

DSA Bulletin

October 2014



Connecting and promoting the development research community



Welcome! October Edition DSA Bulletin...

Dear Colleagues,

We are now on track for the Conference this weekend and if any of you are thinking about registering, there is still time, so please do so at:

DSA Conference
[Register online](#)

It will be a busy day with a Smorgesbord of [panels and presentations](#) on offer. The latest version of the online programme can be downloaded [here](#).

We look forward to seeing many of you there on Saturday at the Institute of Education.

For those of you who are members of the DSA, we will be holding our AGM during the lunch break at the Conference. All background papers and the agenda can be found [here](#).

We also say farewell to Geof as our President at the AGM. I personally would like to thank him for his tireless support of the DSA as an Association, and support for the Secretariat and myself over the past three years. The last couple have been difficult years, but he has approached the situation with pragmatism, a faith in what we are doing and good humour. We will miss him!

Frances Hill
Executive Director, DSA

President's Message

This is my final piece for the Bulletin, with my term of office completed. I hope you have enjoyed reading them, or at least have been provoked by them. I remain sure of the value of the DSA, but equally concerned about its sustainability. We continue to address this, requiring a re-orientation for all of us about the ownership of this collective good. But this is not my theme for my farewell remarks.

For me, this is one of those moments for reflection. At the risk of hubris, looking back on 45 years of engagement with international development, especially, but not only, through the lenses of poor people in South Asia, I am still trying to figure out how full the glass is. Of course there has been huge change, and many poor countries should be congratulated for how they managed their sometimes appalling colonial inheritance. But equally, huge problems remain. There is much to be worried about, and few places to hide from those concerns.

Many of my generation of development academics now have grandchildren, sharpening further our sense of the inter-generational bargain and the fairness or otherwise of that bargain. Frankly, I thought we would have seen more improvement in securing the lives of the world's poor people at home and abroad over these 45 years. Was that youthful naivety, now tempered by complex reality? The problem with complexity thinking is that it over-complicates and becomes an alibi of failure.

I still claim that a proper, rather than a hi-jacked technical, understanding of political economy leads us more simply to the interlinked causes of failure, to be found in: inequality; class not as stratification but exploitation; power; selfishness; unaccountable elites; restricted access to the means of wellbeing; lack of empathy with others, indeed excessive othering and labelling; gender discrimination in predominantly patriarchal societies; vilification of minorities entailing racism; social and cultural reproduction of privilege; misuse of scarce resources entailing climate change; ideological justification for unequal rewards and opportunities embodied in neo-liberalism; and this list could go on.

Now, I do not analytically reject complexity, nor entirely the discourse of incentives and competition as motivation to strive. But strive for what? We cannot accept a narrow concept of incentives. It should be broadened to embrace motivation to strive for a common good upon which our individual wellbeing depends. This is where my core disappointment with human nature lies. I feel that globally the privileged and wealthy are leading us towards the precipice by divorcing the common from the individual good. And it disappoints me even more when struggling classes fall for this divorce as the answer to their problems—whether over Obamacare in the US, or now with the little (and it will be little) Englander ambitions of UKIP. Ostriches and arses come to mind. Just because you close your eyes, the world around you is not going to disappear or suddenly become benign. Globally we lack the leadership to strive for the common good within which the individual good is nested. However, the world is too integrated now for any of us to pass by on the other side.



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I mentioned the risk of hubris above. So here is a final bit. Are we heading for the precipice, or do the world's problems just represent

a phase we are going through, and that future generations will look back at this period as a prisoners' dilemma on a mass, global scale, encouraged by a different kind of naivety? So those who share my version of political economy understanding, enriched by a dose of anthropology supported by ethnography, need to hang in there, fight our corner and reverse the tendency for the glass to empty. For me, that is a return to engagement with poverty in South Asia—that's my niche. I am on my way there again, as I write. But we need also to re-create our political space, locally, nationally and globally. That is the real challenge.

Geof Wood,
DSA President

News from the DSA

DSA Annual Conference

Date: Saturday 1st November 2014
Location: Institute of Education, London, UK
Theme: Development Post-2015

Conference workstreams, panel and paper abstracts are now available to view on the conference pages.

- [> Last chance to register online](#)
- [> Read workstreams, panels and abstracts](#)
- [> Download the full online programme](#)
- [> About the conference](#)

DSA Study Group NEWS

View a list of all [DSA Study Groups](#)

Information, Technology and Development

The [special issue](#) of *Innovation and Development* journal on "**New Models of Inclusive Innovation for Development**" has now been published:

This incorporates six papers from the 2013 ITD Study Group meeting on innovation and development, held at the University of Manchester; three of which are on permanent open access. The [overview paper](#) - is free access during Sept/Oct 2014. It defines and analyses inclusive innovation, and identifies future policy and research priorities. [Read more about the Study Group >](#)

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Research News

Learning Lima: Collaborative action-learning through mapping

Learning Lima is an action-learning platform set up in September 2012 as a collaborative undertaking between DPU and a number of partnering organisations and local communities in the metropolitan

region of Lima. The aim is to understand how environmental injustices are produced and how they can be addressed by exploring scenarios and strategies embedded in the wider socio-political, economic and ecological processes that shape this urban region. [> Read more...](#)

Journal of International Development Journal of the DSA

Journal of
International Development 

Impact Factor: 0.669
ISI Journal Citation Reports ©
Ranking: 2013: 40/55 (Planning and Development)

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ALERTS
 

Latest Issue – [October 2014](#)

[Mortality and Financial Crises](#)
Christopher J. Gerry, Tomasz M. Mickiewicz and Zlatko Nikoloski

[The Ex-Ante Effects of Non-Contributory Pensions in Colombia and Peru](#)
Javier Olivera and Blanca Zuluaga

[Growth in Human Development: The Role of Corruption](#)
Bienvenido Ortega, Antonio Casquero and Jesús Sanjuán

[Watershed Development and Neoliberalism In India's Drylands](#)
Dolly Daftary

[Socio-Economic Determinants of Child Immunization in Rural Ethiopia](#)
Degnet Abebaw

[Universal Truths or Hidden Realities—Chronic Poverty in Rural Ethiopia](#)
Keetie Roelen and Laura Camfield

[Do International Remittances Affect the Level and the Volatility of Government Tax Revenues?](#)
Christian Hubert Ebeke

Review Articles

[The Contending Images of Food Security In Bangladesh](#)
Mohammad Mozahidul Islam

[How Do Groups Stabilize Corruption?](#)
Jan Theodor Schikora

Book Reviews

[Getting to Scale: How to Bring Development Solutions to Millions of Poor People, edited by Laurence Chandy, Akio Hosono, Homi Kharas and Johannes Linn \(Washington DC: The Brookings Institution Press, 2013; ISBN987-0-8157-2419-3\). \(pages 1092–1093\)](#) Eleanor Tighe

[The Economic Development of Latin America Since Independence](#), edited by Luis Bértola and José Antonio Ocampo (Initiative for Policy Dialogue, 25 October 2012 Price: £27.00). (page 1094)
Carla Canelas

[Feminist Activism, Women's Rights, and Legal Reform](#), edited by Mulki Al-Sharmani (London: Zed Books, 2013, pp. 246, £19.99 (paperback), ISBN 978-1-78032-962-8). (pages 1095–1096)
Katherine Brickell

Conferences and Events



Epistemological Issues in International Development

The School of International Development at the University of East Anglia will organise a one-day workshop on epistemological issues in international development. This workshop targets PhD students of development and will be held at the University of East Anglia in Norwich on 29 November 2014. There is no registration fee. The workshop will outline the epistemological issues of prominence in international development and presents three separate sessions on: epistemologies and debates in social analysis, the epistemology of natural science and epistemologies in orthodox and heterodox economics.

The sessions will be led by experienced researchers in the respective fields: Professor Cecile Jackson (social analysis), Dr Shaun McGuire (natural science) and Dr Bereket Kebede (economics). Each will give constructive and critical accounts of strengths, weaknesses, and debates around those forms of knowledge, relevant to research in international development.

For further details, please contact [Leanne Rhodes](#).

INTRAC Workshop: Building Sustainability of Civil Society

Date: 25th – 26th November 2014, 10h00-17h30
Location: St Anne's College, Oxford, UK
£80 per day with early bird discount (expires 31st Oct)

This two-day workshop is for practitioners, civil society organisations, foundations, social enterprises, private sector representatives and development agencies to share experiences and practical responses to the challenge of making civil society organisations financially, structurally, and ethically sustainable. It will also look at maintaining sustainability in the face of changing aid dynamics and global power relations.

Speakers and case studies include: Afrikids, Cass Business School, Centre for Innovation in Voluntary Action, DFID, ICSF, Southern Africa Trust, Wilde Ganzen, and more.

[Find out more and register](#)

INTRAC Webinar: Building Sustainability of Civil Society

Date: Thursday 4th December 2014, 12h00 – 14h00 (GMT)

A two-hour webinar following on from the INTRAC Building Sustainability of Civil Society workshop. This is an opportunity for practitioners from around the world to hear a summary of discussions that emerged from the workshop and contribute to new discussions by sharing practical experiences and lessons. Participation is free but spaces are limited to 40. Please register your interest in attending to: research@intrac.org



HIV and AIDS in informal settlements in eastern and southern Africa: views from practice

Date: 30th October 2014, 17:00 in DPU
Location: Room 101, 34 Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9EZ.
Entry free, no registration required.

The statistics on HIV and AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa suggest that epidemics are urbanising and aggregating in informal settlements. Some calculations indicate that 15% of the global epidemic is now accounted for in just 14 cities in eastern and southern Africa. This event will present views from practice in three key cities and reflect on broader processes of engagement across the sub-continent.
[> Read more](#)

'Cities as Engines of Economic Growth' Revisited

Date: 19th November 2014, 17:00
Location: Room G10, Chandler House, 2 Wakefield Street, London, WC1N 1PF.
Entry free, no registration required.

The concept of 'cities as engines of economic growth', which first emerged out of the DPU in the 1970s, has become ubiquitous since the 1990s. This panel revisits the origin of this idea and critically reflects on its strengths and weaknesses for guiding public policy debates and policy making and how these have evolved.
[> Read more](#)

The Microfinance Delusion: Explaining the Destructive Rise of Local Neoliberalism

Centre for Global Development (CGD) and Applied Institute of Research in Economics (AIRE)

Date: 6th November 2014, 17:00 – 19:00
Location: Rupert Beckett Lecture Theatre, University of Leeds, UK

Speaker: Milford Bateman- Author of Why Doesn't Microfinance Work?

Discussants: Thankom Arun, Professor of Development Finance and Public Policy, University of Central Lancashire

Jason Hickel, Research Fellow - Department of Anthropology,
London School of Economics and Political Science

The lecture will be followed by a wine/drinks reception
[Register on Eventbrite](#)

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Courses

STEPS Centre Summer School

Date: 11th-22nd May 2015

Location: University of Sussex, UK

[The STEPS Centre is now inviting applications to take part in its fourth annual Summer School](#)

Applications are invited from highly-motivated doctoral and postdoctoral researchers, working in fields around development studies, science and technology studies, innovation and policy studies, and across agricultural, health, water or energy issues.

Participants will explore the theme of pathways to sustainability through a mixture of workshops, lectures, outdoor events and focused interaction with STEPS Centre members. The Summer School takes place at the Institute of Development Studies on the Sussex University campus, near Brighton, UK.

The deadline for applications is 5pm GMT on 28 January 2015. There is a fee to attend, but scholarships are available. For details of how to apply, financial support, programme information, and materials from the last three years' events, visit: [the STEPS website](#)

Global Development Course

If you want to learn about the real challenges that face the global South, you may care to [take part](#) - or perhaps encourage someone you know to do so - in the next [Global Development Course](#) that starts on November 3rd to 15th 2014.

[This two-week course](#) (PARTIME) consists of 12 modules of two hours each, held in the early evenings and on the two Saturdays. Each module explores one key issue; water and agriculture, global finance, health, education, migration, human rights, micro-finance, the environment and others. The course is modestly priced to enable anyone interested to take part.

Since 2003 over 450 personnel from 30 different British development organisations, staff from the Department for International Development, the House of Commons Select Committee on International Development, and many individuals have taken part and benefited from the high level instructions and discussions. It is an ideal introduction to further study or a career change.

You can [book here](#) or simply find out more by email: director@ethical-events.org



All INTRAC Open Training courses are held in Oxford, UK, unless otherwise stated and fees include a 50-minute one-to-one coaching session with the course trainer after the course (via Skype).

[Read more](#)

[Advocacy and Policy Influencing: 24 - 28 November 2014](#)

Is developing and implementing an advocacy strategy critical to success in your project or programme? Do your staff and partners need support to achieve your advocacy objectives? This programme will give you the knowledge and skills to influence policy and practice in your own context. You will learn skills to help you plan and deliver an effective advocacy strategy; enhance your ability to lobby decision makers; and gain confidence in the ways in which you relate to different audiences. You will also have the skills to analyse power dynamics and choose your advocacy activities so they have maximum impact.

[Advocacy Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation: 1 – 3 December 2014](#)

Building on INTRAC's extensive experience in both monitoring and evaluating (M&E) and in advocacy, this course will support practitioners with how to ensure M&E is integrated into both planning advocacy initiatives and feeding into organisational learning and accountability. The course will focus on a variety of practical ways to meet the challenges of advocacy M&E and provide a series of practical tools which can help participants to develop and improve the advocacy M&E systems, in accordance with their organisation's capacity and needs.

[Advocacy and Policy Influencing Blended Learning programme: part 1: 2-5 February; part 2: week of 2 March; part three: 26 March 2015](#)

Is developing and implementing an advocacy strategy critical to success in your project or programme? Do your staff and partners need support to achieve your advocacy objectives? This programme will give you the knowledge and skills to influence policy and practice in your own context. You will learn skills to help you plan and deliver an effective advocacy strategy; enhance your ability to lobby decision makers; and gain confidence in the ways in which you relate to different audiences. You will also have the skills to analyse power dynamics and choose your advocacy activities so they have maximum impact.

[Gender Analysis and Planning: 18 – 20 February 2015](#)

Development planners and NGOs are increasingly committed to incorporating a gender perspective into their programmes. However, many face challenges in its practical and systematic application to their work. This course will enable you to effectively and systematically analyse contexts and plan development and humanitarian programmes from a gender equality perspective.

If you have any questions about the courses or the application process, please contact: training@intrac.org or phone +44 1865 263040.

Development Blogs

INTRAC

INTRAC blogs

[Nine ways to turn around the dreaded work meeting](#)

Paula Haddock

[Capacity Building, Partnership Relations and Exit Strategies](#)

Rachel Hayman, with inputs and insights from action learning set participants

[Top](#)

Jobs and Opportunities

View a list of all [jobs and opportunities](#)

Knowledge Management Coordinator

Company: ICMIF

Salary: £20K to £24K pa (depending on experience) + bonus

This is an ideal role for a postgraduate of a Development studies/ Research degree programme (Master or PhD) with a focus on insurance/ microinsurance and with experience in qualitative research who is looking to gain knowledge and experience within the Development department of an international insurance trade association. [Read more...](#)

For Students

Interested in postgraduate study?



On Friday 14 November, UEA is holding a Postgraduate Open Day to showcase the range of courses offered by the Faculty of Arts and Humanities and the Faculty of Social Sciences.

This is an excellent opportunity to get a feel for what postgraduate

study is like, and Academic staff will be on hand to provide information on the courses available and answer any questions you might have. There will also be the chance to discuss finance options with higher education advisers, and ask questions about admissions requirements and applications.

[Find out more about what's on offer.](#)

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If you have any queries about the RLI programme or would like to discuss a potential project, please contact Alison Howson at ahowson@rowman.com / +44 (0)787 5200 307.

Publications

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Working Papers

[WP/2014/138 Growth, poverty and inequality in Rwanda: A broad perspective](#) Marijke Verpoorten

[WP/2014/137 Multidimensional welfare in districts of Zambia: A first order dominance approach](#) Gibson Masumbu and Kristi Mahrt

[WP/2014/136 Scoping paper on Kenyan manufacturing](#) Jacob Chege, Dianah Ngui, and Peter Kimuyu

[WP/2014/135 An integrated approach to modelling energy policy in South Africa: Evaluating carbon taxes and electricity import restrictions](#) Channing Arndt, Rob Davies, Sherwin Gabriel, Konstantin Makrelov, Bruno Merven, Faaiga Salie, and James Thurlow

[WP/2014/134 Is there a Brazilian model of development? Are there lessons for countries in Africa?](#) Ed Amann and Armando Barrientos

[WP/2014/133 Measured as poor versus feeling poor: Comparing objective and subjective poverty rates in South Africa](#) Dorrit Posel and Michael Rogan

[WP/2014/132 Indices of social development and their application to Africa](#) Arjan de Haan and Roberto Foa

[WP/2014/131 Skills and youth entrepreneurship in Africa: Analysis with evidence from Swaziland](#) Zuzana Brixiová, Mthuli Ncube, and Zorobabel Bicaba

[WP/2014/130 Skills-biased labour demand and the pursuit of inclusive growth in South Africa](#) Haroon Borhat, Sumayya Goga, and Benjamin Stanwix

[WP/2014/129 When do relative prices matter for measuring income inequality? The case of food prices in Mozambique](#) Channing Arndt, Sam Jones, and Vincenzo Salvucci

[WP/2014/128 Local agency, development assistance and the legacies of rebellion in Burundi and Rwanda](#) Devon E. A. Curtis

[WP/2014/127 Poverty, inequality, and prices in post-apartheid South Africa](#) Arden Finn, Murray Leibbrandt, and Morné Oosthuizen

[WP/2014/126 Incomes, inequality, and poverty in Kenya: A long-term perspective](#) Arne Bigsten, Damiano Kulundu Manda, Germano Mwabu, and Anthony Wambugu

[WP/2014/125 Utility-consistent poverty in Ethiopia, 2000–11: Welfare improvements in a changing economic landscape](#) David Stifel and Tassew Woldehanna

[WP/2014/124 Shipping around the Malthusian trap](#) Michael Grimm, Claude Wetta, and Aude Nikiema

[WP/2014/123 Did rapid smallholder-led agricultural growth fail to reduce rural poverty? Making sense of Malawi's poverty puzzle](#) Karl Pauw, Ulrik Beck, and Richard Mussa

[WP/2014/122 Utility-Consistent Poverty in Madagascar, 2001-10: Snapshots in the presence of multiple economy-wide shocks](#) David Stifel, Tiaray Razafimanantena, and Faly Rakotomanana

[WP/2014/121 Identifying cost-effective deployment strategies through spatiotemporal modelling](#) Kevin Ummel and Charles Fant

[WP/2014/120 Assessing the inclusiveness of growth in Africa: Evidence from Cameroon, Senegal, and Tanzania](#) Georges Vivien Hounbounon, Arthur Bauer, Abdoulaye Ndiaye, Clara Champagne, Tite Yokossi, Nathalie Ferrière, Hédi Brahimi, and Jeanne Avril

[WP/2014/119 The rise of a middle class in East and Southern Africa: Implications for food system transformation](#) David Tschirley, Thomas Reardon, Michael Dolislager and Jason Snyder

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Overseas Development Institute



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Development Policy Review

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Volume 32 (s2)

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Edited by Theo Schilderman and Eleanor Parker

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[Wellbeing Ranking: Developments in applied community-level poverty research](#)

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Journals

[Food Chain call for papers](#)

Food Chain is an international peer reviewed journal for all those involved in developing the supply of high-quality foods from 'farm gate to plate' and those who use food processing to alleviate poverty and hunger. By bridging the gap between research and practice, we encourage papers written by researchers for the benefit of people who put ideas into practice in the field, and those written by practitioners to inform the need for further research.

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[Sequencing reforms in fragile states](#)

Topic Guide

How can governments in fragile and conflict affected states (FCAS) plan and manage reforms when everything is urgent and important, and when capacity and resources are low? How can external actors strategically support the fulfilment of essential and expected state functions? This Topic Guide provides an overview of the evidence that examines the sequencing of statebuilding and peacebuilding reforms in FCAS.

[Conflict Sensitivity](#)

Topic Guide

Conflict sensitivity helps aid actors to understand the unintended consequences of aid and to minimise harm and achieve positive outcomes. This Topic Guide synthesises and introduces key literature in this field. It highlights three key conflict sensitive approaches and tools: Do No Harm, Peace and Conflict Impact Assessment (PCIA) and Aid for Peace. All three approaches and tools examine how aid interventions can impact on the context.

[Non-political drivers of violence](#)

Helpdesk Research Report

This report summarises a growing body of recent literature on non-political drivers of violence. It identifies various, often inter-related factors, such as climate change and environmental degradation, urbanisation, demographic pressures, organised crime and technology.

[Community-driven development and indigenous, ethnic minority, and disability issues](#)

Helpdesk Research Report

This report identifies community driven development (CDD) programmes which explicitly discuss or deal with ethnic minority or disability issues. It finds that few CDD programmes explicitly address such issues. Many programmes focus on reducing poverty and vulnerability, with the implicit assumption that this will automatically include vulnerable groups. Few programmes are targeted specifically at vulnerable groups alone.

[Conflict sensitivity in education, the private sector and infrastructure development](#)

Helpdesk Research Report

This report provides examples of conflict sensitive approaches and practice in relation to (i.) education, (ii) the private sector, and (iii.) infrastructure development. It also discusses good practice as well as challenges to applying such approaches.

General Publications



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To ensure your entry gets published, please follow the guidelines below:

- Copy Deadline - **25th of each month**
- Entries to be approximately 100 words in 9pt Arial font as a **Word Document only**
- Each entry to contain contact details and a web-link where appropriate.
- Send entries through to web@devstud.org.uk

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- Individual members can publicise non-commercial publications in the bulletin free of charge, request assistance in their research or work

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