



# Annual Report

# 2018

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# FOREWORD & HIGHLIGHTS

## Foreword

The year 2018 was a turning point for CROP, and this annual report will be the last one in the current format. During the course of 2018, CROP's parent institution, the International Social Science Council (ISSC), merged with the International Council for Science (ICSU), to create the largest science organisation in the world, the International Science Council (ISC). The scheduled renegotiation of an agreement on CROP between the ISC and the University of Bergen will take place in the first half of 2019 and will seek to establish a common platform for a future global research programme.

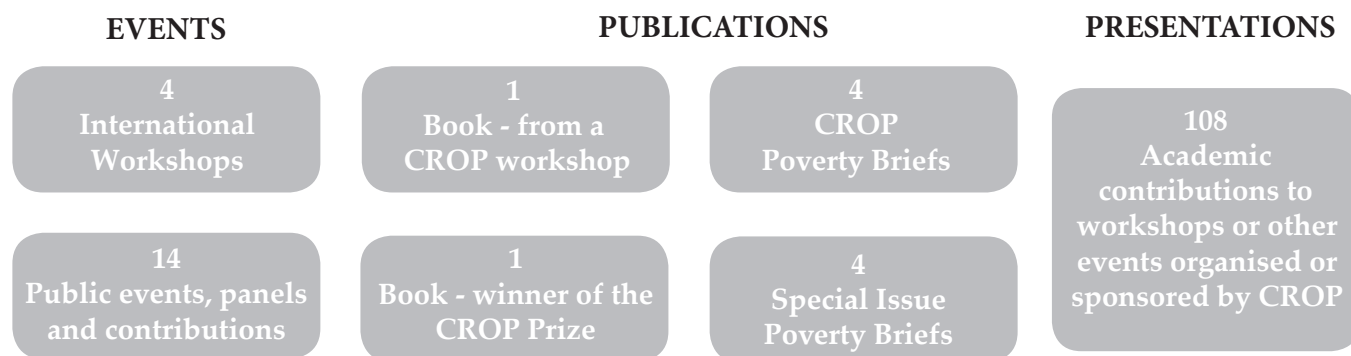
Activities during the period January-December 2018 were carried out within the framework of CROP's existing institutional strategic priorities and objectives. The implemented work plan continued to promote critical knowledge on the causes and solutions to poverty in collaboration with local and international partners. CROP co-organised four international workshops in 2018 and had responsibility for two panels at the World Social Science Forum in Fukuoka, Japan, in September.

Meanwhile, CROP maintained its focus on Sustainable Development and Sustainability Science at the University of Bergen. This included a workshop panel at the 2018 SDG Conference Bergen on "Independent evaluation and monitoring: Key contributions from the universities towards the achievement of the SDGs" and a UNESCO-sponsored event at the Bergen Resource Centre for International Development on "Sustainability Science: A Response to Global Challenges".

The second year of CROP's four-year UTFORSK Partnership for Poverty and Sustainable Development Studies between UiB, the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) in Durban, South Africa, and the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) saw the first group of Norwegian students taking part in a Masters Module offered by UKZN's School of Built Environment and Development Studies.

This annual report was prepared by the CROP Secretariat.

## CROP in numbers 2018



## Highlights in 2018

- CROP organised a workshop panel on "Knowledge for Our Common Future: Norwegian Universities and the Sustainable Development Goals" at the University of Bergen's SDG Conference in February.
- CROP and the UNESCO Chair at the University of Bergen co-organised a seminar in March on "Sustainability Science: A Response to Global Challenges", at the Bergen Resource Centre for International Development.
- CROP co-organised two panel sessions at the World Social Science Forum (WSSF) in Japan in September.
- CROP co-organised an international workshop on children and adolescents living in poverty at The New School, New York, in October.
- In 2018, CROP's parent organisation, The International Social Science Council (ISSC), merged with the International Council for Science (ICSU) to form the International Science Council (ISC). The formal launch of the ISC took place on 5 July 2018 in Paris.
- Output from CROP in 2018 included 2 books and 8 poverty briefs.

# INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

The core organisation of CROP is made up of a permanent secretariat hosted by the University of Bergen and a Scientific Committee made up of renowned scholars in the field of poverty research.

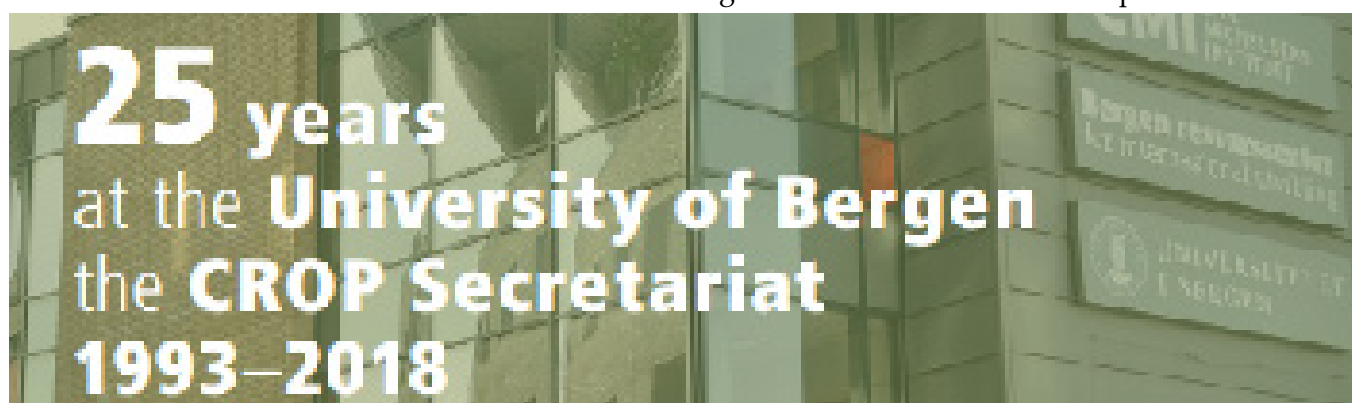
## **Contract between the University of Bergen (UiB) and the International Science Council (ISC)**

The scheduled renegotiation of a contract on CROP will define the format and framework for CROP from 2019 onwards. The following joint statement was issued by UiB and the ISC in December 2018:

“The Comparative Research on Poverty programme (CROP) is governed by an agreement between the University of Bergen (UiB) and the International Science Council (ISC). The two co-sponsors have now initiated a process towards the renewal of that agreement, including a reassessment of the programme’s focus. The recent creation of the ISC and the adoption of UiB’s new strategy and priority areas provide a new institutional framework and open up additional possibilities for re-thinking a programme on inequality and marginalisation more broadly. An international workshop in the first quarter of 2019, organised in Bergen by UiB and ISC in partnership with CROP’s Scientific Committee, will explore how the programme can take advantage of this new context. UiB Vice-Rector for Global Relations, Annelin Eriksen, will replace Alberto Cimadamore as interim Scientific Director of CROP from the end of November 2018 and until a new agreement is signed. UiB and ISC wish to thank and congratulate Dr Cimadamore for his achievements in the past 7 years in developing CROP’s networks and advancing poverty research internationally.”

## **Scientific Committee**

We extend our thanks to the 2017-2018 committee members who have contributed to CROP’s work over the last two years. A full list of committee members is available on the CROP website: <http://www.crop.org/>. A new Scientific Committee will be recruited once a renegotiated UiB-ISC contract is in place.



## **Secretariat and Internship Programme**

The CROP Secretariat is responsible for the implementation of the CROP programme of activities. It is located at the University of Bergen and consists of four permanent members of staff (equal to three full-time positions). The Secretariat also hosts student interns through the Erasmus+ Traineeship Programme. In 2018, CROP hosted six Erasmus+ student interns.

## **CROP Fellows**

CROP Fellows are ambassadors of the CROP programme and constitute a core resource group of committed scholars who lend ideas and help promote the CROP network. Twenty-two CROP Fellows were appointed for the period 2014-2018 and we extend our thanks to them for their contributions to CROP’s work over the last four years. Key achievements of CROP Fellows in 2018 include:

- Babatunde Omilola (UNDP), author of Poverty Brief No. 42 on “Accelerating Sustainable Development through Social Protection”
- Enrique Delamonica (UNICEF), who spent a week at the CROP Secretariat in April. During his visit he recorded a video interview on the issue of “invisible” children and gave a lecture on “Policies for Poverty Reduction in a Transformative Green Economy”. Both the interview and the lecture are available on CROP’s YouTube channel. Delamonica was also an active participant at the international workshop on children and adolescents living in poverty held at The New School, New York, in October.

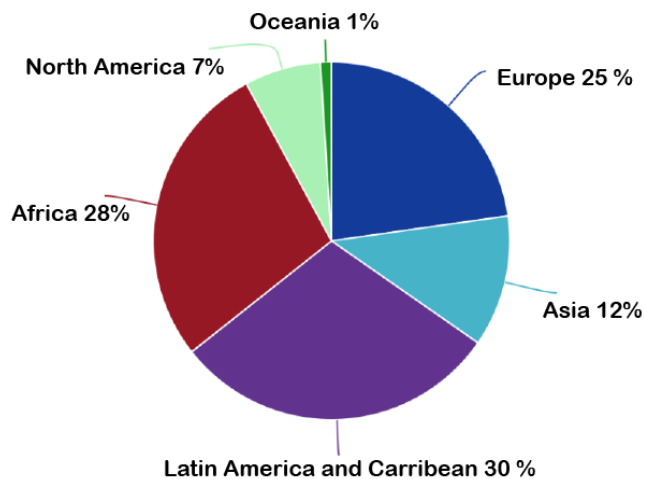
Planning for a new fellows programme will take place once a renegotiated UiB-ISC contract is in place.

# CROP NETWORK

## CROP network development - 2018 overview

The CROP network (CROPNet) consists of scholars in the field of poverty research – in its widest definition. New members are included when they a) present papers at CROP events; b) submit proposals through open calls; or c) participate in CROP events and/or related activities or projects. The audience at public events or people who have signed up for the mailing list are not included.

## CROP network structure by region



CROP's network reached a total of 1834 scholars by the end of 2018 (an increase of 13% compared to the end of 2017).

The regional distribution of the CROP network, as displayed in the figure on the left, shows that the region with the most members is still Latin America and the Caribbean (30%), followed by Africa (28%) and Europe (23%). Only a minority of network members come from Asia (12%), North America (6%) or Oceania (1%).

The gender distribution of the network did not change from 2017 to 2018. The distribution is still 44% female and 56% male.

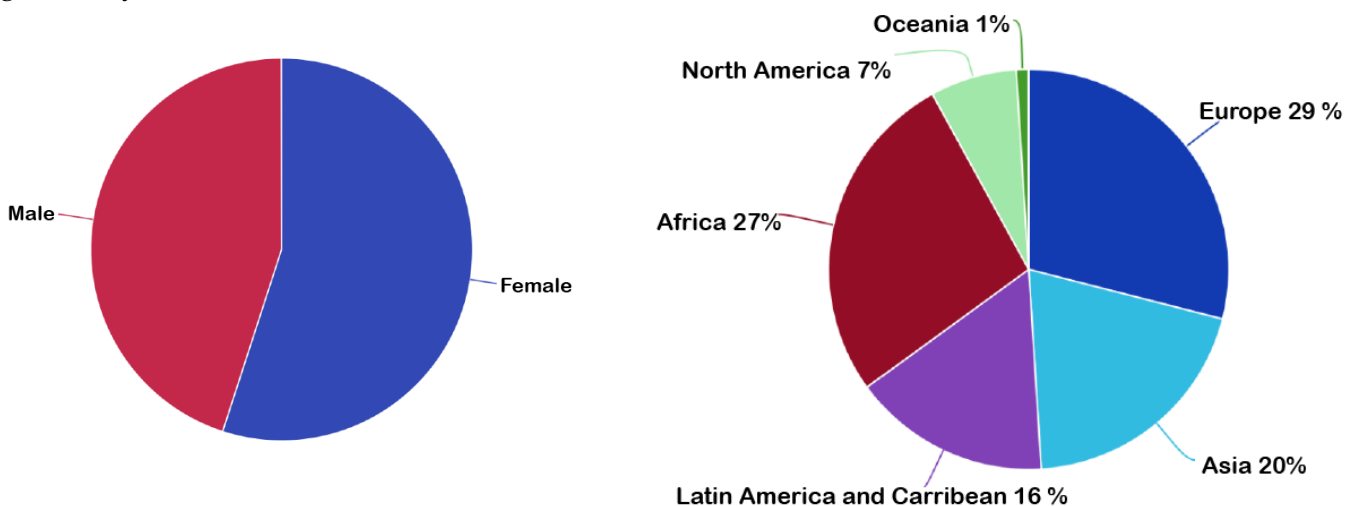
## CROP network structure by gender



## Participation in CROP events and activities in 2018

In 2018, the combined number of submitted proposals and active participants in CROP workshops and events was 347.

The majority of active participants in 2018 came from Europe (29%), followed by Africa (27%), Asia (20%) and Latin America (16%). The number of participants from North America (7%) and Oceania (1%) was significantly lower.



## New CROP network members

218 new CROPNet members were registered in 2018.

# INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS



## Perspectives on the Democratic Developmental State

*Workshop and Book Launch, Cape Town (South Africa), 27-28 February 2018*

This two-day workshop was based on an initiative by CROP, the University of Bergen (UiB), the School of Government at the University of the Western Cape, and the Southern African-Nordic Centre (SANORD) to assess the relationships between democracy, capitalism and the role of the state in promoting development. Within this framework, a book launch was held for CROP's book, "The Democratic Developmental State: North-South Perspectives" (published by ibidem Verlag).



## La cuestión social en el siglo XXI (The Social Question in the 21st Century)

*Workshop, Guadalajara (Mexico), 3-5 September 2018*

This event was based on a collaboration with El Colegio de la Frontera Norte (El Colef), the University of Guadalajara and the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). CROP Director Alberto D. Cimadamore participated in the workshop, which focused on the democratising and redistributive role of states.



## Poverty, Inequality Dynamics and Economic Development: Tensions and Trade-offs in Mixed Methods Research

*Workshop, London (UK), 6-7 September 2018*

CROP was one of the co-organisers of this event, which focused on the use of mixed methods research within poverty, inequality, and economic development, thus addressing three of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals: SDG1, SDG8, and SDG10.

## Addressing Inclusion Among Children and Adolescents Living in Poverty

*Workshop, New York (US), 11-12 October 2018*

This international event was co-organised by CROP and Equity for Children at the New School, New York, in collaboration with UNICEF, SOS Children's Villages and the ChildFund Alliance. Representatives from the University of Bergen included Ernest Darkwah and Marguerite Daniel from HEMIL (Department of Health Promotion and Development) and CROP Director Alberto D. Cimadamore.

The workshop aimed at making a concrete contribution to understanding, defining, measuring, and addressing social inclusion among children and adolescents living in poverty.



# WORLD SOCIAL SCIENCE FORUM

## CROP at the World Social Science Forum



Panel sessions, Fukuoka (Japan), 25–28 September 2018

CROP co-organised two panel sessions at the 2018 World Social Science Forum (WSSF): 1) “Poverty, water and sustainable development in global change: Exploring the nexus from a sustainability science and human security perspective” looked at the links between water and poverty from a thematic and methodological approach, and 2) “The Politics of Inclusion: Towards a Secure and Sustainable Future” focused on the conceptualisation of social exclusion.

In addition to the two panel sessions co-organised by CROP, Director Alberto D. Cimadamore chaired UNESCO MOST’s session on “Managing migration towards more inclusive societies and the implementation of Agenda 2030”.

## OTHER ACADEMIC EVENTS

### Norwegian Universities and the Sustainable Development Goals



Workshop Panel at the SDG Conference Bergen, University of Bergen (Norway), 8-9 February 2018

Four panelists - Alberto Cimadamore (CROP), Lars Bjarne Kristofersen (Centre for Welfare and Labour Research, Oslo Metropolitan University), Gibrán Cruz-Martínez (Department of Global Development and Planning, University of Agder) and Julia Kercher (UNDP Oslo Governance Centre) - focused on the monitoring system set in motion by the UN to evaluate the process towards achieving SDG1. They discussed how expertise at Norwegian universities could provide independent evaluations for a constructive monitoring process.

### Sustainability Science A Response to Global Challenges



John Crowley (UNESCO)  
Peter Haugen (IOC/UNESCO and UiB)  
Noel Koehnlyskis (UiB)  
Alberto Cimadamore (CROP/IBB/ISSC)  
Mark Adameson (Leuphana University of Lüneburg)  
Lutz Preiler (German National Commission for UNESCO)

20 March  
9.00 - 12.00

CROP  
Centre for Research  
Innovation and  
Policy

### Sustainability Science at the University of Bergen

#### Sustainability Science: A Response to Global Challenges

One-day seminar, University of Bergen (Norway), 20 March 2018

This event, co-organised by CROP and the UNESCO Chair at the University of Bergen (UiB), consisted of an open session at the Bergen Resource Centre for International Development and a workshop for invited participants. The main goal was to explore the theoretical and methodological possibilities presented by recent developments in the field of Sustainability Science. Participants included representatives from UNESCO and UiB representatives from the Bjerknes Centre for Climate Research, the Department of Health Promotion and Development (HEMIL), the Department of Biological Sciences and the Centre for Climate and Energy Transformation (CET).

### Participation in conferences in Beirut (June 2018) and Oslo (November 2018)

CROP Director Alberto D. Cimadamore was invited to participate at the following events in 2018:

- “Les politiques sociales dans une perspective comparée” conference hosted by Université Saint-Joseph de Beyrouth, Lebanon, where he gave a presentation on “Globalisation, States and Social Policies in the era of the SDGs”
- “The SDGs and the Critical Role of Development Research” seminar hosted by VID Specialised University in Oslo, where he gave a presentation on “The SDGs and the Critical Role of Development”.

# PUBLIC EVENTS

	<b>Title</b>	<b>Venue</b>
27.02.2018	Book Launch for “The Democratic Developmental State: North-South Perspectives”	<b>Cape Town, South Africa</b>
27.02.2018	Public Lecture on “The Nordic Welfare State, the Nordic Development Model”, by Stein Kuhnle	<b>Cape Town, South Africa</b>
20.03.2018	Open Session of “Sustainability Science: A Response to Global Challenges”	<b>Bergen, Norway</b>
19.04.2018	Lecture on a Transformative Green Economy, by visiting researcher Enrique Delamonica	<b>Bergen, Norway</b>
29.05.2018	Lecture on Poverty, Rights and Sustainable Development, by visiting researcher Jorge Paz	<b>Bergen, Norway</b>
11.10.2018	Livestream from “Addressing Inclusion Among Children and Adolescents Living in Poverty”	<b>New York, US</b>
17.10.2018	Seminar: “No Poverty?” with Sosina Bezu, Magnus Hatlebakk and Alberto Cimadamore	<b>Bergen, Norway</b>

# VISITING RESEARCHERS



Enrique Delamonica, Senior Statistics Specialist at UNICEF’s Division of Data, Research and Policy, used his visit to Bergen in April to focus on the following topics:

- CROP-UNICEF collaboration in relation to the international workshop in New York in October 2018
- Input and ideas for the CROP Brief Series, the CROP-Global Challenges Working Paper Series and the CROP Fellows Programme
- A book project from the 2017 Abuja workshop on child poverty
- A video interview for the YouTube playlist “Perspectives on Poverty Research
- A lecture on “Policies for Poverty Reduction in a Transformative Green Economy”



Jorge Paz, Professor of Economics at the National University of Salta, Argentina, spent a month at the CROP Secretariat in spring 2018, where he was able to collaborate with CROP Director Alberto D. Cimadamore in the preparation of the CROP-CONICET/CEIL book on “Sustainability Science, Rights and Development in the 21st Century”.

Paz also held an open lecture at the Bergen Resource Centre for International Development on how poverty constitutes deprivation and is an obstacle to well-being in a Latin American context.



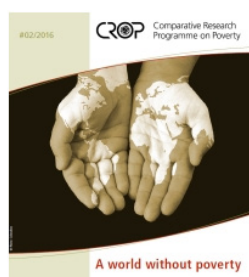
# COMMUNICATION & DISSEMINATION

CROP was established to produce knowledge aimed at lifting people out of poverty. In order to achieve this goal, CROP is involved in the co-production of new knowledge and the dissemination of research produced within its network. In this process, CROP uses a wide range of communication channels, including printed books, working papers and briefs, as well as digital media such as YouTube, Facebook and Twitter.

## YouTube playlists



CROP's [YouTube](#) channel, set up in 2014, has an archive of 75 videos. The videos are divided into four playlists: Book presentations (where editors present CROP books), Working Paper Series (where authors present their contributions to the series), Visualising Poverty Research (short interviews with renowned scholars) and Perspectives on Poverty Research (short interviews with guests, researchers and scholars on various poverty-related topics). There are also a number of free-standing videos, including a presentation of CROP, a video celebrating CROP's 25th anniversary, a summary of experiences from the internship programme, and highlights from an international workshop in St. Petersburg in 2017.



## CROP Newsletter

The CROP Newsletter is distributed as an interactive document twice a year (at the end of each semester) to the 2000+ recipients of the regular CROP mailing list. Although this publication is called a newsletter, the aim is to change it gradually to combine institutional news with short articles and reports on poverty-related issues.

## The CROP Website

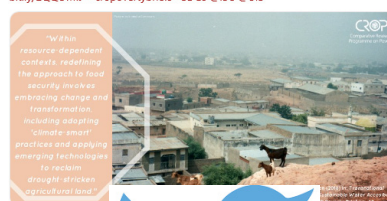
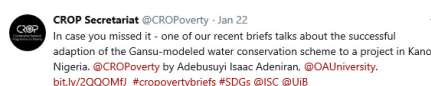
The CROP website [www.crop.org](http://www.crop.org) is still CROP's main communication channel. In addition to news and announcements from CROP and its extended network, the website also includes electronic versions of many CROP publications (books, briefs, working papers, etc.).

From 1 January to 31 December 2018, the traffic on the website produced the following statistics:

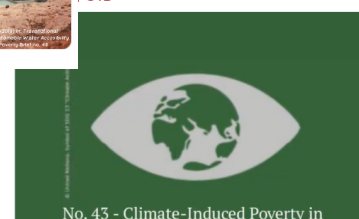
- 21 400 visits to the website with a total of 47 241 page views. This gives an average of 2.21 pages per session.
- 15 572 unique users, i.e. 88.9% of the users were new visitors.
- The average session duration decreased from 2:25 minutes in 2017 to 01:58 minutes in 2018.
- Users came from 183 different countries.
- The US, the UK and India were the largest (accounting for 32.31%), but 8 countries had more than 400 users and another 24 had more than 100.

## Facebook and Twitter

CROP set up a [Twitter account](#) in October 2015, and a [Facebook account](#) in April 2016. The number of followers has shown a significant increase in the last year. At the end of 2018, CROP's Twitter and Facebook accounts had 358 and 781 followers respectively (an increase of 50% for Twitter and 65% for Facebook compared to the end of 2017). These two communication channels have become important outlets for the efficient dissemination of news and announcements.



of universities and institutions  
ide. Read them here:  
3uaFvs #cropoverbriefs #SDGs  
UjB



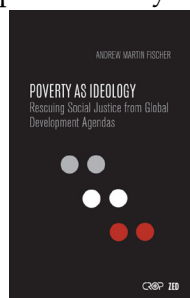
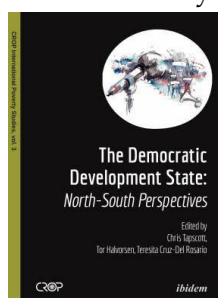
Country	Users	% Users
1.  United States	3,072	19.47%
2.  United Kingdom	1,085	6.88%
3.  India	925	5.86%
4.  Norway	788	4.99%
5.  Germany	508	3.22%
6.  France	464	2.94%
7.  South Africa	416	2.64%
8.  Mexico	413	2.62%
9.  Italy	374	2.37%
10.  Canada	368	2.33%

# PUBLICATIONS

## CROP Books

Two books in the CROP International Poverty Studies book series were published in 2018:

- **The Democratic Developmental State: North-South Perspectives** edited by Chris Tapscott, Tor Halvorsen and Teresita Cruz-Del Rosario, published by Ibidem Verlag
- **Poverty as Ideology: Rescuing Social Justice from Global Development Agendas** by Andrew Martin Fischer, winner of the International Studies in Poverty Prize, published by Zed Books



## CROP Poverty Briefs

Four regular and four special issue CROP Poverty Briefs were published in 2018:

- **Revealing Poverty: Speech and Representation of the Poor in the Brazilian Media** by Victoria Darling
- **Poverty and Human Rights in the Americas – Using Progress Indicators for Measuring Economic, Social and Cultural Rights** by Laura Pautassi
- **Accelerating Sustainable Development through Social Protection** by Babatunde Omilola
- **Climate-induced Poverty in Coastal Bangladesh: Policy Implications** by Saleh Ahmed
- **Reflections on Recent Welfare Reform in China** by Kristin Dalen (Special Issue)
- **Building a Democratic Developmental State in South Africa: Reshaping Education and Research** by Hilde Ibsen & Sharon Penderis (Special Issue)
- **Problems and Options of Renewing Social Democracy** by Olle Törnquist (Special Issue)
- **Consolidating South Africa's emerging Democratic Developmental State through Developmental Local Government** by Isaac Khambule (Special Issue)

## Bergen Open Research Archive (BORA)

CROP makes its open access publications available via BORA, the institutional online research archive at the University of Bergen. By the end of 2018, eight books and four working papers were accessible.

## Working Paper Series on Global Challenges

The working paper series (WPS) is a joint effort between CROP and UiB Global Challenges to disseminate research focused on issues such as poverty and inequality. No new papers were published in 2018.

## Forthcoming Books

The following CROP book projects are currently underway (with working titles):

- **Child Poverty and Social Protection in Western and Central Africa**  
- output from an international workshop held in May 2016 in Abuja, Nigeria
- **Social Policy, Poverty and Inequality in Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union**  
- output from an international workshop held in June 2017 in St. Petersburg, Russia
- **The Politics of Social Inclusion: Bridging Knowledge and Policies towards (or for) Social Change**  
- output from an international workshop held in July 2017 in Paris, France
- **Putting Children First: New Frontiers in the Fight Against Child Poverty in Africa**  
- output from an international workshop held in October 2017 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- **Stop the Bleeding: Protecting Poor Countries' Revenues**  
- edited by Krishen Mehta & Esther Shubert (as part of the CROP Book Series)
- **Welfare States, Labour Rights and Basic Income in Latin America (in Spanish)**  
- output from an international workshop held in September 2016 in Bahia, Brazil
- **Food Sovereignty as a Strategy for Confronting Poverty and Inequality**  
- by David Barkin (as part of the CROP Book Series)
- **Why Some Development Works**  
- by Meera Tiwari (as part of the CROP Book Series)
- **Sustainability Science, Rights and Development in the 21st Century (in Spanish)**  
- output from an international workshop held in December 2017 in Buenos Aires, Argentina
- **Addressing Inclusion Among Children and Adolescents Living in Poverty**  
- output from an international workshop held in October 2017 in New York, USA
- **The Social Question in the 21st Century (in Spanish)**  
- output from an international workshop held in September 2018 in Guadalajara, Mexico

# PROJECTS

Applying to national and international funding sources for new scientific projects is an important task for the CROP Secretariat. If successful, such projects facilitate academic activities, while the preparations needed to develop viable proposals require extensive and intensive co-operation between the involved parties, which leads to a strengthening of partnerships.

In 2018, CROP continued its involvement in two ongoing projects:

- CROP was responsible for co-ordinating project activities as part of the **UTFORSK Partnership for Poverty and Sustainable Development Studies** between UiB (University of Bergen), UKZN (University of KwaZulu-Natal) and CODESRIA (Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa). This included the participation of five UiB GLODE (Master in Global Development Theory and Practice) students in a Masters Module offered by UKZN's School of Built Environment and Sustainable Development Studies (SOBEDS) at its Winter School from 25 June – 09 July. One administrative staff member and one academic staff member from UiB also visited UKZN during the Winter School. Reports from these activities are available on the project website: [psdpartnership.b.uib.no/](http://psdpartnership.b.uib.no/)



- The **CROP-CEIL/CONICET Programme on Poverty and Sustainable Development**.

The programme is based on an agreement between CROP/ISSC and The National Scientific and Technical Research Council of Argentina (CONICET) through the Argentinian Labour Research and Study Centre (CEIL). The aim is to produce high quality research able to create impact in Argentina and Latin America. A peer-reviewed publication from a workshop held in November 2017 is currently in production.



UTFORSK Project 2017-2020



## PARTNERSHIP FOR POVERTY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STUDIES



CROP also participated in the following three international project applications in 2018:

- Project title: "Masculinities and gender equality: a Nordic-Caribbean contribution to sustainable development", submitted to NIKK (Nordic Information on Gender)
- Project title: "Innovations for SDGs", submitted to RCN (Research Council of Norway)
- Project title: "Leave No One Behind: Defining, Tracking and Achieving Sustainable Development", submitted to ESRC (Economic & Social Research Council)

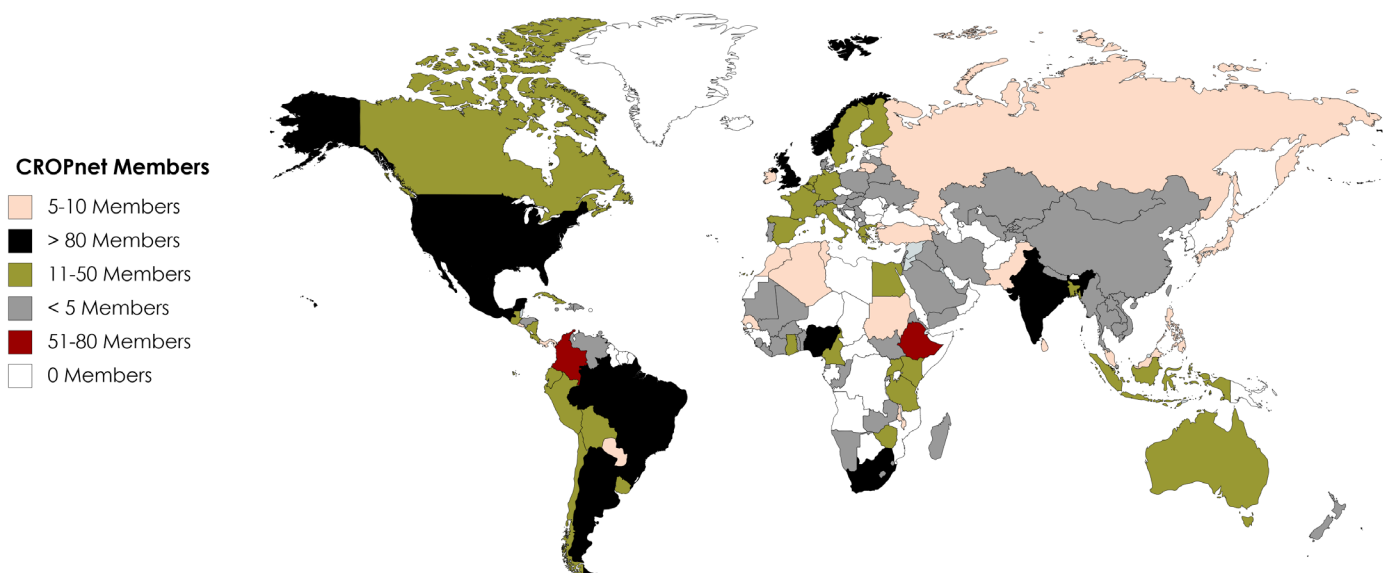
# FINAL REMARKS

2018 saw a continued increase in CROP's network and in the strategic depth of its activities. It was also a turning point for CROP. The decision of the University of Bergen (UiB) and the newly formed International Science Council (ISC) to undertake a re-negotiation of their contract on CROP will define the future format and framework of the programme.

Discussions between UiB and the ISC were underway at the end of 2018 and an international "Scoping Workshop" in March 2019 is planned as a first step towards establishing the potential for continued future collaboration. It is hoped that a proposal for a new "CROP" programme will be ready to present to the Governing Board of the ISC in June 2019.

# CROP's vision: "A world without poverty"

## CROP NETWORK MEMBERS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE



Comparative Research  
Programme on Poverty