



# The Nordic Africa Research Network

Round Table on *Nordic Africa Research Co-operation: Options and Obstacles* to be held in conjunction with the Development Research Conference, School of Global Studies Gothenburg on the 5th of November, 2015, at 11-15-12.45, Europa hall at the conference center.

## The Objective

Research co-operation is key in promoting knowledge beyond national and disciplinary boundaries. Nordic cooperation is important because the Nordic countries have many similarities in their economic, social and political relations to Africa today that can be fruitfully explored through collaboration. Nordic cooperation can furthermore importantly support network building and contacts between researchers in the Nordic countries and researchers in Africa. It can also play an important role within the European Union and thereby complement and strengthen cooperation with organisations such as Africa Europe Group of Interdisciplinary Studies (AEGIS). The recently established Nordic Africa Research Network (NARN) has been set up to support Nordic Africanists in their work. The objective of this Round Table is to discuss options and obstacles in Nordic research cooperation and how to promote it.

## Program

**Moderator:** Carin Norberg

## Opening

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| 11.15 - 11.25 | Opening remarks and presentation of the <i>Nordic Africa Research Network</i> by Proscovia Svård, Network Co-ordinator. |
| 11.25 - 11.45 | <i>Nordic Research Co-operation: a Nordforsk Perspective</i> by Gunnel Gustafsson.                                      |
| 11.45 - 11.55 | <i>Researching Africa in Denmark: Realities and Potentialities</i> by Amanda Hammar.                                    |

- 11.55 - 12.10 *Who needs Nordic African Studies?* by Jeremy Gould.
- 12.10 - 12.25 *Development research at Swedish Research Council (VR) and sandwich research training in Global health at Karolinska Institutet* by Cecilia Stålsby Lundborg:
- 12.25 - 12.45 General Discussion and Conclusion of the Round Table.

### The Panelists



Prof. Gunnel Gustafsson will share with us her views on the Nordforsk's report on Nordic research co-operation. Professor Gunnel Gustafsson is the Director of NordForsk. She served on the NordForsk board from the organization's formation in 2005 until she took over the position of Director in 2010. She holds a professorship in Political Science and is a former Deputy Director General of the Swedish Research Council.



Amanda Hammar is MSO Professor in African Studies and Director of the Centre of African Studies, Copenhagen University. She is also a member of the Board of the Nordic Africa Research Network (NARN). Her research interests over many years have included processes of state making, citizenship and resource struggles in contexts of crisis and displacement, for long in agrarian settings in southern Africa but more recently in relation to urban spaces. Her latest publication is an edited volume, *Displacement Economies in Africa. Paradoxes of Crisis and Creativity* (2014, Zed Press). Besides her own intellectual pursuits, she has a strong commitment to strengthening the breadth and quality of European and Nordic-based graduate research on Africa.



Jeremy Gould, PhD (Anthropology), is Professor of Development and International Cooperation in the Department of Social Sciences and Philosophy at the University of Jyväskylä. He is also a former member of the Nordic Africa Institute's Programme and Research Council. He has published widely on the politics of aid, and on postcolonial state formation in Africa, with a focus on Zambia. He is currently running a project on Post-liberal government with funding from the Academy of Finland (2015-19).



Professor Cecilia Stålsby Lundborg is scientific advisor to the Swedish Research Council in the area of Development research, which includes research in all scientific areas of relevance to low income countries and collaboration with low- and lower middle income countries. She is also research group leader for the research group Health Systems and Policy at Karolinska Institutet and chair Global health. She has extensive experience of scientific collaboration with researchers in low and middle income countries, mainly in Asia but also in Africa. This includes research training of a number of doctoral and postdoctoral students applying the so called 'sandwich' model. Her research focuses on various aspects of relevance for the spread and development of antibiotic resistance, one of the main threats to global public health.