

DR. DANA R. THOMSON

London, UK | danathomson.com | dana.r.thomson@gmail.com

FOCUS OF MY WORK

- Gridded population sampling to measure hidden and under-represented populations in surveys
 - Development of open-source gridded population survey tools, protocols (e.g., GridSample.org)
- Geographic and statistical modelling to assess the accuracy of gridded populations and “slum” data
- Research capacity-strengthening in survey, statistical, and GIS methods
- Coalition-building among diverse “slum” mapping and development practitioners

EDUCATION

2016 – 2020 PhD Social Statistics, Department of Social Statistics & Demography, University of Southampton
2015 – 2016 MS Social Statistics, Department of Social Statistics & Demography, University of Southampton
2009 – 2011 MS Public Health, Department of Global Health and Population, Harvard School of Public Health
2004 – 2008 BA Geography (Minor Geographic Information Systems), George Washington University

EMPLOYMENT

05/2020 – present IDEAMAPS Coordinator, African Population & Health Research Center, Nairobi Kenya
12/2019 – present Independent Consultant, London UK
04/2018 – 12/2019 Senior Analyst (GridSample Project Manager), Flowminder Foundation, Southampton UK
01/2014 – 08/2015 Visiting Lecturer, National University of Rwanda-College of Medicine and Health Sciences-School of Public Health and Harvard Medical School, Kigali Rwanda
07/2011 – 12/2013 Research Associate, Global Health Research Core, Department of Global Health and Social Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Boston MA USA
02/2009 – 08/2009 Junior Professional Associate, World Bank, Washington DC USA
06/2008 – 01/2009 GIS Officer, USAID|MeasureDHS Project, Macro International, Calverton MD USA

SKILLS

Research & Management: Stata, R, SPSS, ArcGIS, QGIS, Google Earth, MS Office, OpenOffice, Google Suite
Field tools: GridSample, ODK, OMK, GeoODK, Kobo Toolbox, OSM, OSMAnd, SW Maps, MAPS.ME

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING

Instructor, *Area Observation Survey Training*. IDEAMAPS Project. Remote for Justice & Empowerment Initiative and University of Lagos, Lagos Nigeria (Nov 2020)
Lead co-instructor, *Gridded SMART Survey Training*. National Bureau of Statistics, Abuja, Nigeria (Nov 2019)
Instructor, *SUE Survey Training*. Survey for Urban Equity. HERD International, Kathmandu, Nepal (Aug 2017)
Instructor, *Population Survey Analysis*. University of Rwanda-College of Medicine and Health Sciences-School of Public Health, Kigali, Rwanda (Fall 2014, Spring 2015)
Co-Instructor, *Deliverable-Driven Faculty Research Seminar*. University of Rwanda-College of Medicine and Health Sciences-School of Public Health, Kigali, Rwanda (Jun 2014 – Dec 2014)
Co-Instructor, *Integrated DHS Analysis Training and Mentorship Opportunity*. Co-sponsored by the Rwanda Ministry of Health, National Institute of Statistics-Rwanda, Rwanda Biomedical Center, Partners in Health-Rwanda, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-Rwanda, University of Rwanda School of Public Health, Harvard Medical School: Rwinkwavu, Rwanda (May 2013 – Jun 2013)

DR. DANA R. THOMSON

London, UK | danathomson.com | dana.r.thomson@gmail.com

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

- Thomson DR**, Bhattarai R, Khanal S, et al. Addressing Unintentional Exclusion of Vulnerable and Mobile Households in Traditional Surveys in Kathmandu, Dhaka and Hanoi: A Mixed Methods Feasibility Study. *J Urb Health* 2020; DOI:10.1007/s11524-020-00485-z.
- Thomson DR**, Rhoda DA, Tatem AJ, et al. Gridded population survey sampling: A systematic scoping review of the field and strategic research agenda. *Int J Health Geogr* 2020. DOI:10.1186/s12942-020-00230-4.
- Thomson DR**, Kuffer M, Boo G, et al. Need for an Integrated Deprived Area “Slum” Mapping System (IDEAMAPS) in low and middle-income countries (LMICs). *Soc Sci* 2020; DOI: 10.3390/socsci9050080
- Thomson DR**, Linard C, Vanhuyse S, et al. Extending Data for Urban Health Decision-Making: A Menu of New and Potential Neighborhood-Level Health Determinants Datasets in LMICs. *J Urb Health* 2019, DOI:10.1007/s11524-019-00363-3.
- Thomson DR**, Kools L, Jochem WC. Linking Synthetic Populations to Household Geolocations: A Demonstration in Namibia. *Data* 2018, DOI:10.3390/data3030030.
- Thomson DR**, Drobac P, Murray M, et al. Impacts of District Health System Strengthening on Maternal and Child Health in Rural Rwanda 2005-2010. *BMJ Public Health* 2018. DOI: 10.1136/bmjgh-2017-000674.
- Thomson DR**, Stevens FR, Ruktanonchai NW, et al. GridSample: An R package to generate household survey primary sampling units (PSUs) from gridded population data. *Int J Health Geogr* 2017, DOI: 10.1186/s12942-017-0098-4.
- Thomson DR**, Semakula M, Hirschhorn LR, et al. Applied statistical training to strengthen analysis and research capacity in Rwanda. *Implementation Science. Health Res Pol Syst* 2016; DOI: 10.1186/s12961-016-0144-x.

SELECT GRANTS

- 2020 – 2021 **Integrated Deprived Area Mapping System (IDEAMAPS) Network**
UN Research and Innovation (UKRI) - Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)
Named Researcher (PI: Caroline Kabaria) (£149,990)
Through this networking grant, the project team aims to establish strong working relationships among key stakeholders in three cities and achieve scalable proof-of-concept frameworks and techniques to map deprivation across LMIC cities beyond this grant. I am one of four members in the core strategy team who conceived of the project and drafted the proposal. As the IDEAMAPS Network Coordinator, I manage daily activities, facilitate communication and activities across the three work packages, and serve as a Network point of contact.
- 2017 – 2019 **Surveys for Urban Equity (SUE)**
UK Medical Research Council (MRC) - Grand Challenges Research Fund (GCRF)
Researcher (PI: Helen Elsey) (£606,548)
The aim of this grant was to collect, and work with decision-makers to use, data on neglected non-communicable illnesses such as depression in low- and middle-income country urban settings. I drafted and led 1 of 6 project components. This involved identifying ways in which the urban poorest are missed in standard household surveys, developing innovative methods that could address under-coverage, training and supporting survey teams in Nepal, Bangladesh, and Vietnam, and evaluating the accuracy and feasibility of new survey methods.