

Jonathan Harle

Executive Director

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Biography

Jon is INASP's Executive Director. Jon leads our global team, working with our partners across the world to deliver high impact programmes that generate new knowledge, enable young people to thrive, and that build more equitable knowledge ecosystems. Jon is responsible for developing and implementing INASP's overall strategy, leading our business and partnership development, and ensuring the overall quality and impact of our programme delivery. He has worked at the intersections of research capacity, higher education and international development for the last 18 years and has advised bilateral and multilateral agencies and programme evaluation teams. Jon previously led the DFID-funded Transforming Employability for Social Change in East Africa partnership – working with four universities and 500 academics to re-design over 200 undergraduate courses to improve learning for 3,800 students. Jon has degrees in politics, anthropology and archaeology from SOAS, London and the University of Oxford.

Languages: English (native speaker), German (advanced), French (basic),

Main country experience: Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Sierra Leone, South Africa.

Key skills and expertise

- Programme strategy and management
- Project design and development
- Partnership development and management
- Financial management
- Team and programme leadership
- Research and analysis

Specialist thematic areas

- Higher education and development
- Higher education policy
- Research and knowledge systems
- Inequity in knowledge systems
- Capacity development in higher education and research
- Teaching and learning in higher education

Posts held

2024 - current	Executive Director, INASP (Oxford, UK)
2018 – 2023	Director of Programmes, INASP (Oxford, UK)
2015 – 2018	Senior Programme Manager, Research Access and Higher Education, INASP (Oxford, UK)
2013 – 2015	Senior Programme Manager, Research Access and Availability, INASP (Oxford, UK)
2011 – 2013	Programmes Manager (Research Capacity), Association of Commonwealth Universities (London, UK)
2007 – 2011	Programme Officer (Research), Association of Commonwealth Universities (London, UK)



2007	Research Assistant, Association of Commonwealth Universities (London, UK)
2005 – 2006	Research Intern, HIV/AIDS & Governance, Justice Africa (London, UK)
2005 – 2006	Information Officer, University College London (UK)
2004 – 2005	Information Assistant, University of Oxford (UK)
2001	English Teacher, Kwemaramba Secondary School (Lushoto District, Tanzania)

Qualifications

2010	MSc African politics (Distinction), SOAS, University of London, UK
2004	BA (Hons) Archaeology and Anthropology (1 st class), University of Oxford, UK

Project experience

2023-2024	Advice to the FCDO Chief Scientist and production of policy paper on open access to research as an input to the India G20. Centre for Global Development (client: FCDO)
2023	Evaluation of UK PHRST. Partnership and Capacity Development Advisor. HMG.
2022	British Council Going Global Partnerships Group. Member of advisory group.
2022	Understanding the Impact of Development Research through REF2021. UKCDR. Member of expert group.
2021-22	Africa-UK Physics Partnerships programme working group. Working Group member. Institute of Physics.
2021	Digital Universities in Africa (research project), Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria. Co-lead. Funded by British Council.
2021	Science, Perceptions and International Trust (research project). Advisor to Research Consulting. Funded by British Council.
2020	Member of BEIS working group on research capacity strengthening. Department of Business, Enterprise, Innovation and Skills and panel member for Newton Fund Value for Money pilot.
2020	Higher Education Pedagogy in Developing Countries. Lead researcher. Funded by Asian Development Bank.
2019 – 2020	Challenges and Opportunities for Open Access in LMICs. Consultancy for DFID, DHSC, UKRI to inform development of UK policy. Team leader. Funded by DFID.
2019	Global Health Research Programme “Financial Assurance Fund”, National Institute of Health Research. Peer reviewer. Funded by Department of Health and Social Care.
2019 – 2023	Global Platforms for Equitable Knowledge Ecosystems (GPEKE), global with focused work in Uganda, Ethiopia and Cambodia. Project Director. Funded by Sida.
2018 – 2021	Transforming Employability for Social Change in East Africa (TESCEA), Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. Project Director. Funded by DFID.
2018 – 2021	South Asia Self-Harm Initiative (SASHI). Advisory Board Member. Funded by UKRI.
2018 – Present	Part of the Rethinking Research Collaborative, an international network of



academics, civil society organisations, NGOs, and research support providers who are committed to working together to explore the politics of evidence and participation in knowledge for international development.

- 2017 Co-creation, capacity development and policy engagement. Hosted a seminar for researchers and researcher managers intending to apply for GCRF and ODA-funded research.
- 2015 – 2016 Evaluation of DFID Online Research Portals and Repositories, UK. INASP Consultant for Mott MacDonald. Funded by DFID.
- 2015 Swiss National Science Foundation. Reviewer.
- 2014 – 2015 INASP – scoping missions to undertake preliminary mapping of research and knowledge systems in Nepal and Tanzania. Funded by DFID and Sida.
- 2014 Austrian Partnership Programme in Higher Education and Research for Development. Reviewer. Funded by Austrian Development Cooperation.
- 2013 – Mar 2018 Strengthening Research and Knowledge Systems (SRKS), Africa, Asia and Latin America. Programme Director 2015-18, Senior Programme Manager 2013-15. Funded by DFID and Sida.
- 2013 Evaluation of the second phase of the Programme for the Enhancement of Research Information (Africa, Asia and Latin America). Consultant to ITAD. Funded by DFID, Norad and Sida.
- 2013 The Humanities World Report, UK. Consultant. Funded by Swedish Research Council, Swedish Riksbankens Jubeliumsfond, Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research.
- 2012 Review of the international knowledge and information programme of the British Library of Development Studies, London and Brighton. Consultant. Funded by Institute of Development Studies.
- 2012 Wellcome Trust centres for global health research, engaged to advise on the approach to capacity development of proposals. Reviewer. Funded by the Wellcome Trust.
- 2012 Development Research Uptake in Sub-Saharan Africa, UK, Kenya and South Africa. Technical Advisor. Programme development and planning. Funded by DFID.
- 2011 – 2012 ‘Research and Innovation Management for Africa and the Caribbean’ project, Africa. Consultant on project management processes in African universities. Funded by EU/ACP.
- 2011 Analysis of the impact of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission’s master’s funding programmes, UK. Consultant. Funded by Commonwealth Scholarship Commission (DFID).
- 2011 Australia-Africa Research Partnerships Programme, Kenya and South Africa. Consultant on the design of the programme. Funded by AusAID.
- 2010 – 2013 Co-editor of ACU Insights, a policy briefing for vice chancellors and HE policymakers.
- 2010 – 2012 The needs of African early career researchers and opportunities for UK support. UK and South Africa, Consultant. Funded by British Academy.
- 2009 – 2010 Accessing and using online research information, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and Malawi. Lead researcher and project manager. Funded by Arcadia Fund.
- 2009 – 2010 Partnership for African Social and Governance Research, UK and Kenya. Consultant on the design and inception phases, including scoping studies on postgraduate training and research support. Funded by DFID.



- 2007 – 2016 Council Member and Trustee, African Studies Association of the UK.
- 2007 – 2009 Strengthening research capacity in African universities and opportunities for UK-Africa partnerships. UK, Kenya and Ghana. Consultant. Funded by British Academy.

Selected Publications

- 2023 Fabian, F., J. Harle, P. F. Nzegwu et al '[Collaboratively reimagining teaching and learning in East Africa](#)', in L. Czerniewicz and C. Cronin (eds) [Higher Education for Good: Teaching and Learning Futures](#). London: Open Book Publishers
- 2023 Drake, T., S. Gulliver, S. and J. Harle, [Research Publishing Is an Under-Recognised Global Challenge: Opportunities for the G20 to Act](#). Washington DC & London: Center for Global Development.
- 2023 Harle, J. [How TESCEA made learning more relevant and built new partnerships for employability and social impact](#). Oxford: INASP.
- 2022 Harle, J., F. Nzegwu, J. Wild. 'Introduction', in F. Nzegwu and J. Wild (eds) [Digital Technology in Capacity Development: Enabling Learning and Supporting Change](#). Cape Town: African Minds
- 2022 Harle, J, F. Nzegwu, J. Wild. 'Setting the scene', in F. Nzegwu and J. Wild (eds) [Digital Technology in Capacity Development: Enabling Learning and Supporting Change](#). Cape Town: African Minds
- 2021 Harle, J. et al (2021). [Creating digital content and delivering digital learning in African universities: Stories of innovation from Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria](#). Oxford: INASP.
- 2021 Harle, J. (2021) 'Bangladesh—Centers of Excellence in Teaching and Learning' and 'United Kingdom—The Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework', in S. Meekyung et al [Teacher Professional Development Case Studies: K-12, TVET, and Tertiary Education](#). Bangkok: Asian Development Bank.
- 2020 Harle, J. and Warne, V. (2020). [Open Access: challenges and opportunities for Low- and Middle-Income Countries and the potential impact of UK policy](#). London: Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.
- 2020 Harle, J. (2020). [\(In\)equitable knowledge systems: before, during and beyond a pandemic](#). Oxford: INASP.
- 2018 Harle, J. (2018). [How can we strengthen research and knowledge systems in the Global South? Reflections from INASP's five-year SRKS programme](#). Oxford: INASP.
- 2016 Harle, J. and Bottomley, R. (2016). [Understanding research and knowledge systems in the Somali regions: Report of a roundtable convened by INASP and the Rift Valley Institute](#). Oxford: INASP.
- 2014 Stackhouse, J. and J. Harle (2014, June). [The Experiences and Needs of African Doctoral Students: Current Conditions and Future Support](#), Higher Education Policy, 27:175. London: Palgrave Macmillan. Available at <https://doi.org/10.1057/hep.2014.2>.
- 2014 Harle, J. (2014, January). Dazzled by digital? Research environments in African universities and their implications for the use of digital resources, in [Dis/Connects? African Studies in the Digital Age](#). Leiden: Brill.
- 2013 Harle, J. (2013). [Strengthening research in African universities: reflections on](#)



- [policy, partnerships and politics](#) in Policy & Practice: A Development Education Review, issue 16. Belfast: Centre for Global Education.
- 2012 Harle, J. (2012). [Foundations for the Future: Supporting the early careers of African researchers](#). London: British Academy and Association of Commonwealth Universities.
- 2011 Harle, J. [The Availability of Academic Journals in Africa](#). International Higher Education, (64).
- 2010 Harle, J. (2010, November). [Growing Knowledge: Access to Research in East and Southern African Universities](#). London: Association of Commonwealth Universities.
- 2009 Harle, J. (2009, March). [The Nairobi Report: Frameworks for Collaboration in the Social Sciences and Humanities](#) London: British Academy and Association of Commonwealth Universities.
- 2007 Harle, J. (2007, January). [Frameworks for Africa-UK Research Collaboration in the Social Sciences and Humanities: African University Perspectives](#). London: British Academy/Association of Commonwealth Universities.

