Engaging with Policy in the Global South

An Institute for Policy and Engagement conference

Tuesday, 26 April 2022

Senate Chamber, University of Nottingham

Are you an academic working on issues of importance to governments and decision makers in the Global South? Are you hoping to influence policy decisions?

If so, you already know that this can be tricky terrain. Influencing policy anywhere is a challenge, but in the Global South it often means navigating complex histories, power imbalances and preconceptions. An understanding of the context and the perspective of global policy makers is essential, but how can academics build this into their policy impact plans?

If you're grappling with this challenge, the University of Nottingham Institute for Policy and Engagement invites you to attend our one-day conference, Engaging with Policy in the Global South, on Tuesday 26 March. You will hear directly from policy makers and practitioners from around the globe, as well as from leading policy-engaged Nottingham academics, on how to approach policy impact work that takes account of historical and local context and develops positive, equitable relationships with policy actors in the Global South. Learning from experiences from both academics and policy professionals, find out what works in terms of successful impact – and what doesn't. Through interactive discussions and workshops, you'll also be able to start developing the tools to apply this expertise to your own work.

We hope you will join us for a stimulating, challenging and valuable day.

Register today: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/engaging-with-policy-in-the-global-south-tickets-243486694257

Agenda

09:15-10:00 Registration and Coffee

Great Hall

10:00-11:10 Plenary Session

Senate Chamber

10:00-10:05 Welcome

Baroness Lola Young

Chancellor, University of Nottingham

10:05-10:20 Keynote Address

David Moinina Sengeh

Minister for Education, Sierra Leone

10:20-10:55 Q&A

Baroness Lola Young

10:55-11:10 Response

Nicola Pitchford

Professor, Faculty of Science, University of Nottingham

11:10-11:30 Coffee break

Great hall

11:30-13:00 Breakout sessions

Session 1: Working in post-colonial contexts

Senate chamber (30 max)

Description: In countries with a history of being colonised by the UK, the terrain of policy dialogue can be particularly tricky to navigate for academics from British institutions. This session will explore some of the dynamics you might encounter in these contexts, and help you understand how to ensure you can engage both effectively and sensitively.

Speakers: **Roshni Mooneeram**

Senior Consultant in Learning and Development & EDI Policy, Mauritius

Laura Martin
Assistant Professor in Politics and International Relations, University of Nottingham

Dr Terri-Ann Gilbert-Roberts
Research Manager, Economic, Youth & Sustainable Development Directorate
Commonwealth Secretariat

Session 2: Engaging with multilateral institutions

A21 (30 max)

Description: Development banks, UN institutions and other multilateral organisations have significant influence in the Global South and can be fruitful places for academics looking to engage with policy makers in developing countries. Engaging with them is not always a simple matter, however, and their relationships with individual countries can be complex. This session will explore some principles behind working with these institutions to achieve policy impact goals.

Speakers: **Prudence Ngwenya**
Director, Women, Gender and Youth Directorate, African Union
Dr Edward Addai
UNICEF Representative to the African Union and UN Economic Commission of Africa
Nicola Pitchford
Professor, Faculty of Science, University of Nottingham

Session 3: Cultivating positive third-sector partnerships

Great Hall (42 max)

Description: When your policy audiences are physically distant from you, and where economic, social and cultural differences constitute further barriers to effective engagement, working with partners based in the countries where you seek to have impact is essential. Partners may include other researchers, civil society organisations, or the private sector – but thinking carefully about how to manage and nurture these relationships is key to success. This session will examine how.

Speakers: **Udan Fernando**

Head - Colombo Charter, Asian Civil Society Research Network

Maeve Fitzpatrick

University of Nottingham

Sylvester Adesina

Advisor, Citizen Engagement & Innovative Response in Africa

Data Use for Africa's Development, GIZ

13:00-14:00   Lunch

Senate Antechamber

14:00-15:00   Plenary Session: Pecha Kucha Insight Sharing

Senate Chamber

Description:	In this session, four colleagues from the University of Nottingham and other regional universities will share their experiences of policy engagement in the Global South: the challenges they've faced, the successes they've enjoyed and the lessons they've learned. The session will include a Q&A session from the floor.
Facilitator:	**Chris Sims** Deputy Director, Institute for Policy and Engagement
Speakers:	**Juliet Thondhlana** Professor, International Education and Development, School of Education **Zinnia Gonzalez-Carranza** Lecturer and PI, Faculty of Science **Judy Muthuri** Associate Professor in Corporate Social Responsibility, Nottingham University Business School **Sabina Lawreniuk** Nottingham Research Fellow, Faculty of Social Sciences

15:00-15:15   Coffee break

Great Hall

15:15-16:15	**Interactive plenary: how can we do better policy engagement in the Global South?**

Senate Chamber

Description:	This session will aim to draw on the knowledge and experience shared at the conference to produce a list of recommended actions for academics looking to undertake policy engagement in the developing world, and for universities that wish to support them to do so. The goal will be to produce a list of recommendations to be written up and shared by the Institute for Policy and Engagement, in order to continue discussions and further share learning from the day.
Chair**:**	**Stephen Meek** Director, Institute for Policy and Engagement

Speakers

16:15	**End**