

IDS Rising Powers in International Development programme
Development Studies Learning Partnership
Teaching & Learning Visiting Fellowship

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Module document: Emerging Powers and International Development

Summary of the module

More recently, the emergence of BRICS countries such as China, Brazil, India, Russia, South Africa and other 'rising powers' or 'emerging powers' as key global economic and political actors has attracted burgeoning scholarship and popular attention in Western society. They are widely regarded as driving global growth, and supposed to bring new international development voices and perspectives, perhaps distinct from those of Western powers. Unlike Canada, Japan or many European countries, the emerging powers were never fully integrated into the post-1945 order dominated by the Anglo-Saxon system, which created spaces for innovation in generating different models of development and providing alternatives to existing international development thinking and practices.

This introductory module examines in particular six thematic areas where the emerging powers, as a bloc, engage and interact with the current international development system most frequently and substantially. The six thematic areas are: (1) Critical Thinking on Emerging Powers and South-South Cooperation (SSC): Concepts and Practices in Historical Perspectives; (2) Emerging Powers and the New Global Order: Opportunities and Challenges; (3) Aid, Trade and Investment: From Aid Effectiveness to Development Effectiveness; (4) Environment, Energy and Climate Change: the 21st Century's Scramble for Resources?; (5) Emerging Powers in Agriculture and Food Security: 'Poverty Reduction' and 'Land Grab'; and (6) Africa and the Emerging Powers: Development Challenges and Opportunities.

The aforementioned six themes – among other important issues covered which are not discussed in particular such as financial stability, migration, poverty, social policy and global diseases, and social policies – have been identified through comprehensive screening of major thinktanks' concerns and academic literature on global development agendas, along with related policy debates and academic discussions both from Western and the BRICS' perspectives, coupled with the consideration of those from low-income countries. Similar courses, though quite few at this stage, have also been globally explored and examined during the module designing process.

The module will bring together the frontier of the topics globally debated in the transformation process of the international development regime with the rising of the emerging powers, through lectures and seminars, and multiple approaches such as reading, group discussion, debates and multimedia stimulation, etc. It will help to enhance the students' capacities in understanding and analysing the related policy debates and academic discussions, with three particular perspectives: historical, comparative and critical. Trainees are also facilitated to develop capacities to build macro-micro links to bring more cases or stories in the field to enrich the broad discussion at the macro level, considering the module contents are quite broad and at a very early introductory stage.

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Module structure

The formal sessions of the module encompass six parts (see Table 1) lasting for six days, which vary based on different course dynamics. To improve the effectiveness of the module, two additional hours are needed before the formal session (preferably allowing at least a week for preparation for searching and reading the reference material before the formal session starts) for course outline introduction, group division and task distribution, etc. At the end of the formal session, an additional two hours are required for course evaluation and close.

For each day's formal session, in the morning, the dedicated group (see Table 1 note) will present their primary findings based on their working experiences and literature reading, to lead the discussion later on. In the afternoon, the trainer will present the broad pictures and debates based on the morning's collective efforts. Debates, role play and multimedia will be practised where applicable (each session will have detailed orientation).

Table 1: Module structure with formal sessions

Day/ session	Topic	Key elements
1	Critical Thinking on Emerging Powers and South-South Cooperation: <i>Concepts and Practices in Historical Perspectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debates on the discourses such as 'emerging powers', 'emerging markets', 'rising powers', 'great powers', 'middle powers', even tracing back and comparing to early phrasing such as 'developing countries', 'the third world' and other close expressions in historical and political economic contexts to understand the discourse dynamics and evolution of the global order. Historical review of South-South Development Cooperation since the Bandung conference of 1955, to understand the differences and commonalities between the Bandung Principles and the new ones. Debates on the implications of the 'rising powers' and SSC to international development: conceptually and practically; opportunities and challenges; competition and complementary. Summary of different groups of arguments and underpinning theoretical thinking.
2	Emerging Powers and the New Global Order: <i>Opportunities and Challenges</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global governance in theory: as a structure, as a process, and as a mechanism. Global governance in practice: history and status quo. Emerging powers and global governance: opportunities and challenges. To examine what different approaches, institutions, or main issues are initiated by BRICS countries, e.g. G20, BRICS Bank, rising multilateralism. How are they different from those from the established powers (the framework of structure, process and mechanism can be applied here in analysis) both conceptually and practically? And to identify niches where both BRICS and Western countries fit within the transformative international development system, e.g. Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation after the Busan Forum starting to include both North-South and South-South cooperation. Aid effectiveness has also been turned into broader development effectiveness.

3	Aid, Trade and Investment: <i>From Aid Effectiveness to Development Effectiveness</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on the differences and commonalities between the aid of established donors and of the BRICS countries: history, principles, modalities, geographic and sector distribution, scale, etc. • Examining the roles of firms (private firms or different categories of SOEs) in both SSC and the established aid system: how to view the firm/business/private sectors in different concepts of 'development'. • Exploring the public-private link in a broader concept of international development with the experiences of BRICS countries: aid as a bridge to public-private partnership, aid as a vanguard of FDI, aid as a foothold for linking into global value chains, etc.
4	Environment, Energy and Climate Change: <i>the 21st Century's Scramble for Resources?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical review of the environmental issues and institutional innovations since the 1970s: how are emerging powers emerging in the environment issues? • Cause and cue to climate change and energy issues: debates the role of emerging powers in the context of climate and energy politics: the rights/spaces to 'development' or taking global responsibility? Or any alternative ways out of the labyrinths. • Identification of different BRICS countries' positions in the global agenda on climate change, along with various motivation dynamics behind them (geographically, socioeconomically, e.g. Brazil is well-placed to position itself as an 'emerging environmental power'). Discussion on hot-debated issues such as resource curse, Angola Model, New Colonialism, etc.
5	Emerging Powers in Agriculture and Food Security: <i>'Poverty Reduction' and 'Land Grab'</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on agricultural development experiences in BRICS countries and its implication for low-income countries, particularly contribution to poverty reduction, food security, and broader agriculture-based industrialisation. • Comparative examination of the significant role of agricultural cooperation in South-South Cooperation among BRICS countries and between BRICS countries and low-income countries. Trilateral cooperation on agriculture is also to be mentioned. • Debate on the myths and realities of 'land grabbing' in BRICS countries' engagement in agricultural investment.
6	Africa and the Emerging Powers: <i>Development Challenges and Opportunities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critically, historically and comparatively exploring the development experiences, opportunities and challenges of different emerging countries, with a particular focus on their engagement in African countries. • Critically examining the trends, strategies, policies and conceptions in African countries with the emerging powers' engagement in the African continent.

Note: The individual BRICS country cases will be presented in relevant topic discussions if applicable. Each trainee is required to bring at least one country case relevant to the dedicated session in class dynamics (see *the methods in delivering module sessions* as below).

Methods for delivering module sessions

- The course will take a participatory learning approach, promoting trainees' participation and contribution, based on their experiences and literature reading. Team work, presentation, and academic sharing are highly promoted in class.
- Tips for class dynamics: the trainees can be divided into six groups prior to the formal session, and each group will be dedicated to one theme (preferably with a reading binder). In each thematic session, the dedicated group will firstly present what they have explored in the literature reading under the guiding framework list below to lead the session discussion later on. The presentation contents should include:
 - a) major formal or informal agreements, official documents, or international regulations, etc. that have been issued or abolished relating to a particular topic
 - b) key organisations or groups that have been formed or dissolved under the topic to date
 - c) key arguments and debates relating to the theme. The group will preferably categorise different strands of the points; case studies are highly encouraged in preparation and presentation
 - d) Two to three questions to lead open discussion (plenary or by group) later on.
- Trainees are highly encouraged to bring different country experiences in reading, presentation and discussion.
- Trainees are also encouraged to find further external reading and resources in addition to the current references listed in the module outline. Through years of accumulation, the reference data will be more soundly constructed.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the course, the learner should be able to:

- Acquire advanced knowledge about the main issues and debates on emerging powers and international development both at individual country level and the global level.
- Develop analytic techniques to undertake independent analysis of the related policy debates and academic discussion, preferably from historical, comparative and critical perspectives.
- Identify the niches where the emerging powers, established donors and low-income countries e.g. African countries, can fit within the transformative international development architecture.
- Gain skills in research, public speaking and group dynamics.

Method of assessment

- (1) Term paper: 3,000–5,000 words

Trainees are required to write a 3,000–5,000 word essay (excluding the references and notes) for this module assessment. They may write on one of the themes designated to a particular session of the module; alternatively, they may formulate an original essay topic in consultation with the trainer. The topic must address a specific issue or a particular emerging power country case within a broader theoretical and policy framework, which the module is supposed to construct.

- (2) Formative coursework requirements

- Active participation during session discussions
- Short presentations in class.

Method to be used for evaluating student opinion on the course:

Participatory course monitoring and evaluation (PM&E).

General reading

Note: There will be specific reading for each session.

- Updated news on the rising powers/emerging powers/emerging markets/BRICS countries, etc. from the key international newspapers and other media reports, such as *The Economist* (www.economist.com/), *Financial Times* (www.ft.com/home/uk), BBC (www.bbc.co.uk/), TIME (www.time.com/time/), Forbes (www.forbes.com/), etc.
- Paying close attention to global agenda-setting events such as the G8 Summit, G20 Summit, post-2015 global agenda, as well as World Bank/International Monetary Fund annual conferences, etc.
- Policy and academic analysis on the related topics from the main thinktanks or related research institutions in Western and BRICS countries, such as the Center for Global Development (www.cgdev.org/), Brookings Institution (www.brookings.edu/), Chatham House (www.chathamhouse.org/), German Development Institute ([www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3_e.nsf/\(ynDK_contentByKey\)/Home?Open&nav=expand:Home;active:Home](http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3_e.nsf/(ynDK_contentByKey)/Home?Open&nav=expand:Home;active:Home)), China-DAC Study Group (www.iprcc.org/)(www.oecd.org/dac/cdsq), BRICS Policy Center, The South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), etc.
- The IDS Rising Powers in International Development website: www.eldis.org/go/topics/resource-guides/rising-powers-in-international-development#.Ukg2KV6S0uh

Session 1. Critical Thinking on Emerging Powers and South-South Cooperation: Concepts and Practices in Historical Perspectives (1st lecture with PPT 1)

The session starts with the debates on different narratives of 'emerging powers', such as 'rising powers', 'emerging markets', 'emerging economies', 'great powers', 'emerging middle powers', BRICS, BASIC, etc., and even traces back and compares to early phrasing such as 'developing countries', 'the third world', 'global South' and other similar expressions in historical, political and economic contexts. It explores the discourse dynamics and evolution of the global order underpinning different narratives. The various forms of wording sit with different power structures in different contexts. The exercise is supposed to enhance the trainee's awareness of different forms of the same discourse in different contexts and in different historical stages, along with dynamic and diverse understandings of 'rising powers'.

It then explores different opinions on the concept of 'emerging power'. Some think that it is a strong tool to understand the current global system characterised by a cumulatively polycentric and burgeoning pluralist landscape; others are highly sceptical of the concept and have various concerns, which cautions us to self-examine whether we are overly enthusiastic supporters of the concept. To examine the pros and cons of the concept, the trainee will understand the essence of the discourse in a broader international development regime.

The session progresses to review the practices of South-South Cooperation (SSC) since the Bandung conference in 1955, adherent to international cooperation among developing countries, or the global South, and to examine different initiatives since, e.g. gaining the modern form of FOCAC (Forum on China-Africa Cooperation) in the case of China-African cooperation.

Finally, the session takes SSC as an example to highlight the importance of studying the relationships between the key actors (e.g. rising powers, LDCs and established powers), rather than focusing solely on the perspective of any one group of players. The discourse of 'rising powers' gains its significance in international development as it deepens our understanding of its counterparts conceptually such as 'established powers', 'Western powers', as well as 'low-income countries' and 'least developed countries'. With all of these categories continuing emerging and dissolving, the international development landscape has been reshaped with new modalities of interaction among them.

Method

- Reading and group discussion before the session
- Leading presentation
- Group discussion or plenary discussion, varying according to the number of trainees
- Lecture based on the summary of the morning's collective discussion
- Debate if time permits: 'rising powers' makes a better world?

Learning outcomes

- Trainees will understand the different narratives of 'rising powers' in different historical contexts for different purposes
- They will critically think about the concept of 'rising powers' in the face of both strong scepticism towards the concept and high advocacy of the concept
- They will be able to understand the similarities and differences between concepts of SSC and development aid in terms of their historical context, underpinning of power relationships, and opportunities and challenges.

Essential reading

1. Harris, D.; Moore, M. and Schmitz, H. (2009) *Country Classifications for a Changing World*, IDS Working Paper 326, Brighton: IDS
2. Xiaoyun, L. and Carey, R. (2013) *The BRICS Development Agenda and the International Development System: Challenges and Convergence*, draft for IDS Discussion Paper
3. Alden, C. (2010) *Resurgent Continent?: Africa and the World: Emerging Powers and Africa*, IDEAS Reports, London: Strategic Updates, http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/43657/1/Resurgent%20Continent_emerging%20powers%20and%20Africa%28Isero%29.pdf
4. Preston, P.W. (1999) *Development Theory: An Introduction*, Siglo XXI
5. World Bank (2009) *World Development Report 2009: Reshaping Economic Geography*, Washington DC: World Bank
6. UNDP (2013) *2013 Human Development Report: The Rise of the South: Human Progress in a Diverse World*, New York: United Nations Development Programme
7. Abdenur, A.E. and Da Fonseca, J.M.E.M. (2013) 'The North's Growing Role in South-South Cooperation: Keeping the Foothold', *Third World Quarterly* 34.8: 1475–91
8. Cooper, A. (2013) *Middle Power Leadership and the Evolution of the G20*, Global Summit, <http://dx.doi.org/10.7871/2291-4110.1001>
9. Jordaan, E. (2003) 'The Concept of a Middle Power in International Relations: Distinguishing Between Emerging and Traditional Middle Powers', *Politikon* 30.1: 165–81
10. Beausang, F. (2012) *Globalization and the BRICs: Why the BRICs Will Not Rule the World For Long*, London: Palgrave Macmillan
11. Reality of Aid (2009) 'CSO Statement on South-South Cooperation', presented during the UN Conference on South-South Cooperation, Nairobi: Reality of Aid, www.realityofaid.org/userfiles/roareports/roareport_eaf2784a2b.pdf
12. Rowlands, D. (2012) 'Individual BRICS or a Collective Bloc? Convergence and Divergence amongst "Emerging Donor" Nations', *Cambridge Review of International Affairs* 25.4, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09557571.2012.710578>

Session 2. Emerging Powers and the New Global Order: Opportunities and Challenges

(2nd lecture with PPT2)

This session starts to reflect on global governance from different perspectives, i.e. as a structure, as a process, and as a mechanism. Structure means 'system of rules', and 'institutionalised modes of social construction'; process is characterised by interaction and participation among different actors to coordinate and manage issues as they arise – it is therefore a 'norm-generating process' through different 'practices of governing'; governance is about decision-making and developing the mechanisms and institutions required to achieve desired policy outcomes. Looking at global governance through different lenses reminds the trainees to understand the global order or governance as 'messy multilateralisms' which are inherently multi-faceted, complex, interlinked and constantly evolving.

The historical evolution of global governance since the Second World War, as well as current global order and pitfalls, are then to be identified and discussed. Topics such as effectively managing the global power shift, provision of global public goods, and legitimising global governance by improving its effectiveness and inclusiveness are to be explored.

The session finally explores what the emerging powers are bringing to current global governance: opportunities and challenges. It examines which different institutions, approaches, or issues are initiated by BRICS countries, e.g. the BRICS Bank, G20, SSC, increasing unilateralism, etc. (the framework of structure, process and mechanism can also be applied here). What are the differences both conceptually and practically? Why are they different? The session is also supposed to identify niches where both BRICS and Western countries fit within the transformative international development system, e.g. the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation after the Busan Forum starting to include both North-South and South-South cooperation. Aid effectiveness has also been turned into a broader development effectiveness, which allows for some spaces for innovative cooperation between aid, trade and investment to produce more development impacts, which is to be introduced in Session 3.

Method

- Reading and group discussion before the session
- Leading presentation
- Group discussion or plenary discussion, varying according to the number of trainees
- Lecture based on the summary of the morning's collective discussion
- Storytelling if time permits: from NIEO (New International Economic Order) to BRICS Bank; from G7/8 to G20.

Learning outcomes

- Trainees will understand different perspectives on global governance in theory: as a structure, as a process, and as a mechanism
- They will gain historical knowledge of global governance, and understand features and pitfalls of the current system
- They will be able to critically analyse the opportunities and challenges that the rising powers bring to the current global system from different perspectives, e.g. conceptually and practically, or with the structural, process and mechanism framework.

Essential reading

1. Gu, J.; Humphrey, J. and Messner, D. (2008) 'Global Governance and Developing Countries: the Implications of the Rise of China', *World Development* 36.2: 274–92
2. Abdenur, A.E. and Da Fonseca, J.M.E.M. (2013) 'The North's Growing Role in South–South Cooperation: Keeping the Foothold', *Third World Quarterly* 34.8: 1475–91
3. Gray, K. and Murphy, C.N. (2013) 'Introduction: Rising Powers and the Future of Global Governance', *Third World*, Sept
4. Stuenkel, O. (2012) *Can the BRICS Co-operate in the G-20? A View from Brazil*, SAIIA Occasional Paper 123
5. Heine, J. (2010) 'Will they Have Table Manner? The G20, Emerging Powers and Global Responsibility', *South African Journal of international Affairs* 17.1: 1–11
6. Stuenkel, O. (2010) *Responding to Global Development Challenges*, d.i.e Discussion Paper, Nov
7. Haibin, N. (2013) *BRICS in Global Governance, a Progressive and Cooperative Force?*, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
8. Dhar, B. (2012) *The BRICS in the Emerging Global Economic Architecture*, SAIIA Occasional Paper 125
9. Chin, G.T. (2010) 'Remaking the Architecture: the Emerging Powers, Self-insuring and Regional Insulation', *International Affairs* 86.3: 693–715
10. Gill, S. (2008) *Power and Resistance in the New World Order*, Palgrave Macmillan
11. Morgan, M. (2012) 'Consensus Formation in the Global Economy: The Success of the G7 and the Failure of the G20', *Studies in Political Economy* 90: 115–36
12. Fues, T. and Youfa, L. (eds) (2011) *Global Governance and Building a Harmonious World. A Comparison of European and Chinese Concepts from International Affairs*, d.i.e Bonn
13. Kaplinsky, R. and Messner, D. (2008) 'Introduction: the Impact of Asian Drivers on the Developing World', *World Development* 36.2: 197–209
14. UNDP and CCIEE (2012) 'Reconfiguring Global Governance- Effectiveness, Inclusiveness, and China's Global Role', *Report of High-Level Policy Forum on Global Governance*, Beijing China, 17 December
15. Trubek, D. (2012) *Reversal of Fortune? International Economic Governance, Alternative Development Strategies, and the Rise of the BRICS* (open access), www.law.wisc.edu/facstaff/trubek/eui_paper_final_june_2012.pdf
16. Stephen, M. (2012) 'Rising Regional Powers and International Institutions: the Foreign Policy Orientations of India, Brazil and South Africa', *Global Society* 26.3 (open access), www.uq.edu.au/isaasiapacific/content/matthewstephen2-4.pdf
17. Grimm, S. (2011) 'Engaging with China in Africa: Trilateral Cooperation as an Option?', EDC2020 *Policy Brief* 9, www.edc2020.eu/112.0.html

Session 3. Aid, Trade and Investment: From Aid Effectiveness to Development Effectiveness (3rd lecture with PPT3)

Emerging powers, particularly BRICS countries, are together exerting a significant impact on the current international development regime through various channels and mechanisms, one of which is the innovative use of trade, aid and investment in both its domestic social and economic institutional innovations and its cooperation with other countries. The shift from aid effectiveness to development effectiveness at the Busan HLF4 opens a broader portfolio of development engagement with LDCs rather than solely on aid. The session is going to reflect, on the one hand, on the features of the policies and practices of outward aid, trade and investment in emerging countries, to initiate reflections on 'development' conceptually which has been dominated by Western religion and colonial historic relics, and on the other hand, to think strategically about the crossvergence or convergence of the two sets of development engagement based on the current international development architecture.

It starts to discuss the differences and commonalities between aid of established donors and of the BRICS countries: history, principles, modalities, geographic and sector distribution, scale, etc. The tied aid and untied aid – both at policy level and at operational level – in the established international development system is to be reviewed and examined in terms of the shift dynamics, background and its impacts.

It then examines the roles of firms/business (private firms or different categories of SOEs) in both SSC and the established aid system. It poses the question on how to view the firm/business/private sectors in different concepts of 'development'. What are the mechanisms for linking business to the current international development system? Trade links and investment practices in the context of the cooperation between emerging powers and African countries are thus to be reviewed and discussed in terms of their history, trends, features and local development implications, via concepts of business ethics regulations, CSR and PPP.

This is followed by an exploration of the public–private link in a broader concept of international development with the experiences of BRICS countries: aid as a bridge to public–private partnership, aid as the vanguard of FDI, aid as a foothold for linking into global value chains, etc.

The cross-cutting issues in the examination of the BRICS aid, trade and investment modalities and their differences to those of established countries are different perceptions of development and cooperation, as well as various philosophies of BRICS financing due to historical traces and socioeconomic and cultural contexts. This concern will stimulate the trainees' reflection on and understanding of the opportunities and challenges for the current fragmented international development regime with interaction and encounters between the established system and the increasingly emerging systems.

Method

- Reading and group discussion before the session
- Leading presentation
- Group discussion or plenary discussion, varying according to the number of trainees
- Lecture based on the summary of the morning's collective discussion
- Video if time permits: BBC series: *The Chinese are Coming, etc.*

Learning outcomes

- Trainees will understand different perspectives on aid, trade and investment in history and different cultures
- They will understand various perspectives, practices and policies on public–private partnerships in the international development area
- They will be able to critically analyse the opportunities and challenges the rising powers bring to the current international development system through comparing aid, trade and investment modalities originating from the BRICS and from established powers.

Essential reading

1. Brautigam, D. (2010) 'Africa's Eastern Promise: What the West Can Learn from Chinese Investment in Africa', *Foreign Affairs*, www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/65916/deborah-brautigam/africa%E2%80%99s-eastern-promise
2. *The Economist* (2012) 'Going Abroad. The World in their Hands. State Capitalism Looks Outward as well as Inward', 21 January, www.economist.com/node/21542930/print
3. Brautigam, D. (2012) 'China's Foreign Aid: The Economist Still Doesn't Get It', 22 January, www.chinaafricarealstory.com/
4. Moyo, D. Chapter 7, 'The Chinese Are Our Friends' pp. 98-113 and Chapter 8, 'Let's Trade', pp. 114-125 in *Dead Aid. Why Aid is Not Working and How There is a Better Way Forward for Africa*
5. Wang, J.Y. (2007) 'What Drives China's Growing Role in Africa?' IMF Working Paper, International Monetary Fund
6. Brautigam, D. (2010) *China, Africa and the International Aid Architecture*, African Development Bank
7. Jiajun, X. (2011) 'Aid as a Catalyst for Economic Transformation: A Wider Vision for the Future of Aid', paper presented at Busan Youth Forum
8. Mawdsley, E. (2011) 'The Changing Geographies of Foreign Aid and Development Cooperation: Contributions from Gift Theory', *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* NS37: 256–72
9. Carey, R. (2011) 'Toward a Global Compact for Development Effectiveness', paper presented at the KDI/KAIDEC Pre-HLF4 Conference, Busan, 28 November 2011
10. Ratha, D.; Mohapatra, S. and Plaza, S. (2008) *Beyond Aid: New Sources and Innovative Mechanisms for Financing Development in Sub-Saharan Africa*, Washington DC: World Bank
11. Ardichvili, A.; Jondle, D.; Kowske, B.; Cornachione, E.; Li, J. and Thakadipuram, T. (2011) 'Ethical Cultures in Large Business Organizations in Brazil, Russia, India, and China', *Journal of Business Ethics* 105.4 (open access), <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs10551-011-0976-9>
12. Indian Ministry of Finance (2012) *The BRICS Report: A Study of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa with Special Focus on Synergies and Complementarities*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press (open access), www.fazenda.gov.br/sain/destaques/Brics_Report.pdf
13. Mwase, N. and Yang, Y. (2012) *BRICs' Philosophies for Development Financing and their Implications for LICs*, IMF Working Paper 12/74 (open access), www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2012/wp1274.pdf
14. Schoeman, M. (2011) 'Of BRICs and Mortar: The Growing Relations between Africa and the Global South', *The International Spectator* 46.1 (open access), www.unifi.it/relazioni-internazionali-studi-europei/upload/sub/Sch-oeman_2011.pdf

Session 4. Environment, Energy and Climate Change: the Twenty-First Century's Scramble for Resources? (4th lecture with PPT4)

Environmental issues have increasingly become a global concern since the 1970s. With related issues of climate change and energy scramble heatedly debated, it is widely accepted that few problems are as pressing and as existential for the world as climate change, and few have proven to be as intractable. Some observers even argue that it represents the biggest challenge and most problematic failure of the current global government paradigm. The rising powers, and especially the BRICS countries, have played an increasingly important role in the environment-energy-climate change package issues in terms of their significant contribution to both cause and cure of the problems.

This session starts with a historical review of and introduction to the environmental issues globally since the 1970s, examining various global architectures, pilots, strategies, and concepts initiated ever since, such as the UNEP, Brundtland Commission (1987) on 'Sustainable Development', 'Agenda 21' coming out of the 1992 Rio Conference, IPCC and KP, as well as new concepts more recently such as ET, JI, CDM, global gas tax, or the world carbon cap-and-trade system, etc.

It then explores the geopolitical shift and political-economic structure change, e.g. from the Rio Conference in 1992 to the Copenhagen Summit in 2009, with a particular focus on the role played by rising powers. Debates on climate and energy politics will be carried out to stimulate the trainees' deep understanding of the politics underneath the carbon emission commitment: the rights/spaces to 'development' or taking global responsibility; or any innovations to step out of the dichotomy perspective, or current governance dilemma?

The session then reviews the major decisions on climate change and energy policies being taken *within* the BRICS countries, *between* the BRICS, and between, on the one hand, individual BRICS, and on the other, low-income countries such as African countries. Different resource endowments and thus the different positions of the rising powers on climate change and energy issues have been identified and examined, e.g. the various motivational dynamics behind them (geographically, socioeconomically), for example Brazil is well-placed to position itself as an 'emerging environmental power', and South Africa suggests that it may be well-placed to act as an intermediary between the BRICS and the OECD on climate policy.

It will also identify the top related policies, practices and (social, economic and environmental) impacts of extractive companies originating from emerging powers in African countries and Latin America. Hot-debated topics such as resource curse, the Angola Model, New Colonialism, new scrambles for resources, etc. will be discussed in the topic.

Method

- Reading and group discussion before the session
- Leading presentation
- Group discussion or plenary discussion, varying according to the number of trainees
- Lecture based on the summary of the morning's collective discussion.

Learning outcomes

- Trainees will gain historical knowledge of environmental issues and responding strategies, policies, institutions and concepts globally, along with the dynamic roles of emerging powers in the process
- They will be able to understand the global governance failure and opportunities for climate and energy issues with the rising of emerging powers

- They will be able to critically analyse climate-energy-related development issues, based on an understanding of the basic concepts and emerging issues.

Essential reading

1. Downs, E. (2010) 'Who's Afraid of China's Oil Companies?' in C. Pascual and J. Elkind (eds), *Energy Security: Economics, Politics, Strategy, and Implications*, Brookings Institution Press, pp. 73–102
2. Downs, E. (2007) 'The Fact and Fiction of Sino-African Energy Relations,' *China Security* 3.3: 42–68
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Session 5. Emerging Powers in Agriculture and Food Security: ‘Poverty Reduction’ and ‘Land Grab’? (5th lecture with PPT5)

Agriculture is regarded as one of the most important cooperation areas between emerging powers and low-income countries to ensure food security and poverty reduction, which are both top priorities of the current international development agenda. On the one hand, the agricultural technological transfer along with development experience sharing in terms of policies and approaches has dominated SSC. On the other hand, land grabbing has been heatedly debated, in terms of the investment originating from emerging powers, which creates a complex fabric for discussion on the issues.

The session starts with a discussion on agricultural development experiences in BRICS countries and their implications for low-income countries – e.g. contributing to poverty reduction, food security, as well as agriculture-based broad industrialisation – in a comparative way. The policies, strategies, technologies and institutional innovations have been historically reviewed in a global context. Differences and similarities are to be captured in the comparative studies.

The session then shed lights on the agricultural cooperation among BRICS countries, and also between BRICS countries and low-income countries. It is one of the most important areas for SSC and trilateral cooperation. The motivations and mechanisms are to be identified. Trainees are required to identify the relevant global platforms for sharing and thus agendas generated.

The session finally moves to the land grab issues to identify the myths and the realities of agricultural investment originating from the emerging powers. Topics such as the global food regime, as well as the strategies and practices of ABCD global food corporations are to be introduced and debated in the class.

Method

- Reading and group discussion before the session
- Leading presentation
- Group discussion or plenary discussion, varying according to the number of trainees
- Lecture based on the summary of the morning’s collective discussion.

Learning outcomes

- Trainees will understand why agricultural issues matter globally
- They will gain comparative knowledge of experiences and lessons of agricultural development in different BRICS countries
- They will be able to identify the opportunities and challenges of agricultural cooperation in the SSC framework
- They will be able to critically analyse the myths and realities of agricultural land grab issues.

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Session 6. Africa and the Emerging Powers: Development Challenges and Opportunities

(6th lecture with PPT6)

Emerging powers, particularly BRICS countries, individually place more emphasis on their international relations with Africa. Their own internal development experiences in moving from a low- to middle-income status, contributed to by social and economic institutional innovation, attracted increasing concern from politicians and academia in LICs, particularly in African countries. On the other hand, through increasing engagement with emerging powers, coupled with competition from established powers, the geopolitical and geo-economic importance of Africa has been dramatically enhanced in the new century. It is now becoming a continent full of hope and business opportunities, while for decades it has been deemed as a continent stuck in poverty and violence. But is Africa able to effectively manage the new partnering relationships to deal with the so-called 'scramble for Africa' and make it a new opportunity to trigger its lasting upward development trajectory?

The session, therefore, goes beyond a theme-centric analysis and moves to the area of concern, particularly the link between the emerging powers and the African continent. It starts with an examination of the development experiences, opportunities and challenges of BRICS countries, with a particular focus on their engagement with African countries. New trends, strategies, policies and thoughts in the African continent due to the engagement of emerging powers have been highlighted at the end of the module, particularly the areas for further collaboration between African countries and emerging powers. To bargain for a better future is one of the leading strategies for African future development in the burgeoning multipolar global system, and it is significant for us to carry out the discussion on emerging powers and their implications for international development.

Method

- Reading and group discussion before the session
- Leading presentation
- Group discussion or plenary discussion, varying according to the number of trainees
- Lecture based on the summary of the morning's collective discussion
- Video if time permits: *When China Meets Africa, etc.*

Learning outcomes

- Trainees will be able to develop a comparative understanding of development experiences and challenges of BRICS countries particularly in their engagement with African countries
- They will gain an advanced knowledge of African development agendas, along with the opportunities and challenges they face
- They will be able to analyse the link between emerging powers and African countries from historical, comparative and critical perspectives.

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