

**Society for the Advancement of Management Studies and British Academy of
Management Research and Capacity Building Grant Scheme**

Projects awarded significant funding through new joint scheme

The Society for the Advancement of Management Studies (SAMS) and British Academy of Management (BAM) are delighted to announce the inaugural awards in their collaborative Research and Capacity Building Grant Scheme. Both societies welcomed the success of this new joint scheme, noting the high level of interest as well as the quality of the applications for this first round of funding, which attracted 23 proposals from a wide range of business and management and other disciplines. The SAMS-BAM Research and Capacity Building grants, worth up to £150,000 each, are aimed at researchers who want to develop an empirical research project that:

- Enables capacity building by bringing together a group of researchers from at least two HE institutions, including early career as well as experienced researchers
- Produces novel conceptual outcomes based on rigorous, innovative use of methods and by developing original ways of thinking to address complex management problems
- Demonstrates the social value of management research conducted in the public interest

This grant scheme is an important means of supporting the business and management research community to produce high-quality collaborative research that will have clear benefit to society. SAMS and BAM will be announcing the opening of the 2021 funding round for this scheme in the near future.

The awarded projects for 2020 are:

1. Facilitating impact and transferability for refugee entrepreneurship interventions in Africa

- Dr Michelle Richey (Loughborough University) - Principal Investigator
- Prof M.N. Ravishankar (Loughborough University)
- Prof Monder Ram OBE (Aston University)
- Dr Raymond Randall (University of Sheffield)

This project will look at the ways in which refugees work entrepreneurially around obstacles to establish livelihoods, forge new networks and create opportunities for

themselves and their families, and the impact of interventions by public and private organisations in addressing common barriers to empower refugees, with a particular focus on the largest refugee entrepreneurship programme in the global south - the African Entrepreneurship Collective (AEC), founded in 2012, which has to date supported more than 4,000 refugee entrepreneurs in Rwanda and now seeks to expand into Kenya.

2. The effect of scenario planning on individuals' perceptions of uncertain futures.

- Dr James Derbyshire (Middlesex University) - Principal Investigator
- Prof Mandeep Dhimi (Middlesex University)
- Prof Dilek Onkal (Northumbria University)

Scenario planning is a management tool designed to broaden the perspective of decision-makers, ensuring they take account of highly uncertain but potentially highly impactful futures, for example those resulting from the current Coronavirus pandemic or Brexit. Yet, despite its long lineage, many questions remain about how it should best be implemented as well as its effectiveness and, as a result, new but inadequately evaluated approaches have proliferated in recent years. This research project will use the findings from a series of controlled experiments to identify 'what works' in relation to scenario planning and to develop empirically-derived theoretical foundations that can underpin its development into a mainstream decision-making tool.

Notes to editors

The Society for the Advancement of Management Studies (SAMS) is a charity founded in 1963 to advance education in the field of management and to develop the management studies community. It also provides a governance structure for the *Journal of Management Studies*, an FT50 journal with an Impact Factor of 5.839.

www.socadms.org.uk

The British Academy of Management (BAM) is the leading authority on the academic field of management in the UK, supporting and representing the community of scholars and engaging with international peers. It has around 2000 members, from the UK and around the globe, who include management researchers, practitioners and doctoral students.

www.bam.ac.uk