

Institution: SOAS University of London		
Unit of Assessment: 22B - Development Studies		
Title of case study: Informing Migration Policy and Programming in the Horn of Africa		
Period when the underpinning research was undertaken: 2016 - 2020		
Details of staff conducting the underpinning research from the submitting unit:		
Name(s):	Role(s) (e.g. job title):	Period(s) employed by submitting HEI:
Professor Laura Hammond	Professor of Development Studies Reader in Development Studies Senior Lecturer Lecturer	2018 – to present 2014 - 2018 2008-2014 2007-2008
Period when the claimed impact occurred: 2016 - 31 July 2020		
Is this case study continued from a case study submitted in 2014? N		
<p>1. Summary of the impact (indicative maximum 100 words)</p> <p>Research at SOAS has dramatically and significantly improved responses to migration and displacement in the Horn of Africa (HoA). The Research and Evidence Facility (hereafter the Facility) led by Prof Laura Hammond has influenced major policy and funding decisions of a range of actors, including the European Union, the Government of Somalia, and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development. Facility reports were used to design EU interventions in the HoA, including a EUR63,500,000 regional borderlands development programme and a EUR3,000,000 coordination platform. These were urgently needed, evidence-based improvements that promote better migration management and welfare of displaced populations.</p>		
<p>2. Underpinning research (indicative maximum 500 words)</p> <p>The Facility conducts policy-relevant primary research in nine countries of the Greater Horn of Africa (HoA) to understand the drivers, dynamics and implications of migration and displacement within the region. Fourteen million people are displaced in the HoA (including refugees, internally displaced, and returnees) – 70% of all displaced populations in Africa and more than 20% of the global total. Many more voluntary migrants move within and from the region in search of economic or educational opportunity. The Facility's research is framed in response to key migration issues identified by the European Union (EU) in the region to directly support policy and programming, providing in-depth analysis on the context in which EU projects are being implemented.</p> <p>Laura Hammond, Professor of Development Studies at SOAS, is Team Leader of the Facility, which was established in 2016 with funds from the EU Trust Fund for Africa (EUR6,600,000 2016-2022). Based at SOAS, the Facility partners with the University of Manchester and Nairobi-based Sahan Research, and works with over 50 researchers from the HoA region. Through the Facility, Prof Hammond has led research projects on displacement and return in Somalia [3.2]; development challenges in borderland regions (South Sudan-Uganda-Kenya and Somalia/Somaliland-Djibouti-Ethiopia) [3.1, 3.3]; movement between the Horn of Africa and Yemen [3.4] and refugee hosting policies and practices in Djibouti, Kenya, Somalia and Uganda [3.5].</p> <p>All research involved in-person surveys, key informant interviews and focus group discussions. In insecure areas (e.g. South Central Somalia) data was collected by researchers based in the</p>		

localities with careful remote supervision led by Hammond. Further data was collected in analysis workshops, where preliminary research findings and recommendations were presented to stakeholder groups and then refined based on feedback.

Important findings have emerged from the Research and Evidence Facility's research. A study on migration between the HoA and Yemen found that environmental threats tend to generate short-distance displacement rather than longer-distance movement. During the severe 2017 Horn of Africa drought, migration from the HoA to Europe and the Gulf countries increased only marginally. Many more people moved shorter distances within the region, often settling in border towns, refugee camps or in the nearest urban area [3.4].

A study of displacement in, and return to, Somalia found that the most significant need of migrants, internally displaced persons and refugee returnees to urban centres of Somalia was housing, land and property (HLP); failure to secure these basic resources blocked people's ability to invest in education, healthcare, and other key areas, or to plan for their futures [3.2].

An assessment of the implementation of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework in four countries (Djibouti, Kenya, Somalia, Uganda) found that Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) plays an important, but often unrecognised, role in stimulating political will at the highest level and coordinating refugee hosting practices within the region, encouraging best practice leading to concrete policy improvements particularly with respect to education, jobs and livelihoods [3.5].

This body of research builds upon other work by Hammond on rural-urban migration in Somaliland, part of the 2016-18 Migrants on the Margins project (GBP1,000,000 funded by the Royal Geographical Society, ESRC-DFID and AHRC) that considered the experiences of former pastoralists displaced from their rural livelihoods into urban centres in Hargeisa, Somaliland. Here, too, securing land and property was a prerequisite to comprehensive integration into the city.

3. References to the research (indicative maximum of six references)

3.1 Hammond, Laura (2019): "Livelihoods and Mobility in the Border Regions of Ethiopia". In: Cheru, Fantu and Cramer, Christopher and Oqubay, Arkebe, (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of the Ethiopian Economy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 269-287. Available on request.

peer-reviewed

3.2 Sturridge, Caitlin and Bakewell, Oliver and Hammond, Laura (2018): "*Return and (Re)Integration after Displacement: Belonging, Labeling and Livelihoods in Three Somali Cities*". London: Research and Evidence Facility (REF): EU Trust Fund for Africa

<https://eprints.soas.ac.uk/30923/> **peer and stakeholder reviewed**

3.3 Hammond, Laura. (2017) "Livelihoods and Mobility in the Border Regions of the Horn of Africa," in *World Bank, From Isolation to Integration: The Borderlands of the Horn of Africa*, Washington: The World Bank, pp. 27-68.

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/33513> **peer-reviewed**

3.4 Sturridge, Caitlin and Bakewell, Oliver and Hammond, Laura (2018): "*Migration Between the Horn of Africa and Yemen: A Study of Puntland, Djibouti and Yemen*" - EU Trust Fund for Africa (Horn of Africa Window) Research and Evidence Facility (REF) <https://eprints.soas.ac.uk/30924/> **peer and stakeholder reviewed**

3.5 Hammond, L.; Sturridge, C.; Sebba, K.R.; Owiso, M.; Mahdi, M.; Manji, F. and Osman, A.A. (2020): "*Comprehensive Refugee Responses in the Horn of Africa: Regional Leadership on Education, Livelihoods and Durable Solutions.*" 2020 <https://www.soas.ac.uk/ref-hornresearch/research-papers/file144905.pdf> **peer-reviewed**

3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5 were all peer reviewed. All outputs are based on original empirical research and were reviewed by EU and/or user stakeholders prior to final publication. All Research and Evidence Facility reports were commended in an independent review conducted by Dr Jeff Crisp Research Associate at the Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford, an Associate Fellow at Chatham House.

4. Details of the impact (indicative maximum 750 words)

The work of the Facility led by Hammond has improved the design and delivery of EU-funded migration and displacement programmes in the HoA. Research recommendations have shaped projects by intergovernmental organisations and donors related to development of borderlands, support for displaced persons in urban areas, and reintegration support for internally displaced persons and repatriated refugees. This work has led to regional approaches that promote social cohesion between migrant and displaced populations and their hosts, and create economic opportunities for mobile populations. Hammond's related research on rural-urban migration has also led to award-winning secondary school teaching resources in the UK, developed with the Royal Geographical Society. A film commissioned by Hammond with film makers PositiveNegatives on migration in the HoA ("Life on the Move") won the 2019 Research in Film Award (Social Media Category) **[5.10e]**.

Improving delivery of EU funding related to migration and displacement in the Horn of Africa

To maximize research uptake, the Facility pursued an innovative programme of 'front-loaded advocacy,' collaborating from the inception of the research with EU Trust Fund (EUTF) contributing states, EU delegations, governments in the region and NGOs. These actors have contributed to project design, framing of recommendations, and public briefing events including a major conference in Nairobi in 2019 (140 participants from the research, governmental, nongovernmental, and diplomatic communities) based on the Facility's research. This collaboration has ensured receptivity to the research findings and maximized possibilities for uptake of recommendations.

Facility research was directly used as evidence in the design of key EUTF investments: 1) a EUR63,500,000 project to promote cross-border development collaboration in the HoA **[5.1]** and 2) a EUR3,000,000 project to support IGAD's role in coordinating a regional approach to refugee management and protection. EUTF Manager Hans Stausboll stated that EU support to IGAD was "a result of this research" and that the research had "stimulated [IGAD's] Member States into adopting remarkable policy commitments in favour of refugees particularly in the areas of education, health and livelihood." **[5.2]**

Influencing new policy approaches and agendas among states, intergovernmental organisations and third sector actors

Under Prof Hammond's leadership, the Facility's high profile advocacy work has influenced policy and practice on displacement. Prof Hammond was invited by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to moderate two plenary sessions at the first Global Refugee Forum (December 2019), one on Regional Responses to Refugee Hosting, the other on Durable Solutions. The Forum, attended by more than 3,000 participants, included heads of state, ministers, ambassadors and heads of international UN and nongovernmental organisations. UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi acknowledged Hammond's contribution to the success of the event in identifying solutions and comprehensive responses in action both as "moderator during high-level sessions" and for the "insights [Hammond] brought to the discussion" **[5.3]**. The Forum raised over 840 pledges for refugee support including job creation and education schemes, and the development of clean energy and infrastructure **[5.3]**.

UNHCR's Special Envoy for Africa, Ambassador Mohamed Affey, commended the Facility's work by saying, "We've been very impressed by the reports that we have received regarding the return of the population of the Somalis who have been living in the refugee camps for many years. That research and the report that was generated as a result of the research that was done have been of use to me as a Special Envoy in my advocacy work" **[5.4 time code: 00:01:33 – 00:01:50]**.

In December 2018, Hammond was invited to give written and oral evidence to the International Development Committee of the UK House of Commons enquiry on Refugees in East Africa. She argued that 1) post-Brexit, the UK's continued support for displaced populations in East Africa was crucial; 2) migration within Africa is an essential livelihood strategy for maximizing resources and minimizing risk; 3) the right to safe mobility should be protected alongside efforts to prevent

displacement and irregular migration; 4) asylum seekers in the UK should be allowed to work while they await a decision on their cases; and 5) there should be a more joined-up approach to supporting refugees in the UK and in regions of origin. These points were all included in the committee's final report 'Forced Displacement in Africa: Anchors Not Walls, where Hammond's evidence was cited nine times [5.5]. As of 2020, work on several of these points was being implemented, including 1, 2 and 5 by the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office.

Impact on policy and practice in Somalia and the Horn of Africa region

In the region, the work of the Facility has influenced debates and policies of information-based NGOs such as the Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat (ReDSS). Secretariat Manager of ReDSS, Aude Galli stated the report on Return and (Re)integration after Displacement [3.2] "has concretely informed a number of durable solutions programming in Somalia, but also donors[]" priorities and focus." Galli also commended the Facility for "providing a platform bringing practitioners, policy-makers and researchers together to discuss the implications and recommendations from the research findings to inform and adapt our policy and programming work." [5.6]

Responding to the Facility's recommendation that IDPs and returnees need secure land tenure and should be integrated into local development plans, the Municipality of Baidoa in Somalia relocated 100 returnee families onto permanent plots in 2019, giving them secure tenure [5.7, pg 4]. Prof Hammond was also asked to advise on the drafting of Somalia's National Policy on Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons; all 12 of her major recommendations were adopted into the final enacted policy in 2019 [5.8], including providing legal support to displaced people, extending protection to include social and economic vulnerability and extending food assistance to returnees for a full year after return.

Increasing young people's understanding of migration issues in the UK

Hammond's related research on rural-urban migration was used to develop a suite of award-winning teaching materials for secondary school students in collaboration with the Royal Geographical Society. These included a 2019 Teach Company award (curriculum impact category), Scottish Association of Geography Teachers Overall Winner [5.9a] and finalist for the 2020 BETT awards [5.9b]. The film 'Life on the move' produced in partnership with PositiveNegatives was awarded the 2019 AHRC Research in Film Award for 'Best Social Media Short' [5.9c and d]. The teaching materials included two posters on urban migration distributed to every secondary school (5500 schools) in England and Wales, teaching videos featuring lectures by Hammond and other project researchers, 2,500 copies of comics produced by partners PositiveNegatives, and infographics [5.10a]. The project also hosted two public exhibitions (October and December 2018 – 969 attendees), a major Fellows' lecture at the Royal Geographical Society (Oct 2018, 441 attendees, 171 online views) [5.10b]. Student attendees to the exhibition, which was paired with a workshop on the themes covered, praised the way that the human migration stories were presented. Two students from Westminster Academy said, 'The exhibition was really good and eye-opening to social issues we may not think about on a daily basis. Enables students to reflect on global issues' [5.10c, p6]. Another student said that the exhibition 'helped me decide whether to do Geography' [at A-level] [5.10c, p3].

5. Sources to corroborate the impact (indicative maximum of 10 references)

- 5.1. European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa. Action Fiche: Collaboration in Cross-Border Areas of the Horn of Africa Region – Phase I, Sept. 2016
[https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/sites/euetfa/files/t05-eutf-hoa-reg-26 -
collaboration_in_cross-border_areas_incl.03t7mva.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/sites/euetfa/files/t05-eutf-hoa-reg-26_-_collaboration_in_cross-border_areas_incl.03t7mva.pdf)
- 5.2. Letter from Hans Christian Stausboll, EU Trust Fund Manager (HoA Window) Jan. 2021.
- 5.3. Letter from UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi, Jan 2020
- 5.4. Research and Evidence Facility of the EU Trust Fund – SOAS, YouTube:
<https://youtu.be/Smdq88xEP7s> Ambassador Mohamed Affey, UN Special Envoy for Displacement in the Horn of Africa [00:01:33 – 00:01:50]

5.5 International Development Committee Forced Displacement in Africa: “Anchors not Walls” - 5 March 2019 (Hammond’s testimony cited 9 times – see **a**) Chapter 2, paras 31, 34 and; **b**) Chapter 3, paras 94, 96 102, 107, and Chapter 3 notes 143, 145, 150, 156 and; **c**) Chapter 5, para 132, 133 and chapter 5 note 193)

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmintdev/1433/143302.htm>

5.6 Letter from Aude Galli, Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat, Jan 2021.

5.7 Research and Evidence Facility (REF). July 2020. ‘Baidoa Municipality initiatives on population displacement and urbanisation: key lessons learned and the way forward’. London: EU Trust Fund for Africa (Horn of Africa Window) Research and Evidence Facility.

5.8 Influencing policy in Somalia

a) Draft of Federal Government of Somalia, National Policy on Refugee-Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons, with 12 recommendations supplied by Hammond which were included in **b**) the final policy, adopted in December 2019.

5.9 Awards for teaching resources developed by the Royal Geographical Society based on Migrants on the Margins research:

a) 4* award for ‘Curriculum Impact’ category of the Teach Secondary Awards and the Scottish Association of Geography Teachers ‘Overall Winner’ and

b) Finalist in the 2020 BETT awards in the Free Digital Content or Open Educational Resources category and

c) Film (2019) ‘Life on the Move’, co-created with PositiveNegatives.

<https://youtu.be/D0SECJeSigw> awarded AHRC Research in Film Awards (RIFA) 2019 winner of Social Media Category: <https://ahrc.ukri.org/innovation/research-in-film-awards/previous-winners/2019-winners/>

5.10 Impact via partnership with Royal Geographical Society (RSG)

a) Email from RGS Secretary confirming distribution of posters and comics to schools and

b) Email from RGS confirming attendees at RGS exhibitions in October and December 2018;

c) Student quotes from attendees to the RGS workshop.