CURRICULUM VITAE
Deepta Chopra

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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT:	**Research Fellow**
DATE OF BIRTH:	**29 January**
NATIONALITY:	**Indian**
THEMATIC EXPERTISE:	**Policy Processes; State-Society relations; Politics and Power; Gender relations; Unpaid Care Work; Social Protection; Citizenship**
GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE:	**South Asia – India, Nepal**

OVERVIEW

Deepta is a development geographer with a focus on women's empowerment and politics of policy processes. Her research interests primarily focus on gendered political economy analysis of policies for the empowerment of women and girls, and its core links with unpaid care work. She is a dynamic project leader who has developed, fund-raised for, and implemented several research projects on social protection and economic empowerment of women and girls. Deepta has extensive experience in policy analysis from a political economy perspective, and has worked intensively on the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and the Food Rights Act in India. She works closely with state and non-state partners in South Asia, and is known for her excellent organizational and managerial capabilities. Deepta has had high impact in the policy and practice of international development, especially in relation to her work on the care economy and MGNREGA. She is an expert on qualitative research design and methodologies, and aligns herself closely with issues of power and participation, citizen engagement and governance. Deepta is an enthusiastic and popular teacher; she convenes the MA Gender and Development programme at IDS in addition to teaching on a range of relevant modules.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

2011 – 2013	**Post graduate Certificate in Higher Education** (PGCertHE), University of Sussex, UK
2005 – 2010	**PhD in Geography** (thesis title: *National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), India: Towards an Understanding of Policy Spaces*) Department of Geography, University of Cambridge, UK
2002 – 2004	**MPhil in Development Studies,** with Distinction (dissertation title: *Comparing Rights Based, Livelihoods and Economic approaches in Bhuj, Gujarat*) Institute of Development Studies, UK
1997 – 1999	**Masters in Social Work (MSW)** Delhi School of Social Work, University of Delhi, India
1994 – 1997	**BA (hons) in Economics** Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi, India

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

July 2010 – Present **Research Fellow**, Governance Cluster,
Institute of Development Studies, UK

I have independently developed, fundraised, led and delivered several successful research projects during this time:

a) **'Balancing unpaid care work and paid work: successes, challenges and lessons for women's economic empowerment programmes and policies** - Growth of Economic Opportunities for Women (GrOW) (DFID-IDRC-Hewlett foundation funded) project. This is a 33 month mixed methods research project working in India, Nepal, Tanzania and Rwanda to explore how policies and programs to economically empower women should take into account the unpaid work that most women perform as caregivers. I am the Principal Investigator for this project.

b) **Political Economy Determinants of the MGNREGA's implementation, India.** This two year project investigated why the performance of the MGNREGA differed across eight states of India, with state capacity and elite commitment as the two main analytical lens (DFID funded RPC on Effective States and Inclusive Development – ESID, through University of Manchester). I was the IDS lead researcher on this, and also the lead for the qualitative work on this project.

c) **Under Nutrition and Public Policy in India**: This project examined the ways in which public policy could address persistent undernutrition in India - with a specific focus on the political economy of the National Food Security Act (IDRC funded). I was the lead researcher on this.

In addition, I have led and delivered on several large components of programmes within IDS, including:

d) **Making Unpaid Care visible** – this was one component of the 'Gender, Power and Sexuality' grant, looking at the political economy determinants of making care visible in Indonesia and Bangladesh (SIDA funded). I was the lead researcher for this component on this 3 year project. April 2012 – March 2015.

e) **Making Unpaid Care Visible in Nepal, Kenya, Nigeria and Uganda**: this was one component of IDS's Accountable Grant's theme on 'Empowerment of Women and Girls' (DFID funded). I was the lead researcher for this component, in addition to being the overall lead for the Empowerment of Women and Girls theme. The other two components that I coordinated under the theme were: Health of women and girls in rapidly urbanizing contexts; and Gender based violence. April 2012 – March 2016.

f) Country study on **India's international development engagements**, Rising Powers in Development: A sub component of the DFID Accountable Grant theme on Rising Powers (DFID funded), I was part of a team of researchers working on this country case study. April 2014 – March 2015.

I have also bid for smaller consultancy projects and was successful in obtaining the following:

i) **Institutional assessment and training for Social protection Framework** (UNICEF Nepal);
ii) **Literature review on unpaid care work** (ActionAid International);
iii) **Literature review on Social Protection and Nutrition** (Save the Children UK);
iv) **Country briefs** for Nutrition Flagship Report (Save the Children UK)

May 2010 – June 2010 **Researcher** for 'Public Works in Asia' project, Social Protection Team,
Overseas Development Institute, London

Conducting a literature review and analysis of all Public Works projects in South Asia.

Jan 2005 – Dec 2005 **Research Fellow,** Working Lives Research Institute, London Metropolitan University (Health and Safety Executive funded)
I was part of a three member team at WLRI responsible for this project. I led and conducted research in 2 of 5 project areas (London and North-East of England), including in-depth interviews with over 80 BME migrant workers and employers.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sept 2013 – March 2016 **PhD Supervisor**
Thesis title: Nurturing Emergent Agency: Networks and Dynamics of Complex Social Change Processes in Raipur, India

August 2013 – Present **Course Convenor and Module Convenor,** Institute of Development Studies
IDS Convenor, MA Gender and Development (from September 2015 – present); Co-convenor for the MA (Development Studies) programme (till September 2015); Module convenor for the courses 'Poverty Policy and Programmes', 'Introduction to Research methods' and 'Politics of implementing gender'

July 2010 – Present **Lecturer and Supervisor,** Institute of Development Studies, UK
Postgraduate teaching on MA (Gender), MA (Development Studies) and MA (Poverty), including course design, lecturing and term paper supervision. I have also supervised several Masters students for their dissertations on topics of Gender relations or rights based policies in India and South Asia.
I have been a core teaching and curriculum design team member for the core course 'Ideas in Development Studies' taken by all Masters students at IDS.
I have also moderated two core courses – Poverty and Inequality; and Disciplinary Perspectives in Poverty.
I regularly supervise and mark term papers and Masters dissertations, assess student presentations and am involved in course administration.

Oct 2006 – Sept 2010 **Lecturer and Supervisor**, Department of Geography, University of Cambridge (part time)
Postgraduate teaching on Qualitative Research Methods (including software training) and Discourse Analysis. Undergraduate teaching included sessions on Social Policy and Entitlements; Gender; Participation Theory and Practice; and regular supervisions of undergraduate students.

Oct 2007 – Sept 2010 **Course Convenor and Lecturer**, Certificate Programme in International Development, Institute of Continuing education, University of Cambridge (part time)
Community Outreach teaching to a range of students including postgraduates and undergraduates. I designed the course syllabus for this certificate programme, including reading lists etc; and was responsible for course administration and teaching of 4 core modules: Introduction to International Development; Strategies and Skills in International Development; Understanding and Engaging with stakeholders in International Development, Issues in International Development.

Oct 2004 – Jan 2005 **Teaching Assistant**, Development Economics, IDS (Part time)
Responsibilities: Supervision and tutorials for all Masters students taking this course.

PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES and WORKING PAPERS

2016	Chopra, D. Demand Shortfalls or supply side constraints: what explains the shrinking Employment Guarantee in Rajasthan, India. *Journal of South Asian Development,* 11(2).
2016	Chopra, D. and Mueller, C. Connecting perspectives on women's empowerment *IDS Bulletin* Volume 47 (1A), Institute of Development Studies.
2015	Chopra, D. Political Commitment in India's social policy implementation: shaping performance of the MGNREGA *ESID working paper No. 50*. Effective States in Development, University of Manchester.
2014	Chopra, D. and Sweetman, C. Introduction to Gender, Development and Care, Special issue on care *Gender and Development* Volume 22 (3)
2014	Chopra, D.; Ekeoba, P.; Moussie, R.; Nesbitt-Ahmed, Z.; Sherpa, M. 'Policy Advocacy for Women's Unpaid care work: Comparing approaches and strategies in Nepal and Nigeria' *Gender and Development* Volume 2 (3)
2014	Chopra, D. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, India: Examining pathways towards establishing rights-based social contracts. *European Journal of Development Research* Volume 26 (3)
2014	Chopra, D. 'They don't want to work' versus 'They don't want to provide work': Seeking explanations for the decline of MGNREGA in Rajasthan. *ESID working paper 31*. Effective States in Development, University of Manchester.
2013	Devereux, S.; Roelen, K.; Bene, C., Chopra, D.; Leavy, J. and McGregor, J.A. Evaluating outside the Box: An Alternative Framework for Analysing Social protection Programmes, IDS Working paper 431, Brighton: IDS
2011	Chopra, D. and te Lintelo 'Democratic Governance for Social Justice: The Politics of Social Protection' in Devereux, S., Béné, C., Chopra, D., Koehler, G., Roelen, K., Sabates-Wheeler, R. and te Lintelo, D. 'Social Protection for Social Justice', *IDS Bulletin* 42.6, Brighton: IDS
2011	Chopra, D. Williams, P. and Vira, B. Politics of Citizenship: Experiencing State-Society Relations from the Margins, *Contemporary South Asia* 19.3
2011	Chopra, D. 'Interactions of 'Power' in the Making and Shaping of Social Policy', *Contemporary South Asia* 19.2
2011	Chopra, D. 'Policy Making in India: A Dynamic Process of Statecraft', *Pacific Affairs* 84.1
2011	Williams, P., Vira, B. and Chopra, D. 'Introduction: Marginality, Agency and Power: Experiencing the State in Contemporary India', *Pacific Affairs* 84.1

BOOKS and BOOK CHAPTERS

2015	Desai, S., Haddad, L., Chopra, D. and Thorat, A. (ed.) UnderNutrition and Public Policy in India: Investing in the Future. Routledge, India
2014	Chopra, D. Mediation through state and non-state actors in Policy Making in India: the case of MG National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in Von Lieres, B. and Piper, L. (ed) *Mediated Citizenship The Informal Politics of Speaking for Citizens in the Global South.* Chapter 6. Palgrave Publishing Ltd.
2014	Koehler, G. and Chopra. D (ed) *Development and Welfare Policy in South Asia*. Routledge (Single authored peer reviewed chapters in the book include Chapter 6: The Indian case: towards a Rights based Welfare State' and Chapter 12: Welfare, Development, Rights in South Asia'.
2014	Chopra, D. "Exercising my rights: ethical choices and moral predicaments in accessing government documents" in Lunn, J (ed) *Fieldwork in the Global South Ethical Challenges and Dilemmas* Oxon: Routledge
2014	Chopra, D. The Indian case: from welfare to rights. In Koehler, G. and Chopra. D (ed) *Development and Welfare Policy in South Asia*. Routledge

RESEARCH and POLICY REPORTS

2016	Chopra, D., and Nazneen, S. 'Addressing unpaid care for economic empowerment of women and girls – a position statement'. IDS – IDRC – OXFAM report to the UN High level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment.
2016	Transforming Care dynamics: Lessons from Programme and policy. IDS evidence paper (including appendix containing 50 cases of programmes and policies). IDS – IDRC – OXFAM report to the UN High level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment.
2014	Chaturvedi, S., Chenoy, A., Chopra, D., Joshi, A., and Laghdiyan, K.H. 'Indian Development Co-operation: The State of the Debate', IDS Evidence Report, Brighton: IDS
2013	Chopra, D. (with Kelbert, A. and Iyer, P.) A Feminist Political Economy Analysis of Public Policies Related to Care: A Thematic Review, IDS Evidence Report 9, Brighton: IDS
2010	Kabeer, N., Cook, S., Chopra, D., and Ainsworth, P. *Social Protection in Asia: Research Findings and Policy Lessons*, SPA Programme Synthesis Report, Brighton: SPA and IDS
2006	Mckay, S., Chopra, D. and Craw, M. *Migrant Workers in England and Wales: An assessment of Migrant Worker health and safety risks*, Working Lives Research Institute, London Metropolitan University, published by Health and Safety Executive, UK
2005	Sabates-Wheeler, R., Haddad, L., and Chopra, D. *Risk and Vulnerability: Case Studies of Practical Country-Level Instruments and Approaches Used by Different Agencies,* IDS for OECD-PovNet

POLICY BRIEFS

2015	Roychoudhury, S., Chenoy, A., Chopra, D. and Joshi, A**.** Is Indian Development Cooperation Taking a New Direction Under Modi? *IDS Policy Briefing 94*. Brighton: IDS
2015	Chopra, D. 'Investing in the Future: Reforming Public Policy to End Under-Nutrition in India *IDS Policy Briefing 85.* Brighton: IDS.
2015	Chopra, D. Balancing Paid Work and Unpaid Care work to achieve women's economic empowerment. *IDS Policy Briefing 83*. Brighton: IDS.
2014	Chaturvedi, S., Chenoy, A., Chopra, D., Joshi, A. and Lagdhiyan, K.H. 'Learning from India's Development Cooperation' *IDS Policy Briefing 70.* Brighton: IDS*.*
2014	Chopra, D. 'Connecting Unpaid Care Work and Childhood Development for Gains in Women and Children's Rights', *IDS Policy Briefing 51*. Brighton: IDS
2014	Chopra, D. 'Towards Gender equality with Care-sensitive Social Protection', *IDS Policy Briefing 49*. Brighton: IDS

OTHER RELEVANT OUTPUTS

2015	Redistributing care work for gender equality and justice – a training curriculum; published jointly by ActionAid International, IDS and Oxfam UK
2014	'Who cares' Animation, IDS, UK (*https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVW858qQHoE*)
2012 – present	Interactions website, IDS, UK (*http://interactions.eldis.org/*)

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL AND LEARNED SOCIETIES

2011 – Present	Member, Political Studies Association (PSA)
2011 - Present	Member, International Society for Third Sector Research (ISTR)
2009 – Present	Member, British Association for South Asian Studies (BASAS)
2006 – Present	Member, Development Areas Research Group (DARG), Development Studies Association
2009 – 2015	Early Career and Post Graduate Network Representative in Executive Council, British Association for South Asian Studies (BASAS)

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Computer Proficiency: MS Office; Proficient in the use of ATLAS.ti and N6

Languages: English and Hindi (fluent in reading, writing and speaking); Punjabi (spoken), Nepali (conversational), Spanish (basic conversational)