



Norsk Forening for
Utviklingsforskning

NFU General Assembly 2010

Time: 25 November 2010, 18:00
Venue: MF Norwegian School of Theology, Oslo

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Agenda

1. Constitute meeting and approve agenda

- Election of General Assembly Chair and two Reporters
- Approval of agenda

2. NFU Annual Report 2010

3. NFU Audited Accounts 2010

- Accounts for 2010: period 01.11.2009 - 30.09.2010
- Auditor's report for 2010

4. NFU Annual Conference 2011

5. Incoming business

6. NFU Membership fees 2011

7. Annual Plan and Budget for 2011

8. Elections

- NFU Board and Auditor, presentation by Nomination Committee
- Nomination Committee, presentation by the NFU Board

NFU General Assembly 2010
Item 2. NFU Annual report 2010

NFU Annual Report 2010

(Covering the period November 2009 – October 2010)

1. General

The current year covers the period November 2009 – October 2010. The General Assembly is as a rule conducted in connection with the Annual Conference and we have for that reason adopted flexible business years for reporting and accounts. NFU membership follows the calendar years.

2. The NFU Board members 2010

The NFU General assembly 2009 was held at 23.11.2009 at Auditorium, Gimlemoen campus, University of Agder, Kristiansand. Following this meeting, the composition of the NFU Board has been as follows:

Board members:

Anders B. Asphaug, Department of Geography, NTNU
Håkon Fottland, University of Tromsø
Håvard Haarstad, CROP, University of Bergen (not on election)
Kathleen Jennings, Fafo, Oslo
Hilde Kjøstvedt, CMI, Bergen
Kristen Nordhaug, Oslo University College
Knut Nustad, NUPI (Chair) (not on election)
Arne Olav Øyhus, Agder University
Maren Aase, SUM, University of Oslo

Deputy board members:

Camilla Brautaset, Dept. of History, University of Bergen
Darley Kjosavik, Noragric, UMB
Odd Einar Olsen, UIS

Election Committee:

Morten Bøås, Fafo, Oslo
Trond Vedeld, NIBR, Oslo
Peter Andersen, Geografi, UiB

EADI representative:

N. Shanmugaratnam, Noragric, Norwegian University of Life Sciences

Auditor:

Hans Jørgen Oppi Christiansen, SUM, University of Oslo

3. NFU Board meetings

The NFU Board has in the period met five times: twice in Oslo three times by video-conference. All elected members and deputies were invited to the meetings. In addition the Board has at times worked intensively on email consultations.

4. NFU Members

By 10.11.2010 NFU had a total of 151 members paying membership fees for 2010, expected to increase somewhat for by 15.11. Out of these, 20 are student members and 4 retired persons.

5. Work plan 2010 and progress:

5.1 Work to arrange the NFU Annual Conference 2009

We thank the Agder University for taking a firm lead in realising this event.

5.2: Promote Forum for Development Studies

All necessary arrangements with Routledge Journals, Taylor & Francis Group to publish Forum for Development Studies have been finalised and the journal is now published with three issues per year. There is a marked increase in the interest for the journals as is evident by the increase in submissions.

During the year efforts have been made to increase the Nordic base of the journal. Proceedings from the Danish association annual meeting were published as a special issue of Forum, and the same arrangement of including Forum as a member benefit was offered by Routledge to the Danish Association. The editors are working on setting up a similar arrangement with the Finish Association next year.

Work is also undertaken to increase submission of book reviews from the other Nordic countries.

5.3: Announce the NFU prize and the NFU Master Thesis Competition 2009-10

Both prizes were announced in June and the Prizes will be handed over during the dinner of the annual conference.

5.4 Improving communication and the visibility of the NFU and development research

During 2010, work was commissioned to design and program the new web site. We signed a contract with Awchat & Olsen Design, who is cooperating with Custom Publish AS. Lay-out and design of the web site were presented and discussed at board meetings, and the new website is planned to be launched at the 2010 annual conference. A new logo has also been designed by Awchat & Olsen, and has been in use since September.

5.5: Work with the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI) through the Norwegian Executive Committee member and at Directors meetings

N. Shanmugaratnam is the representative of NFU and Norway in the EADI Executive Committee.

5.6: Follow-up on the Nordic co-operation initiative

The DDRN, Danish Development Research Network has during the past year supported FAU to take an initiative for a Nordic initiative on development research. Three meetings (29.10.2009 Copenhagen, 21.06.2010 Copenhagen, 05.10.2010 Uppsala) have been conducted with participation from Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Norway. Next meeting is scheduled for 24.11.2010 in Oslo.

Issues discussed have been on the following:

- * A Joint Nordic conference on Development Research with preliminary title: The Future of Development Research: Learning from Nordic perspective?. to be held in Denmark November 2011, see Item 4. The discussion has included an organising committee, organising institutions, budget and possible funding sources; national, Nordic and European.

- * Inclusion of a PhD course as part of the joint conference

One will promote to include a ph.d.-course to be arranged in connection with the course, and will actively search for possible partners and academic environments interested in the topic.

- * The distinctiveness of Nordic Development Research/ Enhancing the publication opportunities for Nordic Development Researchers & Exchange and dissemination of experiences on pertinent development issues. The Forum for Development Studies is a central aspect in this discussion.

6. The NFU Annual Conferences

The NFU Annual Conference 2009 was hosted by the University of Agder, Kristiansand during the days 23-24 November 2009. The conference theme is: *The New Global Setting: Development Challenges and Alternatives*.

The NFU Annual Conference was supported by the Research Council of Norway / the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

7. The functioning of the NFU Board

The Board has increased its meeting frequency as planned, instigated the use of task groups and begun to explore the possibility for recognition of time use and administrative support. The use of video-conferences has been highly satisfactory and allowed for an increase in meeting frequencies.

NFU General Assembly 2010

Item 3. NFU Accounts 2010

Start of financial year: 01.10.2009

End of financial year: 30.09.2010

	Budget 2010	Accounts 2010	Notes
Income			
Membership fees	87000	58050,00	
Interest	100	301,50	
Other		555,00	1
<i>Total income</i>	<u>87100</u>	<u>58906,50</u>	
Expenditure			
Board meetings	25000	3307,00	2
"NFU-news"	0	0,00	
Forum for Development Studies	90000	29400,00	3
NFU Web-site	10000	0,00	
EADI	5000	4245,74	4
MA Thesis and Journal Article Awards	20000	0,00	5
Award event	5000	0,00	
Honorarium auditor	2000	700,00	
Nordic cooperation	20000	0,00	
MA student field research	0	0,00	
Miscellaneous	2500	6977,50	
Bank fees	500	204,00	
<i>Total expenses</i>	<u>180000</u>	<u>44834,24</u>	
Result	-92900	14072,26	
Balances			
Incoming balance 01.10.2009		214201,06	
Outgoing balance 30.09.2010		228273,32	

Notes

1. "Other" income refers to three unaccounted for payments made to the NFU account
2. Most board meetings have been held via video conference
3. One bill for two issues of Forum 2009
4. Membership fee for EADI for 2009 and 2010
5. Was awarded after the closing of the financial year



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I OSLO**

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Revisjonsberetning

Regnskapet for Norsk forening for utviklingsforskning (NFU) for perioden

1. oktober 2009 til 30. september 2010

er gjennomgått og funnet i orden.

Samtlige posteringer i regnskapet er kontrollert opp mot bilag.

Kostnadene påløpt i perioden anses å være relevante for driften.

Blindern 18. november 2010.

Hans-Jørgen Oppi Christiansen



SUM
SENTER FOR UTVIKLING
OG MILJØ

NFU General Assembly 2010

Item 4. NFU Annual Conference 2011

The NFU Board propose that next years conference will be arranged as a joint Nordic initiative according to the discussions with our sister organisations. Please find below the draft announcement also to be discussed at the Nordic co-operation group meeting in Oslo 24.11.2010.

Joint Nordic Conference - November 2011 in Copenhagen

Preliminary title: The Future of Development Research: Learning from Nordic perspective?

Draft announcement and call for panels, papers and poster presentations

The Nordic countries have in different ways impacted on Development Policy, Aid and Research. The Nordic model(s) emphasising social policies, the key role of public governance and the fight against poverty and inequalities are by some seen as prominent perspectives alongside e.g. the Washington Consensus. Nevertheless, the foot prints on global agenda have been modest. And the complexity and challenges of development issues keep growing, including financial crises, climate and growing inequalities. The need for timely, relevant, critical and stimulating research is as big as ever. What can the Nordic perspective(s) contribute with? First, there is need to take a step back and investigate the Nordic model(s) more closely. What are the similarities - and what are the differences? Second, there is a need to discuss the Nordic Development Research vis-à-vis global Development Research. What are the trends? Who are setting the directions? Where is the renewal needed to respond to the present challenges?

On the one hand, the field of Development Research has been able to respond continuously new challenges over the last 50 years, producing stimulating and thought provoking research (new approaches, new methodologies, new theories, extending both mono- and cross/inter disciplinary areas of study and innovate ways of publication and dissemination). On the other hand, as the field of Development Studies is becoming increasing broader - and more fragmented - (e.g. including studies of youth, climate change and fragile states to mention a few issues) and as funding agencies and publics at large increase their demands for 'relevance' of Development Research, the future is by no means certain. Renewal is pertinent and needed.

We would like to invite Nordic Development Researchers to engage with each other and with colleagues, practitioners and policy makers. Emphasis should be what constitutes a Nordic perspective, what common approaches to research (whether theoretical, methodologically, epistemologically etc) do exist - if they exist? And do we have common perspectives on development policy and aid - or not? And whether (increased) joint Nordic initiatives have merit in relation to emphasis on EU and Global research environments? The conference seeks to highlight the 'case' for joint Nordic research in terms of areas (substance), methodology, theory, relevance etc and hereby contribute to further expansion of such collaboration. Accordingly, proposals for joint Nordic panels and workshops are invited. And engagement with colleagues from around the world and in particular the Global South is equally encouraged.

Indication of interest: Send 1/2 - 1 A4 page of text to the organising committee at: fau@diis.dk

Deadline: 1st February 2011

Organising institutions: DHF, NAI, FAU, NFU, FSDR (to be expanded)

Time & Place: 23-25 November, in Copenhagen - Further information: www.fau.dk - nordic conference

Additional text (maybe to be included):

Development Studies and Development Research have made important strides and contributions over the last 50 years. The present challenges, however, are several and do in particular include; limited financial resources, increasing demands in terms of relevance (often being equivalent to close ties to development assistance and aid priorities) and emphasis on capacity development of Developing Country research environments. The increase in conditionalities makes it increasingly difficult in conducting basic/theoretical research with critical perspectives, while Developed Country Researchers also need to take 'training/capacitating' functions vis-à-vis Developing Country colleagues, who often are even more pressured on resources, due to lack of priorities from their host governments.

NFU General Assembly 2010

Item 5. Incoming business

NFU General Assembly 2010

Item 6. NFU Membership fees 2010

The following membership fees are suggested, being same as for 2010:

- Full membership NOK 400
- Student members, retired persons NOK 200

NFU General Assembly 2010

Item 7. Annual plan and Budget for 2011

Strategic goals

The NFU will continue to be a dynamic professional association of development researchers in Norway and a meeting place for others with an interest in development. The work in 2011 will continue pursue the following strategic goals:

1. Increasing the benefits to, and number and activity level of NFU members.
2. Improving communication and the visibility of the NFU and development research.
3. Promoting Nordic networking in development research.

4. Improving the functioning of the NFU Association.
 - 4.1 The Board will, with the aim of strengthening mechanisms for member influence on NFU, review and propose changes to NFU's Articles of Association, to be discussed by the Annual Meeting in 2011.

Annual Plan 2011

Increasing the benefits to, and number and activity level of NFU members (*target: Increase the number of members by 10% during 2010, 35% by end 2012.*)

1. Continue to offer Forum for Development Studies as a member benefit.
2. Work towards a successful Nordic conference in Copenhagen in 2011
3. Give an award for the best journal published in the Forum for Development Studies.
4. Increase the information and support to students in development studies, including:
 - 4.1. Present the award for the best MA thesis submitted in 2010 before summer 2011.
 - 4.2. Investigate the status of students' access to support for development studies related fieldwork, and identify challenges to be addressed by NFU
 - 4.3. Explore options for supporting student activities from 2012.
5. Explore possibilities for improving the funding situation of the NFU.

Procedures and strategy for strengthening role of NFU in relevant public hearings

1. The board will explore possibilities for having NFU included in more public hearings and evaluation processes on white papers and policy documents in development related areas.
2. The board will look into developing procedures for involving its members in public hearings where NFU is invited to comment. This may involve changing articles of association in order to oblige the board to follow particular procedures aimed to provide all members with the opportunity to comment, for example using the web site and/or email lists.

Improving communication and the visibility of the NFU and development research

6. Promote the new NFU portal by:
 - 6.1. Assigning responsibility support publishing on the portal to Board members.
 - 6.2. Identifying web-editors and dissemination officers at key institutions to provide material for the portal.
 - 6.3. Use member email-list to provide alerts on events, portal information etc.
 - 6.4. Make a facility for policy news and member viewpoints.
7. Explore possibilities of creating a list/database of Norwegian development researchers with contact details, thematic and geographical keywords and links to CVs at institutions.
8. Profile the NFU through inputs to national media (*target: at least 2 during 2011*).

Promoting Nordic networking

9. Continue the work to promote *Forum for Development Studies* to Nordic institutions; subscriptions/contributions
10. Build on the Nordic conference in 2011 to explore further opportunities for collaboration.

Consolidate the functioning of the NFU Board

11. Hold at least 5 meetings, physical or virtual, during the year.
12. Map and assess various opportunities (time use recognition, student support etc.) to provide modest administrative support to the Board - and try out at least one of these possible measures before the next Annual Meeting .
13. Secure Board members recognition for time use (3 to 4 weeks per year) through informal agreement with home institution.
14. The Board will prepare a detailed Work Plan for the year and assign a Board member to each strategic goal. The member will follow up and report on progress concerning this goal at Board Meetings.
15. Use task groups from time to time.
16. Work to nominate more journals within development studies to “Nasjonalt fagråd for utviklingsstudier”
17. Encourage members to nominate new journals.
18. Engage a professional librarian to search for relevant journals.

Proposed Budget 2011:

	Accounts 09	Budget 10	Accounts 10	Budget 11	Notes
Income					
Membership fee	53565,00	87000	58050,00	77000	1
Interest	222,47	100	301,50	100	
			555,00		
Total income	53787,47	87100	58906,50	77100	
Expenditure					
Board meetings	8518,70	25000	3307,00	10000	2
Forum for Dev. Studies		90000	29400,00	50000	3
NFU Web-page	415,00	10000		47000	4
EADI	1278,26	5000	4245,74	5000	
NFU-prizes		20000		20000	
Honorarium auditor		2000	700,00	2000	
Nordic cooperation		20000		20000	
Miscellaneous	3371,00	2500	6977,50	2500	
Bank fees	196,00	500	204,00	500	
Total expenditure	13778,96	180000	44834,24	157000	
Result	40008,51	-92900	14072,26	-79 900	

Incoming balance 01.10.2009	214201,06
Outgoing balance 30.09.2010	228273,32

Notes

1. Target 2010 was 210 new members (35 students). I propose to keep the target for 2011.
2. Continued video conferences with 2 face-to-face meetings pr year
3. 130000 was discussed at meeting 27.10; NOK 29400 was paid for Forum for 2009 in January - 10
4. 20 000 was discussed at meeting 27.10; web design bill of 26375 NOK paid in November -10

NFU General Assembly 2009
Item 9. Elections- proposal 2010
(presented at the meeting)