Keynote Debate Responses

Introduction by Dennis Rodgers, Associate Editor

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In the first issue of this year's volume 22 of the *European Journal of Development Research*, we published an essay on what is rapidly emerging as one of the critical development issues of our times, the relationship between scientific responsibility and progress. Written by Catherine Rhodes, Research Fellow in the Ethics of Science at the University of Manchester's Institute for Science, Ethics and Innovation, in collaboration with John Sulston, joint laureate of the 2002 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine and chair of this same institute, this essay outlined some key parameters of this contemporary debate, discussing the relationship between science and technology on the one hand, and notions of development and progress on the other.

We publish here two responses to this stimulating and provocative essay. The first is by James Smith, Professor of African and Development Studies and co-Director of the Centre of African Studies at the University of Edinburgh, as well as Director of Developing Country Research at Innogen, the ESRC Centre for Social and Economic Research on Innovation in Genomics. Formed in 2002, Innogen is based at both the University of Edinburgh and the Open University, and is part of the ESRC Genomics Network studying the evolution of genomics and life sciences, and their far-reaching social and economic implications.

The second reply has been co-written by Adrian Ely, Melissa Leach, Ian Scoones, and Andy Stirling, who are all members of the University of Sussex STEPS centre. This is an interdisciplinary global research and policy engagement hub, like Innogen funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), and which was founded in 2006. It brings together development studies with science and technology studies in order to seek social, technological and environmental pathways to sustainability (STEPS), and building on the pioneering 1970 *Sussex Manifesto* that helped shape modern thinking about science and technology for development, recently launched a *New Manifesto for Innovation, Sustainability, and Development*.

We hope that readers of the *EJDR* will find these reactions to Catherine Rhodes and John Sulston's original essay interesting and thought-provoking, and look forward to publishing more such exchanges around keynote debates in the future.