



Oxford Department of
International Development

Annual Report 2024

Welcome to the 2024 ODID report

Welcome to our annual report for 2023/24. The year was marked by transition and transformation, by a fantastic mix of research initiatives, accomplishments, and high-profile events, and by efforts to build bridges across the department. The report gives a clear sense of the range of the department's creativity and contributions. Less visible here, but essential to it all, is the everyday work of teaching, research and professional support across the department, the high calibre of which deserves celebration in itself.

For three of our research centres, the year was one of transition and transformation. After fifteen years, Xiaolan Fu handed over the baton at the Technology and Management Centre for Development to Amir Lebdioui, who initiated a process of refocusing towards green economic transformation. At Young Lives, Marta Favara, the long-time lead on the centre's quantitative research, took over the directorship from Cath Porter. The centre completed round seven of its unique longitudinal survey research and opened out new areas of research, including on climate change and environmental shocks. Tom Scott-Smith took up the directorship of the Refugee Studies Centre from Alex Betts. The centre was a hub of activity, including well-attended public and academic events and the Refugee-Led Research Hub's much expanded work supporting students and others with experiences of displacement. The RSC ran its international online schools on forced migration an unprecedented three times, reaching a large and diverse audience. At the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, Sabina Alkire remained in place, initiating new work on gender, organising OPHI's summer school, and pursuing the centre's longstanding work on multidimensional poverty indices across the world.

We have had many successes to celebrate. Awards and prizes included Nikita Sud's Leverhulme Research Fellowship, Amogh Sharma's Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship, and Albert Park's Teaching Excellence Award. Alumni demonstrated their diverse talents, from Julie Taylor's exhibition at Rhodes House to Carmen Contreras Romero's recognition as a top woman leader in Chile to Sam Ritholtz's thesis prizes. Impact and public engagement took many forms, exemplified here by Nandini Gooptu's collaborative ESRC project film on gendered violence in Indian cities and by the use of Young Lives' research to inform legal prohibitions on child

marriage in Peru. There were a great many fascinating podcasts, blogs, media contributions, photo exhibitions, and public expert testimonies too.

The department came together around shared research interests in new and old ways. We launched the Research Roundtables, designed to bring people into conversation across disciplines, degrees and research centres. Roundtables were led by Max Bolt on work, Corneliu Bjola on digital methods, and myself on film, fiction and social change. Laura Rival led the department's well attended Climate Change lecture series. Many other international conferences and events brought people together and furthered collaboration. The scale and excellence of the research produced by staff and students is demonstrated in the impressive and impressively diverse list of publications and theses at the end of the report.

Throughout the year many staff and students grappled with the consequences for our particular communities of learning and research of the expanding violence in Gaza. Key engagement took place in the student-led Palestine Discussion Series and the RSC's lecture series. These formed part of our wider efforts to maintain a supportive, critical and open environment for study and intellectual engagement in the department, processes that were at times difficult, but ultimately underlined the value of an institution such as ours.

Finally, I owe very sincere thanks to my predecessors, Diego Sánchez-Ancochea and Christopher Adam, who offered advice and support throughout my first year. They established many of the fixtures and practices that have been a source of constructive action, such as our annual department awayday, and of joy – notably the termly head of department lunches with early career researchers and with departmental lecturers. ■



Jocelyn Alexander
Head of Department

Highlights



IMPACT

Informing legislative change to prohibit child marriage in Peru

Government records in Peru registered 4,357 child marriages between 2013 and 2022; 98% occurred between girls aged 11–17 and adult men. In addition to formal marriages, young girls may also be vulnerable to informal unions and cohabitation.

Legislative change in Peru to prohibit and eliminate any possibility of marriage with minors under the age of 18 was approved by Congress on 2 November 2023 and put into effect by Government promulgation on 25 November 2023. Prior to the new legislation, adolescents were permitted to marry from the age of 14 under certain conditions, with consent from at least one parent, despite the minimum legal age of marriage being 18 years for girls and boys.

This change in the law has the potential to protect thousands of young girls from child marriage – and to discourage informal unions and cohabitation with minors – particularly vulnerable girls in poor and marginalised households, and among indigenous communities. It will also provide the opportunity for girls who were married as minors to have their marriages annulled.

Young Lives longitudinal data has generated in-depth findings on the determinants and consequences of early marriage through following the lives of 12,000 young people in Ethiopia, India, Peru and Vietnam since 2001. Their mixed-methods evidence shows that early marriage and becoming a parent during adolescence correspond to significantly worse life outcomes for both young women and their children. Girls who marry early are less likely to complete secondary education, with reduced employment opportunities and a lower sense of well-being and empowerment. Children born to adolescent mothers typically have a lower birthweight and shorter height-for-age. Girls from poor households are most at risk of early marriage. Girls with low self-efficacy and low educational aspirations, and those with low school attendance and poor school performance, are also at higher risk of early marriage and parenthood.

Evidence from the **Young Marriage and Parenthood Study (YMAPS)**, a collaboration between Young Lives, Child Frontiers and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), shows that poverty and entrenched gender inequality are key drivers of child marriage. Girls who marry early typically have limited knowledge about or access to sexual and reproductive health care and services, and are at much greater risk of physical and psychosocial violence from their partners.

Young Lives research and policy findings have directly informed both government and public debate on the prevalence and impact of early and child marriage in Peru

over many years. Working at the senior level, Young Lives has provided evidence and advice to representatives of key government ministries, alongside international organisations such as UNFPA and UNICEF, NGOs such as Plan International, and leading academics.

Notably, **Young Lives evidence** was directly cited in the Parliamentary Bill presented to Congress on 29 September 2022, at the initiative of Congresswoman Flor Pablo. In December 2022, the Young Lives Peru team (Vanessa Rojas and Alan Sanchez) were invited by Congresswoman Pablo to present Young Lives findings on early marriage and teenage pregnancy as part of an evidence roundtable discussing the related bill.

“Young Lives longitudinal evidence on the causes and consequences of child marriage in Peru has been pivotal for driving this important legislative change,” Congresswoman Pablo said. “The study has enabled a much more in-depth understanding of how poverty and entrenched gender norms continue to drive child marriage, particularly among remote and indigenous communities.”

Young Lives findings from the roundtable were disseminated in a high-profile article published in *Congreso de la Republica*. Wider media coverage citing Young Lives evidence includes numerous articles in the national press and high-profile blogs, including in *La República* and *El Comercio*.

While the change in Peru’s legislation is an important step in protecting girls from child marriage, Young Lives evidence shows that legislation alone is not enough, as discussed in a recent Young Lives Peru article by Vanessa Rojas in *El Comercio*, and highlighted in recent work in India. Tackling the underlying causes of early marriage and parenthood involves addressing factors associated with poverty and inequality, and addressing persistent social norms which discriminate against girls and young women, particularly among poor and marginalised communities.

Ensuring that a diversity of voices and lived experiences inform changes in legislation and related policy implementation is vital to deliver lasting positive change. A new multisectoral national plan to reduce the rate of teenage pregnancy, a consequence of child marriage and early cohabitation, is currently being developed in Peru. Ensuring this is implemented successfully will require strong political will and engagement across whole communities, including working with men and boys.

For further information on the Young Lives evidence and how it was referenced in the team’s engagement with the Peruvian Congress, [see a longer version of this case study here.](#) ■

AUGUST 2023

Ashwiny Kistnareddy book shortlisted for prize

Migrant Masculinities in Women's Writing: (In)Hospitality, Community, Vulnerability by

Ashwiny Kistnareddy has been shortlisted for the 2023 Literary Encyclopedia Book Prize.

The book examines the representation of masculinities in contemporary texts written by women who have immigrated into France or Canada from a range of geographical spaces.

The book charts the extent to which migration generates new ways of understanding and writing masculinities. It draws on diverse theoretical perspectives, including postcolonial theory, affect theory and critical race theory, while bringing visibility to the many women across various historical and geographical terrains who write about (im)migration and the impact on men, even as these women, too, acquire a different position in the new society.

The book was published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2021.



NOVEMBER 2023

Corneliu Bjola gives evidence on use of AI in diplomacy

Associate Professor Corneliu Bjola gave evidence to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the UK Parliament on artificial intelligence and diplomacy.

Professor Bjola estimated the degree of risk associated with different potential activities and highlighted a number of problems with the use of AI, from explainability, potential distortions from the data used and problems of weighting. He also touched on questions of regulation.

Ultimately he said it was important to distinguish between AI informing decisions and AI driving decisions,



and the dangers of eliminating humans from the loop.

[Read a transcript of the session.](#)

NOVEMBER 2023

Amir Lebdioui wins award to research green transformation

Amir Lebdioui won a \$550,000 award to kickstart a research and policy engagement programme on green economic transformation in Latin America.

The economic future of Latin America is intrinsically linked to climate change as well as the trade



dynamics associated with the global decarbonisation agenda. This research programme therefore aims to generate new insights and evidence on the various pathways to green economic transformation in Latin America.

More specifically, this research will explore regional approaches to green industrial policy in Latin America; the scope for biodiversity-based innovation ecosystems in the Amazon region; the political economy of low carbon technology transfer in an era of geopolitical competition; and the financing of green industrialisation in Latin America.

This programme supports and relies on various collaborations with scholars and policymakers in Latin America and beyond.

SEPTEMBER 2023



Refugee-Led Research Festival 2023 takes place in Nairobi

The second annual Refugee-Led Research Festival took place in Nairobi, Kenya, organised by the Refugee-Led Research Hub (RLRH). This year the festival was titled Roadmaps for Transformative Leadership. It brought together researchers, academics, artists, practitioners, and others from throughout East Africa to promote refugee leadership in universities and in forced migration research and practice. The five-day programme included a mix of interactive panel discussions, lectures and presentations, trainings and workshops, movie screenings, socials, and more.

The festival aimed to: 1) spotlight refugee-led research, 2) provide an overview of academic, research, and professional opportunities available, 3) connect RLRH-affiliated learners and researchers with people who care about ethical academic and research ecosystems, 4) facilitate the exchange of ideas and actions that are making a difference, and 5) strengthen commitments from participants to support refugee leadership in research and elsewhere.

[Find out more here.](#)

IMPACT

Urban Transformation and Gendered Violence in India

By Nandini Gooptu

The modern city promises many opportunities, but it also poses many challenges to women in public and private, including everyday violence. Through women's own narratives, the film *No City for Women: Gurgaon | Millennium City | 2023* explores their experience of living and working in the city.

The film was produced as a part of an ESRC-funded Cambridge-Oxford collaborative **research project on urban transformation and gendered violence in India**. We collaborated with professional film-makers Rangan Chakravarty, Director, and Arjun Gourisaria, Editor (twice winner of the Indian National Film Award for editing).

Set in Gurgaon, India's 'millennial' city in the Delhi National Capital Region (NCR), the film illuminates the exclusionary and oppressively gendered nature of techno-

modern urbanisation. As the city becomes more modern, it also becomes aggressively masculinised and women face increasing patriarchal control. The film depicts how women themselves understand and experience violence in both public and private, not only as physical assault, but also as suffering, pain and struggles emanating from the gendered compulsion to live circumscribed and diminished lives. The film explores how women exercise their spirited agency to make the city their own, in the face of humiliation, coercion and restriction.

We adopted the strategy of recording women's narratives through open-ended and empathetic conversations. Eschewing a focus on much publicised overt acts of physical violence or sexual violation, particular attention was paid to the gendered social



“The film showed what women face everyday all the time; it is overwhelming to see it all stitched together in the film, because we don't ever get to see it that way.”

“It's just so shocking that all these are universal and no one would ever notice it even though it's happening on a large scale. It's like we know something like this is happening but we won't take any steps towards it. People would just let it slide rather than doing anything about it ...”

worlds that women inhabit and the banal, insidious and normalised forms of harm and abuse in public and private that are often borne in silence by women and that receive little public discussion or recognition.

Taking Gurgaon to be emblematic of gendered urban life in India, we are promoting the film to urban audiences to visibilise and validate women's tacit knowledge and experience of normalised and everyday forms of violence. Our aim is to redress the 'testimonial injustice' of ignoring or dismissing women's voices and narratives about such insidious, corrosive experiences. Our target audience is, in particular, young people, accessed through higher education institutions. For women, we seek to vindicate their lived realities and, for men, we hope to create awareness of 'invisible' gendered violence.

The film premiered at the 4th Beyond Borders Feminist Film Festival in Delhi in December 2023 and was chosen as the Official Selection. It was subsequently screened at the International Documentary and Short Film Festival, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala (Official Selection); Indian Documentary Film Festival, Bhuvaneswar, Orissa; India International Centre and India Habitat Centre, Delhi; Museo Camera, Gurgaon, in collaboration with the NGO Safetipin that works to create safe cities for women; and UK Development Studies Association Annual Conference, London; Cambridge and Oxford. More importantly, the

film has been shown at colleges and universities in cities in India, such as Delhi NCR, Kolkata, Bangalore (around 10 screenings so far). Members of the research team have been in attendance for post-screening discussions that have been gratifyingly animated and engaging, usually extending for far longer duration than originally planned. Audiences have also submitted comments in writing at screenings and through a QR code on Google forms.

Audience response and comments suggest that the twin aims of affirming women's experiences and creating awareness about normalised violence are being realised. The most frequently used term in comments was "relatable". Below are some audience comments.

Male viewers

- “I am not a perpetrator [of violence], but I realise now how complicit I am.”

Female viewers

- Time didn't feel it had passed while watching the film. With every story [more] relatable than the next.”

- “I have never before felt so seen ...”
- “It made me reflect. ... It felt very suffocating.”
- “I had goosebumps ...”
- “Thoroughly shook me. I would like to show this to my family. ... absolutely captivating film.”
- “It was like one of the many daily reminders that how scary it is to be a woman and how deep rooted and internalized patriarchy is. I got chills during the film, some moments hitting too close to home.”

Nishtha Jain, award-winning feminist film director

- “What kind of cities have we created for our women? ... The kind of spaces women have to negotiate just on their way to work, then at work, and after-hours, and at home. Will this ever change? The film takes a deep dive into the structure of our society that perpetrates this violence. Brilliantly put together.”

Bina Paul, National Award winning film editor

- “It's quite explosive. Maybe one of the most hard-hitting films I have seen on the subject. On masculinity actually. It is very moving in the attitude of the young women and what they are up against.” ■



The film presents women's own narratives about the challenges of living and working in the city in India. As cities become more modern, women face increasing lack of safety and violence in public and private, but they also make the city their own.

Directed by Rangan Chakravarty
Edited by Arjun Gourisaria, twice winner
of the National Award
Research led by Nandini Gooptu
The GendV Project, Cambridge and
Oxford
Funded by UKRI (ESRC)

RESEARCH

Expanding horizons: the role of digital methods in development research

Although still emerging and constantly evolving, digital methods already play an important role in ODID's work. At a roundtable in February, researchers showcased four projects centred on digital analysis, showing how these approaches can help us understand and shape political, economic and behavioural trends – now and in the future.

Using artificial intelligence to value technological innovation

Professor Xiaolan Fu explained that to date, the world has lacked objective, accurate and affordable methods to calculate the value of new intellectual property (IP). This makes it hard for industry to raise the funds needed for innovation based on new IP, hindering economic growth and knowledge transfer. It also leaves innovators in developing countries at a disadvantage when negotiating sale of their IP to multinational companies.

To improve on traditional valuation methods, which are 21% accurate on average and 67% in the best record in the literature, Professor Fu and her colleagues developed large industry-specific databases and tried different artificial intelligence (AI) models – machine learning, deep learning and large language models – for predicting the value of IP. The machine learning model proved consistently strong, achieving over 90% accuracy when tested on information and communication technology (ICT) start-ups in California which had raised finance in the past ten years. This was validated using data from different sectors and regions, even accounting for different institutional factors that affect value. Fully automated, the model is very fast and is affordable, at around 10% of the cost of traditional private-sector analysis.

Find out more: **OxValue.AI**.

Profiling India's digital election campaigns

Research into India's election campaigns over the past two decades shows digital media playing an increasingly important role. As **Dr Amogh Dhar Sharma** explained, the 2014 general election that brought the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to power was the first to feature digital media significantly. The 2019 election was dubbed India's "WhatsApp election", while 2024's vote is viewed as the "Big Data election". Parties in India frequently hold digital rallies and place considerable importance on communicating with voters through social media. Analysing this digital imprint reveals underlying social and political changes. Dr Sharma used the "Wayback

machine", a tool which captures screenshots from websites over time, to assess how parties like the BJP have positioned themselves to the electorate since the mid-1990s.

However, digital content creation during election campaigns is no longer within parties' total control. Researching a major party's campaign team in Punjab's 2022 elections, Dr Sharma found that professionals ranging from data scientists to Instagram influencers were quickly emerging as the real drivers of a political campaign. Exploring the experiences, motivations and frustrations of these actors provides deeper understanding of the intersection of democratic politics with new media technology.

Find out more: Amogh Dhar Sharma (2024) *The Backstage of Democracy: India's Election Campaigns and the People Who Manage Them*, Cambridge University Press.

Fear and anger on social media: the politics of emotions

Digital analysis offers valuable insights into the emotions driving, and fuelled by, political trends. Many people think populists thrive on fear, explained **Professor Jörg Friedrichs**, but machine analysis of political messaging shows the reverse. Fear is a governmental – or mainstream – emotion, while populism thrives on anger. Using dictionary tools, which assess text for particular words, Professor Friedrichs' team analysed thousands of Brexit campaign tweets, constructing a time series to identify fluctuations in fear and anger among Leave and Remain supporters. They found the governmental Remain camp was driven by fear – the establishment's response when populism increases. This approach can be used to analyse any type of text for emotions or tone.

A machine learning approach yielded even deeper insights when used to assess UK governmental and populist framing of the Covid pandemic. The team applied their model to 5,000 tweets to code whether they were governmental (promoting risk-averse behaviour) or populist (dismissing risk), and then built a machine learning classifier which they applied to 1 million tweets. The resulting time series show, once again, that fear correlates with governmentality, and populism with fear. They also show causality – how one time series can predict others. The approach can be adjusted to explore many aspects of political rhetoric, such as left vs. right, or

pro- vs. anti-war, providing a powerful tool for exploring diverse research questions.

Find out more: Jörg Friedrichs et al. (2022) **'Fear-anger contests: Governmental and populist politics of emotion'**. *Online Social Networks and Media*

Using AI to interpret diplomatic signalling: lessons from the Ukraine war

In times of crisis, AI modelling can help ministries of foreign affairs cope with the "fog of war" by adjusting the impact of the factors that contribute to reducing, as opposed to increasing, uncertainty in decision making. In the Ukraine war, for example, many politicians worldwide express support for Ukraine, yet may vacillate in terms of actions that support their statements, explained **Professor Corneliu Bjola**. AI modelling can capture and analyse these signals. Professor Bjola's pilot analysed real-time data from tweets in July 2022, to see which world leaders were talking the most, and what was being said. The model allows diplomats to trace in real time which international actors are most active and confident in terms of signalling, how these signals coalesce or diverge from each other, and to what extent these signals are consistent and predictable.

The analysis revealed that the EU, through the signals sent by its Presidents, Ursula von der Leyen and Charles Michel, was committed to supporting the long-term reconstruction of Ukraine and to demonstrating solidarity with other countries that might be threatened by Russia, such as Moldova. The NATO Secretary General, Jens Stoltenberg, and US Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, insisted that Russian aggression required stronger military preparation, collective deterrence and coordinated support for Ukraine.

The predictive capacity of the model could be improved by adjusting it to assess data on subsequent actions. This would enable it to demonstrate the alignment between political rhetoric and policy action, providing valuable insights for diplomatic responses. This capability allows for a more informed approach, for example by determining whether Ukrainian leaders should express concern and dispatch representatives to the United States to secure resources.

Find out more: Corneliu Bjola (2022) **'Artificial Intelligence and Diplomatic Crisis Management: Addressing the 'Fog of War' Problem'**, *DigDiploROx Working Paper No 6*

An essential, multi-faceted research tool

In all these cases, digital methods offer potential drawbacks, including the time complex approaches can require, possible data biases, the need for thorough validation of findings, the dependence on big-tech companies for data, ensuring data veracity, and building trustworthiness into digital systems.

But AI is likely to be a game-changer for social science research, offering new tools and capabilities for data analysis, modelling and prediction. These will enable researchers to automate processes, gain deeper insights, and ultimately address complex societal problems more effectively. ■

This article draws on an ODID Research Roundtable on digital methods held in Hilary Term 2024. ODID Research Roundtables are intended to create productive conversations around shared intellectual interests, methods, and practices in the department.



JANUARY 2024



RSC launches new logo

The Refugee Studies Centre launched a new logo.

The previous logo was in use for over fifteen years, and a great deal has changed at the Centre and in the wider world since then. The new logo aims to capture the detailed academic research that stands at the heart of the Centre's work, as well as its positive and inclusive approach to education and outreach.

JANUARY 2024

Routledge Revivals to republish 15 Robin Cohen books

Fifteen books authored, co-authored and edited by Emeritus Professor Robin Cohen over the course of his more than 50-year are being republished by Routledge as part of its Revivals series.

Routledge Revivals reissues previously out of print and unavailable titles by some of the world's most eminent academic scholars. Books are republished in hardback and electronic format, often with a new preface.



Professor Cohen, who was Professor of Development Studies at ODID between 2006 and 2013, started his academic career at the University of Ibadan in 1967. His initial academic focus was on the emergence of an African working class and how and why popular struggles in South Africa might challenge the apartheid regime in South Africa. Subsequent work has made significant contributions to the field of migration studies with a particular focus on diasporas.

Access the titles here.

JANUARY 2024

Catherine Briddick gives evidence on UK-Rwanda Agreement

Professor Catherine Briddick gave written evidence to the House of Lords International Agreements Committee on the UK-Rwanda Agreement, together with Professor Cathryn Costello of Sutherland School of Law, University College Dublin.

Their evidence stated that the use of an international treaty did not mean that Rwanda was a safe country: "International law requires that the assessment of safety is an empirical matter, not a purely legal one. Although concluding an international treaty may make it more likely that the provisions of the agreement will be respected, that cannot be assumed."

They went on to state, "The Agreement enables the relocation of individuals in circumstances that risk breaching the UK's obligations under a range of international human rights and refugee law treaties, customary international law and arguably norms of jus cogens. Any attempt to relocate an individual pursuant to this Agreement is likely to be contested, not only before the ECtHR but also before a range of UN Treaty Bodies"

The full Written Evidence is available online here.



JANUARY 2024

New podcast explores 'skills for young lives'

Young Lives introduced a new podcast series drawing on their research to explore how young people develop skills.

In the series Young Lives Director Cath Porter unpacked the latest research on how girls and boys develop skills throughout childhood and adolescence; how poverty, gender and global crises shape their experiences; and in what ways policies can empower equitable futures.

The podcast features a series of three conversations with academic, policy and programme experts.

The series is available to listen to on the Oxford University Podcast platform.

JANUARY 2024

Simukai Chigudu named one of 10 African scholars to watch

The Africa Report named Associate Professor Simukai Chigudu as one of 10 African scholars to watch in 2024.

The list highlights 10 scholars who, according to the Africa Report, "have been making life-changing decisions that help change the world every day. Through their various fields of study/research, they deal with some of the world's most pressing problems and help shape public debates".

Dr Chigudu is Associate Professor of African Politics at ODID. His research focusses on the politics of global health and epidemics, race and identity, and citizenship and activist movements, with a regional focus on Africa and the African diaspora.

The full Africa Report list is available to read here.



FEBRUARY 2024

David Jackman wins funding for research on 'venal offices'

David Jackman won a John Fell Fund award to research the buying and selling of government jobs in South Asia.

Throughout much of known history and in much of the world, government jobs have been bought and sold and similar practices continue in parts of the world today. In South Asia for example newspaper investigations often highlight the 'scams' and 'syndicates' involving political leaders, bureaucrats and middlemen who control the recruitment, transfer and promotions of staff in government departments. However, very little research has been carried out into such practices.

This new project will focus on three contexts in South Asia (the Indian states of West Bengal and Karnataka, and Bangladesh). It will reveal how jobs are bought and sold and examine the political significance of this at both state and national levels.



MARCH 2024

William Collins to publish new Ruben Andersson book

Publisher **William Collins** acquired the rights to a new book by Professor Ruben Andersson exploring how a self-defeating desire for security has come to dominate politics.

The book, whose working title is *Age of Security*, is due to be published by spring 2027.

Going back to the fall of the Berlin Wall and the rise of new border barriers, the book moves through the 'war on terror' and the pandemic response into the present global security disorder. It



suggests that both security supply and demand are escalating, yet they are often tragically – and profitably – mismatched. Security solutions frequently fail to provide the safety citizens crave, as seen from disastrous wars to chaotic borders and battles over everyday surveillance.

The book will argue that security has stepped into a void where ordinary politics has failed – while pointing to pathways forward that rehabilitate a more positive vision of our common future.

MARCH 2024

Nikita Sud wins Leverhulme Research Fellowship

Professor Nikita Sud won a Leverhulme Research Fellowship to research her Princeton University Press monograph 'Powered by the South: Energy, Extraction, and Assertion in the Majority World'.

The project brings together Professor Sud's training in history and the interdisciplinary social sciences to understand the making of the Global South through flows, and contests, around energy. This includes the colonial quest for timber, flora and fauna; trade in humans, extending to indenture and slavery; and only later the fossilised energy, in the form of coal and oil, that has shaped the modern world.

The Leverhulme Research Fellowship will allow Professor Sud to delve into the contemporary parts of her project, tracing the dynamics of green energy transition, which are impacting economy, society, and polity in many parts of the world, in addition to having positive and negative environmental impacts. Fieldwork for the project has, so far, taken Professor Sud to some of the world's most coal-dependent countries, currently undergoing rapid energy transition.



NOVEMBER 2023



Xiaolan Fu Wins 2023 Mulan Award

Professor Xiaolan Fu won a 2023 Mulan Annual Award for her contribution to Science, Technology and Engineering.

The Mulan Awards are organised by the Mulan Foundation Network, which aims to recognise and celebrate the achievements of Chinese women in the UK and elsewhere. It was established in 2013.

Professor Fu said, "I am deeply honoured and humbled to receive the Mulan Award for my contribution to science and technology through my research, education and impact efforts. I have been fortunate to work on exciting and impactful projects promoting science and technology capabilities in the developing world. I believe that science and technology can be a powerful force for good in the world, although they also come with ethical and social implications to address."

Professor Fu is Professor of Technology and International Development and Director of the Technology and Management Centre for Development at ODID.

Find out more about the awards and read the official announcement here.

MARCH 2024



OPHI, UNDP strengthen partnership in LAC

OPHI and the United Nations Development Programme in Latin America and the Caribbean signed an agreement to enhance support to countries in the region to design and implement poverty reduction strategies guided by the Multidimensional Poverty Index.

The collaboration also aims to advance research to provide new evidence on the connections between current multidimensional poverty reduction policies and other national policies, such as productivity, energy transition, and private sector inclusion.

The partnership brings together the cutting-edge academic research of OPHI and UNDP's long-standing technical capacities, distributed through its 26 country offices in the region serving 42 countries and territories, to better support governments in their efforts to tackle poverty effectively. The cooperation includes knowledge production, training schemes, and combining teams at both institutions to offer comprehensive support to countries.

MARCH 2024

Young Lives presents at Wilton Park

Young Lives Senior Policy Advisor, Kath Ford, was invited to present at a high-level international policy event on Building Women's Economic Empowerment into Climate Transitions at Wilton Park, in support of the UK's new Global Campaign for Women's Economic Empowerment.

The three-day event brought together governments, the private sector, academic, civil society, and multilateral institutions from around the world. The purpose was to explore the key challenges to building women's economic empowerment



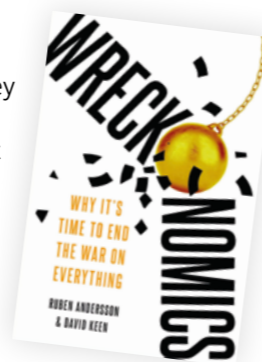
into the green growth agenda and how to overcome them. Kath shared Young Lives' evidence on the impact of climate shocks on skills development, and the broader challenges faced by girls and women to access decent jobs in the face of persistent gender discrimination.

MARCH 2024

Ruben Andersson features at Oxford Literary Festival

Professor Ruben Andersson and co-author Professor David Keen (LSE) spoke at the Oxford Literary Festival about their new book *Wreckonomics: Why It's time to End the War on Everything* (OUP). In this book they look at why politicians continue with failing policies such as the fights

against terror, migration and drugs when they often have the opposite effect to what they are seeking. Andersson and Keen point to the disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan that topped two decades of the war on terror, migration policies that have stoked chaos and rights abuses and pushed migrants on to more dangerous routes, and a war on drugs that has failed to dampen demand and fuelled atrocities around the world. They offer new strategies for tackling our desire to wage war on everything.



RESEARCH

Defending community rights in the march towards green energy

In the global march for greener energy, the needs – and sometimes even the human rights – of local populations affected by 'green' projects are often deemed of little importance. **Ongoing research by Nikita Sud on energy and the Global South** shows clearly that a view of local people as 'residue' is often at the heart of eco-driven investment models. Colonial and postcolonial development, and continuing North-South structural inequalities, are built on the idea of the residual, racialised, inferior 'other'. The transition to green energy is reinforcing these long-held hierarchies.

On the Indonesian island of Rempang, for example, the national government and a Chinese-backed business consortium want to move the entire community to another island and turn their home into a huge solar panel manufacturing centre, solar farm and 'ecocity'. The project will cover 17,000 hectares, displacing 7,500 inhabitants from 16 villages. Situated in western Indonesia's Riau archipelago, Rempang has long been home to small fishing and farming communities. But the island now lies within the special manufacturing, trade and logistics zone of Batam, and its people face eviction.

In **earlier research**, Sud describes a similar zone of special economic interest in India as 'hydra-like', because these sought-after zones change identity according to what is profitable. It appears that in 2004, Indonesian company PT MEG secured official permission to develop Rempang as a tourism zone covering 5,000 hectares, preserving existing villages. But today, greater profits lie in the green energy transition.

In mid-2023 Rempang's residents found their roads lined with armed police and military trucks in what seemed to be a state-backed land grab. Soldiers and police clashed with farmers and fishing people. Numerous arrests followed, with police and government authorities investigating protestors' home lives, work and financial affairs, in what local people describe as 'harassment' and 'pressure' to give up their land.

Gradually learning more about the project, residents petitioned different layers of government, even visiting the capital, Jakarta, to try and meet officials. "People here have history. Their whole story is in this area. They love this land," said one local fisherman. "You can make your project here... but build it in an empty area... Keep us here, give jobs to our children ... [or] our identity will be lost."

Finding the authorities unresponsive, the community began demonstrations, taken up by civil society organisations in Jakarta. But despite growing opposition

and media coverage, officials dismissed popular discontent, continuing preparations for the Rempang Ecocity as an industrial, service and tourism area. The project aims to attract investment of about 381 trillion Indonesian Rupiah (almost US\$25 billion) by 2080, creating jobs for 30,000 workers. The leading international investor is China's Xinyi Glass, one of the world's largest manufacturers of glass for solar panels.

A key factor in the loss of the community's land is Indonesia's regulatory flexibility. This enabled the government to declare the proposed Rempang Ecocity a Project of National Strategic Importance, allowing it to bypass social and environmental impact assessments, and acquire land quickly.

The island also offers a crucial resource in the green energy transition: silica and quartz sand, the base material for manufacturing glass for solar panels. Mass mining of sand is a global environmental crisis often overlooked, with archipelagic Indonesia at its centre.

Among residents who have signed relocation papers, some say they were under intense pressure to do so, although the authorities claim no one has been coerced. Many residents have rejected the low compensation on offer, compelling officials to negotiate over the amount and to change the relocation site.

Others are holding out. New rumours that local resistance will lead to the project's cancellation have been denied, although protests have forced the government to postpone its original eviction date of September 2023, and then September 2024. Finally receiving assistance from civil society groups and legal aid organisations, residents are openly asking fundamental questions about relocation, such as where their children will study.

Ongoing events in Rempang are just the tip of the iceberg, as the poorer areas of the South become suppliers helping meet global energy needs. While the world seeks to increase green energy consumption, we need to consider the likely winners and losers in this process. Despite much international talk of climate and energy justice, the idea of a 'just' green energy transition fails to reach places like Rempang. ■

Read Nikita's full account of the Rempang story at **The Conversation**. The research has been made possible by ODID's research support fund, the John Fell Fund, and a Leverhulme research fellowship.

APRIL 2024

Ashwiny Kistnareddy wins funding for app

Ashwiny Kistnareddy was awarded a John Fell Fund Main Award to develop an app that aims to provide language learning and well-being support for newly arrived young people in the UK.



The UK has seen a sharp rise in the number of newly arrived children being sent to new regions with no or limited prior history of resettled or asylum-seeking children. This has led to increased demands for English as an Additional Language (EAL) and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) support, along with well-being support given the circumstances in which many of these children have left their home countries and arrived in the UK.

In partnership with the Department for Education, Dr Kistnareddy's project, Newly Arrived Children: EAL and Other Provisions Project, seeks to explore the opportunity for remote access for these young people to support them in regions that are under-resourced and underfunded, and also in cases where the minors are waiting for long periods before being granted asylum.

Find out more about the project.

APRIL 2024



Young Lives photo exhibition features at UN gender equality event

An exhibition of photographs drawn from the Young Lives study featured as part of the UN's largest annual gathering on gender equality and women's empowerment.

Young Lives Senior Policy Advisor, Kath Ford, and Communications Manager, Julia Tilford, were invited by

UNICEF to launch the photo exhibition, conveying Young Lives research and policy findings, at UNICEF's flagship **Commission on the Status of Women** event, "We Deserve Better: Unlocking the power of social protection for women and girls".

This high-level event, jointly hosted with the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and the Hewlett Foundation, was attended by government ministers, civil society, and international organisations.

The photo exhibition featured 12 images selected to convey the challenges girls and young women face as they grow up. Captions explained how gender-responsive social protection measures can support girls and young women across the life course.

View the exhibition online.

APRIL 2024



OPHI collaboration to address gender and multidimensional poverty

OPHI signed a Statement of Intent with the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) of the Organization of American States (OAS) to integrate an intersectional gender perspective into the measurement and use of multidimensional poverty data in public policy in Latin America and the Caribbean.

According to the 2023 UNDP LAC report, in large areas of Latin America and the Caribbean, the incidence of multidimensional poverty among

women varies depending on the territory in which they live; 58% of rural women, compared to 18% of urban women, live in multidimensional poverty. The lack of disaggregated data is one of the main obstacles to the formulation of effective public policies to adequately address their demands.

This collaboration between CIM and OPHI aims to expand and improve the availability of disaggregated data, as well as to build capacities and influence public policy formulation.

MAY 2024

Albert Sanghoon Park wins Teaching Excellence Award

Dr Albert Sanghoon Park won a Teaching Excellence Award in the Early Career Strand.



Dr Park, who teaches on the MPhil in Development Studies, was recognised for the exceptional contributions he has made to the degree since joining in 2022. As a supervisor, he excels in supporting students' self-development throughout the course. In particular, he works with supervisees to explore their course goals and personal trajectories in international development.

As co-convenor of the mandatory Core Course, Dr Park worked with Course Director and fellow co-convenor Dr Simukai Chigudu to pilot a 'Core Forum', which created a space for the international and multidisciplinary cohort to draw out and discuss their respective views on the past, present, and future of development studies by the end of the course.

MAY 2024

Amir Lebdioui succeeds Xiaolan Fu as TMCD Director

Dr Amir Lebdioui has assumed the leadership of the Technology and Management Centre for Development (TMCD) taking over from founding director Professor Xiaolan Fu.

Celebrating 15 years of impactful research, TMCD has been instrumental in furthering our collective understanding of how technology development and diffusion can enhance development and alleviate poverty.



Dr Lebdioui, who is Associate Professor of the Political Economy of Development at ODID, brings a wealth of experience to TMCD's next chapter, thanks to his research expertise on structural transformation and industrial policies, low-carbon innovation, and biodiversity-based development models.

MAY 2024



OxValue.AI wins AI award at Alibaba summit

The team at OxValue.AI won an 'Outstanding AI Project Implementation Award' at the Alibaba Cloud Global Summit held in Paris this month.

OxValue.AI is a spinout from research led by Professor Xiaolan Fu at ODID. It uses big data and artificial intelligence to evaluate the monetary value of technology or technology-rich startup companies to help support innovation and facilitate technology transfer to developing countries.

The award recognises individuals who have successfully implemented an AI-based idea from concept to execution and have demonstrated exceptional innovation, dedication, and expertise in the field of artificial intelligence.

Find out more about OxValue.AI.

JUNE 2024

Young Lives complete Round 7 data collection

Young Lives announced the completion of Round 7 data collection from over 7000 participants in Ethiopia, India and Peru. A key feature of Young Lives' 20-year study is its low attrition rate, and the team strove to uphold this in Round 7, interviewing nearly 82% of the 2001 original sample. Many young people in the Young Lives study have now migrated, including to search for work, and the country teams meticulously tracked them to their new locations. In Ethiopia on-going instability in two Young Lives sites meant the team rapidly switched to complete data collection by phone.

Young Lives Director, Marta Favara said, "We are extremely grateful to all the Young Lives respondents who have participated in this survey since 2002. Our country fieldwork teams

and the Oxford team have worked tirelessly over the last two years, overcoming multiple challenges to complete Round 7. We are now excited to use the treasure of thematically cross-cutting data we collected over more than 20 years and execute our ambitious research plan."

JULY 2024

Amogh Dhar Sharma wins Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship

Dr Amogh Dhar Sharma was awarded a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship for a project that explores the role of opinion polls and psephology in Indian democracy.



Since the 1980s, India has witnessed the rise of a thriving industry of pollsters who produce periodic 'mood-of-the-nation' surveys, with particular emphasis on election forecasts and exit polls. These polls are widely consumed across print and digital media platforms and have also given birth to self-styled amateur psephologists. This project seeks to study how and why opinion polls acquired their ubiquity and widespread legitimacy in modern India.

This inter-disciplinary project, titled 'The Pulse of a Nation: The Life of Opinion Polls and Psephology in India's Democracy', draws on insights from history, political science, and anthropology to map the place of opinion polls in India's democratic life.

JULY 2024

New Director for Young Lives

Congratulations to Dr Marta Favara, Young Lives Director of Research, who has been appointed Young Lives new Director. Her predecessor, Professor Cath Porter, stepped down from the post in May to focus on her recovery from long Covid. The team congratulate Marta and send best wishes to Cath.



Dr Favara, a development economist, has been leading the Young Lives quantitative research team since 2015. She has a PhD in Economics from the University of Essex and a Master's in Economics from the University of Leuven.

"Leading Young Lives into its next chapter fills me with optimism and determination," Dr Favara said. "With a dedicated team and a robust foundation of longitudinal data, we are well positioned to drive evidence-based change for young people in the Global South".

Dr Favara set out her ambitious plans for Young Lives, including for a new research hub on climate change and environmental shocks, in her **latest blog**.

JULY 2024

John Gledhill wins funding for project on music in UN peacebuilding

Dr John Gledhill was awarded funding for a new project to explore the use of music as a tool for peacebuilding by actors in the UN system.



To date, the ways in which UN actors – including the Secretariat, peacekeeping missions, UNESCO and the United Nations Development Programme – have used music for peace have not been systematically documented, analysed and categorised.

The new project, titled 'The Roles and Functions of Music in United Nations Peacebuilding', aims to fill this gap by identifying which UN actors have used music to support peace and documenting the various programmes they have carried out, then creating a classification system that can be used to categorise the different projects according to their contributions to peacebuilding.

The 2000-euro award was made by the Pau Casals Foundation and the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya Pau Casals UNESCO Chair. ■

Alumni



Samuel Ritholtz wins two prizes for doctoral thesis

Samuel Ritholtz's doctoral thesis on violence against LGBTIQ+ people during war in Colombia won two awards this year.

It won the Elizabeth Wiskemann Prize for best dissertation on (in)equality and social justice awarded by the Political Studies Association. It was also co-winner of the British International Studies Association's Michael Nicholson Thesis Prize for the best doctoral thesis in international studies.

Samuel's thesis, 'Civil War and the Politics of Difference: Paramilitary Violence against LGBT People in Columbia', explores the dynamics of violence against LGBTIQ+ people during war through an analysis of paramilitary violence against this population in Colombia in the 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s.



It sought to engage debates of political violence, conflict processes, and international relations with insights from political theory, psychology, sociology, as well as sexuality and gender studies, in order to understand how anti-LGBT violence relates to the logics of war.

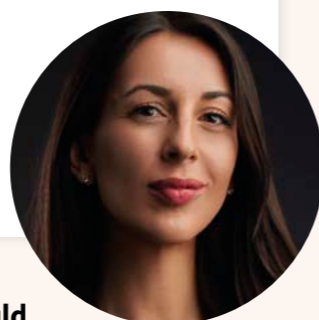
Samuel completed the DPhil in International Development at ODID in 2023. He previously studied the MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies and is currently Departmental Lecturer at the Department of Politics and International Relations at Oxford.

ALUMNI PROFILE

Adrianna Korte-Nahabedian

MSc in Global Governance & Diplomacy 2018–19

Current position: Humanitarian Affairs Officer, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)



Tell us about your career since leaving ODID

Since leaving ODID, I've been working in the international humanitarian sector across the UN system and the US Agency for International Development (USAID). My work centres around advancing humanitarian programs and policy, with a focus on food security and humanitarian access. I've worked in over ten countries and complex emergencies with OCHA, USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Recently, I've worked across humanitarian teams responding to complex emergencies in Afghanistan, Libya, the South Caucasus, South Sudan, Sudan, and more.

And your current job?

OCHA is the central UN agency responsible for coordinating international humanitarian responses during crises, including armed conflicts, climate disasters, and other emergencies. In my current role as a Humanitarian Affairs Officer, I focus on supporting OCHA's initiatives to enhance and expand humanitarian access, facilitating the secure delivery of humanitarian assistance and services to crisis-affected populations. OCHA facilitates principled humanitarian access by negotiating with relevant authorities, monitoring access conditions, and advocating for the adherence to international law and humanitarian principles.

What advice would you give to current students?

For students studying international development or humanitarian response, my advice is to prioritise gaining international experience and spending as much time as possible on the ground. Engage with and learn from scholars, practitioners, colleagues, and affected communities in your countries of focus. Progress in international development and humanitarian response lies with the expertise and lived experiences of those in affected countries, making gaining international experience critical for a meaningful contribution to the field. ■

Exhibition explores colonialism, monuments and memory



An exhibition held at Rhodes House and curated by alumna Julie Taylor explores how a group of Southern African artists have grappled with colonial legacies and their material manifestations and visual symbolism.

Entangled features artworks by Nicola Brandt, Isheanesu Dondo, Muningandu Hoveka, Tuli Mekondjo, Sethembile Msezane, Zenaéca Singh and Gift Uzera.

It explores how the Rhodes Must Fall, Fees Must Fall and Black Lives Matter movements have reframed the ways many people think and speak about cultural and educational traditions and their symbols, and call on us to recognise the ongoing impact of colonial history on societies around the world. This has led to debates about monuments and memorialisation.

Julie studied the MPhil and DPhil in Development Studies at ODID. She runs the Guns & Rain gallery.

Read a review of the exhibition by student Melanie Reixach-Wong.

ALUMNI PROFILE

Cassandra Cardiff

MPhil in Development Studies, 2014–16

Current position: Senior User Researcher, Torchbox (B-Corp Certified)



Tell us about your career since leaving ODID

Studying development taught me to think global, act local. After leaving ODID, I knew I wanted to work in an industry that made a difference to people's lives. I started off working in charity sector operations but really missed doing primary research, which I was privileged to be able to do during the MPhil. My partner, a software engineer, told me about User Experience Research: a career which allows me to conduct primary research regularly, keep human beings and their needs at the centre of what I do, while also helping clients to improve their business practices and outcomes. I'm now a co-owner at a B-Corp certified digital agency called Torchbox, where our clients are almost exclusively charity and government organisations. I get

to work on some important and meaningful projects for amazing clients every day (the coolest one to date was NASA!).

How has your education at Oxford benefitted you in your career?

The biggest things for me were having studied something interdisciplinary, which has made me comfortable wearing multiple hats in my day-to-day work. The MPhil also gave me a strong foundation in both qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, and the ability to put these into supervised practice during fieldwork. The hands-on learning allowed me to develop a deep understanding of various research techniques, and I find myself drawing on these lessons every day in my career.

Whether I'm conducting interviews, analysing data, or collaborating with stakeholders, my ability to blend different approaches and adapt quickly to new challenges has been invaluable in my role.

What did you particularly value about ODID?

What I found particularly valuable at ODID was the incredible community – everyone there is so down-to-earth, and the staff genuinely make an effort to get to know students on a personal level. It's a supportive environment where you feel seen and heard, and that makes a huge difference. I also really appreciated the funding that helped support my fieldwork; it allowed me to gain practical experience while reducing financial stress, which was invaluable to my learning. ■

New book by M T Howard chronicles the history of black soldiers in the Rhodesian Army

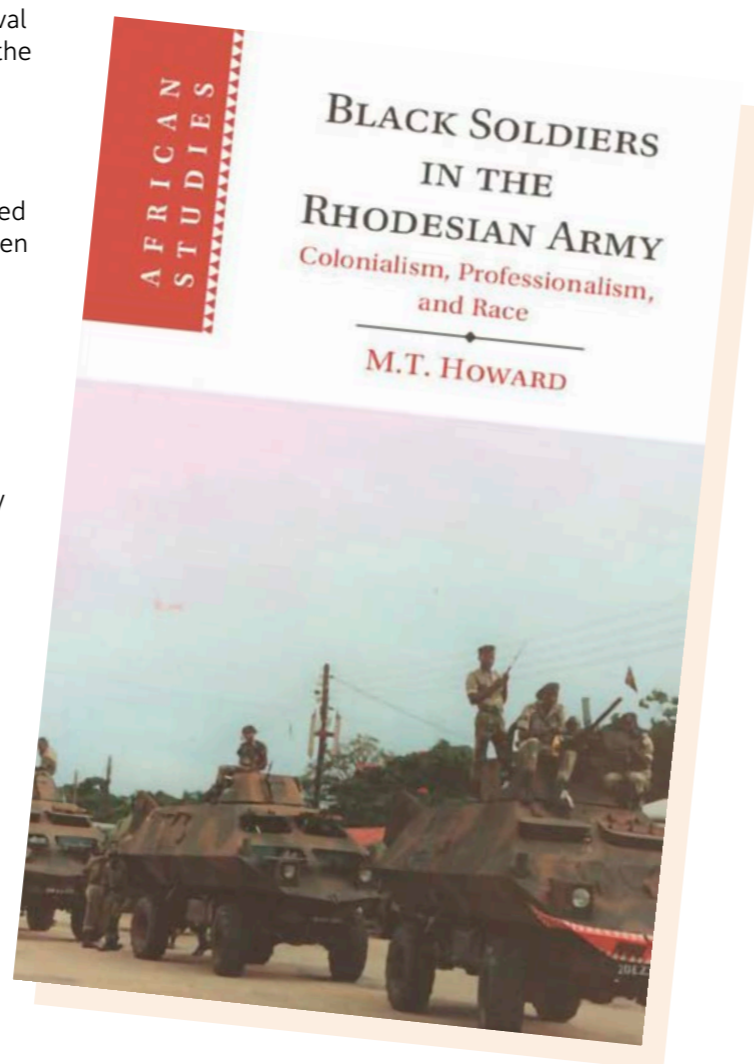
A new book by alumnus M T Howard, based on his DPhil research, draws on oral histories and extensive archival research to chronicle the history of black soldiers in the Rhodesian Army.

During Zimbabwe's war of liberation (1965–80), fought between Zimbabwean nationalists and the minority-white Rhodesian settler-colonial regime, thousands of black soldiers volunteered for and served in the Rhodesian Army. This seeming paradox has often been noted by scholars and military researchers, yet little has been heard from black Rhodesian veterans themselves.

Drawing from original interviews with black Rhodesian veterans and extensive archival research, Howard tackles the question of why so many black soldiers fought steadfastly and effectively for the Rhodesian Army, demonstrating that they felt loyalty to their comrades and regiments and not the Smith regime. Howard also shows that units in which black soldiers served – particularly the Rhodesian African Rifles – were fundamental to the Rhodesian counter-insurgency campaign.

The book highlights the pivotal role black Rhodesian veterans played during the tumultuous early years of independence, when they decisively intervened during episodes of serious inter-factional fighting widely perceived as posing the danger of a Zimbabwean civil war. That black Rhodesian veterans fought for a government led by Robert Mugabe, their former wartime foe, was another seeming paradox – one these veterans explained by invoking a strong sense of soldierly professionalism, which mandated acting in an 'apolitical' manner and made them duty-bound to fight loyally for the 'government of the day'.

The book will launch at the African Studies Centre, Oxford, on 23 January 2025.



Carmen Contreras Romero named one of 100 women leaders

Alumna Carmen Contreras Romero was named one of 100 women leaders in Chile in 2023 by *El Mercurio* and *Mujeres Empresarias*.

Carmen leads Start-Up Chile at CORFO, the Chilean Economic Development Agency. Start-Up Chile is an accelerator created by the government with the aim of increasing the number of national and international ventures that are generated in the country.

There were more than 30,000 nominations for the award for women from all walks of public life. Carmen won in the public service category.

Carmen completed the DPhil in International Development at ODID in 2016.



Equality, diversity and inclusion



Enhancing student support and widening educational access and participation



Fetching water in Turkana, Kenya

We are committed to diversifying our student population through scholarships and to creating an inclusive environment in which all students, particularly from under-represented and marginalized backgrounds, are supported during their course of study. In 2023–24, we offered a total of £608k towards scholarships and other grants, including for fieldwork, dissertation support, publication development, conference attendance and hardship. A sum of £780k is earmarked for student support in 2024–25, which is one of the highest in a department of the Social Sciences Division.

In addition to offering six full departmentally-funded scholarships and two fees-only scholarships that prioritise students from African countries and the Global South, we have strategically forged new relationships and strengthened existing ones with colleges and funds from within and outside the University to extend the range of scholarships on offer. Our funding collaborations include Commonwealth Shared Scholarships, Corpus Christi College, Merton College and St Antony's College (specifically for students from Latin America – the Angelines Scholarship, and from countries included in the Development Assistance Committee's list of Overseas Development Aid recipients). We welcome students funded by the Africa Oxford Initiative (AfOx) and Oxford University's Black Academic Futures and Refugee Academic Futures Scholarships.

On-course support is offered by the Department and the Refugee Studies Centre (RSC) to our increasing number of students with experience of displacement by paying for language and academic writing courses and giving access to personal computers for their studies. These students, along with those from the Global South, are given preference in awarding grants from the Gil Loescher Memorial Fund for research on forced displacement.

To afford educational access to learners beyond Oxford University students, RSC's International Online School in Forced Migration is now held three times a year. It attracted 126 participants from 47 countries in 2023–4, including 16 participants with experience of displacement who were supported by the David Turton Bursary Award. The Graduate Horizons initiative is a global application support programme for students affected by displacement. The Refugee-Led Research Hub (RLRH) at RSC gives students with experience of displacement advice and mentoring to submit applications to masters programmes at Oxford and at other universities across the world. RLRH, now in its fifth year, has further expanded its hallmark academic bridging programmes by entering into a partnership with Kiron, a nonprofit organisation, dedicated to widening educational access through digital inclusion, to reach a significantly larger cohort of refugee and displaced learners worldwide. By the beginning of 2025, the course will be available to over 1000 participants per year. At the same time, a new series of advanced courses has been introduced to impart academic, research and professional skills, designed to facilitate progress into future careers. In addition, in the past year, the Professional Placements initiative supported 46 RLRH affiliates to secure placements with influential organisations, such as Chatham House, UNHCR Education, UNITAR's Global Platform for Action, etc.

Academic reflection and engagement with global affairs

In promoting equality and diversity in our research and teaching, we are committed to addressing global inequalities fostered by colonialism, imperialism, and the ideologies and structures they created, while recognising that the fields we study remain contested, requiring ongoing critique and self-reflection. In keeping with this spirit and in pursuit of our stated aim to represent a diversity of voices in our teaching and to educate graduates to understand their position in global hierarchies of knowledge and power and gain the tools to address them in research, we sought to respond to the conflict that has affected Gaza and the Middle East since October 2023.

Drawing on the work of our own members and our wider research networks, a variety of academic events, discussion fora and teach-ins were organised in the department to share knowledge, deepen understanding and reflect on the history and politics of Palestine and Gaza, and the complex conflict in the region. A student-led discussion series, conducted under Chatham House rules, was aimed to create a space for dialogue and engagement, both intellectually and emotionally.



Natasha Treunen (Programme Coordinator, Oxford Sanctuary Community) discusses the Academic Futures Programme with a programme scholar at ODID

The series sought “to build a community discussion space, grounded in academic expertise, to inform and develop our understanding of events in Palestine, past and present.” Topics of discussion included Palestinian experiences of displacement, occupation, siege, and bombardment, as well as geopolitics and the role of major powers, media framing of the conflict, comparative liberation movements and armed struggle. The series also included the history, displacement, and current experiences of Middle Eastern Jewish communities, and student encampments and forms of protest.

RSC capitalised on its long tradition of research and teaching on relevant topics to hold discussions on how displacement shaped the history of Gaza and on the relationship between international humanitarian, refugee, and human rights law.

On related issues, seminars at RSC were organised on refugee history, human rights and Occupied Palestinian Territory; the right to nationality (with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights), and the UK's attempts to externalise its international legal obligations to refugees (the Rwanda plan) and the racialisation of refugee protection.

Last year, we had produced a film on running an induction workshop on 'Identity in the Classroom and Collaborative Learning' for incoming students, based on the experience of the MPhil in Development Studies. Faced with difficult conversations in classrooms in the context of the conflict in Gaza, several departments in the Social Sciences Division adopted and adapted this workshop on inclusive classrooms to run sessions for their own students.

Research on inequality

Research on different dimensions of inequality (race, gender, class, age, disability, etc.) and on their interaction is central to creating a sound knowledge base to advance the goals of equity, diversity and inclusion. While much of our research is concerned with these issues, some highlights of the past year include the following:

- Our research centre OPHI has been awarded a major UKRI-ESRC grant for a project on 'Measuring intra-household relationships between gendered and

individual disadvantages among multidimensionally poor people across the developing world'. Also at OPHI, Sabina Alkire and Monica Pinilla-Roncancio have been presenting their research on 'Global Multidimensional Poverty for Children with Disabilities: A 40 countries study'.

- Young Lives, another research centre, has recently launched a new Research Hub on Climate Change and Environmental Shocks as they affect children, young people and their development.

Staff welfare, support and inclusion

The publication of the results of the University's Staff Experience Survey early in 2024 afforded us the opportunity at two department-wide staff meetings to discuss inclusion and the welfare and support needs of our staff. Mentoring was identified as a widely reported need, following which a list of mentoring resources for professional services staff was compiled and made available on the intranet. The formal PDR/CDR processes for Departmental Lecturers were revised and improved, and a new mentoring system was introduced, along with enhanced provision of career advice.

To address other staff welfare needs, we created a staff quiet room with soft furnishings and well-being resources. We have subscribed to MyMynd, an enhanced mental health support platform with quicker response times than the services provided by the University. These new initiatives complement regular social meeting opportunities, including a yearly Professional Services Staff away day.

A formal reporting form for recruitment exercises, particularly for academic staff, has been adopted to document that processes to ensure diversity and inclusion are followed. The form has been shared with the Divisional HR team as an inclusive recruitment tool for use across the Social Sciences Division (SSD).

Discussions are in progress in SSD to offer departmentally-funded family leave to external grant-funded researchers, when such grants do not cover family leave. ODID is a front-runner in this respect, having already adopted this practice several years ago. ■

Events



24 NOVEMBER 2023

Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture 2023: Who Gets Believed? A conversation with Dina Nayeri

In a change to the usual lecture format, this year the Refugee Studies Centre's Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture featured author Dina Nayeri in conversation with the RSC Director, Professor Tom Scott-Smith. Nayeri's latest book *Who Gets Believed?* combines deep reportage with her own life experience to examine what constitutes believability in our society. Exploring ideas of persuasion and performance, Nayeri takes us behind the scenes in emergency rooms, corporate boardrooms, asylum interviews, and into her own family, to ask – where lies the difference between being believed and being dismissed? What does this mean for our culture? The lecture was held at St Anne's College.

Listen to the podcast at www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/ahbl2023-podcast

10 NOVEMBER 2022



Three panel discussions on Refugee Protection and AAA and others (2023–4)

Under the UK Government's 'Rwanda policy', certain people claiming asylum in the UK would be sent to Rwanda where their claims would be decided by the Rwandan authorities. If their claims were successful, they would be granted asylum in Rwanda. Hosted by Oxford University's Border Criminologies and Refugee Studies Centre with The Dickson Poon School of Law (King's College London), this series of panel discussions examined the arguments advanced in *R (on the application of AAA and others) v SSHD*, which challenged the legality of the Rwanda policy. They analysed the implications for Rwanda, the UK, and for refugee protection more broadly.

Watch at: vimeo.com/908675298, vimeo.com/908679565 and vimeo.com/906314472

International Online School in Forced Migration

For the first time, this year the Refugee Studies Centre's International Online School in Forced Migration took place three times, in December 2023 and in March and June 2024, welcoming participants from across the world.

The Online School offers a theoretically rigorous, empirically informed, and participatory programme of study. Early access to pre-recorded lectures and readings is complemented by live online seminars and discussions. A range of social and networking opportunities supplement the academic content.

The diversity of participants is always crucial. This year, we welcomed 126 participants in total, from 47 countries, with 16 bursary places available for those with personal experience of displacement.

The course directors were Professor Matthew Gibney and Professor Catherine Briddick, who, along with Professor Tom Scott-Smith, also acted as tutors. Guest lecturers included Dr Madeline Garlick (UNHCR), Victor Nyamori (Amnesty International / refugee rights lawyer, Kenya), Dr Maryanne Loughry (Boston College), and Dr Anne Irfan (UCL).

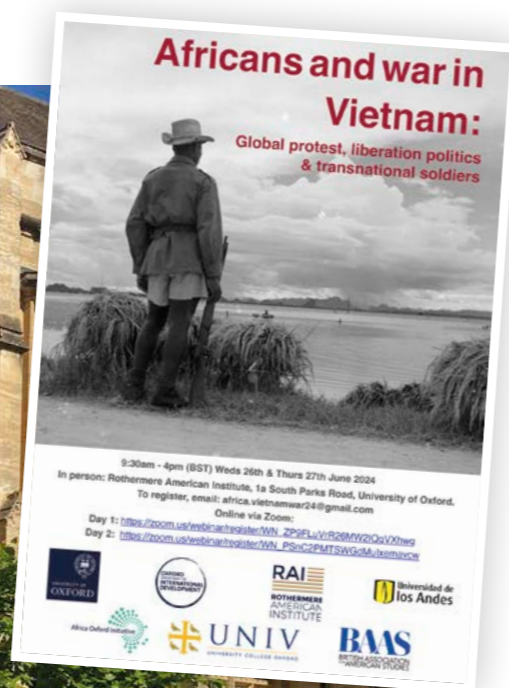
Find out more at: www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/online-school



OPHI Summer School

This year the Africa Institute for Research in Economics and Social Sciences, in the Faculty of Governance, Economics and Social Sciences (FGSES) at the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University, kindly hosted an in-person OPHI Summer School – OPHI's annual course to train the next generation of statistical champions in multidimensional poverty measurement and analysis.

A total of 36 participants from 22 countries attended in person in Morocco to learn the skills required to construct, compute, and analyse a Multidimensional Poverty Index and describe its policy relevance. Find out more at: ophi.org.uk/training/ophi-summer-school



26–27 JUNE 2024

Africans and war in Vietnam

This conference sought to create a new research agenda about Africa's entanglements with wars in Vietnam by convening hitherto siloed scholars of America, Africa and Vietnam. As one of the 20th century's defining geo-political events, the French and American wars in Vietnam shaped a generation and transformed Cold War statecraft, military struggles, protest movements and everyday political ideas across the world. Despite these global effects, Africans' diverse engagements with the conflict have been written out of academic debates and popular histories, as is true of much 'global' history from World War One to the scholarship on 'The Sixties'.

Africans were not just a footnote in the history of Vietnam's struggles against French rule and American intervention. From the over 180,000 African military

combatants in French colonial armies to the continent's iconic post-colonial leaders who attempted to mediate peace in southeast Asia, Africans played a central role in the conflicts in Vietnam that grabbed the world's attention. These wars were not only shaped by Africans, they also shaped political and social change on the continent. They fired the imaginations of protestors, sparking street demonstrations and ideological debates about the meaning of decolonisation and liberation and the direction of global political change; shaped the military strategies and thinking of anti-colonial armies from Algeria to South Africa; and inspired right-wing conservative forces – particularly among southern African white minority regimes – to build new global constellations of anti-communist solidarity.

Climate Change and the Challenges of Development Series

3 NOVEMBER 2023

Quo Vadis ODID? Climate change, growth, and the future of development

How can humanity balance economic expansion with conservation and sustainable resource management? Can "green growth" address environmental degradation and climate change, or do we need remodelled economic systems and more radical ideas of "degrowth"? And to what extent does green growth reproduce structural inequalities within and between countries?

This roundtable discussion tackled these key questions, as part of ODID's ongoing journey to shape an impactful response to climate change, as a teaching and research community.

Read a summary: www.qeh.ox.ac.uk/blog/growth-inequality-and-future-development-shaping-odids-climate-stance



23 FEBRUARY 2024

Rethinking Climate Change and Migration: From Victims to Agents of Change

This panel event, featuring speakers Raul Hinojosa Ojeda of UCLA and Yvonne Su of the University of York in Canada, focussed on rethinking the role of migrants as agents of change rather than just victims.

The discussion examined how diasporas can drive economic, political and social transformation in countries of origin and destination to address the climate emergency, exploring the role of 'green diaspora bonds', political influence and knowledge transfer.



It broached the question of whether 'climate migrants' actually exist, with some academics suggesting migration is driven by multiple factors and cannot easily be linked solely to climate change or environmental conditions.

The discussion also emphasised the importance of involving indigenous communities, including their transnational components.

Watch the recording at www.qeh.ox.ac.uk/media/panel-rethinking-climate-change-and-migration-victims-agents-change

17 MAY 2024

Just energy transition in the Amazon

This panel event, organised with Brazil's University of Campinas, outlined the activities carried out as part of their Sustainable Campus, a 'Living Lab' which seeks to develop energy sustainability on the university's campus, as well as throughout the neighbouring city, Campinas, in the state of São Paulo. The aim is to make UNICAMP a model for the energy transition not only in Brazil, but also in the rest of Latin America.

Professor Luiz Carlos Pereira da Silva outlined their work as part of the *Microgrids for Efficient, Reliable and Greener Energy* (MERGE) programme, which aims to develop, test and implement flexible autonomous grids for different applications, such as campuses, industrial complexes, residential neighbourhoods, and rural communities.

Danusia Arantes Ferreira talked about their interdisciplinary *Eyes on the Future* programme, which seeks to educate young leaders, empowering young people to become conscious consumers and energy users, while promoting decent working conditions in the energy sector.

Finally, various researchers from or working in the Amazon region talked about specific energy challenges faced by Amazonian urban and rural dwellers.

Watch the recording at www.qeh.ox.ac.uk/media/panel-just-energy-transition-amazon-contributions-and-interdisciplinary-dialogue-between



In detail

Publications



Books

Andersson, Ruben (2023) *Wreckonomics: Why it's time to end the war on everything*, Oxford University Press

Bjola, Corneliu (with Ilan Manor) (2024) *The Oxford Handbook of Digital Diplomacy*, Oxford University Press

Bjola, Corneliu (with Markus Kornprobst) (2023) *Digital International Relations: Technology, Agency and Order*, Routledge

Jackman, David (with Tom Goodfellow) (2023) *Controlling the Capital: Political Dominance in the Urbanizing World*, Oxford University Press

Lebdioui, Amir (2024) *Survival of the Greenest: Economic Transformation in a Climate-conscious World*, Cambridge University Press

Articles

Alkire, Sabina (with Ricardo Nogales, Natalie N Quinn, and Nicolai Suppa) (2023) 'On track or not? Projecting the global Multidimensional Poverty Index', *Journal of Development Economics*, 165: 103150

Arnold-Fernández, Emily (2023) 'The Global Compact on Refugees: inadequate substitute or useful complement?', *Frontiers in Human Dynamics* 5: 1238186

Betts, Alexander (with Maria Flinder Stierna, Naohiko Omata and Olivier Sterck) (2024) 'The economic lives of refugees', *World Development* 182: 106693

Bjola, Corneliu (with Ilan Manor) (2024) 'Digital diplomacy in the age of technological acceleration: three impact scenarios of generative artificial intelligence', *Place Branding and Public Diplomacy*

Bridgick, Catherine (2024) 'Resisting domestic violence', *International Journal of Refugee Law* 36 (1-2): 106-22

Chatty, Dawn (2023) 'Forward to the Special Issue *Fragile Selves*', *Annali di Ca' Foscari*, Serie orientale / Supplimento 59: 7-16

Dirksen, Jakob (with LZ Ferreira, FC Wehrmeister, LP Vidaletti, M Pinilla-Roncancio, K Kirkby, LI Ricardo, AJ Barros and AR Hosseinpoor) (2024) 'A composite index: socioeconomic deprivation and coverage of reproductive and maternal health interventions', *Bulletin of the World Health Organization* 102 (2): 105-16

Favara, Marta (with Nicolás Pazos, Alan Sanchez, Douglas Scott and Jere Behrman) (2024) 'Long-term effects of early life rainfall shocks on foundational cognitive skills: Evidence from Peru', *Economics & Human Biology* 54: 101407

Favara, Marta (with Jennifer Lopez, Jere Behrman, Santiago Cueto and Alan Sanchez) (2024) 'Late-childhood foundational cognitive skills predict educational outcomes through adolescence and into young adulthood: Evidence from Ethiopia and Peru', *Economics of Education Review* 100: 102543

Favara, Marta (with Richard Freund, Cath Porter, and Jere Behrman) (2023) 'Social Protection and Foundational Cognitive Skills during Adolescence: Evidence from a Large Public Works Program', *World Bank Economic Review* 38 (2): 296-318

Friedrichs, Jörg (2023) 'Ethnic segregation in schools: a study of non-decision making', *Journal of Education Policy* 38 (3): 1024-43

Fu, Xiaolan (with Giacomo Zanello, Carmen Contreras and Xuechen Ding) (2024) 'Innovation under constraints: the role of open innovation in Ghana', *Industry and Innovation*

Fu, Xiaolan (with Xiaoqing Fu, Pervez Ghauri and Hina Khan) (2023) 'Tackling exigent grand challenges through corporate social innovation: Evidence from the COVID-19 pandemic', *Journal of Product Innovation Management*

Gibney, Matthew J (with Rebecca Buxton) (2024) 'Must refugees be grateful?', *Political Studies*

Gledhill, John (with Richard Caplan and Maline Meiske) (2024) 'Exploring the impact of United Nations peacekeeping operations on the external affairs of host states', *European Journal of International Relations*

Gledhill, John (with Sabrina Karim) (2024) 'Boon, bane, or business as usual: Perceptions of the economic consequences of peacekeeping withdrawal from Liberia', *International Interactions* 50 (1): 1-32

Hillesland, Marya (with L Narayanaswamy, R Ferritto et al) (2023) 'Why a feminist ethics of care and socio-ecological justice lens matter for global, interdisciplinary research on water security', *Frontiers of Human Dynamics* 5: 1212188

Hillesland, Marya (with Cheryl Doss, M Mutua, N Guettou Djurfeldt, E Nchanji, J Twyman and M Korzenevica) (2023) ‘Unbundling water and land rights in Kilifi County, Kenya: a gender perspective’, *Frontiers of Human Dynamics* 5: 1210065

Hillesland, Marya (with Cheryl Doss, Vanya Slavchevska and Martina Querejeta) (2023) ‘Who claims the rights to livestock? Gendered patterns of asset holdings in smallholder households in Uganda’, *International Journal of Agricultural Sustainability* 21 (1): 2220929

Kistnareddy, Ashwiny O (2024) ‘Ambivalent encounters in Calais’, *Journal of Intercultural Studies*

Kistnareddy, Ashwiny O (2024) “‘Against the Flow”: Exile and “Willful Subjects” in Malika Mokeddem’s *Mes Hommes* and Kim Thúy’s *Vi*”, *Contemporary Women’s Writing* 17 (2): 214–31

Malik, Adeel (with Maya Tudor) (2024) ‘Pakistan’s Coming Crisis’, *Journal of Democracy* 35 (3): 69–83

Meki, Muhammad (with Faisal Bari, Kashif Malik and Simon Quinn) (2024) ‘Asset-Based Microfinance for Microenterprises: Evidence from Pakistan’, *American Economic Review*

Meki, Muhammad (with Simon Quinn) (2024) ‘Microfinance: An Overview’, *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*

Meki, Muhammad (with Simon Quinn) (2024) ‘Microequity: Some thoughts for an emerging research agenda’, *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*

Porter, Catherine (2024) ‘Reprioritising inclusion and equity to meet SDG4: Action is needed beyond the education sector – and must begin before school entry’, *International Journal of Educational Development*

Salem, Hiba (2023) ‘Education, ontological security, and preserving hope in liminality: learning from the daily strategies exercised by Syrian refugee youth in Jordan’, *Journal of Refugee Studies* 36 (4): 802–17

Sanchez, Alan (with Marta **Favara**, Margaret Sheridan and Jere Behrman) (2023) ‘Does early nutrition predict cognitive skills during later childhood? Evidence from two developing countries’, *World Development* 176: 106480

Sánchez-Ancochea, Diego (with J Martínez Franzoni) (2023) ‘The COVID-19 pandemic and social policy narratives in Costa Rica: the story of a (fleeting) opportunity’, *CEPAL Review* 139: 97–116

Shahani, Uttara (with Michael Collyer) (2023) ‘Offshoring refugees: colonial echoes of the UK-Rwanda Migration and Economic Development Partnership’, *Social Sciences* 12 (8): 451

Sharma, Amogh Dhar (2024) ‘Professionalization of Political Communication in Developing Countries: Methodological Perspectives from India’s Election Campaigns’, *Political Communication Report*

Sterck, Olivier (with Julia R Pozuelo, Raphael Bradenbrink and Maria Flinder Stierna) (2023) ‘Depression, violence and socioeconomic outcomes among refugees in East Africa: evidence from a multicountry representative survey’, *BMJ Mental Health* 26: e300773

Sterck, Olivier (with Antonia Delius) (2024) ‘Cash transfers and micro-enterprise performance: Theory and quasi-experimental evidence from Kenya’, *Journal of Development Economics* 167: 103232

Vargas-Silva, Carlos (with Isabel Ruiz) (2024) ‘The Legacies of Armed Conflict: Insights from Stayees and Returning Forced Migrants’, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*

Vargas-Silva, Carlos (with Daisy Pollenne) (2024) ‘Differences in Migrants’ Reason for Migration and Subjective Well-being: Not So Different After All’, *Comparative Migration Studies* 12

Vargas-Silva, Carlos (with Ana Alanis-Amaya) (2024) ‘Exploring Difference: Immigrant Peers and the Imagination of Natives’, *International Migration* 62: 3–21

Vargas-Silva, Carlos (with William Allen and Isabel Ruiz) (2024) ‘Policy Preferences in Response to Large Forced Migration Inflows’, *World Development* 174

Vargas-Silva, Carlos (with Paolo Boccagni) (2023) ‘Dreaming of a Remittance House: Understanding Transnational Housing Aspirations’, *International Migration Review* 58 (3): 1226–1249

Vollmer, Frank (with Matthew Robson, Basak Berçin Dogan, and Nils Grede) (2024) ‘Distributional impacts of cash transfers on the multidimensional poverty of refugees: The Emergency Social Safety Net in Turkey’, *World Development*, 179: 106599

Von Russdorf, Sophie (with Laura Ahlborn, Alessandra Hidalgo-Arestegui, Gerald McQuade, and Marta **Favara**) (2024) ‘A sound methodology: Measuring experiences of violent conflict through audio self-interviews’, *Economics Letters* 242: 111879

Zepeda Gil, Raul (2024) ‘Escaping Precariousness: Criminal Occupational Mobility of Homicide Inmates During the Mexican Drug War’, *Journal of Illicit Economies and Development* 6 (1): 1–15

Chapters

Bjola, Corneliu (2023) ‘The Use and Abuse of History by Russian Embassies on Twitter: The Case of the Baltic States’. In Rubén Arcos, Irena Chiru and Cristina Ivan (eds) *Routledge Handbook of Disinformation and National Security*, Routledge

Bolt, Maxim (2024) ‘Passing on, Passing Around, and Passing Through: Urban Inheritance in South Africa as Circulation’. In Chris Hann and Deborah James (eds) *One Hundred Years of Argonauts: Malinowski, Ethnography, and Economic Anthropology*, Berghahn Books

Chatty, Dawn (2023) ‘An Imperial Lens on Refuge in Greater Syria: Antecedents to Contemporary Humanitarian Practices’. In A Knudsen and K Berg (eds) *Continental Encampment: Genealogies of Humanitarian Encampment in the Middle East and Europe*. Berghahn Books

Chatty, Dawn (2023) ‘The Antecedents of forced migration in the Middle East’. In K Jacobsen and N Majidi (eds) *Handbook on Forced Migration*. Elgar Publishing

Forced Migration Review brings together diverse authors from around the world – especially those with lived experience – to foster practical learning and discussion that can improve outcomes for forcibly displaced people. The magazine is published in Arabic, English, French and Spanish in print and online and is available free of charge to readers. In 2023–24 FMR produced two issues:

FMR23

Digital disruption and displacement

Digital technologies are transforming our lives. Forcibly displaced people are using digital technologies in ways that inform and shape their migration and settlement in new places. At the same time, digital technologies are being used on (or against) forcibly displaced people. Complex predictive modelling, geolocation tracking on mobile phones, biometric data use and dissemination, digital financial systems and the use of AI in decision-making are among the digital technologies discussed in this issue.

Articles covered topics including the impact of digital services on displaced Ukrainians experiencing gender-based violence, how refugees are using digital platforms to create businesses and livelihoods in the DRC and how displaced people are responding to biometric data collection in Venezuela.

Dr Derya Ozkul and Dr Marie Godin, at that time colleagues at the Refugee Studies Centre within ODID, acted as Expert Advisors on the issue.



FMR22

Ukraine: Insights and implications

The war on Ukraine has caused forced displacement on a scale and at a speed not witnessed in Europe since World War II. This issue of FMR seeks to address questions that have arisen out of the crisis, reflecting on the lessons learned from the immediate response and the implications for the international refugee and asylum system going forward.

A wide range of authors from both Ukraine and elsewhere reflected on the displacement crisis so far from different perspectives; as displaced people, as hosts, as legal specialists, as humanitarians. Several articles addressed the displacement experiences and gaps in support for different marginalised groups, including stateless people, disabled people and foreign students from sub-Saharan Africa. The role of temporary protection policies in many host countries was discussed by a number of authors. The issue was translated into Ukrainian and Russian to ensure a wide readership amongst those most affected by the displacement crisis.



You can join FMR’s mailing list to stay informed about calls for articles and upcoming issues. Visit our brand new website to sign up and read our entire back catalogue of issues: www.fmreview.org

Reports

Bruni, Vittorio (with Patrick Mutinda Muthui, Cory Rodgers and Olivier **Sterck**) (2024) *Refugee Debt and Livelihoods in Northern Kenya*. Refugee Studies Centre

Deneulin, Séverine (with Luiz Felipe Lacerda, Maria Barrera, Araceli Téllez, Carrick Reddin, Carlos Zepeda, Javier Warman, Sarai Rodríguez, Jordano Buzati, and Pamela Saavedra) (2024) *Faith-Based Participation in Natural-Resource Governance: Communities Defending Life and Territories in Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico*. World Resources Institute

Dirksen, Jacob (with D Azhgaliyeva, U Korwatanasakul, K Lima de Miranda, M Okitasari, D Rahut, A Sedai, T Sonobe, and A Takemoto) (2024) *Towards an Evidence-Base for the Just Transition*, Recommendation to the G7, Think 7 Task Force 2 Policy Brief

Sterck, Olivier (with Nour Moussa) (2024) *Skilled Worker Visas for Refugees: An Evaluation of the UK's Displaced Talent Mobility Pilot (DTMP)*. Refugee Studies Centre

Students

DPhils completed

Aisha Ahmad (*Green Templeton*)
Accumulation by juridical dispossession: a socio-legal study of land, law and capital in Lahore, Pakistan

Ludovic Arnaud (*Lincoln*)
From NAFTA to USMCA: power, path dependence, and protectionism

Alex Barnes (*Pembroke College*)
Business and contested authority in Colombia, 1996–2016

Dhruva Bhat (*St John's*)
Understanding startup culture in India

Rong Chen (*St Antony's*)
Development in the digital age: understanding technology adoption, welfare effect and institutional implication

Vyoma Dhar Sharma (*Wolfson*)
Gendered pathology: 'participatory' interventions and the making of women's health in India

Imogen Dobie (*Lincoln*)
Rocking the boat: maritime humanitarianism and responses to displacement at sea, 1978–2022

MPhil fieldwork projects

The construction and reproduction of Kenyan-Somali identity in Kenya

Beyond Interest: an enquiry into financial inclusion and social justice through women-centric Islamic microfinance in Saudi Arabia

A study of the State TB Cell as it 'responds' to the tuberculosis epidemic in India

Asa Mudzimu (*St Antony's*)
Population movement, disease, and environment in northwest Zimbabwe, 1950 to 1980

Nwamaka Ogbonna (*Lady Margaret Hall*)
Knowledge transfer and entrepreneurship in industrial hubs in Nigeria

Tom Quirk (*St Cross College*)
Essays on financial regulation in Zambia

Dani Renne (*Lady Margaret Hall*)
What's friendship got to do with it? A participatory study of associational life, mobilization, and civic discourse in Lebanon

Liu Shi (*Lincoln*)
Green industrial policy, directionality of innovation, and sectoral change: case study on China's early transition to electric mobility

Biruk Terrefe (*St Antony's*)
Renaissance derailed: the politics of infrastructural statecraft in Ethiopia

Rocco Zizzamia (*St Edmund Hall*)
Essays on labour markets and social protection in development economics

Negotiating urban futures: home-based labour, citizenship and private redevelopment in Dharavi

Climate change education for sustainable climate action: ethno-graphic insights from development organisations in Ghana

Ordem or Progresso, or both? An assessment of Brazil's environmental protection and economic growth trade-off, and its implications for the Global South



Beyond solidarity: power dynamics in South-South government-led volunteer programmes

The different understandings of 'mental cruelty' in the Indian socio-legal context

Looking to the past to shape citizen-centric climate adaptation strategies: a case study of the Gulf region

Driven in the USA! How Mexico's integration within the lithium global value chain perpetuates North-South inequalities in benefitting from the decarbonising economy

A study of the valuation of nature of the three actors in the case of Tia Maria and its impact in conflict prevention or resolution

Finding meaning within minzu: investigating the role of affirmative action policies in the construction of Hui identity

Navigating a just Green Hydrogen transition

Analysing the conceptual framework of hunger in India's policy on mandatory food fortification

Transience and adaptivity: investigating the complexities of precarious labour for Venezuelan migrants working on Colombia's coffee farms

From hummingbird to slug: a political economy explanation of stagnation in Jamaica

Unpacking the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) framework in Nepal

Political economy of the green transition in India

Rockefeller in the world: the role of philanthropic foundations as norm entrepreneurs in international development

To what extent do stakeholders (including the Ministry of the Environment and local communities), perceive Ambatovy mine's Biodiversity Offset project as successful, in terms of its social outcomes over time

Volunteering for what? Private actors' intervention, effectiveness, and participation in resolving urban-rural education inequality

Standardising humanitarian security: the international NGO safety organisation and the politics of knowledge production in the humanitarian space

Rural Solar PV and poverty alleviation in the long term: evidence from China

Investigating Thailand's 'Development Diplomacy' through the institutional dynamics of Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA), an in-house development agency under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Implementers interpretations and decisions around plurinationality in the Intercultural Education for All and Bilingual Intercultural Education Policy of Peru





Where to be an ancestor? Aldeias Comunais, land relations and social imagination in Gaza province, Mozambique 1977–1992

Behind the curtain: mapping data annotation jobs in the AI ecosystem



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The cover shows a photo of garment workers gathered outside a factory during a fire drill in Bangladesh. Credit: Professor Christopher Woodruff.

Above picture: The original architect's drawing for the house at 3 Mansfield Road. Credit: The Bodleian Library, University of Oxford. Ref: GE 17D