

AHRC-GCRF & IDC Conference:
Mobilising Global Voices 2019: Perspectives from the Global South
UK Parliament, 28th February 2019

Invitation to Submit Expressions of Interest to Contribute to the Conference

The Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), in collaboration with the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) Global Challenge Research Fund (GCRF) and the International Development Committee (IDC) of UK Parliament are organising a conference on inclusive international development research and policy - '*Mobilising Global Voices: Perspectives from the Global South*' at **UK House of Commons**, London on **Thursday 28th February 2019** (evening event also being held on Wednesday, 27 February).

The aim of this unique event is to showcase to Members of Parliament (MPs) outstanding AHRC-GCRF led research, produced collaboratively with Global South partners. It also aims to bring diverse *voices* from UK and Global South International Development scholars, practitioners and local community partners (connected to this research) to Parliamentary Committees and Groups, in order to facilitate research uptake by policy-makers in international development currently debating evidence and reviewing policy to address a range of global development challenges. The conference also aims to facilitate meaningful dialogue on North-South research partnerships and ways in which knowledge produced in the Global South can be part of evidence giving processes within Parliamentary Committees.

'*Mobilising Global Voices*' is aimed at the research, and evidence hearing communities within government in the UK, and internationally. It seeks to bring to the UK Parliament the voices and perspectives of researchers, cultural and development organisations, and diverse partners in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs), to discuss how arts and humanities research in international development can make a strong contribution to Parliamentary Committees and Groups working on related areas.

The Conference will provide opportunities to share research insights and findings on thematic areas: (i) forced displacement, (ii) building resilience to climate change (in low / middle income countries), and (iii) issues around inclusion, diversity, equity, power and voice within research collaborations between the UK and Global South partners. It will provide an opportunity to consider how arts and humanities research can support more inclusive policy-making in international development, including translation across language and cultural differences, critical, challenging and creative perspectives, addressing marginalisation, inequalities and exclusion, and understanding local contexts, diversity, histories, knowledges, assets, values and beliefs. It will also enable participants from the Global South and the UK to learn more about the Parliamentary evidence hearing processes and the International Development Committee (IDC).

Following an evening introductory event on 27th February, the structure of the main conference day (28th February 2019) will include morning sessions presenting cutting-edge AHRC-GCRF research on themes relevant to parliamentary enquiries on forced displacement and climate change. The second half of the day will include a 'mock' select committee evidence hearing session, followed by a panel discussion on bringing diverse perspectives on Global South research to UK Parliament. We anticipate that formal conference proceedings will be followed by a tour of the Houses of Parliament and a conference dinner for all participants and speakers.

Submitting Expressions of Interest to Attend

Places at the event are extremely limited and due to space limitations only a small number of speakers and participants will be invited. To allocate spaces we are inviting research teams funded or co-funded by the AHRC under GCRF funding and working on any aspect of **Forced Displacement** or **Climate Change**, an opportunity to nominate a member of the research team and up to two project partners **either from a Low or Middle Income country and /or from a non-academic partner organisation** involved in an AHRC GCRF Award to attend (if spaces allow requests to consider greater participation from Global South partners may be considered).

AHRC GCRF funded researchers working on any aspect of **Forced Displacement** or **Climate Change** are invited to express their interest in attending the conference, by completing the following [online survey](#). Your proposal may be selected for either a panel or poster presentation. The closing date for expressing your interest is **12 noon on 27th November 2018**. Applicants will then be considered by a conference organising group which will need to take into account the overall balance and diversity of inputs, potential contribution to the aims of the conference, as well as the quality of the proposed inputs, and contacted shortly after the closing date to confirm their attendance.

Presentations / panels should include a significant input from, or be co-delivered by, Global South partners; proposals for sessions led by or delivered entirely by Global South research partners will be welcomed.

Careful consideration should be given to equalities, diversity and inclusion in proposing teams and inputs to this Conference.

Inputs should be succinct, accessible and tailored to a diverse audience of UK and international policy-makers, parliamentarians, non-academic partners from the Global South and researchers from across a wide range of disciplines. We are not seeking EoIs for the presentation of academic papers, development of new research applications or holding of debates targeted at a predominantly academic audience at this event. The focus should be around learning, experience, policy engagement and outcomes—rather than descriptions of individual projects, their research methods or future research plans.

Based on strengths of EoI's, research projects may be selected for one of the following mediums of participation:

1. 15-20 minute presentation on a thematic panel;
2. Poster or multimedia presentation displays;
3. Live debate with policy-makers (guidelines will be provided upon selection).

We welcome inputs from cross-disciplinary projects and teams, including those that extend beyond the remit of the AHRC. However, the arts and humanities research component should be foregrounded in any input to this conference.

Conference proceedings will be conducted in English but we welcome contributions and participation from diverse language communities. Any requirements for translation or other language related costs should be detailed in the EoI.

Travel, subsistence and accommodation will be covered by AHRC-GCRF in accordance with its standard policies. Other potential costs which may be required to support inclusive participation of Global South partners (e.g. visa, translation costs, support for carers etc.) should be detailed in the survey and will be considered on a case by case basis. Where appropriate, attendance at the conference by Global South partners may be combined with other research related activities in the UK but costs directly related to these additional activities cannot be included within the conference funding request.

Due to high demand, we can only accept nominations through this route for participants who are involved in, and where the content of the proposed input relates directly to (or emerges from), an AHRC (co-) funded GCRF grant (current or completed, including awards funded through AHRC Network plus awards or joint calls with other Research Councils / funders).

If you have any questions, please email: gcrf@ahrc.ukri.org