The GCRF Centre for Sustainable, Healthy and Learning Cities and Neighbourhoods (SHLC) is an international collaborative research centre funded by the UK government’s Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), which addresses urban challenges in Africa and Asia.

Urbanisation and migration have brought significant economic growth in many developing countries. At the same time we have seen aggravated inequalities between residents and communities within cities. Poverty, crime, environmental risks, poor health and lack of proper access to education remain major challenges for urban residents and for policy makers.

SHLC will help us to understand these urban challenges and generate research-based policy solutions.
OUR WORK
Responding to urbanisation requires an understanding of the complex relations between sustainable livelihoods, education and health, at the neighbourhood level. Sustainable cities depend to a considerable extent on a population with the resilience and resources that health and learning brings. Equally, access to healthcare and quality education depend on the sustainable development of cities and the neighbourhoods within them.

SHLC aims to grow research capacity in African and Asian cities, as well as to increase our understanding of urbanisation, and of health and education challenges. We will achieve these aims by:

• Developing a series of training workshops, knowledge exchange events, a visiting research fellow programme and a mentoring scheme to create a strong and durable network of urban researchers in the partner institutions’ countries and beyond.
• Conducting a comparative study of urbanisation and the formation and differentiation of neighbourhoods in 14 different cities in both emerging economies and in relatively poor countries in Africa and Asia, including: Bangladesh, China, India, the Philippines, Rwanda, South Africa and Tanzania.

OUR PARTNERSHIP
The University of Glasgow
*United Kingdom*
Ifakara Health Institute
*Tanzania*
Khulna University
*Bangladesh*
Nankai University
*China*
National Institute of Urban Affairs
*India*
The Human Sciences Research Council
*South Africa*
The University of Rwanda
*Rwanda*
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