















WORKSHOP: Development Partnerships: the Role of International Volunteering

Date/Time: Mon & Tue, 7th & 8th Dec, 2015, 9.00 am-6.30 pm

Place: Shaw Foundation Building, AS7, Room 01-02

Conference organiser & Chair: Associate Professor Tracey Skelton,

Department of Geography, NUS

Keynote Speaker: Professor Susanne Schech, Flinders University, Australia

"International Development Volunteerism and Spaces of Development Partnership"

This international workshop is framed by the concept of global partnership, the focus of Millennium Development Goal 8 ("A global partnership for development"). The concept of partnership is now frequently invoked to describe the relationships involved in international development assistance. Yet, despite its prominent exposure in MDG8, examples of mutual, equal and sustainable development partnerships between North and South remain rare. The scene has been set to ask important questions about the roles of International Development Volunteering in development partnerships as the post-2015 agenda seeks to revitalise and implement the global partnership for sustainable development.

This workshop explores development partnerships and international volunteering in ways that challenge the normative assumptions made about their relationship within both development discourse and practice. The presenters are leaders in their field and provide a range of theoretical and conceptual debates grounded in empirical evidence. Academics and practitioners will address the following questions:

- 1. What are the significant discourses of partnership and to what extent do they or do they not address global inequalities?
- 2. What types of development partnerships exist and to what extent do they reshape relationships between individuals, organisations and societies?
- 3. How can international development volunteering contribute to more equitable, mutually beneficial, and sustainable development partnerships?
- 4. What are the implications of the changing relationship between international volunteering and development partnerships for development policy and practice?

Anyone interested in development, volunteering, partnerships and social change will find the workshop interesting and useful. It comprises a mixture of academic papers and a practitioner panel discussion.