

DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH
ACADEMY PROGRAMME
2023-2026



DEVELOP2

The Academy Programme for development research **DEVELOP2** provides funding for multidisciplinary, phenomenon-driven and problem-based research that targets global development issues, helps boost economic, social and ecological development in the Global South and makes good use of Finnish knowledge and expertise in the field. Its purpose is to work towards achieving the **Agenda 2030** Sustainable Development Goals. DEVELOP2 is jointly funded by the Research Council of Finland and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland.

www.aka.fi/en/develop2



Photo: Lagos Food Bank Initiative / Pixabay

Main objectives

The aims of DEVELOP2 are to

- Generate new research-based knowledge on issues of global development and the causes and mechanisms of poverty and inequality in the Global South. We aim to find ways to remove obstacles which might hinder development and to improve conditions for development
- Strengthen and renew high-quality phenomenon-driven and problem-based development research in Finland in the long term and to promote its application in the Global South
- Support cooperation and research between universities and research institutes in Finland and the target countries on equal terms, and to strengthen the research capacity of universities and research institutes in the Global South
- Meet the objectives of Finnish development policy and the Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals: to end poverty and to reduce inequality in the world
- encourage more widespread and impactful use of our research both in Finland and internationally: to disseminate new research-based knowledge to support informed decision making and implementation, to make research-based knowledge more readily available among stakeholders and the general public, and to support improved application of research-based knowledge both in Finland and in the other countries involved
- pool scattered research capacity in Finland and promote international sharing of knowledge and ideas
- promote interdisciplinary cooperation in the field of development research
- promote a focus on long-term and high-impact Finnish expertise, and also on multi-actor cooperation between research, business and non-governmental organisations in the target countries

Themes

DEVELOP2 has three main research themes:

- 1 Sustainable economy in the Global South (digitalisation, jobs, livelihoods, decent work, international trade)
- 2 Creating a more efficient society (welfare, health, human rights, high-quality education)
- 3 Food security, biodiversity, environmental health and sustainable management and sustainable use of natural resources

Our research projects aim to support the management of changes that will benefit poor people and promote equality primarily in the least developed and lower to middle-income countries and regions.

DEVELOP2 respects human rights. All research projects are expected to reflect a human-rights-based approach and to incorporate cross-cutting objectives (gender equality, non-discrimination and climate sustainability).

Projects

Supporting research and strengthening research capacities are considered key development targets in many developing countries, but local universities often have limited resources to undertake research. International research cooperation and improved research capacities can help bolster developing countries' competitive position.

DEVELOP2 supports long-term equal partnerships and research cooperation between researchers in Finland and the target countries. International networking and cooperation are central to the effective dissemination and application of the research results.

DEVELOP2 2023–2026

funding M€ 6

PROJECTS:

Maria Ehrnström-Fuentes (Hanken) & Markus

Kröger (University of Helsinki): The socio-ecological and politico-economic dynamics of ecological restoration through tree planting schemes in the Global South www.treesfordev.fi

Leena Hanski (University of Helsinki):

Sustainable use of plant resources to combat infectious diseases (SUPRIDE)

Eero Kajantie (University of Oulu):

Small vulnerable newborns and the transgenerational cycle of health and development

Björn Klöve (University of Oulu) & Juha Kiviluoma

(VTT): Integrating water balance and energy systems models for improved benefit sharing in transboundary river basins

Tarja Sironen (University of Helsinki):

Emerging infectious diseases in changing environments of East Africa

www.helsinki.fi/en/researchgroups/emerging-infections-research-group

Laura Stark (University of Jyväskylä):

LGBTQI+ and Street-level bureaucrats: Assessing Motives, Violence and Possibilities for Collective Advocacy in East Africa

<https://www.jyu.fi/fi/node/123475>

Jarkko Tissari (University of Eastern Finland):

Technological and socio-economic solutions to reduce indoor air pollution in Nepal

Anu Valtonen (University of Eastern Finland):

Towards sustainable harvesting of African edible bush-cricket (*Ruspolia differens*) for enhancing food security and rural livelihoods in East Africa

<https://uefconnect.uef.fi/en/group/tropical-ecology-and-edible-insects/>

Heidi Westerlund (University of the Arts):

Transition pathways towards gender inclusion in the changing musical landscapes of Nepal (amplifyHer).

www.uniarts.fi/amplifyher/



Photo: Sippakorn Yamkasikorn / Pixabay

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