

**Globalization on the Ground:
Health, Development, and Volunteerism in Meatu, Tanzania**

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Thesis submitted to the Faculty of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State
University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Masters of Science
In
Science and Technology Studies

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29 May 2003
Blacksburg, VA

Keywords: AHEAD Project, Public Health, Development, Volunteerism,
Globalization, Expertise, Water Quality Testing, Solar Water Pasteurization,
NPVAR, appropriate technology, Tanzania, Meatu District, Shinyanga Region,
Ethnography, Anthropology of Science and Technology

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AHEAD (Adventures in Health, Education, and Agricultural Development) is a small grass-roots non-governmental organization working in the rural Meatu, District in Northern Tanzania. The AHEAD project employs Tanzanian nurses who provide health education, child weighing and nutritional counseling, family planning, and antenatal services. AHEAD has recently developed a water quality testing initiative in order to combat unsafe water supplies using solar pasteurization. Dr. Robert Metcalf, an AHEAD volunteer offers 'expertise' to Meatu through transfer of solar cooking technology. Each summer, AHEAD takes volunteers into this setting who bring with them both 'altruistic' and non-altruistic reasons for volunteering, economic and social capital, and a taste of the world beyond Meatu.

This thesis looks at the Summer 2001 AHEAD experience ethnographically from three perspectives: 1) as public health practice, 2) in relation to the contested domain of international 'development', and 3) situated within the larger literature of non-profit and volunteer action research. These three snapshots of AHEAD suggest a project of globalization, theorized as the flow of people, goods, and information across boundaries.

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