

One-day Workshop, 25 April 2008

**Co-hosted by the Centre for the Study of Political Economy, University of Manchester
and the British Inter-University China Centre**

Does the Growth of China Challenge Everything We Thought We Knew About Development?

**Arthur Lewis Boardroom, 2nd floor, Arthur Lewis Building,
University of Manchester**

Organisers: Professor Nicola Phillips and Dr Elena Barabantseva

This one-day workshop will address the theme of the challenge to established understandings of 'development' posed by China's recent political and economic success. The workshop will consider a range of issue areas and theoretical terrains, to explore key political economy relationships involved in development processes, the possibilities for effective development strategies in the contemporary global political economy, the political relationships involved in the contemporary development agenda, and the overarching theoretical frameworks within which the study of development is rooted. Indicative areas that will be covered by presentations and discussion at the workshop include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. How does the emergence of China call into question the ideologies and agendas of development that are currently prevalent and have prevailed since the end of the second world war?
2. How, theoretically, can we understand the particular combination of authoritarian socialist politics and increasingly market-based forms of economic organisation in China?
3. To what extent has China overturned popular understandings of the political economy of 'late industrialisation'?
4. What implications does the political economy of Chinese development carry for ideas about a global 'race to the bottom' in terms of labour conditions, environmental standards, and so on?
5. What issues does the emergence of China raise for understandings of the nature of urbanisation in development processes?
6. Has the apparent boon from Chinese demand for oil, energy and resources from other developing countries now put paid to the received wisdom that dependence on raw materials for export is developmentally regressive?
7. Has the emergence of China disturbed the prevalent north-south structure of global development politics?

Structure of the workshop

The workshop will be structured around four sessions, each featuring three ‘roundtable’-style introductory presentations of 10 minutes followed by open discussion.

9.00-10.30 Session 1: The nature of Chinese development and the Chinese conception of development

Chair: Nicola Phillips

Presentations:

Xiaobing Wang – ‘A Chinese model of development’

Sarah Cook - tba

Elena Barabantseva – ‘Global in scope, national in outlook: the developmental logic of *China Modernisation Reports*’

11.00-12.30 Session 2: China and twentieth-century development theory

Chair: Elena Barabantseva

Presentations:

Raphael Kaplinsky – ‘China's impact on the terms of trade and the implications for development strategy’

Nicola Phillips - ‘The dangers of a new revisionism in development thinking: China and the developing world’

LUNCH 12.30-2.00

2-3.30 Session 3: Energy and resources in Chinese and global development

Chair: Khalid Nadvi

Presentations:

Hongyi Lai – ‘China's Strategy for Ensuring Oil Security’

Giles Mohan and Marcus Power – ‘The D/development Business: China, neoliberalism and the geopolitics of development in Africa’

Tim Wright – ‘Black gold and blood-stained coal: issues in China's future coal development’

4.00-5.30 Session 4: China and the future of global development

Chair: Xiaobing Wang

John Humphrey – ‘Managing the challenge to development policy of the 'poor but powerful' countries’

Khalid Nadvi – 'China and the changing contours of Globalization'

Post-workshop dinner in a local restaurant

Participants

Elena Barabantseva (Manchester)
Noel Castree (Manchester)
Sarah Cook (IDS)
David S.G. Goodman (University of Technology, Sydney)
John Humphrey (IDS)
Raphael Kaplinsky (Open University)
Hongyi Lai (Nottingham)
Hong Liu (Manchester)
Mark Leighton (Plan International)
Michael Lenihan (Warwick)
Giles Mohan (Open University)
Khalid Nadvi (Manchester)
Nicola Phillips (Manchester)
Frank Pieke (Oxford)
Christian Ploberger (Birmingham)
Marcus Power (Durham)
Sacha Rawlence (Edinburgh Management School)
Bernard Walters (Manchester)
Xiaobing Wang (Manchester)
Tim Wright (Sheffield)
Yin-fang Zhang (Manchester)