

Migrants on the margins – Guidance for teachers

The Society's Field Research Programme, *Migrants on the margins*, brings together research into migration and urbanisation to investigate four cities in Africa and Asia: [Colombo](#), [Dhaka](#), [Harare](#), [Hargeisa](#) to explore these issues.

About the project

Migrants on the margins is a three-year collaborative field research project led by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) and is taking a comparative approach in four of the world's most pressured cities: Colombo in Sri Lanka, Dhaka in Bangladesh, Harare in Zimbabwe and Hargeisa in Somaliland. The project is investigating the movement of migrants into and around these cities, and looking at the opportunities available to them in order to better understand their experiences and vulnerabilities.

The project aims to not only dispel misconceptions around migration and improve the lives of migrants in the study areas through advising policy changes, but also to build regional research capacity and networks of expertise across Africa and Asia.

The issue

By 2050, it is estimated that the number of people living in urban areas in Africa and Asia will have doubled to 5.2 billion. And research shows that people moving away from humanitarian, environmental and other crises tend to move short distances, often ending up in marginal communities on the outskirts of urban areas, where it is all too easy to become stuck.

These movements are some of the most important but least studied migration patterns across the globe. The impact that migrants have on urban areas and how cities can best respond to the influx of people is understudied, while little is known about the life chances of the migrants themselves. This is an issue that will only become more urgent as populations grow and the impact of climate change is increasingly felt.

Overall, more than 2,000 surveys and interviews were conducted. The research brought together geographers from UK universities with international researchers to understand why people move, and why they stay.

In the news

In July 2019, Professor Laura Hammond presented findings of the Migrants on the margins research team to members of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office
<https://www.rgs.org/geography/news/findings-from-migrants-on-the-margins-presented-to/>

The team also met with local community at a Book Fair in Hargeisa to present their findings
<https://www.rgs.org/geography/news/migrants-on-the-margins-team-present-their-research/>

The resources that have been produced are linked to the research, rather than to teaching/examination specifications. The table below is a guide to where the resources could be incorporated into existing schemes of work.

Resource	Key Stage	Links
Migrants on the margins guidance for teachers.pdf	All	
Migrants on the margins glossary.doc	All	
Migrants on the margins postcards.pdf	All	
Internally displaced people - resource linked to the poster.ppt	KS4/5	Rural to urban migration
Internal migration - video worksheet	KS3/4	Rural to urban migration
Internal migration - Ask the Geographer - Prof Michael Collyer - podcast worksheet	KS5	Rural to urban migration
Ask the Geographer - Mapping urban change - Terri Freemantle	KS5	Urban change
Why do people move – video worksheet	KS3/4	Internal migration
Colombo – factsheet.doc	All	
Colombo - Arunachalam's story - video worksheet – Primary.doc	KS2	Life as a migrant
Colombo - Arunachalam's story - video worksheet.doc	KS3/4	Migration as a positive
Colombo - Arunachalam's Story.ppt	KS3/4	Rural to urban migration Economic voluntary migration
Dhaka – factsheet.doc	All	
Dhaka – Sabina’s Story.ppt	KS3	Rural to urban migration Women migrants
Dhaka - Sabina's Story - video worksheet – Primary.doc	KS2	Life as a migrant
Dhaka – video worksheet.doc	KS3	Rural to urban migration Push-pull factors
Dhaka - Mapping population and migration in Bangladesh.ppt	KS3/4	Mapping population density/distribution
Dhaka - Mapping population and migration in Bangladesh - worksheet.doc	KS3/4	Mapping population density/distribution
Harare - factsheet.doc	All	
Harare – Tawanda’s Story - video worksheet – Primary.doc	KS2	Life as a migrant
Harare - Tawanda's Story.ppt	KS3/4	Squatter settlements
Harare - video worksheet.doc	KS3/4	Squatter settlements
Hargeisa - Factsheet	All	
Hargeisa - Halgan's Story	KS3/4	Positive and negative migrations
Hargeisa - Halgan's Story - video worksheet – Primary.doc	KS2	Life as a migrant
Hargeisa - video worksheet	KS3/4	Positive and negative migrations
Hargeisa - video worksheet Halgan's Story	KS3/4	Positive and negative migrations
How can migration myths be challenged – making a zine.doc	KS5	Using empathy as a connective tool
How can migration myths be challenged - Dispelling migration myths - making zines.ppt	KS5	
How can migration myths be challenged - Examples of zines.pdf	KS5	



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