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37-38-39 | 2014 Acteurs et réformes de la gestion des ressources forestières en Afrique de l'Ouest

Editorial

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Editorial

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20 years... Happy Birthday APAD!

Though a bit belatedly, the June 2013 conference gave us the chance to celebrate the 20th anniversary of APAD. The founding assembly met in March 1991, followed by the first conference in October 1992, in Montpellier, on the theme of farmers' associations in Africa. 20 years! APAD has come to represent an exceptional dynamic, both intellectually and amicably. It's a wide network of researchers and practitioners, united by the goal of understanding the dynamics of social change and development interventions, informed by the experiences of their actors. It's 36 issues of the bulletin, 11 conferences, and 14 books. It's a succession of teams, starting with the founding initiative of Jean-Pierre Olivier de Sardan and the very first Apadiens and continuing with each new home of the secretariat, which have carried the torch, driven by new and changing realities.

A New Team at the Helm

The General Assembly, which met at the end of the June 2013 Conference, elected a new board to our organisation. Sten Hagberg, who had assured the presidency of APAD for six years, wished to pass the baton. During his presidency, APAD renewed the regularity of its bulletins, organised three conferences (Louvain, Ouagadougou and Montpellier), broadened its Anglophone reach, and stimulated African adhesions. The entire association owes much gratitude to Sten and his team (Gabriella Körling, Lisa Tistedt, and Josefin Emitslöf in Uppsala, Mohamed Abdoulaye, and Hamani Oumarou in Niamey) for having steered the APAD ship so well! Sten remains a member of the board, allowing us to benefit from his experience.

Moving from Marseille to Montpellier, to Mainz, Leyden, Niamey and to Uppsala, the executive secretariat will now be returning to Montpellier for a few years. The new postal address can be found at the end of this issue. The e-mail address remains unchanged.

Out with the "Bulletin", in with the Journal!

You have in your hands the very first issue of *Anthropologie & Développement – La Revue de l'APAD*. This journal picks up where the *APAD Bulletin*, which had been published under various formats since 1991, left off. The term "bulletin" no longer did justice to what had in fact become an academic journal and a reference within our field.

Our editorial policy remains the same: innovative articles, dealing with social change, development, and public action; a publication of rigour and substance but which maintains an intermediate level, accessible to researchers from Africa and the Global South and to fledgling researchers; a bilingual journal, promptly available online, with a moving wall of one year. In recognition of this continuity, we will continue with the same numbering series.

Nonetheless, we wished to systematise the editorial process, establishing a true, international, peer-review board. We'd like to express our thanks to the "sages" of the socio-anthropology of development, who immediately gave their approval!

After many years of companionship with LIT, *Anthropologie & Développement* will from now on be published by APAD itself. These various changes were the cause of some delays: this first issue is dated 2013. We will dedicate ourselves to assuring the regularity of its publication. It is our hope that these changes, and the new lay-out, will stimulate even more interest in reading the Journal and submitting articles!

Fieldwork in the Context of Development and Emergency

The last APAD conference, dedicated to this theme and which took place in Montpellier from 13th to 15th June 2013, was made possible by the support of various universities and research centres (IRD, Cirad, Supagro, Uppsala, Neuchâtel), as well as that of the Languedoc Roussillon Region (France) and the Agence Française de Développement (AFD). We are particularly grateful to Cirad, who managed the Conference administratively (UR 105) and offered us their fantastic facilities, and to the AFD for its generous support. Despite transport strikes, we managed to assemble over 90 people, allowing for fascinating exchanges. Tania Li (University of

Toronto) and Loïc Wacquant (University of California, Berkeley) gave us the pleasure of joining us for two excellent inaugural sessions. This issue (37-38-39) initiates the scientific valorisation of the Conference by making available the conference proceedings and the text of the inaugural session by Tania Li. The next issue (40-41/2014), directed by Syvie Ayimpam and Jacky Bouju, will bring together a selection of texts resulting from the conference, on studies undertaken in difficult environments. Two other editorial projects are also in the works: a book on the anthropology of aid institutions, and a special journal issue dedicated to confronting anthropological, local and expert knowledge.

Homage

A network is but men and women, friends and colleagues, of whom certain have sadly left us. This issue is dedicated to the memory of Bréhima Kassibo, Malian anthropologist and long-time member of APAD, who passed in August 2012. The following issue will be dedicated to Hadiza Moussa, researcher with LASDEL in Niger, whose life was tragically cut short in July 2013, shortly after the Montpellier conference where she had been elected as a board member. In publishing their last manuscripts, and in retracing their careers, APAD hopes to pay them homage. May the earth rest lightly upon them.



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