

Fra: Helle Ager Henriksen [mailto:hah@diis.dk] På vegne af DIIS Konferencesektion
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Til: DIIS Konferencesektion
Emne: DIIS conference 30 March "The Political Economy of Development in Africa"

The Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS) has the pleasure of inviting you to a conference on:

The Political Economy of Development in Africa
Five Major Research Programmes Present Policy Implications of their Work
Friday, 30 March 2012, 9.00-16.30
Danish Institute for International Studies
Main Auditorium
Strandgade 71, ground floor, 1401 Copenhagen K

Background

There is a growing consensus that politics shape the incentives that drive or hinder sustainable growth and poverty alleviation in developing countries. However, 'politics' involves more than governments, parties and elections. It depends both on the formal and informal institutions and on the specific contexts in which political ambitions are shaped and policy choices are made.

Five major European research programmes aim to improve the understanding of such politics of development by opening the black box of 'political will'. Although they have used a variety of approaches and empirical material, they have strongly convergent research findings and agree on some major policy implications of their work. These will be presented at the conference (together with some of the issues which remain unresolved or controversial).

The programmes will be addressing the following important political economy questions:

- Why have sub-Saharan countries developed much slower than Southeast Asian countries in the past half century? (TD – Tracking Development, hosted by the Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies, Holland; www.trackingdevelopment.net)
- How does emerging democratic politics affect policies for agricultural development? (PEAP – Political Economy of Agricultural Policy Project of FAC, hosted by the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS); www.future-agricultures.org)
- What motivates ruling elites to support productive sectors with well-implemented government initiatives? (EPP – Elites, Production and Poverty, hosted by the Danish Institute for International Studies; www.diis.dk/epp)
- What is the role of developmental leadership and coalitions in development? (DLP – Developmental Leadership Programme, hosted by the Department of Politics, University of York; www.dlprog.org)
- What ways of exercising power and doing politics work for development? (APPP – Africa Power and Politics Programme, hosted by ODI; www.institutions-africa.org)

Speakers

[David Henley](#), Professor, Leiden University
[Colin Poulton](#), Research Fellow, SOAS

[Ole Therkildsen](#), Senior Researcher, DIIS
[Stephen Ndegwa](#), Advisor, World Bank
[Roger Koranteng](#), Advisor, Governance and Institutional Development Division, Commonwealth Secretariat
[Adrian Leftwich](#), Honorary Fellow, University of York
[David Booth](#), Research Fellow, Overseas Development Institute (ODI)
[Tove Degnbol](#), Head of Department, DANIDA, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark
[Anders Östman](#), Senior Programme Manager, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)

Programme

More details about the conference are available on our [website](#).

Practical Information

The conference will be held in English.

Participation is free of charge, but registration is required. Please use our [online registration form](#) no later than Wednesday, 28 March 2012 at 12.00 noon.

Please await confirmation by e-mail from DIIS for participation.

Sincerely,

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