UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM | IDD International Development Department

Creating Change, Expanding Opportunity

International Development Department

Annual Report 2015–16
International Development Department
School of Government and Society

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Welcome to IDD's 2015–16 Annual Report

Welcome to IDD's 2015–16 Annual Report. As I write this welcome address to the Annual Report, the UK is going through a significant and serious period of change. I take this opportunity to celebrate IDD's, and the University of Birmingham's, international outlook and community.

2015 was a significant year for global development concerns. In September, the Sustainable Development Goals were agreed and later in the year the Paris Agreement provided hope for a stronger global response to climate change. We look forward to contributing to the achievement of these important global agreements through our teaching, research and policy advice.

Research news

In this Annual Report, you'll find examples of the research that IDD staff are engaged with. We were delighted by Jonathan Fisher receiving the 2015 SCOPUS UK Young Social Scientist of the Year award. He was among just six early-career researchers from across the UK to receive these prestigious awards from Elsevier, winning the only award in the social sciences category. This is a fantastic achievement and we warmly congratulate Jonathan. You can find information about his two recent research grant successes in this report.

The report also provides examples of activities we've undertaken to share our research with users – read about the fisheries co-management workshop in Uganda and the important work of Nick Lemay-Hébert with Rosa Freedman of the Law School at the University of Birmingham on supporting cholera victims' call for compensation in Haiti.

Teaching news

And more news on awards… congratulations to Ellie Chowns and Tom Hewitt on receiving a University of Birmingham Teaching Academy Award for Educational Enhancement and Innovation. We were also delighted to be awarded five Commonwealth Scholarships for 2016/17 for the MSc International Development (Conflict, Security and Development) via distance learning, particularly knowing how hard it is for applicants to secure financial support for their studies. In this report, you'll find news on our new MSc International Development (Environment, Sustainability and Politics) programme, our module in Disability and Development and news from our alumni.

IDD stand at the University of Birmingham AGM

Staff news

IDD has had many changes in staff this year. After many years of dedicated service to the department, 2015–16 saw the retirement of Avril Clark and Linda Curry. I take this opportunity on behalf of the entire IDD community to thank Avril and Linda for their many years of service and wish them all the very best for their retirement.

There have been staff changes in the Governance and Social Development Research Centre – with Evie Browne and Siân Herbert leaving to undertake PhDs and Elisa Lopez Lucia leaving for a postdoc position at the Université libre de Bruxelles. The GSDRC welcomed Iffat Idris, Pamela Pozarny and Ed Laws to Birmingham. IDD thanks Dražen Cepić and Ellie Chowns for their contribution to the department – Dražen on the Leverhulme Trust funded research project reported on in page 4 and Ellie as a Teaching Fellow – and wishes them all the best in their future careers. IDD is pleased to welcome Martin Ottmann as the first Birmingham Fellow to have joined IDD. The Birmingham Fellow scheme is a University-wide scheme to attract high-performing early-career researchers. Read about Martin's research on page 7.

Dr Fiona Nunan
Director, IDD

Sharing findings on fisheries co-management research with stakeholders in East Africa

Fiona Nunan reports on her research on Lake Victoria and a stakeholders' workshop in Uganda.

In April 2016, findings from a two-year research project funded by the Leverhulme Trust were shared with stakeholders from the fisheries sector in East Africa, including officers from ministries and decentralised government, representatives from fishing communities and development partners. The workshop was funded by the ESRC Impact Accelerator Account, through the University of Birmingham, and involved members of the research team from the Universities of Birmingham (Fiona Nunan and Dražen Cepić) and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and from the fisheries research institutes of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

Above: Workshop participants outside the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organisation headquarters in Jinja, Uganda, April 2016

Left: Beach Management Unit (BMU) election

Co-management involves government sharing management with the users of the natural resource – in this case, everyone involved in the fisheries of Lake Victoria. During the early 2000s, Beach Management Units (BMUs) were formed to provide fishing communities with a representative organisation at the landing site. The initial process of adopting co-management was supported by donor projects, but it's been challenging to keep co-management functioning since the last lake-wide project finished in 2010. This is not unusual, with co-management approaches struggling to deliver on sustainable fisheries and improved livelihoods in many parts of the world.

Lake Victoria is the second largest freshwater body in the world, with around 1,500 landing sites and 1000 BMUs, meaning that the scale of activity and support needed is considerable. The research team found, though, that the BMUs were, by and large, still in existence and that there is strong agreement amongst fisherfolk and government staff that a form of organisation and the existence of leaders within the fisheries communities are essential.

There is a mixed picture of relationships between government and fisherfolk; in many cases there are good working relationships, but in other cases there are accusations of bribery, against fisheries staff and BMU and other leaders. Corruption is closely linked to the prevalence of illegalities – people fishing with undersized and illegal gears and others trading in undersized fish – with protection payments made to enable illegal fishing to carry on and bribes taken in return for seized gear.

The main message from the research was despite the range of challenges experienced, the existence of complex and entrenched webs of social relationships at the landing sites means that there is a strong basis for collaborative governance. This can be built on in a positive way.

‘Knowing’ conflict and insecurity

Jonathan Fisher, Senior Lecturer in African Politics in IDD, has been awarded two research grants during the past year, focused on the politics of knowledge production in, and on, conflict zones.

Troops advance during an anti-Shabaab operation in Somalia (UN Photo/Stuart Price)

Jonathan Fisher

The first, an ESRC Seminar Series entitled ‘From data to knowledge? Understanding peace and conflict from afar’ runs until early 2018 and is a collaboration between scholars at the Universities of Aberystwyth, Bradford, Loughborough and Manchester and practitioners at Save the Children and Somalia NGO Consortium, Nairobi. The Series is anchored in seven seminars – to be held throughout the UK and in Kenya between 2016–2018 – focused on different challenges posed to researchers and policy-makers interested in better understanding the everyday experiences of those living in insecure environments. Podcasts from seminars and more information on the Series can be found at www.birmingham.ac.uk/from-data-to-knowledge

A second project, funded by the AHRC and entitled ‘Witchcraft and conflict: Exploring alternative discourses of insecurity’ commenced in July 2016, in collaboration with Dr Cherry Leonardi of Durham University. This research – which will be based around fieldwork in border communities in northern Uganda and southern South Sudan, as well as in Kampala and Juba – will seek to explore and unpack how ‘security’ and ‘insecurity’ is understood by African citizens and policy-makers in conflict and post-conflict settings. Of particular interest, in this regard, is how fears and concerns which challenge Western security epistemologies (eg, those surrounding ‘witchcraft’) can or should be interpreted by scholars and practitioners – and how far such issues should be incorporated into notions of ‘human security’. ‘Human security’ as a concept is based around the argument that insecurity should be understood through the eyes of those experiencing it, rather than through the eyes of the state or international intervenors.

Both of these projects form part of a wider research agenda Jonathan is pursuing, which is focused around a central paradox in contemporary Western development policy-making. On the one hand, so-called ‘fragile states’ and ‘conflict-affected’ regions are increasingly at the heart of international development interventions. On the other hand, Western donors and NGOs are now more reluctant than ever to permit their own (‘international’) staff to travel to, or spend much time in, such contexts – which are perceived to be remote and dangerous. Likewise, Western scholars’ ability to conduct research in these regions is ever more circumscribed by cautious ethical review panels, risk-averse insurance firms and savvy authoritarian governments.

Consequently our knowledge on conflict zones is increasingly based around remotely-collected data (through the use of mobile phones and drone technologies, for example) or mediated through ‘local’ staff or fixers. This raises many questions about how to interpret this data and, indeed, the extent to which international development interventions based around such information genuinely reflect the concerns and experiences of those directly affected by conflict and insecurity.

Law in the Time of Cholera: Resolving the Dispute between Haiti and the United Nations

Left: Brazilian UN Peacekeepers conduct a security patrol in Cité Soleil, Haiti, during the second round of senatorial elections (United Nations)

The role of researchers in brokering a solution to the impasse is explained by **Nicolas Lemay-Hébert.**

In October 2010 a cholera epidemic broke out in Haiti as a direct result of UN peacekeepers bringing that disease into the country for the first time in a century. To date, the UN has failed to provide compensation to the many thousands of victims, and the disease still has not been contained let alone eradicated in Haiti. Rosa Freedman (Law, College of Arts and Law) and Nicolas Lemay-Hébert (IDD, College of Social Sciences) have been working on this issue for the past few years, including on the legal claims that has been filed against the UN and the implications that will have for other peacekeeping operations. We have authored articles (together and separately) in leading journals, have been cited in the amicus brief to the court, and have worked closely with both the organisation representing the victims and the UN. Having established ourselves as leading scholars on this issue we have been invited to contribute to journals, media, and workshops regarding this topic. Our work has been funded by the Jacob Blaustein Institute, the ESRC and the Society of Legal Scholars, among others.

In December 2015, we convened a high level summit that brought together senior UN staff, international jurists, and peacekeeping experts, with the aim of exploring ideas for resolving the current situation. The summit sought to provide a framework for resolving the dispute – one which would neither damage UN peacekeeping operations nor leave the cholera victims without remedy, and that would provide a solution acceptable to both sides. The workshop took place under Chatham House rules and the Executive Summary was then used to secure funding for a small Working Group to travel to New York to meet with State representatives to the UN and other key interlocutors. Those meetings will provide the impetus for the initiative to be taken forward at the highest level within the UN, with the expectation that a resolution will be forthcoming within the next calendar year.

Exploring power-sharing after civil wars: Martin Ottmann joins IDD as a Birmingham Fellow

The University of Birmingham has developed a University-wide scheme to attract promising early-career academics, providing funding to support their focus on research and teaching for the first five years. IDD was fortunate to gain a member of staff through this competitive scheme in 2015. **Dr Martin Ottmann** reports on the research he'll be undertaking as a Birmingham Fellow.

Dr Martin Ottmann

Governments of national unity and territorial autonomy have frequently employed tools for conflict-management after civil wars. Such power-sharing arrangements are the centre pieces of peace agreements in countries like the Democratic Republic of Congo, Nepal and the Philippines. Power-sharing is also discussed as a potential solution to ongoing conflicts such as in Syria and South Sudan. However, while it often ends large-scale battles between government forces and rebel fighters, low-level political violence often persists long after a peace agreement has been signed. In some cases, there is a return to full-blown civil war. Is power-sharing then an effective tool of conflict management? Does power-sharing pacify post-conflict countries and promote peace? Does it address the root causes of political discrimination and economic inequality?

Making use of the Power-Sharing Event Dataset (PSED) and advanced statistical research methods, my research explores the nexus between power-sharing, resource distribution between social groups and mobilisation for political violence. Case studies of the peace agreements in Liberia (2003) and the Indonesian province of Aceh (2005) will complement the research with in-depth knowledge of two instances of power-sharing.

I have also received a grant from the German Research Foundation to investigate the impact of power-sharing on economic development in a larger collaborative research project. Together with colleagues based at the German Institute of Global and Area Studies in Hamburg and the University of Freiburg, I will analyse the effects of power-sharing on the sub-national distribution of electricity, aid projects and infrastructure investments.

Reintegration of Maoist Combatants in Nepal – preliminary findings

Paul Jackson reports on his research into the transition to civilian life of former Maoist combatants, supported by the Folke-Bernadotte Academy, the Swedish Government agency for peace, security and development.

Over the past two years, I've been working with a small team of Nepali researchers, undertaking a series of interviews with former Maoist combatants. The data from the interviews is currently being processed and preliminary results from the first batch of around 150 interviews were presented at the International Studies Association conference in Atlanta in March 2016.

The purpose of the research is to generate a longer term view of the transition to civilian life. Most Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) programmes and associated research looks at the immediate effects of DDR programmes and associated evaluation of donor support programmes. The aim of this research was to put the DDR programme into a longer term framework.

The research provides a comprehensive picture of why people joined the movement in the first place and the impact of that decision on education, skills, and physical and mental health. At the same time, it also provides a picture of life in the cantonments following the 2006 Comprehensive Peace Agreement, including details of the social impacts, but also of the changing views of the leadership within the People's Liberation Army. It includes insight into the choices made when the time came to leave and enter civilian life. The research was carried out between one year and 18 months after their leaving the cantonment and so we have also been able to build up a picture of the nature of their employment, education and skills after their demobilisation, choices and location of their homes, the impact on their identity as former combatants and finally, the nature of their political engagement with the Maoist Party as civilians.

Storefront and vendors Kaski Nepal by Simone McCourtie (World Bank)

The Developmental Leadership Program

The Developmental Leadership Program explores how leadership, power and political processes drive or block development. It continues to expand its research and strengthen its engagement with policy and practice.

Resources on 'thinking and working politically'

The political environment can kill a development programme or make it thrive, note Hudson, Marquette and Waldock in a recent DLP publication. Yet this environment is constantly shifting, and conventional political economy analysis tends to be time-consuming and confined to long documents produced by outside specialists. So how can frontline practitioners make politically savvy decisions fast? This is one of the issues that DLP's directors highlight in the OECD's *A Governance Practitioner's Notebook*. Their chapter discusses 'What's missing in political economy analysis and why it matters'. To help fill the gap, they worked with governance adviser Sam Waldock (DFID Rwanda) to develop *Everyday Political Analysis*. This stripped-back framework provides questions and prompts to help staff develop the 'craft' of political thinking as part of their everyday work.

DLP is also continuing to support an international Thinking and Working Politically (TWP) Community of Practice. This brings together senior policy-makers, practitioners and researchers to promote thinking and working politically in development. Its new website twpcommunity.org provides links to relevant case studies and other resources.

Research on 'The Politics of Public Services: A Service Characteristics Approach' by Claire Mcloughlin (DLP/GSDRC) and Richard Batley (Emeritus Professor of Development Administration, IDD) provides insight on how to adapt programming to the politics of different services. Their *World Development* article (2015) identifies how service characteristics affect political commitment, organisational control and user power.

Service delivery and state legitimacy

Claire Mcloughlin's research is also building on her 2015 *Governance* article, which asked 'When Does Service Delivery Improve the Legitimacy of a Fragile or Conflict-Affected State?' Emerging findings from her study of university education and state legitimacy in Sri Lanka highlight the importance of a further question: when does service delivery undermine legitimacy?

Library in Sri Lanka (Gerald Pereira)

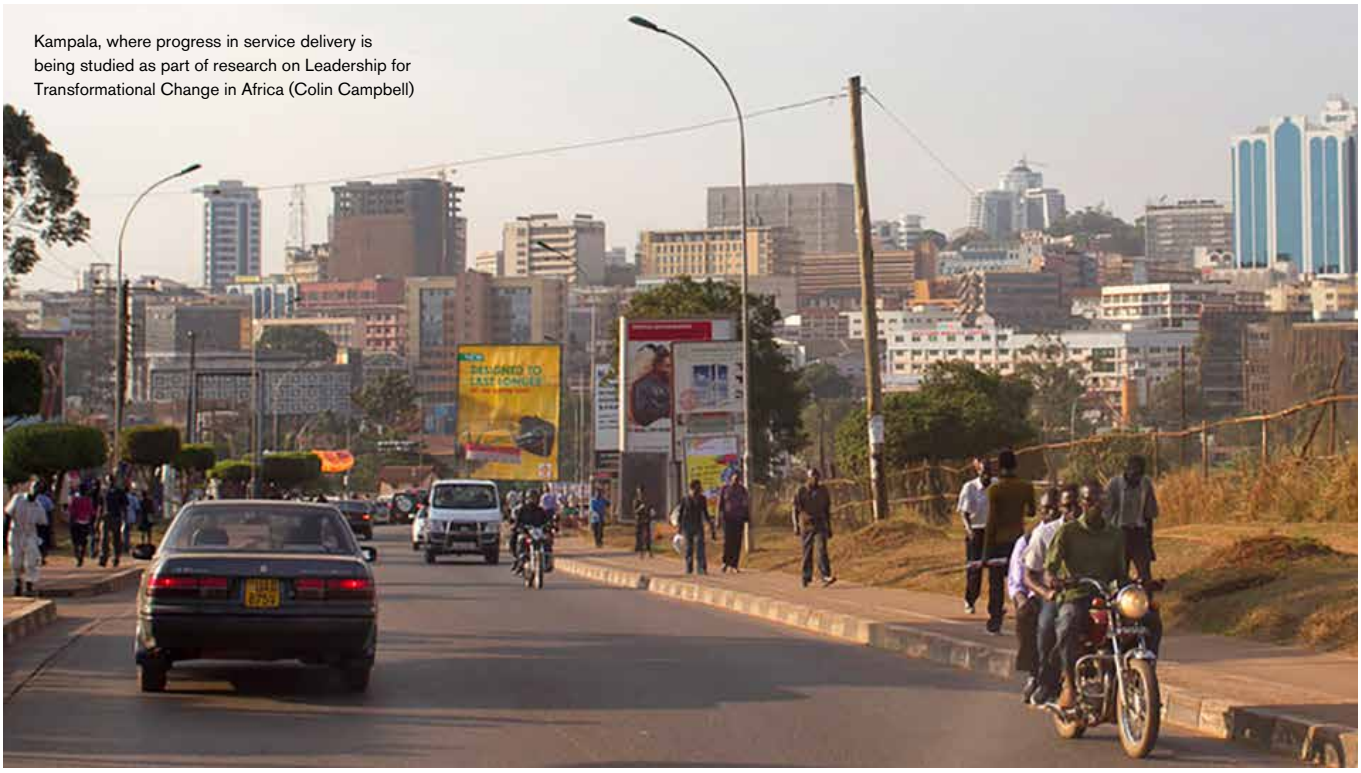
Understanding expectations, the normative justifiability of provision among different groups, and perceptions of distributive justice may be vital for developing politically informed and conflict-sensitive support for public service delivery. Claire's DLP paper on 'Researching State Legitimacy' applies a political approach to the question of whether, when and why service delivery supports or undermines state legitimacy, and provides an analytical framework for investigating it.

Understanding corruption and anticorruption activism

Research by Caryn Peiffer is examining people's willingness to act against corruption. In a *Governance* article (July 2016) Caryn and co-author Linda Alvarez explore 'Perceptions of Corruption and Willingness to Engage in Anticorruption Activism' across 71 countries. They find that perceived government effectiveness tends to encourage anticorruption civic action, while perceptions of corruption being widespread tend to have the opposite effect in non-OECD countries.

An anticorruption campaign in Indonesia (Ikhlasul Amal)

So, might the many anticorruption campaigns that highlight corruption's prevalence actually backfire in some countries by reinforcing the view that corruption is 'normal'? Caryn is investigating this question further in a household-level survey-experiment of 1,000 people in Jakarta, Indonesia, and a study in Papua New Guinea (PNG). She will test what impact different awareness-raising messages have on people's perceptions of corruption in society and on their willingness to oppose it. The PNG study will be carried out with the Australian National University's Development Policy Centre.



Kampala, where progress in service delivery is being studied as part of research on Leadership for Transformational Change in Africa (Colin Campbell)

Caryn and DLP Director Heather Marquette have been developing their research on approaches to tackling corruption – contributing to Routledge's *Ethics in Public Policy and Management,* for example. Their chapter discusses how both principal-agent and collective action theories could be used, and notes the value of a third perspective – that corruption can serve an important problem-solving function in weak institutional environments.

This is one of the points that Heather Marquette and Alina Rocha Mencocal raised in their evidence to the 2016 inquiry on 'tackling corruption overseas' by the UK Parliament's International Development Committee. Their submissions stressed the need for development actors to better understand the underlying politics and power dynamics of the countries where they operate. As they also explained in *Prospect* magazine, 'zero-tolerance' approaches to tackling corruption could lead to collateral damage – for example, in violent contexts where corrupt patron-client networks may be the only source of security.

Leadership for transformational change in Africa

Corruption, neopatrimonialism and 'big man' politics are seen by many as symptoms of Africa's 'leadership crisis', but little empirical work has focused on the role of leadership in transformational change. A new research project is investigating eight cases of developmental leadership at local, regional and national levels in Ghana, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda. The cases cover themes as diverse as political settlements, women's representation, human rights, service delivery, municipal government and anticorruption. The research team is asking how and where developmental leadership emerges, and how can it be nurtured and supported. The project is sponsored by the Uongozi Institute for Leadership for Sustainable Development and is led by Heather Lyne de Ver.

Engaging with policy and practice

DLP's growing reputation for policy-relevant research has enabled it to share findings in an increasing number of international fora. These have included the OECD-DAC's Network on Governance and the EC's European Development Days.

DLP's Director Heather Marquette with DLP Program Manager Heather Lyne de Ver at the Global Leadership Forum (World Bank)

A highlight this year was contributing to the first Global Leadership Forum, organised by the World Bank in June. This marked the launch of the Global Partnership on Collaborative Leadership for Development, which aims to enhance knowledge on leadership and coalitions, and to support leadership capacity development and reform implementation. DLP's Director, Dr Heather Marquette, is a member of the Partnership's Advisory Board. See leadfordev.org.

DLP also continues to support discussion across academia, policy and practice through commentary – in *the Guardian, Foreign Policy* and *The Conversation*, for example – and by convening events. At the 2016 DLP Annual Conference in Melbourne in February, speakers shared examples from the Pacific of how an understanding of power and politics has been incorporated into social change processes. In April, the UNDP Global Centre for Public Service Excellence hosted a conference on Political Settlements and Public Service Performance in partnership with DLP and the Centre for Public Impact. Speakers included Verena Fritz, Mushtaq Khan, Brian Levy, DLP's Alina Rocha Menocal, and Michael Woolcock.

About DLP

The Developmental Leadership Program is an international research initiative that is based at IDD and works in partnership with University College London and La Trobe University, Melbourne. DLP's independent programme of research is supported by the Australian Government, and DLP works with many development agencies around the world.

See www.dlprog.org; sign up online for e-updates.

GSDRC knowledge services: focus on fragility and migration

This year the GSDRC produced a new series of studies on fragility and migration, and continues to expand its professional development resources.

Syrian refugees in Iraq (IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation)

The Governance and Social Development Resource Centre (GSDRC) supports international development agencies by synthesising research evidence and expert thinking to inform policy and practice. It provides rapid-response literature reviews and in-depth analysis on varied topics, from state-citizen relations in North Africa, to urbanisation in Nepal and gender issues in Serbia.

In-depth analysis of conflict, fragility and migration

The GSDRC is often called on to inform responses to topical issues and challenges. This year, it provided analyses of the crisis in the Central African Republic and the effects of Russian intervention in Syria, for example. The report on Syria was produced in collaboration with the University's Department of Political Science and International Studies.

Other in-depth reports this year included a series of fragility and migration country studies on Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia. These examined patterns and drivers of migration, the profiles and journeys of migrants and refugees, state responses, and development impacts.

Rapid-response reports on questions from development agencies

The GSDRC's popular 'helpdesk' service provides digests of key research findings, lessons and expert thinking on specific questions from development practitioners and policymakers. The team produced more than 130 helpdesk reports this year. These covered issues including refugee return, the global progress of women and girls, youth inclusion, reconciliation in post-conflict situations, and economic resilience to shocks.

Client feedback tells us that GSDRC reports have been used to inform high-level strategy documents as well as the design of development projects and programmes. And as most GSDRC reports are published online, their audience extends much further than staff of commissioning agencies. GSDRC publications have been cited this year by organisations including the OECD, the World Bank, the Brookings Institution, the RAND Corporation and many UN bodies, and in articles in prominent journals.

Expert briefings: multimedia professional development resources

The GSDRC's accessible and authoritative professional development materials help busy practitioners deepen and update their knowledge, despite demanding workloads. More than 45 GSDRC **reading packs** by international experts are now available. These provide thought-provoking briefings on important topics, introducing key issues, debates and resources, and are accompanied by short videos. Examples of recent packs are *Inclusive institutions* by Sam Hickey, *Citizen voice and action* by Andrea Cornwall, and *Media and governance* by James Deane.

This year the GSDRC also convened eight **seminars and webinars** which complement the reading packs and are available as video and audio recordings. These events explored wide-ranging questions, from how we can shift social norms to reduce violence against women and girls, to how we can engage with religious actors to promote peace.

New topic guides

GSDRC topic guides synthesise findings from rigorous research on critical areas of development policy. Eight new guides were added to the series this year, including:

School, Colombia (World Bank/Charlotte Kesl)

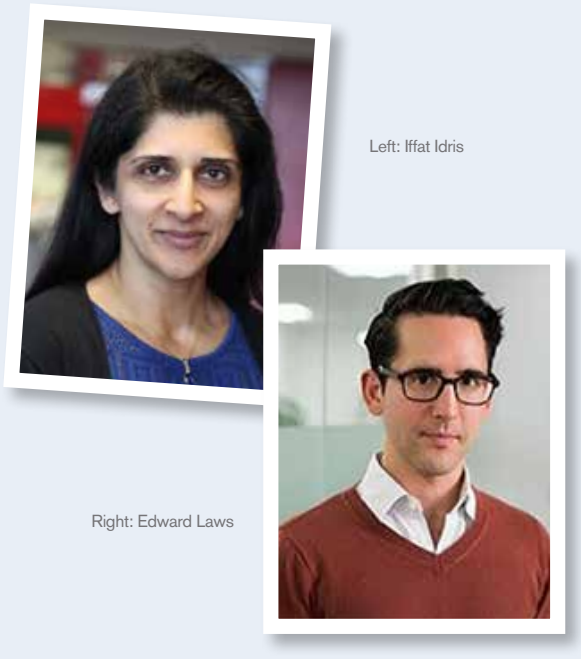
- *Disability inclusion*: The world's estimated 1 billion people with disabilities face barriers that result in multi-dimensional poverty and marginalisation. Yet disability inclusion need not be costly or complicated. What do we know about what works?
- *State-business relations*: How do effective state-business relations emerge, and how can they be supported?
- *Economic development in fragile and conflict-affected states*: What factors have contributed to the success and failure of economic development interventions in fragile contexts?
- *The social impact of private sector development*: How can social development thinking support private sector development that delivers sustainable benefits to poor people?
- *Social development and human development*: How do social development issues such as human rights and exclusion affect outcomes in health, education, and water, sanitation and hygiene?

Coffee picker, Timor-Leste (UN Photo/Martine Perret)

GSDRC welcomes new research fellows

Iffat Idris joined the team after having spent ten years as an independent consultant for international development organisations, including the UN System and the World Bank. She spent 14 years in Pakistan, where her work focused on governance, disaster management, conflict analysis and capacity development. In recent years, she has been promoting the right to information across the South Asia region as co-chair of the South Asia Transparency Advisory Group. Iffat holds a PhD in political science from the University of Hull.

Edward Laws has written extensively on political settlements in fragile and conflict-affected areas. His research interests include the politics of development, state-building, and the political analysis of donor activity. He holds a PhD in Politics from the University of York, and has fieldwork experience in Kenya, investigating environmental sustainability in the informal sector. Before joining the GSDRC, he worked as an independent consultant for ODI, and as a researcher for the Developmental Leadership Program, where he remains a Research Associate.



Left: Iffat Idris

Right: Edward Laws

About the GSDRC

The Governance and Social Development Resource Centre (GSDRC) is a cutting-edge research and knowledge management centre that IDD has led for 15 years. It has expanded its scope in response to increasing demand, and now provides applied knowledge services on four core themes: governance, social development, humanitarian response and conflict. Its main clients are the UK Department for International Development, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the European Union's Instrument Contributing to Stability and Peace. To provide GSDRC services, IDD works in partnership with the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex, and the University of Manchester's Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute. Colleagues at ODI are involved in producing topic guides.

Stay up to date with GSDRC resources: visit gsdrc.org to sign up for the email bulletin or follow on Twitter or Facebook.

Teaching news from IDD

The new MSc International Development (Environment, Sustainability and Politics)

With the international agreement on the Sustainable Development Goals and on a new climate change response, 2015 was an opportune time for the introduction of a new pathway for the International Development programme on Environment, Sustainability and Politics. The new pathway includes modules from both IDD and the Political Science and International Studies department, drawing on different areas of interest and expertise. Students from this intake share their reasons for undertaking the programme and what they have gained from it.

Christiana Figueres (Executive Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change), Ban Ki-moon (UN Secretary-General), Laurent Fabius (French Minister for Foreign Affairs and President of the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris) and François Hollande (President of France) celebrate the historic adoption of Paris Agreement on climate change in 2015 (UN Photo).

Miska Buturova

University of Birmingham offered a course perfectly tailored to my interests – International Development with a pathway in Environment, Sustainability and Politics. The course itself lived up to my expectations very well.

I thoroughly enjoyed both my core and optional modules, and greatly extended my knowledge in a wide variety of issues. I recommend the course to anyone who enjoys learning more about development, environment, sustainability, or political problems. These are very hot topics in the 21st century and urgently need our attention!

Steve Baines

I applied for this course to change direction after a career in affordable housing in the UK and 30 years away from university. The course has been everything that I wished for and a bit more. The staff are experts in their fields and you get a sense of this through the teaching and discussion. There is a wide choice of content on offer. Modules on Global Environmental Governance and Transforming Development for Sustainability really focus in depth on environmental themes.

Ajay Ubhi

Having completed my BSc in Geology in 2010 and working in the oil industry for the last five years, I have built an appreciation for the complex dynamics of the Earth including its processes and structure. Now, having almost completed my MSc in International Development (Environment, Sustainability and Politics), I have started to appreciate the dynamics of society and how that interacts with the environment. There is a great mix of development theory and practices that allow you to understand and demonstrate these complex relationships. The teaching within the department has been a pleasure. Learning and discussing current topics that affect us all from expert lecturers enabled me to fully understand the sometimes incredibly complex nature of development.

Victoria Barrett, a Fellow of the Alliance for Climate Education and youth representative, speaks at the UN General Assembly High-level Thematic Debate on Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, 21 April 2016 (UN Photo/Loey Felipe)

Disability and Development Module

Factory worker, Indonesia (ILO/Better Work Indonesia)

IDD is proud to be one of very few institutions in the UK that offers postgraduate teaching in disability and development. The convenor, David Cobley, explains the rationale and content of the module.

The 'Disability and Development' module, offered to both campus-based and distance learning students, has been running for three years now. The module focuses on an often neglected area of development which is gaining increasing attention in the international arena. In 2014, for example, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution calling for disability to be mainstreamed into all development planning. This was backed up by the new post-2015 Development Framework which, in contrast to the Millennium Framework, contains several explicit references to disability.

Further evidence of the rising international profile of this topic can be seen in the 2015 Sendai Framework, the new international blueprint for disaster risk reduction, which calls for the participation of disabled people and their representative organisations in disaster planning and management processes, thus reflecting a powerful trend towards viewing disability as a human rights issue rather than a welfare issue.

In this module, the early weeks focus on conceptual models of disability and the complex relationship between disability and poverty, before moving onto examine the role of the international disability movement in drawing attention to the injustices faced by disabled people around the world.

In the second half of the module, we focus on specific areas of practice, including health and rehabilitation, education, livelihoods and disaster recovery, drawing on real life case studies and using a range of interactive teaching methods. Visiting speakers with specialist knowledge also contribute.

Developing and delivering this module has provided me with a wonderful opportunity to draw on my own recent experiences of conducting participatory research on disability in several countries of the Global South, and many of the students that have taken the module have gone on to conduct their own disability-related dissertations.

News from IDD Alumni

IDD is always delighted to hear from alumni and welcome contributions to our report, newsletters and website. Please send your news to the School Alumni Office and ensure you're on the University's mailing list: **socscialumni@contacts.bham.ac.uk**

Our Voices: "Nuestras Voces": Photographic Exhibition,
November 2015

In November, IDD was delighted to host an exhibition organised by IDD Alumnus, Juany Murphy, in the foyer of the Muirhead Tower. Juany completed her MSc in Development Management with IDD in 2015 and is a Director of the Otra Cosa Network. The exhibition showed photos taken by young photographers in the Huanchaco area of Peru to raise awareness about the Sustainable Development Goals. An example of one of the photos taken by the photographers is shown here.

Matt Craig and Volunteer West Africa

Matt Craig graduated from the University of Birmingham in 2009 (MSc Conflict, Development and Security) and a few years later founded Volunteer West Africa, which works with government, local and international NGOs, local communities and donors in a range of projects in Ghana, focusing particularly on daycare and early years education for vulnerable children.

In 2016, VWA launched an official partnership with the Careers Network team of the University of Birmingham. The partnership will provide UoB students with the opportunity to gain access to voluntary work experience placements and internships all providing invaluable field-based, practical and policy related experience.

Find out more about VMA here: http://www.vwa-volunteerwestafrica.org/

Emily Gilbert
(MSc Poverty Reduction and Development Management, 2006)

'The Masters degree gave me a vital qualification for entering the humanitarian sector, which I enhanced with a language after graduating. I have since spent a decade working in the UK and overseas in the Middle East, Asia and Africa with the Red Cross, NGOs and government. I have project managed conflict response operations in Yemen and Libya, led assessments in Iraqi refugee camps, established and managed programmes in the Philippines following two typhoons and managed teams of over 100 in CAR and DRC's ongoing emergencies. I am certain that this would not have been possible without having completed this course.'

Massimo Ingegno
(MSc International Development (Urban Development), 2013)

'I am currently working as an instructor in the Design, Business & Technology Management program at Thammasat University, Thailand. This is an academic programme in design management, an emerging discipline which explores design thinking as a powerful tool for building sustainable products, services and businesses.

My degree in International Urban Development offered by the University of Birmingham, opened unexpected doors for me. After my graduation I decided to further my studies in urban planning, a discipline I discovered when I took courses for my urban development specialism.

My passion for urban development-related issues led me to work at UN-Habitat, where I was responsible for reporting on the Urban Goal and at the Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS), where I conducted research on resilience. Given my academic background, I currently coordinate courses related to urban, environmental and social issues'.

Postgraduate research at IDD

IDD continues to welcome postgraduate research students joining us each year. **Tom Jarvis and Louis Monroy Santander** share their experience of the PhD experience and we congratulate Mattias Hjort and Amrit Rai on being awarded their doctorates.

Tom Jarvis

I joined the University of Birmingham in 2014 on an ESRC 1+3 studentship, first studying the MA Social Research, and subsequently as a PhD researcher in the IDD. My research considers how corruption in rural Nepal has been transformed by armed conflict, supervised by Professor Paul Jackson and Dr Heather Marquette.

As well as being the subject of my research, I've been fortunate enough to have lived and worked in Nepal for five months in the first year of my PhD. Having found my lack of Nepali language skills a significant barrier to previous work, I've been supported by ESRC and the Department to undertake language training in Kathmandu and Pokhara. Never having studied a foreign language previously, the support of my tutors and the emersion of living in Nepal whilst studying has been a great motivation through the ups and downs of language acquisition. With these new skills in hand, I'll be returning to Nepal in 2017 to undertake my fieldwork with conflict-affected communities in the Terai region.

Louis Monroy Santander

As part of my PhD process at IDD, I am undertaking seven-months of fieldwork in Bosnia-Herzegovina collecting qualitative data that reflects different ways in which reconciliation-focused work is being planned, designed, implemented and experienced in the country. This entails two sets of interviews: first, with representatives from international and civil society organisations and state institutions involved in projects, policies and initiatives focused on issues of justice, truth-telling, fact-finding and reconciliation in Bosnia. Second, a set composed of Bosnian citizens, from all ethnic groups who have participated in projects aimed at reconciliation and transitional justice, aiming to gain their personal insight on the impact of reconciliation practice in their everyday lives.

This work is based on two previous field visits to Bosnia, one in 2014 aimed at understanding the practice of state-building in the country, and another visit in 2015 where I had the opportunity to work for a peace orientated Non-Governmental Organization.

Recent doctorate awards: Dr Mattias Hjort and Dr Amrit Rai

Mattias Hjort and Amrit Rai were awarded their doctorates in July 2016, Mattias's thesis is entitled 'Governing deforestation: A governmentality analysis of tropical forests in climate negotiations'. The title of Amrit's thesis is 'Service delivery and accountability – the case of rural drinking water in Nepal' and Amrit was supervised at Birmingham by Adrian Campbell, with a co-supervisor in Nepal. Many congratulations to them both!

Remembering Ken Pickering (1919-2016)

IDD was sad to learn of the passing of Ken Pickering in March 2016. Ken joined the Institute of Local Government Studies in 1966 as an Associate Director, taking charge of postgraduate and post-experience courses for Commonwealth civil servants – shaping the first incarnation of the present IDD. After serving in World War II, Ken joined the Overseas Administrative Service with which he spent the 1950s in West Africa, moving in 1962 to Pakistan as an adviser on rural community development, employed successively by the United Nations and the Harvard Institute for International Development.

In 1974 Ken accepted a British government remit to design administrative training for the civil service of the newly autonomous regional government of Southern Sudan, the first of three attempts to end bloody conflicts between North and South. Ken based his proposals on a close investigation of conditions 'on the ground', leading to a long-term training programme in both South Sudan and the UK which he went on to manage together with Garth Glentworth.

Ken's last long-term assignment was in Indonesia where he was invited by Harvard and the Ford Foundation to bring his Rural Works Programme experience to bear on a major programme of re-afforestation on the eroding mountain slopes of Java. His advice ranged from the allocation of the grants to contouring the tree planting. Ken occupied an office in Jakarta built for the Dutch Governor General in the 19th century. Friendship with an office neighbour triggered a major advisory and training programme on reform of local government finance conducted by IDD, leading to many years of interaction with Indonesia that continues to this day.

Ken Davey (former Director IDD and Head of the School of Public Policy)

IDD Staff

Academic staff and experience

IDD has over 50 years' experience of teaching, research and consultancy in international development, governance and public sector management. Staff members have worked extensively in developing and transitional nations across the world.

Dr Philip Amis PhD Kent PhD Kent – focuses on urban studies and poverty, informal sector, local government, aid management and evaluation methods. Experience in East Africa and India.

Dr Danielle Beswick MRes, PhD Manchester – interests in post conflict reconstruction and statebuilding, African foreign and security policy, African agency, African peacekeeping, aid to fragile states and state-donor relations. Country expertise in Rwanda, Sri Lanka and wider focus on East Africa.

Dr Adrian Campbell PhD Brunel – interests in power, organisations, public administration reform, human resources strategy, urban and regional governance, empires and rising powers; experience primarily in Russia, Ukraine and Central Asia.

Dr Dražen Cepić MRes, PhD European University Institute Florence – interests in economic and political sociology, social network analysis, corruption, and anthropological approaches to social inequalities. Research experience in East Africa and Central and Eastern Europe.

Dr Eleanor Chowns MProf, PhD Birmingham – interests in public service delivery, collective action, aid policy and practice, NGOs, and evaluation.

Dr David Cobley PhD Birmingham – interests in social development, particularly in relation to disability, and research methodology.

Dr Laurence Cooley PhD Birmingham – political scientist with interests including power sharing, census politics and the governance of sport in deeply divided societies, and the external relations of the European Union, with a particular focus on the Western Balkans.

Simon DeLay MA Cambridge, CIPFA – economist and public sector financial management specialist with main interests in issues of financial audit and control, decentralised financial management and the management of aid.

Dr Jonathan Fisher DPhil Oxon – interests in African security, the politics of aid and intervention, Africa's place in the international system, knowledge construction in conflict, donor politics and post-liberation regimes, particularly in Eastern Africa.

Huma Haider LLB, MBA Toronto, LLM London School of Economics – interests in transitional justice in the context of peacebuilding; coexistence and reconciliation in divided societies; and the role of refugees/IDPs and diaspora communities in transitional justice and peacebuilding.

Dr Tom Hewitt MPhil, PhD Sussex – expertise in development theory and distance learning. Interests in governance and the politics of development, in child rights and rights-based programming, and in science and technology policy.

Siân Herbert Masters Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO), Argentina (in cooperation with the Universidad de San Andrés and the Universidad de Barcelona) – interests in conflict, state-building, aid policy and the politics of aid (especially EU policy in middle-income countries), inequality (income, wealth and gender), and Latin America.

Dr Iffat Idris PhD Hull – wide-ranging experience of working with international development organisations, notably UN System and World Bank. Focus areas governance (esp. transparency and right to information), capacity development and disaster response. Interests in conflict, extremism and peace-building.

Professor Paul Jackson PhD Birmingham – political economist with main interests in conflict, post-conflict reconstruction and security sector reform, decentralisation, local governance and the state, including public management, politics and security.

Dr Ed Laws PhD University of York – interests in political settlements, conflict, peacebuilding and statebuilding, the politics of universal health coverage, and environmental sustainability in the informal sector.

Dr Nicolas Lemay-Hébert PhD Sciences Po Paris – interests in peacebuilding and statebuilding, humanitarian interventions in post-conflict or post-disaster contexts, and local narratives of resistance to international interventions.

Dr Robert Leurs PhD Manchester – interests in participatory development, strategies for rural development, methodologies of social analysis and the role of NGOs in development.

Dr Elisa Lopez Lucia PhD University of Warwick, – interests in regionalism, identity building, critical geography and critical security studies, Sub-Saharan Africa, South America and the European Union Foreign and Security Policy.

Brian Lucas MSc Manitoba, MSc London School of Economics – interests in information and knowledge management, research communication and impact, and information and communications technologies.

Heather Lyne de Ver MSc University of Bristol – interests in developmental leadership, the politics of development, and the relationship between higher education and leadership.

Dr Heather Marquette MA, PhD Dunelm Director of the Developmental Leadership Program (DLP) and Academic Director of the GSDRC. – political scientist specialising in political development, political analysis, corruption/ anti-corruption and aid policy.

Claire Mcloughlin MA Leicester – interests in non-state service providers, the relationship between service delivery and state-building, and policies and approaches to aid in fragile situations.

Dr Fiona Nunan MA, PhD Birmingham – environmental and natural resource governance, livelihoods and policy in developing countries, including institutional analysis and co-management. Focus on fisheries and coastal ecosystems in East Africa and South Asia.

Dr Suda Perera PhD (Kent) – conflict analyst specializing in armed groups in the African Great Lakes. Interests in migration and conflict in sub-Saharan Africa, non-state actors, political settlements, and data collection in conflict zones.

Dr Caryn Peiffer PhD (Claremont Graduate University) – political scientist focusing on political development, the measurement, causes and consequences of corruption, and the impact of state-business relations on reform processes.

Dr Pamela Pozarny PhD (University of Florida, Gainesville) – development anthropologist focussing on social equity and inclusion, poverty reduction, social protection, women's economic empowerment, food and nutrition security and resilience. Senior Rural Sociologist, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – on extended leave.

Dr Martin Rew PhD Cambridge – social anthropologist and specialist in gender and religion in India, particularly in relation to issues of violence against women and social movements.

Alina Rocha Menocal BA (Yale University) MA (Columbia University) – Senior Research Fellow, Developmental Leadership Program (DLP). Political scientist specialising in the politics of development; governance, institutions, state-society relations, and underlying political settlements; democratisation processes; fragile states and state building; public administration; accountability; aid policies and reform.

Dr Martin Ottmann, PhD University of Nottingham - political scientist with interests in civil wars, peace agreements and post-conflict transformations combining advanced statistical research methods with qualitative field research.

Willem van Eekelen MSc's Rotterdam and Sussex - development economist specialising in capacity and impact assessments of the development and humanitarian sectors and their various stakeholders.

IDD Associates

These former academic staff members continue to engage in consultancy, research and training in association with the department.

Emeritus Professor Richard Batley – specialist in the management and politics of service provision, non-state services, and public-private partnerships.

Dr Donald Curtis, Honorary Senior Research Fellow – specialist in institutional development and governance, environmental management, and rural development.

Emeritus Professor Ken Davey – specialist in local government, central local financial relations, and public finance.

Nick Devas, Honorary Senior Lecturer – economist and urban planner whose specialisms include local government, municipal finance, intergovernmental fiscal relations, and public finance.

Dr Michael Hubbard, Honorary Senior Research Fellow – economist specializing in public economic management, agricultural economics and international aid management.

Andrew Nickson, Honorary Senior Lecturer – specialist in public administration reform, decentralisation, and the reform of basic service delivery.

Dr Ita O'Donovan – specialist in urban local government, particularly strategic change, urban regeneration and public-private partnerships.

Emeritus Professor Carole Rakodi – social scientist and urban planner, and Director, Religions and Development Research Programme 2005-2010.

Dr Malcolm Wallis – specialist in Public Management.

Dr John Watson, Honorary Senior Lecturer – specialist in project analysis, delivery and evaluation.

Honorary Staff

Munawwar Alam – South Asian Advisor to the Commonwealth Local Government Forum.

Shivit Bakrania – specialist in conflict, security and development.

Dr Andrew Coulson Honorary Senior Lecturer, Institute of Local Government Studies – political economy of Tanzania, agriculture and land in Tanzania.

Dr Elena Denezhkina Honorary Research Fellow of the School of Government and Society – interests include urban and regional development strategy; globalization and cities; partnership and hierarchy in urban development; power politics, defence industry and development in Russia.

Mark Duffield Honorary Professor Emeritus – social scientist and specialist in security and development, development aid and the politics of intervention.

External contributors to teaching programmes

Joan McGregor – peace and Conflict Adviser, Responding to Conflict (NGO)

Moustafa Osman – Head of Disaster Preparedness and Response, Islamic Relief

Professional staff

Edward Avenell – GSDRC/DLP Administrator
Debra Beard – Postgraduate Administrator
Avril Clark – PA to Head of Department and Departmental Administrator
Linda Curry – E-Learning Manager
Timothy Fisken – GSDRC Publications Assistant
Sarah O'Connor – Communications (GSDRC/DLP)
Andrea Potter – Distance Learning Administrator
Cheryl Stonehouse – Communications Support Officer

Publications

Books

Lemay-Hébert, N., Onuf, N., Rakic, V. and Bojanic, P. (eds.) (2016) *Semantics of Statebuilding: Language, Meanings and Sovereignty*, London: Routledge (Intervention and Statebuilding Book Series).

Anderson, D. M. and Fisher, J. (forthcoming 2016) *Africa's New Authoritarians: Aid, Securitisation and Statebuilding*, London and Oxford: C Hurst & Company and Oxford University Press.

Book chapters

Anderson, D.M. and Fisher, J. (2016) 'Authoritarianism and the Securitization of Development in Uganda', in Hagmann, T. and Reyntjens, F. (eds), *Aid and Authoritarianism in Africa: Development without Democracy*, London and Chicago, IL: Zed Books and University of Chicago Press, pp. 67-90.

Boussalis, C., Merolla, J., and Peiffer, C. (2015) 'Identity and Public Support for North American Integration,' in Hurrelmann, A. and Schneider, S. (eds.), *The Legitimacy of Regional Integration in Europe and the Americas*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Campbell, A. (2016) 'Imperialism and Federalism: the Ambiguity of State and City in Russia', in Sadioglu, U. and Dede, K. (eds.), *Handbook of Research on Comparative Politics and Reformation in Local Governments*, Pennsylvania: IGI Global, pp. 354-373.

Haider, H. (2015) 'Return and Reintegration in Divided Societies: The Case of Bosnia and Herzegovina', in Bradley, M. (ed.), *Forced Migration, Reconciliation and Justice*, Montreal-Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, pp. 168-194.

Hudson, D. and Marquette, H. (2015) 'Mind the Gaps: What's missing in political economy analysis and why it matters', in Whaites, A., Gonzalez, E., Fyson, S. and Teskey, G. (eds.), *A Governance Practitioner's Notebook: Alternative Ideas and Approaches*, Paris: OECD, available at http://www.oecd.org/dac/governance-peace/governance/governance-practitioners-notebook.htm.

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Journal articles

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Aris, S. and Hubbard, M. (2015) 'Can Donor PIUs Support Country Systems?', *Development Policy Review*, 33(6): 759–781.

Batley, R., and Mcloughlin, C., (2015). The Politics of Public Services: A Service Characteristics Approach, *World Development*, 74: 275–285.

Brentin, D. and Cooley, L. (forthcoming) 'Nationalism and sport: A review and annotated bibliography', T*he State of Nationalism: The International Review for the Study of Nationalism.*

Campbell, A. (2016) 'Decentralization and Localism: beyond Saxons and Normans?', *Regional Innovations,* 1: 5-12.

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Conference papers

Campbell, A. (2016) 'The Whale and the Bear will never meet: reflections on the rivalry of the British and Russian empires', *Conference on Britanskiy Mir (British World): political, social and cultural development 24–25 March*, St Petersburg State University.

Campbell, A. (2016) 'Holocaust, Empire and Anglophobia', *International Network of Genocide Scholars (INoGS) Conference 26–30 June*, Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Campbell, A. (2015) 'Empire, Power and Organization', *Policy and Politics conference, 15–16 September*, University of Bristol.

Fisher, J. (2015) 'Authors of Insecurity: Access, Information and Agency in Ethiopia's Somali Region', *International Humanitarian Conference: A Quest for Humanitarian Effectiveness? 14–16 September 2015*, University of Manchester.

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Fisher, J. (2015) 'Eritrea - Strengthening Regional Ties', *11th Annual Conference: Peace and Security in the Horn of Africa, 3–4 November 2015*, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Nairobi.

Fisher, J. (2015) '"The crusade beyond the borders": Post-liberation regimes and regional security networks in contemporary Eastern Africa', *US African Studies Association 58th Annual Conference, 19–21 November,* San Diego, CA.

Fisher, J. (2016) 'The Fortified Aid Compound and the African Periphery', *International Studies Association 57th Annual Convention, 16–19 March*, Atlanta, Georgia.

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Fisher, J. (2016) 'Post-liberation armies and peacekeeping: The case of Uganda', Workshop on African Armies in Multilateral Peace Support Operations, Centre Francais des Etudes Ethiopiennes, Addis Ababa, 25–26 April 2016.

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Mcloughlin, C. (2015) 'Public goods in processes of state de-legitimation: The case of higher education in Sri Lanka', *UKFIET The UK Education and Development Forum*, University of Oxford, 15–17 September 2015.

Mcloughlin, C. (2016) 'Making and Breaking the Social Contract: Free Education and State Legitimation in Sri Lanka', *Legitimacy and Governance in Areas of Limited Statehood: Theoretical and Empirical Perspectives*, Freie Universitat Berlin, Berlin, June 10–11, 2016

Nunan, F. and Cepić, D. (2015) 'Collaborating for natural resource governance: personal networks in Lake Victoria fisheries', *Development Studies Association Conference 7–8 September*, University of Bath.

Ottmann, M. (2016) 'The Effect of Power-Sharing on Post-Conflict Violence', Paper presented at the *57th Annual Convention of the International Studies Association*, 16–19 March 2016, Atlanta, GA, USA.

Other Publications

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Dasandi, N., Marquette, H. and Robinson, M. (2016) 'Thinking and Working Politically: From theory building to building an evidence base' *DLP Research Paper, 37*, Birmingham: Developmental Leadership Program, University of Birmingham.

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Rocha Menocal, Alina (2016) "Tackling Corruption: Eight Essential Facts", in United Nations Association UK (eds.), *Global Development Goals*, vol. 3.

Rocha Menocal, A. (2015) 'Political Settlements and the Politics of Inclusion', *State of the Art Paper*, Birmingham: Developmental Leadership Program, University of Birmingham.

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