



STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL
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UNIVERSITY
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GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DEVELOPMENT
Institute of Public Policy and Administration

ISDC *policies for peace
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Call for Papers

Annual 'Life in Kyrgyzstan' Conference

Park Hotel, Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

1-2 October 2015

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), ISDC - International Security and Development Center, and the University of Central Asia (UCA) are pleased to announce the first annual 'Life in Kyrgyzstan' Conference to take place in Bishkek on **1-2 October 2015**.

The two-day conference will bring together national and international experts from government and the public sector, development agencies, non-governmental organizations, academia and research institutions, and media to exchange knowledge and experiences on recent socio-economic developments in Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia, and to promote evidence-based policy making.

The conference will also feature a presentation of the final results of the research project 'Gender and Employment in Central Asia: Evidence from Panel Data' carried out in 2013-2015 by an international consortium of research institutions with funding from the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) and the Department for International Development (DfID).

To contribute to the discussion, we invite the submission of proposals for entire sessions or individual research papers studying various aspects of socio-economic development in Kyrgyzstan or Central Asia more generally, preferably at the micro-level. We welcome empirical papers using panel data, especially the 'Life in Kyrgyzstan' survey data. We encourage PhD students and postdoctoral researchers to apply to participate at the conference and use this opportunity to receive feedback from senior researchers.

Research topics may include but are not limited to:

- Poverty and inequality;
- Employment and labor markets;
- Migration and remittances;
- Gender, children and intra-household decision making;
- Education and health outcomes;

- Public service delivery and decentralization;
- Rural livelihoods and agricultural market access;
- Value chains and export orientation;
- Entrepreneurship and informality;
- Impacts of trade reform;
- Social capital and social cohesion;
- Peace-building, trust and expectations;
- Micro-level data quality, survey methodology and panel data collection; and
- Methods of rigorous impact evaluation.

The organizers are seeking both individual papers and proposals for sessions of three or four papers, with preference given to complete session proposals.

Those interested in submitting sessions or papers to the conference are welcome to submit their applications by **30 June 2015** at likconference2015@gmail.com. Please list a session title, a session chair, a session organizer, and all co-authors for each paper and enclose a 200-word session summary. Preference will be given to session proposals including full research papers. Individual papers may also be submitted either in a 200-word extended abstract form or in full papers. All submissions should be in English. The conference language will be English, with simultaneous translation provided in Russian. Shortlisted applicants will be notified by **late July 2015**.

Academic committee: Dr. Anastasia Aladysheva (SIPRI), Professor Kathryn Anderson (Vanderbilt University), Professor Tilman Brück (ISDC), Dr. Damir Esenaliev (SIPRI), Dr. Saida Ismailakhunova (World Bank) and Dr. Roman Mogilevskii (UCA).

There is no conference fee. Please note that travel and accommodation funds cannot be provided. Registration for participation in the conference will close on **10 September 2015**.

For further inquiries please contact Dr. Damir Esenaliev at esenaliev@sipri.org.

Organising Institutions

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute is an independent international institute dedicated to research into conflict, armaments, arms control and disarmament. Established in 1966, SIPRI provides data, analysis and recommendations, based on open sources, to policymakers, researchers, media and the interested public. Based in Stockholm, SIPRI also has a presence in Beijing, and is regularly ranked among the most respected think tanks worldwide. For more information on SIPRI, visit www.sipri.org.

Institute of Public Policy and Administration at the University of Central Asia was established in 2011 to strengthen public policy in Central Asia. It provides in-depth analysis on current and emerging policy issues facing the region, and improves the analytical capacity of governments and civil society to use evidence in decision-making processes through professional development. The Institute has produced a series of peer-reviewed research papers on social and economic issues, public administration and public policy as they relate to Central Asia and Afghanistan. For more information on IPPA, please visit: <http://www.ucentralasia.org/ippa.asp>

ISDC - International Security and Development Center provides evidence-based analysis and policy advice on the interactions of security, conflict, violence and fragility with socio-economic development, growth, employment and poverty alleviation. ISDC is based in Berlin and collaborates with a broad range of partners in academia, policy making and practice. For more information on ISDC, visit www.isd-center.org.