

**CODE Forum 2022**  
Helsinki  
27<sup>th</sup>– 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022



## ***Critical Approaches to Community Development and Diakonia in a Time of Crisis***

### **Invitation and Call for Papers & Contributions**

#### **Introduction**

**Final dates:** for abstracts and proposals for contributions 29<sup>th</sup> July and for Registration 31<sup>st</sup> August

The **CODE Forum** brings researchers and practitioners together around approaches which relate community development and diakonia. It is a space for the exchange and development of research and practice.

The Forum is linked to the **CODE** research group at VID, Norway and the seminar will be held in Finland by the kind invitation of Diak. The **CODE Forum** has wide international and interregional participation.

At the **Forum**, there will be space for the presentation of papers and reports from practice. We also invite contributions for the discussion of research ideas and proposals for new research as well as posters. The **Forum** aims to offer a space for the exchange of experience and the development of ideas. It aims to support innovation in the field and the development of research and learning programmes.

#### **Main Themes of the CODE Forum 2022**

##### ***1. Critical Approaches to Community Development and Diakonia in a Time of Crisis***

The present time is marked by deep crises to which community development and diakonia are responding. The covid pandemic and large-scale war together with civil conflict, the growth inequality & segregation in cities, and environmental crises are challenges for community development. Crisis leads in some contexts to a new awareness of the importance of community whereas in other contexts, the crisis signals or causes the destruction of community. The Forum would like to focus on learning from these experiences and look to the future.

Responding to a crisis needs short term action, but also needs to take a longer-term perspective on the causes of the crisis and related sustainable futures. This can include community development as a contribution to strengthening democratic practice, overcoming divisions and peace building and working for comprehensive approaches to health, education and welfare.

Contributions are invited which address a specific crisis and analyse the contribution of community development and diakonia. These can also include reports from and reflections on actual practice as well as developing proposals.

## 2. Innovative Approaches to Community Development

In addition to this main theme, the [Forum](#) invites papers on community development and diakonia which raise critical questions for theory, theology and practice. This may include:

- *Challenging the 'Inclusion' paradigm* (including both diversity issues and economic inclusion) This would include community development approaches related to inclusion in the 'imagined mainstream society' and the rhetoric which surrounds economic inclusion such as 'leave no one behind' and community development approaches.
- *Innovative concepts for Diakonia and Community Development* such as seeking conviviality, ubuntu, buen vivir...).
- *A critical look at Asset Based Community Development* - theory, practice, theology (especially in relation to neo-liberalism and critical approaches, the Biblical and theological basis).
- *Community development, diakonia and the diaconal church* - concepts, practice, alliances and professional profiles.
- *The dignity, agency and power of marginalised groups* - community development perspectives

### Call for Contributions

Contributions to be presented and shared at the CODE Forum can be academic papers, proposals for, or interim reports from research which you would like to discuss with colleagues, or a poster with a key idea which you would like to discuss. It can also be an account of practice which raises issues related to the Forum themes

Please send your abstract or proposal to Stephanie Dietrich and Tony Addy. Please indicate the form of your contribution and indicate which theme your contribution belongs to.

**Abstracts and short descriptions of contributions should be submitted by 29<sup>th</sup> July 2022, and you will receive the decision as to whether your contribution is accepted at the latest by 12<sup>th</sup> August 2022**

## Other Programme Activities

### 1. Future Project Planning Workshop

After the last [CODE Forum](#), a group worked on developing and submitting an application for funding which received very positive feedback, but unfortunately, we were not successful. As part of [CODE Forum 2022](#) a meeting for those who wish to further the development of common research project(s) will take place on **30<sup>th</sup> September** in the morning.

Those interested in joining this workshop should *register for the Forum including the Future Project Planning Workshop*. The basic framework will be to map the interests and approaches and to identify specific follow up activities and projects and relevant

financial resources. It is then hoped, as last time, to form a core group to proceed with the application(s). More information will be sent to those who register.

## 2. Visiting Programme

There will be a visiting programme on **27<sup>th</sup> September**, which will enable participants to experience a diversity of local diaconal projects in the Helsinki area. There will be a possibility to join the programme for the whole day, or in the afternoon.

The programme will start at 9.00 on the 27<sup>th</sup> September with registration or at 13.00 for the half day programme.

More details will follow when you register.

### Outline Timetable

#### 27<sup>th</sup> September

Optional visiting programme – initiatives in the greater Helsinki area either for a full day or in the afternoon.

Arrivals for the seminar

#### 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> September

**CODE Forum** Days with presentations and working groups; evening programme.

#### 30<sup>th</sup> September

Workshop: The future plans for the **CODE Forum** and for future collaborative projects and programmes.

### The CODE Forum and ReDi

The **CODE Forum** is recognised as a thematic network of ReDi and the seminar is an activity of several institutional and individual members of ReDi in collaboration with the Association. Papers previously presented at the Forum have been published in the Journal 'Diaconia – Journal for the Study of Christian Social Practice'.

### Practical Matters

#### Accommodation

A number of single rooms have been reserved for the Forum at the Hotel Arthur. The cost is 90€ per night for a single room and 105€ per room if two people share one room. The room price includes breakfast and VAT. The hotel is near the main station and the airport bus terminal and is also near the bus stop for the short connection to the Diak campus.

The Hotel web site is [www.hotelarthur.fi](http://www.hotelarthur.fi) and the booking code which will ensure you register with this reduced price is 'CODE'.

**Booking** should be made by e-mail [sales@hotelarthur.fi](mailto:sales@hotelarthur.fi) or [reception@hotelarthur.fi](mailto:reception@hotelarthur.fi), or by telephone +358 9173441. The sales department is open from 8a.m. till 5p.m. (Fridays from 8a.m. till 4p.m.).

**Note** if you want to take advantage of this offer, the room should be booked before 27<sup>th</sup> July. After that you can book the same hotel, but it will be more expensive.

**Evening Meals:** Arrangements for the common evening meals on the seminar days are in process.

### Finance

There will be a small registration fee of 90,00€ to cover the costs of meals, refreshments, coffee and snacks during the **Forum** and other small costs. Those who are registered will be sent an Invoice for this amount.

Participants are expected to be financially self-supporting as the **Forum** does not have its own budget.

If this financial arrangement causes difficulties for your participation, please consult Jouko Porkka (address below).

### Registration

Registration will be via an online form.

You can choose just to join the two **Forum** days or the **Forum** days *and* the **Future Planning Workshop**.

**Note:** It is not possible to join the planning workshop if you do not participate in the Forum days.

If you want to join the **Visiting Programme** to projects and initiatives in the Helsinki area, please register for the full day or the afternoon.

All who register will be sent further details about the event, travel instructions etc.

Here is the link to the registration form:

<https://www.lyyti.in/CODEa2022>

### NOTES:

1. Places at the **CODE Forum** are limited and we would encourage you to register as soon as possible! The first date for registration is 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 and **the last date for registration is 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022**
2. The organisers are hoping to provide an online possibility for wider involvement in the plenary sessions. If you are interested in being updated about this possibility, please contact us. Details will be posted on the **Forum** web page.

### More Information and Updates

Information and updates of the programme can be found on the **Forum** conference web page here:

<https://www.diak.fi/en/calendar/code-forum-2022/>

### Contacts

**CODE Forum** Seminar, Programme:

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**CODE Forum** Visiting Programme

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