

CENDEP NEWSLETTER

November 2023

Centre for Development and Emergency Practice

Welcome to the Newsletter:

As we move into the 2023-24 academic year, I invite you to reflect with us on the current humanitarian and development challenges to make a better, fairer and a just world. The human rights violations and developmental challenges in places affected by natural hazards, climate change and conflicts challenge us to look at the intersectionality of humanitarian-human rights-development interventions in these situations. We also ask: Have international, national humanitarian and development organisations, country states, UN systems adapted their response to these new challenges? The Masters course offered by CENDEP, [MA Global Development and Humanitarian Practice](#) nurtures future leaders pursuing such change agenda. With its focus on practice, our Masters course invites student applicants from all parts of the world to study with us and be a part of this change journey.

CENDEP research and seminars are also driving solutions to these issues. I also invite you to follow our research and seminar conversations through our social media linkages. Other developments include the expansion of our PhD programme. We are excited to have Godsend Korosha and Enyew Arkel, lecturers and staff from Arba Minch University, Ethiopia starting their PhD studies with CENDEP on issues of multiple displacements, livelihoods and education with the support of funding from the Gerda Henkel Foundation.

Supriya Akerkar
CENDEP Director

Courses

[Global Development and Humanitarian Practice](#)
MA or PGDip or PGCert

[Humanitarian Action and Peacebuilding](#)
MA or PGCert

[Shelter After Disaster](#)
PGCert

News from MA DEP

We are changing the name of our Masters programme to [MA Global Development and Humanitarian Practice](#). The change is made in the light of the changing nature of the humanitarian and developmental crisis, including perspectives around it, and to better reflect what the course offers to prospective students. With the chronic or protracted crisis whether conflicts or natural hazards, students will be equipped to understand the underlying factors, their links with developmental challenges and social justice. Developing a deep understanding of the development-humanitarian infrastructure, students will be challenged to become transformative practitioners, capable of responding to developmental and humanitarian challenges of our times. The course will offer three new specialisations:

- 1) Forced Migration, Human Rights and Protection
- 2) Conflict Transformation and Resilience
- 3) Disasters, Climate Risks, Shelter and Development.

The 'Resilience, wellbeing and mental health support' module to be offered as CPD.

Cendep has recently developed a new module on resilience, wellbeing and mental health support in crisis setting which has been piloted with CENDEP students and alumni.

This course brings together experts in the field of mental health support, to provide knowledge and share experience on psychological first aid, self-care, mindfulness, personal resilience and ways to deal with stress, trauma, loss and grief.

These topics are highly relevant to students, as well as professionals working in the humanitarian and development field. Therefore, CENDEP is now offering this course as continuing professional development (CPD) experience to a wider public.

"As for a practitioner working in the humanitarian sector, the course helped me have a clear understanding of the importance of mental health and resilience in the humanitarian sector. I was really grateful that the course not only covers theories but also gives practical knowledge and tools to support our colleagues."

(The course participant)

More information is coming soon.

Contact: Martina Adamcikova, Associate Lecturer
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Effects of Externalisation (EFFEXTS) Project Update

The EFFEXT project studies how countries in the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa shape their migration policies in interaction with the EU's efforts to externalise migration management. With fieldwork complete in nearly all the case study countries, in September we met at the University of Manchester (and online) to hear from colleagues working in Ethiopia, Libya, Ghana, and Jordan about the effects of European migration policy in these countries. Following the public seminar, the project team spent time together sharing work in progress, ideas for publications, and planning for the next year. We will be hosting a conference and policy workshop for Autumn 2024 – keep your eyes open for a call for papers coming soon!

Contact: Zoe Jordan, Senior Lecturer
zjordan@brookes.ac.uk

Meet a Student:

Richmond Amponsah MA DEP alumnus (2021)



Completing the MA Development and Emergency Practice Program at the Centre for Development and Emergency Practice (CENDEP) has undoubtedly been an extremely rewarding experience for me. Enthralling about the MA program is its focus on linking development theories to practice in enabling the design of durable policy solutions for humanitarian-development problems at the local, regional, national, and global levels. It was also extraordinary to receive lectures, seminars, and talks from leading academics/experts in each course module, that provided a comprehensive knowledge, insight and understanding in the field of development and emergency practice. The research aspect of the program has not only broadened my critical and analytical thinking but also enhanced my scientific writing skills and provided me the opportunity to further develop upon my master's project through a PhD study. Studying during the pandemic era was very challenging as an international student however, I was immensely provided with wide range of academic and non-academic support and guidance from the course director and the staff at CENDEP which aided in my academic success and wellbeing. One of the valuable experiences of the program has been the relationships with the staff and my classmates as well as the entire Oxford community – friendships I adore and will treasure for many years. Thanks to the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission, UK (who provided me with a fully funded scholarship) and Oxford Brookes University, the dream of becoming academically and professionally successful to make an impact in my home-country, Ghana and beyond is now a reality and never an abstraction.

Aging in Displacement Project

The Ageing in Displacement project aimed to understand how experiences of becoming older and of being a refugee shape each other. Over the last year, CENDEP has run a pilot study in Oxfordshire and Birmingham, interviewing 30 refugees and people seeking asylum. Preliminary findings show that older refugees in the UK face challenges with English literacy, work, healthcare, adequate housing, and accessing documentation. However, there were substantial differences in the priorities and experiences of these challenges for refugees of different nationalities, and between the two cities. In June, we held a stakeholder symposium to share findings with a range of organisations working with older people or refugees to discuss next steps for building on this research and ways to improve support for older refugees.

Contact person: Zoe Jordan, Senior Lecturer
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New Research Project: Navigating Networks in Multiple Displacement

Earlier this year, CENDEP secured funding from the Gerda Henkel Foundation for the research project "Navigating Networks in Multiple Displacement: Connecting formal and informal education and livelihood assistance for internally displaced persons in Ethiopia". Ethiopia is a complex migration context, simultaneously a host, transit, and origin state, however the largest displaced population are those who have fled their home but remain within Ethiopia's borders: internally displaced persons (IDPs). As a result of recurrent and overlapping crises, much displacement within Ethiopia is multiple displacement. Currently there is limited research on the impacts of multiple displacement on IDPs access to education and livelihoods, and how education and livelihoods interact with displacement and gender across time. The project asks "How does multiple displacement impact on IDPs access to and experience of entitlements and assistance for education and livelihoods in Southern Ethiopia?" We're really excited at the opportunity this gives us to develop our partnership with Arba Minch University (AMU). Thanks to this funding, we have welcomed two faculty members from AMU to complete their PhD studies at CENDEP: Godsend Korosha and Enyew Deresse Arkew.

Contact: Zoe Jordan, Senior Lecturer
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The Power of Listening Through Podcasting

Don't we all like listening to stories? I embarked on this podcasting journey to collect inspirational stories from people working in disasters and development. As we are all busy in our day-to-day life, I thought of this podcast idea, to unwind ourselves by chatting and listening to each other. And to spread our positive vibes or 'mantra' through podcasting!

'My MARS mantra' podcast is for students, academics, practitioners, and others who are interested to know about 'all the problems in this world and how we can try solving them?'.

We will listen to stories on,

*What motivates people to do what they do?
How do they reflect upon their own actions? and
What is their inner resilience to sustain in this crazy world?*

Hence the title **My MARS mantra**, an acronym for **M**otivations, **A**ctions, **R**eflections and **S**ustainability.

If you are interested to share your stories, please answer those above questions and email me at: mymarsmantra@gmail.com

Watch this space for mymarsmantra.com website, to be live very soon.

Contact: Rumana Kabir, Senior Lecturer
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Rumana Kabir discussing with Ian Davis: '50 years of disasters as agents of change', Oxford 2023

Follow us on CENDEP LinkedIn!

CENDEP has a fresh new LinkedIn page! Follow us to connect with staff, student and alumni, and also to find out more about our current research, updates, news and events.



[CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND EMERGENCY PRACTICE \(CENDEP\)](#)



Oxford Human Rights Festival

As we begin a new academic year, we are pleased to begin preparations for the 22nd annual Oxford Human Rights Festival which will be held from the 15th - 22nd March 2024, hosted and supported as always by CENDEP. This student-led festival has a rich history of over two decades, offering programs featuring a diverse array of films, exhibitions, talks, performances, and workshops. The festival has consistently served as a platform to shed light on the importance of human rights, engaging students and fostering connections with the wider Oxford community. We are looking forward to another year of creativity and community as we address contemporary issues in human rights. If you have an interest in contributing to the festival's planning or wish to share your thoughts, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at oxhrf@brookes.ac.uk. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Find out more about Oxford Human Rights Festival, our past speakers, events, exhibition and more at <https://www.oxfordhumanrightsfestival.net/>

Staff List/ Events List

Welcome to our new PhD Candidates!

GODSEND KOROSHA

My Name is Godsend Konofa Korosha. Currently, I am a PhD student at CENDEP, School of Architecture, Oxford Brookes University. I am Ethiopian and my country is experiencing unprecedented internal displacement due to conflict. Ethiopia has recorded the highest number of internally displaced persons since 2018 in its history, mainly due to conflict and civil war. The crisis impacts different groups of people differently depending on the nature of their vulnerability. Thus, I am doing my PhD research titled: Impacts of Multiple Displacement on Access to Education and Livelihood of Vulnerable Groups among Internally Displaced Persons in Southern Ethiopia .

ENYEW ARKEW

I am Enyew D. Arkew, from Ethiopia, I am commencing my doctoral studies at Oxford Brookes University, primarily focusing on researching Multiple Displacement scenarios in Ethiopia. The staggering number of internally displaced persons in my home country, coupled with the complex nature of their predicament, has reinforced my determination to acquire a comprehensive understanding of the challenges they face and the potential avenues for protection and resolution. Therefore, my research assesses the normative institutional frameworks and formal legal entitlements that shape IDPs' access to education and livelihoods during multiple displacements in Ethiopia.

Write for CENDEP blog and newsletter

Email your contributions to cendep@brookes.ac.uk
Please mention the year you studied at CENDEP and the course you have completed. Feel free to write to us in case you would like to first discuss a relevant topic for publication. <http://cendep.blogspot.com/>

Contact us

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