

### **Why should I apply?**

Undertaking a LERRN research placement is an opportunity for students to gain collaborative fieldwork experience, network, and build connections while completing your degree. The research collected during these placements can also be used to enhance your own graduate research project.

### **Where are the research placements?**

Research placements will take place in Jordan, Lebanon, Kenya and Tanzania, and specific locations within each of these countries will depend on the research needs identified by the GWGs.

The location and number of research placements may change year to year. For specific details on placements please see the posted RPPs.

### **What are the Geographic Working Groups?**

The Geographic Working Groups (GWG) are led by national academic partners with the active involvement of CARE and Oxfam country offices, national NGOs, refugee-led initiatives and other academic partners. LERRN has GWGs operating in Kenya, Tanzania, Lebanon and Jordan.

The GWGs prepare Research Placement Profiles (RPPs) every year. RPPs detail specific research sub-projects in each country for the following 12 months, in response to local needs and capacities. Once the RPPs are advertised, eligible students are invited to apply to relevant placements based on their research interests and experience

GWGs are comprised of local actors with whom you will collaborate during your fieldwork placement. The GWG lead is named on each RPP, and will be your primary point of contact during the placement.

### **What is GWGs' role?**

The Geographic Working Groups (GWG) will serve as the primary point of contact for the project within their country; provide direction and informal supervision for students engaged in work relating to the RPPs, in cooperation with the LERRN Secretariat and the students' home institution. They will also provide in-country research support to students while conducting their placement.

### **When do the student research placements occur?**

Research placements are typically for a 4-6 week period between June and August. The precise timing of the placement is determined by the GWG.

### **What is my role?**

In partnership with a national research counterpart, selected by the GWG, you will prepare for, conduct the fieldwork, analyse and summarize its results, write a blog, and co-author a working paper. You may also be asked to share your findings at academic conferences and other platforms. Each research placement will have specific requirements. These will be outlined in the Research Placement Profile.

### **How is the Research Placement Funded?**

LERRN will provide an economy round-trip airfare AND will issue a travel award to pay for the expenses necessary to carry out a research project. This will include modest accommodation and a modest stipend for meals for a maximum of four weeks, as well as the cost of obtaining your visa, research permit and vaccinations.

Participants are responsible for payment of all other expenses and debts incurred during the duration of the placement.

### **How long is the commitment for student researchers?**

Students who participate in research placements with LERRN can be expected to commit a year to various aspects of the project. This includes all required pre-departure necessities such as mandatory fieldwork and safety training, obtaining travel documents, including visas and ethics approval; preparing for and conducting fieldwork; and post-departure requirements such as placement debriefing, writing working papers and giving presentations on your research findings.

### **What kind of fieldwork and safety training is provided?**

Students undertaking a research placement will be provided with fieldwork training which includes instruction on the various methods that may be used during your placement such as interviews or focus groups.

In addition, students will receive multi-day safety training that will cover different aspects of physical safety, cultural sensitivity and emotional and mental well-being.