Non formal Education and Educating Global Citizens in a Post-development Era

A) RATIONALE FOR THE PROJECT

Development Education and Global Citizenship Education tend to be based on values of solidarity and generating international understanding to meet the needs of everyone on the planet. Much research considers how this education can be included into formal education settings, however, this project seeks to explore how non-formal spaces for education could be used to provide education that encourages people to challenge the status quo and explore what development we are really aiming for and whose needs and interests are foregrounds and whose are silenced. Candidates should have a clear understanding of international development agendas and theoretical perspectives of development that require a critical approach to education, the work of post-development and postcolonial scholars will be important. Proposals should consider education about international or development issues and include a working definition of non-formal education at any stage of education, including adult education, youth work, learning through volunteering, extra-curricular learning, NGO education, social movements, civil society etc.

B) REFERENCES THAT SHOULD BE READ


C) RESEARCH AIMS / QUESTIONS

The aim of this project is to explore how non-formal approaches to education can contribute to critical and challenging understandings of development agendas. Candidates are free to determine their own research questions and identify the context(s) for the proposed study.
D) METHODS
This project will be qualitative in nature and influenced by an interpretativist epistemology. The methods themselves may include interviews, observations, focus groups or others and may use a case study or ethnographic design. The context and participants of the research will be determined by the candidate in agreement with the supervisor.