

## SOUTH AFRICA – SWEDEN UNIVERSITY FORUM

### Application form

This form, duly signed, together with CVs of each applicant (max. two pages), should be combined into a single PDF and submitted to [sasuf@uu.se](mailto:sasuf@uu.se) before the deadline on September 4, 2019.

### 1. Applicant information

Please list the applicants in the proposal.

	<b>Main applicant - Sweden</b>
Name	Linda Mossberg
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	<b>Main applicant – South Africa</b>
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	<b>Co-applicant – South Africa</b>
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	<b>Co-applicant – South Africa</b>
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<b>Co-applicant – Sweden</b>	
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## 2. Project summary

Project title:

Analysis of policy frameworks for ‘children in care’ in South Africa and Sweden: creating enabling environments for child participation that contribute to social change

Main theme/challenge for the project (possible to select more than one):

- Theme 1: Climate change, natural resources and sustainability
- Theme 2: Education for a Sustainable Society
- Theme 3: Social transformation through change: Knowledge and social development strategies
- Theme 4: Understanding the burden of disease in Sweden and South Africa
- Theme 5: Sustainable urbanisation, travel and tourism in the 21st Century
- Theme 6: Digital technologies, big data and cybersecurity

Project summary (max 150 words):

The research group has identified mutual and, in several respects, similar challenges in South-Africa and Sweden. Research studies and a multitude of reports in both countries have signaled that children in care, one of the most vulnerable groups in the society, are not heard or respected for their capabilities to influence social change. This is in disagreement with the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1959, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, guiding UNICEF’s work since 1989 as well as legislation and steering documents both in South Africa and Sweden. Children’s participation in their own development and decision-making is fundamental for their current and future well-being as well as the future of the society. By scrutinizing and analyzing relevant legislations, policies and research practices, we aim to create an initiative to contribute knowledge and social development strategies for social change through child agency and participation. Document analysis will happen in both countries in phase one, followed by a second phase where the group will meet to do a comparative analysis together. This is a step towards establishing platforms engaging researchers, agencies and, not least, governmental departments to create enabling environments for children in care.

## 3. Project description

How does the project activities contribute to the strengthening of international prospects of emerging researchers? (max 150 words):

In the execution phase, emerging researchers will be invited to participate in both the document and comparative analysis. During these workshops best research practices will be shared. A key consideration in this project is the issue of uptake and impact. Emerging researchers will be invited to share their research vision and initiatives while being further exposed to research findings of the group to stimulate further debates, ongoing projects and potential joint supervision agreements on the topic. By the mere inclusion of universities with a wide variety of academic disciplines and researchers on different levels of academic careers we intend to lead by example and inspire emerging researchers to challenge their thinking by encompassing different research methods, theories and the intersection of practice and research. These activities will enable emerging researchers to develop international networks and engage with NGOs and social enterprises which will improve their future research prospects.

How will the results/activities in the project be shared with other stakeholders (i.e. via web, social media, streaming, video-diaries etc.) (max 150 words):

This group forms part of the larger theme 3 initiative that would like to contribute to the development of a chapter/chapters of a book on Social Transformation.

The results will also be compiled into co-written academic manuscripts with the preliminary titles of:

1. A comparative analysis of policy frameworks on child participation in South Africa and Sweden.
2. Child participation in social change: an analysis of the social care system in South Africa and Sweden.

Activities will be shared on both Skype platforms and on the SASUF social media site contributing to the development of themes for the 2020-2030 Global Social Work and Social Development

In what way (if any) are non-academic actors like NGOs and industry included in the project activities? (max 150 words)

NGOs and the relevant Government Departments will be invited to participate in discussions and workshops in both countries. Since NGOs and social enterprises are involved and frequently responsible for children in care, their views are important to determine the existing level of participation of these children in matters relating to them. They will be invited to form part of discussions to elicit their views on child participation that can contribute to social change.

From these discussions, recommendations will be made on how the voices of children can be promoted when they participate in matters concerning them.

### 3.a

#### **Project relating to selection criteria: Linking collaboration to SDGs**

The focus of the intended collaboration on child participation and legislative and policy frameworks are central to ensure that children do not stay behind. Many children remain trapped in inequality and poverty and are exposed to violations of their rights, resulting in neglect and abuse in many forms. As a vulnerable group in society, they have to be protected, however, they have rights and agency which should be developed by respecting their dignity and participation in decisions about social change. Analyzing policies pertaining to child participation will expose the level of social inclusion of children in matters concerning them in particular, but also in society in general. For children's social inclusion, all the SDGs are relevant and will be targeted in this project. It is important that children have a say in

ending poverty (SDG1) and hunger (SDG2) of which they often are victims off. Both these SDGs relate to their health and wellbeing (SDG 3) and influence their access to quality education (SDG 4), especially for the girl child – which, in turn, relate to SDG 5, promoting gender equality and girl empowerment. As children in care often comes from marginalized backgrounds, their access to clean water and sanitation (SDG 6) should be prioritized as well as their source(s) of energy (SDG 7) to protect them from hazards such as fire. Children know best what they need for safe and sustainable communities (SDG 11). The impact of climate change (SDG 13) contributes to children's environmental, economic and social adversities and society can learn from their resilience in mitigating the impact of climate change. This includes strategies to ensure a clean ocean (SDG 14), and protecting ecosystems (SDG 15) which is critical for sustainable social, economic and environmental development. SDG 16, Promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development depend on access to justice for all – including children – to build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Children's voices today are important to help shape the future that they have to live in. They should therefore be respected as a valuable partner in strengthening local, regional and global partnerships (SDG 17) that will respect the nexus between people and the planet for sustainable communities.

These SDG indicators will be incorporated in the analysis of legislation and policy frameworks to determine the level of intended child participation principles in these policies to enable them to contribute to social change. The outcomes of the project will enable the team to make recommendations for policy and practice on child participation for social inclusion and change.

#### **\*Further collaboration between Sweden and South Africa**

- Joint research projects among the participating universities
- Capacity development of emerging researchers and postgraduate students by including them in workshops in both South Africa and Sweden
- Discussions with local NGOs and government departments working in the different countries to advance knowledge in addressing issues of child agency and participation and social transformation

#### **\*A plan for strengthening the project for emerging researchers**

The specific strength in this project group as related to emerging researchers is the wide variety of included academic disciplines (Social Work, Philosophy, Criminology, History) which enables the project to create a meeting space for multidisciplinary interactions as well as interaction with the professional field and practice.

#### **\* Sharing of project activities and results**

The final research results will be disseminated in the public domain in the form of accessible journal publications, policy briefs, book chapters and, where necessary, media/social media notes and web logs.

Project outcomes could further be disseminated through SASUF's website and the news portals of participating Swedish and South African Universities. Continuous feedback will be shared on the SASUF interactive platform.

#### **\*The inclusion of non-academic actors like NGOs and industry in the project activities.**

The universities have a specific responsibility as agents of social change interacting with the community (NGOs, private industries and social enterprises) in order to develop knowledge which can

promote and encourage progress with regard to research as well as practice. The included universities have extensive collaboration with different representatives from NGOs and social enterprises and will include these in understanding, analyzing and developing knowledge and practices for promoting children's participation.

**Planned activities: Timeframes and costs (Available Budget R 161 000-00)**

The duration of the proposed project is 10 months. The following activities are planned:

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES	TIME FRAME	ESTIMATED COST
<p><b>Preparation phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Selection of policy documents and legislation to be included in document analysis in both Countries</li> <li>b) Determining sampling criteria of documents</li> </ul>	Oct 2019	
<p><b>Phase one (Analysis of country specific documents)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Face-to-face workshop and development of tool for analysing of policy frameworks</li> <li>b) Selection of policy documents and legislation</li> <li>c) Workshop with emerging researchers</li> <li>d) Workshop for NGO's, social enterprises and Government departments</li> <li>e) Finalizing project plan and work division</li> <li>f) Submission of abstracts for IASSW Conference 2020</li> </ul>	Nov 2019	<p>R 75 000</p> <p>Three Swedish researchers to visit South Africa for ten days.</p> <p>Hosting research workshops for emerging researchers and workshops for NGOs and social enterprises in SA.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>g) Countries analyse agreed policy documents at a national level.</li> <li>h) National workshops in both Sweden and South Africa to be for the participation of national delegates</li> </ul>	Dec – Apr 2020	<p>R 50 000 (R25 000 for each country)</p>
<p><b>Phase two (Comparative analysis)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Comparative analysis of country specific documents and drafting of two manuscripts</li> <li>b) Finalization of presentation for International Social work Conference in Italy (IASSW )</li> </ul>	<p>May 2020 Pre-visit to SASUF workshop</p>	<p>R 36 000 (SASUF to cover travel expenses for workshop)</p>
<p><b>Communication of research findings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Presentation of findings at international conference all</li> </ul>	Jul 2020	

researchers to cover their own expenses. b) Finalization of manuscripts and publication in journals	Aug 2020	
<b>Total</b>	<b>15 Months</b>	<b>R161 000,00</b>

### 3.c

#### The contribution of each partner

##### University of Fort Hare

- Provide guidance support and training for emerging researchers.
- Participation in all activities as proposed.
- Providing opportunity to engage with local NGOs.
- Can possibly support with costs of local visits.
- Supporting researcher to attend international conference.
- Arranging of visit of researchers to South Africa in November 2019
- Arranging of workshop with emerging researchers, NGO's and social enterprises

##### University West

- Provide guidance support and training for emerging researchers.
- Participation in all activities as proposed.
- Can possibly provide opportunity to engage with local organizations working with children in care.

##### University of Pretoria

- Provide guidance, support and training for emerging researchers.
- Participation in all activities as proposed.
- Providing opportunity to engage with local NGOs.
- Can possibly support with costs of local visits.
- Support researcher to attend international conference.

##### University of Gothenburg

- Provide guidance support and training for emerging researchers.
- Participation in all activities as proposed.
- Can possibly provide opportunity to engage with local NGOs.

##### Sol Plaatje University

- Provide guidance support and training for emerging researchers.
- Participation in all activities as proposed.
- Providing opportunity to engage with local NGOs.
- Support with costs of local visits.

- Supporting researcher to attend international conference.

#### **Lund University**

- Provide guidance support and training for emerging researchers.
- Participation in all activities as proposed.
- Providing opportunity to engage with local NGOs and social enterprises SMEs.
- Support with costs of local visits.

#### **Stellenbosch University**

- Provide guidance support and training for emerging researchers.
- Participation in all activities as proposed.
- Providing opportunity to engage with local NGOs.
- Can possibly support with costs of local visits.
- Supporting researcher to attend international conference.

### **3.d**

#### **Available resources, including existing funding that may supplement the activities in the project**

##### **University of Fort Hare**

- Funding support for conference attendance after research has been conducted could be provided by the University of Fort Hare for their participants
- Institutional support and application to the UCDG grant after approval of this proposal

##### **University West**

- Institutional support and application to national grants after approval of this proposal

##### **University of Pretoria**

- Funding support from research funds for participation in conference.
- Institutional support and application to national grants after approval of this proposal.

##### **University of Gothenburg**

- Institutional support and application to national grants after approval of this proposal

##### **Sol Plaatje University**

- Funding support for extended research and conference attendance after research has been conducted will be provided by the School of Humanities at SPU
- Institutional support and application to the SPU- and Provincial grants (Department of Social Development, Northern Cape Province) after approval of this proposal

##### **Lund University**

- Funding support for conference attendance after research has been conducted could be provided by the Dept of Social Work
- Institutional support and application to national grants after approval of this proposal

##### **Stellenbosch University**

- Funding support from research funds for participation in conference.
- Institutional support and application to national grants after approval of this proposal

3.e

**Participating persons, events and stays/trips**

Participating persons	University	Events/stays/trips	Proposed Dates
Linda Mossberg	University West	Visit to South Africa University of Fort Hare	November 2019
Ulene Schiller	University of Fort Hare		
Antoinette Lombard	University of Pretoria		
Pia Nykänen	University of Gothenburg	National Workshops in SA and Sweden	March 2020
Cobus Rademeyer	Sol Plaatje University	SASUF Meeting	
Marianne Strydom	Stellenbosch University	Uppsala	May 2020
Marianne Larsson-Lindhahl	Lund University	IASSW Conference Italy	July 2020

**4. Signature**

I declare that the information supplied in this application form and in the documents uploaded is true and correct.

 Signature of main applicant from Sweden:	Trollhättan, Sweden, 19 August 2019 Date & Place:
 Signature of main applicant from South Africa:	East London 5 August 2019 Date & Place: