



Northumbria University's Centre for Global Development (CGD), part of the Department of Geography & Environmental Sciences (GES), brings together academics, practitioners and students to promote research, consultancy, teaching, training and public engagement on issues of global poverty and inequality, the communities and individuals who experience this, and the policies, practices and approaches that seek to

Welcome to the first CGD newsletter! We hope to give a flavour of some of the activities we've been involved in over the past few months. If you would like any more information about any of our activities or programmes, please do get in touch.



RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



RECLAMA (Harnessing Afro-Ecuadorian Women's Heritage) Follow-up work

We're excited that the RECLAMA team have secured a [British Academy Maximising Impact grant](#) for follow-up work: "RECLAMA: Visibilising Afro-Ecuadorian Women's Heritage for Anti-racist and Sustainable Development". This project will engage with policy makers, school children, and wider audiences on a range of activities to promote positive representations of Afro-Ecuadorian women and girls and increase their involvement in the public sphere, based on the work undertaken by the team since 2019. Activities will run between March 2023 – February 2024 and will include a webinar, as well as exhibitions and activities in Cali, Colombia and London, UK. To find out more about the follow-up project please [see our blog](#), and keep an eye on the [RECLAMA website](#) and [social media](#)!

RYVU celebrates International Volunteer Day and joins the North East Festival of Languages

The RYVU (Refugee Youth Volunteering Uganda) project celebrated International Volunteer Day 2022 by launching a collection of policy briefings and interactive games which were also part of the 2023 "Express Yourself: North East Festival of Languages".

The policy briefings highlight the central findings of RYVU's research, and provide proposals for improving refugees' livelihoods through volunteering, and enhancing the impacts of volunteering on refugee skills and employability. The three interactive games are creative tools designed to encourage constructive discussions and raise awareness of the issues outlined by RYVU's findings. All resources [can be downloaded here](#) in Arabic, English, French and Swahili.



WELCOME!

Welcome to our CGD interns, **Adunola, Ana & Emily**, who are working with us on bid development, supporting the further development of CGD's social media and web presence, and strengthening existing research projects.

Adunola has just graduated with an MSc in International Development and has previously worked as an economic research analyst. She also volunteers at the West End Women and Girls' Centre.

Ana is an International Development MSc Student, having previously worked as a teacher. She currently volunteers with a language support group for refugees.

Emily is a History MA student. She is particularly interested in the legacies of conflict and reconciliation. She also works for a local children's charity, where she assists with grassroots social action groups for disadvantaged youths and children with special educational needs.

DO GET IN TOUCH:

CGD Twitter: @NUGlobalDev | CGD Website: www.northumbria.ac.uk/cgd

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Reports on Blended Volunteering collaborative research published

Working in collaboration with VSO, CGD staff published the outcomes of their research into the concept and practices of blended volunteering. This collaborative research explored how different types of volunteering come together, how different combinations of volunteers may work in different sorts of ways, and what kinds of impacts and outputs this produces, and for whom. In order to understand the roles and potential of blended volunteering for VSO's programming and beyond, three case study countries were selected: Tanzania; Uganda; and Nepal. More information about the project and the full reports [can be viewed here](#).



EVENTS

Interdisciplinary Research Themes (IDRT) Conference

Northumbria University organised its first Interdisciplinary Research Themes (IDRTs) Conference in January 2023. The IDRTs are communities of practice bringing together expertise from across the University, to address pressing regional, societal and global challenges. There are currently seven IDRTs within Northumbria University, including Global Development Futures (GDF). Members of the Global Development Centre took part in running two sessions at the IDRT Conference, which led to a wide range of interesting interdisciplinary conversations and new connections. CGD interns Adunola Bello and Ana Moreno Merino were present at the event and wrote a short blog about it. [Read more here!](#)

Global Development Futures (GDF) Participatory Workshop

As part of Northumbria's Open Research Week in March 2023, the Global Development Futures Interdisciplinary Research Theme organised the interactive workshop "Participatory Research: Experiences and Learning in and with the 'Global South'". The event promoted knowledge exchange, learning/unlearning and sharing creative tools and resources to increase capacity of students, academic staff, professional services and NGO practitioners in relation to conducting participatory research. CGD intern Adunola Bello and PhD Researchers Aneeta Shajan and Geoffrey Bwireh supported the event as facilitators and also wrote a short blog. [Read more here!](#)

PUBLICATIONS & PODCASTS

Here are some of the things we've been talking and writing about over the last few months:

- By Floor van der Hout in Contention "[From Colonial Extractivism to Hearting and Feelthinking: Reflections on Accompanying Women Territory Defenders in Bolivia](#)"
- By Laura Beckwith & colleagues in The Geographical Journal: "[Youth participation in environmental action in Vietnam: Learning citizenship in liminal spaces](#)"
- By Inge Boudewijn in Gender, Place & Culture: "[Mapping mining's temporal disruptions: understanding Peruvian women's experiences of place-attachment in changing landscapes](#)"
- Learn about [blockchain, 'crypto colonialism' and why cryptocurrency is so bad for the environment](#) with Pete Howson on the RGS resources for schools podcast.

DO GET IN TOUCH:

CGD Twitter: @NUGlobalDev | CGD Website: www.northumbria.ac.uk/cgd

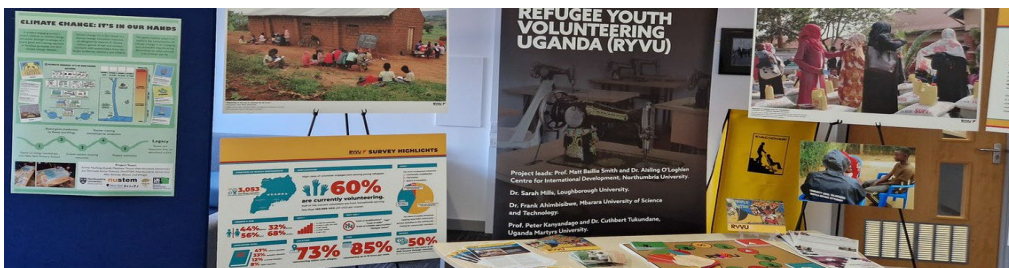
STUDENT VOICES

Reflections on the MSc International Development programme

by Adunola Bello

The Masters programme was a wonderful opportunity for me to learn, unlearn, and relearn. It gave me the avenue to expand my horizon while moving closer to my dreams of leaving the world a better place through a deeper level of knowledge on how to solve development problems using participatory approaches. In addition to gaining essential technical research adroitness and development intervention expertise required in my profession, I gained leadership prowess accompanied with several other important skills in my volunteer experience as a programme representative. The programme has successfully equipped me with academic and professional expertise to function excellently in the development field while working with people. In addition, the programme is enriched with lots of practicalities which makes students well-rounded. For instance, students are given opportunities to research with creative mindsets, using technology tools such as NVivo, methods like photovoice, and a variety of problem identification techniques in identifying and delivering humanitarian assistance.

Find out more about our Masters Programmes [here](#).



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

5th May 2023 (7.30pm), Film screening: PhD researcher Sophia Valle-Cornibert is showing a film based on her work with women's social-ecological movements in Atacama at the [Star & Shadow Cinema](#) in Newcastle. The event is shared with Prof Penelope Anthias (Durham University) who will be screening a film on women's resistance to natural gas extraction in Bolivia. The screenings will be followed by a Q&A with the film makers. [Tickets and information available here](#).

25th May 2023 (10-3pm), GDF Research Sandpit: The Global Development Futures (GDF) Interdisciplinary Research Theme (IDRT) will be running a research sandpit to bring together students, researchers and professional services at Northumbria whose work connects to the key IDRT themes: **(1) Communication action and innovation; (2) Mobilities and displacement; and (3) Climate, crises and disasters**. The workshop will inform future activities of the GDF IDRT work. You can [register for this event here](#). If you would like to find out more, please join the GDF IDRT email group by emailing: researchsupport@northumbria.ac.uk

10-13th July 2023, EADI Conference: The next European Association of Development Institutes (EADI) conference will take place in July in a hybrid format, online and in-person in Lisbon, Portugal. CGD staff members will convene the panel **"Everyday rhythms of voluntary labour for change: beyond 'volunteering for development'"** and also present current research in different sessions during the event. All information is available from the [EADI Conference Website](#).

If you would like to have something included in a future newsletter, please e-mail Sarah Peck: sarah.peck@northumbria.ac.uk

CONGRATULATIONS



Philip Leverhulme Prize

Congratulations to Joanna Allan, who has been awarded a 2022 Philip Leverhulme Prize by the Leverhulme Trust. The project will produce a four-part, book-length biography of four women that have spent their lives attempting to shape international civilian responses to the Western Sahara conflict through cultural (and) activist means. Read more about her work [here](#).

(Double) PhD success!

Congratulations to Bianca Fadel and Kate Mukungu who have successfully passed their vivas in recent months. Kate's thesis explored [women's anti-violence activism relations in post-conflict Namibia and Northern Ireland](#) and Bianca's analysed [local volunteering in protracted crises through a case study from Burundi](#).

WELL DONE ALL!