

LIDC NEWS AND VIEWS

October 2011



LIDC tackles international development challenges in pioneering ways by bringing together more than 2,000 social and natural scientists, postgraduate students and alumni from the University of London's six Bloomsbury Colleges. The Colleges involved in the interdisciplinary initiative are Birkbeck College, Institute of Education (IoE), London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), Royal Veterinary College (RVC), School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), and The School of Pharmacy.

We wish all our staff, student and alumni members a happy, productive and rewarding academic year 2011-2012!

CONTENTS

LIDC News

Development news from Bloomsbury Colleges

Upcoming development events at Bloomsbury Colleges

Courses, grants and vacancies at Bloomsbury Colleges

This month in development news headlines

More information

LIDC NEWS



Bridging development research and development practice: LIDC hosts debate with Bloomsbury academics and UN Alliance of Civilisations fellows from the Middle East

Twelve young professionals from the Middle East and North Africa met with LIDC and Bloomsbury academics as part of the UN Alliance of Civilisations Fellowship programme for emerging leaders.

[Read more](#)

'Social media - a double-edged sword': LIDC publishes an article in the 'Public Service Review - International Development'

In an article published by the 'Public Service Review - International Development', Anna Marry, LIDC's Communications Manager, shares her views on the role of social media in developing countries.

[Read more \(p. 7\)](#)



Does milk consumption promote growth in children? Agriculture and Health Research in Action Seminar hosted by LIDC

At the latest event in the Agriculture and Health Research in Action Seminar Series, Andrea Wiley, Director of the Human Biology program and Professor of Anthropology from Indiana University, Bloomington, talked about milk and child growth

research in India and US.

[Read more](#)



New post on the LIDC blog: 'Pastoral Famines: Potentially the Most Deadly Kind'

In the new post on the LIDC blog, Dr. Laura Hammond from the Department of Development Studies at SOAS argues that the 2011-12 famine in the Horn of Africa could be even worse than the one in the mid 80s, as it is a pastoral famine - potentially more deadly than an agricultural one. The blog post has been

reproduced by a Canadian news outlet [The Mark News](#).

[Read more: www.lidcblog.wordpress.com](http://www.lidcblog.wordpress.com)

The LIDC blog now has more than 800 readers!

LIDC welcomes new and returning students of Bloomsbury Colleges

This month the six Bloomsbury Colleges will be welcoming their new and returning students on campus. LIDC will be there to encourage new students to join: look for our stand and leaflets.

Are you a lecturer in development studies? Tell your students about LIDC!

(below is a short paragraph you may consider using):

The London International Development Centre (LIDC) facilitates interdisciplinary research and training to tackle complex problems in international development by bringing together social and natural scientists from across the University of London's six Bloomsbury Colleges: Birkbeck, Institute of Education, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Royal Veterinary College, School of Oriental and African Studies, and The School of Pharmacy.

LIDC membership is free and open to all staff, postgraduate students and alumni from the six Bloomsbury Colleges who are interested in international development.

Members get access to the wealth of knowledge and expertise of Bloomsbury Colleges, together with opportunities to work on interdisciplinary research projects and to gain new perspectives on development through LIDC resources and events. LIDC also offers networking opportunities for students, academics and development practitioners, and an

internship programme for student and alumni members.
[Join now](#)

Don't miss our October events!

LIDC's members networking event

Thursday 13 October 2011, 5 pm, Institute of Education

What is Advocacy and what role does it play in International Development?

Thursday, 27 October 2011, 5.30 pm, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
[RSVP: admin@lidc.bloomsbury.ac.uk](mailto:admin@lidc.bloomsbury.ac.uk)



LIDC offers meeting rooms in the heart of London

Did you know you could use LIDC rooms for meetings? They are offered for free to LIDC members from Bloomsbury Colleges and for a competitive fee for external visitors.

For more information please contact

Samantha.blackburn@lidc.bloomsbury.ac.uk or [visit our website](#).

DEVELOPMENT NEWS FROM BLOOMSBURY COLLEGES

New LSHTM Audio Podcasts: malaria and non communicable diseases

In a recent LSHTM podcast Professor David Schellenberg highlights the continued importance of using insecticide treated bed nets in areas affected by malaria. Professor Martin McKee focuses on issues being discussed at the current UN summit on non communicable diseases including the challenges of taking on the alcohol, food and tobacco industries.

[Listen to the podcasts](#)

LSHTM: Major grant awarded for HIV prevention study in Africa

A team of researchers led by Professor Richard Hayes at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine has been awarded \$37 million to test an innovative combination of strategies to prevent HIV in African countries.

[Read more](#)

Royal Veterinary College Launches VetAid Appeal

The Royal Veterinary College has launched an appeal to raise a target of £10,000 to help drought-ravaged Kenya. The worst drought in living memory in the Horn of Africa has forced over one million cattle and small stock south into the Tana Delta district of Kenya in search of grazing. Without veterinary intervention, breeding livestock for communities in the Horn of Africa will be devastated. Working with VetAid Kenya £10,000 would cover the cost of three veterinary teams, transport and vaccinations to treat 20,000 animals per week.

[Donate now](#)

UPCOMING DEVELOPMENT EVENTS AT BLOOMSBURY COLLEGES

So why not make 'going to more events' your new academic year resolution? The October schedule has it all: seminars, conferences, workshops on a variety of development topics: health, education, economics and more.

3-7 OCTOBER:

'Achieving an AIDS Transition: Preventing Infections to Sustain Treatment' (forthcoming book)

Wednesday, 5 October 2011, 12:45 – 2 pm, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 15-17 Tavistock Place, Jerry Morris Room B

Speaker: Mead Over, Centre for Global Development.

SOAS School of Law Annual Inception Lecture 2011: 'Direct Action: A Necessary Prescription for Democracy?'

Wednesday, 5 October 2011, 6 pm, SOAS, Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre

Speaker: Rt Hon. David Lammy, MP

Chair: Professor Graham Furniss, SOAS Pro-Director (Research & Enterprise)

David Lammy will draw on the history of direct action and civil disobedience, from Gandhi's non-violent resistance to British rule in India to the campaign against South African apartheid. He will compare the student protests of 1968 and the Arab Spring with the protest movement currently taking root in university campuses and community groups across the country. David will seek to answer the fundamental question of whether direct action is necessary for democracy to be born and renewed.

[Read more](#)

Book launch - 'Lifeblood: How to Change the World, One Dead Mosquito at a Time'

Thursday, 6 October 2011, 5.30 - 7 pm, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, John Snow Lecture Theatre

Alex Perry is the Africa Bureau Chief for Time magazine. He has worked as a correspondent for Time since 2001, covering Africa, the Middle East and Asia from postings in Hong Kong, New Delhi and Cape Town. His first book, 'Falling Off The Edge: Globalization, World Peace and Other Lies', was published in 2009 by Bloomsbury.

[RSVP: rob@hurstpub.co.uk](mailto:rob@hurstpub.co.uk)

10 - 14 OCTOBER:

Tax havens and financial sinkholes: 'Africa's Odious Debt'

Monday, 10 October 2011, 7 - 9 pm, SOAS, Khalili Lecture Theatre

Book launch with authors James Boyce and Leonce Ndikumana, with John Christenson responding and John Weeks chairing.

In 'Africa's Odious Debts', Boyce and Ndikumana reveal the shocking fact that, contrary to the popular perception of Africa being a drain on the financial resources of the West, the continent is actually a net creditor to the rest of the world.

[RSVP](#)

HIV prevention for women - New Science New Hope Seminar

Tuesday, 11 October 2011, 5.45 pm, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Manson Lecture Theatre

Speakers:

Professor Peter Piot, Director, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Dr Zeda F. Rosenberg, Chief Executive Officer, International Partnership for Microbicides: 'Giving women power over AIDS: Advancing HIV Prevention options for women'

Dr Sue Kinn, Team leader & Research Manager, Department for International Development:

'Implications of the ARV related prevention developments for policy makers and development agencies.'

Multidimensional Poverty Index 2011: New Country Results, Changes Over Time and Sub-national Decompositions

Tuesday, 11 October 2011, 5 pm, SOAS, room G50

Speaker: Sabina Alkire, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, Director

[Read more](#)

Egypt: how far is it a revolution?

Tuesday, 11 October 2011, 5:45 pm, SOAS, Khalili Lecture Theatre

Speaker: Maha Azzam, Chatham House

[Read more](#)

Malaria Centre Seminar 'From Ross to Rand: Shaping Markets to Roll Back Malaria in a Time of Global Austerity'

Wednesday, 12 October 2011, 4 - 5 pm, Common Room, Senate House

Speaker: Oliver Sabot from the Clinton Health Access Initiative.

LIDC Members Autumn Networking Event

Thursday, 13 October 2011, 5 - 7 pm, Institute of Education

Come to the bi-annual LIDC members' networking event, where you will find out more about LIDC's cross-College projects and achievements this year and plans for the new academic year. Meet fellow LIDC members, make useful contacts and relax over a drink and canapés. The event is open to all LIDC members, but prior registration is necessary (first come first served).

[RSVP](#)

Volunteers, the voluntary sector and voluntarism in Britain and in Africa: perspectives from history and anthropology

Friday, 14 October 2011, 9:30 am - 6:30 pm, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, PHP Faculty Meeting Room, 15-17 Tavistock Place

The closing date for registration is Friday 7 October 2011.

[More information and registration](#)

17 - 21 OCTOBER:

Congo Masquerade: the political Culture of Aid Inefficiency

Monday, 17 October 2011, 7 - 9 pm, SOAS, Khalili Lecture Theatre

Join us for this book launch with author Theodore Trefon, and Ben Shepherd (Chatham House) responding.

'Congo Masquerade' is about the mismanagement, hypocrisy and powerlessness in what has proved to be one of Africa's most troublesome and volatile states. Trefon argues that whilst others have examined war and plunder in the Great Lakes region, none have yet evaluated the imported 'template format' reform package pieced together to introduce democracy and improve the well-being of ordinary Congolese.

[RSVP](#)

IoE Development Education Research Centre (DERC) Seminar: 'Geography and Development Education'

Monday, 17 October 2011, 5 pm, Institute of Education, Room 675

The seminar will include the launch of the new DERC - Geographical Association research report on Geography and Development Education which outlines the contribution of school geography to teaching development issues.

Speakers:

David Lambert, Professor of Geography, IoE and Chief Executive of Geographical Association

John Morgan, Reader in Geography Education, IoE.

Seminar: The Philosophy of Humanitarian Intervention

Monday, 17 October 2011, 3 - 5 pm, 43 Gordon Square

There now is a broad consensus, amongst war ethicists, that military intervention into

the internal affairs of a sovereign state is sometimes morally permissible, in particular as a means to stop and prevent crimes which, in the now standard phrase, shock 'the conscience of mankind'. The issue is particularly salient at the moment, in the light of the intervention in Libya. Yet, defending the right to intervene from an ethical point of view is surprisingly difficult if one bears in mind that an intervention consists in killing some (many?) individuals, not all of whom are in fact responsible for the egregious wrongdoings which trigger the war.

Speaker: Professor Cécile Fabre, Lincoln College, Oxford

[Read more](#)

When Climates Change: Famines, Fevers, and Fates of Past Populations

Tuesday, 18 October 2011, 12.45 pm – 2 pm, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, John Snow Lecture Theatre

Speaker: Professor Tony McMichael, National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, The Australian National University

In this lecture, Professor McMichael, a leading figure in climate change and health research, and former professor of epidemiology at LSHTM, will consider the long historical experience of diverse societies faced with climatic changes, ranging from multi-century to single-year duration. He will discuss the insights it provides into population health vulnerability to climate change in the past and future.

Book launch: 'Good health at low cost 25 years on. What makes a successful health system?'

Tuesday, 18 October 2011, 2 – 4 pm, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Jerry Morris Room, 15-17 Tavistock Place

In 1985 the Rockefeller Foundation published an influential report entitled 'Good health at low cost' which sought to answer a fundamental issue: why are some low- and middle-income countries able to achieve better health outcomes than others at similar levels of income? To mark the 25th anniversary of the original publication, and with support by the Rockefeller Foundation, a team of researchers at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine along with partner institutions from Bangladesh, Tamil Nadu, Ethiopia, Kyrgyzstan and Thailand have revisited the original messages.

Speakers:

Professor Anne Mills & Professor Martin McKee, LSHTM

Professor Hailom Banteyerga, Miz Hazab Research Centre, Ethiopia

Chaired by Dr Richard Horton, Editor-in-Chief, The Lancet

[Register](#)

IoE Development Education Research Centre (DERC) Seminar: 'Development and Development Education'

Tuesday, 18 October 2011, 5 pm, LIDC

With learning about development issues being increasingly seen as the focus for development education by UK government, what does this mean for teachers, educators and NGOs and what should it look like? Dr. Douglas Bourn will outline different perspectives and approaches as to how learning about development could be interpreted.

Speaker: Doug Bourne, Director, DERC, IoE.

'Fool me once, shame on you: fool me twice, shame on me' - From Microfinance to Social Business: Exploring the Fantasy Worlds of Muhammad Yunus

Tuesday, 18 October 2011, 5 – 7 pm, SOAS, room G50

Speaker: Milford Bateman, Independent Consultant

[Read more](#)

24 - 28 OCTOBER:

SOAS conference on Middle East Weapons of Mass Destruction

Monday, 24 October 2011, 9 am - all day, SOAS, Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre
The 6th annual conference on a Middle East Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone will be held at SOAS by the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy (CISD) and the British Pugwash Group on United Nations Day, 24 October 2011.
British Foreign Office Minister Alistair Burt will give the keynote address at the event.
[Read more](#)

Comparative Water Studies Workshop

24-25 October 2011, all day, SOAS (room TBC)
[Read more](#)

Impact of Global Instability on sub-Saharan Countries: National Policy Responses

Tuesday, 25 October 2011, 5 – 7 pm, SOAS, room G50
Speaker: John Weeks, Professor Emeritus, SOAS
[Read more](#)

China's evolving economic ties with South East Asia workshop

Wednesday, 26 October 2011, 1-5 pm, SOAS (room TBC)
[Read more](#)

3ie-LIDC seminar series 'What works in international development? Perspectives on health insurance.

Wednesday, 26 October 2011, 5 pm, LIDC
Dr. Arnab Acharya from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine will present the results of his systematic review on health insurance and lessons learned for policy.
[RSVP: admin@lidc.bloomsbury.ac.uk](mailto:admin@lidc.bloomsbury.ac.uk)

LIDC-ONE roundtable: What is Advocacy and what role does it play in International Development?

Thursday, 27 October 2011, 5.30 pm, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Manson Lecture Theatre
This event, jointly organised by LIDC and the advocacy organisation ONE, will provide an introduction to advocacy: what it is, what it means for international development, and how to get involved.
[RSVP: admin@lidc.bloomsbury.ac.uk](mailto:admin@lidc.bloomsbury.ac.uk)

Immigrants and Nostalgic Products – Are We Using this Information in Disease Risk Assessments?

Friday, 28 October 2011, 1.15 – 2.45 pm, SOAS, room 4418
Speaker: Jonathan Rushton, Senior Lecturer in Animal Health Economics, Royal Veterinary College
[Read more](#)

COURSES, GRANTS AND VACANCIES AT BLOOMSBURY COLLEGES

Birkbeck vacancies

Lecturer in Environmental Geography

Department of Geography, Environment and Development Studies
Closing date: 24 October 2011
[More](#)

LSHTM vacancies

Senior Lecturer in Epidemiology/ IDEAS Project Scientific Co-ordinator

Faculty of Infectious & Tropical Diseases

Closing date: 7 October 2011

[More](#)

IDEAS Lecturer in Maternal & Newborn Health (0.5FTE)

Faculty of Infectious & Tropical Diseases

Closing date: 11 October 2011

[More](#)

IDEAS Assistant Project Manager

Faculty of Infectious & Tropical Diseases

Closing date: 13 October 2011

[More](#)

IDEAS Communications Officer

Faculty of Infectious & Tropical Diseases

Closing date: 13 October 2011

[More](#)

Deputy Course Director (0.4FTE)

Faculty of Epidemiology & Population Health

Closing date: 24 October 2011

[More](#)

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow

Faculty of Infectious & Tropical Diseases

Closing date: 24 October 2011

[More](#)

Research Fellow

Faculty of Infectious & Tropical Diseases

Closing date: 24 October 2011

[More](#)

Research Fellow in Systematic Reviews (p/t)

Faculty of Epidemiology & Population Health

Closing date: 1 November 2011

[More](#)

Senior Lecturer in South Asian Health

Faculty of Epidemiology & Population Health

Closing date: 6 December 2011

[More](#)

RVC vacancies

Research Assistant - Economics of Livestock Systems

Closing date: 12 October 2011

[More](#)

External opportunities

Policy Cures: International Health Policy Analyst (based at LIDC offices)
[More](#)

THIS MONTH IN DEVELOPMENT NEWS HEADLINES

Conflict in the Middle East and North Africa is showing no signs of subsiding, with more deaths recorded in other regions as well.

[Afghan conflict: UN says 39% jump in violence in 2011](#)

BBC News

[SYRIA: New report indicates over 5,000 deaths since March](#)

IRIN News

[Security Council Pledges Strengthened UN Effectiveness in Preventing Conflict, Including Through Use of Early Warning, Preventive Deployment, Mediation](#)

ReliefWeb

Aid money is being pumped into the famine-stricken Horn of Africa, but the majority of British citizens have no idea how much of their tax money is allocated to overseas aid.

[World Bank increases drought aid to Horn of Africa](#)

BBC News

[Aid spending a mystery to most Brits – Red Cross](#)

AlertNet

Natural disasters have been ravaging Asia, bringing death, chaos and forcing populations to leave their homes.

[Scores die in worst Mekong flooding since 2000](#)

AlertNet

[More than 30 million climate migrants in Asia in 2010, report finds](#)

The Guardian

[Floods bring chaos to India and Pakistan](#)

BBC News

Despite increased aid inflows, famine and food insecurity persists, not only in the Horn of Africa. Speculators are blamed for aggravating the situation. As part of the response, G20 nations are putting international agricultural research on the agenda.

[Three million face hunger as drought grips northern Afghanistan – Oxfam](#)

AlertNet

[UN declares sixth famine zone in Somalia](#)

The Guardian

[Food shortages have stunted 178m children under-five, report says](#)

The Guardian

[G20 nations turn to agricultural research for food security](#)

SciDev

[Financial speculators responsible for rising global food prices, claims report](#)

The Guardian

Some good news on the environment front: Several globally renowned research programmes are to be brought together under an overarching strategy to help cope with rapid global change.

[Major global change research initiatives to join forces](#)

SciDev

World Bank's World Development Report on gender argues that creating better opportunities for women and girls makes good economic sense and increases development prospects.

[World Bank's flagship report makes case for investment in women](#)

The Guardian

Mixed news is coming in on health: on the one hand, developing countries have improved maternal and newborn health, but health-related MDGs are unlikely to be met.

[WHO report hails efforts to curb maternal deaths](#)

The Guardian

[Millennium Development Goals on health 'will not be met'](#)

BBC News

Have you recently published new research on development? Are you organising a development-related event? Did you know you could promote your work to LIDC members at Bloomsbury Colleges and external newsletter subscribers? Send your content to admin@lidc.bloomsbury.ac.uk before the end of each calendar month and we will include it (if it meets our editorial standards).

Disclaimer: LIDC does not take responsibility for the accuracy of information provided by third parties.

MORE INFORMATION

London International Development Centre
36 Gordon Square, London, WC1H 0PD, UK
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7958 8251
Fax: +44 (0) 20 3073 8303
Email: admin@lidc.bloomsbury.ac.uk
<http://www.lidc.org.uk/>
LIDC blog: <http://www.lidcblog.wordpress.com/>

Follow us on:

