



**Northumbria University's Centre for Global Development (CGD)** 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 address it. **Check out our X (Twitter) handle: @NUGlobalDev**

**Welcome to the 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



### Voluntary Labour, Climate Adaptation & Disasters (VOCAD) exhibition

Researchers from CGD and Jadavpur University, Kolkata recently shared their research on the role of voluntary work in meeting the challenges of climate change through a photography exhibition and the launch of a bilingual photobook at the Deputy High Commission in Kolkata. Hosted by the Deputy High Commissioner, Dr Andrew Fleming, the event attracted diverse civil society organisations and other stakeholders, and shared images and narratives of volunteering captured by members of communities in the Indian Sundarbans.

The research has been conducted as part of Living Deltas, a transdisciplinary research hub funded by the UK Government's Research and Innovation Fund and Global Challenges Research Fund.

The research team, led by Matt Baillie Smith from Northumbria University and Sumana Banerjee from Jadavpur University, used participatory approaches, including photography and diary writing, to prioritise the voices and experiences of community members in the Sundarbans. This provides unique and important insights into the ways those community members think about and participate in voluntary work. The exhibition and book call for recognition of the importance of voluntary work by marginalised communities in meeting the challenges of the climate crisis. They also aim to prompt change through the creation of more inclusive and fair approaches to volunteer mobilisation. Find out more about the VOCAD research initiative [here](#).

#### DO GET IN TOUCH:

CGD X (Twitter): @NUGlobalDev | CGD Website:

[www.northumbria.ac.uk/cgd](http://www.northumbria.ac.uk/cgd)

## WELCOME!

New PhD scholar **Daniel Walsh** will be joining us soon. Daniel's project is entitled:

*(De)colonising the cosmos: exploring the political ecologies of NewSpace industries.*

Here's an introduction from Daniel:



"I'm Daniel, originally from an old mill and mining town called Leigh, though I'm currently based in Salford. I like hiking and travelling and experiencing new places (personal favourites are Japan, Romania, and Bosnia). I also like urban and wildlife photography. I have a professional background in community engagement and development. I'm a political ecologist. My interests include space, cities and indigenous activism. I look forward to meeting and working with you all soon!"

**Welcome Daniel!**

## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

### Sustainable Wildlife Management in Zambia

**Francis Masse** has been involved in a research project funded by the EU-UNFAO CIFOR-ICRAF [Sustainable Wildlife Management Programme](#) in Zambia to support the development of wildlife and livestock based economies in community conservancies. This has included:

- the completion of research and a report and policy brief to stakeholders on the Structure and Evolution of the Legal Wild Meat Value Chain in Zambia.
- ongoing research on participatory mapping and ranking of zoonotic and animal disease risks in Mize Community Conservancy in support of land-use management plans.

We look forward to hearing more as the project progresses!

### A series of events from the RECLAMA project

Between 12th-22nd June, **Juana Francis Bone and Lorena Valdez Caceido** will be visiting the UK to undertake a range of activities for the RECLAMA project! Juana and Lorena are members of the **Mujeres de Asfalto collective** and have worked as partner and peer researcher on RECLAMA (respectively). Some dates for your calendars:

June 15th – LONDON: **A public event at Brixton House**, where we will showcase artwork created on the RECLAMA project, in a cultural exchange with several Latin American organisations based in London, including Colombian folk dance group Somos Chibchas.

June 16th – LONDON: **A Latin American film festival at Brixton House**, showcasing a documentary created on the RECLAMA project, and Q&A with the directors.

June 3rd-June 17th – LONDON: **Exhibition of creative outputs** from the RECLAMA project will be freely accessible at Brixton House.

June 18th: Tune into **'Somos con Cecilia Ramos'** on ALLFM96.9 (Manchester) between 17:00-19:00 and hear a live interview with Juana and Lorena.

June 19th-21st – NEWCASTLE: **Juana and Lorena will be visiting Newcastle!** They will be meeting members of the CGD and MSc programme. A public activity is likely to take place on June 20th, so mark the date!

Make sure to keep an eye on the **RECLAMA X** (Twitter) page [@ProyectoReclama](#) and the **CGD X** (Twitter) page ([@NUGlobalDev](#)) to stay updated about the activities and make sure you don't miss out!

### Decolonising methods seminar

In February, **Ana Laura Zavala Guillen** delivered a guest seminar about decolonising methods in historical geography and fieldwork practices at the Decolonising Geography Lab at Cambridge University.

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## PUBLICATIONS & TALKS

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

- From Moses Okech et al., [The reproduction of inequality through volunteering in Uganda.](#)
- By Sara Sheiderman, Bina Limbu et al., [House, Household, and Home: Revisiting Anthropological and Policy Frameworks through Post-earthquake Reconstruction Experiences in Nepal.](#)
- From Oliver Hensengerth. [Inclusive governance of hydropower on shared rivers: Toward an international legal geography of the Lower Mekong basin.](#)
- By Oliver Hensengerth et al., [How to promote sustainability: The challenge of strategic spatial planning in the Vietnamese Mekong Delta.](#)
- From Benita Siloko. [Human security, sustainable livelihoods and development: the case of the Niger Delta region in Nigeria.](#)
- By Katy Jenkins. [Between Hope and Loss: Peruvian Women Activists' Visual Contestations of Extractive-led Development.](#)
- By Inge Boudewijn et al., [Afro-Ecuadorian Women, Territory and Natural Resource Extraction in Esmeraldas, Ecuador.](#)

## TEACHING & LEARNING

MSc International Development fieldtrip to Kerala, India.



Students from the MSc International Development had the chance to go on a 9-day fieldtrip to Kerala, India as part of their programme. This April, we visited a range of NGOs, universities and institutions across Kerala to learn about how they approach diverse topics such as: climate change adaptation; microcredit; the SDGs; and migration. We also thought about the aftermath of colonialism, and even had the chance to take part in a roundtable discussion at the Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. All while taking in amazing views and eating good food - a brilliant experience! Among the organisations and institutions we visited were: [Centre for Statistical Analysis at Rajagiri College of Social Sciences](#), Kanjikkuzhi Community Development Society, Kanjikkuzhi Service Co-operative Bank, [the Centre for Management Development](#) and the [University of Kerala Demography and Sociology departments](#). Many thanks in particular to the [International Institute for Migration & Development \(IIMAD\)](#) - whose brilliant hosting ensured we left with loads of new information and knowledge.



With staff and students at Rajagiri Business School.



Roundtable discussion on the SDGs at the Centre for Statistical Analysis, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences.

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

## PUBLICATIONS & TALKS

In March 2024 we enjoyed a fantastic presentation from CGD researcher **Katherine Arrell** on Participatory Mapping of Mobility: Understanding Dynamic Exposure to Cascading Mountain Hazards in Rural Nepal.

Katy Jenkins has given two invited talks:

- ❖ From guineapigs to prickly pears: visualising food practices as resistance in women's antiextractives activism in the Peruvian Andes (Uppsala University, February 2024).
- ❖ 'Explorando las narrativas de resistencia de mujeres afrodescendientes a través de la memoria colectiva desde un territorio amenazado', invited Keynote, International Seminar 'Seminario Internacional "Género y Etnicidad. Perspectivas para la justicia territorial"', Universidad Mayor, Santiago, 15th November 2024.

**Inge Boudewijn** and **Sophia Valle-Cornibert** gave a double keynote on Latin American women's resistance in the context of extractivism, at the Durham Anthropology PGR conference on April 23. Their talks were:

- ❖ Stimulating participatory and collaborative reflexivity with activist women in a context of large-scale resource extraction in the Atacama Desert, Chile (Sophia).
- ❖ RECLAMA: Conceptualising Afro-Ecuadorian women's resistance through acts and representations of collective memory from a territory under threat (Inge).





## STUDENT VOICES

### Getting my first article published by Benita Siloko

I have tried to publish an article, but somehow, I have been unable to get to the line of submitting a paper to a publisher. Lol. Nevertheless, I have contributed to a few published books and reports, such as 'Politics of Turbulent Waters: Reflections on Ecological, Environmental and Climate Crises in Africa (2023) and 'Africa Caught in the Fossil Trap' (2021). However, I did not see this one coming. hehehehehe. So, when the opportunity came, I took it with faith, even though I did not know how to achieve it. Finally, I am writing as a first-published author. You see that!!!! It comes with the feeling of having an official stamp of one's contribution to a subject matter. Oh yes! It is real!!! You are reading from a published author.

Congratulations Benita!

### Chronicle of the final week writing my PhD by Sophia Valle-Cornibert

Amidst the disorientation of forgetting the days of the week and consistently putting on my clothes the wrong way, the final week of writing my PhD thesis will remain unforgettable! Looking at the screen, scrolling down the endless document, filled with ideas, my words, words in shape. It's a thesis, I think to myself. She's alive! I take five minutes and taste the feeling of closure, a little bit of nostalgia kicks in. Then again, back to the document. It's time to give it an end and let it go. The PhD can be a very lonely process, I heard this repeatedly, but I'm glad to say that there is a community out there, and the CGD has been a great one for me. The support and companionship, specially during the last weeks was incredible. Hugs, chocolates, and coffees were arriving at my desk nonstop. I submitted the thesis on the 29th of February at 23.58pm, 2 min before the deadline (please do not try this out!), and there was the CGD community, right next to me until the last second sharing the adrenaline rush in the office. I need to extend a massive thank you to this lovely community, I couldn't have done this without you all. A loud hurray to Floor van der Hout who submitted her thesis on the same day. Such a beautiful and caring compañera to share this journey with! And to all the PGRs on their way to finishing their thesis. Keep it up and do not hesitate to ask for help. The end IS REAL and IT FEELS GOOD!

Congratulations to Sophia and Floor on submitting their theses!



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

From **9th - 12th September 2024**, Northumbria University will be the first academic institution to host the [International Volunteer Cooperation Organisations \(IVCO\)](#) conference organised by [Forum](#). The CGD team has been leading the conference organising alongside the Ireland-based social justice organisation, [Comhlámh](#). The theme for IVCO 2024 will be **"Building and Sustaining Connections for Change: Volunteering for Solidarity"**. The conference will bring together volunteering agencies worldwide, as well as researchers and practitioners based in the Northeast of England. Representatives from Forum and Comhlámh visited Newcastle on the 19th and 20th of March to see the conference venue and shape the programme.

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

## CONGRATULATIONS!



### Student Led Teaching award nomination

Congratulations to Inge Boudewijn who has been nominated in the Student Led Teaching Awards 2024 - a very well deserved nomination!

## WELL DONE INGE!