

21 April 2021 KIX EAP Webinar: What has COVID-19 done to education and research?

Speakers and moderators biographical notes



Speaker: Elaine Unterhalter FBA is Professor of Education & International Development and Co Director of the Centre for Education and International Development (CEID) at UCL. She has published extensively on gender, education and inequality and has a special interest in the capability approach and human development, and in global policy frameworks like the SDGs. She is one of three Co editors (with Will Brehm and Moses Oketch) of the NORRAG Special issue 6 focussing on COVID and education published later this year. She draws on experience of researching the effects on education of health epidemics (HIV, and violence against women), poverty, conflict and climate change. She was joint PI on the ESRC/Newton /NRF/GCRF funded project Higher education, inequality and public good in four African countries (2017-2020) and is currently PI on the ESRC funded project on Accountability for Gender Equality in Education. Last year she published the co-edited volume Critical reflections on public private partnerships (Routledge) and this year the second edition of Education and International Development: An introduction will be published with Bloomsbury (co-edited with Tristan McCowan).



Speaker: Professor Lall is a South Asia expert (India, Pakistan and Burma/Myanmar) specialising in political issues and education. She has over 25 years of experience in the region. Her research interests focus on education policy in India, Pakistan and Myanmar with regard to gender, ethnicity and social exclusion, the formation of national identity, and the linkage between national identity, citizenship and education. She also works on the politics of South Asia including domestic politics, political economy, foreign policy, geopolitics of energy, migration and Diaspora politics, citizenship, ethnic peace and conflict issues. She has written widely on these topics and is the author/editor of 10 books. Her most recent books include *Youth and the National Narrative Education, Terrorism and the Security State in Pakistan* (with Tania Saeed, Bloomsbury 2020) and *Myanmar's Education Reforms- A Pathway to Social Justice?* (UCL Press, 2021).

She has been instrumental in providing thought leadership to development agencies, policy makers and governments in the region and internationally. She has worked with the World Bank, UNICEF, the British Council, AUSAID, South Asian philanthropic bodies as well as various government ministries. She appears regularly on BBC News 24/ BBC World, Sky TV, Aljazeera TV and BBC Radio (World Service) and gives interviews on politics and international relations in South Asia. In 2019 her work was honoured at the House of Commons and she was named as one of the 100 most influential people on UK-India relations.

Professor Marie Lall completed her B.Sc. Economics and PhD from the London School of Economics and Political Sciences (LSE) and her MPhil from Cambridge University..



Speaker: Dr Kusha Anand is a Research Fellow at the UCL Institute of Education where she was also awarded her PhD in Political Sociology of Education in 2019. Her thesis looked at how history related to India-Pakistan relations is enacted in schools in India and Pakistan. Dr Anand's first book on Teaching India-Pakistan relations will be published with UCL Press at the end of 2021. Her primary interest is in teacher agency, citizenship education, and innovative pedagogies. Dr. Anand has over a decade of fieldwork experience on several interdisciplinary projects liaising with policymakers, teachers, EdTech entrepreneurs, and NGOs.



Speaker: Pravindhara Balakrishnan is currently a secondary school teacher in Malaysia. He graduated with a MA in Cultural and Education Policy Studies from Loyola University Chicago as a Malaysian recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Foreign Student Program in 2019. Prior pursuing his graduate studies in the U. S., Pravin obtained a B.Ed. TESL from the University of Portsmouth in 2013 with a scholarship from the Ministry of Education Malaysia. Pravin has a keen interest in Comparative and International Education, particularly in the influence of international large-scale assessments and non-state actors in education.



Moderator: Gita Steiner-Khamsi, Professor of Education at Teachers College of Columbia University, USA and Professor in Interdisciplinary Programmes at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland and Director of NORRAG and the KIX EAP hub.



Moderator: Marina Dreux Frotté is Programme coordinator at NORRAG, and the KIX EAP Hub Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Focal Point. Marina Dreux Frotté has extensive expertise in conducting research and applied policy research on the topic of innovative financing for education (IFE). She has recently co-authored a comprehensive literature review on the IFE sector and a case study on the Educate Girls Development Impact Bond.