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LATEST NEWS FROM THE MAC PROGRAMME | JULY 2020



Welcome to the second newsletter of the MAC Programme! In this newsletter you will find important information about new opportunities for funding and upcoming events. You can also read interviews with the project leaders from two of our ongoing research projects.

## OPEN CALLS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUNDING

### Call for Comparative Research Projects

VREF invites sub-Saharan university-based researchers to submit project proposals on issues that are relevant to the six core themes of the MAC Programme. Deadline for submission of applications is **29 September 2020**.

*Read more in the [call for proposals](#).*

## MAC Mobility Grants

The VREF invites junior and senior researchers, Ph.D. students and advanced master students who are based at universities in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) to apply for Mobility Grants for short-term (2-4 weeks) visits at universities in the region. The invitation is open until **October 31, 2020** and visits should be carried out before December 31, 2020.

*Read more in the [Mobility Grant Guidelines](#)*

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## EVENTS AND CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES



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### **New date!** MAC Research Workshop on Mobility and Access in Accra, Ghana 2021

The new date for the MAC Research Workshop on Mobility and Access in Accra, Ghana is **17-21 May 2021**. The event has been moved from the originally planned date in September 2020 due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

We hope that by moving the event to 2021 invited researchers and others will be able to meet in person in Accra to build networks and exchange knowledge. The workshop week will offer a series of related events besides the main event, such as skills and tools workshops, site visits and a workshop/seminar for PhD students and early stage researchers.

*More information and a call for presentations will follow later in the year.*

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## SPOTLIGHT ON...

*Learn more about ongoing VREF funded projects.*

### **New business models for paratransit**

What has the boom in ICT meant to traditional paratransit services such as Car-taxi, Tricycle, Motorcycle and Bicycle?

### **Children and urban mobility**

We interviewed Dr. Anne Wairimu Kamau, Research Fellow at the Institute for Development Studies (IDS), University of Nairobi.

You can hear more from Professor Samuel Gbadebo Odewumi at the Lagos State University, Nigeria, on how their project is comparing developments in Lagos, Nairobi and Johannesburg.

[Read the full interview here...](#)

Dr. Wairimu Kamau is Project Leader for the exploratory research project *Urban Spaces Design, Mobility and Transport Safety of Children: A Comparative Study of Nairobi and Kumasi Cities*.

[Read the full interview here...](#)

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## About the programme

The MAC programme seeks to contribute to forming a new generation of highly skilled sub-Saharan university researchers and teachers, as well as to engage professionals, policy makers and actors within civil society who are committed to achieving the goals of sustainable and equitable urban mobility and access.

The programme is funded by the Volvo Research and Educational Foundations (VREF) The VREF inspires, initiates and supports research and educational activities. Our vision is: *Sustainable transport for equitable access in urban areas.*

[Read more about the programme here](#)

Do you have questions, thoughts or ideas related to the MAC programme, do not hesitate to contact us: [secretariat@vref.se](mailto:secretariat@vref.se)

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