

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

Religious NGOs in International
Development Collaboration

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



Nomos

Religion — Wirtschaft — Politik 20

 **ZRWP**
ZENTRUM FÜR RELIGION | WIRTSCHAFT | POLITIK

Religion – Wirtschaft – Politik

Schriftenreihe des Zentrums für Religion, Wirtschaft und Politik

Herausgegeben von

Prof. Dr. Martin Baumann, LU / Prof. Dr. Paul Dembinski, FR /

Prof. Dr. Gerd Folkers, CH / Prof. Dr. Markus Huppenbauer, UZH /

Prof. Dr. Jens Köhrsen, BS / Prof. Dr. Antonius Liedhegener, LU /

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Mohn, BS / Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Müller, LU / Prof.

Dr. Georg Pfeleiderer (Vorsitz), BS / Prof. Dr. Konrad Schmid, UZH /

Prof. Dr. Jörg Stolz, LAU

Band 20

Andreas Heuser | Jens Koehrsen (eds.)

Does Religion Make a Difference?

Religious NGOs in International Development
Collaboration

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



Nomos

This volume is printed with support by the Berta Hess-Cohn Stiftung (Berta Hess-Cohn Foundation) and by the German Association for Mission Studies (DGMW).

Die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data is available in the Internet at <http://dnb.d-nb.de>

ISBN 978-3-290-22059-4: Pano Verlag
978-3-8487-6706-9: Nomos Verlag (Print)
978-3-8452-8301-2: Nomos Verlag (ePDF)

British Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-3-290-22059-4: Pano Verlag
978-3-8487-6706-9: Nomos Verlag (Print)
978-3-8452-8301-2: Nomos Verlag (ePDF)

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Heuser, Andreas / Koehrsen, Jens
Does Religion Make a Difference?
Religious NGOs in International Development Collaboration
Andreas Heuser / Jens Koehrsen (eds.)
364 pp.

ISBN 978-3-290-22059-4: Pano Verlag
978-3-8487-6706-9: Nomos Verlag (Print)
978-3-7489-0763-3: Nomos Verlag (ePDF)



Onlineversion
Nomos eLibrary

1st Edition 2020

© Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft, Baden-Baden, Germany 2020. Printed and bound in Germany.

This work is subject to copyright. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system, without prior permission in writing from the publishers. Under § 54 of the German Copyright Law where copies are made for other than private use a fee is payable to “Verwertungsgesellschaft Wort”, Munich.

No responsibility for loss caused to any individual or organization acting on or refraining from action as a result of the material in this publication can be accepted by Nomos or the editors.

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, 9th-11th 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.

This volume is printed with support by the Berta Hess-Cohn Stiftung (Berta Hess-Cohn Foundation), Basel. The publication received further funding by the German Association for Mission Studies (DGMW).

Andreas Heuser and Jens Koehrsen

Basel, March 2020

Editors & Contributors

Editors

Andreas Heuser, Professor for Extra-European Christianity, University of Basel, Switzerland.

Jens Koehrsen, Professor for the Study of Religion and Economy, University of Basel, Switzerland.

Contributors

Suwarto Adi, Researcher in Social Ethics and Contemporary Theology, Satya Wacana Christian University, Salatiga, Indonesia.

Ido Benvenisti, director at the Jewish Agency for Israel's 'Partnership2Gether' programme.

Ulrich Dehn, Professor of World Christianity and Religious Studies, Hamburg University, Germany.

Dena Freeman, Senior Visiting Fellow at the Department of Anthropology, London School of Economics and Political Science, Great Britain.

Richard Friedli, Emeritus Professor of Religious Studies, University of Fribourg, Switzerland.

Marie-Luise Frost, Researcher, Research Programme on Religious Communities and Sustainable Development, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany; Research Associate, University of Pretoria, South Africa.

Yonatan N. Gez, Humboldt Fellow at the University of Konstanz; associate researcher at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva and the Truman Institute for the Advancement of Peace at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Wilhelm Grüb, Head of the Research Programme on Religious Communities and Sustainable Development, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany; Extraordinary Professor, Stellenbosch University, South Africa.

Jeffrey Haynes, Emeritus Professor of Politics, London Metropolitan University, Great Britain.

Claudia Hoffmann, Post-doc Researcher at the Department for Extra-European Christianity, University of Basel, Switzerland; Resident Research Fellow (2020) at the Center for Theological Inquiry (CTI), Princeton, USA.

Sinab Theres Kloß, social anthropologist and research group leader at the Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies (BCDSS), University of Bonn, Germany.

Katrin Langeviesche, academic staff member of the Department of Anthropology and African Studies, Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz, Germany.

Katherine Marshall, Senior Fellow at the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs, Georgetown University, Washington D.C., USA.

Adi Maya, anthropologist and a humanitarian aid practitioner, currently at the Centre for Education and Research in Humanitarian Action (CERAH), Geneva, Switzerland.

Philipp Öhlmann, Head of the Research Programme on Religious Communities and Sustainable Development, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany; Research Associate, University of Pretoria, South Africa.

Marie Juul Petersen, Senior Researcher at The Danish Institute of Human Rights, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Christine Schliesser, Lecturer in Systematic Theology/Ethics, Zurich University, Switzerland; Research Fellow, Studies in Historical Trauma and Transformation, Stellenbosch University, South Africa.

Leif H. Seibert, Postdoc Researcher at the Center for the Interdisciplinary Research on Religion and Society (CIRRuS), Bielefeld University, Germany.

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 Debn</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 Langeniesche</i>	263

Table of Contents	11
SECTION V: RINGO ACTIVITIES IN SELECTED FIELDS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	287
Gender and Education <i>Claudia Hoffmann</i>	289
“You need to change the whole person” African Initiated Churches and Sustainable Development in South Africa <i>Philipp Öhlmann, Marie-Luise Frost, Wilhelm Gräb</i>	305
Muslim NGOs and the Quest for Environmental Sustainability in the Context of the Sustainable Development Goals <i>Jens Koehrsen</i>	327
On the Roles of Religious NGOs in the Context of Development and Peacebuilding: Christian Churches and Reconciliation in Post-Genocide Rwanda <i>Christine Schliesser</i>	349

