



CALL FOR WORKING GROUPS AND PAPERS

FINCEAL CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES SEMINAR

COOPERATION ACROSS BORDERS – COMPREHENSIVE RESPONSES TO TRANSECTING GLOBAL CHALLENGES?

TIME: November 12-13, 2014

PLACE: HELSINKI CONGRESS PAASITORNI, PAASIVUORENKATU 5 A, HELSINKI

Global challenges require global responses. It has long been acknowledged that addressing multifaceted global challenges – such as food security, health, climate change, bioeconomy, biodiversity, renewable energy, and ICT for societal challenges – requires cooperation across traditional boundaries. In academia, this means cooperation between different disciplines; on a larger scale, it means cooperation that bridges sectoral, national and regional boundaries. To have real impact, and to make sure the results of academic research are applied in practice, there must be dialogue between academics and decision makers, as well as among academics and practitioners, whether they come from the commercial or NGO sector. Additionally, serious effort must be made to simultaneously address cross-cutting issues in global challenges.

As part of the FinCEAL project, UniPID will convene a two-day seminar to discuss and reconsider the different cross-cutting issues of international research, innovation and development cooperation addressing global challenges. This seminar aims to consider how international and intersectoral partnerships, interdisciplinary approaches and cross-cutting themes have been and should be taken into account and implemented in the Finnish response to global challenges through the following questions:

1. What is the role of the different actors (policy makers, civil society organizations, private sector and academia) and how have these actors in Finland been involved in addressing global challenges?
2. 'Good on paper, difficult in practice' – what challenges does interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral cooperation face?
3. What kinds of practices have been shown to strengthen cross-sectoral cooperation and interdisciplinarity in dealing with global challenges? How can successful practices be scaled up to a global level?
4. How are global challenges interrelated? What new perspectives arise when this interrelation is addressed? How can these overlapping areas best be tackled?

The following themes have been defined by the global community as challenges that cut across many institutional, professional and disciplinary boundaries and which demand urgent response: *food security, health, climate change, bioeconomy, biodiversity, renewable energy, and ICT for societal challenges*. UniPID invites a wide spectrum of scholars, private and NGO sector experts as well as policy makers to seek ways of transcending the gaps between diverse disciplines, methods, techniques and mindsets that hinder a creative and coordinated approach to these challenges. Together we can seek to identify opportunities for better results and added value resulting from cooperation across these different borders!

Call for proposals or abstracts deadline 19.06.2014

We invite submissions of

- working group or workshop proposals, and
- presentation proposals or academic abstracts

for three different thematic areas addressing 1) the international and/or intersectoral partnerships, 2) interdisciplinary approaches and cooperation, and 3) cross-cutting global challenges.

1) Partnerships - Transcending national and sectoral borderlines

Addressing global challenges requires international cooperation. However, international partnerships often come with challenges varying from incompatible working cultures to different technical capacities. Efficient responses to global challenges also require cooperation between actors from different sectors, which has its challenges in the variety of institutional practices, working methods and mindsets. The aim is to discuss how these challenges can be overcome and how international and intersectoral cooperation can best work towards a common solution instead of complicating the work of the different partners. We welcome proposals based on experiences of international academic and/or intersectoral (academy-private sector, academy-NGO sector or academy-policy makers) cooperation addressing global challenges. The problems of cooperation between different actors have been discussed widely already, thus we would encourage particularly presentations on good experiences and best practices of cooperation and partnerships, and on how the different challenges of cooperation have been or should have been dealt with in different concrete cooperation projects.

2) Interdisciplinarity – Bridging academic knowledge

Multifaceted global challenges also require interdisciplinary perspectives and cooperation. Putting together different concepts, methods, interpretations and data, and finding common objectives and priorities across the disciplines implies finding new ways of working and communicating. The aim is to consider how the different challenges brought by an interdisciplinary approach can be faced and overcome. We welcome proposals that examine the practical modalities of interdisciplinary academic cooperation in the study of global challenges. While it is important to identify the problems such collaboration can face, we also invite reflections on good experiences, best practices, and the added value of this approach.

3) Cross-cutting global challenges

How is it possible to create comprehensive responses to global challenges taking into account the common causes, interrelations and impacts of different phenomena? The aim is to interrogate what kinds of questions arise from cross-cutting, intersecting challenges for academics and practitioners from different fields and how these can be addressed and overcome. We welcome proposals that consider how the interrelation between global challenges and cross-cutting themes – such as social, economic and environmental sustainability – have been dealt with in research, as well as on the experiences of addressing cross-cutting issues in cooperation between academics and/or with other practitioners.

Guidelines for submission of proposals

Submit your working group or workshop idea, presentation proposal or abstract to the thematic area of your choice. Please, do not submit to more than one thematic area. The proposal or abstract

should be written in English with no more than 500 words. The proposal or abstract should include:

- 1) a title of the working group or workshop, presentation or paper,
- 2) the title of the thematic area of your choice,
- 3) the name and affiliation of the author(s) and their contact emails immediately after the title.

The proposals or abstracts should be sent as a word document or .rtf file named as: "author's last name_thematic area title_type of proposal" (for example: Ulenius_Partnerships_working group). Please indicate clearly the type of your proposal: working group, workshop, individual presentation or academic abstract. When proposing a working group or workshop please indicate if you are interested in chairing the session.

Submit your proposals and abstracts by email to: unipid-info@jyu.fi. The deadline for submission is 19.06.2014.

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The Finnish University Partnership for International Development - UniPID is a partnership network between Finnish universities, which supports universities' global responsibility objectives and actions. UniPID aims to strengthen and advance the interdisciplinary education, research and universities societal impact on global development.

UniPID coordinates the FinCEAL project - Developing Finnish Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation between Europe, Africa and the LAC Region –funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture. FinCEAL aims to enhance cooperation between research and science policy communities in Finland, Europe, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean by networking the Finnish research community and by supporting their participation in bi-regional research projects and science policy processes.

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