2022 Session Proposal

Title: Critical Development and Change: Thinking through research and methodologies on contemporary development challenges

Session organisers: Vanessa Lamb (University of Melbourne), Zali Fung (University of Melbourne), Daniel Robinson (UNSW) and Karen Paiva Henrique (UWA/Amsterdam).

Sponsored by IAG Critical Development Study Group

Geography's critical engagement with development has never been more important. As we live with, move through, and continue to engage with overlapping crises, there is much at stake in understanding underlying inequalities, uneven development, and critical concerns for justice.

This session invites critical contributions that approach development and social change broadly conceived. We welcome papers that explore the challenges of uneven development; interrogate the connections between environment and development; provide new or contextualised analysis of persistent development challenges, like poverty and inequality; as well as work that advances decolonial, feminist and indigenous approaches to development and justice. We also particularly welcome new research methodologies, including creative or online methods, that may have been innovated during or through crises. In bringing a wealth of critical work together, we aim to broaden discussions on critical geographical engagements with development and social change.

Note: In addition to standard paper presentations, we are considering organising a one-day writing workshop with authors (particularly PhD and ECRs) from selected contributions, potentially with an emphasis on new research methodologies. We hope to work with them to further develop their papers for a journal special issue.