Bath Research into International Development (BRID) Fund

2020/21 Annual report

**Financial summary** (10 Aug 2020 - 31 Aug 2021)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Activity | Cost per unit | Units | Budget | Com-mitted | Carry over |
| [Postgraduate practicum placements](https://www.notion.so/Postgraduate-Practicum-Placements-Internships-7c4f133639f643a8bf9b412bda8d6a80) | 2,000 | 2 | 4,000 | 3,300 | 700 |
| [Doctoral fieldwork or conference costs](https://www.notion.so/Doctoral-Fieldwork-or-Conference-Costs-340a51fecc7546c18a95b1e6c7981769) | 2,000 | 3 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 0 |
| [Other research activities](https://www.notion.so/Other-Research-Activities-670c842431524b3b8f20d97ca910feb9) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| [Undergraduate placements](https://www.notion.so/Undergraduate-Placements-f92aa8d63c7e4277bab508831eec413f) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

A total of five applications were approved. This included two postgraduate practicum placements, and three doctoral funding awards, for a total of £9,300**,** leaving £700 to carry over into 2021/22. Payments to practicum students were made by the end of the financial year, whereas payments to the doctoral students were still pending.

# Practicum placements

Funding was approved for two students to facilitate their practicum placements. Both successfully graduated.

*Rosa Brunskill – the relationship between menstruation and mental health*

Rosa has completed her practicum placement as a Research Assistant working with Melanie Channon. This research involved a systematic review of the relationship between menstruation and mental health in Nepal and Guatemala.

Rosa secured a mark of 78% for her practicum report and graduated with an MSc in International Development, Social Justice and Sustainability.

*Kumbirayi Manungo - energy transition in Central Africa*

Kumbirayi has worked as a Research Assistant with Ben Radley, investigating the transition to renewable energy in Central Africa. She investigated the distinct energy profiles of Burundi, Rwanda, and the DRC, identified key stakeholders involved in their energy transitions, and reviewed the national and regional policy contexts of their respective energy policies.

Kumbirayi secured a mark of 70% for her practicum report and graduated with an MSc in International Development with Economics.

# Doctoral Funding

Funding was approved to three doctoral students

## *Ignacio Franco Vega - sexual health and reproductive rights in Peru*

Ignacio’s research focusses on the social problems of STIs and unintended pregnancies in Peru, identifying them as key factors in perpetuating the poverty trap and social inequalities in the region. He argues that new strategies and methods are needed to address these issues and points to successful condom availability programmes that have been implemented in other countries.

The BRID Fund’s award has enabled Ignacio to travel to Lima to conduct three field experiments investigating the effect of price, access to condom type, and the effect of promotional messaging relating to emotion on condom usage.

Ignacio’s fieldwork is still ongoing.

*Alice Chadwick El-Ali - volunteering for development: making selves and building citizenship in Sierra Leone*

Alice’s research takes the form of an ethnographic inquiry, working in tandem with volunteers and volunteer involving organisations in Sierra Leone. This research is inspired by the development of a National Volunteering Policy in Sierra Leone, and Alice’s work seeks to understand and provide evidence for the experience of volunteers during and after recent crises. This research particularly looks at volunteers’ perspectives in reference to the fire in Susan’s Bay in Freetown (March 2021), and the COVID-19 responses (April - August 2021). It is hoped this research will contribute both to policy development as it relates to volunteering in the context of development and humanitarian responses, and to academic literature on how to conduct policy focused collaborative research.

A CDS blog post and working paper - co-produced by herself, Dr Victor Moinina and three student co-researchers – are in the pending.

*Nadege Add - Universal health coverage policies in Burkina Faso*

Nadege’s research concerns the question of “what universal health coverage (UHC) actually means” in Burkina Faso. In 2015, Burkina Faso made a formal commitment to achieve UHC through the creation of a national health insurance scheme, aiming to eventually cover the entire population. This research aims to explore what is meant by UHC by examining the actors involved in shaping its meaning and development. An additional proposed outcome for this research is that it will illuminate how a “universal” concept like UHC can actually be understood or interpreted differently by stakeholders in a given context. This will in turn have important implications for policy implementation and improving coverage to quality healthcare services. Nadege experienced delays in starting her fieldwork and is instead conducting data collection wholly online.

# Other research activities

No BRID funding was allocated for other research activities during this period.

# Undergraduate Placements

No BRID funding was allocated for undergraduate placements during this period.