Challenges in Fragility and Governance

8.30 - 16.00         Wednesday 23 October 2013
Charlottehaven, 10 Hjørringgade, Copenhagen, Denmark

08.30-09.00  Registration and coffee

Part 1: What works in foreign aid to fragile situations and governance?

09.00-09.10  Welcome
Lars Engberg-Pedersen, Senior Researcher, DIIS

09.10-09.20  Overview of programme and participant expectations
Verner Kristiansen, moderator

09.20-09.40  Presentation of draft position paper on Governance and Fragility
Finn Tarp, Director, UNU-WIDER
Rachel M. Gisselquist, Research Fellow, UNU-WIDER

09.45-11.15  Parallel session 1: Security and development in fragility
The post-Cold war era has seen a reinforcement of attempts to link security- and development-related instruments of international cooperation. Beginning in the 1990s and accelerating in the 2000s, Western donor governments have increasingly developed approaches and policies to strengthen the coordination and synergy between security, development and diplomatic efforts in the fields of peace- and state building, in particular in complex political emergencies and situations of fragility. It is now time to take stock of these efforts. What are the potentials, pitfalls, and limitations of integrating security and development?

Discussant
Charles T. Call, Senior Adviser, Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations, U.S. Department of State

Finn Stepputat, Senior Researcher, DIIS
- Whole of government approaches

Louise Riis Andersen, Senior Analyst, DIIS
- Multidimensional peacekeeping

11.15-11.30  Coffee break

Parallel session 2: Social services in fragile situations
Fragile situations are characterized by institutional instability, which in turn undermines the predictability, transparency and accountability of service provision. State building is the primary response of bilateral and multilateral donors, and effective service provision is regarded as crucial for states to be legitimate and stable. However, what does aid do when state-provided services are weakly delivered, and other institutions and actors such as NGOs, traditional leaders and even diasporas are the main providers of public services? ReCom studies have explored this issue and found evidence that does not always resonate with conventional wisdom.

Discussants
Claire Mc Laughlin, Senior Research Fellow, International Development Department (IDD) of the School of Government and Society at The University of Birmingham
Birgitte Lind Petersen, Researcher, DIIS
- Regaining a future? Education of young people

Nauja Kleist, Senior Researcher, DIIS
- Diaspora groups and development

Jette Kjertum, PhD Candidate, DIIS
- Social protection

Peter Albrecht, Researcher, DIIS
- Non-state service providers
Parallel session 3:
Growth-enhancing governance
The Good Governance agenda supported by Western donors is clearly desirable as a long-term vision - but it is often an extremely ambitious and difficult approach to implement in developing countries. Moreover, some countries without Good Governance have experienced rapid growth and economic transformation with poverty reduction. At the same time, investments increasingly flow into megaprojects and extractive industries in many countries - often outpacing the volume of formal development aid. A key challenge for many countries today is therefore how to design and implement effective policies to harness such investments and to promote commodity-based industrialization and economic transformation. And donors need to consider the challenges and opportunities the megaprojects and extractive industries pose for development aid and the governance agenda.

Discussant
Laurids S. Lauridsen, Professor, Roskilde University

Lars Buur, Senior Researcher, DIIS - Aid and growth-enhancing governance
Helena Perez Nino, PhD Researcher, SOAS, University of London - Foreign aid, resource rents and institution-building in Mozambique and Angola

Part 2: What changes need to be made of foreign aid to fragile situations and governance?

14.00-14.15
Summary of the morning
Tony Addison, Chief Economist/Deputy Director, UNU-WIDER

14.15-15.45
Panel debate on implications for Scandinavian development cooperation
Jöran Bjällerstedt, Ambassador, Senior Advisor, Conflict Division, Department for Security Policy, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Sweden
Morten Lykke Lauridsen, Special Representative of Denmark to the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark
Frans Mikael Jansen, Secretary General, Mellemfolkeligt Samarbejde
Ellen Margrethe Løj, former UN Special Representative for Liberia
Jessica Rothman, Project Manager, InDevelop
Finn Stepputat, Senior Researcher, DIIS

15.45-16.00
Messages for Politicians
Lars Engberg-Pedersen
Verner Kristiansen

Parallel session 4:
Public administration in fragile situations
An efficient and effective public administration is a central concern in support to countries in fragility. In post-conflict situations there is often a need to develop embryonic state institutions to provide security and social services, but also to create effective public financial management, sound macro-economic policies, an enabling environment for the private sector and efficient tax collection. How can foreign aid support this? ReCom studies show that pragmatism and Paris Declaration principles are important ingredients in successful development cooperation. Moreover, a focus on people and less on institutions may be relevant in the immediate aftermath of conflict.

Discussant
Derick W. Brinkerhoff, Distinguished Fellow in International Public Management, RTI International (Research Triangle Institute), Washington

Birgitte Lind Petersen, Researcher, DIIS - Capacity building of central state institutions
Lars Engberg-Pedersen, Senior Researcher, DIIS - Pragmatic aid management approaches