Call for Scholarship Applications: October 8, 2012

Asian Solutions to Asian Problems?
Bringing Together Development and Human Security in Asia
An International Conference hosted by
the Institute for Development and Human Security of Ewha Womans University
Venue: Ewha Womans University
Dates: May 24-25, 2013 (travel dates: May 23-25)

This conference will bring together leading scholars from around the world to discuss how the dual challenges of poverty and security threats have been dealt with among different development partners (donors) of foreign aid. It will also address ongoing challenges in recipient development partners. The Institute for Development and Human Security at Ewha has spearheaded this agenda for the last four years. Our research has highlighted that Asian donors are very different from Western donors in the way they utilize foreign aid within the broader context of foreign capital transactions with development partners including aid, FDI and trade. Case studies of Asian recipients faced with the dual challenges of poverty and security threats have led to research findings that point to how Asian donors and development partners have viewed economic, social development and threats to national and human security. Poverty and security threats are intertwined to present dire challenges to developing nations which in turn require creative solutions – something with which a number of Asian states have experimented or shown initiative. Results have been varied: Asian nations including South Korea have been successful in overcoming the dual challenges while there are many more fragile states in Asia that continue to suffer from these challenges.

In addition to the distinguished international scholars’ panels on Friday, May 24, we will invite junior scholars from developing countries with a scholarship to help them present and revise their papers at the conference in preparation for publication. Awardees will attend the first day of the conference as observers, and will then present their own papers in two concurrent panels on Saturday, May 25. This will help us build upon our research and nurture a future generation of scholars in the field of development cooperation and human security. Senior scholars from the first day will be encouraged to stay on to give guidance and to chair the junior scholars’ panels. Scholarships will cover the reasonable cost (economy class) of travel from Southeast or Northeast Asia to Seoul, and accommodation from May 23-25. Eligibility will be decided on a case-by-case basis, but as a rough set of guidelines, our definition of junior scholars includes advanced graduate students, post-doctoral researchers, early stage researchers, and lecturers and professors (up to Assistant Professor) who have received the PhD no more than five years prior to the start of the conference. Applicants should send curriculum vitae, cover letter, paper title and abstract, by December 7 via email to the address below. Successful applicants will be informed by the end of the year.

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Program (tentative)

Friday, May 24

09:00-09:30  Registration
09:30-10:00  Opening Ceremony (Welcoming Remarks by University President)
10:00-10:40  Keynote Speech (Sadako Ogata - invited)
10:40-11:00  Coffee Break
11:00-12:30  Panel 1: Success in Both Development and Human Security
              - Eun Mee Kim & Pil Ho Kim – South Korea
              - Paul Chambers – Thailand
              - Ed Aspinall – Indonesia
12:30-13:30  Lunch
13:30-15:00  Panel 2: Success Predominantly in a Single Dimension
              - Barbara Stallings – Vietnam
              - Brendan Howe – East Timor
              - TBA (Zuo Hong ?) – China
15:00-15:20  Coffee Break
              - Jae-Jung Suh – North Korea
              - Ian Holliday – Myanmar
              - Cambodia or Laos – TBA
16:50-17:20  Wrap Up
18:00-20:00  Reception and dinner for participants

Saturday, May 25

10:00-12:00  Concurrent Sessions for Junior Scholars (participants tba)
12:00-14:00  Farewell Luncheon