



Royal Tropical Institute

Annual Review

2009



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January — 15

IMC on its own feet — 16

 **Automated detection of tuberculosis microcolonies — 18**

 **Wayang Superstar, Ki Enthus Susmono's world of theatre — 20**


February — 21

 **Value chain financing: beyond microfinance for rural entrepreneurs — 22**


Smart Toolkit for Evaluating Information Projects, Products and Services — 23

 **Supporting agricultural entrepreneurship — 24**


March — 27

 **Iranian youth theatre — 28**


Fela Kalakuta Notes — 29

 **Boil it, cook it, peel it, or forget it — 29**


 **International seminar on institutional repositories — 31**

 **Great success Tropenmuseum Junior — 32**


July — 47


 **Applied clinical research and evidence-based medicine — 48**

 **Caribbean Carnival from 5 July to 6 September — 49**

 **2009 audience satisfaction survey — 52**


August — 53


 **Digitizing the past, the beginning of a new future — 54**


 **'The maps are in the right place at KIT' — 56**


Indian-Dutch Innovation Circle — 58


September — 59

 **Culture and renewal, a new director for the Tropentheater — 60**



 **Studying at KIT — 62**

 **International users of KIT Library — 64**




 **New policy on contemporary art for the Tropenmuseum — 66**

 **Tropenmuseum in 2009 — 66**





April – 33

-  **Globalizing KIT Library** – 34
-  **Trance Festival** – 35

May – 37

-  **Vodou Exhibition in the Tropenmuseum** – 38
-  **Dance performance in the Tropentheater** – 39
-  **Evaluating performance-based financing for health** – 40

June – 41

-  **Maternal health at stake: policy processes in Vietnam, India and China** – 42
-  **Na Bigi Du** – 44
-  **Dewaruci in the Light Hall** – 44
-  **Evaluating a programme for HIV-affected children in India** – 45

October – 67

-  **Jump into China!** – 68
-  **United in the battle against TB** – 69
-  **Platform for Health in developing countries** – 70
- Suriname's Architecture and Construction Culture** – 71
- Highly satisfied customers for IMC B.V.** – 72
- NH Tropen Hotel all-in deals** – 72

November – 73

-  **KIT takes part in WHO's Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network** – 74
-  **Unique exhibition on Maroon culture** – 75
- KIT Publishers' first novel** – 76
-  **Eva and the Kris** – 76
-  **Amsterdam Museum Night** – 77
-  **Islam in the Picture** – 77
-  **Villa Zapakara** – 78

December – 79

- Annona** – 80
-  **KIT's search engine** – 82
-  **Building capacity for gender and rights in six UNICEF offices in West Africa** – 84
-  **Dancember** – 85
- Boards & Councils** – 86
- Colophon** – 88



**Dr. Jan Donner and Bart de Steenhuijsen Piters
in Suriname.**

Photo: Bart de Steenhuijsen Piters

Preface

By their very nature, Annual Reviews reflect on the past, and there is of course a great deal to say about 2009. But 2010 is a particularly special year for the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT): it is our centennial, a fitting time for us to look to the future and also reflect on how we can best use our knowledge and experience to benefit our partners and many stakeholders worldwide. How can we best apply what we learned in 2009 and earlier years to enhance our performance in the future?

In 2009, we introduced a new medium for reporting on our activities. Using short documentaries, or Shortdocs, KIT staff in the field report on their work and on KIT's activities in Malawi, India, Kenya, Mozambique, the Netherlands and many other locations. Shortdocs cover everything from capacity building to organizing a 'writeshop', and from structuring value chains to carrying out an evaluation or providing treatment. Our local partners take a major role in these documentaries, using them to demonstrate how KIT complements their own capacities.

KIT's partners and staff all over the globe made great contributions to the new knowledge we harvested in 2009. In turn, we reached out to ever more students, readers and audiences, with a record 58 students enrolling in our master's programmes. We had to bid farewell to the Mumbai exhibition at Tropenmuseum Junior after two and a half years, and the Vodou exhibition in the Tropenmuseum was highly successful. Our historical maps are now accessible online and the number of visitors to our website, with its various subsites and portals, is increasing by many thousands each year. We were also honoured with several national and international awards, both for our plans to expand our facilities and for various other activities in which KIT is involved.

While KIT itself experienced healthy development in 2009, we cannot ignore the impact of the financial crisis on our stakeholders in developing countries. Our involvement with smallholders in Mali, Burkina Faso, Ghana and Bolivia confronts us not only with the need for better access to financial services, but also with ongoing climatic change and its effects. And KIT staff based in countries such as Yemen or on missions in Afghanistan report a need for improved governance and improved access to primary services such as health, education, sanitation and maternity care.

There will be many events at KIT in 2010, inspired by both a century of experience and an eagerness for the future. Many of these will be open to guests from the Netherlands and abroad and we look forward to welcoming you in great numbers. The programme can be found on our special centennial website, www.kit.nl/100.

The Royal Tropical Institute flourished in its first century with the support and encouragement of many people. We are delighted and grateful to be perceived as an inspiring institute with enthusiastic staff. And we are proud to have been invited to participate in the endeavours of so many organizations and institutions, be they public or private, multinational or national, from civil society or from the academic and business worlds. Our continued focus on poverty alleviation, cultural exchange and sustainable development in our research, education and capacity makes us confident that we are truly fulfilling our mission!

Dr. Jan Donner, *President*

March 2010

General – The Institute in 2009

The Royal Tropical Institute (KIT) develops effective new products, services and partnerships to stay true to its mission. It generates and shares knowledge through practical experience, training, research and postgraduate work, and is engaged in the transfer of knowledge on culture and sustainable development to, from and among developing countries. In 2009, KIT continued to contribute directly, both in the long term and through individual projects, to the achievement of several of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), such as eradicating poverty and hunger (MDG 1), promoting gender equality (MDG 3), reducing maternal mortality (MDG 5), combating diseases that disproportionately affect the poor (MDG 6) and promoting fair trade (MDG 8).

Interdepartmental cooperation and innovation received considerable attention in 2009. A new series of interdepartmental projects got underway. Departments are working together on subjects ranging from the development of digital educational games and e-learning applications, to the development of a virtual cultural centre and the delivery of health services through mobile phones. The entire staff was involved in a step-wise process of idea generation and proposal development, which culminated in a festive final event where five well-prepared teams competed for the opportunity to launch their project in 2010 by delivering a mixture of lively presentations and musical performances. A professional jury and a

voting audience of co-workers chose the winning project, a centre for evidence-based medicine in East Africa.

Information and Education

KIT collaborates with local organizations in 40 developing countries on the strengthening of information services. KIT Library is Europe's biggest library on international cooperation. The institute organizes a wide range of training courses on health and development and on intercultural communication. Partner organizations include the Association of African Universities, the VU University, Elsevier's Science Publishers and Swets.

- For the academic year 2009–2010, 70 international students came to Amsterdam to join a masters programme in health and development, compared to 48 in 2008–2009.
- KIT launched an ePlatform on mobile health in developing countries. In Ghana, Mozambique and Suriname, KIT gave universities training on ICT and access to scientific databases.
- KIT Intercultural Management & Communication (KIT IMC) received a new Cedeo certificate. Only training companies scoring 80% or more in customer satisfaction are eligible for this certificate. KIT IMC performed more training and advice on cultural diversity for organizations ranging from the Ministry of Education to AZ Alkmaar football club.

Sustainable Economic and Social Development

KIT aims to improve the livelihoods of vulnerable producers in developing countries. The institute promotes the rights, inclusion and participation of marginalized groups. For this reason, KIT seeks to include poorer households, and especially women, in value chains. Partner organizations include Agri-ProFocus (APF), Cordaid, the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), UNICEF and the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction.

- KIT advised Verkade, one of the world's largest chocolate producers, on sustainability issues and its value chain.
- KIT advised the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the European Commission (EC) on their campaign 'Breaking gender stereotypes, give talent a chance!'
- A consortium of institutes including KIT began research on 'Land governance for equitable and sustainable development' as part of the IS Academy, a joint programme run by DGIS and Dutch knowledge institutes to carry out policy-relevant research on development themes.

Culture

Exhibitions, stage performances and publications raise awareness and support for other cultures. Partner organizations in the cultural sector include the Mondriaan Foundation, the Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds, the Adessium Foundation, the City of Amsterdam, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, UNESCO, Wikimedia Netherlands and the BankGiro Lottery.

- 176,000 people from the Netherlands and abroad came to see exhibitions in the Tropenmuseum such as Vodou, Wayang Superstar and The Dono Code. A three-star rating in the French cultural tourism guide Michelin's Le Guide Vert boosted the number of French-speaking visitors. Bombay Star, Tropenmuseum Junior's exhibition on life in Bombay, was very successful with more than 85,000 visitors. Tropenmuseum Junior's online QiGame was nominated for a Gouden Apenstaart award.
- Almost 30,000 culture lovers enjoyed films, concerts and other performances at the Tropentheater, which has major renovation plans in the near future. Thirty per cent of the visitors to our theatre have an international background. The Tropentheater is partner of Cineville Amsterdam.
- KIT Publishers had a productive year, publishing 70 books, including *Architectuur en Bouwkunst van Suriname* and *De Zwarte Lord*, which was the very first novel to be published by KIT.

Health

KIT works to improve the health status of people in low and middle income countries. KIT prioritizes effective and sustainable health systems in the areas of maternal health and diagnostic services, neglected diseases and HIV. The institute works with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Cordaid, HealthNet International, Nuffic, the Mothers Night Initiative, WHO and other organizations.



Guests at the wedding of colleagues Coumba Toure and Tidiane Ba in Bamako, Mali.

Photo: Maitrayee Mukhopadhyay and Evelien Kamminga

Sorting and grading of dried mango's in Burkino Faso.

Photo: Michiel Arnoldus

- After a long history of collaboration, KIT, the KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation and the National Institute for Public Health and Environment (RIVM) joined forces and established DTLab, the Dutch TB Laboratory partnership. DTLab aims to coordinate and improve the quality and effectiveness of TB laboratory diagnostic services worldwide.

- Experts from KIT Biomedical Research (KIT BR) trained technical and medical staff of the State Laboratory of Rwanda and staff in Uganda and Tanzania.
- KIT worked on an evaluation of the Balasahyoga programme in India, which aims to provide high quality and comprehensive prevention, care, support and treatment services for children and their families in Andhra Pradesh who are infected or affected by HIV. The Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) and the Elton John Foundation funded the project.

This Review contains a chronological summary of KIT projects. The digital version of the KIT Annual Review 2009 can be found at www.kit.nl/annualreview2009. A complete overview of KIT projects and programmes can be found at www.kit.nl.



KIT Facts

1910 – 2010: the first century

The Colonial Institute, now the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), was founded in 1910, by combining the former library of the Maatschappij voor Handel en Wetenschap (1752) and the Colonial Museum (1843), both located in Haarlem. The new institute's mission was to study the tropics and promote trade and industry in the Dutch colonies to the east and west. KIT was and remains a vereniging, an association under private law, with both corporate and individual members.

Founders of the institute included public authorities, companies and private organizations as well as a range of private individuals. KIT is proud that many of its public and corporate founders continue to play an active role in its governance. Effectively, KIT can boast 100 years of experience as a public-private partnership. The Colonial Institute was allowed to change its name to Royal Tropical Institute in 1949. The institute's connection to the royal family was established in 1937 when HRH Prince Bernhard was appointed to KIT. He was succeeded by HRH Prince Claus and then by HRH Princess Máxima – an uninterrupted royal connection spanning more than 60 years.

Today, KIT is an independent not-for-profit knowledge centre focusing on health, sustainable economic and social development, culture, and education and information. The Tropenmuseum, Tropenmuseum Junior, the Tropentheater, KIT Information & Library Services and KIT Publishers provide information to the general public in the Netherlands and abroad about living conditions and cultures all over the globe

through their exhibitions, collections, stage productions, books, maps and websites.

KIT operates in more than 60 countries in both the public and private sectors. Partners and clients, both at home and abroad, include national and multilateral public organizations, the business community, international organizations and non-governmental organizations. Less than 50 per cent of KIT's annual turnover is funded through financing by the Dutch government under annual production agreements. KIT has some 400 employees and an increasing number of staff have a labour contract with the KIT affiliates in Holding KIT B.V.

KIT profile

- A not-for-profit knowledge institute whose mission is to contribute to sustainable development, poverty reduction, cultural preservation and exchange.
- Integrated approaches reflecting diversity, long-term local ownership and governance.
- Worldwide partnerships with the flexibility to adapt to ever-changing environments.
- Continuous innovation through field experience and research, resulting in new applied solutions, capacity building, education, training and information services.
- A meeting place at home and abroad for experts and the curious from all over the globe.
- An effective interface between theory and practice, between policy and practice, between public and private, and between North and South.

KIT Corporate Governance



Offloading of mangos in Burkina Faso at mango drying factory.

Photo: Michiel Arnoldus

KIT Corporate Governance

The Royal Tropical Institute (KIT) is a private organization incorporated as an association (vereniging) with individual and corporate members. Bylaws govern KIT's structure. KIT has adopted the Cultural Governance Code as the corporate governance guideline applicable to it. The mission and the underlying values of the institute are the essential guidelines for the Council of Members (the Council) and the Board of Directors (the Board). In order to fulfil that mission, the Council and the Board stimulate KIT and its employees to be innovative and to build on a century's worth of knowledge and experience. KIT is a diversified, active and dynamic institute. Through our accumulated networks we, the members of the Board, aim to contribute to KIT's activities. As peers and colleagues, we are sparring partners for many people within the organization; as ambassadors, we are its emissaries. The institute consistently demonstrates its usefulness, generates new knowledge, explores new prospects and embarks on new endeavours.

Occasionally, the Council and the Board are also required to issue a word of caution. Overall, however, we are satisfied that KIT met its targets in 2009.

Governing Bodies

The Council monitors the overall management of KIT and acts as the responsible shareholder of Holding KIT BV. The Council consists of representatives of founding organizations and members elected by the KIT members.

The Board is accountable to the Council, and consists of seven members appointed by the Council; the Board

is also the board of Holding KIT BV.

The Executive Board is accountable to the Board. It consists of the president and the chief operating officer and it is responsible for management and the formulation of KIT policies.

Within the overall responsibility of the Executive Board the president primarily addresses strategic, financial, human resources and communications issues. The chief operating officer focuses on the strategic and operations issues of the five line departments. The directors of the three full subsidiaries of KIT in Holding KIT BV (KIT Publishers BV, IMC BV and KIT Tropenhotel BV) report to the full Executive Board, while the Executive Board represents the interests of Holding KIT BV as a minority shareholder in the shareholder assemblies of Annona BV and of Mali Biocarburant S.A. In 2010, Holding KIT BV aims to transfer its shares in Mali Biocarburant S.A. to Annona BV – the Annona fund invests in foreign ventures and monitors these investments.

Appointments

In accordance with the bylaws under which KIT operates, its founding organizations are entitled to appoint a representative to the Council. There is a list on the KIT website of the parties exercising this right. In 2009, the Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed KIT that he will not exercise his ministry's right to do so. Dutch Railways (Nederlandse Spoorwegen) did decide to appoint a member to the Council, and Imtech is contemplating doing the same in 2010.

Prof. Dr. Gertie Hesseling, member of the Council and author at KIT Publishers, died in early 2009. A

commemoration meeting in her honour was held at KIT. Three members of the Council were reconfirmed by the KIT membership for a second term of three years. Mrs. Sjoukje Rullmann, vice president of the Amsterdam Court of Justice, was elected to the Council in November 2009.

The Council held plenary meetings in April and November 2009.

The term of appointment of two members of the Board ended in 2009. The members concerned, vice chair of the Board Mr. Peter Groeneboom and Prof. Dr. Joost Ruitenbergh, both made known their availability for reappointment. In early 2010, the Council confirmed the reappointment of both Board members for a second and final term of five years.

The Board met in five formal sessions in 2009 and attended the Council of Members meetings. The Board held several committee meetings to evaluate its work and to discuss strategic, financial and human resources issues with the Executive Board. Moreover, individual members of the Board were in attendance at KIT on many occasions.

Institutional management

In KIT's annual management cycle, the Board reviews the financial report and the auditor's management letter in early spring. The 2008 financial report was satisfactory and the Board discharged the Executive Board and was in turn discharged by the Council of Members. The Executive Board has successfully addressed issues raised in previous management letters and a programme to address newly raised issues was adopted.

The Executive Board supplies the Board with quarterly financial reports. These provide an increasingly good and comprehensive overview of the state of affairs at institutional and at departmental level. The Board perceives a more managerial and entrepreneurial attitude throughout the organization. The Board actively encourages the Executive Board and management to incorporate these relevant attitudes in KIT's traditional values and approaches.

The Board and the Council each monitor KIT's overall performance. The environment in which KIT operates is changing rapidly. The broad range of KIT's activities and the diversity of its stakeholders have led the Board to identify specific areas within and outside KIT for each of the directors to focus on. In consultation with the Executive Board and departmental managers, directors act as peers, sparring partners and ambassadors for and on behalf of KIT. Potential conflicts of interest in positions within KIT, Holding KIT BV and KIT's participations are identified, discussed and, if necessary, resolved.

On the eve of KIT's first centennial the Board of Directors wishes to express its satisfaction that in 2009 the institute once again consistently acted and operated in accordance with the framework of its values and mission.

The Board of Directors,
Prof. Dr. Rudy Rabbinge,
Chair



Annual Social Report



Young and colourful KIT staff at annual party.

Photo: Susanne Coolen

In 2009, the process of modernizing the employee benefit package that had been started in previous years received an extra dimension. Because only approximately 25 per cent of employees are union members, these organizations could only represent a minority in regular consultations. This

prompted KIT to set about organizing debates open to all employees on issues with a major impact on industrial relations.

The first debate focused on leave in all its forms, but with particular attention for the leave rights of older employees and for collective settlements, since these do not take sufficient account of individual wishes and situations. A large proportion both of the workforce and of the organizations representing employers and employees eagerly participated in the debate. The new insights gained through these debates will play a role in the formulation of the terms of employment. The guiding principle will be the gradual step-down of collective provisions in favour of increased individual choice. The generous investments into the development of employees' competences will continue. The personal development plan is one of the most attractive components of the employment package KIT has to offer on the competitive labour market, since it offers staff the opportunity to increase opportunities, both internally and externally. The huge take-up clearly demonstrates

that KIT is satisfying the wishes and needs of its employees in this regard.

However, turnover is relatively high among employees in the mid-range age groups. KIT succeeds in attracting young and promising talent, but is less successful in keeping some of that talent for very long. KIT's image and reputation as an outstanding breeding ground appears to be beyond doubt – the challenge is to get this new talent to make more long-term commitments to KIT.

KIT and the unions have agreed to invest substantially more in work experience placements. Fully aware of its social responsibility as an employer, KIT is to provide greater opportunities for placements for refugees, young people with disabilities and newcomers to the labour market who have difficulty accessing paid employment for other reasons.

This will place great demands on the departments for their supervision and support. Given the intensive nature of the programme, its realization will, in itself, be a challenge.

Like other organizations, KIT must prepare for a shrinking labour market. The general population is ageing and so too is KIT's. The resultant outflow of capacity will increase in the coming decades. A continuous and concerted effort is being made to recruit the necessary staff in the labour market – this need will only increase.

For KIT to succeed, it is crucial that the organization retains its house-trained talent, places an even greater emphasis on seeking new colleagues beyond national borders and, when possible and desirable, keeps its older employees.

January



IMC on its own feet

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- week 53



Portrait of Maarten Bremer

On 1 January 2009, the KIT department KIT Intercultural Management & Communication (KIT IMC) became the limited company KIT IMC BV, part of KIT Holding.

The transition was initiated for several reasons. Chief among these were:

- Accountability.
- Autonomy in doing business
- Realistic allocation of overheads.

KIT IMC BV is not eligible for public funding and operates on the commercial market, KIT IMC BV's transformation into a separate unit with its own profit & loss, leads to an increased accountability, a prerequisite for solid operational management. To be effective of a competitive market, IMC needs to act proactively and quick to opportunities. That is helped by the ability to act autonomously. Finally the transition into a separate unit opened the analysis of the services IMC contracted of the KIT staff units. This led to a rationalization of services contracted, fitting to the size and financial position of IMC, and hence in a cut in costs.

The Managing Director of KIT IMC BV reports results directly to its shareholders.

An interim manager oversaw the transition from September 2008 to August 2009. Under his sensitive and pragmatic guidance, the team dealt with the many questions and feelings of uncertainty. In August 2009, Mr. Maarten Bremer took up the position of managing director. He will continue to lead the ongoing process of professionalization.

KIT IMC BV has now operated for one full year as a limited company. Its financial position has improved significantly thanks to strict cost management in a time of decreased turnover due to market circumstances. KIT IMC BV will now turn its focus to increased turnover.

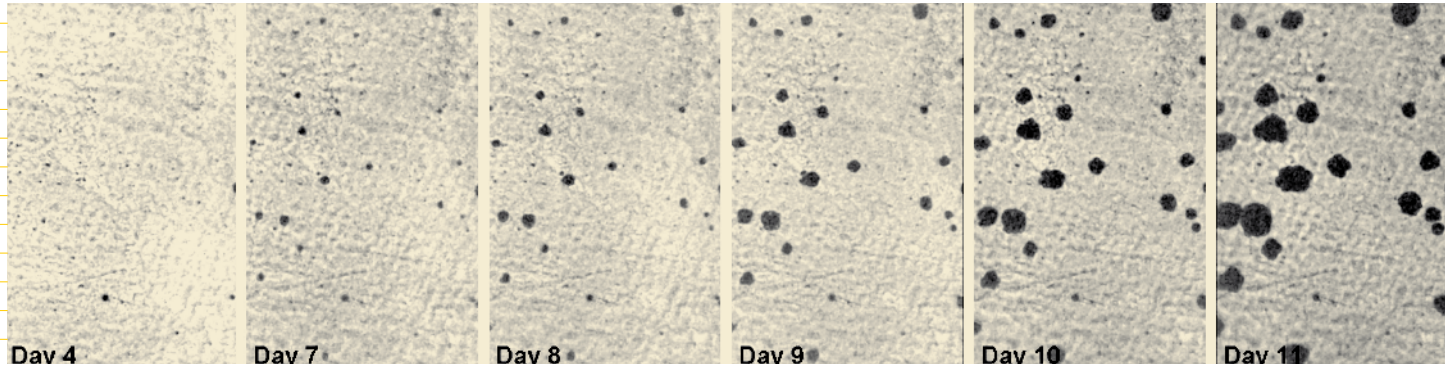


**Bus driving between Zambia
and Malawi.**

Photo: Michiel Arnoldus



Automated detection of tuberculosis microcolonies



Colony growth over time.

In 2009, a project was started aimed at the automated detection of microcolonies of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the causative agent of tuberculosis. Traditional methods for culturing the tuberculosis bacterium are very slow, and it may take several weeks before growth can be detected. The aim of this project is to develop a method of rapid culture to improve both diagnosis and drug-sensitivity testing for tuberculosis. Culturing is performed on solid supports, and the bacterial colonies formed are made using an

automated microscope and camera; magnification allows scientists to detect colonies much earlier than in a standard culture, and growth rate can be monitored and measured within one-day intervals. Together with the companies CCM and Microdish, KIT Biomedical Research (KIT BR) has been awarded a Microned grant for one year, commencing January 2010. These funds will be used to further develop the microscope imaging system and analytical methods.

Wayang Superstar, Ki Enthus Susmono's world of theatre

31 January to 2 August 2009 in the Park Hall

The Wayang Superstar exhibition showed around 60 of artist and puppeteer Ki Enthus Susmono's wayang puppets, along with film footage of his shows.

In Indonesia, his home country, Ki Enthus Susmono

is a superstar. His innovative shows enjoy unprecedented popularity, ensuring Javanese wayang theatre remains as vital as ever. His puppets include classical stylized wayang characters, popular fictional characters such as

Ki Enthus
performing.

Photo: Maria Pia Kille



Ki Enthus with one of his dolls.

Collection Tropenmuseum

Batman, the Teletubbies and Harry Potter, as well as international figures such as George W. Bush, Saddam Hussein and Osama Bin Laden. He started using modern puppets in his shows for the first

time in 2001 to counteract the decline in interest in wayang among the younger generation. He uses them to deliver frank criticism – without having to stand directly to account for it.



February



Value chain financing: beyond microfinance for rural entrepreneurs

From 18 to 27 February 2009, KIT and the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) organized a 'writeshop' in Nairobi to enable finance practitioners and value chain actors from around the world to share their experiences in value chain finance. The writeshop was supported by ICCO, Triodos Bank, Terrafina, Hivos and the Ford Foundation.

Value chain finance (VCF) involves specialized financial institutions linking up to a value chain and offering services on the basis of existing business relations in that chain. It is an innovative way of delivering more and better financial services to rural producers and agribusinesses. This benefits both the lender and borrower: for the lenders, financial institutions, it reduces the costs and risks of lending; for the borrowers, value chain actors, it means access to larger loans and new types of financial services, including savings and investment loans. When lead firms are willing to vouch for their suppliers, even smallholder farmers become creditworthy to financial institutions. In this way, value chain finance can contribute to rural development and poverty alleviation.

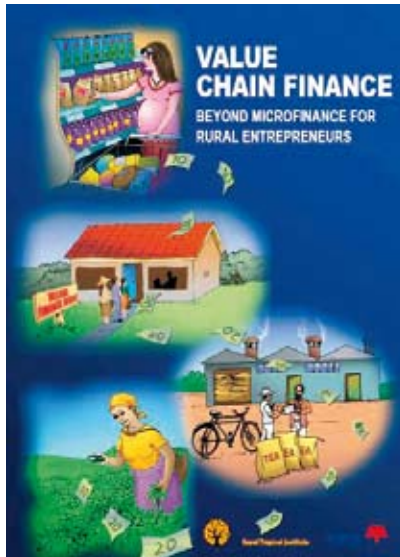
KIT and the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) organized a two-week 'writeshop' in Nairobi to explore this topic and learn from experiences with value chain financing. This was a writing workshop in which participants worked intensively with a team of editors, artists and resource personnel to create a high-quality written product in a compact period. Lucian Peppelenbos, who organized and facilitated this writeshop on behalf of KIT, explains: 'It's a combination of giving people a framework for reflecting on their experiences and

giving them the opportunity – the time, the support, the editors and resource persons.'

Invited participants in the writeshop included finance practitioners and value chain actors involved in interesting examples of value chain financing. In total, the writeshop documented fourteen case studies, from India, Kenya, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Peru and Bolivia. They covered a variety of agribusinesses, such as milk, potatoes, honey and chilli, and were selected for their relevance to development, and their financial sustainability, maturity and innovativeness.

The writeshop focused on experiences which demonstrate that value chain finance is both beneficial for small-scale entrepreneurs and feasible for the financial institutions involved.

The result is a practical book that gives a state-of-the-art overview of best practice in value chain finance.



'Financial markets in developing countries largely fail to serve the needs of small- and medium-sized enterprises, particularly in rural areas (the 'missing middle'). Among the many current innovations, value chain finance is a promising one. This book presents some experiences in value chain finance, assesses the preconditions, opportunities and limitations of this approach, and develops experience-based strategies and guidelines for future policy and practice.' Extract from *Value Chain Finance: Beyond Microfinance for Rural Entrepreneurs* (Published, 2010)

Smart Toolkit for Evaluating Information Projects, Products and Services



This book was published to meet a great need among information practitioners for guidelines on the evaluation process and on appropriate evaluation tools. The importance of evaluation to enhancing organizational learning is widely acknowledged in development literature. Without this learning, through well-planned and well-implemented evaluations, development organizations are unlikely to build the sufficient capacity to respond effectively to the changing needs of their target groups. There is increasing demand for information practitioners to evaluate their products and services themselves – in the contexts of both learning and accountability – and not to rely on external evaluations, which are often little more than a rubber-stamping exercise. But in many cases they lack a firm grounding in evaluation. Information practitioners need to know

evaluation's place in the project cycle, who to involve in its planning and implementation, how to plan it, how and when to implement it, how and when to follow it up and, above all, how to learn from it.

The publication of *Smart Toolkit for Evaluating Information Projects, Products and Services* is therefore timely. It seeks to provide information practitioners with an insight into self-evaluation of their products and services, with a view to improving learning and, ultimately, impact. It is a significant addition to the limited body of literature on the evaluation of information, and should be seen as a work in progress, with its use in the field contributing further insights to be incorporated into subsequent editions.

Published by KIT Publishers in cooperation with KIT Information & Library Services (KIT ILS) and CTA Wageningen.

Supporting agricultural entrepreneurship

KIT is a member of Agri-ProFocus (APF), a network of Dutch agricultural development organizations. Members include Dutch donor agencies, credit institutions, fair trade organizations, training institutes and knowledge institutions. All of them are engaged in strengthening producer organizations worldwide through capacity building, action research and advisory services. In 2009, KIT started supporting APF in its creation of country programmes in seven African nations: Kenya, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Uganda, Niger and Zambia. These programmes seek to improve coordination among APF members and their partners with a focus on initiatives for agricultural entrepreneurship.

Agricultural entrepreneurship involves looking for ways to produce food or commodities for profit while protecting natural resources. It means solving problems in agriculture and creating value for small farmers by upgrading production methods, marketing and farmer organization. By raising the incomes of smallholder farmers, improved entrepreneurship in agriculture can play a role in reducing poverty in rural areas.

APF introduced the seven country programmes to bring an increased level of coherence to its efforts. The aim is to get Dutch development organizations and their partners to improve coordination of their current activities in each country. APF will also use the programmes to initiate new joint activities among organizations that promote agricultural entrepreneurship – all those who play a key role in agricultural entrepreneurship will be invited to

participate, not only APF members and their partners.

At the request of the Netherlands Directorate-General of Development Cooperation (DGIS), in 2009 KIT and the Wageningen UR Centre for Development Innovation (CDI) began assisting APF in developing these programmes. KIT is well-positioned to support this process because of its technical knowledge of agriculture and its skills in process management and facilitation. Progress this





↑ **Selling tomatoes at vegetable market in Nakuru, Kenya.**

Photo: Peter Gildemacher

↖ **Farmer at vegetable market in Nakuru, Kenya.**

Photo: Peter Gildemacher

year included the facilitation of kick-off workshops in four countries and the support of APF in planning the process. KIT will continue to support

APF in further developing the country focus programme over the next three years, in close partnership with CDI.

The idea of farmer entrepreneurship excites me. I work with dairy farmers whose productivity is very low, which impacts heavily on their incomes. Entrepreneurship is part of the answer. My organization believes in collaboration and in the use of business development services. I find this platform useful and I see a lot of people with whom we can work. Moses Nyabila, East Africa Dairy Development Project

One of the projects by KIT and Agri-ProFocus – The Kenya country programme

Activities in 2009

- KIT and IIRR facilitated a kick-off workshop in June with 62 participants from agricultural producer organizations. The aim was to identify focus areas for joint activities.
- The focus areas chosen were thought likely to have a positive impact on poverty and to capitalize on the expertise and current activities of APF members and their partners.
- An online platform was set up to facilitate exchange between APF professionals participating in the Kenya country programme, their Kenyan partners and other stakeholders.

Five agricultural focus areas were chosen

- Potatoes, dairy, livestock, horticulture and coffee

Four cross-cutting issues were identified

- Youth in agriculture. Gender was added to this topic because women were so under-represented at the meeting that affirmative action was clearly needed. This is the most important of the four issues.
- Financial services for agriculture. Financial services need to be adapted to the needs of smallholder agriculture – highly risky but potentially highly profitable.
- Local value addition and access to markets. Increasing the profitability of agricultural enterprises is essential for alleviating poverty among smallholders.
- Farmer empowerment and representation. Smallholder agriculture can only remain competitive if farmers are empowered and collaborate through real representation in farmer organizations.

Selling potatoes at vegetable market in Nakuru, Kenya.

Photo: Peter Gildemacher

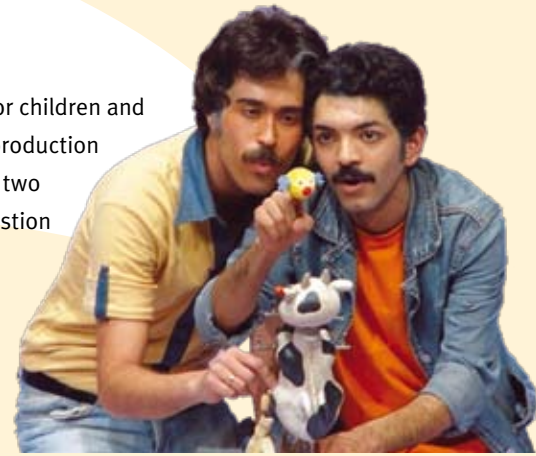


March



Iranian youth theatre

The Tropentheater devotes a great deal of its time and attention to programming for children and young people. One fine example of these activities in 2009 was the Iranian youth production *De Koe* (The Cow), a universal tale about friendship. The production's director and two actors were flown to Amsterdam especially for this performance. There was no question of a language barrier in this show, because the actors quickly learned a few Dutch words, and the soundtrack was recorded in Dutch. The audience looked on in breathless silence at this very visual performance, with its fusion of mime, puppetry, projections and sound effects. The makers succeeded in telling a beautiful story with only limited means: theatre at its best!



**Iranian actors of youth theatre
'The Cow'.**
Collection Tropentheater

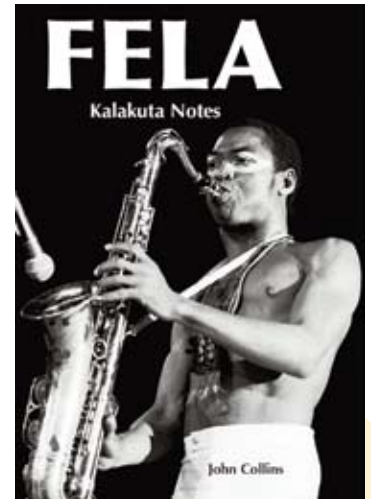


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- week 53

Fela Kalakuta Notes

Fela Anikulapo Kuti was Africa's archetypal Pan-African protest singer. His lyrics condemned neo-colonialism in general and the Nigerian authorities in particular. Throughout his turbulent life, this controversial Nigerian creator of Afrobeat and spokesman for the poor and downtrodden 'sufferheads' of Africa generated an enormous amount of international interest. And this did not fade away with his death in 1997. He has been the subject of several books, at least one PhD thesis and thousands of column inches – in Nigeria and elsewhere. He was also the subject of more wildly unfounded gossip than just about any musician of the 20th century. In the mid-1980s he was named by Amnesty International as a prisoner of conscience. Curiously, however, very little has been written about his early career, his musical ideas or his life-long love affair with Ghana, the home of Nkrumahism and the first country in Sub-Saharan Africa to win independence from colonial rule. Perhaps the global media were beguiled by his numerous and well-documented confrontations with authority. Perhaps the liberal elite was confused by his consciously anti-PC stance on critical social and sexual issues. Perhaps the world-music business found it too challenging to come to terms with Africa's most important musician.

The author of Fela Kalakuta Notes, John Collins, is an Africa-based musician and writer. He has profound, first-hand insights into Fela's world and he addresses the gaps in the Fela story. Published by KIT publishers. • www.kitpublishers.nl



One of the most fascinating profiles of Fela ever published
New Africa

Boil it, cook it, peel it, or forget it

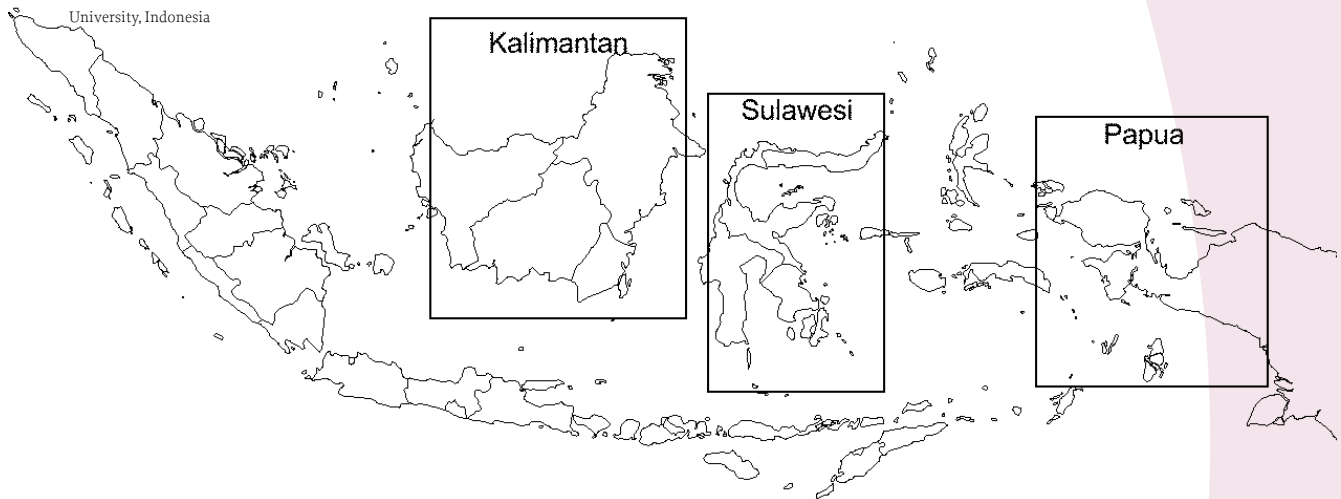
'Boil it, Cook it, peel it, or forget it' is the health advice given to those travelling to developing countries who want to avoid contracting typhoid fever. This life-threatening infection caused by the bacterium *Salmonella typhi* still affects about 21.5

million people each year. The major factors that contribute to the occurrence and spread of this infection are contaminated foods and water supplies, along with poor hygiene, sanitation and living conditions. Typhoid fever is still a major

↳ **Regions of Indonesia suffering from typhoid fever**

↓ **Field workers collecting epidemiological information and specimens during field survey for typhoid fever in South-Sulawesi.**

Photo: Dr. M. Hatta, Hasanuddin University, Indonesia



infectious disease in Indonesia, especially in poor communities in suburbs in the eastern region and in rural areas. The disease is often associated with complications and it kills many.

The Hasanuddin University in Makassar, Indonesia and KIT Biomedical Research have a long-standing

collaborative relationship. This relationship initially focused on capacity-strengthening, but it is now increasingly devoted to health research. In 2009, a collaborative project was funded with the aim of improving diagnosis and treatment of typhoid fever and promoting preventive measures.

This typhoid fever project is very important, because it sets out to use new technologies to improve knowledge and to disturb transmission in communities

Dr. M. Hatta, Hasanuddin University, Indonesia



International seminar on institutional repositories, Accra, Ghana

Preparations for a new day of presentations and discussions on Institutional Repositories.

Photo: Peter Hessels



In recent years, the academic world has seen a surge in the number and size of online digital publication collections, or 'institutional repositories'. Academic institutions use institutional repositories to gather together their research output in one place and to create global accessibility. These collections are based on the principles of open access and interoperability: 'open access' means that the content is freely accessible to everyone, without any restriction, financial or otherwise; 'interoperability' means that a given repository can be linked to other institutional repositories to create worldwide networks of research information. Most academic institutions in Europe and North America have now implemented institutional repositories and they are on the rise in the rest of

the world, including Africa. It is now widely accepted that open access and interoperability are crucial to academic knowledge-sharing, especially in developing countries.

In March 2009, KIT Information & Library Services (KIT ILS), in conjunction with the Association of African Universities (AAU) and the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Ghana (CARLIGH), organized a three-day seminar for senior staff of African universities to discuss policies and activities necessary for the establishment and operation of institutional repositories in the African context. The seminar drew over forty participants from all the regions of Africa. KIT ILS is currently working with a number of partners to implement institutional repositories at universities in Ghana and Mozambique.

Great success for Tropenmuseum Junior

The Bombay Star (*Ster in de Stad*) exhibition ended at the beginning of March 2009. The total of 85,219 visitors who came to experience a taste of Bombay city life, far exceeded the anticipated 75,000. this

made it the most successful exhibition ever organized by Tropenmuseum Junior. The Bombay Star also had its own website, book, travelling theatre production and exchange programme.



Poster of the Bombay Star exhibition

April



- week 1
- week 2
- week 3
- week 4
- week 5
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- week 7
- week 8
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Interactive features support the KIT library in its globalization effort

Globalizing KIT Library

KIT Information & Library Services (KIT ILS) houses one of Europe's largest library collections of scholarly and trade publications, periodicals, databases and maps concerned with development issues. The collection focuses on the international community's commitment to poverty reduction as expressed in the Millennium Development Goals. The strengths of the KIT ILS collection lie in the large amount of 'grey' (specialist, unpublished) literature and literature published in developing countries. Use of the collection has dramatically increased since KIT added this unique library collection's catalogue records to the Dutch National Central Catalogue and WorldCat, the world's largest and most comprehensive catalogue. One of the reasons for this increase is that 45 per cent of the KIT collection is not present in any other library in the Netherlands. Another is KIT's increasing replacement of traditional library services with digital services. KIT is approaching its ultimate goal of expanding its digital library to the point that it can provide library users, including those in the developing world, with a comprehensive, scholarly collection of digital material and professional digital information services. At the end of 2009, access was available not only through an advanced search engine, but also through various Web 2.0 applications, including RSS feeds, social bookmarks and direct IRC communication with the librarian. Additional data associated with the title, including book covers, is now included in the bibliographical description. All these developments are supported by a programme of promotional activities and online training sessions. The attractive KIT ILS reading room was recently equipped with wireless Internet and it is increasingly being used for meetings and lectures. In just a few years, it has been transformed from a traditional library to a (digital) meeting centre with an impressive digital collection. At present, state-of-the-art technology is enabling KIT to make more than 25,000 items freely available worldwide. In 2010, the collection will also be made accessible through Google, which will almost certainly contribute to an even greater increase in visitor numbers.

Trance Festival

The Tropentheater stages a huge range of performances – everything from ecstatic African beats to sedate non-Western classical music. Usually, these are one-off events, but sometimes it is possible to bring together a wide variety of styles under a single banner. In April there was just

such an occasion. The Tropentheater joined forces with three other theatres, in the Netherlands and Belgium, to create the Trance Festival, a series of events devoted to all things Vodou, Sufi, Gnawa and Zen.



Trancefestival.

Photo: by Dag-photoart.com

May



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Vodou Exhibition in the Tropenmuseum

The exhibition *Vodou: Art and Mysticism from Haiti* ended on 10 May. It featured multicoloured ceremonial flags, life-size statues representing Bizango warriors, huge mirrors and entire vodou altars. Visitors to the Tropenmuseum learned about a religion with a wealth of history and tradition, unique rituals and fascinating artefacts. This exhibition was an in-depth look at vodou culture, far deeper than the superficial treatment it gets from Hollywood films, for example. There were 113,932 visitors to the museum during the exhibition in the Light Hall, the central and largest exhibition space in the museum.

↖ **Bizango persona. Padded cloth, bone, wood, mirrors and metal.**
Photo: Johnathan Watts, MEG.

↗ **Rada altar.**
Photo: Johnathan Watts, MEG.

→ **Doll and dress with sequins and beads. The doll represents goddess Èzili Freda who has a positive influence on love and relationships.**
Photo: Johnathan Watts, MEG.



Dance performance in the Tropentheater

In December 2008, the Tropentheater hosted a marvellous performance by the Haitian dancer and choreographer Jeanguy Saintus, who had been presented with the Prince Claus Award several days earlier. His blend of modern and vodou tradition-based dance perfectly complemented the concurrent exhibition in the Tropenmuseum,

Vodou, Art and Mysticism from Haiti.

In January 2009, this parallel programming continued with several special film screenings highlighting the culture of this Afro-Haitian folk religion. Each film was introduced either by an expert in the field of vodou or by one of the curators of the exhibition in the Tropenmuseum.

Evaluating performance-based financing for health

Mothers and children waiting for healthcare in Butembo, Congo.

Photo: Jurriën Toonen

Since 2002, Cordaid and HealthNet International have been piloting an innovative approach to health services delivery in low and middle income countries. This approach is known as performance-based financing (PBF). It works by funding results. Put simply, the better a health centre performs the more money it receives. PBF aims to improve the performance of health care, to make it more efficient, accessible and equitable. After launching PBF in several countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, Cordaid asked KIT to evaluate these pilot projects in 2008 and 2009. As part of its evaluation of PBF, KIT carried out country case studies in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda, Burundi, Zambia and Tanzania. The evaluation involved examining health service data and interviewing key people at national policy level and at service delivery level, including health professionals and community representatives. Some interesting results emerged. In DRC, for example, KIT staff visited a health centre in Kivu, where armed conflict had made the situation there especially difficult. Equipment and medicines were scarce and even reduced salaries were being paid too late, if at all. During the evaluation, staff there made it clear that PBF was making a big difference.

Previously, donated equipment had been unnecessarily complex, too expensive to maintain and, simply, not what was needed. Now, with the funding they receive through PBF, they buy equipment locally that they can maintain themselves and use to carry out basic, essential services. As a member of staff at the centre explained, they can now, 'finally provide most of the services that are needed.' In Burundi, community representatives described the difference PBF had made in improving communication. Prior to PBF, they were merely consulted on health matters, meaning that health services made the plans and expected them to agree to them. PBF means community representatives become more involved in decision making. And because money is at stake, they can call health service providers to account for results – and doctors are now responding better to health needs. PBF financially rewards improved performance by health centres. This stimulates creativity and encourages a sense of involvement among health service providers in the results they achieve. But PBF is not just about money, it is also about the process of contracting out services, stimulating discussion between clients and health care suppliers, and making health services more responsive to the community's needs. Evaluation of PBF shows that it promises better results in the health sector. For it to work, however, health systems need to change, service providers need greater autonomy and communities need to be involved. There is, then, still room for improvement to the PBF approach, particularly in the areas of preparation of local actors, community involvement, care-providers' accountability and targeting the poor. KIT is therefore carrying out operational research to find ways of raising performance to an even higher level.



June



Maternal health at stake: policy processes in Vietnam, India and China

**Mother and two children in
Uttaranchal, India.**

Photo: Bart de Steenhuijsen Piters

From 2004 to 2009, KIT participated in a large-scale research programme to enhance health policy processes in developing countries. The project was a cross-disciplinary collaboration of eight partner institutions from across Europe and Asia: the Nuffield Centre for International Health and Development at Leeds University; Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine; University of Bologna; the Prince Leopold Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp; Fundan University in Shanghai; the Indian Institute of Management in Ahemdabad; the Hanoi School of Public Health; and KIT.

Worldwide, more than half a million women die each year during pregnancy and childbirth (source: UNFPA, 2007). Nearly all of such deaths would be preventable given sufficient financial investment and political will. Why is it, then, that maternal health policies are so underdeveloped or weakly implemented?



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The research project HEPVIC (Health Policy-making in Vietnam, India and China, 2006–2009) was funded by the European Commission (EC) and initiated to shed light on this issue by exploring the main factors influencing maternal health policy processes. Its aim was to generate new knowledge to help policy makers, health managers and civil society groups develop and implement public health policies. Case studies on safe motherhood, adolescent reproductive health, abortion and domestic violence were analysed and compared across three Asian study countries: Vietnam, India and China. KIT was responsible for one of the four key determinants, the role of civil society, and for the country study in Vietnam. KIT's activities included methodology development, research capacity development, and cooperation with Vietnamese counterparts on data collection, analysis and reporting.

To mark the close of the project in 2009, an international seminar was held at KIT in April of the same year to share the research findings. Six HEPVIC consortium members, including KIT, will continue working together on health systems research. The new research project, entitled Health Stewardship and Regulation in Vietnam, India and China (HESVIC), also funded by the EC, will run until 2012.

**HEPVIC researchers visiting
KIT.**

Photo: Maitrayee Mukhopadhyay

Na Bigi Du

Actresses of Folk Opera

Na Bigi Du.

Collection Tropentheater

On 26 and 27 June 2009, the Tropentheater played host to the Surinamese folk opera *Na Bigi Du* in the Tropenmuseum's Light Hall. The title refers to the *Du*, a game formerly played by slaves in Suriname. Writer-director Thea Doelwijt injected new life into

Du with a series of three extravagantly costumed music-theatre productions that take the audience on a journey into Surinamese history. The Tropentheater provided the ticket sales service and a special package deal for both performances.



Dewaruci in the Light Hall

On 19 and 20 June 2009, the Tropentheater presented Ki Enthus Susmono's wayang production *Dewaruci* in the Tropenmuseum's grand central hall the Light Hall.

Especially for this performance, Ki Enthus Susmono was accompanied by the eccentric Javan composer A. Dedek Wahyudi Sutrisna and a group of eight top gamelan singers and players.



Ki Enthus performing.

Photo: Maria Pia Kille

Evaluating a programme for HIV-affected children in India

In 2009, KIT embarked on a comprehensive evaluation of the Balasahyoga programme in Andhra Pradesh. The programme's aim is to provide high-quality and comprehensive prevention, care, support and treatment services for local children and their families infected and affected by HIV.

Two and a half million people in India live with HIV and about 50,000 children are newly infected each year. A programme was launched in 2007 with funding from the Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), the Elton John Foundation and other organizations to address the situation in the

south Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, which has one of the country's highest prevalence rates. The Balasahyoga programme links children and their families to health and education programmes and to government schemes. Various partners provide a range of services, including referrals to voluntary counselling and testing centres, anti-retroviral medicine clinics and the improvement of these centres. Other interventions include micro-enterprises, vegetable gardens and supplementary nutrition. The Balasahyoga programme also provides psycho-social counselling to children and their families through its family case managers,



Case workers trained by KIT and Swasti.

Photo: Françoise Jenniskens

**Case workers in India trained
by KIT and Swasti.**

Photo: Françoise Jenniskens

who visit families on a regular basis.

The programme is being rolled out over a five-year period across eleven districts of Andhra Pradesh. The aim is to reach 40,000 households. Two years into implementation, CIFF, one of the programme's funders, asked KIT to design and implement a concurrent evaluation over the course of the programme's final three years. To achieve this, KIT teamed up with local partner Swasti, a non-profit organization in India that provides health-related consultancy services, action research and sector support.

Swasti's technical support manager Angela Chaudhuri is closely involved in the Balasahyoga evaluation. As Chaudhuri explains, 'Swasti is the face of the evaluation project in India, by virtue of its position and its past experience in large research studies. Our strengths lie in field research

and we have a large team and an office here. KIT and Swasti are complementary in the sense that Swasti provides the field base KIT lacks, and KIT provides the academic research background Swasti lacks. A lot of research we do is very functional, operational, but in order to take it outside, you do need to have an academic angle and robustness in terms of methodology, writing and analysis. That's where KIT comes in.'

Evaluating the Balasahyoga programme is a three-year effort. 'We don't yet know if there are any impacts or outcomes on the children,' says Angela Chaudhuri, 'That's what this evaluation is all about.' The findings could influence regional, national and international HIV care as well as treatment policy and programming.



July



Applied clinical research and evidence-based medicine

↓ Certificate ceremony of the first module of ACREM.

Photo: collection Biomedical Research

↘ A break during class to pick up some energy.

Photo: collection Biomedical Research

The development of health care in the developing world depends on a capacity for carrying out research. KIT Biomedical Research (KIT BR) is one of the main partners of the project Infectious diseases Network for Treatment and Research in Africa (INTERACT), a consortium of European and African partners in Uganda and Rwanda. INTERACT supports eight African students in their efforts to obtain their PhD requirements through high-quality research.

As part of INTERACT, and together with local universities, KIT BR has developed and

implemented a specialized training programme specifically for medical doctors. This two-year diploma course, Applied Clinical Research and Evidence-Based Medicine (ACREM), will be embedded in the local educational system concerned. All of the four to six modules each year consist of an intensive teaching week followed by three or four weeks of supervised assignments. The overall objective of the training programme is to deliver independent health care professionals capable of developing, conducting and disseminating clinical research on disease



prevention, diagnosis, treatment and implementation. Teaching additional professional skills promotes awareness of how knowledge is constructed, critically examined, evaluated and renewed.

The goal of the first-year programme is to produce a complete draft research proposal; the goal of the second-year programme is to complete and submit a research manuscript.

Caribbean Carnival from 5 July to 6 September

During the summer of 2009, the Tropenmuseum's Light Hall hosted a Caribbean Carnival, a special exhibition and activity programme for the whole family, with a colourful street parade as well as photos, film clips, costumes and music. There were daily workshops for children, where they made their own carnival decorations and learned to play Caribbean steel drums.

Illustratie: workshop steel drums met kinderen
The opening day of the Caribbean carnival on 5 July was a very festive occasion indeed. Throughout the day, children made their own carnival decorations and joined in steel drum

In December 2009, Rwanda completed the piloting of all the modules required. In Uganda the course was successfully implemented in 2009 and twenty participants followed the first official course there. The course will run again in 2010.

The students' appreciative evaluations and responses confirmed the great need for this new educational opportunity.

workshops. In the early afternoon, the carnival was officially opened by Esmée Ronde, Queen of the Rotterdam Summer Carnival 2008. This was followed by live music and dancing in magnificent carnival costumes. Admission was free on the day for children aged 12 and below. On 22 July, three days before the street parade at the Rotterdam Summer Carnival, the Tropenmuseum gave visitors a flavour of what was in store. It was a very high-spirited and festive day with live music and dancers. The Caribbean Carnival came to a close on 6 September with a performance by the Bijlmer Steelband Kids, the youngest steel band in the Netherlands.



Great Parade Oranjestad (Aruba).

Photo: Indra Trautwein



↑ Workshop Steeldrums in
Tropenmuseum.

Photo: Paul Romijn

→ Young steeldrum player
during the Caribbean carnival.

Photo: Indra Trautwein



Tropenmuseum

5 juli t/m
6 september
2009

KOM
K

zomerse activiteiten
voor de hele familie!



CARIBISCH CARNIVAL

BankGiroLoterij
CULTUUR MAAKT JE RIJKER

Koninklijk Instituut voor de Tropen

Amsterdam



2009 audience satisfaction survey

↑ **Royal ballet of Cambodia.**

Photo: Borin Kor

➤ **Ghalia Benali.**

Photo: Detlef Kinsler

A theatre's very existence depends on its audience, so knowing who your audience is, what they think about what's on offer, and what potentials there are, is essential for future policymaking. In July, the results were made known of the TNS NIPO survey of audience satisfaction and market potential. Current visitors to the Tropentheater are extremely positive about it. The theatre scores especially well on important criteria measuring visitors' intentions to recommend the theatre to friends and family, and to make return visits themselves. Moreover,

there is clearly enormous potential for future programming. These positive responses are matched by visitors' and interested parties' reactions to the building plans.

The Tropentheater website also underwent a complete metamorphosis in 2009 to better serve visitors. One of the key objectives was to create a good and efficient platform for ordering tickets, including last-minute tickets. The result was successful and the Tropentheater aims to further work along these lines.

August

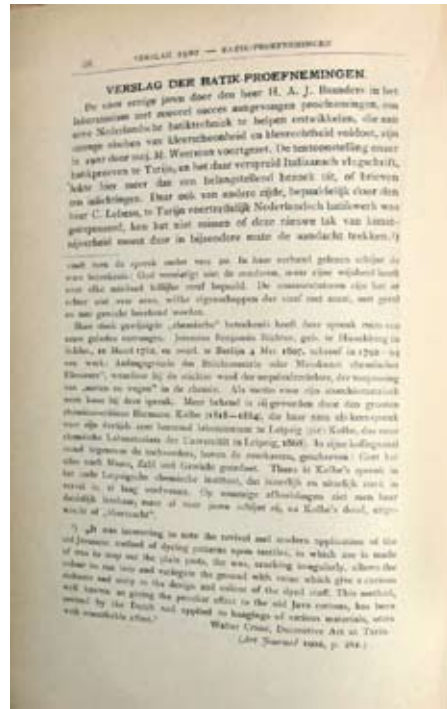


Digitizing the past, the beginning of a new future

Lion Cachet designed the title page and endpapers for the book *Indische levens*.

Onderworpenen (dutch literature), Amsterdam 1918 by Marie Christine Kooij-van Zeggelen. Cachet probably also designed the batik cover.

This publications are part of the KIT ILS cultural heritage collection



KIT's historical colonial collection contains a wealth of information that is still relevant to current development issues. For example, Dutch defence forces planning peace missions have been able to draw on the experiences of their predecessors in the Atjeh War (1873–1903): by referring to historical maps, photographs and documents they could see how the army dealt with cultural differences in that period. The historical collection also contains sources which are rare in the countries of origin or are insufficiently documented. In recognition of the importance of the historical colonial collection, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has provided funds to digitize not only the map and museum collections, but also the book and journal collection, and to make these accessible worldwide via the Internet. The first selection of documents contains the rarest publications and publications that played a role in KIT's history (most of which are published by KIT) or relate to the Tropenmuseum collections. Much of the cultural heritage collection dates from the period 1850–1950, but many

documents published in the 17th and 18th centuries are also present. One of these important early works is *Het Amboinsche kruidboek* or *Herbarium Amboinense*, by George Rumphius (1627–1702), the first European natural scientist active in the former Dutch East Indies. His work is a catalogue of the plants of the Moluccan island of Amboina (Ambon in modern Indonesia) and was published posthumously in 1741. It provided the foundation for all future study of the flora of the Moluccas. Thanks to a subsidy from Metamorfoze, the Dutch national programme for the preservation of paper heritage, in 2009 KIT embarked on the digitization of its own archives and those that had belonged to its forerunners the Colonial Museum and the Artis Ethnographical Museum. These archives, which cover the period from 1858 to 1950, offer a valuable insight into the sometimes personal stories of life in the former colonies, and reveal how the objectives of the Colonial Institute evolved over time. Another aspect of the digitization project is the plan to link all KIT collections and make these searchable through a single interface on the Internet. In the future, researchers will have access to information about documents, historical maps, museum objects, photographs and KIT's historical archive. Adding geographical data will make it possible to search according to associated geographical locations. The huge task of making the KIT collections accessible as a whole will result in a unique single resource on Dutch colonial history. The effort is justified because it will create an environment that will encourage research and education and will also play an important role in international and intercultural cooperation and exchange, with emphasis on strengthening the professional heritage sector in developing countries.

The huge task of making the KIT collections accessible as a whole will result in a unique single resource on Dutch colonial history

‘The maps are in the right place at KIT’

In May 2009, KIT ILS received a generous donation from Dr. H.E. Coomans of approximately 200 maps of the Caribbean region focusing on the Netherlands Antilles. This nearly tripled the number of maps in the collection pre-dating 1850. Dr. H.E. Coomans had decided that KIT was the right place to preserve his late wife Maritza Coomans-Eustatia’s unique collection. As well as increasing the number of maps of the Netherlands Antilles, which had previously been very small, the donation greatly enriched the collection with its enormous cultural and historical value. The oldest map was

made in 1579 by Abraham Ortelius, the renowned 16th-century cartographer and geographer. The Coomans-Eustatia collection was formally transferred to the KIT Library on 11 August 2009. KIT will digitize the maps and, as it has done for the rest of the historical map collection, make them available on the Internet, enabling visitors to search them by geographical location. A link to Google Maps will make it possible to compare old maps with new satellite images. KIT will also honour the donor’s request to make the collection accessible on the University of Curacao’s website.

Handing over the maps.

Photo: Enrico Wessels





One of the Ortelius maps.

Photo: Enrico Wessels

Indian-Dutch Innovation Circle

June 2009 saw the first meeting of the Indian-Dutch Innovation Circle (IDIC). This is an initiative by KIT Intercultural Management & Communication (KIT IMC) together with the Netherlands Foundation for Business Process Innovation (NF BPI). KIT IMC uses this network to exchange knowledge and experience in an informal atmosphere, in the field of innovation that has come about through cooperation between organizations in the Netherlands and India. The IDIC is aimed at decision makers and their advisors in Dutch organizations who are looking to innovate – particularly along ‘the India route’ – and at those who already have experience of Indian-Dutch cooperation. In order to ensure an optimal level of interaction, IDIC events aim to have no more than 50 participants.

KIT IMC believes that concepts originating from different perspectives can provide inspiration for innovation, so IDIC participants come from a wide range of fields of work relevant to the various topics KIT IMC is involved in. KIT IMC was very pleased with the variety and quality of participants, which was on a par with that of the keynote speakers. This rich diversity made for

animated and inspiring discussions at the meetings.

In 2009, IDIC focused on innovation and healthcare, innovation methods in India and the Netherlands, and ICT offshoring.

One particularly interesting topic was the marked differences between Dutch and Indian methods of innovation and how these differences can be employed strategically to best effect. The post-meeting drinks provided the perfect opportunity for networking. KIT IMC’s Indian-Dutch network of contacts grew dramatically within the first six months from just a few to over 500 – all of them set on strengthening the bridge between India and the Netherlands.

The precise topics to be covered by IDIC in 2010 are still under discussion, but they will be in the fields of education; India and water management; sustainability; infrastructure; and the creative industries.

KIT IMC is delighted with the insightful and fruitful network meetings that have already taken place, and is very much looking forward to the next IDIC meetings in 2010.



September

Culture and renewal, a new director for the Tropentheater

In September 2009, the Tropentheater took on a new director, Rien Vrijenhoek. Previous years had seen an increasing professionalization of the Tropentheater's administration and organization, and the effects trickled down into all its activities, shows and musical performances.

Rien Vrijenhoek's predecessors Wieb Broekhuijsen and Otto Romijn made the Tropentheater what it is today, a highly respected theatre with a programme of 200 productions in its two theatres in 2009 attracting 30,000 people.

The Tropentheater is one of a kind. Nowhere in the Netherlands, Europe or even the rest of the world can one find a cultural centre of this kind that focuses so expressly on non-Western performing arts. The Tropentheater's chief aim in presenting these events is to increase knowledge and understanding of other cultures among Dutch audiences, including those with international backgrounds.

The Tropentheater plays host to a wide range of performing arts, including plays, music theatre, concerts, cinema and informative programmes – for all ages. This year, the Tropentheater presented its first show for preschool children: Zand (Sand), by the Belgian troupe IOTA Compagnie.

The Dutch Minister of Development Cooperation Bert Koenders summed it up perfectly when he said, 'First and foremost, culture is about renewal and the breaking of old patterns and taboos. It provides a counterweight to cynicism. The positive aspects of development are mediated through culture.'

Artists are eager to let their voices be heard at the Tropentheater because it is an opportunity to develop an international career in the West: recognition begins with the first performance. Of course, the Tropentheater is continuing to present traditional non-Western art forms, but it is also always looking for new voices – literally and figuratively. Non-Western cultures are as subject to change as Western ones. Migration, globalization and political developments bring about cross-fertilization and exchange. For the first time in history,



New director Rien Vrijenhoek.

Photo: Irene de Groot

a majority of the world's population now lives in urban agglomerations, rather than rural areas. Developments such as these have an impact on cultural expression, and the Tropentheater is close at their heels. The Tropentheater dares to take risks and it offers performing artists a real opportunity for a debut performance. But it doesn't end with the first show, because the Tropentheater is dedicated to sustained international exchange with non-Western artists.

There are also plenty of new ideas in store. KIT is making its cultural wing more accessible, and that means the Tropentheater is to have its own and that means the Tropentheater is to have its own building with two auditoria: one large and one small, and both of them larger than their present counterparts. It is set to be a veritable mecca for the non-Western performing arts, serving Amsterdam, the Netherlands, Europe and the entire globe!

2009 was an exceptional year for the Tropentheater in all respects, with many splendid performances, nearly 30.000 visitors and a fantastic summer festival with the wayang theatre production by Ki Enthuis Susmono and the Surinamese folk opera Na Bigi Du. But, wonderful as it all was, Tropentheater is now very much looking forward to the prospects for 2010. The added impetus of it being KIT's centennial has inspired the Tropentheater to expand its ambitions even further.

*There are more than
enough reasons for me
to be very proud of
what my colleagues
have achieved in 2009*

Rien Vrijenhoek, Director of the Tropentheater

Multicultural comedy group Hassan's Angels.

Photo: Victor Bergen – Henegouwen



Singer of Chiwoniso Trio.

Collection Tropentheater

Studying at KIT, the International Course in Health Development



Portrait of Francis-Xavier Andoh-Adjei

Student using the facilities of KIT Library.

Photo: collection KIT Library



Francis-Xavier Andoh-Adjei is the Deputy Director of Operations (Monitoring and Evaluation) for the National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA) in Ghana. In September 2009, he took a year's leave of absence from his work to follow the International Course in Health Development/ Master of Public Health (ICHD/MPH), offered jointly by KIT and the VU University in Amsterdam. Thanks to an agreement between his employer and Nuffic, the Netherlands' association for higher education, Mr. Andoh-Adjei and other NHIA staff are eligible for financial support to undertake higher education in the Netherlands. 'We need the manpower with the requisite capabilities and techniques to man the health insurance scheme in Ghana,' explains Mr. Andoh-Adjei. 'And that's why we are so pleased with the training opportunities offered through this agreement.'

The ICHD/MPH is a selective master's programme aimed at health professionals and managers with several years' work experience. On average, only about 25 students are admitted each year from countries around the world. However, in response to growing demand 57 students were admitted for the 2009–2010 academic year. The course was expanded to two parallel classes in order to maintain a low student–teacher ratio and a high level of personal attention. 'Lecturers really have time to do everything possible for you to understand whatever they want to teach you,' says Mr. Andoh-Adjei. And he praises the diversity in the teaching processes and in the thinking behind them: 'It is one thing to have the knowledge, and quite another to have the skills to apply it

effectively. These are skills I believe I am learning here.'

Mr. Andoh-Adjei's original ICHD/MPH study was on public health, with particular attention for health policy, health economics and epidemiology. But during the course he has become increasingly intrigued by the determinants of health: how is health linked to the environment, for example? The course is helping him to answer such questions: 'It has been very beneficial to me and is shaping my thinking and orientation towards the entire sector.' Mr. Andoh-Adjei's master's thesis will focus on the performance of health insurance in Ghana. This year-long study leave is not solely an academic exercise, because it will provide him with something practical that he can take back into the workplace. Between 2003 and 2005, Mr. Andoh-Adjei served as the Special Assistant to Ghana's Minister of Health, and he is currently a civil servant. He expects he will find ways to influence policy makers. 'At the end of the day,' he says, 'I should be able to come up with feasible recommendations that can be applied back home.'

Health insurance coverage in Ghana

Universal health insurance is an important step towards achieving equitable access to healthcare for all. Sub-Saharan Africa's first nationwide social health insurance scheme was launched in Ghana in 2004. It aims to pool risks, thereby reducing individual burden and improving healthcare use by not requiring patients to pay cash when they come for treatment. After just four years, the social



New group of ICHD students 2009-2010.

Photo: Tabitha van den Berg

↓ **Teaching information literacy skills.**

Photo: collection KIT Library

health insurance scheme currently covers half of Ghana's population – a remarkable achievement. Managing an operation such as this is a major challenge. In recent years, The Ghanaian National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA), which is implementing the insurance scheme, has been supported by KIT with technical know-how and capacity building. In 2009, KIT and NHIA jointly redesigned the scheme's monitoring and

evaluation system, developing new information flows, instruments, guides and software. KIT also teamed up with MDF¹ to provide a training programme for NHIA staff on topics such as health policy and financing, health insurance system research, and monitoring and evaluation. In addition to staff development, the training resulted in a new research agenda for the NHIA.



International users of KIT Library

Students using the computerroom of KIT Library.
Photo: collection KIT Library

Colleagues of KIT Information & Library Services (KIT ILS) take part in the different courses organised at KIT by teaching information literacy skills. KIT ILS gathers a broad spectrum of information in the field of international cooperation, with a focus on the Millennium Development Goals.

This information is provided by KIT Library's information officers. They give short courses on the use of both the catalogue of journals and books (many of which are already available in full-text electronic versions) and in-house databases such as Scopus, the largest abstract and citation database, and Pubmed, a database



containing full-text articles on biomedical subjects. These short courses were given to the students of:

- The course on Management of HIV and AIDS Responses that KIT organizes for the Indonesian National AIDS Commission, with Nuffic/Neso funding.
- The NTC course, core course of the Master's in International Health.
- The International Course in Health Development/ Master of Public Health (ICHD/MPH).

KIT ILS aims to keep people in developing countries informed about recent publications in their field of interest – health issues, for example. The services include a document-delivery component which makes it possible for participants to obtain the full text of selected articles. The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides the funds for these services.

**Student in the Reading Room
of KIT Library.**

Photo: collection KIT Library



New policy on contemporary art for the Tropenmuseum



↑ **Element of installation Heri Dono.**

Photo: collection KIT Library

→ **Heri Dono amidst his own exhibition pieces.**

Photo: collection KIT Library

In the policy paper 'Collecting at Cultural Crossroads: collection policies and approaches (2008–2012) of the Tropenmuseum', the museum formulated its desire to exhibit and collect contemporary art as an explicit component of its collection policy. This planned policy became more clearly defined over the last year. The faculty of the Tropenmuseum and guest curator Wouter Welling formulated the policy, which will serve as the basis for the museum's organization of four exhibitions and its modern art acquisition.

Cultural identity and interculturalism go hand in hand. In its art acquisition the Tropenmuseum will focus on artists who neither rebel too vehemently against their own cultural background, nor adhere too strictly to it. These artists' local realities will be examined and placed in the context of global developments. The museum sees the work of 'glocal' artists as a valuable additional opportunity to reflect on topical issues in a variety of cultural contexts.

The first exhibition in this series, The Dono Code, which opened its doors to the public on 10

September, was devoted to the work of Heri Dono (Jakarta, Indonesia, 1960), one of the most important contemporary Indonesian artists. Heri's paintings, sculptures and installations pass critical and often humorous comment on current politics and social problems in his homeland. Not only does he use art forms and objects familiar to all his compatriots, including wayang, tuktuks and ancestor statues, but he has also been inspired by Western comic heroes such as Flash Gordon and Superman, and influenced by European art from the likes of Matisse, Picasso, and the Cobra art movement. The central focus of his work is change in Indonesian society, which is inextricably bound up with developments in the rest of the world.



Tropenmuseum in 2009

In 2009, four new members joined the management team of Lejo Schenk, Director of the Tropenmuseum. In January 2009, Siebe Rossel joined as Head of the Curatorial Department and Marga van Berkel became Head of Management in the same month. In February, Marielle Pals started as Head of Tropenmuseum Junior and in November Hans van de Bunte completed the team as Director

of Public Programmes.

The museum welcomed 175,220 visitors to the permanent and temporary exhibitions in 2009. Out of a total of nine temporary exhibitions, six opened in 2009. Sixty-four per cent of the visitors were adults, with the remainder aged 18 or younger.

Twenty-six per cent of all visitors used a Museum Card to enter.

October



Jump into China!

Her Royal Highness Princess Máxima of the Netherlands was unfortunately unable to attend the opening but did manage to visit the exhibition in December 2009.

Photo: Irene de Groot



The Tropenmuseum Junior (TMJ) exhibition, *Qi of China*, was launched at the opening weekend from 9 to 11 October 2009. This new cross-media project, on exhibit until early 2012, focuses on China's energy and vitality in both modern and ancient times.

Qi of China is an interactive exhibition, with additional elements such as an online game called QiGame and a book packed with photographs, moving pictures and personal stories. This was the first time TMJ put on an exhibition with such an extensive opening programme, presenting a huge range of creative expression, including theatre, music, film, dance, literature, new media, karaoke and cookery.

As well as guided tours of the exhibition, the opening weekend was packed with dozens of other activities for young and old alike. They included:

- Knowledge sharing. Various lectures, with speakers including Peter Ho (professor of development studies), Carolijn Visser (travel-story writer) and Jeroen Groenewegen (sinologist).
- Exchange. Roundtable discussions, with subjects including the adoption of Chinese children.
- Participation. Workshops on calligraphy, kung fu and other subjects, where young and adult audiences gained practical experience.



Workshop Calligraphy.

Photo: Ivar Pel

- Topical issues. Premieres of new short films on China by young (Chinese) filmmakers. A collaboration with broadcaster VPRO's Metropolis documentary series.

TMJ developed the entire programme in close contact with the Chinese community. And within KIT, TMJ collaborated with the Tropentheater on theatre, and with KIT ILS on Chinese medicine. The KIT Knowledge Centre presented four lectures on China, as part of the Knowledge Month in October 2009. Reviews of the exhibition were full of praise: 'True wonders of China's vital energy.' (Parool); 'China's vitality is irresistible. The inventive use of new media runs throughout the exhibition. It gives visitors an immersive experience of ancient and modern China.' (Trouw); 'And when you've done everything there is to do there, you will hopefully leave considerably wiser and more energized. Yes, you will carry a little piece of China within you.' (NRC Handelsblad).

The online game QiGame was nominated for the Gouden Apenstaart award in the category Best Children's Site by Professionals.

United in the battle against TB

In 2009, after a long history of ad hoc collaboration, KIT, KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation and the National Institute of Public Health and Environment (RIVM) formally joined forces to establish the Dutch TB Laboratory partnership (DTLab).

There is a remarkable amount of TB laboratory expertise in the Netherlands, with KIT, KNCV and RIVM all having long-term and complementary experience in international TB control. DTLab will therefore be able to offer a wide range of specific components to TB laboratory services. One important benefit for those individuals or institutes seeking support is the single point of contact. Also,

each client receives a joint proposal from the three members on how DTLab can address its needs. The interventions are always tailor made, evidence-based and designed to maintain and enhance local ownership and sustainability.

In collaboration with partners in developing countries, DTLab aims to coordinate and improve the quality and effectiveness of TB laboratory diagnostic services, making a significant contribution to TB control. DTLab stimulates partnerships leading to international control of tuberculosis. KIT's role in DTLab will be to build capacity and implement quality-assured diagnostic services.



ePlatform for mHealth in developing countries



A health worker in Goa, India, uses a PDA.

Photo: 2009 Frederick Noronha,
Courtesy of Photoshare

In the autumn of 2009, KIT launched an ePlatform for mHealth (mobile health) in developing countries. This online resource provides information on the current use of and potential for the provision of health-related services through mobile communication in low- and middle-income countries in Africa & the Middle East, Asia-Pacific and Latin America.

The website was developed by KIT Information & Library Services (KIT ILS), and is the result of a

collaboration with the Health section of KIT Development Policy & Practice (KIT DEV) and the Dutch NGO Text To Change (TTC).

Mobile devices are often the first IT tools to penetrate into even the remotest areas of low-income countries. This can bring improvements in the provision of health care services to the poor, especially in areas with inadequate infrastructure. However, the broad and useful application of mobile devices in health depends on the local availability of information about their effectiveness and operability. Presently, there is a lack of this kind of information, and this is a gap the ePlatform for mHealth is aiming to fill.

The ePlatform for mHealth offers access to a unique combination of open, subscription-based and informal sources, including key academic databases and grey literature (open source material not available through traditional channels). Resource types include research articles, project documentation, presentations, websites and news and views related to the various areas of mHealth application.

KIT continuously updates the content to reflect new developments and publications, and is endeavouring to find partners to advance the ePlatform in 2010. A collaborative platform would enhance the ability of all stakeholders to make well-informed, evidence-based decisions on expanding the use of mHealth.

Furthermore, KIT is developing other mHealth initiatives on other topics. These will continue throughout 2010, together with the platform.

Architectuur en Bouwcultuur van Suriname

(Suriname's Architecture and Construction Culture)

The placing of the historical centre of Paramaribo, the capital of Suriname, on UNESCO's World Heritage list has contributed to renewed interest in Suriname's built heritage. Recent years have seen an increased need for a successor to the renowned standard work by Professor Dr C.L. Temminck Groll BSc, *De architectuur van Suriname: 1667–1930* (The Architecture of Suriname 1667–1930), published in 1973.

This new overview seeks to give a fresh impulse to the study of Surinamese architecture. It lives up to its stated desire to devote more attention to the many different cultural and religious groups in the rich tapestry of the Surinamese community. The book also describes in detail less obvious 'monuments', including public utilities, schools, hospitals, hotels, industrial buildings and civil engineering works such as bridges, railways and dykes. Besides these major buildings, the authors

also devote their attention to housing for the general population and to construction techniques and materials.

The authors, architectural historians Olga van der Klooster and Michel Bakker, were able to draw on the support of both Surinamese and Dutch specialists and they supplemented their research in archives and libraries in both countries with a great deal of field work. Their guiding principle throughout was that a book can only communicate the true value of a building if, in addition to expounding on architectural qualities, it highlights the history of the building's occupants and users. This book warmly advocates the preservation of Suriname's rich cultural values, in the capital Paramaribo and far beyond. Built heritage and its historical surroundings deserve to be treated with respect. The historical built environment is, after all, an anchor point for one's culture.

↓ In November 2009, the first copy was presented in Suriname to the country's president Ronald Venetiaan.

Photo: Presidential Office of Suriname



Highly satisfied customers for IMC B.V.

On 12 October 2009, KIT IMC received a new certificate from Cedeo that attests to product quality on the basis of customer approval ratings. Only training companies scoring customer satisfaction of at least 80 per cent are entitled to this certificate.

In its assessment, Cedeo asks clients to fill out an open-ended qualitative measurement tool. KIT IMC scored an outstanding average rating of 91.4 per cent across its wide range of services. KIT IMC can be justifiably proud to carry the Cedeo logo after complimentary remarks such as, 'If the co-operation continues to be as strong as it is

currently we are a happy customer,' and, 'We were enthusiastic about the original approach to training programmes.' And the fact that the goals of the training programmes were reached in most cases served to further increase customers' perception of the quality of KIT IMC's programmes. The Cedeo procedure reaffirmed the power of word-of-mouth recommendation, because some of the respondents had been recommended by their network to contact KIT for intercultural courses. This level of goodwill is allowing KIT IMC to further develop its network within customer organizations and to create new contacts and contracts.

NH Tropen Hotel all-in deals

In the third quarter of 2009, an agreement was made with the NH Tropen Hotel that made it possible to offer all-in deals. It was motivated by Tropentheater's long-standing desire to attract visitors from around the country. This agreement means that KIT can now actively promote all-in deals both on KIT's and NH Hotels' website. Furthermore, a discount campaign has been set up

to stimulate last-minute visits, enabling hotel guests to get a discount on ticket prices for performances in the theatre or visits to the museum. This agreement places further emphasis on the close mutual proximity of Tropentheater, Tropenmuseum and NH Tropen Hotel, and is sure to be beneficial to all parties involved!



November

KIT takes part in WHO's Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network

- week 1
- week 2
- week 3
- week 4
- week 5
- week 6
- week 7
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- week 52
- week 53

On 26 September 2009, typhoon Ondoy hit southern Luzon, the largest island in the Philippines. The Manila metropolis and neighbouring regions experienced severe flooding. One week later, northern Luzon was hit by typhoon Pepeng, which also caused major flooding and damage to buildings.

In the three weeks following each of the typhoons, hospitals in the affected regions reported rapidly increasing numbers of suspected leptospirosis cases and of resultant deaths.

On 20 October the same year, the Department of Health of the Philippines requested assistance from the World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN). GOARN is a technical collaboration between existing institutions and networks that pools human and technical resources for the rapid identification, confirmation and response to outbreaks of international importance.

The GOARN international expert team was asked to:

- Conduct an investigation into a suspected leptospirosis (canicola fever) outbreak in the affected regions of Luzon. This investigation was to consist of (i) descriptive analysis and data review, (ii) confirmation of leptospirosis as cause of the outbreak, (iii) review of proposed control measures and provision of public health advice, and (iv) revision of clinical management guidelines, review of clinical management procedures and an investigation into suspected leptospirosis deaths.
- Develop a post-disaster disease surveillance system.
- Develop a risk communication strategy.

Flooded school in (Manila) National Capital Region.

Photo: Dr. Axelle Ronsse,
epidemiologist, Medicines Sans
Frontiers, Belgium



The team consisted of two clinicians/epidemiologists, one clinical management expert, a WHO logistician and a leptospirosis expert. They were counselled and supported by staff of the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO) based in Manila, staff of the Philippine National Epidemiology Centre (NEC) and local health staff in the affected regions. Expertise on leptospirosis itself was provided by KIT Biomedical Research.

At the time of writing, the team's observations, data and recommendations are undergoing evaluation and review.

Unique exhibition on Maroon culture

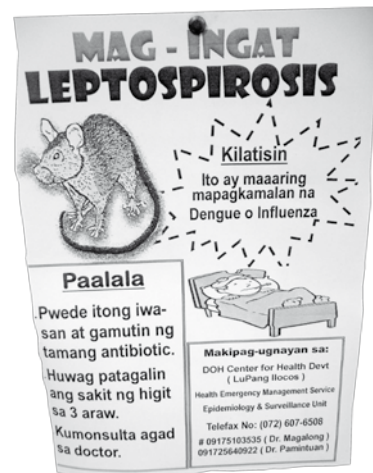
The Art of Survival. Maroon Culture from Suriname opened on 4 November 2009. The opening ceremony was led by the Dutch Minister of Development Cooperation Bert Koenders, in the presence of the Surinamese Minister of Regional Development Michel Felisi and the highest Maroon authority Granman Aboikoini.

This exhibition in the Light Hall centers on the origins and lives of Maroon communities in Suriname. The Maroons have been living in Suriname for around three hundred years. Originally snatched from Africa and shipped to Suriname as slave labour for the Dutch, they escaped and sought shelter along the rivers in the bush.

The aesthetic quality and sheer quantity of the objects in the exhibition demonstrate the strength, splendour and dynamics of the culture. The many visual exhibits illustrate both non-material culture and current developments. They tell a story of cultural resilience, threats, change, disappearance, renewal and forgetting. This exhibition answers many questions about how such a tiny culture can

survive in the age of globalization. The exhibition is produced in a joint collaboration with the Maroon community.

In the near future, the Tropenmuseum – in a joint effort with other KIT departments – will contribute to the establishing of 'culture houses' in inland Suriname to support the cultural heritage of Maroons there.



↑ **The Philippine Department of Health started informing the public on the leptospirosis hazards.**

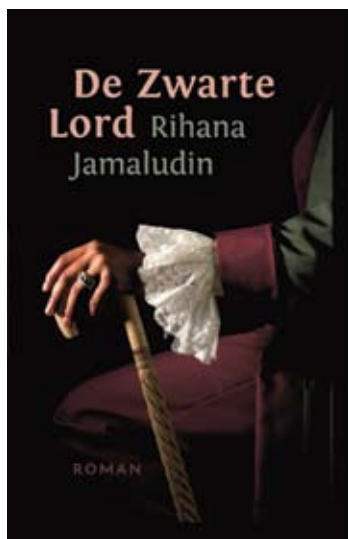
Photo: Dr. Axelle Ronse, epidemiologist, Medicines Sans Frontiers, Belgium

↓ **Dutch Development Cooperation Minister Koenders and Tropenmuseum director Lejo Schenk at opening Marroons.**

Photo: Irene de Groot



KIT Publishers' first novel



De Zwarte Lord (The Black Lord) is the first literary novel from KIT Publishers, which wants to offer a platform for literature by non-Dutch authors. Author Rihana Jamaludin recounts the compelling story of a governess from the Dutch city of Den Bosch who travels to Suriname to teach a wealthy young black man, heir to his white father's plantation. Here she finds herself in a society saturated with the consequences of slavery.

This historical novel is Jamaludin's debut.

Reviews:

'That fact that a book tells a historical story does not necessarily mean it is literature.

But Rihana Jamaludin constructs her historical tale using sentences – serious, magnificent sentences. She sculpts

sentences – the hallmark of a true writer'.

Michiel van Kempen, Extraordinary Professor of West-Indies arts at the University of Amsterdam (UvA), and author of several books on Surinamese literature.

'Good for the discussion of the history of Surinamese-Dutch slavery. It is a realistic story that will captivate young readers, too, thanks to the pacy writing style.'

Clark Accord, author of *De koningin van Paramaribo* (The Queen of Paramaribo)

'This will be a delight for lovers of an old-fashioned romantic, moving story with real depth.'

Noord-Hollands Dagblad

'A compelling novel.'

Brabants Dagblad

Eva and the Kris

The education departments of the Tropenmuseum and the Tropentheater have intensified their cooperation. One of the first results of this development was the departments joint efforts on the play *Eva en de Kris* (Eva and the Kris), by Djempol theatre group. It meant that primary school children could both attend this performance and follow a guided tour of the museum that focused on the culture surrounding the kris, a form of dagger indigenous to Southeast Asia. This

added an extra dimension to the schools programme.

The Tropentheater offered secondary schools a Bollywood film for screening by the school concerned in a series of episodes, as if it were a soap opera. Students also received a special supplementary guided tour of the India department of the Tropenmuseum. This, too, is a collaborative venture KIT has high expectations for.

Amsterdam Museum Night

The 10th Amsterdam Museum Night took place on 7 November 2009. For this edition the Tropenmuseum and another 42 Amsterdam museums remained open until 02.00 am. The Amsterdam Museum Night Foundation (n8) exists to increase awareness of Amsterdam's museums among a new and young audience. It also works to connect museums with the world as young people perceive it. To this end, the foundation organizes events such as the annual museum night (26,000 visitors) and night-time salons.

This year's event was particularly successful for the Tropenmuseum, which had 3,360 visitors – many of whom spent the entire evening there.

Inspired by the new exhibitions *Art of Survival* and *Qi of China*, the Tropenmuseum presented a full evening of Surinamese Zen, under the slogan *No spang!*, Surinamese for 'Chill out!'

In the *Art of Survival* exhibition, visitors discovered the world of the Maroons from Suriname, and in China's Qi, Tropenmuseum Junior's interactive children's exhibition, they experienced China's vital energy through guided tours, calligraphy workshops and kung fu.

If visitors wanted to find out more, they could listen to curator Alex van Stipriaan's introductions to the *Art of Survival* exhibition and follow guided tours on Suriname and the Caribbean, or even a crash course in Saramaccan, one of the Maroons' major languages.

Music from the drum band Brotherhood 4Real, DJ MAN!E and the kaseko group Yakki Famirie made for a laid back atmosphere.

Winti is the religious conceptual universe of the Afro-Surinamese. It is a complex system of belief in gods and spirits, with magic-religious practices. In collaboration with NiNsee, the National Institute for the Study of Dutch Slavery, KIT organized special Winti Neti tours. In this performance led by Marianne Markelo, the audience got to know the Winti gods.



Workshop Kung Fu in Tropenmuseum Junior.

Photo: Ivar Pels

Islam in Beeld

(Islam in Pictures)

Islam in Beeld (Islam in the Picture) by Mirjam Shatanawi was presented on 26 November. This new book focuses on the Tropenmuseum's Islamic collection. The meeting was opened by Amster-

dam's mayor Job Cohen who described the publication as, 'The response I've been waiting for from the cultural sector.'

Villa Zapakara



↓ Children at exhibition
'Secrets of the Palace'
Photo: Liesbet Ruben

For the first time in its 30-year history, in 2009 Tropenmuseum Junior (TMJ) passed on a combination of both a collection and a working method. The exhibition was *Secrets of the Palace*, on Ghana's Ashanti Court culture, and it was transferred to the new Villa Zapakara Foundation for Children and Culture (Stichting Villa Zapakara voor Kind & Cultuur) in Suriname. Transfer of the working method was made possible thanks to an existing production manual made on behalf of the Childrens Museum of Indianapolis Inc, Indiana, USA. The manual describes in detail the background to the subject, the programmes, the

collection itself, the working method and the products developed to accompany the exhibition. All of these were adopted by Villa Zapakara. The children's cultural centre in Paramaribo opened in November 2009. Villa Zapakara's plan is to produce a new educational and interactive exhibition each year, in collaboration with TMJ. The Dutch embassy in Paramaribo will be the project's main financier for the first three years, with possible additional donations and support coming from the Surinamese business sector world and government.





December

Annona

- week 1
- week 2
- week 3
- week 4
- week 5
- week 6
- week 7
- week 8
- week 9
- week 10
- week 11
- week 12
- week 13
- week 14
- week 15
- week 16
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- week 45
- week 46
- week 47
- week 48
- week 49
- week 50
- week 51
- week 52
- week 53

Harvesting the peppers.

Photo: Michiel Arnoldus



Royal Tropical Institute, December

Annona is the Roman goddess of the harvest who gave her name to Ancient Rome's food-allotment scheme for the poor. KIT and SPF Beheer's Annona Sustainable Investment Fund was officially registered in January 2009, having already made two investments in previous years. Over the past year, Annona has proved to be an innovation in the developing world, and its progress is being followed with a great deal of interest. Numerous organizations have followed Annona's path and started similar funds. However, Annona remains unique in its focus on share capital, in-depth knowledge of the agricultural sector and its willingness to fund start-ups. All social investment funds face the same problem of too few good opportunities to invest in, despite the availability of sufficient

investment capital. Although KIT is willing to offer support to entrepreneurs in developing plans, few talented entrepreneurs find their way to funds in the West.

KIT and the fund manager analyzed more than 200 business plans and concepts in 2009. Although this resulted in a number of promising investment cases that are likely to lead to investments in 2010, so far only one investment has been finalized, in a business called Elephant Pepper. This inventive enterprise originates from an elephant conservation programme in Southern Africa that seeks to end conflicts between elephants and human communities by growing chilli peppers among crops in the field to deter elephants from raiding them. Their motto is, 'Elephants hate chilli, and we love elephants!'

The success of this method meant that elephants did indeed stay away, but it also meant that chilli farming was threatened. The simple solution was to give chilli farmers an economic incentive to keep farming by buying the chillies. Elephant Pepper provided local communities in Zambia with the know-how and irrigation equipment they needed to continue, and is now buying chilli peppers from hundreds of small-scale farmers there. An additional 150 people or more are employed on a core farm. Since 2005, over 400 tons of chillies have been sold to the American company Tabasco, the world's number-one chilli sauce brand. In addition, a range of Elephant Pepper sauces and



spices are being sold in South Africa and the US under the Elephant Pepper brand. The time is now right to expand the business to Mozambique, where the climate is better suited to growing chillies and the farms are closer to ports, resulting in even better prices for farmers in what is one of the world's poorest countries. Annona will be a significant shareholder in this business, and its investment is making it possible for this dream to come true. In 2010, Annona will continue to innovate. In December 2009, a new strategy was initiated,

whereby partnerships are formed with banks and business support organizations in developing countries. These partnerships seek out talented entrepreneurs who need a combination of loans and share capital to realize their dreams. These partnerships combine local knowledge and networks with KIT's unique economic development knowledge. KIT is actively looking for a way to link Western capital to promising entrepreneurs in developing countries – if it succeeds it will be a major breakthrough.

Elephant Peppers growing in Zambia.

Photo: Michiel Arnoldus

KIT's search engine

Are you carrying out research into the history of slavery in Suriname? Are you looking for books containing personal testimonies? Do you want to see photographs of plantations? Do you want to know whether KIT has dioramas on this period? Would you like to find a plantation's location on a map?

This kind of information is easy to find using KIT's new search engine.

KIT manages several very rich collections: KIT Library stores ten kilometres of books and magazines, and the Tropenmuseum has a collection

containing more than 300,000 objects and historical photographs. More and more of the collections are being made available in digitized form (see also *Digitizing the past, the beginning of a new future* on page 54).

These collections are all searchable on KIT's website. Until recently, users were required to use multiple screens, or 'interfaces', to retrieve the information. Now it is possible to search through several KIT collections using a single interface, with the launch of a new search engine that forms



part of KIT's ongoing efforts to optimize access to the collections among a wide range of visitors. KIT Library (www.kit.nl/library) now allows searches throughout its own collection and all the licensed databases, using a single search box. Similarly, at the Tropenmuseum website (www.tropenmuseum.nl), visitors can search through the museum and library collections using a single search box. And at KIT portals (portals.kit.nl), they can search both the descriptions and the full text of all available documents.

The results of searches are automatically clustered, making it easy to refine the results without typing extra search text, and a 'search expansion' function can be used to broaden searches. Objects, maps and photographs are displayed as images, making selection as simple as can be.

Throughout 2010, KIT will continue to optimize the search engine and add materials that are presently in the process of digitization, ensuring it continues to improve its service to visitors.

All this material can be found at www.kit.nl.

Diorama of sugar plantation in Suriname (1800-1825).

Photo: Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam (coll.nr.: 60006018).



Building capacity for gender and rights in six UNICEF offices in West Africa

Workshop held in Senegal with Unicef Country Office staff.

Photo: Evelien Kamminga

In 2009, UNICEF West Africa Regional Office contracted KIT and the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) to develop and implement a large-scale capacity-building programme. Its aim was to strengthen policy and practices on gender mainstreaming in the Regional Office and in five voluntarily participating country offices (Senegal, the Gambia, Sierra Leone, Ghana and Togo) in order to achieve substantive gender equality and rights for girls, boys, women and men.

The capacity-building programme consisted of a

series of steps in each of these six UNICEF offices. First, each office provided a representative selection of its documents. These were then analyzed for their current integration of gender and rights issues in their studies, plans, strategies, projects and so on. This analysis was followed up with a survey assessing each staff member's training needs. Then, using the outcomes of both the analysis and survey, KIT and ODI designed a capacity-building workshop and accompanying training materials for each office. These two-week workshops saw office staff developing action plans to better integrate gender equality and rights into the country programme. This also required measures at organizational level, such as continuous training of new staff, adaptation of guidelines and procedures, and establishment of strategic partnerships with civil society organizations.

After the workshop, the countries received continued on-demand support in the form of online coaching. The Regional Office also received assistance in setting up an Internet-based community of practice in order to provide staff from different countries with opportunities to work together and share promising practices and approaches to gender mainstreaming.

In total fourteen staff members from ODI and KIT contributed to the success of the programme.

Within KIT, experts contributed from a wide range of disciplines, including the Social Development and Gender Equity area, the Health area and KIT Information & Library Services.



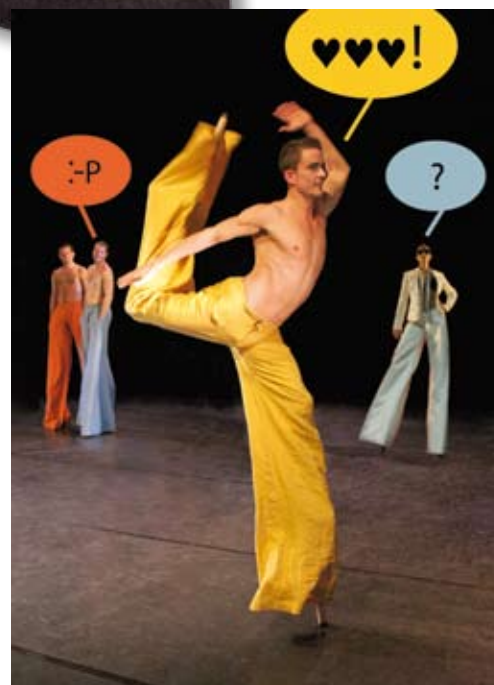
**Dancer of Dance Forum
Tapei.**

Collection Tropentheater



Dancember

In the festive month of December, under the collective title Dancember, the Tropentheater presented four marvellous dance performances, including Syrian whirling dervishes and scintillating Spanish flamenco. And there was also Japanese Noh theatre Love2Dance, a production by International Dance Theatre for Youth for everyone aged eight or above. Bringing these disparate dance performances together created an opportunity to combine forces on advertising to set up a campaign. This is a new way of working, with enormous advantages for the Tropentheater. The press picked up on the campaign in a big way and ticket sales were beyond all expectations. In addition to this individual project's success, a campaign such as this generates brand awareness – something most definitely worth doing again!



**Poster of Love2Dance, performance
during Dancember.**

Collection Tropentheater

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For more information about the KIT's first centennial celebrations, see www.kit.nl/100

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