

Associate Overseas Institutional Membership of the Development Studies Association of the UK and Ireland

The DSA is the largest national platform in the world for development studies and we are now seeking to internationalise our membership base as we feel that, in our increasingly interconnected world, we need to engage in a far more meaningful way. We offer access to a very large network of people – we have around 1000 individual members and over 70 institutional members based in the UK. Our reach is global and our monthly bulletin goes to over 7000 people worldwide and this increases every month.

We hope that the benefits of opening up membership in this way will be mutual, improving access by all members (those in the UK and Ireland and those in developing countries) to a range of collaborative activities including networking, information, research, training and debate. Do take a look at our website for more information on our activities – www.devstud.org.uk.

Our intention is that through including weblinks for DSA associate institutional members page on our website, networking opportunities will be significantly improved through mutual access to institutional members' pages on the internet.

What does Associate Institutional Membership offer you?

The services which we intend to offer to associate institutional members in developing countries are the following:

- Entitlement to a **weblink** within the **institutional members' webpage** of the DSA;
- Improved **networking** opportunities through the internet and the weblinks in particular;
- Opportunities to participate in **consultations** through the DSA;
- Monthly **email newsletter** with development studies news (this is available to all those who sign up to it – but the institutional membership will give it more point);
- **Free access** to information contained in the DSA Course and Research guides and in the Individual Member Directory (these are available on an 'open access' basis, but again the special institutional membership will enhance their value);
- **Membership rates to attend our Annual Conference.** The theme this year is 'Development Paths: Values, Ethics and Morality', on Friday 5th November 2010 at Church House, Westminster, London

Who can apply

Institutions in developing countries, which have a primary interest in development studies research, training and practice with the particular objective of providing additional opportunities for capacity building.

In order to be consistent with the objectives and practice of the DSA we will be unable to extend membership to campaigning institutions, our interest being in cooperating with institutions concerned with development studies research, training and practice.

The application process

For the first year there will be no subscription fee payable. Following this first year the DSA will review experience with associate institutional membership at which point it may become necessary to introduce a modest and negotiable subscription fee.

A sub-committee of the DSA Council will review requests/applications in order to verify that the institution concerned fits the profile which has been outlined in the above paragraphs.

How to apply

1. Send an email to Frances Hill, Executive Director, Development Studies Association at admin@devstud.org.uk with '**application for Associate International Membership**' in the subject line.
2. In the body of your email provide a short paragraph with the following information:
 - Full title of your institution
 - Department name, full address and country
 - Full contact details for a named individual – email is particularly important
 - the nature of your activities,
 - thematic focus, if relevant,
 - number of academic staff working on development issues
 - a weblink to your website
3. The panel will then assess your application.
4. If it is successful, we will email you with instructions as to how to proceed to set up your record.