ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY: COLONIAL POLICY AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT, 1896–1993


DElIVER GREATER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Expand your collection with twentieth-century British government material relating to environmental issues and the history of human-environment interaction. Access files from three departments, focusing on themes such as colonialism, land use and exploitation, exploration, agriculture, the technological revolution, industrial change and urbanisation, conservation, pollution, climate, development programs and sustainability, natural resources, and industries such as forestry and mining.
ABOUT THE COLLECTION

This collection, the second installment of the new *Environmental History* series, supports research and teaching across various disciplines, including environmental history; twentieth-century global history; transnational studies; imperial and colonial history; and the regional histories of Africa, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Caribbean. Cross-disciplinary themes of sustainability and development, colonial legacies in environmental contexts, and international relations across regions of British imperial and colonial activity give this a broad appeal across subjects that include geography, anthropology, and other social sciences departments.

VALUE OF THE ARCHIVE

- **Unique Content:** Focuses on a highly topical area in environmental studies and providing content with few overlapping products.
- **International Interest:** To aid transnational comparisons, supplies a regional focus on Africa (particularly Nigeria, Uganda, Kenya, Ghana, and South Africa), Southeast Asia and the Indian subcontinent, the Caribbean and Central America, and the Middle East.
- **Breadth of Themes:** Expands on trade, industry, agriculture, and resource use as well as disasters, natural sciences, and public and economic policy—supporting interest in “envirocolonialism” and the exploitation of imperial resources as well as Western concepts on the mental impact of aid and development in the latter half of the twentieth century.
- **Interdisciplinary Appeal:** Ideal for researchers across the humanities and social sciences, the Learning Center provides case studies for teaching at an undergraduate level.
- **Popular Perspective:** Increases scholarly interest in the field of environmental history and provides a topical perspective through which to look at more-traditional political, economic, and social histories.
- **Quantitative Data:** Provides data useful for researchers tracking historical trends in climate change as well as environmental factors such as rainfall.

“Tanganyika Territory: Game” (1929). Colonial Office: Colonies, General: Original Correspondence. Preservation of fauna and flora of the empire. CO 323/1608/3; Crown Copyright images reproduced courtesy of The National Archives, UK.
COLLECTIONS INCLUDE

Colonial Office (CO) & Foreign Office (FO) series

Date Range: 1896–1965

Material from Series: CO 323, CO 852, CO 927, FO 881

Themes cover the environmental impact of colonialism, including forestry; irrigation; soil surveys; tropical disease; agriculture; mining; industry; land use; conservation; trade; and commodities such as oil, cocoa, animal hides and skins, minerals, and timber.

Department of Technical Co-operation and successive Overseas Development bodies (OD) series

Date Range: 1963–1993

Series: OD 25, OD 45, OD 53, OD 58, OD 68, OD 69, OD 139, OD 140, OD 199

Themes cover postcolonial aid and development, disaster response, urbanisation, energy and natural resources, international relationships, science and technology, climate, pollution, and international development programs.

SAMPLE FILES FROM THE COLLECTIONS

- The International Conference for the Protection of Flora and Fauna of Africa, 1933 (5 files within series CO 323): files led to the Convention Relative to the Preservation of Fauna and Flora in their Natural State, a key agreement among colonial powers now known as the Magna Carta of wildlife conservation.
- New aid strategy for worldwide rural development policy. (3 files within series OD 68)
- North Borneo: slaughter of gibbons, 1939. (2 files within series CO 323)
- Empire Forestry Conference, India 1940. (CO 852)
- Ethiopia: humanitarian aid, including food aid and disaster relief. (11 files within series OD 53)
- Oil leases in British Honduras: Shell Petroleum Development Company. (6 files within series OD 25)
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