

## **Ethics in participatory research around the SDGs**

*Sarah West and Rachel Pateman, Stockholm Environment Institute, York*

Please read either one of the following project descriptions, or discuss a project of your own and consider these questions:

1. Could the project cause harm to the participants or researchers (including physical harm, psychological or emotional distress)?
  - a) If so, what?
  - b) How can these be mitigated?
2. What issues around data protection and/or data confidentiality need to be considered?

Please note down your discussions.

### **Thai home gardens project**

Home gardening has been practiced in Thailand for centuries and has recently been identified as playing an important role in the conservation of plant diversity. Home gardens are often tended by women and can bring income and food security to households thereby contributing to gender equality. However, there are many threats to home gardens from flooding, climate change and disinterest in home gardening from younger generations.

This pilot project aims to explore the value of home-gardens to people living in Thailand. We will use a citizen science approach to engage with home-gardeners, to better understand the issues of concern to residents about home-gardens. This will be achieved through:

- 1) A scoping visit to home-gardeners at which a focus group discussion using a topic guide will be used to find out the questions home-gardeners are concerned about.
- 2) A “home gardens lab” event which will bring together home-gardeners to collect data about home-gardens on a topic of their choosing (such questions could include, for example, number of species grown in different gardens, different varieties grown, biodiversity supported, contribution of crops to household meals and/or household income, but this will be guided by participants)

### **Nairobi air pollution project**

Air pollution, from both indoor (cooking and heating) and outdoor (traffic, rubbish burning, industry) sources is a major problem in Nairobi’s informal settlements, which are home to over 60% of the urban population. Houses here are often rented, they are generally small (3x3m), and poorly ventilated.

This project aims to explore the personal exposure of individual residents (n=8) to air pollution, by providing them with mobile monitoring devices that they can carry around on their daily activities for a two week period. They will be provided with training on how to use the equipment and will be reimbursed for their efforts. A questionnaire will also be conducted with a larger number of settlement residents to explore any changes in knowledge about and attitudes towards air pollution before and after the monitoring campaign.

The data will be collected back in by the research team and presented on maps and in tables to members of the Kenya Air Quality Network, which represents researchers, local policy-makers (e.g. government officials), industry and residents.

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