

## Notes from Engagement and Co-production Working Group meeting – November 12, 2019

During our Skype meeting we discussed:

- Contents of the engagement workshop held in Accra October 9-10, 2019. A report from the facilitator was circulated offering a detailed view of the workshop activities and core topics.
  - How are we addressing the issues/priorities that have been identified during the workshop? How do these findings feed into the project? Part of what was discussed has already been fed back to the various teams and there are efforts to address what was suggested.
- For example, since land tenure issues strongly came up, Jill, Gary and Brian are working on integrating them into their work.
- For issues of density (in terms of what the city of Accra looks like), Barbara is looking into making them a key part of her PhD research
- While noise only came up tangentially, when it did it was about noises coming from churches rather than markets or roads. Sierra is looking into mapping churches in Accra to add this angle to her noise pollution research.
- There is a will to take these contents into account while at the same time acknowledging that we won't be able to address everything. This is because of the team's capacity, abilities and scope.
- We need to ensure we manage societal partners' expectations accordingly, not promising what we cannot deliver but focusing on what we can and will do.
- We need to go back to societal partners in Accra when we have data that partially addresses their concerns.
- Overall, we need to ensure that these engagement workshops impact on:
  - How we're conducting research (e.g.: course adjustments, angles, integrations, dialogue with societal partners as needed...)
  - How we frame the policy options we come up with. While this doesn't necessarily mean addressing issues we're not qualified to address or that are beyond the scope of our research, we do need to align the policy scenarios to issues that matter to the city framed around people's priorities.
- What isn't being discussed is just as important as what comes up. For example, in Accra, mobility only came up in relations to housing and the issue of green spaces wasn't discussed at all. We can take this into account for example by developing a communication and advocacy strategy regarding these issues and framing them differently when we integrate them into policy scenarios.
- How can the PIPA methodology be adapted to different context, including where people may not have enough time to dedicate to it? The flexibility of the tool offers several possibilities to make it work in 2 days or in a 2-hour session. Zahid put forward the possibility of having longer sessions attended by mid-level stakeholders and a shorter, more focussed session for higher-level people.
- Meeting with Tsinghua partners in Beijing (Ying Long and Yuyang Zhang) helped Camilla have a better view of their work and to find entry points for supporting their ongoing engagement.
- The ICUH pre-conference workshop held in Xiamen and hosting presentations across projects funded by the Wellcome Trust Our Planet Our Health scheme (RISE, SHUE, UpStream, SALURBAL, CUSSH, Pathways, OptiHouse) offered a space for reflecting on how can we learn from what other projects are doing in terms of engagement and what is specific to Pathways? Can we reflect on how our patterns for engagement are impacting on the project? How can we be distinctive while learning from each other? Examples of what others are doing include a framework for transdisciplinarity work being shaped by CUSSH

and a system of internal reviewing of ideas for papers adopted by SALURBAL. Camilla, Emily Gemmell and Fangce Guo who attended the workshop will be publishing a blog about it.

Action points:

- Camilla to circulate a version of the report for Pathways researchers, adding to the facilitator's description some comments on contents and methods and including a list of participants
- Zahid and Camilla/Frans to discuss options for engagement in Dhaka
- Camilla/Frans to share an agenda for Accra / Dhaka / Beijing and ongoing engagement across cities, including sets of activities within Pathways, within the London Hub and across OPOH projects.
- Camilla/Frans to think about capturing ongoing engagement and how these meetings feed back into Pathways.
- Giulia to circulate minutes/notes from the London Hub meeting