



# ESRC Global Challenges Research Fund International Development Conference on Vulnerability

*23-24 November 2016*

*Weetwood Hall Hotel, Leeds (UK)*

## Conference Report

Summary and Next Steps



## External partners



African Population and Health Research Center



NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT



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# 1. Conference overview

## Background

On 23-24 November 2016, around 70 people participated in a two-day international development conference on the theme of vulnerability and resilience in Leeds (UK). The conference was organised by the [Leeds Social Sciences Institute](#) and [Centre for Global Development](#) and facilitated by [INTRAC](#).

The organisers brought together representatives from universities, research institutes, civil society organisations (CSOs), and government from around the world to share experiences of impact-oriented research, and to foster new partnerships across academic disciplines and practice to take advantage of Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) funding.

Participating organisations and institutions included: the African Population and Health Research Centre (Kenya); the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC, UK); Equity in Asia-Pacific Health Systems (EQUITAP, Malaysia); International Development Research Centre (IDRC, Canada); National Council for Population and Development (Kenya); Özyeğin University (Turkey); Save the Children UK; Statewatch (UK); UN Habitat (Kenya); the University of Malaya (Malaysia); the University of Witwatersrand (South Africa); and VSO International (UK).

### **The Global Challenges Research Fund**

The GCRF is a £1.5 billion fund to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and support cutting-edge research that addresses the challenges faced by developing countries through: challenge-led disciplinary and interdisciplinary research; strengthening capacity for research and innovation within both the UK and developing countries; and providing an agile response to emergencies where there is an urgent research need.

Find out more: <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/funding/gcrf/>

## Objectives

The conference had three main objectives:

1. Raising awareness: providing participants with an opportunity to hear from academics with a strong track record of conducting research in developing countries
2. Capacity building: engaging social scientists who have not worked in the international development field to engage with the demands of global challenge research to help build new capacity in this area
3. Exploring new connections and strengthening existing relationships with external partners, particularly in low-middle income countries

It focused on four themes running through the SDGs: inequalities, migration, urban public health, and urban security and justice. Interconnections across themes, disciplines and contexts were brought to the fore in presentations and breakout sessions.

This report provides a summary of the cross-cutting issues that emerged; lessons learned about the process of undertaking collaborative research for impact; and potential research questions and collaborations around the four themes. It is intended to enable participants and those that could not attend to capitalise on the positive momentum and links created at the conference to take forward ideas and new research partnerships.

It was envisaged that the conference would be the first in a series of events to be hosted by LSSI and CGD to progress and follow up on the initial discussions from the event. A number of follow up activities are underway, such as a new Leeds [IAA-funded project](#) to support CGD academics, in partnership with Dr. Rachel Hayman of INTRAC and Dr. Alyson Brody as an independent consultant, to host an online seminar to continue to build on this critical engagement and to begin to respond to some of the thematic and practice challenges identified. Other initiatives include a series of GCRF-facing workshops and follow-up meetings to explore potential collaborative research proposals around urban security and public safety, inequalities, and public health and primary prevention.

Please contact Josine Opmeer ([j.a.opmeer@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:j.a.opmeer@leeds.ac.uk)), LSSI Research and Innovation Development Manager, if you would like some further information or if you are interested in developing a research collaboration in one of the four thematic areas.

## 2. Presentations and speakers

Keynote presentations were delivered by:

**Juma Assiago, UN Habitat, Kenya** Juma spoke about the New Urban Agenda established at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III, 2016). He highlighted that many cities in the world rely on outdated models of planning and unsustainable forms of urbanisation. There is a need to build new forms of collaboration to create sustainable change, and recognise urbanisation as a tool for development.



*Conference participants © Leeds Social Sciences Institute 2017*

**Professor Andy Dougill, University of Leeds,**

**UK,** shared reflections from a multi-country research project on climate change vulnerability (and/or resilience) of African farming systems. Key points included: the vital role of in-country academic collaborators in the research process; working with former PhD students to build partnerships in-country; and working with national organisations to support research uptake and monitor impact.

**Dr Paul Meller, Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), UK,** focused on impact and the GCRF. Key points included: the emphasis on partnership between funding agencies, researchers, and NGOs/charities/civil society in developing countries; and the focus in the GCRF research agenda on leave no one behind, sustainable societies and economies, and

supporting peace and justice. Paul highlighted the need for the ESRC to disseminate research calls beyond the 'usual suspects' and welcomed input from organisations on this.

External partners also shared insights from their work and highlighted pressing future challenges and research questions to be addressed:

## **Urban public health**

**Dr Blessing Mberu, African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC), Kenya** spoke about APHRC's work to champion evidence-based development in Africa. He highlighted the need for: urban health statistics so that implementing agencies and local governments can baseline interventions, measure progress, and identify interventions that work; appropriate indicators and data collection at the local level to operationalise the SDGs; and long-term engagement to effect policy change.

**Dr Ng Chiu Wan, University of Malaya, Malaysia** explored challenges in health in Malaysia, which include rapid urbanisation, an ageing society, the double burden of disease, and access to affordable and effective health care. Needs include: continuously monitoring coverage and access to private healthcare across different sub-populations; and researching changing lifestyles and behaviours, such as how rapid economic development impacts different social groups.

**John Anampiu, National Council for Population and Development, Kenya** examined the urban population and health status in Kenya, challenges and lessons learnt from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and ways forward for the SDGs. Key points included: the MDGs were not member-state driven. Better research is needed to understand inequalities, and analyse vulnerability within the urban population.

## **Inequalities**

**Emily Echessa, Save the Children UK** discussed inequalities in education, drawing on case studies from Afghanistan and Ethiopia. Questions raised included: Why are inequalities persisting? If NGOs can have success at local level, why are these not being scaled up? Do all inequalities have the same weight?

**Purna Shrestha, VSO International, UK** spoke about leaving no one behind in education and outlined some barriers to girls' education. Key messages included: the need to involve primary actors (such as marginalised children) and other key stakeholders in identifying education needs and solutions; and the importance of qualitative research in understanding gaps in education.

## **Urban security and justice**

**Juma Assiago**, focused on UN Habitat's approach to making cities safer, which involves youth, gender exclusion, the environment, and inequality. He highlighted that it is simplistic to consider poverty as the cause of crime, and called for practical solutions and inclusive policies and practice.

**Markus Gottsbacher, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada**, highlighted the need for a holistic approach to understand the complexity of security. Key messages included: the need to recognise the agency of populations and move from describing 'vulnerable groups' to 'people in situations of vulnerability'; improving the role of brokers and facilitators, such as academia, in research; and the need for better dissemination of research results.

## Migration

**Tony Bunyan, Statewatch, UK** spoke about tackling the root causes of migration, the refugee crisis, and understanding the nature of decisions made by the European Union. Suggestions included: recognising the active role of local people and NGOs; challenging policies at the global institutional level; and focusing not only on trade but on education and training.

**Yasemin Somuncu, Özyeğin University, Turkey** discussed migration and neighbourliness in the context of the Syria crisis. She described how her organisation is working to address inequalities in Turkey.

**Janet Munakamwe, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa** shared findings from research on cross-border migration of men and women working informally in abandoned and closed mines in Johannesburg. She highlighted the relationship between informality, vulnerability and agency; and the need to transform laws and policies in the sector to create a safe and conducive working environment.

Readers are also encouraged to access the full presentations on the LSSI website (<https://lssi.leeds.ac.uk/wp-admin/post.php?post=4304&action=edit>)

## 3. Conference highlights: cross-cutting issues and synergies

Over the two days, synergies were highlighted. These include:

Interconnections across thematic areas, such as the links between security and access to healthcare in urban areas; provision of health care to migrants; and inequality as an overarching issue.

Resonance across varied geographical and economic contexts, for example, recognising there is still a need for research in upper-middle income countries where similar issues persist.

The importance of data: the need for appropriate data collection and disaggregation at the local level if the SDGs are to be met; the need for data and findings to be owned by people and communities; and the role of technology in researching the hard-to-reach.

The need to go beyond a focus on policy change to action if research it is to have impact. This includes changing perceptions and pushing for paradigm shifts, such as in the way we think about security, and recognising urbanisation and migration as tools for development.

The value of collaboration and partnership in shaping research agendas and outreach. For example, there may be much to learn from NGOs/CSOs on the frontline about those who are left behind, and therefore the topics that research will need to address to achieve the SDGs.

The role of brokers, such as former PhD students, between research and implementing bodies.

Embedded research has major potential for impact, and understanding context is vital for this.

Other cross-cutting issues included: the role and impact of the private sector (for example in health service delivery, and in human security); listening, social accountability and feedback mechanisms.

## 4. Collaborative research for impact: lessons learned

During the conference, speakers and participants shared valuable insights on best practice in research and achieving evidence-based impact through partnerships. These are clustered under three headings:

### a. Capacity building for research

Discussions highlighted the importance of strengthening the capacity of researchers in-country to analyse data, thereby creating ownership of the process and results; and recognising the value of face-to-face interaction for exchanging ideas and sharing knowledge. Speakers also emphasised that capacity building is a long-term process, and should be co-created.

Participants raised questions around whether it is possible to factor in capacity building support for civil society partners into research collaborations; and the types of skills researchers need for engaging in high impact research in the global South.

### b. Working in partnership and research consortia

Speakers and participants emphasized the importance of:

- Taking time at the outset of partnerships to establish relationships and processes, including understanding the different contexts and ways in which partners work
- Being very clear about what all parties want to achieve at the start of the partnership
- Clearly stating management and decision making-structures when writing proposals involving research consortia
- Not underestimating the amount of time needed for management and administration, and making sure this is budgeted for

- Addressing problems in relationships in a timely manner
- Maintaining communication throughout the partnership
- Creating opportunities for collaboration between partners in-country
- Exploring how space for networking and peer-learning between academics and practitioners can be built into research grants; can CSOs assist academics with raising awareness about networking initiatives?

c. Research impact

Lessons learned and questions raised around designing research to achieve impact included:

- Integrating policy-makers and end-users from the outset when designing projects
- Presenting possible solutions to challenges, not just problems, when attempting to gain the attention of policy makers
- Recognising that undertaking research with children and using it to influence policy can be effective

Questions were also raised around: the improvements needed to monitor and evaluate research impact and analyse failures when policies have *not* been changed; maintaining impact and relationships after the funding or project has ended; and ensuring that local partners and researchers are protected during and after the research when it may have been controversial or sensitive.

Presentations on best research in practice can also be accessed online:

- Research Showcase: Communicable Diseases Health Service Delivery (COMDIS), Professor James Newell, Leeds Institute for Health Sciences.
- Official Development Assistance in Practice, Dr Anne Tallontire, University of Leeds.

## 5. Research topics and collaborations

Potential research topics, questions and collaborations for each of the four themes were discussed during breakout sessions. These are documented in tables on the following pages.

Each table contains:

- Thematic reflections from participants on the topic. These are a mixture of questions and observations.
- Research questions and topics to pursue through new partnerships
- Cross-cutting issues raised on the theme; research methods that could be used to collect and analyse data; and potential collaborations
- Next steps

## Urban public health

Thematic reflections	Research questions and topics to pursue	Cross-cutting issues / methods / potential collaborations	Next steps
<p><b>Population dynamics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Aging populations; shifts from communicable to non-communicable diseases; and changes in lifestyle that urban living brings</li> </ul> <p><b>Data collection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A lack of surveillance in urban slums and the exclusion of informal populations can result in an urban-rich domination of data, which can present challenges in decision-making in municipalities.</li> <li>- There is a need to strengthen data quality in urban centres and at the local level in order to understand and respond.</li> <li>- Data gathering in informal settlements can present particular challenges. Can technologies be developed to address these?</li> </ul> <p><b>Role of public/private healthcare</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Challenges in public services reaching the urban poor, and the role of the private sector in healthcare in urban areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Urban planning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are links between urban planning/the environment and the impact on health (e.g. open spaces). There is a need to understand how urbanisation influences population health.</li> </ul>	<p><b>1. Health-seeking behaviour</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Do social norms and perceptions change as people migrate from rural to urban areas? How does this influence health-seeking behaviour?</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Availability and accessibility of health services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What does accessibility mean to the urban poor?</li> <li>- What models of health service provision are appropriate and accessible for the urban poor in terms of gender, ethnicity and religion?</li> <li>- How can existing services be made more accessible in terms of their physical structure, quality, expense, timing, and safety?</li> <li>- Can different models of community health work be adapted to reach the urban poor? Can this make health services more sustainable over time?</li> <li>- Does accountability to communities help to maintain quality and sustainability?</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Mental health and wellbeing in urban areas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How can mental health and wellbeing be improved within the urban environment?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cross-cutting issues and themes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maternal and child health; non-communicable diseases; the need to emphasise prevention not only treatment; access to services</li> <li>- The links between security and planning in urban areas, and access to healthcare</li> <li>- The importance of context – what works for who and in what context?</li> <li>- Politics and power of health decision-making</li> </ul> <p><b>Potential collaborations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Potential partnerships with existing organisations, such as Shack Dwellers International, were discussed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Research questions need to be refined.</li> </ul>

## Inequalities

Thematic reflections	Research questions and topics to pursue	Cross-cutting issues / methods / potential collaborations	Next steps
<p><b>Action</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is a need to recognise action as key to promoting change in behaviour or addressing inequalities (i.e. going beyond a focus on policy change).</li> </ul> <p><b>Collaboration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Can research collaboration help to take innovative projects/solutions that NGOs have developed to another level?</li> </ul> <p><b>Comparison in education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is there potential for comparing the education systems, policies and procedures of upper-income countries with developing countries?</li> </ul>	<p><b>1. Education versus livelihoods</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inequality and migration: What do people need to cope with change when they move?</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Who reaches the most marginalised?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Which institutions (service providers, civil society, and local governments) are reaching the most marginalised?</li> <li>- How do we finance the support needs of the most vulnerable, recognising that it may cost more to reach fewer people?</li> <li>- Who decides who is the most marginalised and who is left behind? What do they want/need to be reached with/for? What about those that are 'just managing' in the middle?</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Accountability and bringing the voices of those we work with into the research process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Being aware of not putting people/researchers/communities at risk. How do we engage constructively with power and still be critical?</li> </ul> <p><b>4. Addressing data gaps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How can we address data gaps on the most marginalised groups? Can innovation and technology be used for generating data on the most marginalised/invisible?</li> <li>- How can we improve the quality of evidence from non-academic researchers?</li> </ul> <p><b>5. Seasonality and climate change</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Research gap in the temporal/seasonal aspects of inequality</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cross-cutting issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The need to go beyond thematic silos to understand who the most marginalised groups are.</li> <li>- Reflecting on inequality in partnership/collaboration with others.</li> <li>- Ethical considerations and methods for working with children.</li> <li>- The role of security in research, especially where government is hostile – can constructive engagement with community-based organisations that have good relationships with government offer a way in to reach those in hard-to-reach places?</li> <li>- Thinking beyond numbers to individuals</li> </ul> <p><b>Framing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contextual interpretation of SDGs – flexibility</li> <li>- Inequality is multi-dimensional. Research, delivery and impact need to be inter-disciplinary.</li> </ul>	<p>Ideas around potential topics need to be refined into research questions. This needs to happen beyond the education silo into the broader context, including interlinks with SDG4.</p> <p>Need specific examples/contexts to anchor these ideas.</p> <p>Cross-fertilising ideas with those that emerged in other thematic groups would be beneficial.</p>

## Urban security and justice

Thematic reflections	Research questions and topics to pursue	Cross-cutting issues / methods / potential collaborations	Next steps
<p><b>Public space and social cohesion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The importance of public space as key for social cohesion and wellbeing in urban areas</li> </ul> <p><b>Community policing and structures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Safety ‘from below’ and the importance of feeling safe</li> <li>- The involvement of grassroots organisations versus responsibility of the state</li> </ul> <p><b>Civil society</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How well understood are civil society organisations in urban spaces? How well placed are they to contribute to tackling exclusion across social, economic and political divides when they are often the most targeted in government clampdowns on civil society?</li> </ul>	<p><b>1. How do we design policy-transfer methodologies to build ‘safe and inclusive’ cities?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promising practice; the need for data disaggregated by gender; GIS-based; vulnerability needs to be part of the dialogue; initiating research in partnership with the state.</li> <li>- What is the base unit of analysis? Do we continue to use fixed categories? Identity and culture are not necessarily measurable (intersectionality is important)</li> </ul> <p><b>2. What are the opportunities and risks of making visible co-production of security for all? (SDGs 11, 16 &amp; 17)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This question was developed out of the feeling that people have to look after their own security.</li> <li>- Agency of vulnerable populations and environments.</li> <li>- Risk/benefit analysis of state/society interaction (people take security into their own hands because states aren’t meeting expectations)</li> <li>- Capacity building – state, municipal/NGOs/academics/private sector, individuals/groups doing security from below</li> <li>- Implications of co-production in conflict processes</li> <li>- Questioning community building legitimacy</li> <li>- Unpacking of state/society institutions along the concept of an urbanisation continuum</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Political economy of violence and insecurity along the urbanisation continuum</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Corruption; privatisation of public space security; criminality; prisons and criminal justice</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cross-cutting issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Legitimacy and trust issues in weak and strong states. How can institutions and authorities such as the police change perceptions and find legitimisation? Possible solutions include visibility, linking good practices, systematisation, and cooperation.</li> <li>- The importance of collecting information on the ground about how citizens are living in certain contexts. What are the forms of building identities in the cities?</li> </ul> <p><b>Framing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The three research agendas were developed using the SDGs (particularly goals 16 and 17) as a framing device.</li> </ul>	<p>An emphasis in the discussion was placed on developing fairly focused and well-defined research questions and agendas. Having used the conference as a starting point for a dialogue around research agendas and gaps, next steps must be about drawing together a range of partners and stakeholders who are engaged in these agendas in ways that will cross-fertilise both research and practice in the context of the SDGs.</p> <p>To explore possibilities for strategic partnership relations and research collaborations between the University of Leeds (LSSI) and both the Safer Cities Programme of UN-Habitat and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).</p>

# Migration

Thematic reflections	Research questions and topics to pursue	Cross-cutting issues / methods / potential collaborations	Next steps
<p><b>Data collection and invisibility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Most migration is under the policy radar and public eye. How do we research hidden forms of mobility and migration?</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs and leaving no one behind</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We will not be able to achieve the aims of ‘leaving no one behind’ if we do not look at issues faced by all types of migrants. What can the research community do?</li> </ul> <p><b>Building collaboration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is a need to initiate research with local research centres and communities; and to link with diverse and multiple organisations/collaborators</li> </ul> <p><b>Policy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The role of policy in shifting the concept of migration as ‘problematic’ to ‘potentiality’</li> <li>- Do policies produce a certain mind-set and negative views?</li> <li>- How do policies get changed for second generations?</li> <li>- How have discourses changed from ‘needy’ to ‘security threat’?</li> <li>- How to influence and change policy?</li> <li>- How do policies allow or hinder movement?</li> </ul>	<p><b>1. Challenging perceptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Why are some migrants seen as contributing and some are not?</li> <li>- Focus on refugee issues; refugees as asylum seekers or economic migrants?</li> <li>- How is terminology used and what perception does it produce?</li> <li>- How do we change the idea that some people have more rights than others?</li> <li>- Why do we criminalise the poor?</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Roots</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Why do people flee? (exploring the motives behind migration)</li> <li>- How are inequalities tied to where people go to and from?</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Integration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How to integrate educated people into their new nation?</li> <li>- Is there a difference in how different migrants are ‘welcomed’ depending on where they come from?</li> <li>- How can we improve working conditions and give a voice?</li> <li>- How do migrant communities adapt to new nutrition and what health issues come out?</li> <li>- Integration via sports</li> <li>- Health needs of migrants. How is care given?</li> </ul> <p><b>Other questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is the relationship between gender and migration?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cross-cutting issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Migration and migrants as a very diverse category</li> <li>- Distinction between refugees and migrants</li> <li>- Recognising migrants as innovators and change agents; and migration as a tool for development</li> <li>- Exploring and addressing discourses and nationalist perceptions around migrants; challenging mind-sets</li> <li>- Exploring the effect of social inequality in host nations on perceptions of migration</li> <li>- Looking at inequalities and migration at the global level, including the role of the press</li> <li>- Addressing the potentials of migrants to enable them to be productive</li> </ul> <p><b>Potential collaborations</b></p> <p>Ideas for collaboration include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Creating a lead at the University of Leeds</li> <li>- Developing platforms for continued communication such as Whatsapp groups and Skype meetings (recognising that in some states emails are monitored by authorities)</li> <li>- A blog for sharing lessons learned</li> <li>- Collaboration must include relevant migrant groups.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sharing of data where allowed.</li> <li>- Collaboration with partners to design research questions and undertake research</li> <li>- Create more focused research questions</li> <li>- Identify existing groups [working on the topic?]</li> </ul>

# Annex 1: Conference agenda

## Wednesday 23 November

9:30 **Registration**

10:00 **Welcome & Introduction**

- **Professor Adam Crawford**, Director, Leeds Social Sciences Institute
- **Professor Caroline Dyer**, Co-Director, Centre for Global Development

10:20 **Session 1: Opening Keynote Presentations on Vulnerability & Resilience**

*(Chair: Professor Caroline Dyer)*

- **Juma Assiago**, Coordinator of the Safer Cities Programme of the United Centre for Human Settlements UN Habitat
- **Professor Andy Dougill**, Dean of Faculty of Environment & Professor of Environmental Sustainability, University of Leeds

11:15 **BREAK**

11:30 **Session 2: Sharing Best Practice in Research**

*(Chair: Dr Helen Elsey)*

- **Research Showcase - Communicable Diseases Health Service Delivery (COMDIS) – Professor James Newell**, Professor of International Public Health, Leeds Institute for Health Sciences
- **Official Development Assistance in Practice - Dr Anne Tallontire**, Senior Lecturer: Business, Environment & Corporate Responsibility

12:30 **LUNCH**

13:30 **Session 3: Exploring New Connections** *insights from external partners on their current work and based on this, the pressing future challenges and research questions that need to be addressed*

### urban public health (Chair: Dr Helen Elsey)

- **Dr Blessing Mberu**, Head of Urbanization and Wellbeing, African Population and Health Research Centre, Kenya
- **Dr Ng Chiu Wan**, Department of Social and Preventive Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Malaysia
- **John Anampiu**, Assistant Director of Population (Monitoring and Evaluation), Kenya's National Council for Population and Development

### inequalities (Chair: Professor Caroline Dyer)

- **Emily Echessa**, Deputy Head of Education, Save the Children UK
- **Purna Shrestha**, Global Research and Advocacy Advisor (Education), VSO International

15:10 **BREAK**

15:40 **Session 4: Exploring New Connections continued**

### urban security and justice (Chair: Dr Polly Wilding)

- **Juma Assiago**, Coordinator of the Safer Cities Programme of the United Centre for Human Settlements UN Habitat
- **Markus Gottsbacher**, Senior Program Specialist at International Development Research Centre

**migration (Chair: Dr Gabriella Alberti / Lou Waite)**

- **Tony Bunyan**, Director, Statewatch
- **Yasemin Somuncu**, Senior Specialist - Center for Energy, Environment and Economy, Özyeğin University
- **Janet Munakamwe**, African Centre for Migration & Society (ACMS) at the University of the Witwatersrand

17:00 **Session 5: Thematic Café**

18:00 **CLOSE**

**Thursday 24 November**

9:15 **Registration**

9:30 **Welcome**

10:00 **Session 1: Opening Keynote Presentation from Economic and Social Research Council**

*(Chair: Dr Polly Wilding)*

- **Dr Paul Meller**, Head of Strategy, Economic and Social Research Council

10:15 **Session 2: Achieving evidence-based impact through successful partnerships** *(Chair: Rachel Hayman)*

- **Dr Ng Chiu Wan**, Equity in Asia-Pacific Health Systems (EQUITAP)
- **Dr Blessing Mberu**, Head of Urbanization and Wellbeing, African Population and Health Research Centre, Kenya
- **Anthonia James**, Communicable Diseases Health Service Delivery
- **Purna Shrestha**, Global Research and Advocacy Advisor (Education), VSO International
- **Emily Echessa**, Deputy Head of Education, Save the Children UK
- **Dr Sahil Warsi**, Leeds Institute for Health Sciences

11:30 **BREAK**

11:45 **Session 3: Exploring New Connections - Parallel Breakout Sessions**

- Urban public health** (Dr Helen Elsey)
- Inequalities** (Professor Caroline Dyer)
- Migration** (Dr Louise Waite & Dr Gabriella Alberti)
- Security and justice** (Dr Polly Wilding)

12:45 **LUNCH**

13:45 **Session 4: Exploring new connections - Parallel Breakout Sessions continued**

- Urban public health** (Dr Helen Elsey)
- Inequalities** (Professor Caroline Dyer)
- Migration** (TBC)
- Security and justice** (Dr Polly Wilding)

14:45 **Session 5: Feedback from breakout groups and closing remarks**

- Urban public health**
- Inequalities**
- Migration**
- Security and justice**

15:30 **CLOSE**