Acknowledgements

This book is the result of hard work on the part of the contributors, the editors and of course the publishers. The book spans debates that are found in the realm of development studies, European politics, political economy and international relations. This perhaps makes it slightly more difficult to market, but reflects the reality of the processes at work over the period which do not fit neatly into a single academic discipline. The main ideas for the book came into being at a wonderful research group meeting in Uppsala, Sweden, sponsored by the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) and the University of Uppsala. On that occasion several of the contributors to this volume met for the first time. We exchanged ideas on European Union development cooperation policy and brainstormed a lot about the options for bringing them together in a single volume in a manner that was useful, novel and interesting. Thanks to the great hospitality and generosity of our sponsors we were able to combine these activities with enjoying some elements of academic life in Uppsala, and sampling as many of the culinary delights of Sweden as possible. Our thanks go out to the ECPR and Uppsala University for this possibility.

A year later another meeting of contributors took place at the Centre for Development Research (CDR) in Copenhagen, Denmark. We understand that the CDR is to be closed and merged into a larger foreign policy institute. We nevertheless gratefully acknowledge the contribution of the CDR to this project, and especially the enthusiastic support of Gorm Rye Olsen, who made possible the Copenhagen meeting and who was a perfect host, both academically and personally.

The idea for this book was very much a joint effort on the part of all the contributors. We have tried to create something that reflects our shared thoughts on explanations of current European development policy and on its future. As we have written, there have been many changes to EU development policy and we have tried to keep up to date. Most chapters consider developments until early 2002. Nevertheless, some things might have passed us by

and we apologise for any such errors. The editors each had significant distractions on the way to finishing this book and it is to these new-born distractions, Fabian and Ramon Biondina and Rafe Wendelken-Dickson, that we wish to dedicate this book.

Karin Arts and Anna K. Dickson