Global Development Institute

Europe’s largest global poverty and inequality institute

The University of Manchester has been at the forefront of Development Studies for over 60 years.

As addressing poverty and inequality becomes an increasingly global project, we've united the strengths of the Institute for Development Policy and Management (IDPM) and the Brooks World Poverty Institute (BWPI), to create the Global Development Institute.

The new Institute plays a major role in supporting the University’s commitment to addressing global poverty and inequality. It creates and shares knowledge to inform and influence policy makers, organisations and corporations, so that they can make positive changes for people living in poverty.

The Global Development Institute builds on The University of Manchester’s world-leading reputation for Development Studies research, which has seen us ranked 1st for impact and 2nd for quality in the UK Research Excellence Framework 2014, and third in the QS World University Rankings.

The Global Development Institute promotes social justice by conducting world-class, interdisciplinary research that critically and rigorously advances development theory and practice.

Over 45 academics, up to 100 PhD students and over 400 master’s students are part of the largest provider of Development Studies research and postgraduate education in Europe.

Within the Institute, The Rory and Elizabeth Brooks Doctoral College is the first doctoral college for Development Studies in the world.

The Global Development Institute also coordinates a number of large, externally funded international research centres including:

• The Effective States and Inclusive Development Research Centre, funded by the Department for International Development, investigates the links between politics and social justice; and

• The Economic and Social Research Council’s Rising Powers and Interdependent Futures network, examines shifting global economic and social changes.

Wealth is being created at unprecedented levels, but its distribution is socially unjust. The Global Development Institute will lead thinking on how to tackle poverty and inequality.

Professor David Hulme
Executive Director, Global Development Institute

Research Themes

Our core research strengths lie in four main areas:
- Prosperity, inequality and poverty
- Politics, governance and management
- Political economy of globalisation
- Environmental, urban and agrarian change

Sign up to receive regular research updates at: www.gdi.manchester.ac.uk
Uniting our strengths

The University’s strong credentials in the international development arena can be traced back to the 1950s when it introduced courses in development planning and public administration for overseas students.

From the 1980s, there was a shift towards formal diplomas, master’s degrees and PhD training and staff became active as advisors for a number of government and non-government agencies. In 1987, the department was re-established as the Institute for Development Policy and Management to promote economic development and reduce social, political and economic inequality within and across countries, by enhancing the capabilities of individuals and organisations.

The Brooks World Poverty Institute was founded in 2006 with generous support from the Rory and Elizabeth Brooks Foundation. It was established as an international centre of excellence to create and share knowledge to combat poverty throughout the world.

Developing future leaders

The Global Development Institute is committed to making a positive impact on people living in poverty through research and teaching. The new Rory and Elizabeth Brooks Doctoral College is enhancing the capacities of the next generation of global development practitioners, policy actors and researchers. Many of our students come from and return to influential roles within development organisations and governments around the world.

Making an impact

Since the Industrial Revolution, Manchester has been at the forefront of developing ideas and practices to reduce poverty. The Institute follows in this tradition, with a focus on achieving social justice and shaping innovative solutions to development challenges.

For example, our insight helped Cadbury to launch its £45 million Cocoa Partnership to support cocoa farmers and their communities and to convert its range of Cadbury Dairy Milk and Green & Black’s chocolate bars to Fairtrade.

The United Nations Development Programme enlisted our researchers to support the Government of Bangladesh in reforming and reorganising the existing social protection system.

The Global Development Institute has a very clear aim: to use our research and teaching to achieve a more socially just world.

Professor Diana Mitlin
Managing Director,
Global Development Institute