3rd Joint Nordic Conference on Development Research

‘A Changing Global Development Agenda?’

Call for Working Groups

The 3rd Joint Nordic Conference on Development Research will be hosted by the School of Global Studies (SGS), University of Gothenburg at the Conference Center Wallenberg in Gothenburg, 5-6 November 2015. The conference is jointly organized by SGS and the associations for development research in Denmark (FAU), Finland (FSDR) and Norway (NFU).

The conference aims to bring together researchers and practitioners from the Nordic countries and beyond to debate and rethink contemporary issues in development research and policy.

This year’s conference theme addresses ‘A Changing Global Development Agenda’, whereby theories and approaches—and practical applications—to development are in flux. Since the global crisis, the certainties of the orthodox agenda are ever more interrogated, whilst the rise of emerging economies with their own approaches to development raise important questions about models and policies.

Indeed, current global power shifts and changes in the geopolitical milieu have arguably altered the debate over development. How does the changing global distribution of power and the emergence of new players (most of whom have utilized broadly state-capitalist approaches to their own domestic development) (re)shape a developmental agenda which has, for decades now, been strongly influenced by liberal models?

Equally, as environmental emergencies continue to play out, where does development in all its myriad guises fit in? And how can debates about
development be connected to ongoing humanitarian emergencies and the
various pathologies spawned by such moments: mass atrocities,
malgovernance and widespread human rights violations?

There is an urgent need to reflect and debate the responses at various levels
and by different actors. For instance, in what ways do international, national
and local responses related to industrial policy, social policy, health and
environmental degradation interact with the global changes and crises to
shape the emerging development agenda?

Finally, there is also a critical need to reflect more specifically on the post-2015
global development agenda. What happens after the Millennium Development
Goals (MDGs) have passed? A starting point must be to discuss the lessons
that can be learnt from the whole MDGs enterprise. From this reflection can
come a proper evaluation that may then feed into discussions about the nature
and potential impact of the post-2015 global development agenda.

**We hereby invite proposals for working groups/sections.**

Each working group/section consists of up to four panels. Each panel is 90
minutes and should consist of three or four papers, a chair and a discussant.
In other words, working groups consisting of four panels can include a
maximum of 16 papers.

We recommend two working group leaders (if possible, from two Nordic
countries). Working group leaders may propose panels and specify papers,
but should also strive to keep slots open for additional papers. We expect that
working groups maintain a gender balance as well as a mixture of senior, mid-
level and junior researchers.

A call for paper proposals (abstracts) will be open from the end of April until 15
June. All working groups will be listed on the conference website and working
group leaders will be responsible for taking decisions on paper proposals by
15 July.

Proposals for working groups should be submitted no later than 15 April to:
nordev15@globalstudies.gu.se

Fredrik Söderbaum

*Chair of the Nordic planning committee and the SGS organizing committee*

For inquiries: E-mail: nordev15@globalstudies.gu.se; Sarah Blichfeldt (+46-31-
786 4311). See also [http://www.trippus.net/Nordev15](http://www.trippus.net/Nordev15)