

Call for applications

Workshop:

Assessing the social determinants of health in the context of social integration of forced migrants

In-person workshop on 7th July, 2022 in Bielefeld

Online meetings (about one hour per working group)

between 15th June and 5th July, 2022 – upon availability of participants

The main objective of this workshop is to create an interdisciplinary working group to **review and improve methods for assessing different aspects of social determinants of health, and to examine interrelations with social integration in the context of forced migration**. Among the various facets of social determinants of wellbeing, this workshop will focus on **food security** (including elements of social and physical as well as economic access), **housing** (including structural aspects related to urban design, water/sanitation), and **exposure to and experience of violence** (interpersonal and community level). We seek to contribute to the comprehension and analysis of **migration as a longitudinal and dynamic process (incl. pre-, peri and post-migration stages), whose various facets intersect with other factors (such as gender, literacy, ethnicity, and lifestage) in shaping the social determinants of health, health outcomes and successful integration**.

By asking the question ‘**how can the social determinants of health be measured in contexts of forced migration?**’ the workshop will critically examine current research with a particular focus on methodological approaches and related challenges. Drawing on a diversity of disciplines, areas and backgrounds, the workshop stands to improve existing methodologies and develop novel ones. Shifting the focus from a discussion of research results to the **assessment of different methodological approaches and research tools** also allows for a meta-analysis of existing studies and stock-taking.

The workshop aims to inform research among forced migrants in Germany. To this end, it will facilitate learning from diverse disciplinary and regional contexts by including participation from researchers working with forced migrants in other regions or settings, including postdoctoral researchers and doctoral students.

The concept of the workshop includes a hybrid approach.

The online components (starting around 15th June, 2022), prior to the 1-day in-person meeting, give participants the opportunity to present their work and to prepare their input to the workshop in small subgroups focusing on the area of their primary interest (food security, housing, or exposure to violence in the context of forced migration).

The in-person workshop, on 7th July, 2022 at Bielefeld University, including keynote presentations by senior guests, thematic sessions of the subgroups, and plenary sessions, arranged by cross-cutting topics (e.g. migration stage, lifecourse stage, gender, methodological questions, ethical issues).

After the in-person meeting, workshop participants are expected to continue working with their subgroup in order to generate publications, grant submissions, research collaborations, or other joint ventures including a repository of instruments for measuring food security, housing adequacy, and exposure to violence as social aspects of integration in the context of forced migration.

We encourage submissions on the following areas:

- **food security**: Forced migrants often suffer from a lack of access to sufficient and healthy food during their trajectories. In addition, the requirements of different food cultures are often neglected in destination countries.
- **housing**: Shelter during the migration journey often does not provide sufficient protection from weather extremes, and housing in the destination countries in many cases does not respond to forced migrants' needs.
- **exposure to different kinds of violence**: Forced migrants are often exposed to different forms of violence (structural, interpersonal, gender-based) both before, during and after their journey.

Please submit an abstract of 350 words by 20th May, 2022 to

Dr. Kerstin Schmidt: kerstin.schmidt1@uni-bielefeld.de

Abstracts will be reviewed by the organizing committee.

Important dates:

Submission deadline: 20th May, 2022

Responses: 27th May, 2022

Online meetings: starting around 15th June, 2022

In-person workshop in Bielefeld: 7th July, 2022

We are looking forward to your contributions!

Kerstin Schmidt, Nora Gottlieb, Manuela Orjuela-Grimm

Organisers:

Dr. Kerstin Schmidt, School of Public Health / AG 2 Population Medicine and Health Services Research, Bielefeld University, Germany

Dr. Nora Gottlieb, School of Public Health / AG 2 Population Medicine and Health Services Research, Bielefeld University, Germany

Prof. Manuela Orjuela-Grimm, Migration and Nutrition Epidemiology Group, Departments of Epidemiology and Pediatrics, Columbia University, USA; guest lecturer at Bielefeld University in the summer term 2022 (funded by the International Guest Lectureship Programme of Bielefeld University)

The Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies (IMIS) at Osnabrück University, Germany will cooperate in the organization of the workshop and contribute with their expertise in forced migration.