

Research funding across the north-south divide: towards equity in knowledge production

29 April 2024 | 10:00 - 17:00

Hilary Cremin, Cathrine Brun, Maha Shuayb, James Milner, Nadyia Ismaeva, Cyrine Saab, Samuel Asare, Yusuf Sayed, Francine Menashy, Rabie Nasser, Sahla Aroussi, Ricardo Sabates, Saleem Badat, Roula Al Rifai, Stephanie Apple, Daniel Wunderlich, and Mezna Qato

10.00 Welcome

Hilary Cremin, *Faculty of Education University of Cambridge*
Cathrine Brun and Maha Shuayb,
Centre for Lebanese Studies and University of Cambridge

10.15 - 11.45 Panel 1: How research funding reproduces inequalities
in knowledge production

In the first panel, we will present findings from our ongoing research on funding of forced migration research in the SWANA region and invite two other researchers – or research groups – who work on similar issues in other regions of the Global South to join (online) to present findings regarding research funding. The panel will take the form of a short presentation of the research conducted on funding of research, followed by an open discussion with all participants.

Speakers

James Milner and Nadyia Ismaeva, *LERRN University of Carlton*
"Understanding the political economy of refugee research"

Maha Shuayb, Cyrine Saab and Cathrine Brun,
Centre for Lebanese Studies and University of Cambridge
Decolonising knowledge production and research funding
in refugee education

Samuel Asare, *Research Manager, Education Sub-Saharan Africa*
Funding and inequitable education research productivity:
Insights from sub-Saharan Africa

Chair and moderator

Yusuf Sayed, *Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge*

11.45 - 12.00 Coffee break

12 – 13.30 Panel 2: Partnerships across the Global North and South divide

In the second panel, researchers who have worked as partners across the so-called Global North-South divide to introduce their experiences of collaborations and partnerships and discuss how funding helped or impeded equal collaborations.

Speakers

Francine Menashy, *University of Toronto*
TBD

Rabie Nasser, *Syrian Centre for Policy Research*
TBD



Sahla Aroussi, *University of Leeds*
Reflections on Researching Gender and Security
in the Global South, University of Leeds

Chair and moderator
Ricardo Sabates, *Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge*

13.30 - 14.15 Lunch

14.15 - 15.45 Panel 3: Equitable knowledge production: between funders' agendas and institutional bureaucracy

The third panel includes funding agencies and research administrators (from universities and research institutions) who will present the work they currently do on changing the structures of funding, what they see as the main challenges in universities and research institutions in terms of creating equity in research collaboration and what changes they think are needed to change current funding structures. We are inviting research administrators into this conversation as they often see the contractual conditions under which partnerships are negotiated and often sit in the middle between researchers' interests, the institutions they represent and the funders.

Speakers
Saleem Badat, *University of the Free State*
TBD

Roula Al Rifai, *Senior Program Specialist in the Democratic Inclusive Governance program at Canada's International Development Research Center (IDRC)*

Donors and decolonization: Back to the future?

Stephanie Apple, *British Academy,*
Deputy Head of International Programmes
'Supporting equitable knowledge production through international research funding'

Daniel Wunderlich, *Assistant Director for Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Non-Schools, and for EU and International Funding Research Office, University of Cambridge*

Chair and moderator
James Milner, *University of Carlton*

15.45 - 16.00 Coffee break



16.00 - 17.00 Panel 4: What have we learnt so far and what are our recommendations for change?

The fourth and final panel will start with some short reflections and a summary of the day by Mezna Qato. We will then organise the participants in groups to discuss the way forward in terms of changing current funding structures to create more equity in knowledge production across the North-South divide. There will be groups in break out rooms on zoom and face-to-face groups in the seminar room. The results of the smaller discussions will be presented to the general group, followed by a general discussion and reflection.

The outcome of the discussions in the groups will be presented in a short brief that will be published by the Centre for Lebanese Studies and the Faculty of Education at Cambridge in collaboration.

Chair and moderator
Mezna Qato, University of Cambridge