



OXFAM



**Feinstein
International Center**
Friedman School of
Nutrition Science and Policy



Evidence Synthesis in the Humanitarian Field: Challenges and opportunities

Evidence synthesis can assist actors to understand what works and what does not work, for whom, and in which contexts in humanitarian response. This discussion will focus on insights from the process of synthesizing evidence in three areas of the humanitarian field: shelter, child protection, and mental health. The event will also invite a broader discussion of humanitarian evidence to improve policy and practice. The panel will look at: How can we tailor existing systematic review approaches to the realities of the type and quality of data in the humanitarian field? How can we critically appraise this evidence? What are some challenges in defining terminology in the humanitarian field, and how have teams overcome them? What are the limitations and potential for humanitarian evidence synthesis in terms of uptake and impact?

Date: Thursday, April 14, 2016

Time: 12:30 – 13:45 (please arrive 15 minutes early for registration)

Location: DFID - 22 Whitehall, London SW1A 2EG

RSVP required: Please email Dr. Ellie Ott at eott1@ght.oxfam.org

Please email Ellie if you are interested in joining remotely.

Panellists

Katharine Williamson, Save the Children UK — Synthesis on Child Protection of Unaccompanied and Separated Children

Katharine Williamson is the Senior Humanitarian Child Protection Advisor at Save the Children UK and co-lead of the Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action Assessment, Measurement & Evidence Working Group. She is a child protection in emergencies specialist with ten years field experience in conflicts and emergencies primarily in Africa and Asia, and 5 years consulting and advisory experience. She is a clinically trained Social Worker with Masters degrees in International Law and Forced Migration. Her areas of specialty include working with unaccompanied and separated children, children affected by armed conflict, and refugee and asylum seeking children. In her current role, she manages a team of advisors and emergency response personnel supporting emergency responses around the world, is involved in developing approaches to the protection of children with disabilities, and represents Save the Children in the Interagency Working Group on UASC.

Mukdarut Bangpan, EPPI-Centre, IOE — Synthesis on Mental Health & Psychosocial Support

Dr Mukdarut Bangpan joined the EPPI-Centre in 2005. Her research interests include social interventions, health and well-being of children and women in developing countries and methodological development of systematic reviews. Mukdarut also teaches and provides support to research teams for carrying out systematic reviews in various topics including education, international development, health, and social policy. She completed a DPhil from University of Oxford and MBA from University of Illinois at Carbondale. Her thesis investigated the potential of family – involving HIV programmes for young Thai women, using qualitative investigation and systematic reviews.

Elizabeth Parker and Victoria Maynard, UCL — Synthesis on Shelter Self-Recovery

Elizabeth Parker's work has focused on disaster recovery, urban resilience and regeneration across a range of geographies since completing her MA in Development and Emergency practice at Oxford Brookes University. Originally trained as an architect, Elizabeth spent five years working for Arup, including on the Rockefeller Foundation-funded Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN) and undertaking research for the IFRC on their post-2004 tsunami shelter and disaster risk reduction programmes. Elizabeth also has significant Project Management experience, most recently delivering health care projects across Western Australia as part of the Royalties for Regions programme.

Victoria Maynard trained as an architect and has worked for organisations such as UN-Habitat and the IFRC since becoming involved in post-disaster reconstruction following the Indian Ocean tsunami. She is currently completing a PhD at University College London, in partnership with Habitat for Humanity Great Britain, where her research focuses on decision-making by the Philippine government and humanitarian organisations following Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines in 2013. Victoria also writes and lectures on disaster recovery, resilience and participatory approaches to design.

Organisers

This event is organised by the **Humanitarian Evidence Programme**, a partnership between **Oxfam** and the **Feinstein International Center** at the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University, funded by DFID's Humanitarian Innovation and Evidence Programme (HIEP). The Humanitarian Evidence Programme has commissioned eight humanitarian evidence syntheses and focuses on research uptake. For more information about the Humanitarian Evidence Programme, please visit: www.oxfam.org.uk/hep.