**Bath Research into International Development (BRID) Fund**

**2021/22 Annual report**

The BRID Fund was set up in 2020, through the generous support of a graduate of the MSc in Development Studies to enable the Centre for Development Studies to (a) support engagement of CDS members with international development policy and practice, including responses to climate change, discrimination, injustice and other global challenges, (b) support related early career development (c) enhance the identity, capacity, connections and reputation of CDS.

This report covers activities funded by BRID during its second year (and first full year) of operation. In sum, the fund supported 13 post-graduate practicums (internships) along with field work and conference attendance of nine doctoral students. Funding was also made available to support shooting of a film about cobalt mining in Congo, an undergraduate seminar on the politics of reparations for slavery, a research sandpit about universal basic income, and the evaluation of CDS funding of post-doctoral researchers since 2012. Looking ahead to 2022/23 interviews were conducted and offers made for a full-time two-year post-doctoral research associate position and two full-time one-year undergraduate internships. This represents a significant increase in activity compared to the first year of the fund (2020/21), during which two postgraduate practicums and fieldwork of three doctoral students were supported.

Funding decisions were made by a committee comprising James Copestake (CDS co-director), Michael Bloomfield (CDS co-director), Mathilde Maitrot (Senior Lecturer in ID and placement tutor), Emily Richards (Faculty Business Engagement Manager) and Cynthia Kamwengo (CDS Postdoctoral Research Associate), supported by Rachel Willis and Michael Dalton (SPS Research Manager and Assistant).

Activities supported are briefly described below. We are grateful to an alumnus of the University (and also the MSc in International Development Studies) for providing the funds to make them possible.

*James Copestake, Chair*

*13 Jan 2023*

**Financial summary** – 1 September 2021 – 31 August 2022

**Budget for 2021/22**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Cost per Unit** | **Units** | **Expected Budget** | **Actual Budget** |
| Undergraduate placements | 12,000 | 2 | 24,000 | 24,000 |
| Postgraduate practicums/internships | 2,000 | 6 | 12,000 | 12,700 |
| Doctoral fieldwork or conference costs | 2,000 | 10 | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| Other projects (including any carry over) | 10,000 | 1 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
|  | | | | |
| **Total for Year** | **-** | **19** | **66,000** | **66,700** |

In the initial proposal for Year Two of the BRID Fund the expected budget for each activity is as indicated above. However, with carryover of unspent funds from the previous year the budget was as shown in the actual budget column below.

**Spending for 2021/22**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Average cost per unit** | **Units** | **Actual Budget** | **Com-mitted** |
| Undergraduate placements | - | 0 | 24,000 | 0 |
| Postgraduate practicums/internships | 1,633 | 13 | 12,700 | 21,233 |
| Doctoral fieldwork or conference costs | 1,330 | 9 | 20,000 | 11,445 |
| Other projects (including any carry over) | 2,575 | 4 | 10,000 | 10,300 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total for Year** | - | **26** | **66,700** | **42,978** |

Over the year funds were spent in all categories of activity except undergraduate placements. Offers were made for the first two of these to start in 2022/23.

Where there was an underspend in one category, these funds were repurposed for areas of more demand. Overall, more people received funds than expected, but average cost per award was smaller than initially budgeted and there was an underspend of £23,722 which will be carried into the 2022/23 academic year.

Alongside these commitments, the BRID fund also continued to fund a full time Postdoctoral Research Associate and a part time administrative assistant for the fund.

**Activities**

**Undergraduate Placements**

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

**Practicum placements**

13 Practicum Placement students were awarded funding during 2021/2022

**Placement** **Organisation** The MENA Social Policy Network (MENASP)

**Student** Mohammed Bashein

**Funding** **amount** £2000

Mohammed joined a large multi-national team, based in the Department of Social and Policy Sciences, spanning the MENA region, Brazil, South Africa, Sri Lanka and beyond. He supported a wide range of activities for MENASP, including data collection and literature reviews.

**Placement Organisation** WorkFREE

**Student** Nathan Ducrocq

**Funding amount** £2000

Nathan worked as part of a large interdisciplinary team who are trialing an innovative approach to delivering and studying the impacts of unconditional basic income (UBI). As part of his placement he made contributions to the project website and for media publications, including for openDemocracy. He also helped coordinate a two-day sandpit event to bring together key individuals working on UBI across the University, along with interested researchers and development practitioners in the South-West of England.

**Placement Organisation** Centre for Development Studies comms practicum

**Student** Holly Jewell

**Funding amount** £2000

Holly worked with the CDS team in this established practicum position, managing the CDS social media output and updating web content. During her time, Holly she on a detailed project tracking the history of CDS, which led to a timeline of CDS history on the University webpages. <https://www.bath.ac.uk/corporate-information/history-of-the-centre-for-development-studies/>

**Placement Organisation** the Pleasure Project

**Student** Kamanda Bosco

**Funding amount** £500 match funding

Kamanda worked with The Pleasure Project to launch the Declaration of Pleasure, in collaboration with the World Association of Sexual Health. This involved communications, web content, research and contributions to articles with globally recognized experts in Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights, as well as overseeing the organisation’s Pleasure Fellows scheme.

**Placement Organisation** Microsave

**Student** Sherifat Adeniyi and Risa Murakami

**Funding amount** £2000 - total

Sherifat and Risa completed practicums assisting MicroSave Consulting’s Anglophone Africa team’s climate change focus.

**Placement Organisation** Unicef Jordan

**Student** Andreas Patsalides

**Funding amount** £2683

**Placement Organisation** AFAWI

**Student** Emma Ridley, Kayla Fillipovich, Viktoria Kuszak, Siobhan Wainwright, Hannah Pain, Isla Leckie

**Funding amount** £10,050

Alliance for African Women Initiative (AFAWI) is a Ghanaian development NGO that has been striving to narrow the gender gap and empower women and children in Ghana for over ten years. BRID practicum students supported them with a range of projects supporting these aims.

In particular, BRID practicum students have contributed to data collection, interviews, and knowledge exchange activities around AFAWI’s Livelihood Project, a project which seeks to empower women by providing the necessary tools to start or grow their own businesses.

**Doctoral Funding**

**Project title** Building State Capability through Devolution: Explaining Variation in nutrition outcomes across Kenya

**Student** Catherine Kamau

**Funding amount** £2000

This study aims to explain variation in nutrition outcomes at devolved (county) level across Kenya. BRID funding will help Catherine carry out primary data collection at the sub-national (county)

level.

**Project title** Can Community-Based Social Protection Interventions Improve the Wellbeing of Asylum Seekers and Refugees in the United Kingdom?

**Student** Michelle James, PhD student in DSPS

**Funding amount** £700

Michelle is conducting interviews with asylum seekers in Bristol using the QuIP method developed at Bath and now used by spin off company Bath SDR. Michelle asked for BRID funding to update her QuIP training on the new “Causal Map App” and for a product license to carry out the work.

**Project title** Queer Politics in Conflict Transitions of Sri Lanka

**Student** Waradas Thiyagaraja, PhD student in DSPS

**Funding amount** £1250

Waradas used BRID funding to attend the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex Association World Conference 2022 12th Annual Sri Lanka Graduate Student Conference at Cornell University.

**Project title** The challenge of promoting effective financial inclusion: an investigation of the factors that lead to active use of financial services and improved livelihoods

**Student** Aurelie Larquemin, PhD student in DSPS

**Funding amount** £1360

Aurelie used BRID funding to attend the 14th European Evaluation Society Biennial Conference Organising Body: European Evaluation Society in Copenhagen, Denmark.

**Project title** Between Recognition and Resistance: Performing (Hi)Stories in Constitution Hill and Hillbrow

**Student** Polly Winfield, PhD student in DSPS

**Funding amount** £2000

Polly is using BRID funding to carry out qualitative research and workshops in Johannesburg. This will include Affective mapping and a photography project, providing.

**Project title** Learning about incorporating farmers’ values into the evaluation of natural farming: A pilot study in two villages of Rayalaseema, Andhra Pradesh.

**Student** Caroline Fazli, DPRP student DSPS/IPR

**Funding amount** £2000

BRID funding is allowing Caroline to make monthly field visits to Andhra Pradesh to carry out primary source data collection. Funding will support travel and the cost of translators, which will lay the groundwork for identifying criteria for evaluation of the effectiveness of natural farming.

**Project title** An investigation into the resilience of informal financial services use in the face of rising formal financial inclusion

**Student** Mongi Tshaka (Fort Hare University, South Africa)

**Funding amount** £2000

The awarded BRID funding will be used by Mongi to carry out data collection in Zambia. Primary data will be collected through interviews and focus group discussions to supplement secondary data that will be collected from Finscope. He is part of a collaborative doctoral training programme between Bath, Fort Hare and Stellenbosch Universities, funded by the British Council.

**Project title** UK science network dynamics and epistemic alignment around COVID-19 evidence paradigms

**Student** James Georgalakis, DPRP DSPS/IPR

**Funding amount** £135

James used BRID funds to attend SUNBELT 2022, organised by the International Network of Social Network Analysis (INSNA).

**Other research activities**

**Applicant** Michael Drinkwater

**Project** Evaluation of CDS/BRID post doctoral scheme

**Amount** £5000

Dr Drinkwater was commissioned to produce an evaluation of ten years of CDS funding of five two-year post-doctoral research associates. His report is expected early in 2023.

**Applicant** Arielle Salvary

**Project** Funds to host the One Young World seminar at Bath

**Amount** £1000

Arielle convened a student seminar to explore debates over the politics and ethics of payment of reparations for slavery, with particular reference to the Caribbean.

**Applicant** Roy Maconachie

**Project** Film production

**Amount** £2300

Funds were allocated to meet local costs of hiring vehicle and translators for in situ filming of three participants in artisanal cobalt mining in Congo. The film is due for release in 2023.

**Applicant** Neil Howard

**Project** Universal Basic Income event

**Amount** £2000

Neil convened a sandpit at BRSLI to bring together staff of DSPS, IPR and others across the University, as well as from Bristol University and the NGO ‘Cool Earth’ based in Falmouth.