



SUOMEN KEHITYSTUTKIMUKSEN SEURA
FÖRENINGEN FÖR UTVECKLINGSFORSKNING
FINNISH SOCIETY FOR DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH

CALL FOR PAPERS / PRESENTATIONS

Development Days 2020 Conference

Inequality Revisited: In Search of Novel Perspectives on an Enduring Problem

26–28 February, 2020

House of Science and Letters

Helsinki, Finland

www.kehitystutkimus.fi/conference

The problematique of inequality – or, inequalities, to recognise the multidimensionality and complexity of the problem – is re-emerging on the global agenda of development research. In recent decades, development scholars have focused more on the question of poverty. While poverty and inequality are interlinked, inequality is manifested also in many other ways – in structural, material, relational, institutional, geographical and technological terms, and through a variety of social, political, cultural, economic and other phenomena.

Importantly, current debates are critically reflecting on the fact that global inequalities are intimately connected to the history of slavery and Western colonialism, and are continuously shaped, reconstructed, maintained and reinforced by their new, neocolonial and neoliberal forms. There are, however, also some challenges. For instance, analyses of inequality often tend to revolve around neoclassical development economics and its variants, such as the human capability approach or ‘development as freedom’. While postcolonial and feminist approaches have widened the scope, more remains to be done. Further, the ‘economistic turn’ in inequality research has disproportionately focused on the global North, and has not managed to link the question of inequality to the clarion call for global justice. In turn, analyses of inequality have suffered from new forms of stratification. Many studies are methodologically nationalist, although local and global inequalities are increasingly intertwined and injustices are ever more widespread.

There is an urgent need to rethink inequalities in development research and practice. To do so, it is necessary to utilise multi- and transdisciplinary approaches – that is, to learn and share beyond disciplinary boundaries. The Finnish Society for Development Research (FSDR) engages with these ongoing debates through the *Development Days 2020 Conference*.

We are very pleased to announce our [keynote speakers](#) for the conference:

- [Sango Mahanty](#), Associate Professor, Crawford School of Public Policy, The Australian National University
- [Dan Brockington](#), Director of the Sheffield Institute for International Development, University of Sheffield

The conference will also host a roundtable on inequalities in education. The roundtable panelists include, for example:

- [Edda Tandi Lwoga](#), Associate Professor and Deputy Rector, College of Business Education in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- [Tiina Kontinen](#), Academy of Finland Research Fellow, University of Jyväskylä
- [Irmeli Mustalahti](#), Professor, University of Eastern Finland

We invite paper proposals and presentations to the following panels:

Panel 1. [Disabilities: Embodied Inequalities](#)

Panel 2. [Contesting Racism, Decolonizing Media: Anti-Racism Media Activism Across the North-South Divide](#)

Panel 3. [Unearthing Extractivism](#)

Panel 4. [Beyond the Growth Narrative: Inequality, Sustainability and the Politics of Poverty Management in the Global South](#)

Panel 5. [Land Grabbing in Latin America: Dynamics of Conflict and Large Scale Acquisitions](#)

Panel 6. [Financialisation and Inequalities: Housing in the Global South](#)

Panel 7. [Questioning the Fiscal Inequality as an Obstacle to Social Cohesion: Cases from North Africa](#)

Panel 8. [Inequalities, Civil Society and Citizenship: Intersectionality and Complexity](#)

Panel 9. [‘I Sing the Body Eclectic’ – Visions of Intersectional Futures for Universalism in Human Rights Theory and Practice](#)

Panel 10. [Development, Education and Inequality](#)

Panel 11. [How We Could Foster Locally Responsive and Collaborative Natural Resources Governance?](#)

Panel 12. [Quilting Experiences, Affects, and Knowledge: Collaborative and Co-production of Research/Knowledge](#)

Panel 13. [Decolonising Participatory Research through Arts-Based Methods?](#)

Panel 14. [Bioeconomy, Justice and Development Cooperation](#)

Panel 15. [UNU-WIDER’s Special Panel on Inequalities – Measurement, Implications, and Influencing Change](#)

Guidelines for submission

Please submit your paper proposals directly to the panel chairs by **30 November** via email.

You will be notified of paper acceptance by 15 December.

Important dates and deadlines

17.10.2019 Call for papers and presentations (abstracts) opens

30.11.2019 Deadline for abstract submissions

15.12.2020 Notifications of accepted papers and presentations, by panel chairs

15.2.2020 Last day of registration

26.2.2020 Pre-conference workshops for Master’s and PhD students

26.2.2020 Civil Society Organisation event

27.–28.2.2020 Development Days 2020 Conference

Scientific/Organising Committee

Franklin Obeng-Odoom, University of Helsinki

Tiina Seppälä, University of Lapland

Bonn Juego, University of Jyväskylä

Anna Salmivaara, University of Helsinki

Johanna Götz, University of Helsinki

Ayonghe Akonwi Nebasifu, University of Lapland

Antti Autio, University of Helsinki

Anja Onali, UniPID/University of Jyväskylä

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