

Call for institutions to join the Swedish Development Research Network

The Swedish Development Research Network (SweDev), formally constituted in November 2019, is an initiative that aims to strengthen the links between development researchers based in Sweden and between development research, policy and practice. Unlike most other scientific disciplines, there is no relevant arena nor meeting place for development researchers based in Sweden. The SweDev network's objective is to increase the relevance of evidence-based development research for efficient policy making and practice among Swedish actors working for Agenda 2030. So far, the SweDev network has mapped views, needs and opinions of 578 development researchers in a study funded by the Expert Group of Aid Studies (see [Strand et al., 2020](#)).

SweDev is funded by Sida and led by a steering group consisting of representatives from Swedish academic institutions. The SweDev secretariat is held by the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI). More information is available on www.sei.org/swedev. An official website is currently under development and will act as the network's meeting point, collecting information on activities and ongoing development research across departments, opportunities for networking, and a member registry – all in all to facilitate better collaboration between development researchers. The website will be launched in February 2021.

By providing a registry that lists development experts by field SweDev aims to connect researchers to master students, development practitioners and decision-makers. In the same vein, SweDev will allow Master students to share their thesis publications thereby enabling them to find connections with relevant research experts. Furthermore, SweDev will also organize activities to improve the interaction between researchers and practitioners, such as PhD conference(s), research conferences, seminars and talks between researchers and decision-makers / practitioners.





SweDev is hereby looking for institutional members

External financiers and stakeholders have demanded that SweDev be able to demonstrate institutional anchoring by Swedish academic institutions. SweDev is not a member association in the traditional sense but has decided on a sum of SEK 5,000 per year as support for SweDev activities. This way, SweDev can show institutional anchoring and, thus, enables external support to SweDev. The support membership contributes to securing financing for SweDev if external support ends or decreases.



Benefits for your institution

Your support enables us to arrange seminars, conferences and working groups that increase the possibilities for collaboration between researchers, students and practitioners. By becoming an institutional member, you directly contribute to building a stronger and well-connected development research arena in Sweden.

As an institutional support member you will have insight and influence over SweDev's activities. Institutional members are invited to shape SweDev's activity plan, review SweDev's annual report and are featured on the official SweDev website. Institutional members are also eligible to participate in SweDev events such as our upcoming mini-conference to be held on November 24 and 25 (more information to follow).

Note that during the initial phase, SweDev - through SEI - is responsible and financially accountable to Sida and not to the support members. Financial reporting is however provided by the funds paid in by the support institutions. Funds paid in by support members are accumulated in a special account at SEI to be used if external financing to SweDev decreases or runs out. In this way, the support membership ensures financial survival.



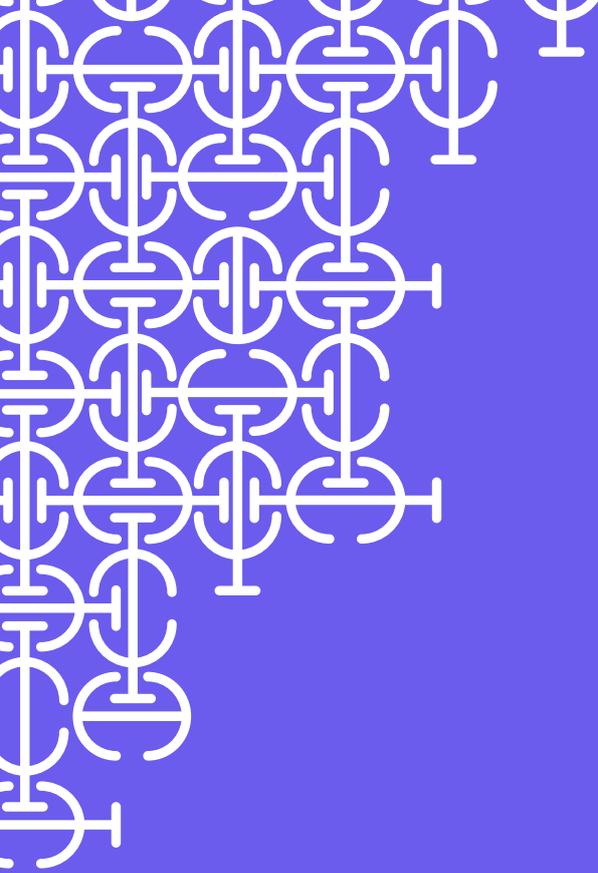
How to join the network

If your department / research group wants to become a support member:

- Pay SEK 5,000 by bank transfer: 5614-7192, to the Stockholm Environment Institute
- Mark the payment with the name of your department / research group and the phrase "SweDev support membership"
- Send an email to anna.ioannou@sei.org when you have paid in the contribution.

Once we have received your payment, we will send a payment confirmation to your institution.

Please note that membership fees paid in 2020 apply for 2020-2021. Thereafter, the fee is annual.



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