

*Uppsala Centre for Sustainable Development at Uppsala University,  
in cooperation with the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)  
and the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation,  
is pleased to invite you to the international conference*



## Global Civil Society – Shifting Powers in a Shifting World

**April 12-13, 2011**

**Uppsala, Sweden**

Social movements and other forms of civil associations increasingly connect transnationally to mobilise political pressure, resources and other forms of support. Transnational civil society organisations and networks have also become important actors on the international political arena, striving to affect agendas and policies of UN bodies, trade organisations and corporations. These global networks have strengthened the impact of civil society actors vis-à-vis political decision-makers at local as well as national and international levels.

However, the political space available for civil society actors is largely determined by modes of governance exercised by more powerful actors, such as states and the international market. With new emerging global actors, such as the BRIC countries, the role of civil society is yet to be seen.

Also *within* civil society, power and influence are unequally distributed, affecting who sets the agenda and to what causes resources are directed. The Paris Agenda strongly effects the terms set up by donor countries for development aid, and in this new setting, large transnational civil society organisations become increasingly powerful actors.

The conference addresses these various power relations, and what effect they have on social and political change. We invite researchers and students, actors in international development cooperation, activists, and others with interest in the issues to participate. Both conference days will consist of interactive plenary sessions in the morning, followed by parallel workshop sessions in the afternoon. (Please, see attached *Programme* for details.)

**Key lecturers** are top scholars and long-standing activists:

- *Jackie Smith*, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame, USA
- *Jude Howell*, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK
- *Kumi Naidoo*, Greenpeace International, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- *Tony Tujan*, IBON International, Manila, the Philippines

**Conference Chair:** *Håkan Thörn*, Department of Sociology, University of Gothenburg, Sweden

Topics to be addressed during the afternoon parallel sessions are (with additional information to be found in the attached document, *Parallel Sessions*):

- *Who gets support? Influence and power within global civil society*  
Presentations by Clifford Bob, Dept of Political Science, Duquesne University, USA, and Tony Tujan, IBAN International, the Philippines.
- *Institutionalised INGOs: Local civil voices or new international donors?*  
Presentations by Kumi Naidoo, Greenpeace International, the Netherlands, and Lisa Sjöblom,, Plan Sweden
- *The implications of the growing clout of emerging powers for civil society (paper session)*  
Chair: Johan Lagerkvist, Swedish Institute for International Affairs, Stockholm
- *Globalisation and trade union internationalism (paper session)*  
Chair: Nora Räthzel, Dept of Sociology, Umeå University, Sweden
- *UN and global civil society: Creating normative frameworks*  
Presentations by Lars-Anders Baer, Sami member of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous People; second speaker to be confirmed
- *The Paris Agenda and its effects on civil society*  
Presentations by Karin Fällman, Sida /Team Civil Society, Sweden, and Ulrika Modéer, Diakonia / Dept for Policy and Advocacy, Sweden
- *Social movements in a neoliberal era: Ethnographies of local activists in transnational networks (paper session)*  
Chair: Eva-Maria Hardtmann, Dept of Social Anthropology, Stockholm University, Sweden
- *Diaspora, transnational engagement and the national regimes (paper session)*  
Chair: Erik Olsson, Centre for Research in International migration and Ethnic Relations (CEIFO), Stockholm University, Sweden

Participants will be asked parallel session group preferences upon confirmation of registration. There is no conference fee, and lunches and coffees are free.

**Time:** April 12-13, 2011

**Venue:** Missionskyrkan, S:t Olofsgatan 40, Uppsala

(Suggested **hotel** across the street from venue: Hotel Uppsala, [www.profilhotels.se](http://www.profilhotels.se))

**Registration** no later than **March 7, 2011** to [mia.melin@csduppsala.uu.se](mailto:mia.melin@csduppsala.uu.se)

**For more information**, please see the conference web site, [www.globalcivilsociety.se](http://www.globalcivilsociety.se), (in construction; soon complete!)

or, contact [mia.melin@csduppsala.uu.se](mailto:mia.melin@csduppsala.uu.se) or [heidi.moksnes@csduppsala.uu.se](mailto:heidi.moksnes@csduppsala.uu.se)

Participants wanting to contribute with a **paper** during one of the parallel sessions are asked to send in an **abstract no later than Febr 10, 2011**, to [heidi.moksnes@csduppsala.uu.se](mailto:heidi.moksnes@csduppsala.uu.se)

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**Welcome!**