

**DEVELOPMENT
RESEARCH
CONFERENCE
22-23 Aug 2018**

Rethinking Development

Call for panels

What kind of ‘development’ is wanted for today’s world? The idea, study, and policy field of ‘development’ emerged in the 1940s, in a time of decolonization, the Cold War, and Euro-centric high modernism. Seventy years later the scene is one of new emerging economies, migration crises, multiculturalism, climate change, and new patterns of infectious and chronic diseases. Given such profound transformations, do we need, again, to rethink ‘development’?

Development can be rethought in terms of concepts, issues, methods and policies. For example, does it still make sense to speak of a ‘North’ and a ‘South’? Do the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) go far enough in redefining the research and policy agenda? Do we need to redirect research attention to new and re-emerging issues such as diasporas, digitization, food security, religion, intellectual property, and health surveillance; or is an older agenda of trade, democracy and conflict resolution as vital as ever? Do we need to ‘rethink’ the migration-development nexus in global development research and policymaking? What place, if any, remains for ‘aid’ in today’s altered development landscape? What new relationships can be forged between developing country scientists and international research partners when setting local research priorities and government policies? Has the moment arrived to construct a truly transdisciplinary development studies – and what does such a methodology entail more precisely? How does development research handle the question of scale in the face of trends towards localization, regionalization and globalization, along with resurgent nationalism? Do we need renewed debate on ethics and positionality in global development research and practice? Indeed, are ecological and other critics right to question the very notion of ‘development’ – and, if so, what takes its place?

We hereby welcome panel proposals on the various theoretical and substantive challenges of rethinking development, as well as on other pressing issues of development research. Panel sessions are 90 minutes long and will consist of 4-5 papers plus one or two conveners/chairs. Larger panels can be spread across two or more 90-minute sessions. Panel proposals may specify papers, but should also keep slots open for additional papers. Panel conveners will be in charge of the selection of papers once the call for papers is issued in early 2018. Panels should maintain gender balance as well as a mix of senior, mid-level and junior researchers.

Panel presenters from low-income countries can apply for a limited number of travel/accommodation scholarships. More information on scholarship applications will be published on the conference homepage later.

- Submit your panel proposal electronically to devres18@globalstudies.gu.se
Deadline 3 December 2017
- Clearly state full name and contact details of suggested panel and its convener(s)
- Notification of acceptance will be sent out by 19 December 2017
- For questions please contact the organizers at devres18@globalstudies.gu.se

The conference is organized by the School of Global Studies (SGS) and the Centre on Global Migration (CGM) at the University of Gothenburg in co-operation with the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the Swedish Research Council (VR), and the Gothenburg Centre of Globalization and Development (GCGD) at the University of Gothenburg.