



FIFTH SOUTH-SOUTH SUMMER INSTITUTE

RETHINKING DEVELOPMENT: GLOBAL AND REGIONAL ALTERNATIVES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTH

DATE: 21 MAY – 1 JUNE, 2012

VENUE: RECIFE, BRAZIL

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Asian Political and International Studies Association (APISA), the Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO), and the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) are pleased to announce –in the framework of the second three-year phase of the *Africa/Asia/Latin America Scholarly Collaborative Program*– the call for applications for participation in the **Fifth South-South Summer Institute on *Rethinking Development: Global and Regional Alternatives for the Development in the South***. The Institute will be held in Recife, Brazil, from 21 May to 1 June, 2012.

Within the ambit of the second phase of the *Africa/Asia/Latin America Scholarly Collaborative Program*, a series of activities have been scheduled, among them an annual South-South Summer Institute. The Institute is primarily designed to offer research training to younger scholars on the diverse problems and challenges facing the countries of the South. In doing so, it is hoped also to promote a revival and expansion of comparative thinking and cross-regional networking among a younger generation of Southern scholars. As was done during the first phase of the APISA-CLACSO-CODESRIA collaboration that ran from 2005 to 2007, the different sessions of the South-South Institute rotate among the three continents where the lead collaborating institutions are located, namely, Africa, Asia and Latin America. In this way, participants, who will also be drawn from all three continents, are exposed to the socio-historical contexts of other regions of the South as an input that helps to broaden their analytical perspectives and improves the overall quality of their scientific engagements.

1. OBJECTIVES:

The underlying objective of the South-South Institute is to offer advanced research training opportunities to participants on various key issues relevant to the South, and the theoretical and methodological perspectives that might be appropriate for gaining a full understanding of the specific situation of the countries and peoples located outside the core of the international system such as it is presently structured. The main

premise of this effort is the glaring inadequacy of the theories and methodologies developed in the North, crystallised in the mainstream social sciences, to provide the required instruments for the attainment of a sound understanding of the problems confronting the countries of the South. Through the South-South Institute, it is hoped to be able to mobilise young scholars from across Africa, Asia and Latin America to reflect on the alternatives that are available for overcoming the challenges facing the countries of the South. This way, the Institute will contribute to the promotion of a better knowledge and understanding of the theories and methodological approaches developed in different regions of the South as alternatives to the dominant, Northern-based paradigms that have shaped the social sciences. It is also expected that participants will become acquainted with the local intellectual environment in the regions where different sessions of the institutes are hosted, and strengthen their comparative research capacities. In sum, the institutes are structured to serve as a unique forum for enhancing a deeper understanding among a younger generation of Southern scholars of the history, politics, economy and culture of the countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America, and offer an opportunity to participants to develop long-lasting collaborative relationships with their counterparts from other Southern countries.

2. ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION AS LAUREATES:

Younger scholars resident in countries of the South and who are pursuing active academic careers are eligible to apply for a place in the Institute. Each applicant should have a university education, preferably with a minimum of a master degree in any of the social sciences and humanities. Selection for participation will be on the basis of a competitive process. All together, 30 people will be selected for participation in the Institute on the basis of 10 each from Africa, Asia and Latin America. The full participation costs of the selected laureates will be covered, including their travel (economy return air tickets), accommodation and subsistence.

3. FACULTY:

Each session of the South-South Institute is led by a faculty of four Southern scholars who are recognised as people who have made some of the most original contributions to an understanding of the particular theme for which they have been selected to give lectures. In this way, just as the young scholars who will be identified to be laureates will be drawn from Africa, Asia, and Latin America, the composition of the faculty that will lead the sessions of the Institute will also be tri-continental, underscoring a joint and mutual learning process that should enhance the overall goal of building alternative southern perspectives to dominant discourses that tend to reflect uneven international power relations, and deepening South-South comparative insights. Each of the four members of the faculty for the Institute will be allocated between three and four days to deliver his/her lecture series and to mentor the laureates on those aspects of their academic preoccupations that are directly connected to the expertise they bring to the programme.

4. THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE INSTITUTE:

For the fifth session of the South-South Summer Institute, it has been decided by APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA to host it in Recife, Brazil. CLACSO will assume overall responsibility within the tri-continental partnership for the Institute. The Institute will run **from 21 May to 1 June, 2012**. Two Latin American scholars, one from Africa and another from Asia will constitute the faculty for the Institute and they will deliver a series of lectures over the duration of the programme. A team of local scholars based in Recife will complement the faculty with additional lectures, including round-tables. For the fifth session of the Institute, it is a requirement that prospective laureates should have a demonstrable working knowledge of English. CLACSO will work to facilitate the procurement of entry visas to Brazil for the prospective laureates whose applications are successful.

5. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Every researcher wishing to be considered for selection as one of the 30 laureates to be invited to participate in the fifth South-South Institute is required to submit an application which will comprise the following key items of documentation:

- a) An outline research proposal, written in English/Spanish or Portuguese, on the subject on which the prospective laureate would like to work during the Institute. The topic selected must be related to the theme of the Institute. Proposals should not exceed 10 pages in length and should have a clearly defined problematic;
- b) A covering letter, of one-page, which should indicate the motivation of the prospective laureate for wanting to participate in the Institute and explain how they envisage that they and their institution will benefit from the Institute;
- c) An updated Curriculum Vitae complete with the names of the professional and personal references of the prospective laureate, the scientific discipline(s) in which s/he is working, the nationality of the applicant, a list of recent publications, and a summary of the on-going research activities in which the applicant is involved.
- d) A photocopy of the highest university degree obtained by the applicant and of the relevant pages of his/her international passport containing relevant identity data; and
- e) A letter from the applicant's institution (university department/faculty) or research centre supporting his/her candidature. This statement of institutional support should be done on the institutional letter-headed stationary and must be duly signed and stamped.

In order to receive the certificate of participation in the Institute, each laureate will be required to draw on the lectures delivered and the course material provided to revise the original proposal on the basis of which they were admitted and, in so doing, produce an essay of up to 20 pages for consideration for joint publication and dissemination by APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA in a South-South Occasional Papers series.

6. APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINE

As the South-South Institute involves the participation of laureates and faculty from Africa, Asia and Latin America, it has been decided that applicants resident in Africa should submit their applications to CODESRIA, those resident in Asia to APISA and those resident in Latin America to CLACSO. The full contact details for APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA are reproduced below for the attention of all prospective applicants. The deadline for the receipt of applications is **16 March, 2012**. Applications found to be incomplete or which arrive after the deadline will not be taken into consideration. An independent Selection Committee charged with screening all applications received will meet shortly after the deadline for the receipt of applications. Successful applicants will be notified immediately the Selection Committee completes its work. Notification of results will be done by e-mail, fax or post. The results of the selection exercise will also be published on the websites of APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA.

African applicants should send their applications to:

CODESRIA

2012 South-South Summer Institute

BP 3304, CP 18524, Dakar, SENEGAL

Tel: (221) 825 9822: Fax: (221) 824 1289

Email: south.institute@codesria.sn

Website: www.codesria.org

Asian applicants should send their applications to:

APISA Secretariat

2012 South-South Summer Institute

International Studies Department, De La Salle University

Rm. 701, William Hall

2401 Taft Avenue, Manila

PHILIPPINES 1004

Email: apisasecretariat@gmail.com

Website: www.apisanet.com

Latin American and Caribbean applicants should submit *electronically* their applications through: CLACSO website: www.clacso.org

ANNEX

BACKGROUND CONCEPT PAPER FOR THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE APISA-CLACSO-CODESRIA SOUTH-SOUTH SUMMER INSTITUTE

RETHINKING DEVELOPMENT: GLOBAL AND REGIONAL ALTERNATIVES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTH

In contemporary times, the difficulties and dilemmas confronted by the South have been brought out in sharp relief by the framework of debt and orthodox structural adjustment programs that have shaped the policy processes of most of the developing countries over the last two decades of the XX Century. The challenges of going beyond structural adjustment and the policy orthodoxy that underpins it is, therefore, a matter of live concern across the South and in other parts of the world.

The structural adjustment years were characterized by a fixation with the macro-economic indicators defined by neo-liberal doctrinaires as being central to the construction of economic well being and to build investor confidence. Furthermore, systematic national planning for economic growth and development was discarded in favor of a reliance on the magics of the free market which, the Bretton Woods institutions insisted, was the only viable path to economic transformation in the South. Needless to add, the state was relentlessly attacked and spirited efforts were made to de-legitimize it as an actor in the economic development process. Perhaps even more disturbing was the systematic erosion of policy making and policy capacities in the South and the location of key macro-economic decision-making levels in the international financial institutions or, if some of them remain at home, beyond the reach of democratic structures. In this framework it was inconceivable that development can ever proceed on the basis of externally-defined policy priorities and strategies or in the absence of a state that was able to lead the process of formulation of coherent strategies.

In a global context, it can be asserted that the International Financial Institutions fulfilled an important role in reproducing the asymmetries of an extraordinarily unequal international system, facilitating a huge transfer of natural resources, rents, incomes, and riches from the South to the North, and therefore, compromising the possibilities to reach the so required development. In the face of the blatant injustice prevailing in the international system and the bankruptcy of the existing multilateral organizations, how can the Southern countries promote their development strategies against poverty and exclusion in an adverse global context?

Insofar as the countries of the South are concerned, the disappointing outcome of two decades or more of IMF/World Bank structural adjustment, coupled with apprehensions about the effects of the neo-liberal underpinnings of the accelerated processes of globalization, have both provided a context for - and resulted in a revival of - interest in the question of development and how to secure it on a self-sustained -social, economic, political and ecological- basis. The issues which are posed in this context are fairly straightforward and can be summarized in one grand question: what policy framework is required in order to return the countries of the South to the path of development and what type of development agenda do these

countries have to generate in order to achieve growth in a context that secures the livelihood opportunities and prospects of the citizenry?

Besides the call to redefine the global scenario into a more democratic and equitable order, maybe the most suitable answer to that query is coupled to the regional level, along with the cooperation and integration agreements and processes among the countries of the South. That it is why, in the past, in the context of the structural adjustment programs –vigorously promoted across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, the regional integration and cooperation projects were distinctly discouraged as a strategic policy option, particularly for developing countries. The political and geo-strategic sources of opposition to South-South integration and cooperation schemes were clear enough: an array of new technical arguments was deployed to complement pre-existing political hostility to regional cooperation among the countries of the South. In this way, South-South regional schemes were not only considered to be inefficient and sub-optimal, they were also treated as trade-diverting and market-distorting; global economic welfare, it was argued, would be better served by the World Trade Organization framework and mixed North-South cooperation schemes structured around a hub-and-spoke model.

The discouragement of South-South regional cooperation during the 1980s and 1990s went hand-in-hand with the vigorous promotion of structural adjustment programs across the South. However, the poor record of the structural adjustment programs themselves, together with the international geo-political and economic re-alignments arising from the end of the old East-West Cold War combined to revive the idea of regionalism and to spur the investment of new energies in various kinds of integration and cooperation schemes across the international system, North and South. This revival was manifested across the global South through the revamping and/or rationalization of existing cooperation and integration schemes, as well as the launching of new initiatives; some of which attempts at the revival of the spirit of Bandung regionalism and efforts to accomplish the pattern of development in the South. The most prominent of these are centered on the World Social Forum movement and its campaign for an alternative, people-driven globalization, Hugo Chavez's counter-hegemonic Bolivarian alternative for the Americas (ALBA), the currently vigorous South American Nation Union (UNASUR), and the pursuit of tri-continental strategic coordination as in the case of the IBSA (India, Brazil and South Africa).

Taking into account the above mentioned issues, participants in the Summer Institute are invited to reflect on these matters and to examine some of the copious existing inputs about the global and regional alternatives for the development in the South.

In accordance to what it was argued earlier, together, the lesson experienced from the adjustment years and the difficulties posed by the on-going globalization crisis accentuate the need of building an alternative development agenda in benefit of the South. The challenge therefore remains in generating a South-South intellectual reflection atmosphere looking forward that the alternatives that emerge could also feed into a process of both re-thinking the conceptual foundations of development and devising a new strategy of development that is human-centered, socially and ecologically conscious and anchored on the principles of participatory democracy.

To consider the North-South relationship in the framework of an alternative thought supposes to recover the political and intellectual practices from the culture; and the rupture with some dependent structures of the cultural sense, hegemonic and triumphant in the past decades.

The critical position of the present function of the esthetical and cultural practices, in the globalized world, emerges like promoter discourses of new schemes of the political and scholarly thought. The politics and arts start to produce sounds, images, metaphors and symbols which contribute to feed alternative theoretical approaches. Cultural policies and the critics of the culture are potentiated in their transformation capacity. Art, memory and culture create spaces for the imagination, dialogue and new individual and collective queries. In this sense, the comprehension of cultural diversities opens the focus on the social movements and political models of pluricultural democracies engaged with justice and equity projects.

We invite young scholars to rethink the democracy and development from the South considering the rights (human, gender, labor, migration, and cultural diversity, among others), the new articulations between politics and communicational technologies and free media (open source, open access, open data, open content, etc.), cultural identities, emancipating processes, autonomy and the potentiality of the public. In this way, we open the challenge to rethink the tricontinental relationships from a level which not only does it include the economic and political fundamental dimensions, but also the cultural, communicational and technological ones. It is the venture of rethinking the South integrated into the globalization from the actors and active spaces of economic, cultural and political transformation.

Among the sub-themes which it is hoped the Institute works are the following:

- The challenges for the South-South Cooperation in a post Washington Consensus era
- South-South cooperation and the challenges of a global governance
- Development and regional integration processes in the South: surpassing the approach of open regionalism?
- Regional hegemonies and its developmental strategies, the role of BRICs/IBSA/ALBA/UNASUR in the contemporary world.
- Global Institutions and Development: facing the Bretton Woods and the Washington Consensus regime.
- The feasibility of democratic developmental states in the South.
- Democratization, political governance and social movements in the Global South.
- Cultural practices and political changes in the South. The role of the intellectuals and artists.
- Communication, arts and esthetic in the formation of a new South-South paradigm.
- The role of the cultural diversity in the processes of the South-South development.