The Local Engagement Refugee Research Network Newsletter

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Building Back Better

Welcome to LERRN's fifth newsletter!



Screenshot from "Changing the Structures of Forced Migration Research," one of LERRN's recent webinars.

Here we are, already well into the second half of LERRN. Where has the time gone!? We were delighted to receive a very supportive and enthusiastic reply from the <u>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)</u> to the Midterm report we submitted in October 2021. We were especially heartened to read the many positive comments on how our response to the COVID-19 pandemic and shift to on-line activities created new spaces for engagement and dialogue. As many regions and institutions begin to ease restrictions on travel and in-person activities, we now face the imperative to not revert to the status quo ante and default exclusively to old ways of working and collaborating. How do we sustain the inclusivity of virtual collaborations while rediscovering the benefits of our tentative return to in-person activities?

As evidenced by the rich range of activities detailed in this newsletter, LERRN's partners have demonstrated what it means to build back better. New connections developed through our virtual activities laid the foundation for exciting in-person activities, such as a conference in Nairobi on the localization of knowledge production, an event in Geneva that asked the question "the first High Commissioner was a refugee; why not the next?", and the in-person participation in several other events by LERRN partners. At the same time, the value of on-line meetings and webinars continued to be illustrated by the vibrant discussions prompted by the LERRN-RRN webinar series on Ethics in Forced Migration Research, the critical contributions of LERRN partners in the GAIN/UNHCR webinar "Translating Academic Research into Effective Responses to Forced Migration", and the experience of the LERRN on-line training program.

As we benefit from new and old tools for research, training and knowledge mobilization, the scope and importance of our work – and the need to develop this work in partnership with many others – becomes increasingly apparent. Opportunities to sustain this work and expand the scale of its reach continue to emerge, including through the development of a network to connect the new IDRC Research Chairs.

From everyone at the LERRN Secretariat, stay safe, and stay well.

James Milner Project Director, LERRN

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NEW

PUBLICATIONS

- LERRN partner <u>Muzna Dureid</u> published an op-ed "<u>Here's why Canada should</u> modernize its immigration policy to respond to people displaced by climate <u>change</u>" in response to the COP26 Climate Change Conference.
- Megan Bradley, Lead of LERRN's Solutions Working Group published "Realising the Right of Return: Refugees' Roles in Localising Norms and Socialising UNHCR" in Geopolitics.
- Abulogn Okello, Executive Director, As We Progress - Youth, published his research "Repatriation as a Durable Solution: Refugee Perspectives on Repatriation Policies and Education in Dadaab Refugee Camp" in the LERRN Working Papers Series. This research was also featured in a new video.

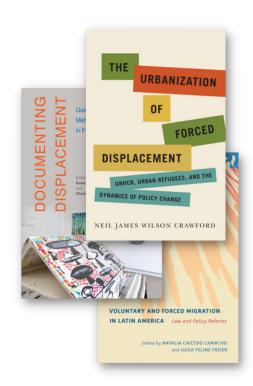


- The Canadian team of the VULNER Project (co-led by LERRN partners <u>Delphine</u>
 <u>Nakache</u> and <u>Dagmar Soennecken</u>) published a <u>Policy Brief</u> on vulnerability of asylum seekers and other migrants in the Canadian context.
- LERRN Partners <u>Pascal Zigashane</u>, <u>Amanda Klassen</u>, <u>James Milner</u>, and <u>Philip</u>
 <u>Orchard</u> contributed to UNHCR's book <u>People Forced to Flee</u>: <u>History, Change and Challenge</u>, published by Oxford University Press and available online.
- LERRN Partners <u>Megan Bradley</u> and <u>Laura Madokoro</u> along with PhD candidates
 <u>Merve Erdilmen</u> and <u>Christopher Chanco</u> published "<u>Whither the Refugees?</u>
 <u>International Organizations and 'Solutions' to Displacement, 1921–1960</u>" in Refugee Survey Quarterly.

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PUBLICATIONS

- Amanda Klassen, LERRN Project Officer and PhD Candidate in Political Science at Carleton University, has published "From Vulnerability to Empowerment: Critical Reflections on Canada's Engagement with Refugee Policy" in Laws, the open-access, peer-reviewed journal published by MDPI.
- James Milner, LERRN Project Director, Mustafa Alio, R-SEAT Managing Director, and Rez Gardi, R-SEAT Co-managing Director, published "Meaningful Refugee Participation: An Emerging Norm in the Global Refugee Regime" in Refugee Survey Quarterly.
- Also new in the McGill-Queen's University Press Refugee and Forced Migration Series (series coedited by **Megan Bradley** and **James Milner**) are by LERRN: books supported three new <u>Urbanization of Forced Displacement: UNHCR, Urban</u> Refugees, and the Dynamics of Policy Change (by Neil James Wilson Crawford), <u>Documenting Displacement:</u> <u>Questioning Methodological Boundaries in Forced</u> Migration Research (edited by Katarzyna Grabska and Christina Clark-Kazak) and Voluntary and Forced Migration in Latin America: Law and Policy Reforms (edited by Natalia Caicedo Camacho and Feline Freier).





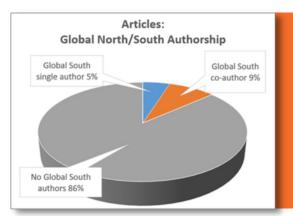
As part of the LERRN-RRN Webinar Series, LERRN hosted a book launch workshop for Documenting Displacement called "Creative Methods in Challenging Times."

NEW

PUBLICATIONS

WHO HAS PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL OF REFUGEE STUDIES?

Following LERRN's <u>analysis of Refugee Survey</u> <u>Quarterly</u> (published in November 2020), LERRN's <u>analysis of Refuge: Canada's Journal on Refugees</u> (published in March 2021), and a <u>webinar with LERRN partners in discussion with the editors of RSQ and Refuge</u> (in February 2021), LERRN published a revised and expanded version of its <u>analysis of the Journal of Refugee Studies</u> in May



Global North/South Authorship of Articles

[Click to Enlarge]

2022. The analysis looks at author affiliation and geographic representation in the 305 articles and 141 book reviews published between 2010 and 2019. Like LERRN's previous analyses of other journals in the field, the results show a significant imbalance between where refugees and other displaced persons are located (majority in the global South) versus where journal authors are located (majority in the global North). There is a similar imbalance in the geographic focus of the articles and book reviews, which more often discuss the much smaller number of refugees and asylum seekers who have reached the global North. This analysis lends further support to ongoing conversations at forced migration journals about ways to reduce barriers for potential authors based in the global South and authors with lived experience of displacement. We are excited to see what happens in the next few years as JRS pursues the goal the new editors stated in March 2021: "to work towards further diversifying the journal in terms of themes and approaches, as well as in terms of attracting more publications by emerging researchers and scholars from the Global South."

UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS

PROTECTION WORKING GROUP

In 2021, LERRN partners <u>Delphine Nakache</u>, <u>Nathan Benson</u> and <u>James Milner</u> led a team that received funding from SSHRC (Connection Grant) for a project investigating Canada's global engagement on refugee matters. A series of five online contributors workshops in 2021-2022 brough together authors from Canada and around the world to discuss a series of chapters that examine dimensions of Canada's global refugee policy and practices. These papers will form the basis of an edited collection that will be submitted to McGill-Queen's University Press for review in 2023.

LERRN COLLABORATES WITH FORCED MIGRATION REVIEW ON SPECIAL ISSUE

The LERRN team were pleased to collaborate in spring 2022 with *Forced Migration Review (FMR)*, one of the top publications on forced migration, on a special issue entitled "Knowledge, Voice, and Power." This special issue, available in July in French, Arabic, Spanish, and English, delves into the complexities of representation and voice in forced migration research and practice, intersecting with LERRN's groundbreaking work on localization in forced migration research and on the importance of centering the experiences of persons affected by displacement. The special issue includes submissions from a new FMR-LERRN mentorship program, which matched senior academics with emerging scholars from around the world to develop articles for the special issue. This groundbreaking collaboration between LERRN and FMR will continue into the fall of 2022, with the development of a blog series and other activities.

REFUGEE

PARTICIPATION

RAN CANADA

The past 18 months has witnessed a remarkable journey for the Refugee Advisory Network of Canada (RAN Canada). From its first virtual meeting in January 2021 to the in-person participation of eight Advisors at the Tripartite Consultations Annual Resettlement (ATCR) in Geneva in June 2022, it has been a period of growth and excitement. RAN Canada was established with LERRN's support to help realize the commitment of the Government of Canada to ensure meaningful refugee participation in Canada's engagement with the international refugee system. To this end, RAN Canada worked through 2021 to develop its mandate and governance identify its thematic structures, to priorities, and to support Refugee Advisors to Canadian delegations to UNHCR's Executive Committee October 2021 (Maysoun Darweesh) and High-Level Officials Meeting December 2021 (Dawit Demoz).



Advisors from RAN Canada attend the Annual Tripartite Consultations for Resettlement in Geneva (June 2022)

Left to right: Pierre Dushime, Muzna Dureid, Jaivet Ealom, Maysoun Darweesh, Dawit Demoz, Tsering Thonsur, Mustafa Alio, Masa Kateb

In the coming months, RAN Canada will be involved in strategic planning and also activities. will training lt be developing its position on four priority themes for Canada's engagement with global policy processes: reducing statelessness; addressing the root causes of displacement; enhancing the role of refugee-led organizations (RLOs) in global and local refugee responses, including through increased funding to RLOs; and understanding and addressing forms of resettlement bias in the process, including in response to the 6 April 2022 statement from Canada's Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration.

REFUGEE

PARTICIPATION

ABOUT RAN CANADA

REFUGEE ADVISORY NETWORK OF CANADA



RAN Canada logo Credit: RAN Canada

The Refugee Advisory Network Canada (RAN Canada) works to promote meaningful participation refugees in Canada's engagement with the international refugee system. RAN Canada advocates for, and strives to achieve, the meaningful inclusion of the perspectives, skills and knowledge of refugees in global policy and decisionmaking processes that affect the lives of refugees. RAN Canada works to bring the perspectives, skills and knowledge of refugees into public discourse, policy discussions, and wider discussions on Canada refugees. RAN actively advocates for the human rights of refugees, internally-displaced persons, stateless persons and others who have been forcibly displaced.

RAN Canada is an independent and nonpartisan group of refugee advocates with lived experience of displacement selected from across Canada through an open selection process. RAN Canada Advisors contribute diverse leadership experiences and backgrounds, originating from different parts of the world while residing across Canada, and also bringing the diverse perspectives of various communities and networks to the work of RAN Canada. Advisors of RAN Canada live and work on the traditional and/or the unceded territories of Indigenous Nations. recognizing the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and the Inuit of peoples. Advisors RAN volunteer their time while striving to collaborate with local and global refugee-led organizations, government agencies and other stakeholders to fulfill the commitment of the 2018 Global Compact on Refugees "responses are most effective when they actively and meaningfully engage those they are intended to protect and assist."

REFUGEES SEEKING EQUAL ACCESS

AT THE TABLE (R-SEAT)

R-SEAT has completed its first year of operations! By collaborating with partners in Germany, the United States, Colombia, New Zealand, Malaysia,



R-SEAT logo Credit: R-SEAT

Mexico, and Kenya, this international initiative has made remarkable strides in increasing the participation of refugees in a meaningful, sustainable, and transformative way.

Over the last 12 months, members of the R-SEAT team have worked closely with refugee leaders, government officials, and other influential parties to ensure refugees are granted equal access at state levels. Since this engagement, both Germany and the United States have willingly included a refugee participant on their delegations to international refugee-related meetings. In addition to this significant step, New Zealand, Mexico, and Kenya have positively responded to discussions with R-SEAT and expressed interest in supporting its mission.

"The first High Commissioner was a refugee, why not the next?"



As R-SEAT moves into its second year, the team is undertaking new work to develop their international presence and establish partnerships with Portugal, Ireland, Uganda, and Sweden. These efforts to enhance the legitimacy and effectiveness of refugee responses are transforming central decision-making bodies into more equitable spaces for those with lived experiences of displacement. R-SEAT's work steers all actors towards establishing meaningful refugee participation as a norm in the global refugee regime.

TRANSLATING ACADEMIC RESEARCH INTO EFFECTIVE RESPONSES TO FORCED DISPLACEMENT

Over two sessions on **24 and 25 May**, a range of diverse LERRN partners, including Dadaab Response Association Director <u>Mark Okello Oyat</u>, Dignity Kwanza Director <u>Janemary Ruhundwa</u>, and Action Pour le Progrès Director <u>Pascal Zigashane</u> showcased findings and initiatives that can support Global Compact on Refugees stakeholders in making evidence-based decisions and policies based on reliable, independent research conducted by academics and persons with lived experience of forced displacement. Key donors and supporters also discussed the

WATCH THE FULL VIDEO HERE



importance of producing actionable and relevant research that is led, co-designed and co-implemented with refugees and forcibly displaced persons.

"Bringing in local researchers, it's an opportunity for external researchers to come in and also get greater information because we are on ground, we know our people, and we understand the area that they want to research."



—Pascal Zigashane, Action Pour le Progrès

"The Dadaab Response Association is an example that can be usefully replicated elsewhere to ensure that research grounded in the lived reality of refugees can contribute to evidence-based discussions on new policies and programs."



—Mark Okello Oyat, Dadaab Response Association

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MEBINARS

LERRN AND RRN COLLABORATE TO PROMOTE THOUGHTFUL & ETHICAL REFUGEE RESEARCH

This year, LERRN and the <u>Refugee</u> <u>Research Network (RRN)</u> co-hosted a successful webinar series on Ethics in Forced Migration Research. The series brought together presenters from a variety of perspectives, experiences, and geographic locations. You can check out the <u>recordings and summaries</u> from the series on LERRN's website!



Screenshot from the January 2022 LERRN-RRN webinar: "Creative Methods in Challenging Times"
Credit: LERRN

The series included the following webinars:

Types of Knowledge in Forced Migration
Whose Voices and Perspectives Frame Research?

<u>Building Research Relationships and Setting the Agenda</u>

Creative Methods in Challenging Times

<u>A pre-launch of Documenting Displacement: Questioning Methodological Boundaries in Forced Migration Research</u>

Haunted by Violence

2021

<u>Changing the Structures of Forced Migration Research</u>



CROSS-CULTURAL FIELDWORK TRAINING COURSE

In January 2022 the Training Working Group, co-led by Nimo Bokore and James Milner, launched the pilot offering of the Online Fieldwork Training and Cross-Cultural Research course. Nine graduate students from diverse backgrounds were selected to be part of the first cohort. The twelve-unit course engages with the theory and practice of cross-cultural partnered fieldwork and features lectures from over twenty LERRN partners and collaborators! In addition to pre-recorded lectures, students participated in weekly online forums and live discussion sessions with PhD candidate Amanda Klassen, who coordinated and facilitated the course. These sessions provided students the opportunity to discuss ways they could apply the course themes to their own research, and to network with each other. Student engagement throughout the course was high, and their feedback on the lecture material and themes was overwhelmingly positive. LERRN plans to offer a second pilot of the course in Winter 2023, with calls for applications opening in the Fall of 2022.

SHERRY KASHI

"This course was very balanced. Every week we had lecturers located in the global North as well as [...] the global South. [...] This was really amazing, the diversity of perspectives that we were exposed to is something that is not available in all courses."



GODFREY MAKOHA



"Going into the field, I'm going with a different perspective. I am able to bracket for my own weaknesses and my own personal biases while I'm interacting with refugees and other migrant populations."

WATCH THE FULL VIDEO HERE



RESEARCH CHAIRS

In 2021, the <u>International Development Research Centre</u> (IDRC) launched <u>Research Chairs on Forced Displacement</u> in research institutions and universities to localize and institutionalize research on forced displacement in the Middle East, East and West Africa, Southeast Asia, and Central and South America.

The Research Chairs will conduct research on forced migration using an interdisciplinary, multi-sectoral and gender-transformative approach, support localized agenda-setting and amplify refugee voices, and advocate a strong link between research and policy. Key to the success of the Research Chairs will be their long-term sustainability and integration within their institutions.

A crucial component of this initiative is the support for networking, coordination and mutual learning among the research chairs. LERRN will facilitate engagement and collaboration among the chairs, as well as the synthesis of findings and learning from the different regions.

To support this groundbreaking and transformative project, IDRC will partner with LERRN to facilitate Research Chairs global network, to amplify their voices and elevate their research within regional and global policy spaces. The amplification and elevation of the research produced by the Chairs will be critical to their

success, shifting the power in regional and global policy spaces where knowledge production is dominated by Global North institutions. This new and innovative Global Research Chairs Network in collaboration with LERRN's ongoing efforts will aim to support the localization of forced displacement research around the world.



Heather Alexander,

LERRN Research Officer, is a focal point and the coordinator for this initiative.

CELEBRATING

GRADUATIONS

Congratulations to <u>Kail Schlachter</u>, Project Writer, who graduated with their Bachelor's degree in Journalism and Geography.





Congratulations to **Stéphanie Hubert**, Communications Officer and the creator of LERRN's video content, who graduated with her Bachelor's degree in Film and Communication Studies and achieved High Distinction. Stéphanie has just started a new job as Assistant Video Editor at Juste Pour Rire/Just For Laughs.

Congratulations to **Rawan Youssef**, Strategic Communications Project Officer, who graduated with her Bachelor of Journalism Honours and achieved High Distinction. Rawan will be starting a new job as a writer with *Broadview* magazine.





We want to thank our graduating students for their important contributions to LERRN. We will miss them! We wish them all the best in their future adventures. The LERRN Secretariat team will be welcoming some new members in September.



In addition to our graduates, we are celebrating LERRN Knowledge Mobilization and Translation Officer **Rachel McNally** who has received a Canada Graduate Scholarships Doctoral Award from SSHRC for her PhD research on the history of the resettlement of refugees with disabilities in Canada.

UPDATES FROM THE

PROJECTION WORKING GROUP

The Canadian team of the VULNER international Project (an research initiative which has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program) seeks to investigate how the "vulnerabilities" of defined in Canadian migrants are government documents, how they are assessed by Canadian decision-makers, and how the legal frameworks and the implementation practices concretely affect vulnerabilities as experienced by the migrants themselves in Canada.

During the first phase of the project, the Canadian team examined Canadian legislation, case-law, policy documents and administrative guidelines. This culminated in research а report published in July 2021 and a policy brief published in September 2021. The second phase of the project, which is about to be finalized, includes interviews with "on-the-ground" migrants,

practitioners (mainly lawyers and NGO workers), civil servants from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), as well as board members from Immigration and Refugee Board. The team has already contributed to a Special Issue with LAWS summarizing some of its preliminary findings and will produce a second research report analyzing field research data in the fall of 2022.



LERRN partner **Delphine Nakache** is leading the Canadian portion of the VULNER project.

LERRN partner <u>Dagmar Soennecken</u> is an investigator in this project.

UPDATES FROM THE

INTERSECTIONALITY WORKING GROUP



LERRN's <u>Intersectionality and Diversity Working Group</u> hosted the fourth webinar in the LERRN-RRN webinar series. Called "Haunted by Violence," the webinar discussed the concept of "liberal violence" and featured three speakers who reflected on their personal experiences as refugees and international students in the United States. Jennifer Hyndman, co-lead of the Intersectionality Working Group, and professor in the Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change at York, convened the session which featured Saida Hodžić (Associate Professor of Anthropology and Feminist, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Cornell University), Azra Hromadžić (Associate Professor at The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University) and Larisa Kurtović (Associate Professor at the School of Sociological and Anthropological Studies, University of Ottawa). All three are anthropologists who left Bosnia in the 1990s to pursue their studies overseas and ultimately pursued academic careers in the US and Canada. They read excerpts from their work, including personal reflections on being a displaced person, and shared stories during the webinar. It was a personal and intimate discussion on the experience of being a "refugee," which was very timely given the current developments in Ukraine.

UPDATES FROM

EAST AFRICA

KENYA

Currently two Research Projects are ongoing for the Kenya Working Group. These are "Strengthening Refugee Capabilities through Participation" and "The **Impact** of COVID-19 Humanitarian Services in Refugee Camps in Kenya." The Peace and Reconciliation Centre is also supporting four students undertaking their MA degrees in Forced Migration Studies. With receding COVID-19 pandemic threat, the GWU hopes to increase its activities. Other Research Activities carried out bv partner organizations include the Knowledge in Kenya Ecosystems project (AMADPOC) and the GBV Disclosure Project with Washington University. On 6 May, Mr. Nyaoro participated in the Refugee-Led Research Hub weeklong activities in Nairobi organized with the help of Oxford University.



Participants of the localization session listening to Michael Hyden, ICVAs Director of Programs, on ICVA's perception of localization of humanitarian action

Credit: ICVA

UPDATES FROM

EAST AFRICA

PROGRESS IN ADVANCING LOCALIZATION IN TANZANIA

LERRN's <u>Tanzania Working Group</u> has continued to create platforms for discussing how to realize localization in Tanzania. Localization is one of the priorities of the TWG work that started with the research on localization carried out in 2019 and was followed by several sensitization activities for community organizations and other humanitarian actors throughout 2020.

On 18th and 19th November 2021, DIGNITY Kwanza (the Tanzania WG lead), in partnership with the TRAFIG Consortium (of which DIGNITY Kwanza is a member), with the financial support of the EU, organized a workshop on protracted displacement. One of the three workshop objectives was to "discuss the role and importance of local humanitarian actors in finding solutions to the protracted refugee situation, their challenges and opportunities in the light of emphasis of the localization of humanitarian response." LERRN WG members, government officials, CSO members, UNHCR representatives and academics had a full day to discuss localization and how to make it possible in Tanzania. ICVA's Director of Programs, Michael Hyden, joined the discussion virtually from Geneva and shared an overview of ICVA's perspective on localization of humanitarian response and called upon strengthening of national actors.



TANZANIA

CORE HUMANITARIAN STANDARD ON QUALITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CHS) AUDIT CARRIED OUT BY HQAI

spirit of advancing the same localization in Tanzania. **LERRN** Working Group Lead and members, DIGNITY Kwanza and REDESO, through their roles as the members of the Committee of Executive Tanzania Refugee and Migration Network (TAREMINET), secured a subsidy for the members of TAREMINET to undergo a CHS audit carried out by HQAI. The subsidy will enable six Humanitarian CSOs to undergo an independent verification, i.e. an independent and objective assurance that the group is making demonstrated, continuous

and measurable progress applying the Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality Accountability (CHS), good practices or commitments. Where weaknesses are identified in applying the standard, they will develop and implement plans to eliminate them within a four-year cycle, with HQAI auditors monitoring the Independent verification enhances the capacity of organizations to deliver quality services and be more accountable to the people they serve. Many local organizations cannot afford the cost of the verification.

ANNOUNCEMENT

To build upon the well-received High-Level National Consultative Forum (NCF) convened in 2020 to reflect on the 60 years of hosting refugees in Tanzania, DIGNITY Kwanza will pilot a project seeking to familiarize the policymakers with the complexities of forced displacement and make them aware that the current approach conflicts with Tanzania's historical policy on refugees, for which the country was awarded the prestigious Nansen Prize in 1983. The pilot project will increase knowledge about refugee rights among a broad range of officials beyond the Ministry of Home Affairs, bringing a multi-sectoral outlook to sustainable refugee protection. LERRN played an instrumental role in organizing the NCF.

UPDATES FROM THE

ARCHIVES, LIVING HISTORIES AND HERITAGE WORKING GROUP



 $\label{thm:condition} \textit{Credit: Zichen Zhou, a graduate student in the School of Architecture at McGill University.}$

The members of the LERRN Archives, History and Living Heritage Working Group have had a busy year resulting in the culmination of several initiatives and the development of new projects. Monica Patterson was the recipient of SSHRC Partnership Grant for "Thinking through the Museum: A Partnership Approach to Curating Difficult Knowledge in Public." Diana Allan cocurated Soug Stories: Reclaiming the Commons at McGill University (see picture above) and was recognized for her work with a Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) at McGill University. She published Voices of the Nakba: A Living History of Palestine (2021), winner of a 2021 English PEN award, drawing on refugee testimonies. She has also been working with Cynthia Kraichati on a new research project in the Bekaa Valley that is documenting the histories of disappeared Palestinian refugee camps, and secondary Palestinian displacement in Lebanon. The results

of this research were presented in the 'Archives of the Disappeared' workshop at CRASSH, Cambridge University, and will be published in the Journal of Refugee Studies this coming year. Dominique Marshall undertook research on the history of the international refugee regime and continued her efforts to deepen and expand the Canadian Network on Humanitarian History (CNHH). This included the development of an oral history virtual exhibit on the life and career of Lewis Perinbam including his work in developing the Canadian branch of the World University Services (1953-9), and the preparation of a report on WUSC work on the Hungarian Refugee Student Resettlement program (1956-8), both sponsored by WUSC and MITACS. Chris Trainor led a successful grant application for the Modern Endangered Archives Program (UCLA) that will provide resources to Al-Jana in Lebanon to preserve, digitize and make further accessible a series of oral history interviews. Chris Trainor and Laura Madokoro both remain involved in the development of the Ugandan Asian Archive Collection at Carleton University and in the organization of a 50th anniversary conference on Ugandan Asian resettlement. All of these initiatives have provided employment of research opportunities to a number assistants, many of whom are involved directly with LERRN or one of the partnerships partners in the global South.

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