

DSA Bulletin

January 2015



Connecting and promoting the development research community



Welcome! January 2015 DSA Bulletin...

President's Foreword

Dear Colleagues,

So, 2015 is underway – a very important year for ideas and action about development and poverty reduction with four major UN conferences/summits. Each of these will create opportunities to make international development more central to global policy-making.

The first at Sendai, Japan in March focuses on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and is tasked with making DRR coordination match the emerging post-2015 Agenda. The second, in Addis Ababa in July, is on Finance for Development and it will be there that clear indications of whether the rich world, poorer world and emerging powers have managed to move towards a genuinely shared approach will become evident...and/or disagreements begin to reveal in full. Third comes the September 2015 UN General Assembly Meeting in New York to assess MDG achievements and agree the post-2015 Development Agenda Summit. If things are going well it may break the record for the number of 'heads' of government and state who attend to personally approve the Agenda. Finally, in December, comes the Paris Conference on Climate Change (COP 21) that, it is hoped, will see agreement on how to keep global warming below 2°C by the UN's 196 members. In an ideal world COP 21 would have preceded the post-2015 Agenda summit...but, global governance is never ideal!

Masses of governmental and civil society activity are taking part around these events and many DSA members are engaged in these and/or are studying the processes. Oxfam has taken a leading role this month with its *Even It Up* Report placing inequality in the media headlines and making reducing inequality a central debate at the World Economic Forum in Davos (where the world's wealthy meet). The scale of global inequality is astounding (the 85 richest people owning as much as the world's poorest 3 billion) and, even more amazing, their assets growing at a rate of US\$668 million every day over 2013 and 2014. High levels of inequality not only slow down the extreme poverty reduction that economic growth could create, it also leads to small numbers of people being able to achieve 'regulatory capture': to get the rules and regulations (and low taxes) that they want! Look at the finance sectors in London and New York and the lobbying industry in Washington DC. Fascinatingly, 'reducing inequality within and between nations' is already on the post-2015 Agenda. But, will the ongoing negotiations manage to 'tame' this in some way, so that the targets and indicators selected do not impact much on the wealthiest...or will the agreement at the UN Summit tackle inequality head on?

At this year beginning we can hope that 2015 will be a good year for the world's poor people and poor countries. Perhaps in my December 2015 Foreword to this Bulletin I can write about the way that 'business as usual' ended in 2015 and celebrate a global shift towards social justice...but, don't hold your breath waiting for that news!

David Hulme
President, DSA

News from the DSA

DSA Annual Conference

Thank you to all those who attended the DSA Annual Conference in London. The [presentations are available](#) in our conference archive.

DSA Study Group NEWS

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

Multidimensional Poverty Working Group



Human Development & Capability Association



Call for Papers

Rethinking Development Research

The post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals

- EADI/DSA Multidimensional Poverty Working Group
- EADI Disasters and Development Working Group
- HDCA Sustainable Human Development Thematic Group



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Date: 25 - 26 June 2015, University Square Stratford, Centre for Social Justice and Change, University of East London, UK
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Journal of International Development
Journal of the DSA



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



Latest Issue [January 2015](#)
[Poverty Effects of Remittances: a Comparative Analysis](#)
Muhammad Tariq Majeed

[Client Perceptions of the Value of Microinsurance: Evidence from Southern Ghana](#)
Lena Giesbert and Susan Steiner

[Inequity in Formal Health Care Use: Evidence from Rural Bangladesh](#)
Syed Abdul Hamid, Syed M. Ahsan, Afroza Begum and Chowdhury Abdullah Al Asif

[Getting to 'Yes': Governing Genetically Modified Crops in Uganda](#)—
Matthew A. Schnurr and Christopher Gore

[Determinants of Household Vulnerability to Food Insecurity: A Case Study of Semi-Arid Districts in Malawi](#)
Tasokwa Kakota, Dickson Nyariki, David Mkwambisi and Wambui Kogi-Makau

[An Evaluation of Traditional Seed Conservation Methods in Rural Malawi](#)
Mtisunge B. Mngoli, David D. Mkwambisi and Evan D. G. Fraser

[Female Labour Supply in A Developing Economy: A Tale from A Primary Survey](#)
Basanta K. Pradhan, Shalabh K. Singh and Arup Mitra

[Effects of Border Price Changes on Agricultural Wages and Employment in Mexico](#)
Silvia Prina

[Fiscal Responses to Privatisation in Transition Economies: an Empirical Assessment](#)
Lutfi Erden and Nasip Bolatoglu

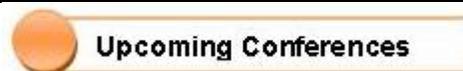
[Macroeconomic Consequences of the One Laptop per Child Project](#)
Jeffrey James

[Social Assistance in Developing Countries, edited by A. BARRIENTOS \(Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013, ISBN 9781107039025, £60.00, hardback, pp. 267\).](#)
Juan M. Villa

[Falling Inequality in Latin America: Policy Changes and Lessons, edited by Giovanni Andrea Cornia \(Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014, ISBN 978-0-19-870180-4, £60.00 \(h/b\), pp. 370.\)](#)
Francesca Scaturro

[Natural Resource Extraction and Indigenous Livelihoods: Development Challenges in an Era of Globalization, edited by Emma Gilberthorpe and Gavin Hilson \(Surrey: Ashgate, 2014, ISBN 978-1-4094-3777-2, £65.60 \(h/b\), pp. 279\).](#)
Paul Robert Gilbert

Conferences and Events



The Politics of Inequality: Developmental Leadership Program Annual Conference 2015

12 February 2015, University of Birmingham

Registration is now open for the 2015 Developmental Leadership Program Annual Conference, which will bring together the latest thinking on how politics fosters, maintains or reduces inequalities, and which inequalities and why. Who are the actors, what are the social structures involved? How do power, norms and ideas sustain inequalities? What is the role of leadership in perpetuating or alleviating inequalities? The keynote speaker will be Professor Frances Stewart. [Read more >](#)

Wellbeing and Development

Date: 27 March 2015, 2.00pm to 5.30pm

Joint workshop of Research Centre for the study of Developing Economies and Emerging Markets (DEEM) University of Reading, and Wellbeing and Psycho-social Perspectives in Development, DSA study group

Speakers:

- Dr Sridhar Venkatapuram, King's College London
- Professor J. Allister McGregor, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex
- Dr Sarah White, University of Bath
- Dr Laura Camfield, University of East Anglia
- Dr Antonia Fernandez, University of Reading

Contact a.r.b.potter@reading.ac.uk to reserve your place.

The History of Refuge

RSC Public Seminar Series, Hilary term 2015

Refugee Studies and Historiography have only lately begun to draw on each other more considerably. Some important studies in other disciplines have drawn on and examined historical events and developments of forced migration. Nonetheless, refugee research has long lacked an empirically rich history of its subject. Moreover,

the focus of this fruitful cooperation is often directed at historical experiences and causes of flight. In contrast, this seminar series will be concerned with the history of refugee protection, with hospitality, sanctuary and asylum for forced migrants throughout history. Speakers will present pre-modern forms of protection as well as various historical refugee policies in modern contexts. Their papers will illustrate continuities and transformations of refuge over time. Thereby, the seminar series will contribute to revealing the historicity of past and current challenges in refugee protection and to illuminating opportunities of lessons from the past.

Seminars are held on Wednesdays in Seminar Room 1, Oxford Department of International Development, 3 Mansfield Road, OX1 3TB. No registration is required and all are welcome to attend.

[Read more >](#)

Please note: There is no seminar on 4 February.
This term's series is convened by [Dr J. Olaf Kleist](#).

Palestine Refugees and International Law RSC Short Course

6-7 March 2015, British Institute, Amman, Jordan
13-14 March 2015, Asfari Institute, American University of Beirut, Lebanon

This two day short course places the Palestinian refugee case study within the broader context of the international human rights regime. It examines, within a human rights framework, the policies and practices of Middle Eastern states as they impinge upon Palestinian refugees. Through a mix of lectures, working group exercises and interactive sessions, participants engage actively and critically with the contemporary debates in international law and analyse the specific context of Palestinian refugees in the Middle East (Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel).

Applicants should indicate their preferred location on their application form. Please visit: <http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/palestine>

International Summer School in Forced Migration

6-24 July 2015
Registration now open

Oxford Department of International Development, 3 Mansfield Road, Oxford OX1 3TB / Wadham College, Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PN

The International Summer School in Forced Migration fosters dialogue between academics, practitioners and policymakers working to improve the situation of refugees and forced migrants. The Summer School offers an intensive, interdisciplinary and participative approach to the study of forced migration. It aims to enable people working with refugees and other forced migrants to reflect critically on the forces and institutions that dominate the world of the displaced.

The three-week course combines the very best of Oxford University's academic excellence with a stimulating and participatory method of critical learning and reflection. Please visit: <http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/summer-school2015>

Courses



Study a Masters in International Development at the University of Bath

The MSc in International Development at the University of Bath provides an exciting opportunity to develop your understanding of practical development problems.

The Masters degree provides early and mid-career professionals with an exciting opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills required to engage critically and effectively with international development thought and practice, and how these relate to broader processes of global, regional and local transformation.

You'll study with global academic experts alongside an international community of students in one of the top universities in the UK. [Click here to find out more >](#)

MSc in Global Urban Development and Planning, University of Manchester, UK

Applications for academic year 2015-16 still welcome

This cross-disciplinary Masters programme provides students with an understanding of cutting edge conceptual and operational debates in global urban development theory and practice. The aim of the programme is to equip participants with specialist skills to identify and investigate urban development planning solutions in specific contexts, and thus promote more equitable and environmentally sustainable development in cities and towns of the South. The programme is an accredited specialism of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI). For informal enquiries about the programme, please contact [Alfredo Stein](#) or [Melanie Lombard](#) at the Global Urban Research Centre (GURC). For more information, please see our [website](#).

Masters in International Development University of Sheffield, UK

The Department of Geography hosts three interdisciplinary Masters Courses in International Development: The MA in International Development, The MPH in International Development and the MSc in Environmental Change and International Development bringing together expertise from geography, health, planning, environmental studies and development studies.

A distinctive feature of all courses is their applied emphasis to ensure that students engage with the complexities of international development as played out in everyday life. We run a core field class (currently to Kenya or Nepal) and organise a placement-based Dissertation providing students with the opportunity to work within a development organisation while undertaking research.

To find out more, we are holding an Open Day on the 5th March 2015 in the Ron Johnston Research Room (RJRR), Department of Geography.

Contact us for further inquiries. (geo-apply@sheffield.ac.uk)

Jobs and Opportunities

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

New job opportunity to influence the UK's disasters research for international development

The UK Department for International Development (DFID) is looking for an expert on humanitarian disasters and emergencies research relevant to international development to join its independent Research Advisory Group (RAG).

The RAG provides independent scientific advice to the DFID and reports to the DFID Chief Scientific Adviser. The provision of independent scientific advice by the RAG assists DFID to assure the quality and appropriateness of Research and Evidence Division's research portfolio for DFID's objectives.

The deadline for applications is 5pm (UK time) 12 February 2015. Please pass on the news to any of your colleagues.

Here is the official [RAG job advert](#) and the [Vacancy information pack: Humanitarian Research for Development](#)

Research Fellow (One full time role and one part time role)

GSDRC – International Development Department, University of Birmingham

1. Research Fellow (Grade 7): economics and governance (full-time, fixed-term to 15 July 2016 with continuation dependent on external funding)
2. Research Fellow (Grade 7): governance or social development (60% of full-time, maternity leave cover to March 2016.

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Calls for Papers

Call for Papers: New Political Topographies: Trans-boundary Flows, Power and Legitimation in Africa and Beyond

Date: 28-29th May 2015

This conference examines how the proliferation of new political actors and/or new modes of political action have affected political order in Africa and beyond. It explores how new trans-boundary connections, particularly those related to transnational, corporate, non-governmental (NGOs) and para-statal actors, shape political topographies: What new topographies of power and authority have they cultivated at local, national and transnational levels? How 'new' are these developments in practice? How is legitimacy constructed and contested under these conditions? How do these developments shape our understanding about statehood in 'most of the world' (Chatterjee 2004)? Read more on the conference [website](#).

Organiser: Jana Hönke, with Kathy Dodworth (University of Edinburgh)

Keynote: Rita Abrahamsen (University of Ottawa)

If you are interested in presenting a paper, please send a title and abstract to african.studies@ed.ac.uk by **30 January 2015**. For a number of presenters we will be able to offer support for travel and accommodation.

For Students

Open Days for Doctoral Students

The [Social Sciences](#) event will take place on 23 February 2015. Students will learn about our collections, find out how to access them, and meet our expert staff as well as other researchers in their field. In addition to an understanding of the Library's collections, the students gain a wider introduction to the information landscape in their field and research opportunities opening up in digital information environment. Numbers are limited and, as these events are very popular, and early booking is encouraged..

For details of the all Open Days and how to book please see our [website](#). Places cost £5.00 and this includes lunch.

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Funding Opportunities

Urban Studies Foundation - International Fellowship

The Urban Studies Foundation is pleased to announce the next round of funding for its International Fellowship. We would be grateful if you could circulate the attached information to staff and postdoctoral students within your institution who may find it of interest. Further Particulars and an Application Form are available to download from the [Foundation's website](#).

The closing date for applications is 6th March 2015.

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Publications

Development Leadership Programme



Working Papers

[Political Settlements](#)

Edward Laws and Adrian Leftwich

This Concept Brief suggests that political settlements can be viewed as the informal and formal processes, agreements, and practices in a society that help consolidate politics, rather than violence, as a means for dealing with disagreements about interests, ideas and the distribution and use of power.

[Who will be the 'Principled Principals'? The determinants of active opposition to corruption](#)

Caryn Peiffer and Linda Alvarez

This paper uses survey data from Transparency International's 2013 Global Corruption Barometer to examine what determines people's willingness to act against corruption in 71 countries.

[The Politics-Bureaucracy Interface: Impact on Development Reform](#)

Niheer Dasandi

This paper provides an in-depth review of the existing research on the relationship between political and bureaucratic leaders in developing countries, the factors that shape this relationship, and the impact it has on the success and failure of reforms.

[Elite Attitudes Towards Cash Transfers and the Poor in Malawi](#)
Chipiliro Kalebe-Nyamongo and Heather Marquette

This paper presents findings from primary research in Malawi that examined elites' attitudes towards poverty and how to reduce it. It argues that the planning of cash transfer programmes needs to involve more consideration of the country-specific attitudes of elites.

[Using Action Research and Learning for Politically Informed Programming](#)

Michael O'Keefe, John T. Sidel, Heather Marquette, Chris Roche, David Hudson, and Niheer Dasandi

This paper discusses action research being undertaken by the Pacific Leadership Program, the Coalitions for Change program in the Philippines, and DLP.



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Development Policy Review

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Policy Notes

[Ensuring quality education for young refugees from Syria \(12-25 years\): a mapping exercise \(summary\)](#)

Sarah Wahby, Hashem Ahmadzadeh, Metin Çorabatır, Leen Hashem, Jalal Al Hussein, 2014

Reports

[Ensuring quality education for young refugees from Syria \(12-25 years\): a mapping exercise](#)

Dawn Chatty, Hashem Ahmadzadeh, Metin Çorabatır, Jalal Al Hussein, Leen Hashem, Sarah Wahby, 2014

[New approaches, alternative avenues and means of access to asylum procedures for persons seeking international protection](#)

Elsbeth Guild, Cathryn Costello, Madeline Garlick, Violeta Moreno-Lax, Minos Mouzourakis, 2014

[Humanitarian Innovation: The State of the Art](#)

Alexander Betts, Louise Bloom, 2014

Forced Migration Review

[Innovation and refugees \(supplement\)](#)

Marion Couldrey, Maurice Herson (eds), 2014

[Faith and responses to displacement](#)

Marion Couldrey, Maurice Herson (eds), 2014

Working Papers

[Repatriation through a trust-based lens: refugee-state trust relations on the Thai-Burma border and beyond](#)

RSC Working Paper 104

Karen Hargrave, 2014

['We Need to Talk about Dublin': responsibility under the Dublin System as a blockage to asylum burden-sharing in the European Union](#)

RSC Working Paper 105

Minos Mouzourakis, 2014



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David Fulford

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LEGS

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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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GSDRC provides applied knowledge services on demand and online. Our expertise is in issues of governance, social development, humanitarian response and conflict. Our specialist research team supports a range of international development agencies, synthesising the latest evidence and expert thinking to inform policy and practice. Our latest publications include:

[Political Economy Analysis](#)

Topic Guide

Political economy analysis (PEA) aims to situate development interventions within an understanding of the prevailing political and economic processes in society – specifically, the incentives, relationships, and distribution and contestation of power between different groups and individuals. Such an analysis can support more politically feasible and therefore more effective development strategies by setting realistic expectations of what can be achieved, over what timescale, and the risks involved. This topic guide provides pointers to some of the key literature on PEA and evidence of its impact on aid effectiveness in different contexts. It includes examples of analyses at country, sector and programme level.

[Social Protection](#)

Topic Guide

This guide provides an overview of social protection concepts, approaches, issues, debates and the evidence. It primarily focuses on longer-term developmental social protection, rather than humanitarian responses, and on low-income countries, drawing on other contexts where appropriate. The aim is to provide an

overview of issues, a selection of key references and signposting to further resources.

[Impact and implications of the Ebola crisis](#)

Helpdesk Research Report

This rapid literature review has a special focus on Sierra Leone, and looks at the available evidence on the impact of the Ebola crisis on four key areas: political, economic, social, and security. These impacts will have implications for post-Ebola development and stability, depending on the impact of the disease.

[Targeting groups at risk of extremism through security and justice programming](#)

Helpdesk Research Report

This report summarises the evidence on whether security and justice programming (by DFID or other donors) targets specific groups (populations and victims) at risk of extremism, and provides information on how the impact has been measured. It finds that identifying populations at risk is a key challenge. Much CVE programming is based on theories of change of how a person moves from non-violence to violent extremism, and vice versa. However, this is limited by a lack of evidence and consensus on understanding motivational and structural factors of these processes.

[Social protection accountability](#)

Helpdesk Research Report

This rapid literature review collates evidence on the use of accountability mechanisms in social assistance programmes. It finds that accountability and good governance are strong themes of development interventions in general, but have yet to be applied systematically to social protection programmes. Much of the literature is focused on best practice, lessons learned, the theory and principles of accountability, and policy guidance. There is little systematic evidence on whether accountability mechanisms have improved programmes or had effects on human development outcomes.

General Publications

Read a collection of content on the MDGs



Special Issues

Public Policy for Pensions Reform: A Governance Challenge for Public Administration and Development

Volume 34, Issue 4, October 2014

[Read contents](#)

Migration Society and Globalization

Guest Edited by: Adrian J Bailey and Brenda S A Yeoh

[Read contents](#)

Geo Geography and Environment

Open Access

Open Access research in all areas of geography and the environment

[Introducing Geo: Geography and Environment](#)

Professor Gail Davies and Professor Anson Mackay

[> Publish with Geo](#)

Small States in a Global Economy – Crisis, Cooperation and Contributions

Hilmar Þór Hilmarsson, Ph.D.

University of Akureyri, Akureyri, Iceland

In an era of globalization, no country can be an island disconnected from the rest of the world and small states are now integrated in the global economy. The analysis in this book shows that the experiences of small states can be valuable for other countries but at the same time, small states can be vulnerable. This book discusses several issues that are of global importance and analyses how small states are affected, why they can be vulnerable and how their experiences can be beneficial globally, including for larger states. [Order this book at 20% discount.](#)

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Policy and Practice: A Development Education Review Issue 19 now available

Policy and Practice is a peer reviewed, open access, bi-annual journal published by the Centre for Global Education (Belfast) and funded by Irish Aid. Issue 19 of the journal is titled 'Finding the 'Historically Possible': Contexts, Limits and Possibilities in Development Education' and suggests that the differentiation and diversity of development education in terms of education settings, providers and target groups can serve to limit or expand its possibilities. The current issue and entire archive is available

[here](#). For further information contact Stephen McCloskey (Editor): stephen@centreforglobaleducation.com

Contribute to the *DSA Bulletin* and share your news with the development community.

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

Rates for non-members:

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| • Three months | £160 |
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