

Andreas Heuser  
Jens Koehrsen (eds.)  
Does Religion Make  
a Difference?

Religious NGOs in International  
Development Collaboration



# Religion – Wirtschaft – Politik

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Collaboration

P V E R  
V A L A  
E R N G  
L A G O



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## Foreword

This volume stands in connection with the fellow programme of the Centre for Religion, Economy and Politics, focusing on “Religion and Development in the Global South”. This programme coordinated an international group of scholars of diverse disciplinary backgrounds at the University of Basel, Switzerland. Whereas a first publication of this two-year research collaboration focusses on Christian Faith-Based Organisations (Koehrsen and Heuser (eds.), *Faith Based Organizations in Development Discourses and Practice*, Routledge 2020), this volume offers multi-religious as well as inter-religious perspectives on the connection between religion and development. The majority of the contributions to this volume are revised papers presented at the conference “Does Religion Make a Difference? Discourses and Activities of Religious Development NGOs”, organised by the Centre for Religion, Economy and Politics at the University of Basel, 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> November 2016. Apart from scholars that presented their research at the conference, we have invited various authors to expand the range of case studies by including additional religious backgrounds and regional contexts. Put together, both publications provide insights into a broad array of religious non-governmental organisations, their areas of developmental practice and their religious profiles.

Various colleagues and institutions deserve our gratitude: special thanks go to Claudia Hoffmann; apart from contributing to this volume as one of the research fellows, she administered the fellow programme activities and organised the conference. Helen Gilroy, Anabella Da Pra, and Anna Kühleis assisted the editing of this volume. We also thank our colleagues from the Centre for Religion, Economy, and Politics and the Faculty of Theology at the University of Basel for their support of this fellow programme. In addition, the Swiss University Conference, the Swiss National Science Foundation, the Foundation for Basic Research in Human Sciences, and the Voluntary Academic Society Basel (Freiwillige Akademische Gesellschaft Basel) have sponsored the activities of the fellow programme.

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Andreas Heuser and Jens Koehrsen

Basel, March 2020



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# Table of Contents

Editors & Contributors	7
From a Quiet Revolution to the Tolerance of Ambiguity: Religious NGOs in International Development Discourse	13
<i>Andreas Heuser and Jens Koebrsen</i>	
SECTION I: RELIGIOUS NGOs AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLITICS	41
Religious Engagement in Development Work: A Continuing Journey	43
<i>Katherine Marshall</i>	
The United Nations and Development: What do Religious Actors Add to Debates about Achieving Better Outcomes?	63
<i>Jeffrey Haynes</i>	
Transculturation Grammars in Secular and Religious Development NGOs	83
<i>Richard Friedli</i>	
SECTION II: MAPPING RNGOs IN DIVERSE RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS	109
Islam and Development: International Muslim NGOs	111
<i>Marie Juul Petersen</i>	
Religious Philosophy, Social Work and Social Engagement of Buddhist and Hindu Movements	135
<i>Ulrich Dehn</i>	
<i>Tikkun Olam</i> and Jewish Outreach within Jewish Faith-Based Organisations	149
<i>Yonatan N. Gez, Adi Maya, and Ido Benvenisti</i>	

SECTION III: INTER-RELIGIOUS CONTEXTS AND COMPARISONS	169
The Methadone of the People: Not all Theodicies are Sociodicies <i>Leif H. Seibert</i>	171
Performing 'Religiousness': Negotiations of Religion and the Formation of Identity in Guyanese Development Organisations <i>Sinab Theres Kloss</i>	191
Keep it Altar or Alter Community? Re-framing a Myth of Conversion in Indonesia <i>Suwarto Adi</i>	207
SECTION IV: INTRA-RELIGIOUS TRANSFORMATIONS AND CHANGES WITHIN RNGOs	225
Development as Transformation: Tearfund and the New Evangelical Approach to Holistic Change <i>Dena Freeman</i>	227
Megachurches, Dominion Theology and Development <i>Andreas Heuser</i>	243
Ahmadiyya and Development Aid in West Africa <i>Katrin Langenwiesche</i>	263

SECTION V: RNGO ACTIVITIES IN SELECTED FIELDS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	287
Gender and Education	289
<i>Claudia Hoffmann</i>	
“You need to change the whole person” African Initiated Churches and Sustainable Development in South Africa	305
<i>Philipp Öhlmann, Marie-Luise Frost, Wilhelm Gräb</i>	
Muslim NGOs and the Quest for Environmental Sustainability in the Context of the Sustainable Development Goals	327
<i>Jens Koehrsen</i>	
On the Roles of Religious NGOs in the Context of Development and Peacebuilding: Christian Churches and Reconciliation in Post-Genocide Rwanda	349
<i>Christine Schliesser</i>	

