10.3.7 Networking

A number of key working partnerships exist with anthropologists and other experts in the UK, Australia, India and the USA. Indeed, the group does not merely link up with international networks, it is actually an international network itself – which demonstrates great strength in this area.

Networking is perhaps less clear in the national research context. Perhaps the group would benefit from links with other research groups – for example the Labour Research group in Oslo.

### 10.3.8 Interplay between research and education

It appears that the core members of the group are currently exempt from teaching (despite the department's specification that there should be no more than 50% buy-out). No undergraduate teaching is undertaken, but PhD and MA supervision takes place.

From 2017, the agendas of the group will feed into teaching, by both PhDs and members of the academic staff, through the design of new courses based on ERC research.

### 10.3.9 Societal relevance and impact

This is primarily a scientifically based and scientifically focused research group and research project. It is very strong in its collaboration with other institutions, and to a certain degree in interdisciplinarity, but its engagement with non-academic audiences is limited. There is no impact case study associated with the group.

### 10.3.10    Overall assessment

This is a strong project-based research group with a clear agenda and a broad comparative scope rooted in detailed ethnographic work. The leadership is internationally renowned and is also advised by a strong international steering group. ERG has recruited some excellent junior members to the group from a range of different backgrounds. In short, this is a productive research group in terms of publications and workshops, with an international cast.

The long-term sustainability of the group is an issue: how will it move on after its senior members retire and funding stops, and in what directions?

Assessment of research group: 5 – excellent

## 10.3.11    Feedback

The commendable workshops and dissemination of output deriving from this research group are a highlight to be maintained where possible. The panel also recommends that:

- More female members of the team would be appropriate.
- More non-academic engagement would be valuable.

# 11 University of Oslo, Centre for Development and Environment

| University of Oslo, Centre for Development and the Environment | | | |
|---|---|---|---|

| Units included in the evaluation of social anthropology | - Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM) | | |
|---|---|---|---|

| Listed researchers | 9 |
|---|---|
| Listed research groups | 2 |
| No. of researchers in listed research groups | 16 (20 CVs) |

**Other units of the faculty (institution)**

***Training, recruitment and academic positions***

|  | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***No. of PhD graduated at the institution per year*** | | | |
| Male/Female | -/- | -/- | -/- |
| Total per year | - | - | - |

***No. of positions announced / No. of qualified applicants per year***

***R&D expenditures and sources of funding (1000 NOK)***

|  | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***Funding of the institution*** | | | |
| Total expenditures | 24 343 | 25 316 | 23 437 |
| ***Types of funding*** | | | |
| Core funding from the Norwegian gov. | 18 749 | 21 018 | 23 135 |
| External funding, RCN | 5 556 | 7 215 | 6 313 |
| External funding EU | 307 | 474 | 0 |
| External funding, other sources | 6 304 | 3 150 | 5 273 |

|  | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| PhD positions | 2/97 | 0/0 | 2/61 |
| Post.doc positions | 0/0 | 0/0 | 3/54 |
| Permanent positions | 0/0 | 0/0 | 0/0 |

***Education***

**Study programmes BA level**

-

**Study programmes MA level**

- Development, Environment and Cultural Change

**Other:** PhD students have their work place at SUM while enrolled at a PhD programme at a faculty corresponding to their disciplinary background. They attend the obligatory courses offered at the faculty level and participate in SUM's research school, where they are trained in development and environment issues. Note: We have no disciplinary announcements.

**Source: The Research Council of Norway, Self-assessment report for the institution, 16/12960**

# 11.1 Social Anthropology at the institutional level

## 11.1.1 Organisation, leadership and strategy

Established in 1990, the Centre for Development and Environment (SUM) Board consists of representatives from cooperating faculties at the University of Oslo, from external institutions and representatives of staff and students at SUM.

The centre is led by a director, who, together with an administrative director, makes up the centre's leadership. Since 1 July 2017, the director has become an elected post. The director is responsible for the overall operation of SUM, and reports to the rector and University Board. S/he is accountable for SUM's academic and administrative activities, and has a special responsibility to help develop new research fields and programmes, as well as ensuring that the interdisciplinary perspective of the centre is safeguarded.

Responsibility for administrative management is delegated to the administrative director, who manages the staff and is responsible for research administration, admissions and student administration, finances, staff appointments, web, general information and media contact. There is also a communications advisor, who helps the researchers to disseminate their results to a broader public.

Research is interdisciplinary. There is a clear strategic focus, with five identified research areas. Each research area is headed by a research director. There are some cross-cutting links between research areas and personnel. A good deal of the current research appears to be on energy (electrification), global health and governance. Social anthropologists are clearly active within all areas of research. The centre has a clear international focus and a good deal of international collaboration.

The panel is impressed by the clarity of the report by the director, including a clear analysis of the weaknesses and strengths of the programme. This report and those of the research groups reveal a very productive academic culture, with strong cohesion in the groups, facilitated by the director, who is also an active researcher.

However, the panel has a number of concerns about the research strategy as reported in the self-evaluation. In setting priorities for the coming years, the report suggests that a key factor will be the research interests of the centre's staff.

## 11.1.2 Institutional follow-up of previous evaluations

SUM was part of the evaluation of Social Anthropology undertaken by the RCN in 2011. In the report, the committee expressed concern about the disciplinary future of anthropologists at SUM and recommended more focus on development and poverty, which the committee considered to be core issues for SUM. The report recommended SUM to rethink the profile of the anthropologists in favour of a stronger disciplinary focus, and in this way, demonstrate the general strength of the anthropological contribution. It was also recommended that SUM's anthropologists should have a stronger presence in anthropological forums.

In response, SUM claims to be rethinking the role of anthropologists within the centre's interdisciplinary context. Their capacity to interact with and influence other disciplines in an interdisciplinary and problem-oriented research environment is important. The claim is that theories and methods from Anthropology are used to understand social phenomena within all the research areas. SUM's anthropologists are, for example, central in international research on electricity, poverty, inequality and global health. They have demonstrated how anthropological methods contribute to

strengthening international efforts in – and evaluations of – energy assistance, as well as global health interventions and policy. As mentioned, anthropologists have played leading roles in the centre's current international projects.

## 11.1.3 Resources and infrastructure

According to the SWOT analysis, SUM has an excellent working environment. It obviously has the advantage of the University of Oslo's library but this is not noted in the report. It has also increased its access to resources via an initiative taken by the university's Rector – a dependency that generates a certain vulnerability. It spends NOK 23,437,401 in total on salaries and running costs, and around half of the funding comes from external sources. The programmes rely heavily on research conducted by PhD students.

More core funding seems to be needed to guarantee a minimum core of excellence to further develop interdisciplinary programmes, including collaboration with other relevant research at the University of Oslo. More generally, the report mentions the difficulty of raising funds for multidisciplinary research. The panel recognises that this is a key challenge for multidisciplinary research institutes.

One model could be to appoint mid-career research managers, who can also free up time for the research directors, and support them in expanding the programme in consultation with external parties and across multiple disciplinary research programmes at the University of Oslo, thereby creating synergies.

## 11.1.4 Research environment

SUM has two interdisciplinary research groups led and developed by social anthropologists with the main objective of introducing social scientific forms of evidence to research areas dominated by a narrowly defined natural science hierarchy of evidence. The group concerned with energy and consumption explores the theoretical and policy challenges associated with moving energy consumption in a more sustainable direction in countries in both the North and the South. The global health politics and culture research group carries out critical social science research on the social, cultural and political factors that shape people's health, health systems, health policy and governance. Both groups are said to engage with concepts, perspectives and modes of investigation drawn from Social Anthropology.

Some of the PhD students are enrolled in the PhD programmes for their disciplines. In the case of Anthropology, they are supervised both by staff from the centre and staff at the department where they are enrolled. Supervisors from other departments or units might profitably be incorporated into the centre's activities.

## 11.1.5 Research personnel

The centre has only a few tenured staff members, including three anthropologists, who play a pivotal role in the centre's research programme.  The submission states that the centre's dependence on external project and programme-based funding necessarily implies that there is a greater degree of mobility than would be the case in a 'normal' university department.

Recruitment is carried out on an interdisciplinary basis. Over the last ten years, SUM has only advertised two permanent positions, both authorised by the university leadership, the last one in 2013. In 2016, two PhDs and three postdocs were appointed out of a large number of applications (61 and 54, respectively).  At any given time, SUM has between 10 and 15 PhD candidates with their place of work at the centre. There are eight PhD/postdoc positions funded by the core budget, in addition to

those that are externally funded. PhD candidates are enrolled in a disciplinary programme, which serves as their academic home base.

There is a female majority at all levels, including the professorial level (60%), intermediate level and PhD level. The exceptions are the two postdocs, who are both male; 70% of students are female, as are 75% of the applicants. The centre aims to achieve gender balance when recruiting PhDs and postdocs by advertising widely and identifying interesting male candidates. Nevertheless, at the end of the day, the best and most relevant candidates are selected – who in most cases are said to be women.

## 11.1.6 Research production and scientific quality

It is evident from the submission that the centre is committed to research on core, mainstream development issues of practical, material significance. The Anthropology group includes four researchers of international standing, working in each of the two research groups under review (Energy and Global Health).

Researchers publish in high-impact journals both in Anthropology and in applied fields.  For example, the article (2015) *Tentacles of modernity: why electricity needs Anthropology* was published in *Cultural Anthropology*, which is a high-impact, and theory-driven journal in the field of Anthropology; The Global Health Politics programme has published in *The Lancet* and the leading medical anthropology journal *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, as well as leading health policy journals such as *Global Public Health*, which illustrates the excellent publication reach of the group. Analytically, the researchers present broader generalisations and typologies on health and health interventions, on consumption and its implications, and on electrification.  In several countries (i.e. India, Zanzibar, Tanzania, Burkina Faso), researchers demonstrate in-depth expertise, doing research over long periods of time, including engaging in ethnography within expert networks.

The research outputs include widely cited books, which are insightful, and demonstrate how development topics such as electrification and global health can benefit from an anthropological perspective. The research clearly has an interdisciplinary dimension; much of it is multiply authored with scholars based in many different countries participating.

The impact of SUM is well above the average for the OECD (1.41). The Anthropology group has 30 publications during the review period, of which 29% are Level 2.

Assessment of scientific quality: 4 – very good

## 11.1.7 Interplay between research and education

The normal time allocation for permanent staff is approximately 50% research, 15% teaching and 35% administrative tasks, project acquisition, project coordination, networking and supervision of MA students and PhD candidates. Previously, PhD positions lasted for four years, three years dedicated to the PhD studies and dissertation, and one year to work for the centre. Now PhD positions are advertised for three years. If the PhD candidates carry out work for the centre, they are granted extra time of up to maximum one year.

SUM offers a master's programme in Development, Environment and Cultural Change, which addresses the main challenges of creating sustainable development. The learning outcome for students is knowledge of the interdisciplinary academic field of sustainable development, focusing on political, anthropological, socioeconomic and cultural-historical perspectives. The different research groups encourage MA students to find topics within their area, and thus be included in the research groups.

The MA students are trained in interdisciplinarity. Thus, the relationship between research and teaching is well developed in the master's programme and in the international PhD courses. The PhD positions tend to be more disciplinary in nature, due to their enrolment at the faculties.

The panel is concerned, however, that the PhD positions are only for three years, while the candidates are expected to participate both at the centre and in the graduate programmes of the faculties to which they belong.

## 11.1.8 Societal relevance and impact

As a centre devoted to development and the environment, SUM clearly aims to have an impact and to reach an international audience.

SUM's researchers are significant contributors to the international research agenda on electricity, poverty and gender equality. This has led to SUM being invited to lead one of the five research themes in the Energy and Gender programme funded by the UK DFID (2015-2018), where the analytical and empirical work is regularly communicated to key international development agencies (World Bank, the UN and national governments in the South and North). They have taken the initiative for and led parts of the widely cited The Lancet-University of Oslo Commission on Global Governance for Health, which generated a broader debate about global governance for health. SUM has also published on immunisation, presenting an anthropological perspective. The work has led to widespread recognition and invitations to speak at major conferences. In 2014, SUM researchers edited and contributed to a special issue of *Global Public Health* on ethnographic perspectives on health policies and health systems, which has been influential in the global health field and has been highly cited.

The centre has a communications adviser who helps with social media, twitter, and blogs/vlogs.

## 11.1.9 Overall assessment

The University of Oslo should be commended for having set up an interdisciplinary Department for Development and Environment, with a number of highly qualified and productive anthropologists at its core. The panel also recognises that multidisciplinary research is often easier said than done. It requires structures that facilitate collaboration across faculties.

The panel considers it highly appropriate that the Director of the Centre reports to the Rector of the University, although that does entail a potential vulnerability in the longer term. The five research groups are highly relevant – we have evaluated two under this review. The centre has good administrative support, with an administrative director and communications adviser. The programmes integrate research, PhD education and knowledge exchange, which makes the centre an attractive environment for research for young scholars.

The panel is concerned that the recommendation of the RCN 2011 evaluation that the disciplinary future of anthropologists was not sufficiently attended to has not been adequately addressed. Strategies are needed to foster the research excellence of the anthropologists in this interdisciplinary research programme.

The panel is also concerned that the centre has a limited number of programmes that rely on the work of a few prestigious scholars.

## Feedback

Research on health and technology is clearly the main strength of the centre, as well as, although to a lesser extent, issues of consumption. This is very good and to be commended. Any new thematic areas should be ventured into when resources become available. The panel recommends that the Centre for Development and Environment:

- Develop mechanisms for closer collaboration with other anthropologists at the University of Oslo to:
    - Generate exchange and expertise around core themes within the discipline
    - Generate exchange and expertise around the core interdisciplinary themes of the centre
- Use core funding to employ research managers for each of the research groups
- Invest more in developing a dynamic knowledge-utilisation strategy, using multiple methods, in consultation with stakeholders.
- Consider employing more mid-career researchers to strengthen the viability of the centre.

# 11.2 Research group: Energy and Consumption

## 11.2.1 Introduction

The Energy and Consumption research group was established in 2005 to carry out research, teach and publish on energy sustainability and consumption. Although dominated by two anthropologists, the group has continued to emphasise interdisciplinarity when developing theory and initiating and conducting empirical research. Indeed, the unit has a distinct interdisciplinary composition and a strong emphasis on interdisciplinarity in theory and methodology.

## 11.2.2 Establishment and development

In 2009, the group's founder and leader was appointed by the Faculty of Social Sciences as Director of the University of Oslo interfaculty programme 'Environmental change and sustainable energy' (MILEN). This programme brought external funding to the university (from the RCN, Norad, MFA and DFID (UK)), brought members of the Energy and Consumption group in contact with other researchers at the University of Oslo and led to several successful research collaborations. MILEN was assigned five PhD fellowships, one of which was awarded to SUM. In 2008 and 2012, PhD fellows were also recruited to the group using University of Oslo fellowships allocated to SUM.

## 11.2.3 Task and organisation

The unit has a clear strategic focus on its aim of conducting empirical research and developing new theoretical insights into sustainable energy and consumption in the Global North and South, and making policy recommendations based on its research.

## 11.2.4 Organisation, leadership and strategy

The group's strategy is to make policy recommendations and engage in dialogue with policymakers, development actors and various societal actors, or, more precisely, to explore the question of how sustainable energy can figure more prominently in national and international energy and development policies; to develop policy recommendations on how energy development and interventions can enhance gender equality and women's empowerment; and to explore the social and political challenges of ameliorating the problems of climate change.

Group leadership has been concentrated around the key figure, the group's founder — now retired. This function was taken over in 2017 by the other anthropologist who contributed to establishing the group.

### 11.2.5 Research personnel

The group is small, with only two permanent senior members (1 female, 1 male (20%))— the founder having recently retired —supplemented by two PhD students (female) and one postdoctoral fellow (male)—internationally recruited—who are included in particular projects. The group has a viable balance in terms of seniority and gender. The senior researchers are well-established in their fields. Efforts are made to recruit PhD students to projects at the international level. Since the group is small, career development and training are mostly done informally, with formal responsibilities attended to at centre level.

### 11.2.6 Research production and scientific quality

The group has a distinct and original profile, focusing on contributing to the application of social practice theory to studies on energy and consumption. It has contributed to furthering anthropological perspectives on energy use and climate emissions, consumption among emerging middle classes in rapidly growing economies, and to studies of energy use, gender and electrification in the Global South.

Publications in scientific books and peer-reviewed journals show high scientific quality. They address significant policy-relevant themes, including unsustainable consumption and tourism, women's empowerment, and access to electricity for all. Research is undertaken through context-sensitive approaches, and qualitative ethnographic research.

### 11.2.7 Networking

There are high levels of networking within Norway and abroad, for research reasons and also in connection with teaching collaboration. This strong international network and international collaboration are major strengths, with interdisciplinary reach.

### 11.2.8 Interplay between research and education

There seems to be good integration between research and teaching. The group provides research-based teaching in several modules in SUM's master's programme and has also developed courses in SUMs interdisciplinary PhD school.

Members of the research group have also taught abroad (Vietnam, Malawi, UK).

### 11.2.9 Societal relevance and impact

The case study provided (GENDEL: The Gendered Dynamics and Impacts of Electrification) is a significant contribution that is geared to changing the way that development policy decision-makers (World Bank, DFID, NORAD) understand the gendered processes and impacts of electrification, including conceptualising and measuring women's empowerment through electrification.

The case is interesting as an example of how research on topical issues – and dialogues generated by research – can potentially contribute to a broadening of perspectives on the part of policymakers.

### 11.2.10   Overall assessment

This is a small research unit with one staff member permanently attached and working 100%, plus ancillary members. However, it has a definite research focus on applied Anthropology, within which it delivers fine research output in the form of case studies and research publications in specialised journals and book series. Its research has a distinct focus, with a clear interdisciplinary orientation and

high policy relevance, and it delivers research and publications of high quality. The group produces some excellent work, but has some vulnerability due to its size.

Assessment of research group: 4 – very good

## 11.2.11 Feedback

The Energy Consumption group seems to do very well for a unit its size. However:

- With the retirement of its founder, it perhaps needs strengthening in the form of permanent members working under its rubric. Indeed, the small size of the group represents a challenge to the group's long-term sustainability. The department and faculty to which it belongs should reflect on what is required for its survival and what resources are needed to further promote the group's research.
- The group might also seek to establish formal links with other research groups at the University of Oslo working on similar themes. (It is not clear how the researchers here relate to the rest of the Oslo Department or other research themes there that seem to overlap –such as the 'Overheating' research group at the Department of Social Anthropology, University of Oslo).

# 11.3 Research group: Global Health, Politics and Culture

## 11.3.1 Introduction

This is an interdisciplinary research programme, which has significant impact despite being small. The research group Global Health, Politcs and Culture seems to be very dependent on external grants.

## 11.3.2 Establishment and development

The research programme Global Health Politics and Culture, is a newly established group in the Centre for Development and Environment, though it has functioned and been active under LEVE (Livelihood in development countries), an interdisciplinary research programme at the University of Oslo led by a senior anthropologist in the group since 2008.

## 11.3.3 Task and organisation

The group identifies itself as a multidisciplinary group within the social sciences, linking in particular Medical Anthropology with political science. Its aim is to advance critical social science research on the social, cultural and political factors that shape people's health, health systems, health policy and governance, with the focus on low- and middle-income countries.

## 11.3.4 Organisation, leadership and strategies

The research group is relatively small but very cohesive, facilitated by regular meetings to discuss each other's work and make plans for the future. The group's overall strategy is to advance social science research by publishing in leading journals and through policy output. The leadership of the programme has consisted of two senior researchers, with one new recruit, a recipient of a Young Scientist Grant, playing an increasingly important role.

## 11.3.5 Research personnel

The research group is relatively small, consisting of 11 members. It is cross-disciplinary, including two mid-career medical anthropologists, and one senior economist working on governance issues, one postdoc and five PhDs. Eight of the 11 members are women.

Training and career development take place through collaboration and mentoring in joint projects.

## 11.3.6 Research production and scientific quality

Given the small size of the unit, and only one tenured researcher and one fixed-term researcher, this is a productive research group. Researchers collaborate internationally and publish in both specialised journals and high-impact journals in the field.

Its main research strength is in the domain of Global Health Governance, a field in which the group has contributed to an important Lancet Commission. It has published a range of scientific output, including edited volumes, peer-reviewed articles, a special issue (with PhD students contributing) and popular articles. The group has also carried out good research on the role of NGOs in global health and immunization policies in the South, resulting from a study of focusing on immunization coverage in India and Malawi. In addition, the group has made original ethnographic contributions to the study of global health networks and institutions, as well as research on maternal health care in Burkina Faso and India.

The group includes two highly productive mid-career anthropologists (one of whom is on a fixed-term contract and one affiliated economist who combines research with institutional responsibilities).

The current research portfolio will lead to more academic output in future. More mid-career positions could improve the academic impact of the group, which now depends heavily on research done by temporary staff in PhD and postdoc positions.

## 11.3.7 Networking

The research group has been successful in its networking in Europe, including establishing strong ties with the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, and with researchers in India and Burkina Faso. The recipient of a Young Scientist Grant has been a visiting scholar at Columbia University in the USA. The collaboration with *The Lancet* on the Commission on Global Governance for Health, which continued through the establishment of the Independent Panel on Global Governance for Health hosted at SUM, is a major networking success.

In Norway, the group plays a key role in bringing together social scientists interested in Global Health Research, and it has close ties with NORAD, which, through the GLOBVAC programme in the RCN, has played a significant part in enabling the establishment of the research group.

## 11.3.8 Interplay between research and education

The group plays a key role in the interdisciplinary master's degree in Development, Environment and Cultural Change, and it has developed international PhD courses on themes close to its research mission. Members of the group do not play a role in BA programmes, but, given the small size of the group and its specialised nature, this is not to be expected.

## 11.3.9 Societal relevance and impact

The research conducted by the group is highly relevant to health policies. Much of the impact of the programmes lies in its collaboration with institutions in low and middle-income countries, who, through the studies, gain critical perspectives on global health governance. For example, the collaboration with Save the Children Norway will impact on the organisation's policies in Norway and in the low and middle-income countries where the NGO operates. Moreover, the Lancet Commission has an impact on policymakers, and the team engages with politicians and donors in Norway. Overall, the impact is remarkable for a small research group.

## 11.3.10 Overall assessment

This relatively small research group has an impressive track record in highly relevant research. It is engaged in important international networks and has had significant societal impact. However, the panel is concerned about the viability of the group when key researchers retire or leave.

The group needs to reconsider collaboration with researchers in Norway, including with relevant departments at the University of Oslo and University of Bergen, to strengthen its programme and maximise potential synergies.

Assessment of research group: 4 – very good

## 11.3.11 Feedback

- The panel suggests that closer collaboration with the following relevant groups at the University of Oslo and University of Bergen could help to strengthen the programme:
  - the interdisciplinary programme in Medical Anthropology, History and International Health at the Institute of Health and Society, and
  - the Anthropology departments at the Universities of Bergen and Oslo.
- The panel recommends the research group develops a strategy to enhance its social impact, including communication with the general public, and the use of multimedia for knowledge transfer and dissemination.
- The University of Oslo should consider strengthening the programme with tenured mid-career positions in Medical Anthropology. This would also allow for a strengthening of the group's academic profile, given that the group currently relies on a small group of only three mid-career/senior researchers who perform the multiple tasks assigned to this ambitious interdisciplinary programme.

# 12  University of Oslo, Faculty of Social Sciences

| University of Oslo, Faculty of Social Sciences | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Units included in the evaluation of social anthropology | - Dept. of Social Anthropology | Listed researchers | | 40 |
| | | Listed research groups | | 3 |
| | | No. of researchers in listed research groups | | 21+ (29 CVs) |
| Other units of the faculty (institution) | - Dept. of Political Science<br>- Dept. of Sociology and Human Geography<br>- Dept. of Economics<br>- TIK Centre for Technology, Innovation and Culture<br>- ARENA Centre for European Studies<br>- Dept. of Psychology | *Training, recruitment and academic positions* | | |

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *No. of PhD graduated at the institution per year* | | | |
| Male/Female | 2/2 | 1/6 | 2/0 |
| Total per year | 4 | 7 | 2 |

*R&D expenditures and sources of funding (1000 NOK)*

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Funding of the institution* | | | |
| Total expenditures | 516 013 | 519 699 | 594 049 |
| *Types of funding* | | | |
| Core funding from the Norwegian gov. | 407 822 | 441 167 | 460 585 |
| External funding, RCN | 69 307 | 65 166 | 77 179 |
| External funding EU | 9 527 | 17 965 | 24 203 |
| External funding, other sources | 23 791 | 25 732 | 31 936 |

*No. of positions announced / No. of qualified applicants per year[30]*

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| PhD positions | 2/3 | 7/8 | 3/8 |
| Post.doc positions | 1/3 | 1/4 | 0/- |
| Permanent positions | 2/6 | 0/- | 2/3 |

*Education*

**Study programmes BA level**
- Social Anthropology

**Study programmes MA level**
- Social Anthropology

**Other**

Source:  The Research Council of Norway, Self-assessment report for the institution, 16/12960

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[30] Qualified applicants is defined as those applicants that were recommended for hiring (short list/ "innstilte søkere"). The number of formally qualified applicants is much higher, but UiO do not identify formally qualified applicants as part of the evaluation process.

# 12.1 Social Anthropology at the institutional level

## 12.1.1 Organisation, leadership and strategy

The Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo is part of the Faculty of Social Sciences. Day-to-day leadership is to a large extent delegated to the units, i.e. departments or centres. Each department is managed by a head of department, who is also the chair of the department board and reports to the Dean.

The Department of Social Anthropology maintains close organisational and communicative relations with the faculty. It has a clear organisational structure and leadership, which is conducive to high-quality research at the forefront of international Social Anthropology. There is a clearly articulated strategic focus, which includes publication, collaboration and external funding. The department also encourages a bottom-up strategy, which facilitates collaborative efforts and helps to attract talents from elsewhere. There is a growing tendency to organise research in larger groups, partly to enhance opportunities for research funding.

The department has a fine record of attracting external funding, including large-scale EU grants. The department intends to increase participation in EU and ERC projects, and it is building administrative competence to support large applications and grants.

The department wishes to achieve national and international recognition as a leading research and educational institution. Researchers are engaged in substantial national and international research collaboration, and the aim is to further strengthen these efforts, partly through existing and new research projects. Contributions to public debates and committees are also encouraged as a way of disseminating knowledge and contributing to social innovation and impact.

## 12.1.2 Institutional follow-up of previous evaluations

The department of Social Anthropology has responded adequately to the recommendations in the previous review. In dialogue with the RCN, the department developed a strategy for how to follow up the evaluation. It was recommended that the department should maintain its ethnographic focus, but be more theoretically ambitious in order to optimise the value and impact of ethnographies; to raise its ambition as regards generalising, and to support structures for theoretical advancements on the basis of its solid ethnographic tradition; to develop plans to enhance the scientific production of the less productive researchers; to focus more on how to support the next generation of researchers, to recruit more broadly; and to consider whether the focus on public dissemination may to some extent overshadow the department's role as a contributor to theoretical advancements in the field.

The department applied and received funding for a cutting-edge programme (ISP-project: Anthropos and the Material: Challenges to Anthropology). The goal was to strengthen the theoretical development of the discipline and to increase the number of publications in international journals. Three research groups were funded, and they have been active during the whole project period (ended 2016). The department has allocated funds to research staff to generate higher-quality publications.

The strategy has resulted in new ideas and perspectives, and new research collaboration across old research groups. In brief, the department has implemented the recommendations with clear signs of success.

## 12.1.3 Resources and infrastructure

The resources allocated to the Department of Social Anthropology by the University of Oslo and the Faculty of Social Sciences are adequate. Overall, the department is very well resourced. Research infrastructures are excellent, including IT support for various kinds of data.

Reliance on public funding is strong. As of 2017, external funding makes up 22% of total expenditure for the faculty as a whole. This proportion has risen slightly during the last two years. The relative growth in EU funding is notable, having almost tripled over the last three years.

Despite the strong funding base, the smaller groups in the department are vulnerable to fluctuations in funding. Furthermore, small start-up grants are generally not very available. This gives rise to a degree of vulnerability, especially for junior and mid-career staff, and it could impact negatively on possibilities for establishing new research projects.

## 12.1.4 Research environment

The research environment is characterised by a strong emphasis on interlinking research and education. In recent years, there has been a growing tendency to organise research in groups, although it remains an important principle that groups arise from the research interests of scholars. Researchers are encouraged to plan for the middle to long term when applying for grants and establishing research networks, to think creatively about the possibilities of initiating novel cross-disciplinary research, and to think carefully about the application of research in terms of impact and innovation. MA and PhD students are introduced to the overarching research profile and the research groups early on, and are encouraged to connect to them.

The faculty has five exchange agreements that include the PhD level. For the PhD level, Oslo Summer School in Comparative Social Science Studies is an important factor as regards international interaction and collaboration. Participation in research schools, for example The Norwegian Research School in Innovation and The Research School on Peace and Conflict, exposes PhD candidates to international networks.

Mobility is encouraged for all academic staff. There is extensive participation in seminars and conferences around the world, shorter and longer visits to other national and international institutions. International visitors are also regularly in place at the department.

The department has been and continues to be visible in public debate in Norway. Researchers are encouraged to participate in public debate, also debates aimed at non-academic professionals and others with professional qualifications and an interest in learning about the state-of-the-art in the research fields.

## 12.1.5 Research personnel

The department has done well in attracting international excellence to Norway. Staff are recruited internationally to vacant positions. The department has increased its recruitment of international scholars.

Mobility among junior staff and PhD students is encouraged and planned for in appraisal interviews.

The department has a very strong staff, comprising senior scholars of high international standing, highly productive mid-career scholars, and talented junior scholars and PhD students. The relatively large group of senior scholars contribute to maintaining continuity as regards delivering research of high quality. The impending retirement of some of the top researchers is acknowledged as a challenge.

The gender and seniority balance among research personnel has been improved in recent years. At the faculty level, however, there is a gender imbalance at the professorial level, with only 33% of professors being female, compared with 48% of postdocs and 54% of PhD research students (2016).

PhD output over the years fluctuates, with seven PhD defences in 2015 for example and only two in 2016. This fluctuation may be cause for some concern.

Excellent training and career development policies are in place and promotion procedures have been made more transparent.

## 12.1.6 Research production and scientific quality

The department generates research of excellent quality.

The scope of research themes covered by the department is broad, which encourages originality and innovation. The research programmes indicate the scope of research undertaken. In some areas (e.g. Overheating, Antropos and the Material), the department has made significant contributions to the advancement of the discipline. The ERC advanced grant awarded to a senior professor is an indication of the excellence of the research in this department. There is some concern, however, with regard to the role of the new programmes (Anthropology of Capitalism and Labour; Temporality/Materiality and States of Dependency) in maintaining the continuity of the department's research profile.

The department encourages interdisciplinary work, and some of its researchers have strong records in this respect. Another strength is the strong composition of the department, with a solid group of senior scholars and a dynamic group of younger, productive researchers.

The listed publications total 143, scientific impact relative to the OECD is 0.75, and the ratio between Level 1 and 2 is 49%/51%.

The department has a very active publication record. This is reflected in the high publication points per listed individual: 4.6. An interesting range of high-quality publications has been produced, which reflects the individual expertise of the staff. However, the number of articles in high-impact Anthropology journals is still relatively limited.

Assessment of scientific quality: 5 – excellent

## 12.1.7 Interplay between research and education

There is a high degree of integration between research and teaching, with teaching generally being research-based. Academic staff divide their time equally between teaching and research, and draw on their own research in teaching. Researchers at the Department of Social Anthropology participate in teaching at bachelor's, master's and PhD level, integrating their expertise into the training of the next generation. The development of a BA course on Overheating, based on research done under an ERC advanced grant is illustrative of the good link between research and training. The Nature and Society research group also demonstrates good integration of research and education.

PhD students usually pursue their own individual projects, with 20% being attached to an externally funded project. MA students are encouraged to connect with staff members' ongoing research and projects, and externally funded projects are presented to prospective master students, who are then invited to develop their projects in collaboration with the larger project group.

The ratio of teaching to research is 50/50 for permanent senior staff, and PhD fellows normally have a four-year contract with a 25% teaching load. Postdoc fellows vary between two years' employment without any teaching, to four years' employment with 25% teaching.

## 12.1.8 Societal relevance and impact

The case studies reflect the broad scope of research at the department and its international and interdisciplinary dimension. They are diverse and original, covering policies on kinship and procreation; arts and Anthropology; and salmon management and production. The cases are impressive in their ambition of making use of research findings to shed new light on topical phenomena and to engage

with practitioners in other fields. One case, ANTHRO-ART, demonstrates cutting edge work, building bridges between arts and Anthropology, including exhibits in prestigious museums. Another significant case, SALMONTALK, has convincingly demonstrated the impact of research on salmon management and production. New paradigms for the resolution of controversies have been presented at a meeting with the theme 'Can we live together?' The main contribution has been the 'Science and Technology Studies' (STS) move to frame the Salmon as 'multiple'. Another case, BIOTECH, has contributed significantly to public debate and policies concerning kinship and procreation.

## 12.1.9 Overall assessment

The quality of research at the department is excellent overall. The research environment provides very good conditions for research. The department provides a dynamic and productive platform for individual research interests, as well as for the organisation of research interests into larger groups.

## 12.1.10    Feedback

The Panel recommends that the department:

- Review the organisation of research groups, with the aim of assessing their dynamism and productivity. Some research groups appear to be more dynamic and productive than others – hence, a review of research group organisation and strategy may be worthwhile.
- Investigate the possibility of allocating some funding to start-up grants for junior scholars, who have expressed interest in engaging in a new research field, and with the aim of generating new applications for external project funding. This could be highly valuable in terms of motivating younger scholars and generating new projects and collaborations.
- Continue to build on the recommendations of the last assessment on publication strategy and theoretical development with the aim of generating more theoretically informed and higher-profile publications.


# 12.2 Research group: Domestication

## 12.2.1 Introduction

The scientific goals of the Domestication research group are to explore the intersections between humans, animals and the material world with the aim of rethinking conventional narratives about domestication in light of recent ethnographic, archaeological and biological/genetic research, and to explore alternative models and narratives of relational practices that can sustain life in the Anthropocene.

## 12.2.2 Establishment and development

The topic of domestication was formally established as an 'Anthropos and the Material' research group in 2013. The research group has a dynamic leader, a senior figure, who has put together a productive group of researchers, including five members of the academic staff at the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo, four additional members from Aarhus University (Denmark) and the Department of Ethnography at the Cultural History Museum at the University of Oslo, and one emeritus professor from the Open University, UK (a grant was obtained from the Norwegian Centre of Advanced Studies for a one-year research visit).

## 12.2.3 Task and organisation

The Domestication research group is firmly situated in Anthropology, but it also works with historians, science studies scholars, biologists, archaeologists and artists.

There is a good research environment with a compelling agenda. Standard descriptions of domestication emphasise utility, symbolic significance or control. (Such idioms are a corollary to the ideology of dominant forms of domestication, such as agriculture and industrial farming.) The group argues that these fail to capture relational practices that exceed these modes. Alternative models may provide a better understanding of interrelations between humans and other beings.

## 12.2.4 Organisation, leadership and strategy

There are five permanent members of the Domestication research group, four male and one female, who spend 20% to 50% of their time on the group.

The intensive international collaboration and clear focus of the programme have proven to be successful strategies, leading to high-quality research, as well as substantial external funding. This is a talented team, that is well qualified to conduct its studies. The team has developed innovative ways of presenting its perspectives and insights, including exhibitions and interactive debates.

## 12.2.5 Research personnel

The personnel are of high standing and are supplemented by two high-profile collaborators from the UK (male) and USA (female). One postdoc (female) and PhD candidates have been recruited through external funding.

The senior professors have excellent CVs, reflecting both high impact and productivity; their colleagues, both mid-career and early-career scholars, are also very good researchers.

The senior researchers have mentored the younger scholars well, through the intensive collaboration on the research programme, resulting in the latter's career mobility. One researcher, for example, came from the University of California Santa Cruz, worked as a postdoc in the Oslo Domestication programme and then moved on to Aarhus University where she has been appointed as an assistant professor, in which capacity she still participates in the research programme.

## 12.2.6 Research production and scientific quality

Research has been produced in three main areas: 1. 'Domestication, conservation and the nature-culture divide'; 2. 'STS, interdisciplinary interfaces and science research stations as sites of knowing'; 3. 'Indigenous practices, (post)—colonial landscapes and the Anthropocene'.

The most important group output is an edited book (from a workshop funded by 'Anthropos and the Material' in November 2014) entitled *DeCentreing Domestication; Stories from the Margins*, which is now being considered by Duke UP.

In addition, *Traces of the Future* combined archival research and art photography with scientific reflections in a new way to challenge notions of historicity and temporality, and to rethink Colonial African research stations.

Moreover, an interdisciplinary conference on salmon, 'Can we live together?' (Kan vi leve sammen?), brought together salmon biologists and bureaucrats across the 'wild salmon'/'farmed salmon' divide and created a neutral arena for dialogue (on how salmon might be seen to 'speak' through the material and conceptual tools through which they are humanly represented).

Two project proposals will be resubmitted in 2017, to SAMKUL RCN and to TOPPFORSK RCN.

In short, the scientific quality of this programme is excellent, and the productivity impressive. The team has published in high-impact anthropological presses and journals, as well as in specialised interdisciplinary journals, reflecting the success of the programme.

## 12.2.7 Networking

Strong links have been established with the University of Santa Cruz, California (Centre for Advanced Study). Research funds flow from this, as well as a relatively small grant from SAI and external funding from the RCN. In addition, the group has collaborated with UC Davis, the Open University, and the University of Aarhus. Networking is clearly a beneficial strategy. One senior member of the group spent a sabbatical at the University of California, Santa Cruz, for example. There, she collaborated with another senior figure in the discipline – now also with a position at Aarhus University – thus extending internationally the dialectic of ideas feeding into the theme of domestication and the group's research programme.

## 12.2.8 Interplay between research and education

The insights from this research programme are integrated in two specialised master's courses at SAI on the group's research themes, one on 'ANT and Anthropology interfaces' and another on 'Materiality'. The team has also supervised two PhD students.

## 12.2.9 Societal relevance and impact

The case study presented is SALMONTALK, about how Norwegian rivers and waterways can host (threatened) wild salmon and a thriving aquaculture industry at the same time. This remains a key challenge relating to salmon that policymakers and practitioners face in Norway today. However, scientists studying conservation and aquaculture, respectively, are attuned to different perspectives on salmon and they rarely engage with each other's facts. The challenge calls for collaboration and therefore engagement across interdisciplinary as well as intra-disciplinary divides. The group therefore brought together key scholars in biology from both sides of the divide: a salmon farmer, and several representatives from NGOs (Greenpeace, WWF, Bellona), in addition to staff from the various government institutions. The argument of the case study is that salmon are 'multiple' and span any simple distinction between nature/culture. The meeting facilitated dialogue and overcame, to some extent, feelings of mistrust.

In short, this research programme has helped to mediate controversies around salmon production: a remarkable feat, given that anthropologists and STS scholars tend to comment from the sidelines on policy debates on environmental concerns. The reframing of the issues at stake has been productive in that several participants at the conference commented that the team had managed to create 'neutral' ground for debate.

In addition, the exhibit 'Ny-Arktis', a temporary exhibition at the Museum of Cultural History in spring 2016, explicitly sought to challenge the conventional understanding of the Arctic as barren and remote, and to encourage reflection on colonial aspects of Arctic heritage, as well as curiosity about Arctic ways of knowing and engaging with landscapes and animals.

## 12.2.10    Overall assessment

The Domestication research group has been at the forefront of the turn in Anthropology and Science and Technology Studies towards ethnographical studies and theorising on 'other than human' relational practices, rethinking nature-culture binaries.

Overall, this is a very balanced and viable research programme, and successful research group. The group demonstrates clear purpose and results. Especially commendable is the collaboration that has been successfully achieved between professionals and students, and across institutional and national boundaries.

Assessment of research group: 5 – excellent

### 12.2.11 Feedback

- The impact case study and the exhibition might be further followed up and explored: can Anthropology really impact upon a 'national consciousness'? This is a prospect worth exploring in more detail.
- The way that the research group combines academic excellence with societal impact might be shared with other groups in Norway as best practice: societal impact that goes beyond mere dissemination.
- Undergraduate teaching in this area might also be profitably undertaken.

# 12.3 Research group: Labour

## 12.3.1 Introduction
The research group Labour is part of the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo.

## 12.3.2 Establishment and development
The group was started at the Department of Social Anthropology in 2013 as a reading group attached to the *Anthropos and the Material* research project, funded by the Research Council of Norway. The department's aim is to contribute to strengthening the research environment by means of focused, collective and systematic research activity on the topic of labour.

## 12.3.3 Task and organisation
The central aims of the group have been (a) to generate and produce important scientific contributions to the Anthropology of labour, (b) to contribute to national and international academic exchange and cooperation, and (c) to strengthen the research environment at the department in Oslo by means of focused, collective and systematic research activity.

The core of the group's activity has been its regular discussion meetings. Since June 2013, the group has held more than 22 two-hour meetings, aimed at discussing selected readings (derived from the broad social science and anthropological literature on work and labour) and written work-in-progress by group members. In addition, the group has organised panels at conferences and workshops in order to develop its own scientific contributions.

## 12.3.4 Organisation, leadership and strategies
Consonant with the organisation of the group as a reading group, its structure is relatively loose, and its leadership is focused around its core meeting activities.

Overall, the research group has had some coordinating effect, but more limited effect on research and publication quality.

## 12.3.5 Research personnel
The group comprises both senior and junior level researchers. Some of the scholars involved in publishing are of high international standing. The balance between senior and junior researchers and the gender balance appear to be adequate. International recruitment to the group has extended its network to some extent. Training and career development have been attended to by providing opportunities for younger scholars to engage in reading, writing and discussions with more senior scholars around chosen research topics.

### 12.3.6 Research production and scientific quality

The group has been relatively successful in publishing although it is not clear to what extent the publications (except for the edited volume and the special JRAI issue) would not have been published in any case. The group's internal network ties and the collaborative efforts it has generated have been a major strength. The group has picked up on recent trends and conceptual developments in the research field, relating them to long-standing research on the Anthropology of Work and Labour. There is less evidence of a clear advancement of the state-of-the-art. There remains a large and untapped potential for multidisciplinary collaboration in the research area. Overall, the research group has had some coordinating effect, but more limited effect on research and publication quality.

The research and publications emanating from the group show a varied level of quality, with some of high and others of medium quality.

### 12.3.7 Networking

The group's activity has to some extent been internationally oriented and has made it possible to further develop valuable research collaboration across institutions, most notably with anthropology departments in Oslo, Manchester, Stanford and Barcelona.

### 12.3.8 Interplay between teaching and research

The group is based on the research interests of its participants. It is not clear, however, whether the research focus of the group has had any impact on the design of the educational curriculum in the department as a whole.

The balance between teaching and research reflects that in the Department of Social Anthropology as a whole, although the activities of the group appear to have largely been undertaken as voluntary, additional activities rather than as part of the research allocation in employment contracts.

### 12.3.9 Societal relevance and impact

There is no case provided and the reading group appears not to have engaged in any substantial knowledge exchange activities aimed at societal impact outside the research department.

### 12.3.10    Overall assessment

The group draws together scholars who carry out high-quality research and whose publications are generally of high quality. In the group, the domain of labour comprises a large variety of topics, some of which would appear to be more mainstream Anthropology. Apart from the special journal issue and the book manuscript, which demonstrate focus and the state-of-the-art in the domain of the Anthropology of Labour, the group appears to be loosely integrated and its focus relatively diffuse. There is thus a clear potential to further articulate the focus of the group and to consolidate the research done in the group in order to more distinctly advance theoretical development and the state-of-the-art in the research field.

Assessment of research group: 4 – very good

### 12.3.11    Feedback
- The group should endeavour to more clearly articulate the contours of its research focus.
- A higher degree of coordination and organisation to make a collective contribution to the research field would benefit thematic research and publication activities.
- The recruitment of younger scholars to the group should be facilitated and measures taken to further mobilise younger scholars to engage in the topic.

# 12.4 Research group: Overheating

## 12.4.1 Introduction
'Overheating: The three crises of globalisation. An anthropological history of the early 21st century' has dedicated itself to the comparative study of globalisation in its early 21st century manifestation, and the crises resulting from the acceleration and intensification of global processes.

Three major crises of globalisation are explored and analysed: 1) crises emerging in the realm of environmental issues/climate change; 2) crises in the financial and economic realm; and 3) crises in the area of culture contact and identity. The main research question is to what extent contemporary world society is sustainable in relation to the three crises and their internal dialectics.

## 12.4.2 Establishment and development
'Overheating' commenced in July 2012 after being awarded an ERC Advanced Grant in 2011. With its Principal Investigator obtaining EUR 2,496,344 in funding to be spent over a period of 60 months, it was possible to establish a large research team at the Department of Social Anthropology at Oslo University.

## 12.4.3 Task and organisation
The Principal Investigator, his four postdoctoral fellows and his two PhD students have all engaged in ethnographic field research of varying length during the period 2013– 2015. The remaining time has been spent organising international workshops and conferences with a view to publication, and presenting as a group at major anthropological conferences, with members also pushing their individual and/or collective writing projects forward.

## 12.4.4 Organisation, leadership and strategy
Since its inception, Overheating has been a significant research group within Social Anthropology at Oslo. There are nine core researchers, and a large number of Norwegian and international collaborators. This structure appears to have been very successful in generating significant high-quality research output.

It is notable that the more junior members of the research team have, by and large, moved quickly towards publishing, which suggests that the group has a dynamism and a strong, nurturing leadership style and structure. The group and project are rooted in comparative ethnographic projects, with in-depth studies being triangulated with global surveys of existing literature and systematic comparison. This strategy is supported by a range of communication media – from virtual communication to international research workshops and seminars that draw the team together in collective endeavours. This fosters both integration within the group and international research collaboration, and has already encouraged members of the group to submit their own sub-projects for external funding. Everything appears to be working well.

## 12.4.5 Research personnel
'Overheating' is made up of a core group of nine researchers (ranging from PhD students to professors in their various career stages), plus a large number of external academic collaborators from Norway and abroad, who have participated in the Overheating project for shorter periods (e.g. through workshops, conferences, or as part of the Overheating seminar series). In addition, 13 MA students have also been attached to the project in the last few years.

'Overheating' has led to the training and career development of both PhD students and postdoctoral fellows. Positions for postdoctoral fellows and PhD students were advertised internationally, and two separate scientific committees evaluated the applications.

The senior members are international leaders in their fields (as manifested by their directorship of the Max Planck Institute and presidency of the European Association of Social Anthropologists). More junior members are on their way to becoming internationally significant scholars. There are no staff members from outside continental Europe, and, particularly given the focus on globalisation, it is a shame not to find at least some research personnel from the Global South.

The provisions for training and career development are not spelt out in the self-assessment, although the doctoral and post-doctoral training procedures presumably dovetail with those of the department and University of Oslo. There is a significant focus on international exchanges in the training and career development strategy.

## 12.4.6 Research production and scientific quality

Under the leadership of its Norwegian PI – and with the involvement of senior European figures from outwith Norway – a number of publications have emerged and six international workshops have been organised in Oslo so far.

Two special issues, two monographs (including an overarching theoretical monograph, *Overheating. An Anthropology of Accelerated Change,* one edited volume and a multitude of peer-reviewed articles have already been published at the time of writing, with many more publications still under way.

Given the range of publications produced by the group as a whole – and the numbers of publications cited by members of the group in their CVs – it is slightly odd that the group has elected to nominate publications mostly drawn from a single special issue of the journal *History and Anthropology*. This seems even more odd since the journal is classified as Level 1 in the Norwegian classification of journal quality and impact.

That said, the contributions to this special issue eloquently demonstrate the empirical foci and comparative scope of the Overheating project as a whole. The article by the PI serves to draw together in a comparative context the aims and objectives of the project and group, summarising – and indeed pushing forward – the 'state-of-the-art' in both the study of globalisation and the phenomenon of (overheated) globalisation itself. The other articles are significant case studies within this overall rubric, covering issues relating to migration, the extraction industries and the rise of right-wing political populism. Together, they summarise a particular slice of the contemporary socio-political-economic predicament, as seen through the evidence from the UK, Central Europe and West Africa.

The other articles presented cover (among other things) ritual, social activism and human-animal relations in Sri Lanka, climate change in Latin America and the US military in South Korea. These pieces also demonstrate the scope of the ethnographic focus that the group/project seeks to develop, but also the independence with which more junior members of the team are developing their own expertise and agendas.

The output has a strong Social Anthropology focus, but with potential and actual interdisciplinary contributions made at the margins. This interdisciplinarity is an element of the project that might be further developed to have a greater impact across the disciplines.

## 12.4.7 Networking

Globalisation has been at the very centre of the Oslo Department of Social Anthropology's research efforts for many years now. Through the 28 Overheating seminars given by renowned international

scholars, and the six workshops organised by members of the team, the group has established many links to academics based in the UK (e.g. at Durham University), in the United States (University of Hawai'i) and Australia (University of New South Wales). Collaborations with scholars in other disciplines – system biologists, cultural historians, economists and geographers – have also been seen as crucial.

Overheating has developed strong international research networks. Within Norway, there are potential opportunities to develop further collaboration with other research groups working on similar and related themes, for example, the University of Bergen group on Egalitarianism, which in its work on state/society relationships and political populism covers some of the same ground as Overheating.

## 12.4.8 Interplay between research and education

The BA-level course, 'Overheating. The Anthropology of accelerated change', has been running for three consecutive autumn semesters (2014-16): some 70 students enrolled for the course lectures, which are co-taught by six members of the core team and were also filmed and made available online for wider audiences to view. This demonstrates a direct contribution by the group, and project, to the BA syllabus.

The balance and distribution of teaching within the group is not spelt out in the self-assessment.

## 12.4.9 Societal relevance and impact

The Norwegian PI of Overheating has given talks on provisional results of the project in a large number of arenas, academic and non-academic, in Norway and in other countries. He has, for instance, made keynote speeches on Overheating at meetings of the German, Polish and Australian anthropological associations.

Since 2015, the PI has, as mentioned, also been President of the European Association of Social Anthropologists, which has further widened the project's sphere of reach within Anthropology.

The case study presented is 'CRISES'. This is a version of the Overheating project as a whole. More precisely, the case study focuses on media appearances relating to extremism and contributions to policy forums at the Norwegian and EU level. What is not so clear from the case study is the extent to which these contributions have 'fed through' to concrete impacts within the policy world or otherwise. This is not to say that there has been no impact, but that the impact is not clear.

'Impact' is generally claimed by way of publications, hits on a Facebook page, blogs and public talks and broadcasts. 'Overheating' has indeed concentrated on non-academic dissemination as an avenue for developing impact, with the chief aim of 'raising awareness' of the issues the project/group is dealing with. As seen, this has led to a number of 'popularising' initiatives – through popular texts, media and social media.

## 12.4.10    Overall assessment

This is a very successful and productive research group, with a high international profile, under a senior leadership that has recruited a strong team of established and more junior scholars around a very clear research agenda.

'Overheating' is producing some very high-quality work that is both timely and relevant to the concerns of contemporary world society. The more junior members of the group appear to be very well qualified and also highly motivated to publish work of high quality.

Assessment of research group: 5 – excellent

## 12.4.11      Feedback

The submission of the Overheating report tends to underplay the range of publications produced and the contribution of its Anthropology to broader social science and debates about globalisation:

- More work could be done to provide evidence of the impact of the research on the non-academic world.
- How does 'overheating' relate to other concepts similarly born out of the introduction of global thinking into social science?
- Be more ambitiously analytical in the consideration of research outcomes.

# 13  VID Specialized University

## VID Specialized University, Faculty of Social Sciences

| Units included in the evaluation of social anthropology | -  Faculty of Social Sciences | | | Listed researchers | | 6 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Listed research groups | | 1 | |
| Other units of the faculty (institution) | - Faculty of Health Sciences (on four campuses<br><br>- Faculty of Theology, Diakonia, and Leadership (on two campuses)<br><br>- Centre for Diaconia and Professional Practice<br><br>- Centre for Mission and Global Studies | | | No. of researchers in listed research groups | | 6 (9 CVs) | |
| | | | | ***Training, recruitment and academic positions*** | | | |
| | | | | | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** |
| | | | | ***No. of PhD graduated at the institution per year*** | | | |
| | | | | Male/Female | - | - | 0/0 |
| ***R&D expenditures and sources of funding (1000 NOK)*** | | | | Total per year | - | - | 0 |
| | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | ***No. of positions announced / No. of qualified applicants per year*** | | | |
| ***Funding of the institution*** | | | | PhD positions | - | - | 2/5 |
| Total expenditures | - | - | 316 899 | Post.doc positions | - | - | 0/0 |
| | | | | Permanent positions | - | - | 0/0 |
| ***Types of funding*** | | | | ***Education*** | | | |
| Core funding from the Norwegian gov. | - | - | 242 369 | **Study programmes BA level**<br><br>Social studies<br>Social work<br>Religion, culture and globalization<br>Nursing | | | |
| External funding, RCN | - | - | 2 454 | **Study programmes MA level**<br><br>Intercultural work<br>Global studies<br>Diakonia and Christian Social Practice<br>Social work | | | |
| External funding EU | - | - | 988 | | | | |
| External funding, other sources | - | - | 2 061 | **Other**<br><br>VID Specialized University was established 1 Jan 2016 as a merger. | | | |

# 13.1 Social Anthropology at the institutional level

## 13.1.1 Organisation, leadership and strategy

The structure of VID Specialized University is very new. It was established on 1 January 2016 through the merger of four church-based higher education institutions, one specialized university and three university colleges, with the aim of facilitating high-quality research and education. VID is divided into three faculties – health; social sciences; and theology, diakonia and leadership. Although there is no department of Social Anthropology or distinct Anthropology research group, there are anthropologists engaged in both research and education. In the VID institutional interview, it was highlighted that 'Anthropology, missiology, global studies and human rights studies kind of go together' and that it is particularly its methodological contribution that makes Anthropology relevant to VID. As such, VID does not appear to be strongly committed to Social Anthropology as a core discipline.

## 13.1.2 Institutional follow-up of previous evaluations

The university is new and has not been subject to previous evaluations.

## 13.1.3 Resources and infrastructure

The leadership structure is clear. The university has a Rector and a Vice-Rector of Research who chairs a research committee. Research efforts at the university are organised through the development of thematic research groups with a long-term perspective. At the general level, there is a clear strategic focus, which includes a research focus, the organisation of research groups (from autumn 2016), publication and international collaboration, as well as pursuing external funding.

The relevant infrastructures (subscriptions to and access to databases, archives and scientific collections) appear to be adequate. The unit appears to be under-resourced in terms of research funding, however. Compared to other Anthropology environments in Norway, VID has less core funding for research. All academic staff must apply for research time on a yearly basis, with a normal allocation of 20% for assistant professors, 30% for associate professors and 40% for full professors. Some assistant professors are given 50 % time for research in order to be admitted to one of VID's PhD programmes. Additional time is also granted for responsibility for leading research groups. Research fellows have either 75% or 100% of their time for research, depending on their educational responsibilities.

## 13.1.4 Research environment

The unit's research groups host regular guest lectures and seminars, and provide support for project development and research funding applications. The two PhD centres provide a programme of courses and extracurricular events. Within these cross-disciplinary contexts, Social Anthropology appears to be mainly seen as making a methodological contribution. Social Anthropology as a discipline is somewhat marginalised.

## 13.1.5 Research personnel

Research personnel are well qualified and some have achieved a high international profile in their research area. Conscious efforts appear to have been made to increase international recruitment, but they still mainly recruit from other HE institutions in Norway. Furthermore, they aim to strike a balance between younger and more senior scholars, and to have a balanced gender ratio. Currently, VID has no sabbatical system and no mobility programme, but it grants some assistant professors 50% research time for PhD studies, in addition to ordinary research fellows on 75 or 100% research time. VID also

hopes to be able to employ postdocs via the Marie Curie scheme. VID gives its PhD students the opportunity to stay abroad for one month.

VID has issued a declaration of diversity and anti-discrimination, although it is hard to see how this plays out in practice. They are also endeavouring to ensure that part-time researchers are employed full-time, but also in this connection, there is little to show how this actually works.

## 13.1.6 Research production and scientific quality

There are six anthropologists at VID, two men and four women. Between 2014 and 2016, they have an impressive combined record of 48 publications. However, only 17% of them appear in Level 2 journals and, despite the number of publications, the academic impact is rather low at 0.61 compared with the OECD average. The bulk of the publications are published by one very prolific researcher, but often in not very high-profile journals.

The publications submitted by the unit indicate high quality overall, not least in the areas of policy, gender and nursing. The unit is working to raise the level of academic publications – by more researchers, at a higher international level, and in cooperation with international researchers. A major strength is the thematic focus, which forms the basis of the specialized university structure, and the high potential for interdisciplinary research.

VID submitted only seven articles under the 10 most important publications category. Five of them are journal articles and two are book chapters. The topics are quite varied, but only in a limited sense anthropological – none of the publications are in anthropological journals. Three of the publications could only be considered anthropological in the most cursory sense. Overall, it is difficult to see the anthropological impact of the group.

<div align="right">Assessment of scientific quality: 3 – good</div>

## 13.1.7 Interplay between research and education

Integrating research with practice and basing education on research are overall aims. The university also aims to increase student participation in research, and to open up research groups to students. PhD training is done at two centres (not at faculty level), and doctoral students are invited to take part in research groups.

The SWOT analysis indicates that the overall financial situation is demanding and puts pressure on the ratio between education and research – as also noted above. No PhD has graduated in Anthropology in the past three years

## 13.1.8 Societal relevance and impact

Research with impact and societal relevance is evidenced by a case on 'Human rights and patent rights, particularly scientists' human rights protection.' This case shows that research has had a significant impact on policy debates on human rights and legislation, also at the international level. The impact is significant, but limited to a single case study.

VID listed five dissemination events by their anthropological staff. Four of them are listed as popular science lectures/conference lectures and academic presentations. Three cannot be accessed and evaluated from our platform, but it is questionable how much impact they have had. The fourth is a role as a discussant at a Fafo seminar. The final one is an opening lecture at a Bishops' conference under the auspices of the Church of Norway.

### 13.1.9 Overall assessment

The quality of the research environment in the unit is good, and the unit has achieved acceptable impact at the institutional level. Cross-disciplinary research is clearly promoted, but anthropological contributions are rather limited, with no publications in anthropological journals.

### 13.1.10        Feedback

The unit is still very young and appears to have embarked on a promising trajectory. There is a high potential for further consolidation of thematically focused research, for the profiling of research units, and for interdisciplinary collaboration. However, if VID is serious about being a respectable environment for anthropological research, it needs to engage more in anthropological debates and publish in anthropological journals. There is certainly an appealing intersection between theology and Anthropology that could be explored beyond simply regarding Anthropology as a methodology.

The panel has the following recommendations:

- Efforts to further internationalise research would be beneficial.
- The rather weak funding situation needs to be addressed.
- Publish more in Level 2 journals
- Publish more in anthropological journals or journals designated for publishing at the intersection between Anthropology and theology.
- Anthropologists at VID should become better at disseminating to a broader public and at engaging with policymakers and practitioners.

## 13.2 Research group: International Diakonia

### 13.2.1 Introduction

International Diakonia is a research group at VID Specialized University, a new university established in 2016.  Its aim is to integrate research and (professional) practice in order to develop services in churches, religious organisations and welfare and care work. It also realises the strategy by focusing in particular, in its research projects, on values, ethics, power relationships, human rights, gender and international development. By collecting different research projects and interrelated research interests under one umbrella, the research group contributes to the aim of VID to establish research groups of excellence.

### 13.2.2 Establishment and development

The group has evolved as an umbrella organisation for various project and research activities at the Faculty of Theology, Diakonia and Leadership studies, the Faculty of Social Studies and the Faculty of Health Studies.

### 13.2.3 Task and organisation

The main research work takes place in several subgroups and project groups at the campuses in Stavanger and Oslo. However, the ambition is to link these groups and research activities into an overarching group, with twice-yearly meetings for the senior researchers and PhD students involved. The common interests of all the researchers are Christian/religious social practice and development work in a global perspective.

Given that the research group is based on and related to quite a number of other research groups, the aim of the umbrella organisation is to develop research that is directly connected to questions that

arise from the practice of developmental and diaconal work. The research work is based on interaction with partners from the different fields of practice, who contribute actively to the development of the research questions and projects.

## 13.2.4 Organisation, leadership and strategies

As mentioned above, the group has evolved as an umbrella organisation for various projects and research activities at VID. The group is focused around teaching (PhDs, MAs and BAs) and development work. It is currently in an early phase of its formation. It focuses on a wide range of topics and is linked to a wide range of other research groups.

The university has a clear leadership structure and strategic focus that contributes to a large extent to promoting an environment of high quality. VID has appointed leaders for all 15 research groups, with a specific time allocation (5-10%) for leadership of the groups, which means that there is a leadership structure across the three faculties, in addition to the university structure.

The work of the research group is mainly based on the research time that the members are granted as part of their academic positions. The researchers apply regularly for external funding, both nationally and internationally. They also apply for internal funding to organise international workshops and develop project proposals. They meet regularly to discuss research work in progress, PhD projects and research proposals. However, the meetings mainly take place at the faculty level and within the different project groups. Researchers' meetings for the Diakonia umbrella organisation are planned to take place twice a year.

All the senior researchers in the group publish in international journals and book projects. The senior researchers supervise and encourage their younger colleagues to contact the same high-quality journals for publication.

## 13.2.5 Research personnel

The group recruits high-quality researchers who are well established in their research fields. There are also a number of junior researchers and younger scholars who have been recruited internationally. The recruitment process aims to reach international applicants.

Because the university is the product of an extensive merger, it was quite difficult, based on the submission, to find out much about the qualifications and reputation of research personnel. The SWOT analysis for the whole department reports a high number of junior research fellows, and an increase in the number of employees with research competence. It also reports an increase in the number of international scholars among the staff.

VID university as a whole has a clear policy prohibiting discrimination based on sex, ethnicity, religion, disabilities/different abilities, sexual orientation, sexual identity or sexual expression. It has issued a declaration on diversity, which is used for recruitment purposes. VID also works actively to secure just work conditions for equal work, which may promote gender equality and prevent discrimination. Possible differences in salary levels have been monitored, and the conclusion is that no such differences exist after last year's pay settlement.

Senior researchers also engage younger researchers in research and publication activities with the aim of increasing the quality of their research and publications.

In all, the conditions for promoting high-quality research are in many ways met, although there seems to be a potential for further coordination within the group.

### 13.2.6 Research production and scientific quality

Four articles/book chapters in English were submitted for review. Some are very impressive, especially two on human rights and policy. The other articles were varied but also very well-written, exploratory and interesting. Only one was explicitly written by an anthropologist. One very fine article was by a mission historian, and another on nursing homes in Norway gave a fine, sensitive and informed account.

It is quite difficult to award a mark for scientific quality given the relatively low number of articles and chapters submitted, and no book.
A major strength of the group is its interdisciplinary approach, which contributes to its overall aim. The group contributes to advancing research in its field. Publications by some of the senior researchers are of excellent quality, not least publications on policy and human rights. Overall, even though the number of publications submitted is low, the quality of those submitted indicates high-quality research.

### 13.2.7 Networking

Several members of the research group are members of the International Society for the Research and Study of Diaconia and Christian Social Practice. Some of the members are actively involved in European and African networks that are working on the role of religion in community development (including universities in Finland, the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Ethiopia and Madagascar, and churches and civil society actors such as Digni and the United Methodist Church). In 2016, the Faculty of Theology, Diakonia and Leadership Studies recruited two professors from international networks in the field of theology, development and diaconia as guest professors for three years. The group thus has a strong international dimension and reach, extending, for example, to the International Society for the Research and Study of Diaconia and Christian Social Practice, and European and African networks focused on related interests.

### 13.2.8 Interplay between research and education

The group's research is closely related to several of the bachelor's and master's programmes and to both PhD programmes at VID, in particular the bachelor's programmes in Social Studies and in Religion, Culture and Globalization and the master's programmes in Diakonia and Christian Social Practice, Global Studies and Intercultural Work. The researchers in the research group cooperate closely with students on their bachelor's and master's degrees within smaller project groups. This cooperation feeds into the research group. The cooperation with different development actors in Africa, Asia and South America is another source of inspiration for the practice-related research. Student groups from the bachelor's programme in Social Studies participate in an exchange programme with partner universities in Madagascar each year.

Research is tightly integrated with teaching and practice. Research is based on interaction with partners from the different fields of practice, who contribute actively to the development of the research questions and projects.

The umbrella research group places strong emphasis on teaching and interaction with students at all levels. Mobility aspects are also emphasised and addressed, such as facilitating participation by students in an exchange programme with partner universities abroad.

### 13.2.9 Societal relevance and impact

The thematic focus and interdisciplinary nature of the university and the research group are highly conducive to the exchange of knowledge and impact at a broader societal level. Most publications and most research projects have a clear policy orientation.

As the submitted impact case study shows that by participating in two expert workshops at the UN in Geneva in 2013 and 2014, and written responses in 2014, the group impacted on the wording of the final report to the UN General Assembly on the implications of patent policy for the human right to science and culture (A/70/279), paragraph 34. Thirteen articles and seven book chapters (as well as two books) focused directly on the relationship between IPR and HR. Three legal opinions were written, one for the Norwegian Public Commission on Development Policy Coherence, on whether EFTA's trade agreements with other states include so-called TRIPS+ provisions (obliging states to have higher thresholds for IPR protection than required under TRIPS) and two for the African Centre for Biosafety. Broadly speaking, the case shows research that has been very influential in changing perceptions and understanding of this topic.

## 13.2.10    Overall assessment

International Diakonia is a loose teaching group with some very distinguished researchers and a clear thematic orientation and commitment. The research quality is high, but rather individualised at present. The group is very new, but the research and publications indicate a high quality of research and a promising trajectory.

Assessment of research group: 3 – good

## 13.2.11    Feedback

It seems evident that the group has a potential for closer cooperation and coordination, but this will take time and effort.

- The university should consider adding resources to strengthen research at the group level, in order to support the development of more tightly integrated research groups.
- The group should consider consolidating and expanding its specifically anthropological expertise, in line with the overall feedback to VID.

# 14 Overall assessment of Social Anthropology

## 14.1 Profile, strength and weaknesses

### 14.1.1 Follow-up of earlier evaluations

The previous evaluation signalled a need for Norwegian Social Anthropology to develop more ambitious theoretical agendas, to complement what was regarded – then as now – as the strong ethnographic tradition of the discipline in Norway. To this end, the Anthropology departments at NTNU, the University of Bergen and University of Oslo have successfully carried out ISP-funded projects with more general theoretical agendas.

The previous evaluation also signalled a need for more communication and networking across the institutions, particularly to remedy a marked north/south divide within Norwegian Social Anthropology. While the University of Bergen project on *De-naturalising Difference* has gone some way towards developing collaboration – with CMI, NTNU and UiO – and the NTNU-based mobility network (NAM) is beginning to build national networking capacity, there is still work to be done on collaboration and cooperation across the units. In particular, UiT – The Arctic University of Norway is still somewhat isolated in the context of Norwegian Social Anthropology.

The previous evaluation recommended raising the international profile of Norwegian Social Anthropology, particularly by targeting journals and publishers with higher scientific impact and international profile. Again, some progress has been made in this respect, but the panel noted a relative absence across the board of Norwegian social anthropologists publishing in the really major international Social Anthropology journals, and particularly those based in North America.

Significant progress has been made throughout Norwegian Social Anthropology in securing external research funds, and particularly the targeting of large collaborative research programmes. The panel was concerned, however, that, notwithstanding the ISP-funded projects outlined above and important ERC programmes, there is a more general shift towards funding targeted at particular policy-driven, engaged or applied agendas. Particularly in the non-university units, this has a narrowing effect, preventing social anthropologists from developing the kind of long-term fieldwork engagement that leads to both high-quality scientific output and high-quality societal impact. It also limits capacity for developing solid analytical/theoretical and comparative agendas. Some of these institutions have remarkable scientific impact (which is also reflected in the proportion of publications in Level 2 journals) despite the limitations, while others have low impact compared to the OECD average. One of the clear messages from the previous evaluation was that social anthropologists do not necessarily need large-scale funding or large research consortiums to produce high-quality research output. With one or two exceptions, this appears to have been largely overlooked, and the availability of small grants is limited.

Finally, the previous evaluation recommended developing strategies for nurturing productivity among relatively unproductive social anthropologists, nurturing more junior scholars to become the research leaders of the future, and encouraging mobility and internationalisation. As noted above, it has been difficult to identify how productivity breaks down within particular units. In some cases international 'Professor II' posts have been created to help boost productivity, and while there are often unit-level policies for staff development, there is a high degree of emphasis and reliance on the personal ambitions and motivations of particular researchers to produce high-quality research. This is similarly the case as regards nurturing young research talent. On a more positive note, Norwegian Social

Anthropology is becoming more international and mobile, particularly in the 'big two' departments in Bergen and Oslo, where hiring strategies at all levels are geared towards an international community of social anthropologists.

## 14.1.2 Across the institutions in Social Anthropology in Norway

The current evaluation presents a more diverse picture of Norwegian Social Anthropology than its predecessor in 2011. Relative to the earlier evaluation, there are more submissions by anthropologists working in interdisciplinary environments, in both the institute and university sectors. In this regard, the current evaluation does rather more than evaluate Norwegian Social Anthropology.

In some cases, it is clear that, although they are working in interdisciplinary contexts, researchers are committed to the aims and scope of social anthropological research. In others, this is less clear, and although the panel has attempted to evaluate research output on its individual merits, we have nevertheless outlined in the text – and particularly in the feedback – where we believe that units would benefit from consolidating their anthropological expertise.

## 14.1.3 Organisation, leadership and strategies

The previous evaluation referred to a marked tradition of 'big-manism' in Norwegian Social Anthropology, in which agendas and resources are dominated by particular senior (male) figures, whose intellectual shadow looms large over the units in which they work, and indeed over Norwegian Social Anthropology as a whole. While this is perhaps less marked in the current evaluation, given the expansion and diversification of Norwegian Social Anthropology, the panel was nevertheless concerned that there were enduring elements of this hierarchical leadership model. indeed, it may even have been exacerbated by the focus by funders on large-scale research programmes.

The previous evaluation hinted at the emergence of a gender-based division of leadership between the disciplinary centres and more interdisciplinary 'peripheries', in which the former have 'big men' and the latter 'big women'. This does not appear to have developed in as schematic a way as predicted, although it does appear to be the case that the more interdisciplinary units – in both universities and institutes – have a leadership structure that is more 'horizontal' than 'vertical/hierarchical'.

In general, there appears to be a reluctance on the part of units to have clear and concrete strategies for research output, other than calling for quality and maximisation. Again, there is heavy dependence on the individual agendas of particular researchers, and their motivations to research/publish and secure funding for 'their own' projects. This seems anomalous in a nation that has a very strong egalitarian and collectivist ethos. Particularly within the institute sector, some researchers feel compelled to 'follow the money', adopting a responsive rather than proactive strategy to the establishment of research agendas. The time pressure resulting from continuously having to generate research grant applications is also an issue.

## 14.1.4 Research personnel

Training and staff development is largely performed either at the institutional level, and/or in a rather ad hoc fashion within disciplinary and interdisciplinary units. Most institutions have a policy of gender equality in recruitment and staff development, though other indicators of difference, such as disability or ethnic origin, are less in focus.

In terms of gender, Social Anthropology in Norway is well balanced in terms of overall numbers and according to NIFU figures. The picture is skewed, however, if gender is combined with seniority. There are markedly more male than female full professors, and, in particular, more male professors in the

50-60 age band (the majority of female professors are 60+), suggesting that the active leadership of the discipline is decidedly male.

There is something of a tendency within units to self-reproduce, with an assumption that local PhDs – and in some cases even master's students – will go on to become postdocs and then be taken on as members of the academic staff. This is offset, however, in some units by a successful and active international recruitment strategy. Although all units had a strategy of advertising vacancies internationally, this is offset, particularly in the Institute sector, by Norwegian language requirements, and more generally by the relative attractiveness of different regions of Norway for international applicants. It is clear that the traction of different positions is highly uneven across Norwegian Social Anthropology, with a marked north/south divide. In essence, the northern units appear to have real difficulties attracting talent from elsewhere – from within Norway, or internationally. There needs to be a much more proactive recruitment strategy to tap into the large reservoir of high-quality, well-trained but unemployed or precariously employed social anthropologists, both nationally and internationally.

## 14.1.5 Research production and scientific quality

Considering its relatively small size, Norwegian Social Anthropology punches significantly above its weight in terms of the quality of its research output. The publication points per listed individual, at 4.03, are significantly higher than the Norwegian social science average of 2.84, and the quality of the research output read by the panel was very high.

Both topically and regionally, the outputs evaluated demonstrate a high degree of social and anthropological relevance, which is underpinned by strong empirical research in the ethnographic fieldwork tradition. The orientation of Norwegian Social Anthropology locates it strongly within the international disciplinary mainstream, although, also significantly, some of its central concerns – with human rights, social inequality and injustice etc. – have a decidedly Norwegian flavour. The panel does not wish to single out particular thematic or regional areas of research for comment or commendation, because *en tout* Norwegian Social Anthropology covers the range of topics and regions one would expect from a leading community of social anthropologists. The one possible omission is work on the Middle East and North Africa – although this may be an artefact of the structure of the evaluation, rather than a substantive omission.

## 14.1.6 Research cooperation

Networking and cooperation both within and between institutions could be improved, to the benefit of all concerned. Cooperation between disciplinary and interdisciplinary units could give the former access to new funding streams and help develop knowledge exchange and societal impact, while giving the latter access to state-of-the-art theoretical ideas with which to contextualise and analyse their practice. In a broader sense, cooperation could help to even out the north/south divide within Norwegian Social Anthropology. At the moment, as with much of the research practice evaluated by the panel, Social Anthropology's networks are mostly oriented around individual 'moments' of cooperation, rather than long-term strategic partnerships. More concerted, higher-level cooperation could help to ameliorate the problems of the north/south divide.

Although there are two significant ERC projects in Norwegian Social Anthropology, broader use of European funds is a little limited, and even the applied Institutes do not seem to be pursuing Horizon 2020 funding. This would require further networking across Europe, and linking up with other European institutions, but could significantly benefit the discipline in Norway.

The panel also noted that, although very strong social anthropological research is conducted within Norway, relatively few attempts are being made to make cross-Nordic or cross-Scandinavian comparisons. There is a missed opportunity here, and Norwegian social anthropologists could usefully develop networks across the region to do comparative work – on welfare state policy, for example, or responses to patterns of international migration and refugees.

## 14.1.7 Interplay between research and education

The panel was generally impressed by the level of integration of research in teaching. For those units that are responsible for teaching programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, there was considerable evidence that students were being taught directly on the basis of contemporary and ongoing research. In some cases, research programmes devised new courses to funnel research findings into the teaching experience. Units with less direct responsibility for teaching also often had expert courses, or made contributions to existing courses. On the whole, this is a vibrant teaching/research environment.

Overall, the balance between teaching and research appears to be appropriate, and the panel did not get the impression that individuals were 'hiding from' or devaluing teaching significantly. The balance between teaching and research in terms of individual workload is something that needs consistent monitoring in each unit, although only one unit referred explicitly to the difficulties of balancing teaching and research – this in a context of chronic staff shortages.

## 14.1.8 Societal relevance and impact

The panel found very high levels of high-quality societal impact within the overall community of Norwegian social anthropologists. This is in part indicative of the strength of Social Anthropology within the institutes, but mainly points towards the longer-term commitment to engaged or socially-relevant research within Norwegian Social Anthropology.

What was abundantly clear to the panel was that the best societal impact came from long-term research engagement with particular communities. This goes against the received wisdom in some circles that impactful research can – and perhaps should – be 'quick and dirty'. Rather, it is by establishing long-term ties through long-term and repeated fieldwork that relevant impact becomes possible.

The case studies demonstrate a range of different kinds of impact, in different contexts – from the development of policy in various contexts, to mediation in complex public debates and curating art exhibitions. The panel identified the following 'top10' case studies, presented in alphabetical order of the institution from which they come:

**Table 1 Example of impact cases within Social Anthropology**

| Institution | Impact case |
| --- | --- |
| CMI Chr. Michelsen Institute | Capacity building and strengthening Norwegian diplomacy in Sudan |
| Nordland Research Institute | Climate Change |
| Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences/ Faculty of Landscape and Society | Flows |
| Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Science, Centre for Welfare and Labour Research | Urban Anthropology Oslo |
| UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education | Namibia |
| University of Bergene, Faculty of Social Sciences | EU Pacific |
| University of Oslo, Centre for Development and the Environment | Lancet |
| University of Oslo, Faculty of Social Sciences | Anthropology of Art |
| | Salmontalk |
| VID Specialized University | Intellectual Rights and Property |

In addition to the specific societal impact cases, Norwegian Social Anthropology is highly involved in broader knowledge exchange and dissemination activities, both within Norway and internationally – from media presentation, to TEDx talks, to the production of TV shows, and more. It is a highly active and engaged community of scholars.

# 1.1 Overall feedback

The situation for Norwegian Social Anthropology looks extremely positive. There is still work to be done on capitalising fully on the range of expertise, and on developing synergies across and between units, but, overall, Social Anthropology in Norway is very strong relative to its size.

Overall, the panel has three strong recommendations:

1. Retain, protect and further develop the discipline's commitment to long-term fieldwork. It is clear to the panel that long-term fieldwork is necessary to generate high-quality scientific output *and* high quality societal impact. All stakeholders need to recognise this.
2. Long-term fieldwork also requires time to digest, analyse, compare and write up. The panel would emphasise the need to retain, protect and further develop social anthropologists' time to *think.*
3. If fieldwork and time to analyse fieldwork are preserved, Norwegian Social Anthropology has the capacity to aim even higher in terms of its international profile and position within the discipline globally. It should aim high. In practical terms, it should target more of the high-level international journals and publishers – particularly those located in North America.

## 14.2.1 Feedback to the institutions

Social Anthropology in Norway is very strong as a discipline, though this strength is somewhat unevenly distributed. There are a number of common issues across the units that would help to balance the discipline, enable the 'weaker' units to develop, and also benefit the 'stronger' units. To this end, the panel recommends:

1. That in all the recommendations below, social anthropologists should be empowered to develop strategies and practices that are relevant to their needs as social anthropologists.
2. Encouraging social anthropologists to develop their own strategy for the development of research agendas, and encouraging collective strategising, rather than relying on the agendas of particular individuals/figureheads.
3. Establishing coherent career development strategies that actively nurture young research talent, rather than relying on individual motivation and ambition. This should focus on enabling and nurturing career development, rather than simply codifying promotion criteria, and exercise particular scrutiny of issues relating to the gender balance, and other diversity-related issues.
4. Establishing concrete and ongoing support for the development of research funding applications *and* high-quality research output – for example, through ongoing research mentoring, grant writing or writing-up workshops, writing retreats etc., and by inviting editors of top-ranking journals.
5. Establishing a coherent networking strategy to identify points of collaboration and collective endeavour both within the institution and across institutions, nationally and internationally (including in the Nordic region).
6. Being more proactive in terms of recruitment, particularly internationally.

## 14.2.2 Feedback to the Research Council

The Research Council of Norway has a vital role to play in further enhancing the reputation and quality of Norwegian Social Anthropology. The panel – although acknowledging the existing high levels of societal impact produced by Norwegian social anthropologists – would like to emphasise to the Research Council the importance of primary or basic research. We urge the Research Council not to allow the impact agenda to take over and to recognise the points made above: that good, basic research based on long-term fieldwork is at the heart of both excellent scientific research and high-quality impact. With that said, we make the following recommendations:

1. That the Research Council consider diversifying its funding streams to combine larger-scale with medium-scale and small-scale grants. The panel urges the Research Council to recognise that bigger is not always better in research funding, and that very high-quality research can often be produced with relatively little (or even no) funding. The key is diversity, to fit the needs of the research community.
2. That the Research Council play a significant role in further improving the quality of output – for example, by establishing specific funding streams for writing up research, or more comparative/theoretical projects.
3. That the Research Council take an active role in helping scholars to target high-quality journals or publishers – for example by hosting a national event to which journal editors and/or book series editors are invited to talk to and meet scholars.
4. That the Research Council play an active role in assisting with cross-institutional networking and communication to help nurture talent, facilitate an increase in the quality and profile of publications, and share best practice relating to societal impact. A particular target should be the established north/south divide in Norwegian Social Anthropology.

## 14.2.3 Feedback to the Ministry of Research and Education

Social Anthropology is something of a jewel in the crown of Norwegian – and indeed Nordic – social science. It consistently produces research of the highest scientific quality that stands comparison with the best research in the discipline internationally. At the same time, Norwegian Social Anthropology produces research that has a significant social impact within Norway itself, but also overseas. The Ministry of Research and Education can help to preserve and consolidate Norwegian Social Anthropology by:

1. Maintaining and facilitating a strong internationalisation agenda at both research and teaching levels.
2. Encouraging and facilitating research and teaching collaboration internationally, including between Norway and the Global South, but especially within Europe and within the broader Nordic region.
3. Encouraging and facilitating collaboration between different Norwegian institutions, particularly to ameliorate the effects of regional differences within Norway.
4. Recognising the value of disciplinary research and teaching within Social Anthropology, as well as interdisciplinary activities. Social Anthropology is successfully embedded in interdisciplinary units within both the university sector and the independent research institute sector. In all cases, however, the highest quality scientific and societal impact comes from the long-term immersive fieldwork that is at the centre of the discipline of Social Anthropology.

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# Figure and table list

# Appendices

## Appendix A: Terms of reference

# Evaluation of research in the social sciences in Norway 2016 - 2018

## Terms of reference

The Research Council of Norway has been charged by the Ministry of Education and Research with the responsibility for performing evaluations of research. The Division for Science has decided to evaluate research activities in the social sciences in Norwegian universities, university colleges and relevant research institutes.

### The objective of the evaluation

The objective of the evaluation is to review the overall state-of-the-art of research in the social sciences in Norway, focusing primarily on the situation in universities, university colleges and relevant research institutes. The evaluation will also take into consideration knowledge exchange and the societal impact of the research performed. For the higher education institutions, the interplay of research and education will be assessed. The conclusions of the evaluation will provide greater knowledge about the present state of social science research, and form the basis for recommendations on the future development of research within the various fields of the social sciences in Norway.

For the institutions evaluated, the evaluation is expected to provide insight, advice and recommendations that can be used to enhance their own research standards, taking into account the different roles and purposes for universities, university colleges and research institutes. For the Research Council, the evaluation will help to expand the knowledge base used to develop funding instruments and provide input on research policy to the Norwegian Government.

*The evaluation is expected to:*

- Review the scientific quality of the research within the social sciences in an international context;

- Provide a critical review of the strengths and weaknesses of the fields of research nationally, at the institutional level and for a number of designated research groups;

- Investigate the relevance and social impact of social sciences research in Norway in general and in particular its potential to address targeted societal challenges as defined in the Norwegian Government's Long-term plan for research and higher education;

- Assess the role of organizational strategies and leadership in promoting the quality of research, education and knowledge exchange;

- Assess the extent to which previous evaluations have been used by the institutions in their strategic planning;

- Investigate the extent of interdisciplinary research at the institutions and in the research groups;

- Identify the research groups that have achieved a high international level in their research;

- Review the role of the Research Council in funding research activities in the social sciences.

## Organisation and methods

The evaluation will be carried out by an international evaluation committee consisting of seven panels. Each panel will carry out the evaluation in its field of expertise.

Panel 1    Geography
Panel 2    Economics
Panel 3    Political science
Panel 4    Sociology
Panel 5    Social anthropology
Panel 6    Economic-administrative research
Panel 7    Educational research[31]

The panels will base their evaluations on self-assessments provided by the research institutions and a bibliometric analysis, as well as on interviews and presentations given in meetings with the involved faculties/departments and the social science research institutes. The self-assessments from the institutions will include factual information about the organisation, its resources and strategic plans, national and international research collaboration, dissemination and societal impact of the research, as well as education activities.

For a selected number of *research groups* the institutions will also provide CVs and publication lists for the group's members, a description of the scientific objectives and organisation of the group as well as a digital copy in full text of one scientific article or book chapter for each group member affiliated with a Norwegian research organisation. The Research Council will provide data on its funding of social sciences research and supplementary information on the societal impact of the social sciences in Norway.

The panels are requested to present their findings in written reports. Preliminary reports will be sent to the institutions included in the evaluation in order to check the accuracy of the factual information. The evaluation committee's final reports will be submitted to the Board of the Division for Science for final approval.

The principal evaluation committee will consist of the chairs of each panel.

## Tasks of the evaluation panels

The panels are requested to:
- Evaluate research activities with respect to scientific quality and impact.
- Evaluate the societal impact of the evaluated research activities.
- Evaluate how research activities are organised and managed.
- Evaluate the interplay of research and education activities in the higher education institutions and ensure coordination with the evaluation on education quality.
- Give specific recommendations for the future development of research activities.

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[31] The evaluation of educational research is organized in a separate evaluation process using the same methods and evaluation data as the other panels. Whereas the evaluation of social science research is organized under the Division for Science, the evaluation of educational research is organized under the Division for Society and Health and its result will be reported to that board. At the same time the evaluation of educational research will be considered as a panel under the evaluation of social science research and thus be included in the report of the principal committee to the board of the Division for Science* *This decision was altered during the process, and the evaluation of Norwegian education research was launched as a separate report in March 2018: ISBN 978-82-12-03674-1 (pdf).

## Aspects to be addressed in the panel reports:

The following mandatory aspects must be addressed. The panels are free to include other questions/aspects they consider valuable to the evaluation.

### 1. National level

- Strengths and weaknesses of Norwegian social sciences research in an international context;
- Research cooperation nationally and internationally;
- The scientific and societal impact of the research, including relevance for societal challenges identified in the Norwegian Government's Long-term plan for research and higher education;
- Cooperation with other sectors of society (e.g. private and public sector);
- General resource situation regarding funding and infrastructure;
- Human resources, gender balance and mobility.

### 2. Institutional level

- Organisation, research leadership and strategy, including follow up of recommendations given in previous evaluations;
- Resource situation, such as funding, staffing, infrastructure and the balance between resources and research activities;
- The scientific quality of research within the disciplines included in each panel;
- Facilitation of scientific quality, e.g. publication strategies, focus areas of research, national and international research collaboration;
- Training, mobility and career paths, e.g. policies for recruitment, mobility, career paths as well as gender and age balance in academic positions;
- Research collaboration and facilitation of collaboration and networking activities at the national and international level;
- Collaboration and contacts beyond academia, including strategies for dissemination of the research, examples of impact and the social relevance of the research;
- The interplay of research and education activities in the higher education institutions, including strategies to enhance it.

### 3. Research groups

- Organisation, research disciplines and competence of members;
- Research activities, scientific quality and production. The scientific quality of the research groups should be assessed according to a 5-point scale;
- Training, mobility and career path of researchers;
- Research collaboration and networking activities at the national and international level;
- Use of research infrastructure;
- Knowledge exchange and societal impact of the group's research, value added to partners outside of academia;
- If relevant, the groups' contribution to education activities.

## Tasks of the principal evaluation committee

The committee is requested to compile a summary report based on the findings, assessments and recommendations of the panels. This report should offer an overall assessment of the state of the research evaluated. The report should also offer a set of overall recommendations concerning the future development of research in the social sciences.

The committee is requested to:
- Summarise the overall scientific quality and relevance of the research in the social sciences in Norway. Identify which research areas have a particularly strong scientific and societal impact in a national and international context, and which are particularly weak.
- Summarise general assessments related to structural issues such as institutional and national strategies, the institutional landscape, research infrastructure, recruitment and mobility.
- Summarise how the research institutions and the Research Council have followed up previous evaluations.
- Provide assessments and recommendations at the institutional level, taking into account the different roles and purposes for the universities, university colleges and research institutes.
- Provide assessments and recommendations at the national level, including the role of the Research Council in funding research activities in the social sciences.

The committee's conclusions should lead to a set of recommendations for the future development of research in the social sciences in Norway, providing advice to the research institutions, the Research Council and the Ministry of Education and Research.

# Appendix B: Overview of participating institutions, number of researchers and research groups

| Institution | No. of researchers | No. of research groups | Participating in panel* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bergen University College | 20 | 1 | 6 |
| BI Norwegian business school | 153 | 3 | 2 and 6 |
| CICERO Center for International Climate and Environmental Research | 27 | 1 | 1, 2 and 3 |
| CMI Chr. Michelsen Institute | 59 | 2 | 2, 3 and 5 |
| Fafo Institute for Labour and Social Research | 58 | 3 | 3, 4 and 5 |
| Fridtjof Nansen Institute | 29 | 2 | 3 |
| Frisch Centre | 37 | 2 | 2 |
| Hedmark University of Applied Sciences | 32 | - | 4 and 6 |
| Institute for Social Research | 45 | 4 | 2, 3 and 4 |
| IRIS International Research Institute of Stavanger | 28 | - | 3, 4 and 6 |
| Lillehammer University College | 52 | 2 | 3, 4 and 6 |
| Molde University College | 30 | 2 | 6 |
| NHH Norwegian School of Economics | 287 | 11 | 2 and 6 |
| NINA Norwegian Institute for Nature Research | 25 | - | 1, 2 and 4 |
| NIPH Norwegian Institute of Public Health | 19 | - | 3 |
| Nord University, Business school | 76 | 3 | 4 |
| Nord University, Faculty of Social Sciences | 63 | 3 | 2 and 6 |
| Nordland Research Institute | 31 | 3 | 1, 4, 5 and 6 |
| Norwegian Institute for Defence Studies | 21 | 1 | 3 |
| Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Faculty of Social Science/ Faculty of Landscape and Society | 54 | 4 | 1, 2, 3 and 5 |
| Norwegian University of Life Sciences, School of Economics and Business | 57 | 4 | 2 and 6 |
| Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Faculty of Economics and Management | 179 | 2 | 2 and 6 |

| Institution | No. of researchers | No. of research groups | Participating in panel* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Faculty of Social Sciences and Technology Management | 129 | 7 | 1, 3, 4 and 5 |
| Norwegian University of Sport and Physical Education | 21 | 2 | 4 and 6 |
| NUPI Norwegian Institute of International Affairs | 38 | 2 | 2 and 3 |
| Oslo and Akershus University College, Centre for Welfare and Labour Research | 172 | 8 | 3, 4 and 5 |
| Oslo and Akershus University College, Faculty of Social Sciences | 77 | 3 | 3, 4 and 6 |
| PRIO Peace Research Institute in Oslo | 35 | 3 | 1 and 3 |
| TØI Institute of Transport Economics | 23 | 1 | 4 and 6 |
| Uni Research Rokkan Centre | 28 | 4 | 2, 3 and 4 |
| University College of Southeast Norway | 48 | 3 | 4 and 6 |
| University of Agder, Faculty of Social Sciences | 93 | 5 | 1, 3, 4 and 6 |
| University of Agder, School of Business and Law | 62 | - | 2 and 6 |
| University of Bergen | 215 | 12 | 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 |
| University of Oslo, Centre for Development and the Environment | 21 | 3 | 1, 3 and 5 |
| University of Oslo, Faculty of Law | 16 | - | 3 and 4 |
| University of Oslo, Faculty of Social Sciences | 306 | 13 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 |
| University of Stavanger | 172 | 7 | 4, 4 and 6 |
| University of Tromsø, Faculty of Biosciences, Fisheries | 76 | 2 | 2, 4 and 6 |
| University of Tromsø, Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education | 58 | 4 | 1, 2, 3 and 5 |
| VID Specialized University | 26 | 3 | 4 and 5 |
| Western Norway Research Institute | 7 | 1 | 1 |
| **42 units** | **3005 researchers** | **136 research groups** | |

**\* Panels:**
1= Geography
2= Economics
3= Political Science
4 = Sociology
5 = Social Anthropology
6 = Economic-Administrative Research Area

# Appendix C: Institutional self-assessment, level 1 and level 2
# Institutional self-assessment - Guidelines

**The self-assessment form consists of two levels:**

1.  **The research institution**
2.  **The research discipline(s) corresponding to the panel**

In this evaluation, the term 'research institution' refers to either an independent research institution/research institute or to the faculty-level of a higher education institution. The research institution is responsible for the self-assessment at both level 1 and 2.

For each panel, the self-assessment should include information on both the research institution (level 1) and the relevant research discipline(s) (level 2) participating in the evaluation. Level 2 will in several cases cut across organisational units, but the rationale is to highlight each discipline corresponding to the panel.

**List of panels:**

**Submitting the self-assessments**

Panel 1    Geography

Panel 2    Economics

Panel 3    Political science

Panel 4    Sociology

Panel 5    Social anthropology

Panel 6    Economic-administrative research

The self-assessments, including all attachments, should be submitted as an editable pdf-document by e-mail to sameval@forskningsradet.no no later than **10. March 2017**.

Please write in English and avoid using abbreviations or acronyms that are not standard.

**Format of the pdf-document**

Documents should use Times New Roman 12-points font size and be structured as follows –
with all the attachments after the Self-assessment form:

| | |
|---|---|
| Front page with the name of the research institution | |
| List of contents | Use the chapter titles indicated in the outline on p. 2-4 of these guidelines |
| Self-assessment research institution (level 1) | • Self-assessment form level 1<br>• Fact sheet including organisational map and list of funding sources<br>• SWOT analysis |
| Self-assessment research discipline/ panel (level 2) | • Self-assessment form level 2<br>• Form 1: Number of positions that have been announced during the past three years and the number of qualified applicants<br>• Form 2: Audience of scientific publications<br>• Excel-file: Overview of study programmes<br>• Form 3: Research matching the priorities in the Norwegian Government's Long-term plan for research and higher Education and other relevant policy documents<br>• List of 10 most important publications<br>• List of 10 most important dissemination and knowledge exchange results |
| The societal impact of the research – case studies (level 2) | • List of cases studies attached in separate pdf-documents<br>• The names of the case study documents should be in the following format: SAMEVAL[institution]-[research discipline/panel]-case[number or short name] |

# Self-assessment level 1

## 1. The Research institution (indicative number of pages)

### 1.1 Organisation & strategy (3 pages)
a. Describe how the research institution is organised by 01.01.2017 (refer to organisational map in the **fact sheet**). If relevant, you may expand on recent organisational changes in a separate item (see item 1.2)
b. Describe briefly the governing structure of the institution, focusing on the delegation of responsibilities for research, knowledge exchange and, if relevant, education, within the organisation.
c. Present briefly the institution's strategic aims for the next 5-10 years. Include current prioritised research areas.
d. Describe current strategies for national and international research collaboration, as well as for collaboration with non-academic partners (private, public or 'third' sector).
e. For those who have been evaluated by the RCN within the last 15 years: Describe how the evaluations have been followed up by the institution. Institutions may refer to previous reporting to the RCN where relevant.
f. Give a **SWOT analysis** (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) of the institution using the enclosed template.

### 1.2 Organisational changes, if relevant (1 page)

Describe recent organisational changes, or planned reorganisations, and the reasons for these changes. Implications of ongoing merging-processes for organisation, governing structures and strategic aims should be described.

### 1.3 Resources & infrastructure (1 page)

a. Give an overview of the resources of the institution by filling in the enclosed **fact sheet**.
b. Describe major research infrastructures (such as databases, archives, laboratories and scientific collections) at the research institution, detailing any important upgrades over the past 5-10 years and/or new equipment needs. Refer to Norway's national strategy for research infrastructure 2012-2017 where relevant.

### 1.4 Gender, mobility and career paths (1 page)

a. Describe the research institution's policy for gender equality, and how this is followed up.
b. Describe the institution's policy for mobility and career paths. Include to what extent researchers are recruited from other Norwegian and/or international institutions. Where relevant, please describe policies for international collaboration and career planning for PhD-students and postdocs.

    c.   Has the institution implemented the European Charter & Code and been awarded the brand "HR Excellence in Research", or will the European Charter & Code be implemented soon? If not, please elaborate on the reason for this.

## Self-assessment level 2

## 2. Research discipline(s) corresponding to the panel

### 2. 1 Employment (2 pages)

    a.   Please describe plans for recruitment within the research discipline.

    b.   Give an overview in **Form 1** of the number of positions that have been announced within the research discipline during the past three years (2014-2016) and the number of qualified applicants (all levels).  Include to what extent researchers are recruited from other institutions in Norway or internationally.

    c.   If relevant, please describe how the PhD training is organized and to what degree PhD students are included in larger projects within the research discipline.

    d.   Indicate the normal distribution of time between research, teaching and other activities (administrative tasks, project acquisition etc.) for all academic positions and policies for redistribution of tasks between staff.

    e.   If relevant, describe the policy for research leave/sabbatical leave for academic staff.

### 2.2 Scientific quality (3 pages)

    a.   Give a brief overview of the research activities and research groups within the research discipline. Please provide details of the most important contributions to the larger research community over the last 5-10 years. Please include a list of the most important publications resulting from the research in this period (maximum ten publications).

    b.   Describe strategies for research development within the discipline, including strategies for scientific publications.

    c.   Please estimate the primary audience of your scientific publications in **Form 2**.

    d.   Please describe the significance of external research funding to the development of scientific quality within the research discipline.

### 2.3 Gender perspectives (1 page)

    a.   Describe the extent to which gender perspectives are integrated in the research within the discipline, providing examples of relevant projects and/or publications.

    b.   Please identify a contact person for forthcoming mapping of gender research in Norway.

### 2.4 If relevant: Interplay between research and education (1 page)

a. Indicate the linkages between the research within the panels of the evaluation and the study programmes offered by the institution. Use the enclosed **excel file** to indicate the study programmes based on the teaching activities of the researchers to be evaluated by the panel. If applicable, list research groups that are linked with the study programmes.

b. To what extent are students involved in staff research? Describe how and on what levels.

c. Indicate the main challenges for optimizing the interplay of education and research within the discipline and the measures taken to meet these challenges.

### 2.5 Societal relevance (2 pages)

a. Please indicate the relevance of the research within the discipline for the thematic priorities set out in Norwegian Government's Long-term plan for research and higher education or list other relevant policy documents in **Form 3**.

b. Describe strategies for dissemination, user-involvement and knowledge exchange, identifying any particular obstacles to achieving these aims within the discipline.

c. Please provide a list of ten important examples of dissemination/knowledge exchange activities of the research unit from the last 5-10 years.

### 2.6 Impact case studies

The institution is invited to document examples (cases) of the impact of their research beyond academia, according to the definitions provided in the attached form.

Please note the following requirements for reporting impact:

a. The research underpinning the impact cases should be anchored within the research institution.

b. Both the research and the impact should have been produced within the last 10 – 15 years. Priority should be given to more recent examples. Special circumstances may allow for extending the given time interval when necessary to explain longer research traditions relevant to the reported impact. In such cases, great importance should be attached to documenting tangible impacts within the time frame provided.

c. Each research institution is invited to submit one case per research discipline. If desired, the institution may submit further cases for evaluation, limited upwards to one case per ten researchers participating on one panel.

### 2.7 Other information
Include any other information that you consider relevant for this evaluation.

**Attachments**

- Fact sheet, including organisational map and list of funding sources
- SWOT analysis
- Form 1: Number of positions that have been announced during the past three years and the number of qualified applicants.
- Form 2: Audience of the results of scientific publications
- Form 3: Research matching the priorities in the Norwegian Government's <u>Long-term plan for research and higher education</u> and list of other relevant policy documents
- List of 10 most important publications
- List of 10 most important dissemination and knowledge exchange results
- Template for case studies: The societal impact of the research

Excel-file: Overview of study programmes


# FACT SHEET (level 1)

1. Research institution:
   ⇨ **Organisation Chart** (to be attached)

# Table 1: R&D expenditures and sources of funding (1000 NOK)

| Type of expenditures | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Research personnel (salaries including social costs) | | | |
| Other personnel (salaries including social costs) | | | |
| Other running costs | | | |
| Total expenditures | | | |
| **Types of funding** | | | |
| Core funding from the Norwegian government | | | |
| External funding from RCN | | | |
| External funding from other public Norwegian sources | | | |
| External funding from other private Norwegian sources | | | |
| External funding from the EU | | | |
| External funding from other international public sources | | | |
| External funding from other international private sources | | | |
| External funding as % of total expenditures | | | |

⇨ Please specify **main funding sources** (funders & programmes) in an attachment

## Table 2: Number of PhDs graduated at the institution per year

| | 2014 | | 2015 | | 2016 | | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| *PhDs graduated within:* | | | | | | | | |
| Panel 1 Geography | | | | | | | | |
| Panel 2 Economics | | | | | | | | |
| Panel 3 Political science | | | | | | | | |
| Panel 4 Sociology | | | | | | | | |
| Panel 5 Social anthropology | | | | | | | | |
| Panel 6 Economic-administrative research | | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | | | | | | | | |

## *2.* SWOT analysis
**Research institution:**

Give a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) of the institution.

Factors related to the organisation of research, available resources for research and the research activities themselves may be included.

| | STRENGTHS | WEAKNESSES | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Organisation** | | | **Organisation** |
| **Resources** | | | **Resources** |
| **Research** | | | **Research** |
| **Organisation** | | | **Organisation** |
| **Resources** | | | **Resources** |
| **Research** | | | **Research** |
| | OPPORTUNITIES | THREATS | |

**Form 1**      **Number of positions that have been announced during the past three year (2014-2016) and the number of *qualified* applicants (all levels).**

| | 2014 | | 2015 | | 2016 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Position | Announced | Applicants | Announced | Applicants | Announced | Applicants |
| Ph.D. | | | | | | |
| Post.doc | | | | | | |
| Permanent positions | | | | | | |

**Form 2**      **Roughly estimate which audience the results of your scientific\* publications primarily are intended for (in percentage)**

**The total of all categories should amount to 100%**

The evaluation panel will use this as background information to interpret publication citation data for the institution.

| | Within the academic discipline(s) | Beneficiaries outside the academic community |
|---|---|---|
| **National audience** | X% | X% |
| **International audience** | X% | X% |

\* Limited to peer reviewed publications according to the definition in CRIStin.

**Form 3**      **Long –Term Plan for Research and Higher Education**

In the Long-term plan (LTP) for research and higher education 2015–2024, the Norwegian government has identified six long-term priority areas:

1. Seas and oceans;

2. Climate, environment and clean energy;

3. Public sector renewal, better and more effective welfare, health and care services;

4. Enabling technologies;

5. Innovative and adaptable industry;

6. World-leading academic groups.

Please use **table 3** to list the most relevant active research projects addressing one or more of these priority areas. (The table can be expanded if necessary):

**Table 3: Research projects addressing priority areas of the LTP**

| Institution | Panel | Priority area of the Long-term plan for research and higher education | Research project (please include title of project, size in terms of researchers and budget, time frame) |
|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

# Please list other policy documents with strategic relevance for your research – if applicable:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**List of 10 most important publications the last 5-10 years**

Use Times New Roman 11-points font size for this list.

The research institution may submit publications from individual researchers as part of the self-assessment. Reference to the submitted publications should be made under the description of the relevant research discipline in the self-assessment (paragraph 2.2 Scientific quality).

| **Publications to be submitted** *Please provide full reference including DOI or URL for openly accessible publications** | DOI, URL or filename | Indicate pages to be read (if applicable)** |
|---|---|---|
| 1. |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |
| 4. |  |  |
| 5. |  |  |
| 6. |  |  |
| 7. |  |  |
| 8. |  |  |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 9. | | |
| 10. | | |

*) Publications that are not openly accessible should be attached as a PDF-file.

**) For monographs and other publications **exceeding 30 pages** the main ideas and findings of the publication should be indicated. The selected chapter(s) should not exceed 50 pages.

**List of 10 most important dissemination and knowledge exchange results the last 5-10 years**

Use Times New Roman 11-points font size for this list

**Specific guidelines:** Results of dissemination and knowledge exchange activities directed towards the public or different user-groups. This could be popular science publications, grey literature, books or articles, reports, contributions to media, products or information material.

| Title | Category* | Reference of sources |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | | |
| 2. | | |
| 3. | | |
| 4. | | |
| 5. | | |
| 6. | | |
| 7. | | |
| 8. | | |
| 9. | | |
| 10. | | |

*Use categories for registration in CRIStin

**The societal impact of the research – template for case studies**[32]

**Guidelines**

The impact of the research is defined as any effect on, change or benefit to the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment and quality of life, beyond academia. Impact includes, but is not limited to, an effect on, change or benefit to:

- the activity, attitude, awareness, behaviour, capacity, opportunity, performance, policy, practice, process or understanding

- of an audience, beneficiary, community, constituency, organisation or individuals

- in any geographic location whether locally, regionally, nationally or internationally.


Effects on other research or effects within the submitting institution (for instance the effects on teaching within the institution) are not to be reported as impact cases.


**How to report and submit impact-cases?**

Use the template on the next page to report the impact. Please copy the form for the submission of more than one impact case, so that only one case is reported per form.

- ⇨ Each case-study should be clearly named and saved in a separate pdf-file and attached to the self-assessment for the appropriate panel.

- ⇨ The name of the file for each case study should be as follows:
  SAMEVAL [institution]-[number of research panel]-[short case name]

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[32] The following is inspired by the 2014 evaluation of research in UK higher education institutions (the Research Excellence Framework REF, see www.ref.ac.uk).

**Template for case studies: The societal impact of the research**

| |
|---|
| **Institution:** |
| **Research discipline/panel:** |
| **Case number or short name (max 10 characters):** |
| **Name of impact case:** |
| Summary of the impact (maximum 100 words) |
| Description of the research underpinning the impact: (maximum 400 words.) (Include names of key researchers and, if relevant, research groups. A time frame for when the research was carried out should also be included). |
| Details of the impact (maximum 400 words) (Include a description of how the research has contributed to the impact on society). |
| References to the research (scientific publications) |
| References to sources to corroborate the claims made about the impact (publications, reports, media items, policy papers, etc.) |
| If relevant: External references (external users or others who have witnessed the impact and could be contacted to corroborate the claims made in the reported research cases). |

# Appendix D: Innmelding av forskergrupper

# SAMEVAL Innmelding av forskergrupper

*Veiledning til institusjonene desember 2016*

Institusjoner som har meldt inn forskere til evalueringen av norsk samfunnsvitenskapelig forskning har mulighet til å melde inn forskergrupper til evalueringen. Forskergruppene vil bli gjenstand for en nærmere vurdering av internasjonale fageksperter.

## 1.1 Kriterier for innmelding av forskergrupper:
Forskergrupper kan meldes inn dersom de oppfyller følgende kriterier:

| Kriterier | Beskrivelse |
|---|---|
| **Forskning på høyt internasjonalt nivå** | Dokumentert gjennom publikasjoner i sentrale internasjonale publiseringskanaler. |
| | En eller flere av gruppens medlemmer kan de siste 5 år eksempelvis ha:<br><br>- vært invitert foredragsholder (key note) på internasjonale konferanser<br>- hatt gjesteforskeropphold i utlandet<br>- hatt oppgaver som fagfelle i vurdering av publikasjoner, forskningsprosjekter eller andre faglige verv utenfor Norge<br>- vært leder av eksternt finansiert prosjekt<br>- deltatt i internasjonalt forskningssamarbeid (f.eks. dokumentert gjennom prosjektsamarbeid, sampublisering, eller deltakelse i redaksjoner eller faglige komiteer utenfor Norge) |
| **Minst 5 medlemmer** | - 3 av 5 medlemmer må være ansatt ved institusjonen som melder inn gruppen og minst 2 av disse må være fast vitenskapelige ansatte<br>- 2 eller flere medlemmer kan være ansatt ved andre nasjonale eller internasjonale institusjoner dersom forrige kriterium er oppfylt |
| **Ha en organisering og et formål som lar seg beskrive i egenevalueringsskjemaet** | Se vedlagte egenevalueringsskjema (self assessment) for forskergrupper |
| **Er innmeldt i CRIStin** | Forskergrupper skal meldes inn ved å opprette en forskergruppe i CRIStin. Se vedlagte veiledning. |

**Begrensinger for innmelding av forskergrupper:**

- Hver institusjon har mulighet til å melde inn **én forskergruppe per panel.**
- Institusjoner som har meldt inn 20 eller flere vitenskapelig ansatte til evalueringen har samtidig mulighet til å melde inn **én ekstra gruppe per 20 vitenskapelig ansatte.**
- Forskere kan bare meldes inn til én forskergruppe i denne evalueringen, men deltakelse i flere forskergrupper kan synliggjøres i skjemaet "Research group members and financing".

- Institusjoner som melder inn en forskergruppe kan synliggjøre samarbeid med forskere ved andre institusjoner ved å legge dem til i skjemaet "Research group members and financing". Dette kan gjøres gjensidig slik at forskere som telles ved den ene institusjonen ikke teller ved den andre.

**1.3 Dokumentasjon av forskergruppene**

Institusjonene skal levere inn følgende dokument (på engelsk) per gruppe:

| Dokumenter | Innhold: | Navngivning av fil: |
|---|---|---|
| Research group members and financing | Excel fil hvor følgende fire arkfaner skal fylles inn: Research group overview / Listed members / Other members / Funding **Research group overview:** - Navn på institusjon som melder inn gruppen - Navn på gruppe: Samsvarer med navn i CRIStin - URL til registrert forskergruppe i CRIStin. - Navn på gruppeleder. **Listed members:** - Navn på innmeldte medlemmer med opplysning om stilling, forskningstid i gruppe, institusjon, alder, kjønn, PhD-givende institusjon - Tittel på publikasjoner med referanse til innsendt PDF eller en Open Access lenke, type publikasjon og sidehenvisning. **Other members:** - Medlemmer som er meldt inn til andre forskergrupper i SAMEVAL ved egen institusjon eller ved andre institusjoner. - Medlemmer som er meldt inn til evalueringen av humanistisk forskning (HUMEVAL) eller utdanningsforskning (UTDEVAL). - Medlemmer fra Norge som ikke er innmeldt til noen av evalueringene. - Medlemmer fra utlandet. | 1. Research group members and financing.xlsx |

| | **Funding:**<br><br>Oversikt over eksterne finansieringskilder. Beløpene som oppgis skal være et anslag basert på aktivitetsnivå 2012-2016. | |
|---|---|---|
| 2. Self-assessment | Se vedlagte mal. Punkt 1.1-1.5 og punkt 1.7 skal fylles ut. | 2. Self assessment.pdf |
| 3. Societal impact | Forskergruppene inviteres til å dokumentere eksempel på forskningens samfunnsbidrag. Eksempelet skal hentes fra forskningsgruppens aktiviteter og være i kjernen av gruppens faglige virksomhet. | 3. Impact case study.pdf |
| 4. Curriculum vitae | Se vedlagte mal. Det skal leveres ett skjema per gruppemedlem (dette gjelder alle gruppemedlemmer og ikke bare innmeldte medlemmer). | 4. Curriculum vitae [etternavn].pdf |
| 5. Publikasjoner | - Medlemmer som er meldt inn til evalueringen kan levere én vitenskapelig publikasjon i fulltekst.<br><br>- Dersom publikasjonen overskrider 50 sider, skal man i dokumentet "researcher group members and financing" indikere hvilke sider som vektlegges (max 50).<br><br>- En digital kopi av publikasjonen legges ved i PDF-format. Alternativt legges det ved lenke til vitenskapelige arbeid som er åpent tilgjengelig (Open Access). **NB! Enkelte publikasjoner kan fremstå som fritt tilgjengelige ved den enkelte institusjon uten å være det (betalt abonnement).** | 5. Publication [etternavn].pdf |

**1.4 Innlevering**

Fristen for innmelding av forskergrupper og innsending av dokumentasjon er satt til **fredag 10. februar 2017.**

Informasjon om forskergruppene skal sendes inn til Forskningsrådet på e-postadressen sameval@forskningsradet.no på følgende måte:

1) Det skal sendes én e-post per forskergruppe som inkluderer alle vedlegg for gruppen.
2) Med unntak av "research group and financing" (Excel-format) skal alle vedlegg være i PDF-format (maskinlesbar og ikke skannet versjon).
3) Tittel på e-posten skal være som følger:
   SAMEVAL [navn på institusjon]-[navn på forskergruppe]

**NB!** Store forsendelser kan med fordel deles inn i flere e-poster, eller sendes ved hjelp av UNINETT FileSender.

## 1.5 Kontaktpersoner i Forskningsrådet

Seniorrådgiver Heidi Dybesland, [sameval@forskningsradet.no](mailto:sameval@forskningsradet.no), telefon 22037142

Seniorrådgiver Hedvig Buene, [sameval@forskningsradet.no](mailto:sameval@forskningsradet.no), telefon 22037242

Seniorkonsulent Helene Sophie Aanerud, [sameval@forskningsradet.no](mailto:sameval@forskningsradet.no), telefon 22037547

**Vedlegg:**
- SAMEVAL **Research group members and financing (excel file)**
- SAMEVAL **Research group self-assessment**
- SAMEVAL **Research group - Impact case study (optional)**
- SAMEVAL **CV mal**
- SAMEVAL **Brukerveiledning for registrering i CRIStin**

## Appendix E: Research group self-assessment

# Research group self-assessment

Maximum 5 pages pr. group.

## 1.1 Organisation, leadership, strategy and resources

a. Please give a brief account of the establishment and the development of the research group.
b. Please describe the leadership and organisation of the research group.
c. Please describe the scientific goals of the research group and the strategy for scientific publication and knowledge exchange, including cooperation with non-academic partners.
d. Please describe how the research group contributes to the strategic goals of the host institution.
e. To what extent does the research group incorporate external funding as a factor in its strategic planning? And, if relevant: please comment briefly on the support from the host institution in the development and running of externally funded projects.
f. To what extent does the host institution assist the research group in providing relevant research infrastructure, such as databases, scientific collections or experimental facilities?

## 1.2 Research profile and quality

a. Please describe the research activities and the research profile of the group.
b. Please describe how the research group has contributed to the development of the state of the art within its field. Examples of contributions may include (but are not limited to) theoretical and methodological developments, new empirical findings, interdisciplinary developments and production of datasets.

## 1.3 Recruitment and training

a. How does the research group contribute to recruitment and career development for temporary or permanently employed academic staff/researchers?
b. Please describe how PhD-students and postdoctoral fellows are recruited to the research group, nationally or internationally.
c. What is the group's contribution to the training and mentoring of PhD-students and postdoctoral fellows?
d. Please describe the extent to which PhD students and postdoctoral fellows participate in international exchange programmes (including time spent at research institutions abroad).
e. To what extent do PhD-students take part in collaboration with partners outside of academia?

## 1.4 Networking

a. Please describe how the research group engages in research collaboration. Collaboration may include (but is not limited to) cooperation across faculty divisions,

across institutions, with partners outside of academia or international cooperation.

## 1.5 Impact on teaching (if relevant)

a. Please describe how the research group contributes to educational activities.
b. How much time does the research group spend on teaching?
   Fill in the table below and add a comment if necessary

|  | **Name of study programme** | **Approximate time spent on teaching by research group members per year (hours including preparation)** |
|---|---|---|
| BA-level |  |  |
| MA-level |  |  |
| PhD-level |  |  |
| Other |  |  |
| **Comment** | | |

## 1.6 Other information

Include any other information that you consider relevant for this evaluation.

# Curriculum vitae MAX 1 page

| Research group | | | Panel # | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Name: | | | CRIStin ID | |
| Sex: | | Birth year: | Nationality: | |
| Academic position: | | | | |
| Former academic positions (last 5 years) | | | | |
| Academic degrees | *Degree, university and year:* | | | |

| umber of PhD-students (if relevant) | As main supervisor: | As co-supervisor: |
|---|---|---|
| Under supervision | | |
| Completed degrees 2006-2016 | | |
| **Number of publications** | **2007-2011** | **2012-2016** |
| Peer-reviewed monographs | | |
| Articles in peer-reviewed journals | | |
| Book chapters | | |
| Academic commentary editions | | |
| Exhibition catalogues | | |
| Translations (related to research area) | | |
| Textbooks for educational purposes | | |
| Popular scientific books | | |
| Popular scientific articles | | |
| Reports | | |

| Please rank your three most important publications since 2007 | 1.<br>2.<br>3. |
|---|---|

# Research group - Impact case study (optional)

The research group may document examples (cases) of the impact of their research beyond academia. The impact of the research is defined as any effect on, change or benefit to the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment and quality of life, beyond academia. Impact includes, but is not limited to, an effect on, change or benefit to:

- the activity, attitude, awareness, behaviour, capacity, opportunity, performance, policy, practice, process or understanding
- of an audience, beneficiary, community, constituency, organisation or individuals
- in any geographic location whether locally, regionally, nationally or internationally.

Effects on other research or effects within the submitting institution (for instance the effects on teaching within the institution) are not to be reported as impact cases.

## How to report and submit impact-cases?

Please note the following requirements for reporting impact:

- The research underpinning the impact cases should be anchored within the research group.
- Both the research and the impact should have been produced within the last 10 – 15 years. Priority should be given to more recent examples.
- Use the template on the next page to report the impact. Please copy the form for the submission of more than one impact case, so that only one case is reported per form.
- Each case-study should be clearly named and saved in a separate pdf-file and attached to the self-assessment for the research group.
- The name of the file for each case study should be as follows:
  SAMEVAL [institution]-[research group]- [short case name]

## Template for case studies

| |
|---|
| Name of impact case: (max 10 characters) |
| Summary of the impact (maximum 100 words) |
| Description of the research underpinning the impact: (maximum 400 words.) (include names of key researchers in the group. A time frame for when the research was carried out should also be included). |
| Details of the impact (maximum 400 words) (include a description of how the research has contributed to the impact on society). |
| References to the research (scientific publications) |
| References to sources to corroborate the claims made about the impact (publications, reports, media items, policy papers, etc.) |
| If relevant: External references (external users or others who have witnessed the impact and could be contacted to corroborate the claims made in the reported research cases). |

# Appendix F: Damvad Fact sheet for Social Anthropology

## On the factsheets from Damvad Analytics

The Factsheets are appendices to the Damvad Analytics's report *Social Science in Norway – Statistical analysis of publications and research personnel*,containing publication and research personnel statistics, and an analysis of social sciences in Norway. This factsheet presents a number of key indicators for each of the six evaluation panels, based on the listed individuals and their affiliations. The data presented summarize results for the last three years, 2014-2016. Please refer to the main report for descriptions of the data and method underlying the analyses.

**Variables/indicators:**
The indicators are based on the listed individuals and their affiliations. The data presented summarize results for the latest three years 2014-2016.  Each factsheet shows indicator values for each of the institutions participating in the evaluation, for the research field in total and social science in Norway.

- **Number of NPI pub:** Total number of publications – counting publication qualified for being included in the Norwegian Publishing indicator
- **Pub Points:** Total publication points according to the Norwegian Publishing indicator
- **Number of listed individuals:** Total number of listed individuals per participating institution and faculty, not included are non-publishing individuals.
- **Share of L1 journals:** Share of NPI level 1 publications for NPI journal publications
- **Share of L2 journals:** Share of NPI level 2 publications – for NPI journal publications
- **Share of L1:** Share of NPI level 1 publications – for the total number of NPI publications
- **Share of L2:** Share of NPI level 2 publications – for the total number of NPI publications
- **PP per listed individuals:** Publication points per listed researcher – measuring the ratio of publication points per individual at each institution. The numbers may in some cases include individuals with more than one affiliation and/or individuals that are no longer affiliated with the given institution.
- **Avg. SJR:** SJR average for NPI publications indexed in Scopus
- **Avg. SNIP:** SNIP average for NPI publications indexed in Scopus
- **Impact OECD:** Impact relative to OECD – measured as Field Normalized Citation Score
- **Impact Norway:** Impact relative to Norway – measured as Field Normalized Citation Score
- **Impact Nordic:** Impact relative to the Nordic countries – measured as Field Normalized Citation Score.

| Abbreviation | Description |
|---|---|
| **SNIP** | Source Normalized Impact per Paper (SNIP)<br>SNIP measures the citation impact by normalising the citations based on the total number of citations in the research field. SNIP has the advantage of allowing direct comparison of publication sources in different subject fields. This makes it possible to compare the publication output across the diversified set of institutions. |
| **NPI publications** | The Norwegian Publication Indicator (NPI)<br>Publications qualified to be included in the NPI are used as the basis for the performance-based basic funding system employed in Norway to distribute funding between institutions in the higher education sector as well as to the research institutes. |
| **SJR** | SCImago Journal ranking (SJR)<br>The SJR takes into account both the number of citations received by a journal title and the prestige of the journal titles where such citations originate. As such the SJR indicator is a variant of the eigenvector centrality measure used in network theory. Here the measure establishes the importance of a node in a network, based on the principle that connections to high-scoring nodes contribute more to the score of the node. |
| **Scientific Impact - FNCS** | Field Normalized Citation Score (FNCS)<br>The FNCS indicator considers differences in publication patterns for different scientific fields, publication types, and publication year. Finally, as an extra precaution to avoid overestimating the citation counts, we exclude self-citations, i.e. authors citing their own work.<br>In calculating the scientific impact for each of the participating institutions relative to the average of Norway, the Nordic countries and OECD. As the average for the three benchmarks is equal to one, a value of e.g. 1.25 indicates that these publications receive 25 percentage point more citation than average. |

# Social Anthropology

| Institution | Number of NPI pub | Pub Points | Number of listed individuals | Share of L1 journals | Share of L2 journals | Share of L1 | Share of L2 | PP per listed individuals | Avg. SJR | Avg. SNIP | Impact OECD | Impact Norway | Impact Nordic |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CMI | 23 | 17.43 | 10 | 60% | 40% | 30% | 70% | 1.74 | 0.71 | 0.88 | 1.50 | 1.51 | 1.58 |
| Fafo | 10 | 9.07 | 8 | 86% | 14% | 56% | 44% | 1.13 | 2.28 | 2.03 | 1.14 | 0.93 | 0.88 |
| HiOA-SVA | 81 | 56.92 | 24 | 88% | 12% | 88% | 12% | 2.37 | 0.83 | 1.01 | 1.13 | 1.15 | 0.92 |
| NF | 10 | 4.02 | 6 | 100% | 0% | 100% | 0% | 0.67 | 0.35 | 0.51 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| NMBU – Nor | 11 | 7.72 | 7 | 80% | 20% | 64% | 36% | 1.10 | 0.49 | 0.66 | 0.18 | 0.50 | 0.13 |
| NTNU-SVT | 13 | 8.50 | 14 | 100% | 0% | 92% | 8% | 0.61 | 0.33 | 0.76 | 0.75 | 0.67 | 0.60 |
| UiB | 108 | 160.70 | 46 | 58% | 42% | 38% | 62% | 3.49 | 0.82 | 0.99 | 0.82 | 0.86 | 0.81 |
| UiO-SUM | 30 | 18.05 | 9 | 79% | 21% | 71% | 29% | 2.01 | 2.06 | 1.82 | 1.41 | 1.20 | 1.46 |
| UiO-SV | 143 | 207.00 | 45 | 62% | 38% | 49% | 51% | 4.60 | 0.79 | 1.05 | 0.75 | 0.88 | 0.73 |
| UiT-HSL | 25 | 24.75 | 13 | 88% | 13% | 84% | 16% | 1.90 | 0.30 | 0.47 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| VID | 48 | 53.05 | 6 | 78% | 22% | 83% | 17% | 8.84 | 0.47 | 0.67 | 0.61 | 0.66 | 0.57 |
| Social antropology | 613 | 657.10 | 163 | 76% | 24% | 63% | 37% | 4.03 | 0.90 | 1.06 | 1.16 | 1.05 | 1.01 |
| Social Science in Norway | 8945 | 7418.20 | 2611* | 78% | 22% | 74% | 26% | 2.84 | 1.51 | 1.46 | 1.12 | 1.02 | 1.00 |

# Appendix G: Time frame for collected self assessments and bibliometric data

**Institutional self-assessment**

| Level 1 | **1.1 Organisation & strategy** | |
|---|---|---|
| The Research institution | 1.1.c | the institution's strategic aims for the next 5-10 years |
| | 1.1.e | the institutions who have been evaluated by the RCN within the last 15 years |
| | | |
| | **1.2 Resources & infrastructure** | |
| | 1.2.b | important upgrades over the past 5-10 years and/or new equipment needs. |
| | | |
| | **FACT SHEET** | |
| | Table 1 | R&D expenditures and sources of funding (2014-2016) |
| | Table 2 | Number of PhDs graduated at the institution per year (2014-2016) |
| | | |
| Level 2 | **2.1 Employment** | |
| Research discipline(s) corresponding to the panel | 2.1.b | number of positions that have been announced within the research discipline during the past three years (2014-2016) and the number of qualified applicants (form 1) |
| | | |
| | **2.2 Scientific quality** | |
| | 2.2.a | most important contributions to the larger research community over the last 5-10 years. Please include a list of the most important publications resulting from the research in this period |
| | | |
| | **2.3 Societal relevance** | |
| | 2.3.c | ten important examples of dissemination/knowledge exchange activities of the research unit from the last 5-10 years. |
| | | |
| | **2.4 Impact case study** | |
| | 2.4.b | the research and the impact should have been produced within the last 10 – 15 years. |

**Research group self-assessment**

| CV | former academic positions | Last 5 years |
|---|---|---|
| | number of PhD- students with completed degrees | Between 2006-2016 |
| | number of publications | Between 2007-2011 and 2012-2016 |
| | your three most important publications | Since 2007 |
| | | |
| **Impact case** | the research and the impact should have been produced within the last 10 – 15 years. | |

**Bibliometric data**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Research personnel data** | The data used for the analysis of the research personnel covers the period 2005 to 2015. |
| | |
| **Publication data** | The data collected from CRIStin will cover the period from 2011 to 2016. |
| | The Scopus enhanced data will cover publications between 2011 and 2016. However, to ensure robustness of the citation analysis, publications published internationally after 2016 will not be included when assessing citations and impact. |

# Appendix H: Template for assessments of the units: institutions and research groups

# 1. [NAME OF INSTITUTION]

*SECRETARIAT: A short introduction on establishment and development of the institution and its organization.*

*SECRETARIAT: Fact sheet*

## 1.1 Evaluation of [Institution]

### 1.1.1 Organisation, leadership and strategy
ASSESSMENT: overall reasoning

- How do you review the leadership of the research area on an institutional level?
- Does the institution have adequate goals and a suitable or an unsuitable strategy to reach them?
- How do you consider the institutions' strategic focus (or lack there of), taken into account its publication strategies, the national and international research collaboration?
- How does the institute make use of external research funding? Are the use of this funding reasonable, and/or is there room for improvements?

### 1.1.2 Institutional following up on previous evaluations
ASSESSMENT: overall reasoning

- Consider conclusions and recommendations from previous evaluations, and give your opinion on the way the reviews have been followed up.

### 1.1.3 Research environment (if relevant)
ASSESSMENT: overall reasoning

- How do you review the institutions policy for maintaining a fruitful environment for production and exchange of knowledge? (i.e. seminars, summer schools, guest lectures and scholars, etc)

### 1.1.4 Resources and infrastructure
ASSESSMENT: overall reasoning

- Does the institution provide adequate resources and infrastructure?
- Does the research area make good use of these?

### 1.1.4 Research personnel
ASSESSMENT: overall reasoning

- Are the area's hiring and career development practices consistent with best practice?
- Are PhD candidates, post-docs and junior faculty adequately trained and mentored?
- Has the institution implemented the European Charter and code and been awarded the brand "HR Excellence in Research, or what are the plans to implement the Charter?

- Is there a transparent career path?
- Is there sufficient national and international mobility of researchers?
- Is the balance among the research personnel appropriate in terms of gender, age and diversity?

### 1.1.5 Research production and scientific quality

ASSESSMENT: reasoning

Numerical scale, scientific quality, 5-1 (excellent–weak)

- To which extent does the institution pursue policies to improve and facilitate scientific performance of high quality?
- How is the productivity, the degree of originality and international profile?
- Evaluation of the cases from the institutions in the research area
- Has the institution contributed to advancing the state of the art in the research area /scientific discipline/ to interdisciplinary production of knowledge?
- How does the institution make use of interdisciplinary approaches, when these are relevant?

### 1.1.6 Interplay research-education: impact on teaching

ASSESSMENT: overall reasoning

- How is the balance between teaching and research?
- Are there established linkages between the research and the study programmes offered by the institution?
- Does the institution have a focus /strategy to secure / improve the interplay of teaching and research?
- How are eventual challenges addressed and handled?
- To what extent are students involved in staff research?

### 1.1.7 Societal relevance and impact

ASSESSMENT: reasoning + identify best cases

- Does the institution have strategies for dissemination, user-involvement and knowledge exchange? How do you review the strategies?
- Does the institution document relevant dissemination/knowledge exchange activities?
- Does the ongoing research at the institution have a linkage/association to thematic priorities set out in the Norwegian Government's Long-term plan for research and higher education and other relevant policy documents?
- To what extent does research in the area benefit the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life, beyond academia? What is your overall view?

### 1.1.8 An overall review on profile, scientific quality and impact on institutional level

ASSESSMENT: overall reasoning

### 1.1.9 Feedback

# 1.2  Evaluation of [Research group A]

*Short description of the research group.*

ASSESSMENT: overall score 5-1

## 1.2.1 Organisation, leadership and strategies

ASSESSMENT: overall reasoning

- How do you review the leadership of the research group?
- How do you view the group's intellectual focus and strategy to reach them? Please take into account its publication strategies, the national and international research collaboration.
- Does the group make use of external research funding, and eventually how? Are the use of the external funding reasonable, and/or is there room for improvements?
- Does the research group contribute to the institution's overall goals or not?
- To which extent does the institution pursue policies to improve and facilitate scientific performance of high quality?
- Does the institution provide adequate resources and infrastructure, and how does the research group make use of them?

## 1.2.2 Research personnel: including recruitment, training, gender balance and mobility

ASSESSMENT: overall reasoning

- How is the group's hiring and career development practices? Are they consistent with best practice?
- How to you view the training and mentoring of PhD candidates and post-docs?
- Is the balance among the research personnel appropriate in terms of gender, age and diversity?
- How is the national and international mobility of researchers? Is it sufficient /insufficient and in which way(s)?

## 1.2.3 Research production and scientific quality

- How is the productivity of the research group, the degree of originality and its international profile?
  Has the group contributed to advancing the state of the art in its discipline(s)? If yes, how?
- Does the group make use of interdisciplinary approaches, where these are relevant? How?

- How do you review the quality of the research overall?

## 1.2.4 Networking

ASSESSMENT: overall reasoning

- Does the group make good use of collaboration, nationally and internationally, to advance its strategy and produce high-quality, relevant research?

## 1.2.5 Interplay research-education: impact on teaching (if relevant)

ASSESSMENT: overall reasoning

- Does the research group contribute to educational activities?
- To what extent is the research of the group relevant for the study programmes at the host institution or other institutions?

### 1.2.6 Societal relevance and impact (if relevant)

ASSESSMENT: overall reasoning

- Does the research group document relevant dissemination/knowledge exchange activities?
- To what extent does research in done by the research group benefit the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life, beyond academia? What is your overall view?

### 1.2.7 Overall assessment

ASSESSMENT: overall reasoning

- What is the overall profile, and scientific quality of the research group?
- To what extent is the research group linked to / have an impact on the research environment at its institution?
- What is the overall significance of the research group in a national research area context?

### 1.2.8 Feedback

# Appendix I: Template for an assessment of the ten most important publications listed by the institutions

## Template for an overall assessment of the ten most important publications listed by the institution

The institutions have been invited to submit a list of ten most important publications. These publications are listed as the attachment of the institutional self-evaluation, and also available as pdf or open access links for further information.

The assessor should provide an overall assessment of these listed publications by the institution. The assessment is overarching, however, the publications can be consulted if/when relevant.

The overall assessment should be provided with the grading scale for scientific quality, along with reasoning.

Note that not all of the questions involve a quality criterion (for instance, to what extent are the publications interdisciplinary or co-authored does not imply a normative judgement), these criteria are proposed to link the assessment of publications to the overall assessment of the institutional aims and strategies for the field.

| **How would you assess the selected publication outlets (i.e. significance and quality of journals, publishers, book series)?** |
|---|
| |
| **How would you assess the originality and significance of the publications within its designated field, nationally and/or internationally?** |
| |
| **Are the submitted ten publications representative of the discipline in this institution? (i.e. do the publications represent few/many of the researchers and sub-themes of the discipline in this institution?)** |
| |
| *If relevant:* **To what extent do the publications contribute to interdisciplinary research?** |
| |
| *If relevant:* **To what extent do the publications include co-authoring with significant researchers on the field (nationally and internationally)?** |
| |
| **To what extent do the publications reflect the stated thematic, theoretical and/or methodological foci of the institution?** |
| |
| **How would you in broad terms assess these ten publications?** |
| |

# Appendix J: Template for an assessment of the publications of listed members at the research groups

## Template for an overall assessment of the publications of listed members at the research groups

The research groups have been invited to submit one publication per member listed in the evaluation. The publication could be a scientific article or a book chapter. For monographs and other publications exceeding 30 pages, the main ideas and findings of the publication should be indicated. The selected chapter(s) should not exceed 50 pages. The panel will consider when external referees are needed for further assessment of the publications.

The assessors should review all the submitted publications in terms of their quality, and provide a single assessment for all of the publications submitted by the research group, following the template underneath. The assessment should be written with the assumption that parts of the text can be used for the section with the title "Research production and scientific quality".

Please provide an overall assessment using the grading scale for scientific quality (5-1), as well as a short reasoning for the grade.

Note that not all of the questions involve a quality criterion (for instance, to what extent are the publications interdisciplinary or co-authored does not imply a normative judgement), these criteria are proposed to link the assessment of publications to the overall assessment of the research group aims, scope and strategies.

| |
|---|
| **How would you assess the selected publication outlets, i. e. significance and quality of journals and other venues for publications.** |
| |
| **How would you assess the scientific quality of the publications in terms of coherence of argument, methodology and overall analysis?** |
| |
| **How would you assess the empirical contributions of the publications?** |
| |
| **How would you assess the analytical and/or theoretical contributions of the publications?** |
| |
| *If relevant:* **To what extent do the publications contribute to interdisciplinary research?** |
| |
| **How would you assess the originality of the publications within its field, nationally/internationally?** |
| |
| *If relevant:* **To what extent do the publications include co-authoring with significant researchers on the field, nationally and internationally?** |
| |
| **How would you assess overall coherence of the research group publication output, that is, the level of shared thematic, theoretical and/or methodological foci in the group?** <br> **To what extent do the publications reflect the stated thematic, theoretical and/or methodological foci of the research group?** |
| |
| **Overall evaluation of the quality of publication output (reasoning and assessment scale for scientific quality)** |
| |