



***KNOWLEDGE FOR CHANGE  
MENTOR TRAINING PROGRAM  
COHORT III  
MS – TCDC, ARUSHA 2019***

Prepared by:

UNESCO CHAIR IN COMMUNITY BASED RESEARCH & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION  
[www.unescochair-cbrsr.org](http://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org)



On behalf of the UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education and the K4C Consortium, we are delighted to present a report on the most recent face-to-face residency that we have held as part of the on-going mentor training for building institutional capacity to provide learning opportunities for the next generation of young students and community workers to learn the theory and practice of community based participatory research. We welcome questions about the K4C Consortium and expressions of interest from parts of the global South and excluded North that might be interested in creating a local K4C hub.

-Rajesh Tandon, Budd L Hall and Nandita Bhatt, Convenors

### **What is the Knowledge for Change (K4C) Consortium?**

The Knowledge for Change (K4C) Consortium for Training of Community Based Participatory Research was initially launched in June of 2017 at the meeting of the Talloires Network in Veracruz, Mexico. Additional launches took place in India and Canada later that year. The goal of the K4C is to build institutional capacity for the training of a next generation of participatory researchers in the global South the 'excluded' North. The heart of the strategy is the support for community-based participatory research training hubs. Hubs are a formal partnership between universities and civil society or practitioner organizations in the community.



The K4C is a training of trainers model with a 21-week on-line course jointly provided by the University of Victoria and the Society for Participatory Research in Asia. Counting the new hubs that sent mentors to the Arusha residency in April of 2019, there are now K4C hubs in South Africa, India (2), Malaysia (2), Indonesia, Canada (Salish Sea K4C hub, Victoria area) Colombia, Cuba, Italy, Ireland, Uganda and Tanzania.

### **The Arusha Residency**

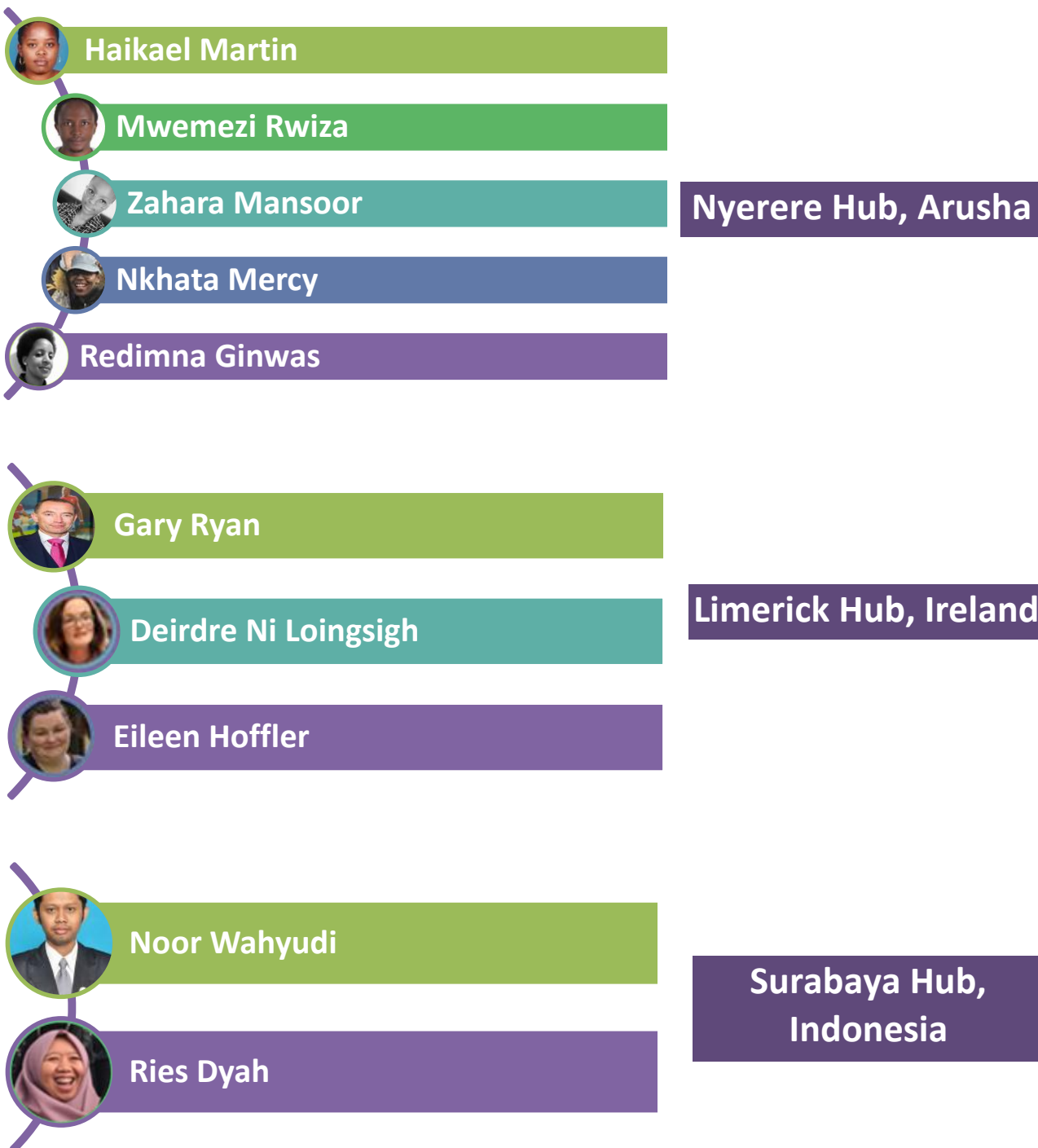
We are grateful to Ezra Mbogori, Executive Director of the MS-TCDC and his colleague Anna Mbwambo for the opportunity to hold our third K4C face-to-face residency for mentors at the remarkable residential adult education facility in Arusha, Tanzania. The MS-TCDC was founded 50 years ago as part of an agreement between the government of Denmark and the Government of Tanzania. It served as the training centre for Danish volunteers, many coming from Action Aid Denmark for many years. It is currently undergoing a transition towards becoming an independent African-focused training centre which will offer short and long courses in various subjects of development including several undergraduate and graduate level offerings.



The MS-TCDC has entered into a partnership with the Nelson Mandela African Institute for Science and Technology and Action Aid Tanzania to support what has been named the Nyerere K4C Hub, named after the late Julius K Nyerere whose ideas inspired the emergence of participatory research theories and practices in the early 1970s. MS-TCDC offered comfortable rooms for participants, excellent dining facilities, classrooms a library and linkages to community activities in the greater Arusha and Mt. Kilimanjaro area.

## Our Mentors

Mentors were nominated by their respective hubs and included: Nkatha Mercy, Redimna Ginwas, Zahara Mansoor, Haikael Martin and Mwemezi Rwiza (Nyerere Hub-Arusha), Noor Wahyudi, Ries Dyah (Surabaya, Indonesia), Deirdre Ni Loingsigh, Eileen Hoffler and Gary Ryan (Limerick, Ireland), Mahazan Abdul Mutalib, Izawati Wook and Khairiyah Lani (Mizen K4C Hub, Malaysia) Martin Odoch, Constantine Loum, Simon Ongom, Nono Dennis, David Monk (Gulu, Uganda), Albogast Kilangi Musabila, Andrew Mushi, Lucy Willy Massoi (Mzumbe Hub – Morogoro and Dar es Salaam)





**Mahazan Abdul Mutalib**



**Khairiyah Lani**



**Izawati Wook**

**Mizen Hub,  
Malaysia**



**Albogast Kilangi Musabila**



**Lucy Willy Massoi**



**Andrew Mushi**

**Mzumbe Hub,  
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Dar es Salaam**



**David Monk**



**Martin Odoch**



**Nono Dennis**



**Simon Ongom**



**Constantine Loum**

**Gulu Hub, Uganda**



## **Highlights**

We had an informative visit with Ndinini Kimesear Sikar, Executive Director of the Maasai Women Development Organization (MWEDO) who described the nearly 20 years of support for Maasai women that MWEDO has made possible. Ndinini herself is Maasai but after several years working in the banking industry she found that there were very few Maasai women in any jobs that she noticed. She decided to create an organization to support Maasai women to build skills and confidence to move forward in the directions that they have chosen. Our visit to MWEDO was followed up by a visit to the Maasai village of Longido, not far from the Tanzania-Kenya border. There we met with the MWEDO members, women of the village who told us about their history and accomplishments.



The conversation was led by the women of the village and later backed up by some of the men leaders of various age-sets. There was a focus on education, small scale economic development, understanding of the rights of women to property as well as issues of midwifery and traditional birth attendants.

### **Maasai Indigenous Knowledge**

The K4C has historically placed an emphasis on the importance of indigenous knowledge. We have drawn in previous residencies on Indigenous scholars Lorna Williams, a Lil'wat UI scholar and Ndawula Wangoola, a Busoga scholar. In Arusha we were fortunate to have the opportunity to hear from Saningo Milliary and Alias Ole Morindat, two Maasai intellectuals who were forced as youngsters to attend Western schools, but who both maintain their homes in their villages bomas. The richness of the presentations, which we have captured on video to be made available later, were stunning. Among the teachings that were imparted were the ideas that "pain is associated with living between the Maasai world and the Western world".



They pointed out that, "There is no room for the Maasai in the modern agenda" and "historical narratives are written by the powerful". They noted that, "It is a failure of researchers that Indigenous knowledge has not been incorporated into our understanding of development" and that, "We have to change the systems of education" and change, "Whose knowledge counts." Science they suggest is undermining our world. We must draw on hope, enthusiasm and courage if we are to escape from a consumptive and change the narrative.

### **Panel on Community-Based Research and the UN Sustainable Development Goals**

Ezra Mbogori from TCDC, George Openjuru from Gulu University and Kelvin Mtei from Nelson Mandela African Institute led of the panel on the morning of April 8. Openjuru opened the panel with a description of the contradictions faced by the contemporary African University. He spoke of the ‘artificial cosmetic Western paradigm’ being superimposed on an ‘organic natural African paradigm’. He notes that Higher Education is essentially a factory model with positivist epistemology driving the mainstream agenda. He is confident that action research is slowly taking its place and that it will in the end be a means of ensuring that interventions in support of the SDGs will work.



Mtei brought greetings from NMAIST and noted that their mission was ‘academia contributing to society and industry’. He noted that their university work across interdisciplinary lines with substantial links to communities near their campus. He noted several examples of how they have combined Indigenous knowledge with Western scientific knowledge with good results.

Mbogori spoke from an activist and civil society perspective. He noted that civil society had in general opposed the Millennium Development Goals because they had been imposed on the global South by the rich countries. He noted that civil society was much more involved in the formulation of the SDGs and for that reason he felt that they were goals worthy of pursuit.



He noted that the K4C strategy of linking higher education, civil society and community knowledge makers held good promise for attainment of the SDGs.

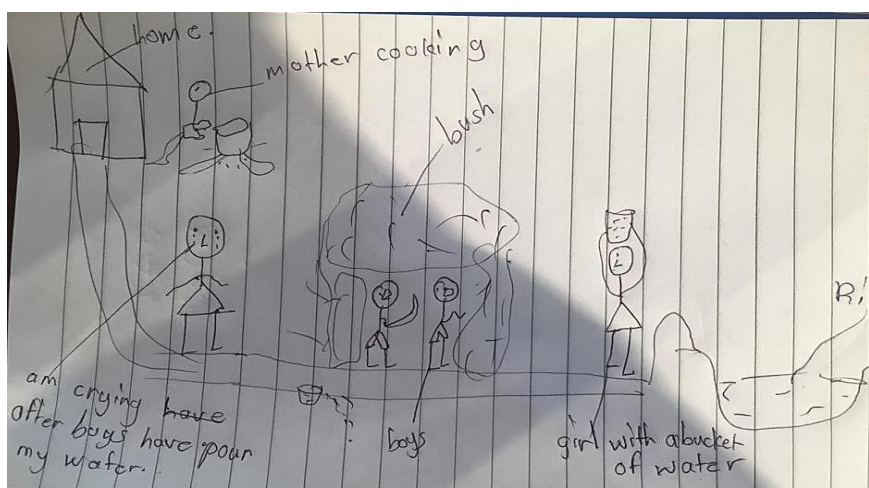


### **Art Based CBPR Methods**

The purpose of including arts based methods in the face to face learning residency in the mentor training programme is not only to teach mentors different ways of doing research. But more importantly, it is to help mentors discover ways in which research can be made more accessible by allowing communities to make important contributions towards the creation of knowledge and narratives that are directly linked to their lives.

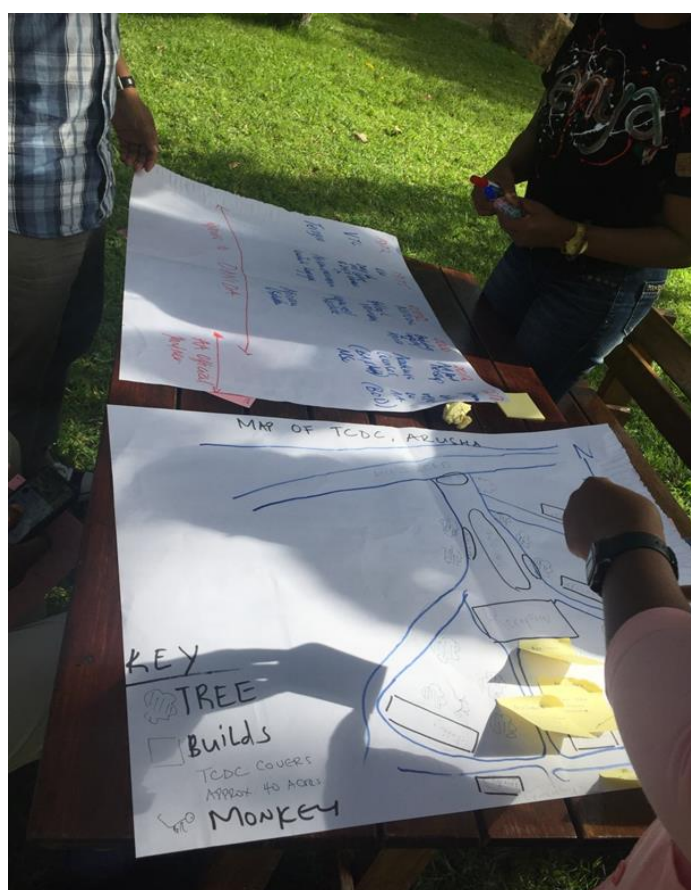
Use of visual mapping as an arts based method was demonstrated by sharing of examples from India. Visual mapping and its variations is a method of conducting a spatial analysis of spaces and is a very useful tool to engage communities in the analysis.

Martha Farrell Foundation in India has effectively developed a variation of this method for conducting a spatial analysis of safe and unsafe spaces in their communities. They found that the Participatory Safety Assessment (PSA) is being effectively used by young boys and girls in various communities across the country to generate visual safety/unsafety maps of their communities.



*A visual story of a young girl's experience of violence and harassment made by a mentor made inspired by the sharing of case study from India*

Mentors at the residency practiced the use of visual mapping in an exercise that involved providing inputs to the Director of MS TCDC for the upgradation of its facilities. Historical timeline and stakeholder mapping were also introduced to the mentors. Since hubs are training groups for young researchers, other arts based methods of visual arts, enactment, poetry, storytelling, photo/video were introduced to mentors through a unique learning by doing model. Mentors were tasked with the responsibility of using visual art, storytelling, theatre and photo to demonstrate/facilitate teaching session on the role of the facilitator in CBPR. Any apprehensions that mentors might have had previously towards using art based methods were laid to rest when they learned how female domestic workers in India grappling with the challenges of migration, poverty, low levels of education, informality and temporary nature of their profession were able to influence policy decisions related to the non-implementation of the laws that promised to protect them from sexual harassment in their work by sharing their collective



*Visual maps of MS TCDC being prepared by mentors during a practice session in mapping*



experiences through a visual art project (below).



*CBPR project facilitated by Martha Farrell Foundation - domestic workers shared their experiences of sexual harassment through this art project*

While mentors learned how arts based methods are useful tools for trust building, initial exploration, deep data-collection and sharing results, Mwemezi (Mentor, Tanzania) felt that one of the biggest takeaways from the session was discovering that as a researcher it is “okay to feel” and arts based methods is a powerful way “for everyone to feel together”.

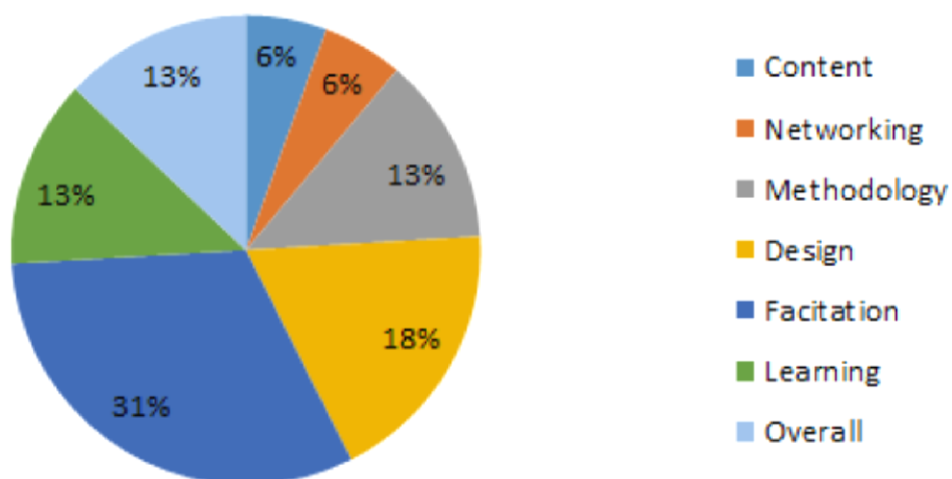


*Mentors using form theatre to demonstrate to demonstrate the role of a facilitator in CBPR. Here the group is enacting the communication role of the facilitator*



## Assessment of Learning Residency programme by Mentors

### What Worked in the residency



Take away from the learning residency:

- Hope
- Partnership
- Friendship
- Humility
- Change
- Like-minded
- Right intention
- Respect
- Collaboration
- Connectivity
- Composite
- Empowered
- Family
- Loved
- Inspiration
- Resilience
- Humanity



*Sharing of learnings by mentors in a web of life exercise*

When the guns fell silent- oh!  
The tears were fresh and flowing  
then the people ask  
what shall we do to make our lives better?  
What shall we do to make our lives better?  
This is what we are going to do

Let's build ourselves together, no one will do it for us  
rich cultures and natural resources we have  
they can take us far.  
The sky is our limit

Let's explore our potential ability and  
share with the rest, to  
open up the change we need  
for the change is internal  
and it's within us now

We water the seeds of change  
everyone offering a bucket full of water  
watering,  
watering  
watering until the tree of change  
offers shade over our community  
blocking out the harsh light of  
undesirable societal ills.

Let's open our hearts  
the very soul of the world  
together let us be  
so that we may become  
together in diversity and Splendour and strength  
free!

For the pain in the past is gone and the future is bright

- ***Poem by Gulu Hub***