

M I G R A T I O N M E T H O D O L O G I E S

CHALLENGES,
INNOVATIONS
AND CONCEPTUAL
IMPLICATIONS FOR
ASIAN MIGRATIONS

20-21 JAN 2022



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Migration flows of unprecedented volume and complexity within, as well as in and out of Asia have become one of the main drivers of contemporary social change in the region. Major travel restrictions and curtailments in recent months brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic have further raised severe concerns over the potential impacts and implications of ongoing curbs. In this context, approaches to studying international migration have highlighted the institutions, infrastructures, processes, practices, consequences and experiences of migration while attending to its multi-directional, multi-sited, multi-causal and open-ended nature. New spatialities and temporalities – from transnational families, mobile cities, diaspora-and-development, global care chains, contact zones, spaces of encounter, travel bubbles/corridors/sandbox to multinational migrations – have animated migration research as material borders and socially constructed boundary lines are transgressed, rigidified or redrawn in the face of multiple-, hyper- and transnational migrations and mobilities.

In view of the increasing conceptual breadth and theoretical sophistication of international migration scholarship, it follows that our research practices need to evolve to embrace the quickened pace of mobilities and the heightened sense of transience, simultaneity and otherness experienced by the migrant (and non-migrant) subject within interlocking lifeworlds. As Collins and Huang (2012, p.270) observe, contemporary migration scholarship “draws on a wide range of research methodologies, reflecting the multi-disciplinary character of the field, the diverse sites and subjects of migration, and the varied concepts and theories that underpin this area of study”. These methodologies have broadened to include computational, quantitative, qualitative and mixed-method approaches and techniques as exemplified by the use of longitudinal surveys, sequence analysis, social networks analysis; mental mapping, multi-sited ethnographies, go-along ethnography, visual ethnography, life-story interviews, paired/unpaired interviews, participatory methods and data visualization techniques (Büscher, Urry, and Witchger, 2010; Amelina and Faist, 2012; Meeus, 2012; Martiniello, 2017; Fauser, 2018; Ryan and D’Angelo, 2018).

Despite “all this methodological development, innovation and cross-fertilisation” within the scholarship on migration, the discipline has – to date – failed to fully explore, interrogate, review and compare the merit and design of such methods (Collins and Huang, 2012, p.270). The authors continue to argue that there has also been limited “reflection on the ethical and conceptual implications of these choices” (Collins and Huang, 2010, p. 270). This workshop responds to their observation by providing a collaborative forum to bring together migration scholars with diverse methodological interests and expertise.

Paper presenters are invited to focus on innovative methodological approaches while drawing on substantive findings relevant to “Asian migrations” (broadly defined to refer to migration flows within, as well as in and out of Asia) in order to grapple with the challenges and possibilities in conducting migration research. The workshop welcomes contextually grounded papers that pursue one or more of the following questions:

- How do we research new migration-led spatialities and temporalities in (im)mobile times across interconnected worlds and during a pandemic?
- How do we work with multi-directionality, multi-causality and provisionality in contemporary migrations? How do we map multinational migrations over time and space?
- What kinds of methodological routes can be pursued to go beyond the single case in migration research and to seriously contemplate multi-sited research, develop comparative transnational frameworks, increase awareness of the connectivities across scales and units of analysis, and instill wariness of methodological nationalism?

- How do we equip ourselves for the task of boundary-crossing, a task which goes hand in hand with supporting a socially progressive migration agenda?
- How do we devise research practices that would contribute towards dismantling institutionalized practices which reproduce racisms, nationalisms and social privilege, and pave the way for a more inclusive approach in our work as migration researchers?
- How has the “new (pandemic-)normal” featuring lockdowns, immobilities and restricted human interactions altered our ways of conducting research and reshaped existing conceptualizations of migration?

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CONVENORS

Professor Brenda S.A. Yeoh FBA
National University of Singapore

Dr Theodora Lam
National University of Singapore

Professor Elspeth Graham
University of St Andrews

Associate Professor Lucy Jordan
University of Hong Kong

SINGAPORE
STANDARD TIME

THURSDAY, 20 JANUARY 2022

9:30 – 9:45 WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

TIM BUNNELL | National University of Singapore

THEODORA LAM | National University of Singapore

9:45 – 11:15 PANEL 1 | NEW SPATIALITIES

CHAIRPERSON **SAHANA GHOSH** | National University of Singapore

9:45 A Stepwise Research Approach for Capital-Constrained Migration Scholars

ANJU MARY PAUL | Yale-NUS College

10:05 Using the Comparative Sequential Method to Build a Theory of Sending States Engagement with Global Nurse Migration Pathways

MARGARET WALTON-ROBERTS | Wilfrid Laurier University

10:25 Multi-Directional Migration and Messiness: Methodological Approaches and Implications

ELAINE LYNN-EE HO | National University of Singapore

10:45 QUESTION & ANSWER

11:15 – 12:45 B R E A K

12:45 – 14:45 PANEL 2 | LIFECOURSE TRAJECTORIES AND FAMILY BIOGRAPHIES

CHAIRPERSON **BERNICE LOH** | National University of Singapore

12:45 The Effect of First Migration on Childbirths among Filipino and Indonesian Domestic Workers in Hong Kong

TIM F. LIAO | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

13:05 Relative Importance of Taking Care of Elderly Parents and Children in Hiring Domestic Workers

ERIC FONG | The University of Hong Kong

KUMIKO SHIBUYA | The University of Hong Kong

13:25 Family Migration History: A Framework for Analyzing the Timing of Migrant Family Separations and Reunifications

RYAN RYLEE | Lijiang Culture and Tourism College

CHEN CHEN | Shanghai University

13:45 Marriage Migration and the Linked Lives of Transnational Couples in Singapore

THEODORA LAM | National University of Singapore

SHIRLENA HUANG | National University of Singapore

BRENDA S.A. YEOH FBA | National University of Singapore

14:05 QUESTION & ANSWER

14:45 – 15:15 B R E A K

SINGAPORE
STANDARD TIME

THURSDAY, 20 JANUARY 2022

15:15 – 16:45 PANEL 3 | COMMUNICATION, NETWORKS AND BELONGING

CHAIRPERSON **YI'EN CHENG** | National University of Singapore

15:15 Lifetime Experience of Parental Migration and the Well-Being of Young Adults in Indonesia and the Philippines

ELSPETH GRAHAM | University of St Andrews

ZHOU XIAOCHEN | University of Hong Kong

LUCY JORDAN | University of Hong Kong

15:35 From 'Follow-Up' To 'Following' In Researching Youth Migration Longitudinally: Notes from A Laos-Based Study

ROY HUIJSMANS | Erasmus University

15:55 Tracing Translocal Figurations of Displacement in Asia

SARAH A. TOBIN | Chr. Michelsen Institute

FAWWAZ A. MOMANI | Yarmouk University

16:15 QUESTION & ANSWER

16:45 END OF DAY ONE

SINGAPORE
STANDARD TIME

FRIDAY, 21 JANUARY 2022

10:00 – 12:00 PANEL 4 | TEMPORALITIES

CHAIRPERSON **CHAND SOMAIAH** | National University of Singapore

10:00 Making Meanings and Making Sense of Transnational Migration:
The Extended Scale Method

STEVE MCKAY | University of California, Santa Cruz

10:20 Multi-Verse Methodology: Lessons for Migration Research in Asia

DENISE L. SPITZER | University of Alberta

MARIAN C. SANCHEZ | University of Alberta

FLORENCE K. LAPTO | The University of Hong Kong

LEO ZEPHYRUS CHOW | The University of Hong Kong

10:40 Re-Embedding the Natural Environment in Asian Migrations through
Feminist Political Ecology

CHRISTINE GIBB | University of Ottawa

11:00 Ample/Idle?: Critical Ethnography of Migrant Youth's Time during
the Pandemic

PHIANPHACHONG INTARAT | University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

11:20 QUESTION & ANSWER

12:00 – 13:30 B R E A K

13:30 – 15:00 PANEL 5 | MULTI-SCALAR AND MUTLI-PERSPECTIVE APPROACHES

CHAIRPERSON **EXEQUIEL CABANDA** | National University of Singapore

13:30 *Thank You for Your Patience but I Can't Go Out!* Methodological and
Ethical Reflections on the Temporalities and Spatialities of Working
with Filipina Domestic Workers

ELIZER JAY Y. DE LOS REYES | National University of Singapore

AUDREY YUE | National University of Singapore

13:50 Multi-Sited Research in Pandemic Times: Following Migration Trajectories
Using Geospatial Tools

FRANCESCA ROSE MORAIS | National University of Singapore

14:10 Mapping the Short-Term Placemaking Practices of Millennial Nomads

SIMONE SHU-YENG CHUNG | National University of Singapore

MARY ANN NG | National University of Singapore

14:30 QUESTION & ANSWER

15:00 – 16:00 B R E A K

SINGAPORE
STANDARD TIME

FRIDAY, 21 JANUARY 2022

16:00 – 17:10 PANEL 6 | NEW MIGRANTS, NEW AGENDAS

CHAIRPERSON **ELSPETH GRAHAM** | University of St Andrews

16:00 Re-Thinking Migration Methodologies through Ethnography of Migrant Workers' Health and Healthcare Entitlement across Sri Lanka and Kuwait

SAJIDA ALLY | University of Sussex

16:20 The Dyadic Effects of Positive Parenting on Resilience of Caregivers and Adolescents in the Context of Migration

YAO FU | University of Hong Kong

LUCY JORDAN | University of Hong Kong

JIA CHEN | Shanghai University

KOL WICKRAMARAGE | International Organization of Migration

16:40 QUESTION & ANSWER

17:10 – 17:30 CLOSING REMARKS

ELSPETH GRAHAM | University of St Andrews

LUCY JORDAN | University of Hong Kong

THEODORA LAM | National University of Singapore

17:30 END OF WORKSHOP

A Stepwise Research Approach for Capital-Constrained Migration Scholars

Anju Mary Paul

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Regardless of the social science discipline in which they are trained, all migration scholars are taught various methods – quantitative or qualitative – to prepare them to properly develop a research design that best fits their particular research question and research population. What is not discussed as much is the amount of “research capital” the individual migration scholar can bring to bear to the project in order to successfully carry out the chosen research design. However, this is a crucial (if unspoken) step in the overall research process. Scholars from the Global South in particular may find that they are capital-constrained, which can result in a disconnect between their research ambitions and their actual research capabilities. Drawing on my own research on capital-constrained migrants who engage in stepwise migration to achieve their destination dreams, I explore the advantages of a stepwise research approach for capital-constrained migration scholars. My research involved a mixed-methods study of the stepwise international labor migrations of Filipino and Indonesian migrant domestic workers. This study spanned eight years and involved three phases. I discuss how this research project grew organically, with new research questions, new research sites, and new methods being added incrementally to the project scope, as I learned more about the phenomenon of stepwise migration and unearthed new research questions that needed to be answered. I highlight how I adapted my methods in response to the capital constraints I experienced at various points in my research process and my shifting levels of research capital. In this manner, I attempt to show how a stepwise research approach opens up the study of complex migrations to those without initially high levels of research capital. However, a stepwise research approach does require inventiveness, resilience, flexibility and an acceptance of an open-ended process – the same qualities I observed amongst the capital-constrained stepwise migrants I studied.

Anju Mary Paul is an Associate Professor of sociology at Yale-NUS College, Singapore and an international migration scholar with a research focus on emergent migration to, from, and within Asia. She is especially interested in how gender, labour, race and ethnicity, as well as class intersect at the moment of migration and the post-migration experience. Her first book, *“Multinational Maids”* (Cambridge University Press 2017), explores the stepwise international labour migration patterns and strategies being adopted by Filipino and Indonesian migrant domestic workers. She has also recently published an edited volume of essays written by her students on spaces of globalisation in Singapore entitled *“Local Encounters in a Global City”* (Ethos Books 2017). She has also published articles in the top journals in sociology and migration studies including the *American Journal of Sociology*, *Social Forces*, *Migration Studies*, the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Global Networks*, and *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. Her latest project, *“Asian Scientists on the Move,”* looks at the various migrations of Asian-born, Western-trained bioscientists and the ideas about science and scientific research that they take with them as they travel from country to country.

Using the Comparative Sequential Method to Build a Theory of Sending States Engagement with Global Nurse Migration Pathways

Margaret Walton-Roberts

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This paper reports on stage one of a SSHRC funded international research project that includes researchers from Canada, Germany and Singapore that focuses on diverse international nurse migration pathways. The research contrasts three nurse migration pathways; two-step or study-work pathways that allow for visa change from student to permanent status (India-Canada), bi-lateral 'triple win' or fair migration agreements (Vietnam-Germany), and 'bus stop', temporary worker migration models that are a prelude to onward step migration (Philippines-Singapore). The first stage of research involved a scan of relevant policies, agreements, and partnerships that relate to immigration, skills mobility and educational partnerships between these countries in the area of nursing education, training and international migration. The research in phase one uses the Comparative Sequential Method (Falleti & Mahoney, 2015), an overarching methodology of comparative-historical analysis, to understand what has happened in sending states that might facilitate nurse training and education oriented toward servicing international markets. This method includes inductive process tracing that allows for discovery of events that occurred in a sequence that were not anticipated, that allows for the assembly of events into coherent sequences. Key occurrences that have been identified in the three sending countries of India, Philippines and Vietnam include demographic factors, economic liberalization processes, emigration policy and bilateral agreement development, and educational reform and privatization. These occurrences typically create the building blocks of sequences that permit historical comparison and theory development. Such analysis permits identification of continuous, self-amplifying, and self-eroding processes, for example whether private investment in education for migration becomes a self-amplifying process? This paper will report on the initial findings from stage one of this project.

Margaret Walton-Roberts is a professor in the Geography and Environmental studies department at Wilfrid Laurier University, and affiliated to the Balsillie School of International Affairs, Waterloo Ontario. Her current research focuses on the international migration of health care professionals within Asia and from Asia to North America and Europe.

Multi-Directional Migration and Messiness: Methodological Approaches and Implications

Elaine Lynn-Ee Ho

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Although the concept and practice of migration seems to be premised upon the *flows* of people across space, researchers inadvertently “fix” people in space (or spatial contexts) when they consider migrants as subjects of study. For example, we tend to isolate “immigration” or “emigration” trends as separate fields of study, anchored in either a migrant-receiving or migrant-sending country respectively. What are the implications, however, if our starting point of analysis is one that captures how “multi-directional migration” flows intersect in a migration site or through such flows forge (citizenship) connections across migration sites? I consider three lines of inquiry in this paper: (1) Why should we study multi-directional migration in all its messiness? (2) What are the epistemological and methodological tools that could be useful for studying multi-directional migration? (3) Lastly, what would mapping multi-directional migration look like, how can this be operationalised, and what political effects would such an endeavour achieve? To examine these questions, this presentation draws on nearly a decade of multi-sited research—mainly using interviews and ethnography—on Chinese migration connecting Singapore to China.

Elaine Lynn-Ee Ho is Associate Professor at the Department of Geography and Senior Research Fellow at the Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore. Her research addresses how citizenship is changing as a result of multi-directional migration flows in the Asia-Pacific. She is author of *Citizens in Motion: Emigration, Immigration and Re-migration across China's Borders* (Stanford University Press), which received the American Sociological Association’s (ASA) award for “Best Book in Global and Transnational Sociology by an International Scholar” in 2019. Elaine is Editor of the journal, *Social and Cultural Geography*, and serves on the journal editorial boards of *Citizenship Studies*; *Emotions, Society and Space*; and the *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*. Her current research focuses on two domains: first, transnational ageing and care in the Asia-Pacific; and second, im/mobilities and diaspora aid at the China-Myanmar border.

The Effect of First Migration on Childbirths among Filipino and Indonesian Domestic Workers in Hong Kong

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The relationship between migrant workers' migratory moves and their marital fertility is complex. The literature on international migration contains three main explanations of the relationship—the disruption hypothesis about the impact of migration on the timing and spacing of births, the adaptation hypothesis on migrants' adjustments of their fertility to that in the place of destination, and the selectivity hypothesis concerning unobserved characteristics such as the desire for upward mobility and its subsequent effects on both fertility and migration. This research note focuses on the disruption hypothesis in an examination of Filipino and Indonesian migrant domestic workers' migration and fertility trajectories, using the 2017 survey of Filipino and Indonesian migrant domestic workers in Hong Kong. The findings from the analysis suggest a disruptive effect of migration on childbirths for the women in their twenties from both Indonesia and the Philippines but not for the older age cohorts.

Tim F. Liao is Professor of Sociology, Statistics, and East Asian Languages & Cultures and Head of the Department of Sociology at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Until recently, he served as Director of the Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies at the University of Illinois. He is a Deputy Editor of the journal *Demography*. He is a founding member of the Sequence Analysis Association and serves on the association's executive committee (<https://sequenceanalysis.org/>).

Relative Importance of Taking Care of Elderly Parents and Children in Hiring Domestic Workers

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Kumiko Shibuya

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Hiring foreign domestic helpers has been seen as a policy to release females from household responsibilities so they can join the labor market. Surprisingly, few studies have explored the relative importance of the household's needs to take care of children and elderly members. Using data from 2016 Hong Kong census, we found that the number of elderly persons and the number of young children in the household are positively associated with the household's decision to hire foreign domestic helpers. Our analysis also demonstrates that household members are more likely to choose to work and outsource the care of young children to foreign domestic helpers. However, our analysis also shows that households are more likely to take care of elderly persons without helpers even when household members are in the labor force and employed. Household members may co-ordinate and allocate time to take care of their elderly members instead of outsourcing the care to a foreign domestic helper.

Eric Fong is Professor, Chair in Sociology in the Department of Sociology and the head of the Research Cluster on Contemporary China in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Hong Kong. Before joining the University of Hong Kong, he served as Chair of the Department of Sociology and the inaugural Director of the Research Centre on Migration and Mobility at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Prior to returning to Hong Kong in 2016, Fong had been Professor of Sociology at the University of Toronto for over 20 years. Fong formerly served as President of the Canadian Population Society and the North America Chinese Sociologist Association, as well as Chair of the International Migration Section of the American Sociological Association. Fong publishes widely on race and ethnic residential patterns and immigration. His latest book with Brent Berry, *Immigration and the City*, was published by Polity Press in 2017. He led a research team to collect large-scale survey data on Hong Kong migrant domestic helpers in 2016.

Kumiko Shibuya is Associate Professor in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Hong Kong. Her publications appeared, among others, in *American Sociological Review*, *Annual Review of Sociology*, and *Demography*. She is currently working on a book on migrant domestic workers.

Family Migration History: A Framework for Analyzing the Timing of Migrant Family Separations and Reunifications

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Migrants are often separated from their families, but the timing, frequency, and durations of separations vary, with consequences for the well-being of family members. In our research on migrants in China, we find that understanding why and when family separations are initiated and how long they last is advanced by collecting the complete migration histories of all conjugal family members, including any dependent children, as well as information on when important events in the family occur and some information on the natal families of adult migrants and their spouses. We also find it useful to specify the coresidence or separation of particular family members, as opposed to grouping different forms of separation together. Together, these approaches to collecting and organizing migrant family biographical data constitute what we call the *family migration history framework*. We apply this framework to both rural-urban migration within China and international migration to the Chinese city of Yiwu. Through examples, we show how the framework allows for the use of quantitative or qualitative methods to identify factors that affect patterns of individual migration and the timing of family separations and reunifications. In doing so, we also suggest how a common framework can support the comparison or integration of findings across different kinds of studies.

Ryan Rylee is a lecturer at Lijiang Culture and Tourism College. He has researched migration and the integration of international migrant families in the city of Yiwu, China, and published on the educational profiles of return migrants in *Population Research and Policy Review*. He has a JD from UCLA School of Law and has practiced law in California. Currently, he is exploring ecological agriculture, multispecies relationships, and related sciences in Yunnan from an anthropological perspective.

Chen Chen is Assistant Professor and Deputy Director at the Asian Demographic Research Institute at Shanghai University. She received her PhD in Geography from UCLA. Her research employs quantitative and qualitative methods to understand changing patterns of internal and international migration, including in relation to family, gender, and generation.

Marriage Migration and the Linked Lives of Transnational Couples in Singapore

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Research on migration in recent decades have established the increasing importance of studying migration within the household/familial context, placing the emphasis on “mutual interdependence” rather than “individual independence” (Gubhaju and De Jong, 2009: 32). Despite the shift, few migration studies have yet dedicated sufficient attention on interrogating the extent and effects of the “interdependence” of various individuals within the migrant household. In particular, a linked lives approach – often used when studying intergenerational or spousal relations and influences – has rarely been applied within the migration framework. Defined simply, linked lives allow researchers the opportunity to examine “lives that are lived interdependently, and [where] social and historical influences are expressed through this network of shared relationships” (Elder, 1998: 4). Given that spouses often form “the most intensive linkages because they move through the life course together” (Lundquist and Xu, 2014: 1066), a linked lives approach would therefore provide an especially valuable theoretical grounding for understanding the significantly connected yet fluid lives of marriage migrants over time and even space.

In this vein, this paper aims to highlight how a linked lives approach is useful in furthering the understanding of the “mutually intertwined life trajectories” (Lundquist and Xu, 2014: 1066) of marriage migrant couples in Singapore consisting of a Southeast Asian wife and a Singaporean husband dyad. To paraphrase Settersten (2015: 217), the paper traces how the respective lives of these married individuals “affect and are [continuously] affected by” each other as well as the lives of others from the point of their meeting through their marital life course. Such a methodological approach in studying marriage migrants offers several advantages. It first allows the researcher to examine the complex interplay of micro and meso/macro effects on the union of two separate individuals from rather different socio-cultural contexts and their subsequent conjoined lives within an environment that is often ‘out of place’ for at least one half of the pair. Besides considering and dissembling both individual and structural factors affecting the linked lives of transnational married couples, the approach allows researchers to situate the changes experienced over and at critical junctures of the couples’ respective life courses. Through the life-stories of 14-paired migrant-wife and Singaporean-husband dyads, this paper stresses the importance of using a linked lives approach toward a deeper understanding of how marriage migrants navigate the strictures of migration, cultural and gender factors in linking their lives together in Singapore.

Theodora Lam is Research Fellow in Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore (NUS). She obtained her PhD in Geography from NUS and her dissertation focused on understanding changing gender subjectivities, web of care and relationships within the family in the wake of transnational labour migration. Her research highlights the voices of return migrants as well as carers and children who have remained in the home countries. Theodora is currently involved in a longitudinal research project, Child Health and Migrant Parents in Southeast Asia (CHAMPSEA): Waves 1 and 2. Her research interests cover transnational migration, children's geographies and gender studies. She has co-edited several special journal issues and has also published on themes relating to migration, citizenship and education in various journals and edited books including *American Behavioral Scientist*, *Asia Pacific Viewpoint*, *Environment and Planning A* and *Population, Space and Place*.

Shirlena Huang is Associate Professor at the Geography Department at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Her research focuses mainly on issues at the intersection of migration, gender and families (with a particular focus on care labour migration and transnational families within the Asia-Pacific region) as well as urbanisation and heritage conservation (particularly in Singapore). She serves on several editorial boards including *Gender Place and Culture*, *International Journal of Population Research*, *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*, and *Women's Studies International Forum*, as well as book series *Asian Cultural Studies: Transnational and Dialogic Approaches* (Rowman & Littlefield) and *The Intimate and the Public in Asian and Global Perspectives* (Brill).

Brenda S.A. Yeoh FBA is Raffles Professor of Social Sciences at the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Research Leader of the Asian Migration Cluster at the Asia Research Institute, NUS. Her research interests include the politics of space in colonial and postcolonial cities, and she also has considerable experience working on a wide range of migration research in Asia, including key themes such as cosmopolitanism and highly skilled talent migration; gender, social reproduction and care migration; migration, national identity and citizenship issues; globalising universities and international student mobilities; and cultural politics, family dynamics and international marriage migrants. She has published widely on these topics and her recent books include *Transnational Labour Migration, Remittances and the Changing Family in Asia* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015, with Lan Anh Hoang) and *Contested Memoryscapes: The Politics of Second World War Commemoration in Singapore* (Routledge, 2016, with Hamzah Muzaini), *Asian Migrants and Religious Experience: From Missionary Journeys to Labor Mobility* (Amsterdam University Press, 2018 with Bernardo Brown) and *Handbook of Asian Migrations* (Routledge, 2018 with Gracia Liu-Farrer).

Lifetime Experience of Parental Migration and the Well-Being of Young Adults in Indonesia and the Philippines

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Several low and middle income countries in Southeast Asia facilitate, if not encourage, their citizens to seek employment in higher income countries of the region and beyond. The advantages at the national scale include the export of surplus labour and the foreign exchange earned through remittances sent by migrants to kin back home, but the costs and benefits for individual family members, especially children, are less clear. The CHAMPSEA project is investigating the short and longer-term effects of parental migration on the health and well-being of children left behind when one or both of their parents is, or has been, working overseas. The first wave of data collection in 2008 interviewed around 1,000 households in each of four Southeast Asian countries, sampling index children in households where at least one parent was an international migrant or both parents were non-migrants over the previous six months. The second wave of data collection in 2016 re-interviewed the same households in two of the study countries – Indonesia and the Philippines – and found that in over a third (35.5%) of households traced the migration status of the parents had changed. Moreover, the detailed migration history data revealed considerable diversity in parental migration trajectories.

This paper explores a novel methodology for capturing the diversity and commonality of children's experience of parental migration. Although Sequence Analysis (SA) has previously been used in migration studies to summarise the migration trajectories of individual migrants, this is the first paper to encapsulate young adults' experience of parental migration by applying SA to the combined trajectories of both mothers and fathers over the lifetime of their child – a period of up to 20 years (N = 335 for Indonesia; N = 224 for the Philippines). Our aim is to produce two summary variables for use in the statistical modelling of health and well-being outcomes. The variables are derived in three stages: (i) we describe and visualise the combined parental migration trajectories using the package "TraMineR"; (ii) we derive the first variable as a count of the number of transitions in the detailed migration trajectories to capture stability or change in young adults' experience of parental migration over time; (iii) we derive the second variable by conducting typological analysis using the "WeightedCluster" package in R in order to summarise the length and timing of parental migration across the life time of the young adults. The paper discusses the methodological choices necessary for the derivation of these two variables and reviews an example of their use in models predicting health risk behaviours among young adults in Indonesia and the Philippines. It concludes with reflections on the value of this approach for future research.

Elsbeth Graham has recently retired from her role as Co-Director of the ESRC Centre for Population Change, where she jointly led the Fertility and Family research strand, and is now Emeritus Professor of Geography at the University of St Andrews, UK. Her research interests are in population and health and she has published widely on issues related to low fertility in Europe, housing and demography, migration and geographies of health, and left-behind children in Southeast Asia. She has also published in methodological issues, and has been a long-time advocate of mixed-methods research. She is currently working on projects in Europe and Southeast Asia.

Zhou Xiaochen holds a joint PhD degree from King's College, London and the University of Hong Kong. Her research focuses on education, social stratification, and child welfare. Her research field also includes social policy, migration, and family studies. She is currently working as a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Hong Kong.

Lucy Jordan is Associate Professor in the Department of Social Work and Social Administration, University of Hong Kong. Her research focuses on how societal transformation impacts on intimate family life and wellbeing. Her scholarship includes study of key themes related to social transformation and family life including migration and transnational families, and other topics related to social vulnerability including intergenerational family relationships, social integration of migrants, commercial sexual exploitation of children, and risk behavior in developing global urban contexts. Her current research focuses on migration and the family in emerging economies of Asia including Hong Kong, China, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Nepal.

From 'Follow-Up' To 'Following' In Researching Youth Migration Longitudinally: Notes from A Laos-Based Study

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The idea of a 're-study', 're-visit' or a 'follow-up study' is common across social science scholarship. In this paper I argue the importance *and* the impossibility of doing such research in relation youth migration. Empirically this is based on field research carried out in early 2020 in rural Laos in which I interviewed a number of young adults whom I had first worked with in 2007-09 when they were mobile children and youth.

I problematize the idea of a 're-study' or 'follow-up study' in the following ways. First, in the rapidly changing socio-economic and cultural context of rural Laos the phenomenon of migration needs to be recontextualized and cannot just be 're-studied'. Second, generation dynamics problematize the idea of a re-study. The mobile children and youth I worked with in 2007-09 had become young adults in 2020 putting them in a very different life phase which transforms the research interaction in significant ways. Third, the idea of a 're-study' tends to leave unmarked the researcher and how the researcher is no longer the same scientist s/he once was.

The concept of 'following' (verb) is more apt. In contemporary ethnographic research, with young people in particular, researcher and researched may stay connected through social media platforms. As a consequence ethnographers never quite leave the field and research relations continue digitally. Moreover, the spatial tagging of a social media platform like Facebook means that such digital following sheds lights on people's physical mobilities too.

Following comes with conceptual implications while its digital dimension raises ethical concerns. With regard to the former, researcher have to go beyond conventional concepts of youth studies and enrich this the life course and associated concepts in order to understand how life course events (i.e. school-work transitions, marriage, setting up residence, becoming a parent) intersect with migration. In terms of research ethics, there are questions about whether to, and if so, how to use observations from social media platforms for research purposes. In addition, as social media is becoming a vehicle in maintaining research relations beyond the physical field this also raises questions about one's own social media usage.

Roy Huijsmans is associate professor at the International Institute of Social Studies (Erasmus University). His research interests include the phenomenon of children and youth in migration in relation to broader societal changes and dynamics. He has studied this ethnographically based on research in Laos.

Tracing Translocal Figurations of Displacement in Asia

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Forced migration studies often rely on research at single places and countries. Place-based or territorially-confined approaches are certainly well-suited to investigate how displaced people live and interact with others at certain localities and navigate through governance regimes of aid and asylum. They might, however, fail to capture the inherent multi-sitedness of many displaced people's everyday lives and their translocal connections across the globe. Our paper will present the multi-sited methodology of the EU-funded Horizon 2020 project "Transnational Figurations of Displacement" (TRAFIG) and how it is being implemented in Asia. Our 3-year multi-country study assumes that translocal connectivity and mobility are among the key factors for moving out of protracted displacement (see Etzold et al. 2019 for details on the TRAFIG concept). As such the project is methodologically innovative, using a mixed approach itself (including ethnographic research, qualitative interviews, group consultations and a survey) and studies the means by which the refugees and IDPs themselves are connected and follows their mobility trajectories to multiple places. It thus largely rests on multi-sited and mobile methods. In Asia, the study examines displaced persons from Afghanistan and Syria, their complex trajectories of displacement, their everyday lives and their *translocal* networks. Moreover, our flexible methodology allows us to follow refugees' *transnational* networks to other countries, potentially as far as Europe where research will be conducted simultaneously. Inspired by figurational sociology we then seek to identify how particular power structures and dependency relations unfold in these 'translocal figurations of displacement' and how they change over time.

Sarah A Tobin is an anthropologist working at Chr. Michelsen Institute. In her work she explores transformations in religious and economic life, identity construction and personal piety, in recent years in particular in Jordanian refugee camps.

Fawwaz A. Momani is Associate Professor of Psychological Counseling and former Director of the Refugees, Displaced Persons, and Forced Migration Studies Centre at Yarmouk University in Jordan.

Mudassar Javed is anthropologist and Director of SHARP-Pakistan and works on human rights, sexual and reproductive health and rights education, sexual and gender-based violence as well as migration and human trafficking.

Katja Mielke is a political scientist who works at Bonn International Center for Conversion with a focus on the nexus of violent conflict, mobility and migration in Central- and South Asia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe.

Benjamin Etzold is a geographer at Bonn International Center for Conversion working on trajectories of migration and displacement as well as social vulnerability and livelihoods.

Making Meanings and Making Sense of Transnational Migration: The Extended Scale Method

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Drawing on a long-term study of Filipino migrant men in one of the most global industries and labor markets, merchant shipping, this article outlines a methodological approach – the extended scale method – that addresses the difficulties of conducting ethnographic research across multiple contexts, while also building theory and conducting structural analysis from subject-level inquiry. The extended scale method combines 2 approaches: Michael Burawoy’s (1998, 2009) “extended case method” and Biao Xiang’s (2013) “multi-scalar ethnography.” My approach to studying Filipino seafarers, their niche in the global labor market, and their gendered and racialized meaning-making centers on their transnational mobile workplace: I conducted participant observation on 3 different ships with mixed-nationality crews to examine how space and place influence intersectional boundary-making. But my case also required I “extend” my ethnographic analysis (a la Burawoy) beyond a single site: into the migratory lives of my participants; across space and time; and from micro-analysis to theory-building. In adapting Burawoy to transnational migration, I draw on Xiang’s multi-scalar approach, examining the interplay between subject-level meaning-making and broader social processes. My extended scalar approach includes: at the global scale, interviews at a crewing company in Tokyo, Japan to examine how labor demand results in a racialized and segmented global market; at the national scale, interviews in the Philippines with government officials, manning agents, and school instructors to understand how seafarers are prepped, marketed, and regulated; and finally, at the community scale, ethnographic interviews in seafarers’ communities in the Philippines to understand what masculinity and mobility locally mean, and how masculinity is performed and constructed by migrants situationally when they leave the confines of their ships and return home. The extended scale method thus helps make visible the link between subjects and structural forces and allows one to examine multiple mechanisms that underlie the interaction.

Steve McKay is Associate Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center for Labor Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. His interests include labor, migration, race, gender and globalization. His research has examined migrant seafarers from the Philippines, the Filipino niche in global shipping, and constructions and performance of masculinity and race in transnational contexts. He is author of *Satanic Mills or Silicon Islands? The Politics of High Tech Production in the Philippines* (2006), and co-editor of *Precarity and Belonging: Labor, Migration, and Noncitizenship* (2021), and *New Routes for Diaspora Studies* (2012). His work has also been published in *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Gender and Society*, and *the Journal of Comparative Asian Development*. He has also developed a series of community-initiated student-engaged research (CISER) projects conducted in Santa Cruz, California focusing on low-wage labor, affordable housing, and immigrant belonging.

Multi-Verse Methodology: Lessons for Migration Research in Asia

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The dynamic multi-layered complexities of migration demand research that both attends to diversities and specificities of localities, policies, and subject positions, while also accompanying salient and multi-directional migratory flows. In this paper, we argue that the development of a multi-nodal research network comprised of differently-situated partners who operate within and across national, disciplinary, and stakeholder borders offers the best response to these requirements. Drawing from our research project, *The Lives of Migrant Remittances: An Asian Comparative Study (LOMR)*, which focuses on the meanings and distribution of financial and social remittances from Filipino and Indonesian migrant workers in Hong Kong and their uptake in their home countries, communities, and households, we outline how research network members grounded in disparate epistemic and ontological positions enrich our data collection processes and complicate our analytical frameworks. In accordance with feminist and participatory methodologies (Benson & Nagar, 2006; Morrow & Hankivsky, 2007), the research team, comprised of academics, graduate students, and representatives from migrant advocacy and grassroots organizations—including current and former Hong Kong-based migrant workers—is conceptualized as a multi-nodal network. This structure allows for emergent design of research activities based on local conditions, enhances flexibility in response to shifting policies and innovations, and helps de-centre the privilege of academic scholars from the Global North. While the unequal distribution of resources, demands of funders, and challenges working across multiple temporal, organizational, and spatial realms can militate against flattened organizational hierarchies and decentralized decision-making, cross-border conversations and relationships amongst individuals that give rise to the development of the multi-nodal research networks aid in working through these issues (Spitzer, 2012).

Denise L. Spitzer is a Professor in the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta and an Adjunct Professor in the Institute of Feminist and Gender Studies at the University of Ottawa, Canada, where, from 2005-2015, she was the Canada Research Chair in Gender, Migration and Health and Principal Scientist in the Institute of Population Health. In addition to undergraduate studies in Biology, Chinese Language, and Music, she holds a Master's degree and doctorate in Anthropology from the University of Alberta, Canada. Engaging in participatory research with migrant communities throughout Asia, Canada, and the Horn of Africa, Professor Spitzer is interested in examining how global processes, mediated through intersectionality, are implicated in health and wellbeing.

Marian Sanchez is a public health and community development practitioner from the Philippines. She is currently a guest at Treaty 6 Territory, Edmonton, as a PhD candidate in Public Health at the University of Alberta. Marian's early consciousness was shaped by the socio-economic struggles and community spirit of the fisherfolks in her hometown, Binmaley. Her alignment with anti-oppression work is nourished by her exposure to the plights and strengths of the Indigenous peoples, the urban poor, the agricultural workers, and the Philippine migrant labour force. Any research or development initiative must uplift people's dignity and strengthen their capacity to help themselves—this is her personal and professional compass.

Florence K. Lapto is a PhD student at the Department of Sociology, The University of Hong Kong. Her research focuses on informal settlement, sex work, substance abuse, and inmate culture. She is interested in studying qualitative research methodologies.

Re-Embedding the Natural Environment in Asian Migrations through Feminist Political Ecology

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Piguet (2013) calls for re-embedding the natural environment as an important factor in human mobility, in actively shaping and being shaped by complex migration and other social, economic, political and environmental processes. Asia's diverse migration streams and susceptibility to environmental change, among other factors, position the region as a fruitful site for such re-embedding. This paper explores how to do so. First, it reflects upon the ability of particular techniques, including interviews, go-alongs, workshops, reflexive blogging, and participatory videos and mapping activities, to unpack environmental migration-led spatialities and temporalities after Typhoon Sendong in Northern Mindanao, Philippines. The techniques themselves reveal diverse, sometimes contradictory, aspects of migration processes. These techniques focus attention onto the bodily aspects of both migration and migration research (cf. Longhurst, Ho, and Johnston 2008); they centre the bodies of migrant and non-migrant subjects as the locus of migration challenges and impacts (Silvey and Lawson 1999). Second, the paper situates these findings in a political ecology framework. Adopting a political ecology approach avoids reproducing the thinly veiled racisms, nationalisms and social privilege characteristic of natural determinism—a key contributor to the disappearance of the environment from migration studies in much of 20th century, and the alarmist warnings of waves of environmental refugees that sparked the reappearance of the environment in migration studies in the 1980s and 1990s (Piguet 2013). Instead, a political ecology approach, and the methodological techniques underpinning it, re-place the natural environment in a contemporary, socially progressive migration agenda.

Christine Gibb is Assistant Professor with the School of International Development and Global Studies, University of Ottawa. She is researching how gendered religious practices, institutions and norms determine access to disaster assistance in Southeast Asia. Her doctoral and postdoctoral research investigated a specific case of environmental migration in the Philippines, and focused on governmentality and exclusion in relocation sites and other post-disaster spaces. Her research interests include environmental migration, global environmental change, feminist geography, post-disaster reconstruction, and accompanied research methodologies.

Ample/Idle?: Critical Ethnography of Migrant Youth's Time during the Pandemic

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Ethnography is largely about being there and observing the 'unspoken.' The COVID-19 pandemic intensifies the ethical tension between a researcher's project and the well-being of the vulnerable community studied. How can a research project continue in a way that mutually benefits both parties?

My ethnographic research uses the concept of "generation" to understand migration temporalities of the Myanmar-Muslim noncitizens in Mae Sot, a Thai-Burmese border town. By looking across generations, I study how temporality as a characteristic of noncitizen's lived experiences varies depending on their intersectional identity, including ages. Moreover, the generational lens recenter the social reproduction of migrant labor power usually excluded from labor migration policy narratives.

Due to the pandemic, I adjusted my method by collaborating with the Help Without Frontier, a humanitarian organization in a project exploring the pandemic's impacts on migrant children in Mae Sot. I consider this collaboration 'critical ethnography' as it served the community's needs meanwhile empowering the researched population. In brief, the researchers trained a group of migrant youth with research ethics and data collection techniques to work in target communities. The primary data contributes both to humanitarian outcomes and to my research objectives. Moreover, the trainees learned the politics of knowledge production regarding their own community.

The finding confirms my pre-pandemic data about a tension between temporal resource and migrant youth's agency. While they have more time than their parents, they don't have much authority over how to spend it. Migration studies scholars conceptualize undocumented (adult) migrants' temporality as "trapped." This paper demonstrates a comparison of migrant youth's time as "open-ended." If it is spent as a long-term investment in education, their chance of regularizing status increases. But the parents' immobility caused by the pandemic forced the family to cash this resource for immediate purpose—working as child labor during the crisis.

Phianphachong Intarat is a PhD Candidate in Anthropology, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. In September 2019, she started conducting ethnographic research in a Myanmar-Muslim community in Mae Sot, a Thai westernmost border town across Myanmar. Her research explores the lived experiences of stateless Myanmar-Muslims to understand how their intersectional identities contribute to heterogeneous noncitizenship, the characteristic that challenges a long-standing binary between citizenship as a legal status, and the lack of it. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit hard, Phianphachong was under lockdown in her research site and inevitably had to alter her research methodology to advance the project. While coping with her research challenges, Phianphachong also witnessed intensified inequality and resilience in the Myanmar-Muslim community. She looks forward to discussing both methodological dilemmas and the experiences of noncitizens in Thailand with other scholars in the workshop.

Thank You for Your Patience but I Can't Go Out! Methodological and Ethical Reflections on the Temporalities and Spatialities of Working with Filipina Domestic Workers

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Several works have conceptually enriched the spatiality and temporality of migrancy in recent years. On the one hand, they describe the hierarchical (Paul, 2017), circuitous (Parreñas, Silvey, Hwang, & Choi, 2018), and crisscrossing (Parreñas, 2021) spatial patterns of international migration. On the other hand, they account for the temporary (Liu Farrer & Yeoh, 2018), contemporaneous (Ho, 2018), and staggard (Robertson, 2019) temporal configuration of migrancy. While there are rich conceptual handles for the temporal and spatial experiences of migrants, there has been a lack of methodological and ethical reflections from migration scholars on how they engage with the material or tangible inequalities related to time and space among the migrants they work with.

This paper offers methodological and ethical reflections about working with ten Filipina Domestic Workers (FDWs) during the COVID-19 pandemic in Singapore. By using the researchers and the participants' experiences during the course of a research project, this paper engages with the following questions:

- How do researchers navigate the intersections of various time cultures such as the *polychronic Filipino time* that FDWs bring with; the transactional and rigid *monochronic time* (Hall, 1983) that academic researchers adhere to; and the pronounced *mobilechronic temporality* (Chung & Lim, 2005) during the pandemic?
- How do researchers use various *space of place* and *space of flows* (Castells, et al., 2007) in their work with FDWs that are cognizant of institutional, cultural, and racial dynamics of academia and labor migration in contemporary Singapore?

In grappling with these questions, we tap into conceptual and methodological resources from *Sikolohiyang Pilipino* (Filipino Psychology) (Enriquez, 1975; Pe Pua & Protacio-Marcelino, 2000) to forward an 'indigenization from within' Filipino migration, and potentially nuance this approach from a transnational and diasporic context.

Elizer Jay de los Reyes is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Communications and New Media, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore. His current work examines transnational connections between migrant Filipina domestic workers in Singapore and their left-behind families in the Cordilleras, northern Philippines. He investigates how the transnationalization of families shapes intergenerational mobility and educational aspirations. Jay was previously a Fulbright scholar at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; an NYU-Steinhardt Faculty-First Look Scholar, and a Melbourne International Research Scholar at The University of Melbourne where he obtained his PhD in Sociology and Cross-Cultural Education.

Audrey Yue is Professor in Media, Culture and Critical Theory, Head of Communications and New Media, Convenor of the Cultural Studies in Asia multidisciplinary programme, and Director of the Cultural Research Centre at the National University of Singapore. Before returning to Singapore and joining NUS in July 2017, she was a Professor in Cultural Studies and Director of the Research Unit in Public Cultures at the University of Melbourne. She is trained as a Humanities scholar, and now conducts and publishes research across both Humanities and Social Sciences. Her research covers the fields of transnational Chinese media cultures; cultural policy and development, and Asian gender studies. She is currently International Partner Investigator in four Australian Research Council and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada funded projects on arts participation in the smart city; young people and multiculturalism, and; Asian media cities.

Multi-Sited Research in Pandemic Times: Following Migration Trajectories Using Geospatial Tools

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Migrants are increasingly engaging in multiple migrations, resulting in more multidirectional and messy trajectories that go beyond a unidirectional relocation from origin to destination country. In order to closely track the complex movements of a migrant, scholars have adopted a multi-sited trajectory approach that follows the twists and turns of migration journeys through space and time (Schapendonk and Steel, 2014; Schapendonk et al., 2018). However, such a long-term and long-distance approach can be time consuming and expensive. Furthermore, the current climate of restricted mobility and travel restrictions in light of COVID-19 has rendered such an approach almost impossible. In this paper, I reflect on my experience adapting an inherently multi-sited research approach to the immobile conditions of the pandemic using digital tools as an aid. In order to emulate as best as possible the idea of 'following' respondents on their migration journeys, I adopt Buckle's (2020) method combining geospatial technologies and in-depth interviews where participants narrate their migration stories alongside Google Earth's satellite imagery. Through a critical evaluation of my research design and interviewing process, I discuss the difficulties and opportunities for incorporating digital elements in traditional biographical research methods. In doing so, I discuss the extent to which digital technologies might be able to fully circumvent the need for overseas travel in migration research.

Franchesca Rose Morais is a Research Assistant at the Asia Research Institute based in the Asian Migration Cluster where she works on a wide range of migration-related research. She is also a first-year Master's student in Geography at the National University of Singapore. Her research is broadly concerned with the impact of crisis and (im)mobility on transnational families and relationships. For her Master's thesis, she will be exploring more specifically the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on middle-class Indonesian migrants in Singapore and their families abroad.

Mapping the Short-Term Placemaking Practices of Millennial Nomads

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Millennial nomads, globally dispersed and peripatetic individuals whose travel freedom is in fact contingent on each individual's motility, are imbued with a different understanding of distance and time. Although millennials are commonly identified by their age cohort i.e. currently between twenties and mid-thirties, they are more definitively identified by a common mindset and shared values. As the first generation of digital natives who grew up internet literate and accepting the entanglement of personalised technological devices as an everyday norm, these individuals, leveraging on twenty-first century affordances in mobility and travel (Urry, 2007), personify geographical liberation as well as 'everywhereness' (Scott, 2016) in their short-term placemaking practices. The rise of millennial nomads have come to challenge the conventional work, life and education triadic relationship, motivated by their need for location-independence and technological integration. Singapore, in particular, is recognized as the destination for millennials for employment prospects rather than tourism (Maynard, 2019). Rather than emphasizing transience and movement, our research on multi-mobile millennial nomads considers the moment of 'stillness' when a short-term address is in place, to supply a balancing perspective. The digital diffusion allows for new possibilities in connecting analysis and intervention in social research through the use of digital methods and approaches (Pink, 2009; Marres, 2017). A mixed methodology, consisting of semi-structured closed interviews and social media analysis, guides the qualitative ethnographic study on the spatiality and temporality of millennial nomad placemaking across different scales, with data visualization and analysis utilizing digital tools i.e. ARCGIS, word clouds and visual media.

Simone Shu-Yeng Chung is Assistant Professor at the Department of Architecture, National University of Singapore. She holds a PhD in Architecture and MPhil from University of Cambridge, and an MSc from University College London. After completing her studies at the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL, and the Architectural Association, she practiced as a chartered architect in London.

Mary Ann Ng graduated with a Masters of Architecture from the National University of Singapore (NUS) and is currently the Curatorial Assistant for the Singapore Pavilion at the 17th Venice Biennale International Architecture Exhibition. She was also research assistant on Dr Chung's MOE Tier 1 AcRF project *Deciphering the Spatial Rhetorics of Millennial Nomads* at the School of Design and Environment, NUS.

Re-Thinking Migration Methodologies through Ethnography of Migrant Workers' Health and Healthcare Entitlement across Sri Lanka and Kuwait

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How notions of migration transform with health remains a largely unexplored topic, yet it is a crucial lens for analysing the convergence of migratory, medical and policy infrastructures. Sri Lankan migrant workers in Kuwait are in transition between varying approaches to body and health, systems of healthcare and rights, as well as regulations on medical assessment and labour recruitment. In researching migrants' experiences, physical, emotional and symbolic transitions are probed alongside the roles of public and private actors to create politically-relevant accounts. This paper discusses the methodology of conducting ethnography of migrants' health and healthcare entitlement across the different spaces of Kuwait and Sri Lanka and producing intimate accounts using a multi-scalar perspective. It investigates the value of researching migrants' experiences of healthcare while attending to meso contexts of medical, recruitment and juridical settings, as well as macro frames of regulations. The research draws on political anthropology that elaborates ideas of migrants' 'health-related deservingness' (Willen 2012) and how health is constructed by agents and produced through structures of differentiation and inequality (Fassin 2007). Research is being conducted in Kuwait and Sri Lanka from 2018-2020, and includes participant observation, interviews with migrants and key secondary informants and a small survey. The paper argues that migration means different things to Sri Lankans who navigate healthcare and bodily surveillance across contexts and the frontier of healing processes and policies. Consequently, re-focusing methodological questions of intra-Asian migration research through health can re-cast understandings of the ethical, discursive and political forces of migration occurring across interconnected domains.

Sajida Ally is a social and medical anthropologist with expertise on migration and health in the context of South Asian transnational migration to the Arab Gulf. Her research follows three key strands: the phenomenological and socio-cultural dimensions of illness/wellness experience; migrants' health and healthcare as juridical and socio-political concerns; and the anthropology of migration and social change. Sajida is a Research Associate at the School of Global Studies at the University of Sussex, where she recently held a Senior Research Fellowship as the PI of a project on Sri Lankan migrants' experiences of healthcare entitlement in Kuwait, funded by NYU-Abu Dhabi and Columbia University. She is also Lecturer in Anthropology and Global Health at Bristol Medical School, and was previously Lecturer in Global Public Health at Queen Mary University of London. Sajida has also worked in the NGO sector in migration policy and community organizing in Hong Kong, other Asian countries and Geneva.

The Dyadic Effects of Positive Parenting on Resilience of Caregivers and Adolescents in the Context of Migration

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The experience of a parent migrating away for work impacts not only individuals but relationships within the family that stays behind. Currently, conclusions drawn on the negative health impacts of migration on left-behind children (Fellmeth et al., 2018) mainly come from data analysed on the individual level. Many statistical techniques frequently used in migration research are inadequate for testing interdependence effects within the family unit.

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The data for the current study is from the project—Migration and Health Impacts on Cambodia Children and Families (MHICCaF), with 618 pairs of adolescents of migrant parents and their caregivers, and 114 comparison pairs from non-migrant households. The Actor-Partner Interdependence Model (APIM, Kashy & Kenny, 2000) is applied to detect dependent and interdependent effects of positive parenting on adolescents and caregiver's resilience. The analyses use structural equation modeling with maximum likelihood estimation using the program Lavaan in R (Rosseel, 2012).

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The data supports the actor-only model: adolescent's resilience is influenced by their own perceptions of parenting/caregiving, but not by how their caregivers perceived parenting/caregiving; and a similar pattern is observed for the caregivers. After controlling for effects of parenting, adolescents in migrant households have lower scores of self-reported resilience regardless of whether they are cared for by their parents or non-parental caregivers.

Kol Wickramarage

International Organization
of Migration

Results reveal differential relationships between parenting/caregiving and resilience at both the individual and dyadic levels based parental migrant status providing novel insight into family dynamics in the context of migration. Such methodology also can be further applied to examine the linkages between the migrants and those who stay behind.

Yao Fu is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Department of Social Work and Social Administration, University of Hong Kong. Her research focuses on migration and child development, resilience, and post-trauma interventions. Her current studies include migration and families left behind in China, Cambodia and Southeast Asia. Dr Fu is a licensed social worker in Hong Kong.

Lucy Jordan is Associate Professor in the Department of Social Work and Social Administration, University of Hong Kong. Her research focuses on how societal transformation impacts on intimate family life and wellbeing. Her scholarship includes study of key themes related to social transformation and family life including migration and transnational families, and other topics related to social vulnerability including intergenerational family relationships, social integration of migrants, commercial sexual exploitation of children, and risk behavior in developing global urban contexts. Her current research focuses on migration and the family in emerging economies of Asia including Hong Kong, China, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Nepal.

Jia Chen is Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Work, Shanghai University. Her research focuses on inter- and multi-generational family relationships and its implications for the wellbeing of different family members.

Kol Wickramage is the UN Migration Agencies' Global Health Research and Epidemiology Coordinator responsible for providing technical guidance on research and evidence generation across IOM's three health programmatic areas: medical examinations for migrants and refugees; technical cooperation on migration health with member states; and health action in humanitarian and post-crisis contexts. He worked with WHO from 2004 in health action in crisis projects, from protracted civil conflict to natural disaster settings, and since joining IOM in 2009, has worked on a broad spectrum of migration health projects predominantly in low-income countries - ranging from the West-African Ebola outbreak response, multi-country research on health impacts of low-skilled migrant workers and their families in Asia, to supporting member states formulate health policies, interventions and research at the nexus of migration and health. He received Presidential honors in Sri Lanka for his research work and advancing a national migration health policy through an evidence-informed, inter-ministerial process. Dr. Wickramage co-founded a global migration health scholars' network in 2016 and is passionate about supporting research scholarship, especially within developing regions.

About the Organisers and Chairpersons

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