



**Oxford Department of  
International Development**

# **Annual Report 2022**





# Welcome to the 2022 ODID report

The academic year 2021/22 marked a welcome turning point for us at ODID as we gradually emerged from the most intense period of the pandemic. We were able to offer face-to-face teaching for all our courses from Michaelmas Term 2021, and the department building came back to life as staff and students gradually returned. It has been wonderful to come together again as a community and reconnect in person, while keeping hold of some of the lessons from the pandemic about how to use the online world more effectively.

This year also saw the long-awaited announcement of the results of the Research Excellence Framework (REF), which evaluates the impact, environment and publications of all universities across the United Kingdom. These results confirmed ODID's position as one of the leading development studies departments in the country, with 52% of our submission judged world leading in terms of originality, significance and rigour. This outcome is testament to the excellence of our academics and the hard work of our REF team. However, REF2021 also highlighted some weaknesses and we will work hard in the coming years to reflect on how we can create the best possible environment for high-quality research.

We value our research not just for its academic excellence, of course, but also for its impact on the world beyond academia, and its contribution to the fight against poverty and injustice. This year's report offers some exciting examples.

Dr Maxim Bolt's research into disputes over inheritance in South Africa was cited in a pivotal court ruling, which could lead to reform of urban property rights that continue to bear the imprint of apartheid-era discrimination. Meanwhile, a Tik Tok-style app developed and trialled by a team co-led by Professor Xiaolan Fu was found to have helped marginalised communities in Bangladesh weather the impact of the pandemic. And among the many awards and prizes for our academics



noted in the report, a highlight was the ESRC's Outstanding International Impact award won by researchers from the Refugee Studies Centre for their work demonstrating the vital support offered by refugee-led organisations during COVID.

Our students and alumni remain a huge source of inspiration and pride for the department, not only for their academic achievements but also for the contribution they make as they go out into the world. For example, this year's report features an initiative by one former MPhil student, Kat Eghdamian, to support the work of refugee writers in New Zealand as part of efforts to foster inclusion and change attitudes. Over the summer we also held our first big all-alumni event since the pandemic, which showcased the multiple ways in which our alumni are joining the fight against climate change through their research or in their professional lives.

In our efforts to fight injustice and promote inclusion we have been continuing to look inwards too. This year saw the appointment of our first Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Officer, who has helped spearhead and document a number of initiatives across our research and teaching programmes, from workshops to reflect on the role of identity in the classroom to a 'privilege walk' to explore the challenges faced by different stakeholders within a research group, among others.

Being Head of a department like ours is a real honour: it gives me the opportunity to support all the exciting work of my colleagues as well as students and alumni. As I enter my final year in the post, I look forward to supporting our ongoing efforts to create a more inclusive environment as well as forging ever stronger connections with our alumni and continuing to help rebuild our sense of community following the painful disruptions of the lockdown. ■

**Professor Diego Sánchez-Ancochea**

## Highlights





## RESEARCH

# Humanitarian energy for people and the planet

By Sarah Rosenberg-Jansen, Joelle Hangi and David Kinzuzi



The vast majority of the world's refugees and displaced people live with darkness, smoke and pollution. An estimated 94% of people in displacement camps lack electricity, and 81% rely on firewood and charcoal for cooking. Without access to electric power or sustainable cooking solutions, they face considerable challenges – limited livelihoods and educational opportunities, physical accidents in the dark, pollution from smoke in homes, and life without light.

These are among the findings of a new report, *The State of the Humanitarian Energy Sector (SOHES) 2022* – a first of its kind publication. Developed by academics at the Refugee Studies Centre (RSC), alongside researchers from the Global Platform for Action in Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings (GPA) and partners in humanitarian and development organisations, the report explores the major challenges, progress and issues associated with humanitarian energy and climate action in displacement contexts. It highlights that without substantial investment and political action, the world won't meet global climate aims in relation to humanitarian response or deliver Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 – access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all – in displacement contexts by 2030.

The report identified substantive policy progress in theory within humanitarian organisations, yet practical energy provision for displaced people remains challenging in many national contexts – particularly in developing countries where nationwide energy availability, access and affordability remain obstacles. However, still in 2022, it is not possible to accurately assess in detail how many people can access which types of energy, and there is no clear figure on progress towards SDG 7. Many policy obstacles still exist in terms of policy action on energy in emergencies, for example, integration of humanitarian energy needs into national government planning is slow or non-existent, while improvement in delivering energy to displaced people is glacial and measurement of progress remains challenging. Funding for clean energy investment also falls short. Research cited within the report suggests that the total funding requirements for energy and environmental investment listed in current humanitarian response plans was estimated at US\$300 million for 2021.

## Displaced people's voices vital for solutions

The report's findings also demonstrated clearly the value of inclusive research that includes the insights of displaced people themselves. Displaced people need to be involved in issues that affect them to ensure that

solutions are sustainable and effective. For example, it was an important milestone for the sector to support people who have lived experience in forced displacement to contribute to the report as co-authors. Progressive action must be inclusive, working with displaced people at every stage of response, facilitating livelihoods, education and better security for refugees, internally displaced people, migrants and host communities.

The report offers a range of recommendations to help achieve sustainable energy access for displaced people, demonstrating how academic research can inform practical solutions:

- *Enable informed decision-making through data and evidence:* Actors must collect high-quality data to inform larger-scale energy policies and programming, and carry out inclusive, targeted research, working with displaced communities and their hosts to generate evidence to inform systemic change. Energy delivery also requires regulations that encourage innovation, and new research to facilitate more effective implementation.
- *Establish new partnerships for energy delivery:* Stakeholders should develop alternative partnerships that collaborate beyond traditional humanitarian mechanisms for energy delivery, to harness practical solutions and expertise in delivering sustainable energy access and decarbonising infrastructure.
- *Develop new approaches to finance and investment:* The humanitarian sector must invest in renewable and low-carbon energy. This requires better funding mechanisms, and innovative and blended financial investments, including collaboration with the private sector. Actors must also address the critical funding deficit for staffing and expert technical capacity in the low-carbon energy sector.

Through these recommendations and others, the SOHES report sheds clear light on the steps needed to provide sustainable, low-carbon energy for displaced people. But together we need to act urgently – both to transform the lives of refugees and to meet climate goals and the SDGs in displacement contexts. ■

Find out more at: [www.humanitarianenergy.org/thematic-working-areas/state-of-the-humanitarian-energy-sector](http://www.humanitarianenergy.org/thematic-working-areas/state-of-the-humanitarian-energy-sector)

*Dr Sarah Rosenberg-Jansen, a research fellow at the RSC, is lead author for the SOHES report. It is co-authored by two refugee fellows on the RSC-BIEA Fellowship: Joelle Hangi for Chapter 1 on energy needs, and David Kinzuzi for Chapter 7 on climate action.*

SEPTEMBER 2021

## Programme to promote Pakistan links launched

Adeel Malik of ODID and the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies played a key role in the creation of a major new initiative to promote academic links between Oxford and Pakistan. The Oxford Pakistan Programme (OPP) was launched at a high-profile event at the High Commission for Pakistan in London.

The new programme aims to increase the representation of Pakistani and British Pakistani students at the University of Oxford; act as a bridge between Oxford and Pakistan's academic communities through the exchange of scholars and the sharing of scholarship; and raise the academic profile of Pakistan and Pakistan-related studies at Oxford.

Speaking at the launch event, activist and Nobel laureate Malala Yousufzai, who was a strong supporter from the outset, announced a major new scholarship that will allow one Pakistani girl from an underdeveloped background to study at Oxford every year.

The event also saw Pakistani businessmen and key members of the Pakistani diaspora in the UK pledge £500,000 to support a number of initiatives as part of the OPP, including scholarships for Pakistani and British-Pakistani students, support for visiting faculty and the establishment of an annual lecture, the Sir Muhammad Iqbal Lecture on Eastern Philosophy.

The OPP is the brainchild of Professor Malik, Dr Talha J Pirzada, Lecturer in Material Science at Oxford, and Haroon Zaman, trainee lawyer at Travers Smith, London, and former president of the Oxford Pakistan Society. They were assisted by Oxford alumni Minahil Saqib and Dr Mohsin Javed.

OPP is supported by the University of Oxford, the High Commission for Pakistan in London, and the British High Commission in Islamabad.

Find out more at: [oxpakprogramme.org](http://oxpakprogramme.org)



AUGUST 2021

## Xiaolan Fu wins Falling Walls innovation prize

Professor Xiaolan Fu was selected as one of ten winners of the Falling Walls Science Breakthroughs of the Year 2021 in the category Science and Innovation Management.



Professor Fu's win was for her work on the Valuation of Early Stage Technology (VEST) project, which developed a model to estimate the value of new technologies in the information and communication industry based on large firm-level data.

The international Falling Walls Jury was impressed by "the outstanding quality and relevance of [Professor Fu's] research", according to the announcement.

SEPTEMBER 2021

## New Fellows of the Academy of Social Sciences

Three members of the department – Professors Sabina Alkire and Xiaolan Fu, and Emeritus Professor Frances Stewart – were conferred the award of Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences.



The Academy of Social Sciences is the national academy of academics, practitioners, and learned societies in social science. It champions the vital role social sciences play in education, government, and business.

Fellows are recognised, after an independent peer review process, for the excellence and impact of their work and their wider contributions to the social sciences for public benefit.



OCTOBER 2021

## Catherine Porter joins Young Lives as Director

Dr Catherine Porter was appointed as the new Director of Young Lives, taking over from Professor Andy McKay. Dr Porter brings extensive research experience in applied microeconomics and many years close involvement with the Young Lives study to her new role.

"I am delighted to be taking the lead of this unique programme at such an exciting time," Dr Porter said. "I look forward to continuing the excellent work of my predecessors and leading Young Lives research across our entire portfolio".



OCTOBER 2021

## 2021 Global MPI released

The 2021 update of the global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) was released in October and found that two-thirds of multidimensionally poor people – 836 million – live in households in which no girl or woman has completed at least six years of schooling.

It found that one-sixth of all multidimensionally poor people (215 million) live in households in which at least one boy or man has completed at least six years of schooling, but no girl or woman has – in the rest, no one, male or female, has had that opportunity. Co-authored by OPHI and the United Nations Development Programme Human Development Report Office (UNDP HDRO), the global MPI report is titled *Unmasking disparities by ethnicity, caste and gender*. It uses disaggregation and intrahousehold analyses to highlight inequalities along the lines of ethnicity, caste and gender to show who is being left behind and which interlinked deprivations are hindering progress in poverty reduction.

The 2021 global MPI covers 109 countries in developing regions, home to 5.9 billion people. Of these people, 1.3 billion (21.7%) are identified as multidimensionally poor.

OCTOBER 2021



## Francesca Lessa highly commended in O2RB impact awards

Dr Francesca Lessa was highly commended in the O2RB Excellence in Impact Awards 2021 for her work improving routes to justice for victims of transnational human rights violations in South America.

Dr Lessa's research focuses on the victims of Operation Condor, the covert cooperation between military dictatorships in South America in the 1970s to silence political opponents in exile.

Her work has sought to bring justice and accountability to the victims of such transnational human rights abuses, which, because they involve more than one state, have historically been difficult to investigate. In particular, she has compiled a database of information relevant to the cases of hundreds of victims of these crimes which has had a significant impact on subsequent trials.

The O2RB partnership brings together the University of Oxford with the Open University, University of Reading and Oxford Brookes University.

RESEARCH



## The challenges of including women's voices in household surveys

By Cheryl Doss

Analyses of household survey data shape both academic research and development policy. In low- and middle-income countries, these data are typically collected in face-to-face interviews with a representative member of the household, often the male household head. Data may be collected and analysed on household income and expenditure, household assets, and household labour availability. These data are used to understand a range of topics, including household consumption patterns, investment in human capital, and agricultural production.

Feminist economists have been critical of many of these large sample surveys because they do not include women. Early efforts to respond to this encouraged surveys to ask the "who" questions: instead of asking about household income, ask about the income earned from different sources by different household members. One of my early projects, the Gender Asset Gap Project, demonstrated the importance and feasibility of collecting individual-level asset ownership data. We find that women's asset ownership, not simply household asset ownership, affects many household outcomes.

Yet, feminist economists have been working to find ways to include women's voices in these surveys, so that information is collected *from* women, not just *about* women. In addition, feminist economists have been using mixed-methods approaches, combining these quantitative surveys with rich qualitative data.

When surveys ask multiple household members the same questions, the responses often differ. In particular, we often find systematic patterns of differences in responses between husbands and wives. For example, in research in Bangladesh, depending on the decision, 35–48% of households, husbands and wives disagree on whether the wife is involved in decision-making. Women are more likely than men to say that women are involved in making decisions. We demonstrate that the differences cannot be explained by either measurement error or different understandings of the questions. Instead, the results are consistent with a situation in which husbands and wives have different information about the involvement of the other.

### 'Harmonious' households and the impact on outcomes

We were interested to find out whether households where spouses provided the same answers had better outcomes. In focus group discussions, we often heard

that "harmonious" households would have better well-being outcomes for women and children. Yet, analyses from Bangladesh and Nepal suggested that frequently spouses agree that women are not involved in decisions and do not own any assets. However, this agreement was not associated with better outcomes. Instead, better outcomes were associated with households where both spouses responded that women were involved. Similarly, in Nepal, agreement that someone else in the household made the decisions (such as the mother-in-law) was not associated with worse outcomes for women. In other words, not just the agreement, but also the content of the responses are important.

Extending that work, we analysed datasets from 12 African countries that included responses from both spouses on who made household decisions on large expenditures and from the wife on her experiences of intimate partner violence (IPV). We find significantly lower IPV when husbands and wives both respond that they make decisions jointly. Thus, sharing responsibility on decision-making is associated with lower IPV.

Men and women may provide different answers on other types of questions as well. In Malawi, all owners of property (land or dwelling) were asked about the market value of this property. People self-reported as to whether they were an owner. When we compare the responses of husbands and wives when they each report on the same property, we find that the values given by husbands are higher. When we extend the sample to include all of the responses on property values, using a decomposition exercise, we find that half of the differences in values reported by men and women cannot be explained by differences in the characteristics of the property, knowledge about land markets, nor community characteristics. Thus, men and women have different perceptions of the value of their property, which may influence a range of agricultural production decisions.

Including women's voices in household survey datasets provides new challenges because the answers are often different from those obtained from the male household head. This means that we have to rethink how we are using the data and the analyses that we do. Including indicators of whether spouses provide the same responses is providing new insights into how households allocate resources and make decisions. ■

Cheryl Doss is Professor of International Development



OCTOBER 2021

### The Bodley Head buys rights to Simukai Chigudu memoir

Associate Professor Simukai Chigudu secured a book deal for a “literary memoir” following a 12-way auction. The book, *When Will We Be Free?* was bought by The Bodley Head and will be published in 2024.

The book will interweave Dr Chigudu’s family’s and his own story with the history of Africa’s anti-colonial struggles from the 1950s to the present. According to The Bodley Head the book will provide “an intimate and nuanced account of colonisation not merely as a historical or political phenomenon but as something that inescapably affects one’s heart and mind, one’s sense of identity and home – and an investigation of what it would mean to be truly free of it.”



DECEMBER 2021

### Cheryl Doss, Nikita Sud awarded title of Professor

Cheryl Doss and Nikita Sud were awarded the title of full Professor in the University’s recognition of distinction exercise.

Cheryl is now Professor of International Development and Senior Departmental Lecturer in Development Economics and Nikita is now Professor of the Politics of Development.



FEBRUARY 2022

### Four ODID students chosen as SDG Impact Lab fellows

Four students from ODID were selected as inaugural fellows by the Oxford SDG Impact Lab, a new initiative which will work



NOVEMBER 2021

## New joint Oxford-Wits collaboration on mobility in Global South

Oxford and the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, launched an innovative joint partnership to explore the challenges and opportunities of human mobility in the Global South.

The Mobility Governance Lab (MGL), jointly led by ODID and the African Centre for Migration & Society (ACMS) in Johannesburg, explores the ways in which populations, politics and societies are increasingly defined by the movement of people – through displacement, long-distance emigration, urbanisation, and domestic and regional mobility.

The MGL is intended to offer original insights and perspectives to scholars, civil society and practitioners while fostering the next generation of engaged researchers from Africa and beyond. At its core are efforts to mobilise that knowledge in ways that amplify the voices of scholars and communities often excluded from global debate.

Professor Diego Sánchez-Ancochea, ODID Head said, “By partnering with one of Africa’s leading Universities – and perhaps its leading migration studies centre – MGL will bolster the quality and quantity of research on one of the most pressing issues of our times. Whether it is adapting to climate, combating inequality, accessing education, or simply finding safety, movement across the Global South is core to our collective futures.”

Professor Jo Vearey of ACMS added, “The MGL provides exciting opportunities for both established and early career researchers from Wits and Oxford to collectively – and creatively – develop an African-oriented and internationally relevant research agenda in the field of migration governance.

“With an emphasis on building ethical and equitable research partnerships, and embedding support to the next generation of migration scholars, the MGL will contribute to the generation of new knowledge in a sustainable way.”

Find out more at: [mobilitygovernancelab.org](http://mobilitygovernancelab.org)



NOVEMBER 2021



## RSC researchers win ESRC impact award

Research highlighting the support offered by refugee-led organisations (RLOs) during COVID by Professor Alexander Betts, Dr Evan Easton-Calabria and Dr Kate Pincock won the Outstanding International Impact award in the ESRC Celebrating Impact Awards for 2021.

The research drew on a project funded by the Global Challenges Research Fund in refugee camps and cities in Kenya and Uganda which sought to explain variation in the scale and scope of refugee-led social protection. The research was jointly undertaken by Professor Betts, Dr Easton-Calabria, and Dr Pincock, with collaborative input from refugees who worked as key informants and research assistants and co-authored some of the outputs.

Although the research was mainly undertaken prior to COVID, it had its greatest impact during the pandemic. At a time when UN agencies and international NGOs were withdrawing from camps and cities – leaving a gap – the research offered policy-relevant insights into how to recognise, capacitate and finance effective refugee-led organisations.

Alongside the work on non-academic organisations, the research contributed to rapid change in global public policy, including the first ever dedicated government fund for RLOs created by the Government of Canada, and the UN Refugee Agency’s decision to create a new partnership status for refugee-led organisations, both in 2021.

with business, government and the third sector to train students in the skills needed for collaborative and impactful research that furthers the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Lab was established in 2021 and its first partner is easyJet holidays.

The four students were Laura Ballerini and Sekoah Kwon-Salkin, studying for the MPhil in Development Studies; Tanya Nyadzayo, studying for the MSc in Migration Studies; and Rachel Wibberley, studying for the MSc in Global Governance and Diplomacy.

APRIL 2022

### Loren Landau, Alexander Betts honoured with ISA awards

Professors Loren Landau and Alexander Betts were honoured with awards from the Ethnicity, Nationalism and Migration Section of the International Studies Association (ENMISA).

Professor Landau won ENMISA’s 2021 Distinguished Scholar Award in the field of ethnicity, nationalism and migration, presented at the ISA annual meeting in Nashville.

Professor Betts won the ENMISA Distinguished Book Award for his book *The Wealth of Refugees: How Displaced People Can Build Economies*, published by Oxford University Press in 2021.

He also received an Honourable Mention award for the Best Article or Book Chapter of 2021 for his article ‘Refugees and Patronage: A Political History of Uganda’s “Progressive” Refugee Policies’ published in *African Affairs*.

MAY 2022

### New scholarship to encourage candidates from Latin America

ODID and St Antony’s College launched a new scholarship which aims to encourage more





## IMPACT

# Helping rethink apartheid-era property rights

A ground-breaking court judgement in South Africa which could pave the way for reform of property rights dating from the apartheid era draws on research by Associate Professor Maxim Bolt, citing two of his articles.

The case, heard in the Gauteng High Court in May, concerned a dispute over the rights to ownership of a “family house”.

A family house is a term used in historically black townships, where African people were denied the right to own property. They were rental properties, regulated through permits that listed family members and thus restricted black residence in the city.

Towards the end of the apartheid era, family houses became private property through a series of legal changes. However, because permits listed multiple occupants, who precisely has the right to ownership is now often a matter of intense dispute.

At the same time, such houses had come to be understood by occupants in terms resembling rural kinship-based residence norms, which emphasise collective entitlement. By contrast, the law frames the house as an asset with an individual exclusive owner who is succeeded at death by members of a nuclear family.

Dr Bolt has been researching such disputes surrounding family houses and urban inheritance in South Africa since 2016, drawing on extensive ethnographic fieldwork.

His work explores how disputes over inheritance are shaped and mediated by administrative and bureaucratic processes. Those processes interact with customary norms in the understanding and realisation of tenure and entitlement. They do so by changing the stakes of claims and disagreements, as kin now struggle over formal ownership or eviction; by creating fora in which customary claims are argued out; by sharpening definitions of the family house in contrast to formal law; and through everyday bureaucratic attempts to recognise people's histories and arguments.

## Individual ownership vs collective rights

The case, *Shomang v Motsose NO and Others*, was typical of such disputes. It involved a family house which had been registered in the name of one occupier. Named as “custodian”, in accordance with popular understandings of collective entitlement, he became the title-holder because the system did not allow for a family member not married to him to be a co-owner. *Shomang* – his step-niece – was administratively recognised as living in

the property as part of a “family rights agreement”, and she understood that it would remain a family house.

However, when the custodian died, one of his relatives who had never lived in the house claimed ownership and threatened dispossession. His claim seemed to be supported by law, as the family rights agreement was purely administrative in nature and turned out to hold no legal weight – although it had been brokered by an arm of the state.

In this case, the judge found in favour of the applicant, *Shomang*. Her judgement drew on recent writing by Dr Bolt, taking as a starting point his analysis of the family house as “part of a broader legacy of apartheid's racially discriminatory spatial planning in the cities”.

She further noted, citing Dr Bolt, that, “Administrative traces indicate agreements and understanding between family members who knew and trusted one another enough not to have to turn their normative understanding about a ‘family home’ into the language of the formal law. It relied on the administrative system itself and the practices of the officials that give greater recognition to the people's conceptions of the family home than [...] the law does.”

According to an article in South African newspaper the *Daily Maverick*, the ruling “provides ground-breaking insights for potential law reform with regard to property rights and transmission of property”.

## A challenge to existing law

The article, by legal specialist Rosalie Kingwill, suggests the ruling is significant because, unlike decisions in previous similar contestations, it argues for a new kind of collective property right and provides a basis for challenging existing law. Dr Kingwill notes that the judge states:

“The ownership model is an inflexible system that does not allow for alternative models of holding land ... For property law to transform, what is needed is a fragmentation of land rights, not by abolishing ownership but by developing a more comprehensive range of rights, such as a property right in a family home, that can sometimes trump ownership. It is not simply a process of making more people common law owners, but it requires that we give effect to other rights in property too.”

The *Daily Maverick* article notes that, “Some light has finally entered the shadows of formal law to build more appropriate institutions for recognising family ownership as a distinctive form of holding immovable property.” ■



MAY 2022

# Over 50% of REF submission rated world-leading

**REF** Research  
2021 Excellence  
Framework

A total of 52% of Oxford's development studies research submission was rated 4\*, the highest available score, in the latest assessment of research quality in higher education, the 2021 Research Excellence Framework (REF).

That marks a significant improvement on our score in the last REF, in 2014. Research that is rated 4\* has been judged to be “world-leading in terms of originality, significance and rigour”.

“I want to thank everyone who worked to prepare our REF submission and, even more, everyone who has contributed to our world-class research, including our collaborators across the world”, said Professor Diego Sánchez-Ancochea, ODID Head of Department. “We remain committed to producing impactful work of global quality and to creating the best environment for all our colleagues to work on development issues.”

We were the largest submission in our Unit of Assessment, UoA22B Development Studies, and the second largest in the wider UoA22, which included both Anthropology and Development Studies departments. For the first time, a majority of the staff we submitted were women.

Our submission drew on research focussed on more than 50 countries across the world and benefitted from our extensive network of overseas research collaborations and impact partnerships.

Our impact beyond academia was also assessed through a number of case studies showing the real-world benefits of our research. These showcased work in the department that has helped change the way governments measure and tackle poverty; transform the economic inclusion of refugees; alter understandings of how innovation works in low-income countries; and ban corporal punishment in Peru.



applications to the department from the Global South, with a particular emphasis on candidates from Latin America.

The initiative for the scholarship comes from Professor Valpy FitzGerald who was Head of Department at ODID from 2007 to 2012. The scholarship will be named after his wife Angelines, who has been struggling with Alzheimer's Disease.

MAY 2022

## New course for learners affected by displacement

The Refugee Studies Centre launched a new three-month online course in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies that is available free of charge to individuals who have been affected by forced displacement.

RSC Pathways is inspired by our MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies. Over three months, learners are part of a global cohort that is introduced to the main disciplines and themes in this field of studies. They are taught by RSC lecturers and receive direct mentorship from colleagues in the Refugee-led Research Hub, who facilitate deep engagement with course material. RSC Pathways is designed to support learners to progress to advanced academic and research opportunities. The course is offered free of charge, and learners receive a certificate from the RSC upon completion.

The course has 10 modules that learners can complete independently or alongside a cohort of classmates within three months.

JUNE 2022

## Ikuno Naka wins inaugural DSA PhD thesis prize

Ikuno Naka, who recently completed her DPhil at ODID, won the newly established Development Studies Association (DSA) thesis prize for PhD students working in the field





of international development, development studies and development economics.

Ikuno won for her thesis entitled “The ‘Realty’ of Cochin: from the material to the spectacular, a story of India’s emerging city”.

The judging panel commented, “What makes this thesis so powerful is the way that it has been written; the ethnographic, active participant research approach which provides the data; and the analysis which looks beyond the physical capital speculation and accumulation to what it tells us about how people conceptualise their future aspirations, hopes and understandings of (urban) development. It is written in a highly distinctive, almost literary style, which combined with excellent research skills and analysis, takes it to the next level.”

JUNE 2022

### Refugee-led Research Hub wins diversity award

The Refugee-Led Research Hub was recognised in the Vice-Chancellor’s Diversity Awards, winning the project award for “Diversifying participation”.

With funding from the IKEA Foundation, the Refugee-Led Research Hub supports graduate access and career development opportunities for aspiring researchers with lived experience of displacement. With an initial focus on East Africa, the Hub aims to create a range of opportunities for refugee researchers to access training, mentorship, and funding in order to build research careers in the Social Sciences and the Humanities.

Project advisor Professor Alexander Betts said: “This award is recognition for the entire Refugee-Led Research Hub team who have been working to expand opportunities for researchers and students from displacement backgrounds. We hope that this can catalyse and strengthen the University’s commitment to offer access opportunities and

scholarships for refugees from around the world”.

JUNE 2022

### Naohiko Omata wins Teaching Excellence Award

Professor Naohiko Omata won a Teaching Excellence Award in the Early Career stream within the Social Sciences Division’s 2022 Divisional Teaching Excellence Awards.

Naohiko is an Associate Professor working mainly within the Refugee



Economies Programme and teaching on the MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies.

The award committee noted the “innovative, excellent quality” of Professor Omata’s teaching and supervision in the area of refugee studies, particularly in involving refugee scholars on the Refugee Economies course, and further recognised his work in the development of the Refugee-Led Research Hub (based in Nairobi) which they stated “has created a vibrant and stimulating learning environment for students and colleagues in the department”.

JULY 2022

## Dilar Dirik launches new Women and War podcast

Dr Dilar Dirik, Joyce Pearce Junior Research Fellow at the Refugee Studies Centre, launched a new podcast series titled ‘Women & War: A Feminist Podcast’.

Women in regions affected by war and forced displacement are highly visible in media accounts. Yet, their resistance against different forms of violence – from so-called domestic abuse to large-scale state violence – often goes unrecognised. The podcast is a platform to learn about women’s struggles for liberation, justice and peace. It amplifies critical contemporary feminist work in the field of war, violence, colonialism and forced migration.

Today, unprecedented amounts of funding are allocated to gender issues in the world of conflict and security. However, as feminists have pointed out for decades, gender is not something to “also consider” during times of war and conflict. Since ancient times, gender has been a primary organising principle in war, militarism, occupation and political violence.

The invited guests – who are engaged feminist academics and activists – speak about legacies of genocide, femicide, occupation, and invasion in the context of places such as Armenia, Afghanistan, Kurdistan, Palestine, Pakistan and beyond. In addition to providing background and sharing knowledge, the guests reflect on their own scholarship and discuss contemporary knowledge production on women’s resistance.

Find out more at: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/research/women-war-a-feminist-podcast](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/research/women-war-a-feminist-podcast)



## IMPACT

## ‘Hand to hand’ app helps poorest weather COVID impact

Researchers at ODID and the University of Birmingham developed and trialled a Tik-Tok-style short video app targeted specifically at marginalised communities and found that training and use of the app had a positive effect on entrepreneurship and employment, enabling participants to better weather the impact of COVID.

The app, Haate Haat (hand to hand in Bengali), was developed as part of a project to explore how digital technology could help overcome the barriers that prevent the poorest people in low-income countries (LICs) – particularly women and young people – from engaging in economic activity.

Earlier research has examined the role of the internet and mobile phones in supporting economic inclusion in LICs, by tackling constraints such as lack of information and market access. However, the potential of increasingly popular short video platforms – of which the best known is perhaps Tik Tok – has been overlooked. In addition, few studies on the impact of digital platforms have made use of randomised control trials (RCTs) and rely on case studies or analysis of secondary data.

Seeking to fill this gap, the researchers worked with the SBK Foundation, an NGO in Bangladesh, to develop the Haate Haat short video app, incorporating a number of features specifically aimed at facilitating the involvement of marginalised groups.

These included a simple user interface – enabling even users who cannot read or write to post videos; training via the app; a “fair” recommending mechanism that means every video has an equal chance of appearing before viewers; and mechanisms that enhance social interaction and enable users to monetise their content through gifts, subscriptions, adverts and sales. The app is free to download and no commission or fee is charged on sales.

### RCT provides quantitative data

To promote the app, SBK Foundation carried out a series of training sessions in tech hubs in 64 districts in Bangladesh to outline its features and benefits and to encourage download. Women with children and elderly family members were particularly encouraged to trial Haate Haat.

The research team then carried out an RCT over 19 months between October 2019 and April 2021 (before and after) to assess the impact of the Haate Haat app.

The trial period coincided with much of the COVID pandemic, so the team were able to assess in particular whether the app had helped participants overcome its economic impact.

As part of the RCT, participants from two marginalised wards in the capital, Dhaka, and two in the smaller city of Bogura were randomly allocated either to the “treatment” group, who participated in the SBK training, or to the control group, who did not. A total of 2,430 households participated in the trial. The researchers then measured the effect of the treatment on household and individual income, on employment and entrepreneurship status.

The researchers found that household income fell 10.8% less for the treatment group than for those in the control group during the pandemic. The treatment group also had a 2.7% greater likelihood of keeping their

jobs and 3.1% greater likelihood of maintaining their business during the peak of the pandemic, April 2020–April 2021.

The researchers found these effects were particularly pronounced for younger adults in the 18–30 age group. They also found that use of the app significantly reduced the barriers created by lack of motivation and lack of skill and confidence among older adults as well as bridging the gap in terms of digital capacity between women and men.

On the basis of the research, the team made a number of policy recommendations, including improvements in infrastructure, particularly in rural areas; targeted support for marginalised communities, including lowering subscription fees for mobile internet usage and providing subsidies for the purchase of digital devices; the establishment of relevant training schemes; and taxation policies to support the creation of content-based digital platforms.

The research was carried out as part of the Inclusive Digital Model (IDMODEL) project led by Professor Xiaolan Fu of the Technology and Management Centre for Development (TMCD) at ODID and Professor Pervez Ghauri of the Department of Strategy and International Business at the University of Birmingham.

The project is supported by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) through its Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF).

Haate haat can be downloaded from Google Play. ■





# Alumni



Keith Barnes Photography

## Amplifying refugee voices

"There remains a vast spectrum of refugee stories that remain unwritten, unshared, unheard, or unappreciated".

That, in the words of ODID alumna Kat Eghdamian, was her motivation for setting up a new initiative for refugee writers in Aotearoa New Zealand, offering them the opportunity to tell their own stories and change perceptions, as well as supporting them to become published authors.

Kat, who completed the MPhil in Development Studies at ODID in 2015, launched the country's first Refugee Writers' Collective this year as part of Open Hearts and Minds, the advocacy campaign she founded to increase empathy for refugees and people seeking asylum in Aotearoa New Zealand.

"More than 100 million people globally have been forced to flee their homes and despite forced displacement being an integral feature of our collective human experience, we continue to portray, hear and understand refugee stories in very binary or simplistic ways", she said.

"Refugee stories are positioned as being either about refugees as poor victims and traumatised survivors or as grateful and successful contributors to benevolent and generous hosts ... There is great need around the world for refugee stories to be shared by refugees themselves, in their own words, from their own perspectives, and for their own reasons. Shaping narratives, perceptions and understandings of refugee identities, needs, and experiences is intimately connected to the shaping of policies and practices that impact them directly".

The initiative invited writers with a background as refugees or asylum seekers the chance to have their work

read by established authors and to be published, as well as offering prize money for the winning entries. Judges included well-known refugee writers Abbas Nazari, Golriz Ghahraman, Merhawi Woldemichael, Angelique Kasmara and Behrouz Boochani.

The winning entry was "Before and After", by Naheed Saeid originally from Afghanistan, which explored what it means to escape political labels and reclaim your own truth and life story.

In her day job, Kat, who was herself a child refugee, is a lead advisor at the New Zealand Human Rights Commission, working on diverse issues such as refugee rights to equal employment opportunities, modern slavery and the dignified and humane treatment of women in prisons. She was a strategic advisor to the Auckland Refugee Council and also serves in a number of roles for non-profits and community organisations with a focus on social cohesion and coaching and mentoring.

She hopes the collective will not only support the writers to publish but also help to change attitudes towards refugees among the wider public – "for as many people as possible to come into contact with the words of these writers and to let the power of those words open their hearts and minds to the multiple, varied and sometimes contradictory notions of what it may mean to be a 'refugee'".

"I envision the collective growing in strength – not just in numbers – and for there to be an annual writing competition as well as more spaces created to celebrate writers from refugee backgrounds and for their work to be honoured." ■



## ALUMNI PROFILE

# Hubiba Mir

**Senior Program Associate, Global Health Strategies**  
**MPhil in Development Studies 2016–18**



## Tell us about your career since leaving ODID

I have been working in the development sector since my graduation in 2018. I briefly worked as a Resource Mobilisation Coordinator with a not-for-profit organisation, National Development Foundation, in Jammu & Kashmir, India. I undertook research to analyse the implementation of a central government scheme for skilling and employment of youth.

From 2020 to June 2022, I was employed with the Government of Punjab as a consultant. Our team of Governance Fellows was hired through the State Advisory Council (headed by the Chief Minister) to catalyse development transformations and governance reforms in Punjab. Over the course of 2.5 years, I worked with senior bureaucrats, multilateral organisations, and NGOs on multiple development priorities such as youth empowerment, promotion of mass entrepreneurship, skill development, capacity building of public officials, and COVID-19 management. I assisted the state through varying roles such as research and analysis, policy formulation, program design and implementation, and stakeholder management.

## And your current position?

I am currently working as a consultant with Global Health Strategies, an international consultancy. As a Senior Program Associate, I contribute to strategy development and advocacy for the tuberculosis elimination program with elected leaders, bureaucrats, and technical experts. I also assist the Project Lead with managing team resources, and implementation and monitoring of project deliverables.

## Why did you choose ODID/your course?

When I was first introduced to the idea of development as a discourse during my undergrad, I was fascinated and wanted to undertake an in-depth study of the subject from a multi-

disciplinary perspective. In addition to familiarising me with core debates in development theory and practice, the course at ODID also provided me with the opportunity to explore my research interests under the supervision of world-renowned faculty.

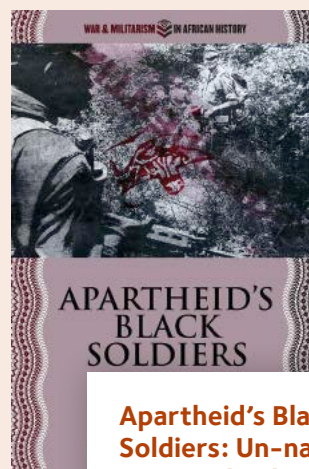
## What did you particularly value about your course?

Above all, I value the MPhil course structure that trains a student to undertake original research. From research design and fieldwork to analysis and writing of the thesis, I was trained for a successful career as a researcher.

## And what did you particularly value about ODID?

QEH was a home away from home for me. The international outlook of the department is reflected in not just the courses offered, but also the people that make up the department. The students, faculty, and staff that are the Oxford Department of International Development make QEH an inclusive and supportive environment to pursue the MPhil.

## New books by alumni



**Apartheid's Black Soldiers: Un-national Wars and Militaries in Southern Africa**

Lennart Bolliger  
 (DPhil, International Development 2019).  
*Ohio University Press*



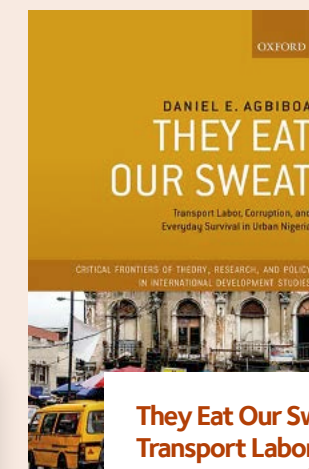
**Performing Power in Zimbabwe: Politics, Law, and the Courts since 2000**

Sanne Verheul (DPhil, International Development 2017). *Cambridge University Press*



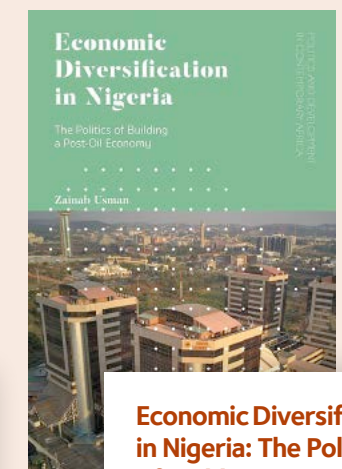
**Cronyism and Elite Capture in Egypt: From Businessmen Cabinet to Military Inc**

Sarah Smierciak  
 (MPhil, Development Studies 2012–14).  
*Routledge*



**They Eat Our Sweat: Transport Labor, Corruption, and Everyday Survival in Urban Nigeria**

Daniel Agbibo  
 (DPhil, International Development 2016).  
*Oxford University Press*



**Economic Diversification in Nigeria: The Politics of Building a Post-Oil Economy**

Zainab Usman  
 (DPhil, International Development 2017).  
*Bloomsbury*

## ALUMNI PROFILE

# Yannick Markhof

**Consultant (World Bank) and PhD Fellow (United Nations University-MERIT)**  
**MSc in Economics for Development, 2018–19**



## Tell us about your career since leaving ODID

I held a fellowship sponsored by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) at the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Brazil, and thereafter carried out a consultancy for the World Bank in Rome as part of the Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS) team within the Development Data Group. I am currently still part of the LSMS team and completing a PhD in Development Economics at the United Nations University - MERIT in the Netherlands.

## And your current position?

For my PhD, I am closely collaborating with the LSMS team within the World Bank to improve the versatility and richness of household survey data. In my day-to-day work with and for the World Bank, I collect and use microdata from large household surveys as well as experimental data to investigate questions centering around poverty, resilience building in low- and middle-income countries, and innovation in the measurement of key development indicators.

## Why did you choose ODID/your course?

I chose the course because it combines economics with

a specialisation in low- and middle-income countries, it has an excellent reputation and offered a stimulating environment.

## What did you particularly value about your course?

For me, the MSc has built the technical skills my professional career (at the UN and World Bank) is based on, encouraged the inquisitive mindset that makes me want to learn something new every day, and fostered the desire to use this knowledge for a good cause. Apart from that, being surrounded by such a diverse group of classmates that are all great in their own unique ways was an experience I would not have wanted to miss.

## And what did you particularly value about ODID?

While academic economics is infamous for being a rather harsh environment, ODID did not at all fulfil this stereotype. Quite the contrary: the warm atmosphere and dedication from all staff involved – teaching and administrative – made ODID a real academic home.



## Alumni summer gathering and climate change event



We were delighted to welcome students back both remotely and in person for a one-day event on Monday 27 June 2022 dedicated to the theme of climate change and development. We had a wonderful response from our request for speakers, with 17 presentations in parallel sessions on the day from alumni drawing on both academic research and professional experience.

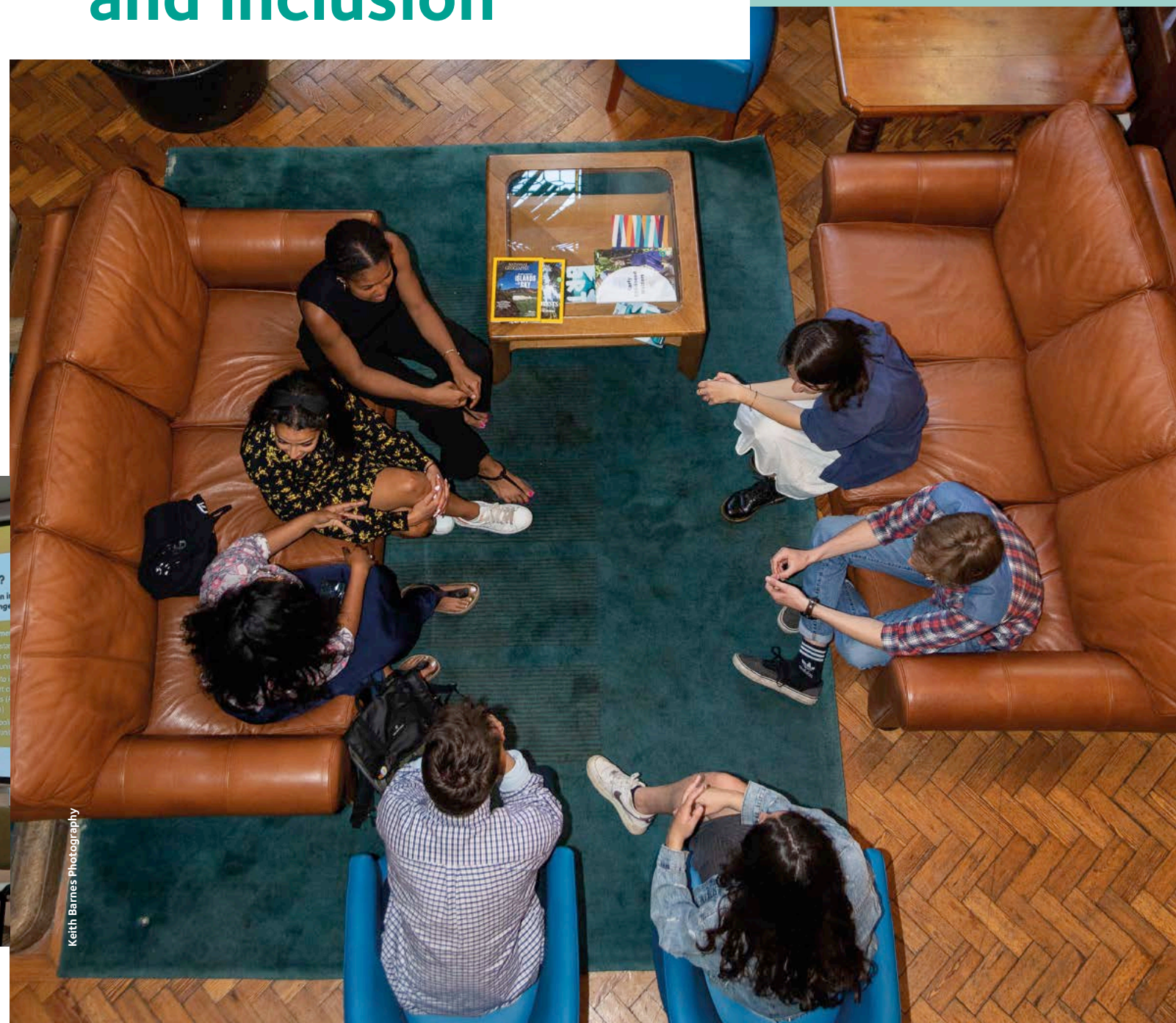
The day was introduced and closed by our Head of Department, Diego Sánchez-Ancochea. Professor Laura Rival began the event with a short presentation outlining the department's ongoing collective reflection on how to repurpose development and work at controlling our destinies in the face of environmental degradation, a changing climate, biocultural diversity loss, runaway technology and black swan pandemics. She concluded that the multiple and intertwined crises the world is currently experiencing cause immense suffering, but they also offer an opportunity for restructuring the political economy that is failing us.

Participants came from all the degrees we offer, and from the earliest as well as the most recent generations of graduates. For instance, Kate Vinot, from Australia, was one of the first graduates from the MSc in Economics for Development (1989–1991), while Maria Franco Gavonel completed the DPhil in 2020. Although many participants were from the MPhil in Development Studies and DPhil in International Development programmes, several presenters had done other degrees, such as, for instance, Marion Osieyo (MSc in Global Governance and Development 2013–14), now Global Strategist for World Wildlife Fund International, or Jennifer Kishan (MSc in Forced Migration 2005–06), now UNICEF State Consultant for the Disaster Management Authority of the State of Odisha, India.

What made the event so stimulating was the way in which our alumni, now deeply involved in applying what they learnt from the department in their professional lives, came prepared to give us teaching advice and share suggestions for the way we research in the era of climate emergency. Kate Vinot, for instance, explained how her MSc degree, by giving her specific new skills while introducing her to a set of new academic disciplines and helping her develop new critical understandings of the world, had helped her confront the policy challenges she has met in her urban planning work in Australia. In the light of her professional experience based on combining the technical tools of an engineer with the qualitative and critical understanding of a social scientist's approach, she stressed the importance of paying attention in our teaching to factors motivating individuals to change, from individual self-development, care for the development of others, and the need for better leadership. Marion Osieyo stressed the importance of nature's contributions to people, and the need to approach sustainability in development, including the SDGs, from a perspective that really enhances the "leveraging of nature conservation" to use her insightful formulation. As for Ramin Nassehi (MPhil in Development Studies 2009–11), who is currently based at the Centre for Teaching and Learning Economics at SOAS (where he has won numerous awards including the Best Lecturer Award at the UCL Department of Economics in 2017/2018 and SOAS Director's Prize in Inspirational and Innovative Teaching 2016/2017), he suggested that innovation in teaching economics for development in the era of climate change must start by paying serious attention to inequalities. ■



## Equality, diversity and inclusion





## Progressing Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion at ODID

Over the last academic year, the department renewed its commitment to equality and diversity in multiple dimensions by adopting a Statement of Aims to enable constructive reflection and action on the ways in which we undertake our teaching and research.

As Valpy FitzGerald's articles on the history of the department highlight, the need to promote equality and diversity is particularly significant in a department such as ours, because in our research and teaching, we routinely explore the continued impacts of colonialism, study the interactions between different dimensions of inequality, and work closely with partners from the Global South.

### Goals

Recognising the efforts of department members to advance equality and diversity in teaching and research, the Statement of Aims seeks to promote sustained change in key areas:

- Deepening our commitment to equality in our engagement with partners in the Global South and actively countering potentially extractive and exploitative research practices.
- Further promoting a diversity of voices in our curriculum, bearing in mind the politics of knowledge production.
- Increasing staff diversity.
- Diversifying our student population and creating an environment in which students, particularly from underrepresented and marginalised backgrounds, feel welcome, develop a sense of belonging, and are supported to achieve academic excellence.

### Activity this year

To help accelerate our EDI initiatives and support the work of the departmental EDI Committee, we created the new post of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Officer, and appointed Laura Epton to the post.

Staff across our research groups and degree programmes lead much of the department's efforts to advance equality, diversity and inclusion in teaching and research.

### Graduate programmes

Building on previous initiative, lecturers on the MPhil in Development Studies ran an induction workshop for first-year students to help forge an inclusive classroom culture of cooperative learning, respectful debate and mutual understanding. The workshop encourages students to reflect on their own and other's identity and positionality in the learning process.

Further, at the request of students from the MPhil in Development Studies, we worked with the LGBTQI+ Lead at the University to initiate an awareness-raising session on the plurality of gender identities and on the use of gender-inclusive language and practices in an academic environment.

The Refugee Studies Centre developed a new induction programme for the MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies to engage students in a discussion of the ethics of studying forced migration, their positionality

as researchers working in this field, and historical approaches to the study of forced migration that centres post-colonial scholarship.

### Career development

DPhil students took the initiative to create a new seminar series, entitled "Preparing for the Academic Profession". The aim is to create a platform for discussion between DPhil students and academic staff on the challenges of research in international development, realities and practicalities of the job market, managing uncertainty after the PhD, postdoctoral research and how identity mediates knowledge and its implications for academic positioning. The series facilitated opportunities for shared learning, intellectual exchange and mentorship among students and staff.

### AfOx-ODID Senior Visiting Fellow

This year we welcomed to our department Professor Kalpana Hiralal from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Her research focuses on gender and the South Asian diaspora and women in the anti-apartheid struggle. She is our first Senior AfOx-ODID Visiting Fellow. The department is partnering with AfOx (The Africa Oxford Initiative) to facilitate visiting fellowships and collaborations between researchers based at the University of Oxford and African universities.

### Research

At a research group away day, members of the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) undertook a "privilege walk" exercise to create a safe space for staff to examine the experiences of

their different stakeholders and how privilege and positionality might impact relationships, the challenges different groups might face and the impact on OPHI's research. This exercise was a starting point for further conversations and actions as a research team. ■

### Our focus next year

- Implementing our Athena SWAN action plan and working on the priorities identified in our Statement of Aims to promote gender and race equality.
- Working inter-sectionally on race and gender, while also paying attention to other minoritised groups and protected characteristics.
- Promoting departmental discussions to identify EDI issues that are of concern to us from both our departmental and academic discipline perspectives, and that reflect the needs of staff and students.
- Developing plans to advance the EDI agenda organically from the bottom up, with positive engagement of staff and students as widely as possible.
- Sharing best practice on EDI matters across our degrees.
- Enhancing our EDI briefing during induction and implementing inclusive recruitment guidelines systematically for all staff.





# Events



Nino Eka Putra, Public Relations, Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Indonesia

23 SEPTEMBER 2021

## Envisioning a More Equitable Future: Using Multidimensional Poverty Indices as a Policy Tool

The Multidimensional Poverty Peer Network and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia co-hosted an online side event at the 76th UN General Assembly coordinated by OPHI. The event brought together two heads of state and government and 17 high-level national policymakers and international agency leaders to discuss their experiences of Multidimensional Poverty Indices (MPIs) as policy tools for equitable futures. Leaders exchanged innovative ways of implementing MPIs to reduce poverty in their contexts.

Watch the video: [bit.ly/ophi-UNGA2021](https://bit.ly/ophi-UNGA2021)

10 NOVEMBER 2021

## Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture 2021 – Empire, Asylum, and Refugee Responsibility-Sharing

Professor E Tendayi Achiume (Alicia Miñana Chair in Law, UCLA) gave the 2021 Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture. Introducing her lecture, Professor Achiume asked “...what is the border? Where is it? What is it for? Who is it for? Who is it against? Is it just? Can it be just?”

She made the case that “these questions are pressing questions not just for philosophers and political theorists, but for international refugee lawyers, for students and practitioners of international refugee law, in addition to being urgent questions for the world at large.”

Watch the video: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news/empire-asylum-and-refugee-responsibility-sharing-annual-harrell-bond-lecture-2021](https://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news/empire-asylum-and-refugee-responsibility-sharing-annual-harrell-bond-lecture-2021)

25 FEBRUARY 2022

## IDMODEL End of Project Conference

The Technology and Management

Centre for Development held an online conference to mark the completion of its Inclusive Digital Model (IDMODEL) project, attended by more than 40,000 people worldwide. The project researched a new business model that could enable the poorest people in developing countries to generate income and empower others by sharing their skills and experience using digital technology. Nobel Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus gave the keynote address; the event also featured speakers from the United Nations, the Commonwealth Secretariat, Bangladesh, Columbia, China, Europe and the UK. This group also held a forum for Bangladesh in December 2021 to explore findings from the project.

Watch the video: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=eT410jDSbyg&t=3s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eT410jDSbyg&t=3s)

Read more about the IDMODEL project on p11.

25 MAY 2022

## Asylum after the Act – A panel discussion

On 13 April 2022 the UK Government signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Republic of Rwanda on what is described as an “asylum partnership arrangement”, seeking to enable the “transfer”, or forced removal, of asylum-seekers from the UK to Rwanda to have their claims determined there, in accordance with Rwandan asylum and immigration law. The legal foundation for the UK’s proposed externalisation of refugee determination and protection is the Nationality and Borders Act 2022. This legislation also criminalises people simply for seeking asylum, and denies refugees key rights.

To analyse these developments and their consequences for refugee protection, this event brought together four expert panellists: Zoe Bantleman (Immigration Law Practitioners’ Association), Behrouz Boochani (author, journalist and Associate Professor at the University of New South Wales), Lawrence Bottinick (UNHCR London), and The Rt Hon Baroness Shami Chakrabarti CBE (UK

House of Lords). Catherine Briddick (Refugee Studies Centre) chaired.

Watch the video: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news/asylum-after-the-act-a-panel-discussion](https://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news/asylum-after-the-act-a-panel-discussion)

24 JUNE 2022

## Development Policy and Wellbeing – Bhutan’s GNH

OPHI Visiting Fellow, Dasho Karma Ura, President of the Centre for Bhutan and Gross National Happiness Studies (CBS), presented a keynote speech followed by a Q&A session moderated by OPHI’s Sabina Alkire. The event, hosted at the University of Oxford’s inaugural OPEN Showcase, shared new qualitative evidence from interviews conducted in Bhutan on people’s reflections of their own well-being, which will help inform the identification of priorities for future policies.

Watch the video: [bit.ly/GNH-OPENSC22](https://bit.ly/GNH-OPENSC22)

27 JULY 2022

## Multidimensional Poverty in the Midst of the Covid-19 Pandemic: A Commitment to Reducing Poverty in all its Forms

OPHI, the Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Indonesia (FEB UI) and the T20 Task Force 5 (TF5) team jointly convened a side event in Indonesia focused on multidimensional poverty reduction in the pandemic. The purpose of the T20, including this joint side event, was to generate expert recommendations on the nine priorities of the G20 to be shared at the 17th G20 Heads of State Government Summit in November 2022. The event began with two Keynote Dialogues presented by leading academics, policymakers and Indonesian ministers followed by six panels on multidimensional poverty, well-being and welfare.

Watch the videos: [www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL94Fcekioa5k-aQZiPYZdTMLgoOfzfMa9](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL94Fcekioa5k-aQZiPYZdTMLgoOfzfMa9)

Find out more: [ophi.org.uk/ophi\\_stories/t20-indonesia\\_2022/](https://ophi.org.uk/ophi_stories/t20-indonesia_2022/)



9–13 MAY 2022

## Inaugural Refugee-Led Research Festival

The Refugee Studies Centre's new Refugee-Led Research Hub held their inaugural Refugee-Led Research Festival in Nairobi and online. The Festival brought together researchers, scholars, artists and other stakeholders throughout East Africa to promote refugee leadership in forced migration research and practice. The five-day programme included training and workshops, panel discussions, movie screenings, socials, and more. The festival aimed to: spotlight existing refugee-led research initiatives; connect RLRH-affiliated learners and researchers with people who care about ethical research



and academic ecosystems; facilitate exchange of ideas and actions that are making a difference; and strengthen commitments from participants to support refugee leadership in research and elsewhere.

Find out more at: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news/the-refugee-led-research-hub-holds-its-inaugural-refugee-led-research-festival](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news/the-refugee-led-research-hub-holds-its-inaugural-refugee-led-research-festival)

### Climate Change and the Challenges of Development: Lectures and side events, 2021–22

We were delighted to continue with our Climate Change and the Challenges of Development series with a range of fascinating events this year:

- **Climate and Environmental Justice Matters: Towards Connected Knowledge and Policy in a Development Pluriverse**, with Professor Melissa Leach (Institute of Development Studies)
- **How Will Ending Poverty Impact Climate Change? A Well-Being Centred Approach to Energy Transitions**, with Professor Narasimha D Rao (Yale University)
- **Governing Planetary Health in an Unequal World**, with Professor Anna-Katharina Hornidge (German Development Institute) and Dr Nicole de Paula (FAO and Women Leaders for Planetary Health)
- **Climate Change, Agrarian Transformation, and the Origins Of COVID-19**, with Dr Li Zhang (University of California, Irvine)
- **Rethinking the Sahel: Climate, Social Capital and Knowledge**, with Nora Berrahmouni (FAO), Ousseyne Kalilou (Environmental Peacebuilding Association), Dr Cheikh Mbow (University of Pretoria)
- **Land, Territory, Agroecology and Climate Change**, with Joelson Ferreira de Oliveira (Activist and teacher)
- **Climate diplomacy: Indigenous Voices on Negotiating Climate Action**, with Terri-Lynn Williams-Davidson, Gidahl-Guudsdllyaay (Counsel to the Haida Nation), Beze Gray (Two-spirit climate youth activist and Anishnaabe land/water protector), Deborah McGregor (York University)
- **From Economic Fantasy to Ecological Reality on Climate Change**, with Professor Steve Keen (UCL)

Find out more and watch the recordings at:

[www.qeh.ox.ac.uk/content/climate-change-and-challenges-development](http://www.qeh.ox.ac.uk/content/climate-change-and-challenges-development)

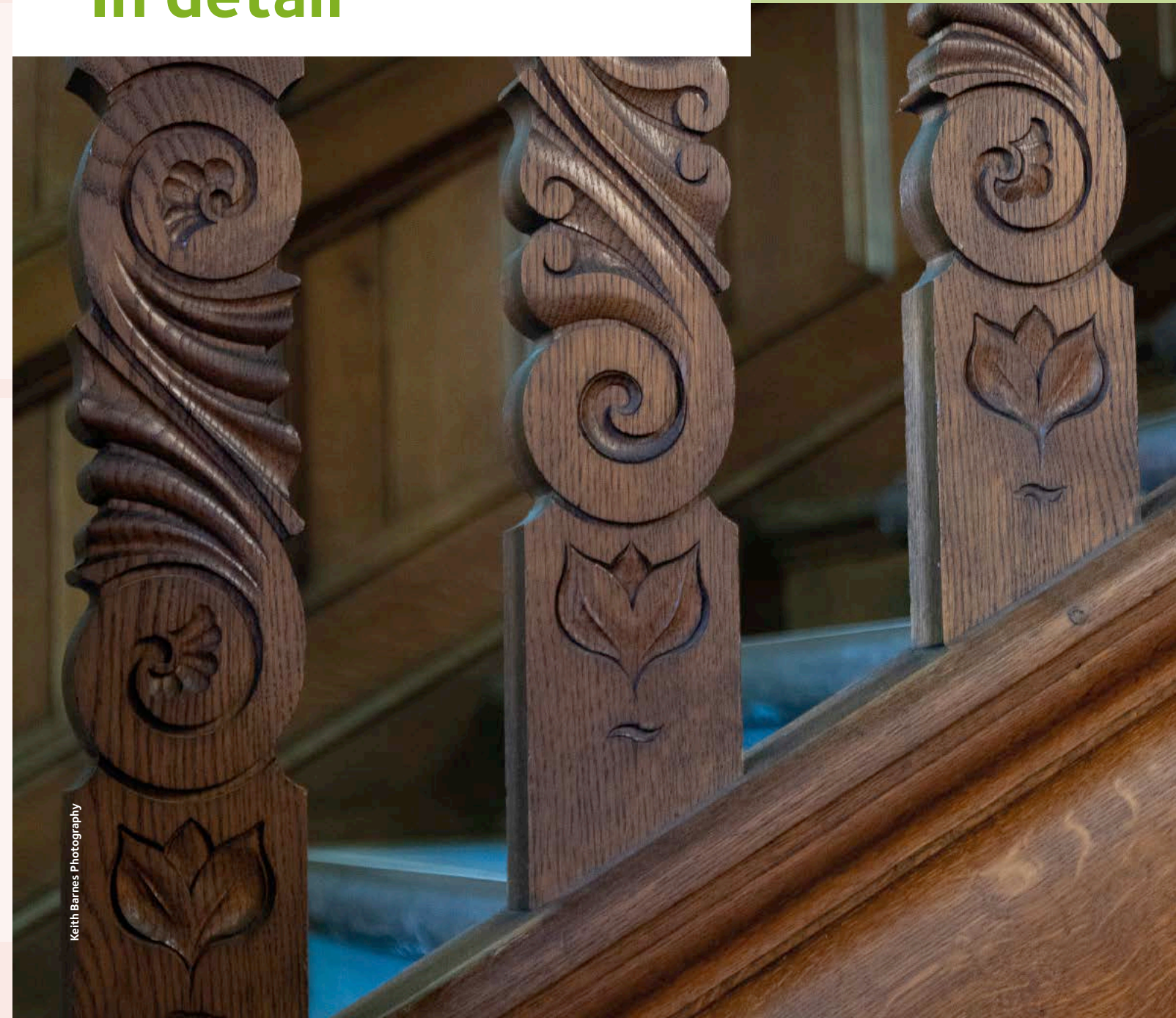
### OPHI Summer School

This year the Economics Faculty of Universitas Indonesia (FEB UI) kindly hosted a hybrid OPHI Summer School, OPHI's annual course to train the next generation of statistical champions in multidimensional poverty measurement and analysis. Twenty-three participants from eight countries attended in person in Indonesia, 21 participants from three countries attended in person in the Seychelles, and 32 participants from 14 countries joined online and in their own time zones 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/courses-and-events/ophi-summer-schools/](http://ophi.org.uk/courses-and-events/ophi-summer-schools/)

### International Online School in Forced Migration

This year the RSC's International Summer School in Forced Migration went online for the second year – once in March and twice in July. We plan to continue to offer the Online School next year in March, ahead of the return of the in-person Summer School in Oxford in July. The school offers an intensive, interdisciplinary and participative approach to the study of forced migration. It enables people working with refugees and other forced migrants to reflect critically on the forces and institutions that dominate the worlds of displaced people. The course combines Oxford's tradition of academic excellence with a stimulating discussion-based method of teaching, learning and reflection. This year, 41 participants from around the globe joined the School in March, with a further 121 across the two Schools in July. Across all three Schools, 21 bursary places were available for those with personal experience of displacement. Find out more at: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/study/international-summer-school](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/study/international-summer-school)

## In detail



Keith Barnes Photography



# Publications

## Books

**Dirik**, Dilar (2022) *The Kurdish Women's Movement: History, Theory, Practice*, Pluto Press

**Fu**, Xiaolan (with Bruce McKern and Jin Chen) (eds) (2022) *The Oxford Handbook of China Innovation*, Oxford University Press

**Lessa**, Francesca (2022) *The Condor Trials: Transnational Repression and Human Rights in South America*, Yale University Press

**Ozkul** Derya (with Hege Markussen) (eds) *The Alevis in Modern Turkey and the Diaspora: Recognition, Mobilisation and Transformation*, Edinburgh University Press

## Articles

**Alexander**, Jocelyn (2021) 'The Noisy Silence of Gukurahundi: Truth, Recognition and Belonging', *Journal of Southern African Studies* 47 (5): 763–85

**Alexander**, Jocelyn (with Astrid Rasch, Minna Johanna Niemi) (2021) 'Special Issue: Writing Repression in Zimbabwe', *Journal of Southern African Studies* 47 (5)

**Alkire**, Sabina (with R **Nogales**, NN **Quinn** and N Suppa) (2021) 'Global multidimensional poverty and COVID-19: A decade of progress at risk?', *Social Science and Medicine* 291: 114457

**Alkire**, Sabina (with S Yangyang) (2022) 'Exploring China's potential child poverty', *China and World Economy* 30 (1): 82–105

**Alkire**, Sabina (with U **Kanagaratnam**, R **Nogales** and N Suppa) (2022) 'Revising the global Multidimensional Poverty Index: Empirical insights and robustness', *Review of Income and Wealth*

**Alkire**, Sabina (with SH Mohaqeqi Kamal and M Basakha) (2022) 'Multidimensional poverty index: A multilevel analysis of deprivation among Iranian older adults', *Ageing and Society*

**Alkire**, Sabina (with F Vollmer) (2022) 'Consolidating and improving the assets indicator in the global Multidimensional Poverty Index', *World Development*: 158

**Andersson**, Ruben (2022) 'The bioeconomy and the birth of a "new anthropology"', *Cultural Anthropology* 37 (1): 37–44



**Ayalew Tiruneh**, Hailemariam (with Jordan Chamberlin and Carol Newman) (2022) 'Site-specific agronomic information and technology adoption: A field experiment from Ethiopia', *Journal of Development Economics* 156: 102788

**Ayalew Tiruneh**, Hailemariam (with Kate Tiedeman, Jordan Chamberlin, Frédéric Kosmowski, Tesfaye Sida, and Robert J Hijmans) (2022) 'Field Data Collection Methods Strongly Affect Satellite-Based Crop Yield Estimation', *Remote Sensing* 14 (9): 1995

**Bachleitner**, Kathrin (2022) 'Ontological Security as Temporal Security? The Role of 'Significant Historical Others' in World Politics', *International Relations*

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## Chapters

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## Reports

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CBS and **OPHI** (2021) *Nepal Multidimensional Poverty Index: Analysis towards action*, Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) of the Government of Nepal, and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)

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# Students

## DPHils completed

**Rebecca Buxton** (*St John's*)  
Membership and exile: inclusion in the state and the political rights of refugees

**Katie Washington** (*Lincoln*)  
In extremis: exploring gender, faith, and identity in the experiences of young South Asian British Muslim women who have joined or considered joining violent or non-violent extremist Islamist organisations

**Kristina Pikovskaia** (*Green Templeton*)  
'Vendors keep this economy running': economic informalisation and citizenship in Harare, Zimbabwe

**Sudheesh Ramapurath Chemmencheri** (*Lincoln*)  
Landless in God's own country: development and perpetual struggles in Kerala

**Francesco Bosso** (*St Antony's*)  
The borders of the Rechtsstaat: migrant exclusion and the constitutional state in post-crisis Germany

**Nur Arafah** (*Exeter*)  
Dependency, privilege, and counter-insurgency: a case study of the industrial elite of Hebron in the occupied West Bank

## MPhil fieldwork projects

How have digital identification technologies shifted relationships between the government, refugees and humanitarians in Kenya?

The implementation of EU non-tariff measures in post-revolutionary Tunisia

Mobilisation and contestation of *Buen Vivir* by social movements and communities in Peru

Climate change, agriculture and poverty nexus: rethinking resilience, adaptation and (de)coloniality in Northern Ghana

The making of an 'imagined community': self-understanding and conceptions of national identity among civil servants in Botswana

A critical analysis of the development of education systems for blind students in Punjab Pakistan

Confronting the faces of inequality in Nairobi, Kenya: a mixed methods approach

Adapting in the green wave: a case study of coffee production in Southwest China

Controversies around conservation: dispossession with an environmental bent in Uttarakhand

Reviewing poverty indices in India: impact of transportation costs on poverty line baskets

Child development in protracted conflict: a mixed methods study on the impacts of the Naxal insurgency in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, India

Assessment of the impact of Ghana Beyond Aid on prospects of women's empowerment in Ghana

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The use of judicial and legal activism in environmental justice: the mobilisation of the Mapuche-Pehuenche of Chile against extractive projects in the Bio Bio River Basin

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Understanding India's tuberculosis elimination programme through the lens of data

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Green infrastructure and green promises: climate resiliency or an old paradigm of development?

The politics of humanitarian objects in everyday intervention

An educational model in practice: virtue and humanities at the Aga Khan University

Exploring the practical articulations of food sovereignty in Zimbabwe

Patterns of women's asset ownership and nutritional outcomes in small-scale fisheries

Protecting Ecuador's forest and improving lives of the rural poor through the national Socio Bosque Programme

The supply-chain of a carbon credit: 'green' state-market entanglements and capitalist value production in Uruguay

The politics of hopes/experiences of legal status to Venezuelan refugees in Colombia

How do Turkey's Kurds develop and pass on their language?

'Ours is the waste age': the politics in circular economy transition – the electronics right to repair movement in the United Kingdom



David Fisher





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