

## Editorial

CROP has had a busy year. 1993 saw the official opening of the CROP secretariat on June 2nd by Director General of UNESCO, Federico Mayor. The largest CROP conference so far, took place in Paris in April. The topic was Theories of Economic Growth and Their Significance for Poverty Reduction. More than a hundred participants came from 27 countries. In August WAPOR (World Association for Public Opinion Research) had its first session ever on poverty, and a group of public opinion experts formed a group on poverty research within WAPOR. The 5th CROP workshop took place in Bergen in October. The topic was Poverty and Political Participation. A committee chaired by Professor Elisa P. Reis, Brazil, is following up the workshop by preparing a CROP research proposal for a comparative study on poverty and political participation.

The State-of-the-Art-Review on Poverty Research which CROP initiated, has grown throughout the year. Researchers/research groups in different parts of the world are now busy writing the reviews for their region. In addition IDIN (International Development Information Network) in collaboration with CROP, has commissioned five papers mapping world-wide institutions and researchers doing poverty research, including regional bibliographies and data sources.

The CROP network is increasing at a rapid pace. The result is that this newsletter will be circulated to more than six hundred social scientists and institutions interested in poverty research.

But this is only the beginning. Already CROP has an even fuller calendar for 1994, as you can see under Forthcoming Events, and plans for 1995 are shaping up.

This is the first CROP Newsletter. It is meant to be one of several instruments linking together poverty

researchers all over the world. You are invited to make use of it, announcing conferences on poverty research, making known databases of importance to poverty research, calling for partners in comparative poverty studies, or inquiring about specific information of relevance to your ongoing poverty research.

We wish you all a Happy New Year, both for you personally and for our common endeavour.

Else Øyen, Chair of CROP

### Forthcoming Events

#### \* CROP/IIED Workshop on: *"Urban Poverty"*

7th-9th October, 1994, in Bergen, Norway

The Workshop is a joint enterprise between CROP and the International Institute for Environment and Development, London, UK. Dr. David Satterthwaite, Human Settlement Programme is responsible.

The Workshop seeks papers focussing on conceptual issues, assessments of "urban poverty" programmes and reports on empirical findings. Some funding is available to support travel for Third World participants. Those interested in taking part in the Workshop are requested to send an abstract of their paper to the CROP Secretariat. More details about the Workshop is available at the CROP Secretariat.

#### \* CROP/IUPERJ Workshop on: *"Views from the Top: Elites and Poverty"*

7th-9th November, 1994, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The Workshop is a joint enterprise between CROP and Instituto Universitário de Pesquisas do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Professor Elisa P. Reis, IUPERJ, is responsible. Participation will be mainly from Latin America, but scholars also outside Latin America can apply for participation. Some funding is available.

The study of the poor is also a study of the non-poor. Little is known about the ways the elite perceives

poverty in both cognitive and normative terms. Papers are invited which analyze how strategic actors such as the bureaucracy, entrepreneurs, politicians, intellectuals, religious leaders, and the military view poverty, inequality, distribution of resources and their own policy making.

Deadline for abstracts is 15th March. They are to be sent to the CROP Secretariat.

#### \* CROP/UNESCO Scientific Symposium on: *"The Regional State-of-the-Art-Reviews on Poverty Research"*

1st-3rd December, 1994, in Paris, France

The purpose of the reviews is to develop a research instrument for researchers working on comparative poverty studies. The reviews will provide insight into regional differences in the study of poverty, give an overall view of the variety of concepts, hypotheses and methodologies in use, identify results of a more general nature, and present the authors' qualified evaluation of the present state of the art and future path of comparative research to follow.

The work is already in progress. Researchers and research groups are preparing regional reviews which will be presented during the symposium. Others are welcome to attend the symposium.

#### \*WAPOR Annual Conference

May 12-15, 1994, in Danvers, Mass., USA

The World Association for Public Opinion Research arranges a special session on poverty research and public opinion.

#### \*ISA World Congress

July 18.-23., 1994, in Bielefeld, Germany

The International Sociological Association arranges two sessions on poverty: One on "The Sociology of Poverty", and one on "Dynamics of Poverty in Africa".

## CROP Standing Committee

- Abdel Ghaffar M. Ahmed, Prof., OSSREA, Ethiopia.\*
- Anthony B. Atkinson, Prof., Univ. of Cambridge, UK. \*
- Massimo Livi Bacci, Prof., Univ. degli Studi di Firenze, Italia.
- Josef Blahoz, Prof., CSFR, Czech Republic.
- Kevin P. Clements, Prof., ANU, Australia.
- Alfredo Bruto da Costa, Dr., Portugal.
- D.N. Dhanagare, Prof., ICSSR, India.\*\*
- Quicheng Jing, Prof., Chinese Academy of Sciences, China.
- Clara Jusidman de Bialostozky, Dr., Consultant, Mexico.\*\*
- Cigdem Kagitzibasi, Prof., Univ. of Bogazici, Turkey.\*
- Stephan Leibfried, Prof., Univ. of Bremen, Germany.\*
- Candido Mendes de Almeida, Dr., Conjunto Univ. Candido Mendes, Brazil.\*\*
- Thandika Mkandawire, Prof., CODESRIA, Senegal.
- Elizabeth Nelson, Dr., The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, UK.\*\*
- Else Øyen, Prof., Univ. of Bergen, Norway.\*
- Paul E. Peterson, Prof., Harvard Univ. , USA.\*\*
- Durganand Sinha, Prof., Allahabad University, India.
- Andrés Thompson, CLACSO, Argentina.\*
- Géry d'Ydewalle, Prof., Univ. of Leuven, Belgium.

\* Member of CROP Programme Committee.

\*\* Member of CROP Finance Committee. This Committee includes Stephan Mills, Sec. General of ISSC.

## CROP in brief

In 1991 The International Social Science Council (ISSC) launched its second major research programme, the Comparative Research Programme on Poverty (CROP). The CROP Secretariat was established in August 1993, in Bergen, Norway.

CROP is a world-wide network of researchers and experts on poverty. The aim of CROP is to establish an arena for interdisciplinary and comparative research on poverty in developed and developing countries.

CROP organizes regional workshops, symposia and international conferences, promotes joint research projects, links poverty researchers and disseminates information about poverty research.

CROP is developing an international database on poverty researchers, and documentation of ongoing research and of available data sources. If you wish to have your name listed in CROPNET, you are welcome to write the CROP Secretariat and request a copy of the CROP Database Questionnaire.

For further information please contact either:

Ahmed M. Jiyad, Head-CROP Secretariat,  
c/o Chr. Michelsen Institute,  
Fantoftvegen 38, N-5036 Fantoft, Bergen, Norway.  
Ph. Central 47-55-57 40 00, Direct 47-55-57 42 48.  
Fax 47-55-57 41 66.,  
or  
Else Øyen, Professor,  
Chair of CROP,  
Health and Social Policy Studies,  
University of Bergen, N-5007 Bergen, Norway.  
Ph. 47-55-21 23 34. Fax 47-55-23 24 20.