INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:
LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVES ON HOME-BASED WORK
STOCKHOLM MAY 23-24, 2018
This conference is organized by the Centre for Women’s Development Studies (CWDS), Delhi, the Swedish Labour Movement Archives and Library (ARAB), and Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO). The conference is funded by Riksbankens Jubileumsfond.

Stockholm, 2018
Tuesday 22 May 2018

Public lecture

Venue: ABF-huset Stockholm, Sveavägen 41
Organizers: ARAB, Arbetarnas Kulturhistoriska Sällskap, CWDS, Union to Union and WIEGO

18:00-20:00 A factory in the living room - the struggle for better working conditions, wages and protection for homeworkers around the world

Conference opening by Tomas With, vice president of IF Metall


Eileen Boris, University of California, Santa Barbara: “Long term perspectives on home-based work”
Chair: Silke Neunsinger, ARAB
**Wednesday 23 May 2018**

Venue: ARAB, Elektronvägen 2

**08:30-08:45 Welcome, introduction, practical information**

**08:45-10:15 Session 1: Statistics and visibility**

Introduction and comment: Joann Vanek, WIEGO

Laura Ekholm, University of Helsinki: “The garment industry and the home-based industrial work in the Swedish and Finnish business census”

Sraban Maitra, University of Glasgow: “Redefining “enterprising selves”: exploring the negotiation of South Asian immigrant women working as home-based entrepreneurs in Canada”

Maria Tambouko, University of East London, UK: “Home-based work: genealogies and assemblages”

**10:15-10:45 Coffee**

**10:45-12:15 continuing Session 1: Statistics and visibility**


Indira Hirway, Director and Professor of Economics Center For Development Alternatives, Ahmedabad: “Trade Liberalization and Home-based Workers: Critical Insights Emerging from Their Time Use”

Sona Mitra, Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability India: “Home-based Manufacturing Work for Women in India: Drivers and Dimension”

**12:15-13:00 Lunch**

**13:00-14:30 Session 2: Panel of representatives of Home Based Worker organisations from South Asia, South East Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and Africa**

Chair: Karin Pape, WIEGO

HomeNet South Asia (HNSA), HomeNet South East Asia (HNSEA), HomeNet Eastern Europe (HNEE), Latin American Home Based Worker Coordinadora, and the Kenyan Federation for Alternative Trade (KEFAT)

**14:30-15:00 Coffee**

**15:00-16:30 Session 3: Regulation**

Introduction and comment: Eileen Boris, University of California, Santa Barbara

Eloisa Betti, University of Bologna: “Industrial Homework and Fordism in Western Europe. Women’s agency, labour legislation and trade unions’ action in Golden Age Italy (1945-1975)”

Marlese Von Broembsen, WIEGO: “Realizing Rights for Homeworkers Participating in Global Supply Chains” (co-authored with Jenna Harvey)

Lin Lim, WIEGO: “The impact of a code of conduct on homeworkers”

**16:30- 17:00 Summing-up**

Comment by Neetha Pillai, CWDS

**18:30 Dinner**
Thursday 24 May 2018

Venue: ARAB, Elektronvägen 2

8:30-10:00 Session 4: Sectoral profiles and trends

Introduction and commentator: Chris Bonner, WIEGO and Indrani Mazumdar, CWDS

Gabriela Mitidieri, University of Buenos Aires: “A virtuous woman knows how to sew”. Labour, craft and domesticity in Buenos Aires City during the decades of 1850 and 1860

Leda Papastefanaki, University of Ioannina: “Sewing at home (Greece, 1870s -1930s). A global history perspective”

Ann Kristin Klausen, Helgeland museum: “Nesnalobben- a shoe from Norway made by homeworkers”

10:00-10:30 Coffee

10:30-12:15 Continuing Session 4: Sectoral profiles and trends

T M Tonmoy Islam, Elon University: “Home-based work of Bangladeshi women”


Archana Prasad, Jawaharlal Nehru University: “Homeworkers and Labour Markets under Contemporary Capitalism: A Case Study of Export Oriented Garment Sector in India”

12:15-13:00 Lunch

13:00-14:30 Session 5: Agency

Introduction and comment: Jane Barrett, WIEGO and Malin Nilsson, University of Lund/ARAB


Saniye Dedeoglu, Mugla University: “Knitting Women’s Home-Based Work into Istanbul’s Garment Industry”

Nicholas Fernandez Bravo, Universidad de Buenos Aires: “Beyond the rhetoric of ‘slave labor’: subaltern experiences of self-organization among precarious workers in Argentina.”

14:30-15:00 Coffee

15:00-16:30 Continuing session 5: Agency

K. Kalpana, Indian institute of technology: “Refusing invisibility: Women workers in sub-contracted work in a South Indian city”

Sonia George, WIEGO: “Re-engaging Work Spheres into Labour Spaces: The Micro/Macro Politics of Home Based Work”

Janine Berg, ILO: “Contemporary digital homework: Old challenges, different solutions?”

16:30-17:00 Summing up and concluding discussion

Final comment by Indu Agnihotri, CWDS, Marty Chen, WIEGO and Silke Neunsinger, ARAB.