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| CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: | Research Fellow |
| DATE OF BIRTH: | 20/9/1971 |
| NATIONALITY: | British and Sri Lankan |
| LANGUAGES: | Sinhala, English |
| THEMATIC EXPERTISE: | Migration, refugees, IDPs, cities, nutrition, poverty, conflict |
| GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE: | South Asia (Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh) |

OVERVIEW

Rajith is a Research Fellow in the Cities Cluster at the Institute of Development Studies, UK. Before joining IDS he was a senior lecturer in economics in the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka. He has a PhD in Economics from the University of Melbourne and has over 15 years of postdoctoral experience working on a broad range of migration related topics: forced/regular migration into and within cities, conflict/development displacement, international/internal labour migration and human trafficking. His current research focusses on wellbeing of refugees, IDPs and irregular migrants within cities in South Asia, Europe and the Middle East. He has experience in working with organizations such as the UNOCHA, the UNHCR, the ILO, US Department of State, Plan International and the UK home office performing policy advice work and evaluations.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

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| 1999 - 2003 | PhD in Economics University of Melbourne, Australia |
| 1994 - 1997 | BA in Economics University of Colombo, Sri Lanka |

RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

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| 2021 – PRESENT | Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, UK |
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| 2019 – PRESENT | Director, Centre for Migrant Research and Development (CMRD), Sri Lanka |
| 2012 – 2021 | Research Officer, Institute of Development Studies, UK |
| 2013 – 2014 | Research Fellow, School of Law, Middlesex University London, UK |
| 2012 | Consultant, GVA Consultants, UK Working on an evaluation of Early Legal Advice Project of the UK Home Office |
| 2010 – 2012 | Senior Lecturer, Grade I, Department of Economics, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka |
| 2004 – 2010 | Senior Lecturer, Grade II, Department of Economics, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka |
| 2004 – 2006 | Deputy Director, Economic Affairs, Secretariat for Coordinating the Peace Process (SCOPP), Government of Sri Lanka On secondment from the University of Colombo |
| 1999 – 2004 | Lecturer, Department of Economics, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka |
| 1998 – 1999 | Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka |

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

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| 2023 – ongoing | Researcher, Implementation Research on displacement-affected communities in northern Sri Lanka, funded by Stanley Thomas Johnson Foundation, led by FAIRMED |
| 2021 – 2023 | PI, Big Data for Development Studies, funded by NWO |
| 2020 – ongoing | Researcher, GCRF Hub ARISE, led by Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) |
| 2020 – 2023 | Col, Inclusive Urban Infrastructure, funded by ESRC |
| 2020 – 2023 | Col, Protracted Displacement Economies, funded by ESRC |
| 2022 | Col, Debt and Reintegration of Returnees, funded by IOM |
| 2020 | PI, A Dashboard on Legitimacy-Making in Lebanon, funded by NWO |
| 2019 – 2020 | Researcher, UNHCR: Integrated Multi-Sector Study on Rohingya influx in Bangladesh |
| 2019 – 2021 | Consultant, GCRF Hub on Gender, Justice and Security, led by LSE |
| 2018 – 2019 | Researcher, Public Authority and Legitimacy Making (PALM) in Jordan and Lebanon, funded by NOW |

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| 2018 | Capacity Building for Smart Data and Inclusive Cities (SDIC), funded by European Commission |
| 2017 – 2018 | “Independent Evaluation of UNHCR’s Emergency Response to the Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh”, a consultancy commissioned by the UNHCR |
| 2017 – 2018 | Wellbeing of Urban Refugees: Syrians and Hosts in Jordan and Lebanon (WURSHIJL), funded by NWO |
| 2016 – 2017 | COMCEC/OIC consultancy on: “Malnutrition in OIC Countries: A Trap for Poverty” |
| 2015 – 2016 | DFID-funded “Informal Work and Wellbeing in South Asia: Who Succeeds, Who Fails and Under What Conditions?” |
| 2015 – 2016 | ESCRD-DFID funded “Tangled in Their Own Nets: Wellbeing and Resistance Trade-offs in Coastal Fishing” |
| 2012 – 2021 | Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index (Hanci) |
| 2013 – 2016 | PI: ‘Internal Displacement and Urban Violence: A Longitudinal Study Linking Violence, Inequality and Poverty’, funded by the IDRC. Amount: CAD 500,000 |
| 2013 – 2014 | ‘Benefits of Birth Registration: A Quantitative Analysis’, with Plan International UK |
| 2012 – 2014 | ‘Diasporas in Conflict Settings: Neglected Agents of Change in Sri Lanka Case Study’, collaboration with COMPAS, University of Oxford, Team Leader: Nick Van Hear, funded by: IDRC |
| 2011 – 2012 | Consultant, ‘Evaluation of the Early Legal Advice Project’, UK Home Office |
| 2010 – 2011 | ‘The Impact of Export Processing Zones on Employment, Wages and Labour Conditions in Developing Countries, funded by: Australian Aid |
| 2010 – 2011 | ‘The Cost of Statelessness: A Livelihoods Analysis’, with the Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration, United States Department of State |

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications

Ekanayake, A.; Lakshman, R.W.D.; Blitz, B. K.; Aghapouri, J.; Javed, A.; Malik, M. and Rahim, K. (2023) **‘Gender and Forced Displacement in Humanitarian Policy Discourse: The Missing Link’**, *Journal on Migration and Human Security* 11(3): 243-260, DOI: 10.1177/23315024231189487 (accessed 8 January 2024)

te Lintelo, D. J. H.; Munslow, T.; Pittore, K. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2020) **‘Process Tracing the Policy Impact of ‘Indicators’**, *European Journal of Development Research* 32(10): 1332-1337, DOI: 10.1057/s41287-019-00244-0 (accessed 8 January 2024)

te Lintelo, D. J. H.; Gupte, J.; McGregor, J.A.; Lakshman, R.W.D.; Jahan, F. (2018) **‘Wellbeing and Urban Governance: Who Fails, Survives or Thrives in Informal Settlements in Bangladeshi Cities?’**, *Cities* 72 (B): 391-402, DOI: 10.1016/j.cities.2017.10.002 (accessed 8 January 2024)

- Cirera, X. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2017) '[The Impact of Export Processing Zones on Employment, Wages and Labour Conditions in Developing Countries: Systematic Review](#)', *Journal of Development Effectiveness* 9(3): 344-360, DOI: 10.1080/19439342.2017.1309448 (accessed 8 January 2024)
- Herath, D.; Lakshman, R.W.D. and Ekanayake, A. (2016) '[Urban Resettlement in Colombo from a Wellbeing Perspective: Does Development-Forced Resettlement Lead to Improved Wellbeing?](#)', *Journal of Refugee Studies* 30(4): 554-579, DOI: 10.1093/jrs/few043 (accessed 8 January 2024)
- Lakshman, I. E.; Ekanayaka, A. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2016) '[Going to School from a Relocated Urban Community: Struggling for Education within Imposed Walls](#)', *Migration and Development* 6(2): 198-214, DOI: 10.1080/21632324.2016.1164941 (accessed 8 January 2024)
- te Lintelo, D.J.H. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2015) '[Equate and Conflate: Political Commitment to Hunger and Undernutrition Reduction in Five High-Burden Countries](#)', *World Development* 76: 280-292, DOI: 10.1016/j.worlddev.2015.07.013 (accessed 8 January 2024)
- Amirthalingam, K. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2014) '[Impact of Internal Displacement on Agricultural Livelihoods: Evidence from Sampur, Sri Lanka](#)', *Migration and Development* 4(1): 143-162, DOI: 10.1080/21632324.2014.969480 (accessed 8 January 2024)
- te Lintelo, D.J.H.; Haddad, L. J.; Leavy, J. and Lakshman, R. (2014) '[Measuring the Commitment to Reduce Hunger: A Hunger Reduction Commitment Index](#)', *Food Policy* 44: 115-128, DOI: 10.1016/j.foodpol.2013.11.005 (accessed 8 January 2024)
- Kulathunga, S. T. K. and Lakshman, R. W. D. (2013) '[Responding to Security Threats: Livelihoods under Protracted Conflict](#)', *Disasters* 37(4): 604-626, DOI: 10.1111/disa.12028 (accessed 8 January 2024)
- Cirera, X.; Willenbockel, D. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2013) '[Evidence on the Impact of Tariff Reductions on Employment in Developing Countries: A Systematic Review](#)', *Journal of Economic Surveys* 28(3): 449-471, DOI: 10.1111/joes.12029 (accessed 8 January 2024)
- Amirthalingam, K. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2012) '[Impact of Displacement on Women and Female-headed Households: A Mixed Method Analysis with a Microeconomic Touch](#)', *Journal of Refugee Studies* 26(1): 26-46, DOI: 10.1093/jrs/fes007 (accessed 8 January 2024)
- Jayasinghe, M. and Lakshman, R. (2011) '[Gendered Impact of Rural Livelihood Development Interventions – A Case Study from Sri Lanka through a Longitudinal Lens](#)', *Sri Lanka Economic Journal* 12: 82-116 (accessed 8 January 2024)
- Amirthalingam, K. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2010) '[Financing of Internal Displacement: Excerpts from the Sri Lankan Experience](#)', *Disasters* 34(2): 402-425, DOI: 10.1111/j.1467-7717.2009.01135.x (accessed 8 January 2024)
- Amirthalingam, K. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2009) '[Displaced Livelihoods in Sri Lanka: An Economic Analysis](#)', *Journal of Refugee Studies* 22(4): 502-524, DOI: 10.1093/jrs/fep031 (accessed 8 January 2024)
- Lakshman, R.W.D. (2008) 'Regional Coordination of Development Projects in Sri Lanka: A Case Study', *Sri Lanka Economic Journal* 8(2): 21-46
- Henry, O.T.; Olekalns, N. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2007) '[Identifying Interdependencies Between South-East Asian Stock Markets: A Non-Linear Approach](#)', *Australian Economic Papers* 46(2): 122-135, DOI: 10.1111/j.1467-8454.2007.00309.x (accessed 8 January 2024)

Books and Book Chapters

- Lakshman, R.W.D. and Rajan, S. I. (2023) *Forced Migration and Urban Transformation in South Asia: Displacement, Resettlement and Poverty*, London: Springer Nature
- Lakshman, R.W.D. and Rajan, S. I. (2023) 'Echoes of Urban Displacement: Unveiling Lingering Consequences', in R.W.D. Lakshman and S.I. Rajan (eds), *Forced Migration and Urban Transformation in South Asia: Displacement, Resettlement and Poverty*, London: Springer Nature
- Herath, D.; Lakshman, R.W.D.; Rajan, S. I. and Cherian, A. P. (2023) 'De-housing and re-housing- Evictee's Reflections on the Process: The Experiences of Relocation in Colombo and Cochin', in R. W. D. Lakshman and

S. I. Rajan (eds), *Forced Migration and Urban Transformation in South Asia: Displacement, Resettlement, and Poverty*, London: Springer Nature

Lakshman, R.W.D. and Rajan, S. I. (2019) 'Pathways to Inclusive Urban Development: Contrasting Perspectives of Relocated Men and Women from Colombo and Kochi', in J.E. Salahub, M. Gottsbacher, J. de Boer and M.D. Zaaroura (eds), *Reducing Urban Violence in the Global South: Towards Safe and Inclusive Cities*, London: Routledge

Jayatilaka, D.; Lakshman, R.W.D. and Lakshman, I.M. (2018) 'Urban Community Profiles: Safe Relocation and Resettlement in Post-War Sri Lanka', in J.E. Salahub, M. Gottsbacher and J. de Boer (eds), *Social Theories of Urban Violence in the Global South: Towards Safe and Inclusive Cities*, London: Routledge

Amirthalingam, K.; Jayatilaka, D. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2015) 'The Other Side of Migration and Development Nexus: The Sri Lankan Experience in Trafficking', in M. Rahman and T.T. Yong (eds), *International Migration and Development in South Asia*, London: Routledge

Lakshman, R.W.D.; Perera, S. and Sangasumana, P. (2014) 'The Children Left Behind by International Migrants from Sri Lanka: Victims or Beneficiaries of Globalization', in A. Veale and G. Dona (eds), *Child and Youth Migration: Mobility-in-Migration in an Era of Globalization*, London: Palgrave Macmillan

Dayaratne, D.A.I. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2012) 'The Inter-Links Between Stock Market Volatility and Crises: Evidence from Colombo and New York Stock Exchanges', in S.S. Bhakar, T.S. Sikarwar, A. Mehra and K.K. Yadav (eds), *Transformation and Survival of Business Organizations: Challenges and Opportunities Vol. II*, New Delhi: Macmillan Publishers India

Amirthalingam, K. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2011) 'Agriculture Based Livelihoods in Rural Sri Lanka: The Impact of Displacement', in W. Wimalarathana (ed), *Agriculture and Rural Development in Sri Lanka: A Felicitation Volume in Honour of Dr. S.M.P. Senanayake*, Colombo: University of Colombo

Amirthalingam, K. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2009) 'Women's Assets and their Role in Surviving Displacement and Impoverishment in the Context of the War and the Tsunami in Eastern Sri Lanka', in N. de Mel, K. N. Ruwanpura and G. Samarasinghe (eds), *After the Waves: The Impact of the Tsunami on Women in Sri Lanka*, Colombo: Social Scientists Association

Working Papers

Lakshman, R.W.D.; te Lintelo, D.J.H.; Ford, H.; Chattat, E. and Senanayake, M. (2023) [**Big Data for Development Studies? An Innovative Methodology**](#), IDS Working Paper 596, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 9 January 2024)

Lakshman, R. W. D.; Amirthalingam, K.; Ekanayake, A. and Blitz, B. K. (2021) [**Gender and Displacement in Jaffna, Sri Lanka Survey of Internally Displaced Persons, 2020**](#), Sri Lanka: GCRF Gender, Justice and Security Hub (accessed 9 January 2024)

Lakshman, R.W.D. and Amirthalingam, K. (2020) [**Influence of Diasporas on Post-War Social Mobility: The Case of Sri Lanka, CMRD Working Paper 1.2**](#), Colombo: Centre for Migration Research and Development (accessed 9 January 2024)

Kulatunga, S.T.K. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2010) [**Livelihoods Under Protracted Conflict: A Case Study of Sri Lanka**](#), RSC Working Paper 62, Oxford: Refugee Studies Centre (accessed 9 January 2024)

Reports

Samuel Hall, University of Sussex and IOM (2022) [**Returning to Debt – Examining the Effects of Indebtedness on Reintegration Outcomes**](#), Final Report, Geneva: International Organization for Migration (accessed 11 January 2024)

OCHA (2022) [**Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation of the Yemen Crisis**](#), New York: UNOCHA (accessed 11 January 2024)

Sida. L.; Jahan. F.; Rashid. M.; Nelis. T. and Lakshman, R. (2018) [**Independent Evaluation of UNHCR's Emergency Response to the Rohingya Refugees Influx in Bangladesh August 2017– September 2018**](#), Evaluation Report, Geneva: UNHCR (accessed 11 January 2024)

te Lintelo, D.J.H.; Lakshman, R.W.D.; Mansour, W.; Soye, E.; Ficarelli, T. and Woodward, W. (2018) [Wellbeing of Urban Refugees: Syrians and Hosts in Jordan and Lebanon](#), Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 11 January 2024)

Tranchant, J.P.; Mueller, C.; Lakshman, R.; Meeker, J. and Pittore, K. (2017) [Malnutrition and Poverty in OIC Countries: A Trap for Poverty](#), Ankara: COMCEC Coordination Office (accessed 11 January 2024)

Kasper, E.; McGranahan, G.; te Lintelo, D.J.H.; Gupte, J.; Tranchant, J-P.; Lakshman, R.W.D. and Nesbitt-Ahmed, Z. (2017) [Inclusive Urbanisation and Cities in the Twenty-First Century](#), IDS Evidence Report 220, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 11 January 2024)

te Lintelo, D. J. H.; Munslow, T.; Lakshman, R. W. D. and Pittore, K. (2016) [Assessing the Policy Impact of 'Indicators': A Process-Tracing Study of the Hunger And Nutrition Commitment Index \(HANCI\)](#), IDS Evidence Report 185, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 11 January 2024)

te Lintelo, D. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2015) [The Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index \(HANCI 2014\): Measuring the Political Commitment to Reduce Hunger and Undernutrition in Developing Countries](#), IDS Evidence Report 150, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 11 January 2024)

te Lintelo, D. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2015) [Unravelling Commitment? An Empirical Assessment of Political Commitment to Reduce Hunger and Undernutrition in Five High Burden Countries](#), IDS Evidence Report 138, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 11 January 2024)

Apland, K.; Blitz, B. K.; Hamilton, C.; Lagaay, M.; Lakshman, R. and Yarrow, E. (2014), [Birth Registration and Children's Rights: A Complex Story](#), Woking: Plan International (accessed 11 January 2024)

Lakshman, R. and te Lintelo, D.J.H. (2014) [The HANCI Donor Index 2013: Measuring Donors' Political Commitment to Reduce Hunger and Undernutrition in Developing Countries](#), IDS Evidence Report 99, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 11 January 2024)

te Lintelo, D.; Haddad, L.; Lakshman, R. and Gatellier, K. (2014) [The Hunger And Nutrition Commitment Index \(HANCI 2013\) Measuring the Political Commitment to Reduce Hunger and Undernutrition in Developing Countries](#), IDS Evidence Report 78 (accessed 11 January 2024)

te Lintelo, D.J.H.; Haddad, L.J. and Lakshman, R. (2013) [The HANCI Donor Index 2012: Measuring Donors' Political Commitment to Reduce Hunger and Undernutrition in Developing Countries](#), IDS Evidence Report 26, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 11 January 2024)

te Lintelo, D.J.H.; Haddad, L.J.; Lakshman, R. and Gatellier, K. (2013) [The Hunger And Nutrition Commitment Index \(HANCI 2012\): Measuring the Political Commitment to Reduce Hunger and Undernutrition in Developing Countries](#), IDS Evidence Report 25, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 11 January 2024)

Cirera, X. and Lakshman, R. W. D. (2013) [The Impact of Export Processing Zones on Employment, Wages and Labour Conditions in Developing Countries](#), Systematic Review 10, 3ie International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (accessed 11 January 2024)

Home Office (2013) *Evaluation of the Early Legal Advice Project, Final Report*, London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office

United States Department of State (2011) *The Cost of Statelessness: A Livelihoods Analysis*, Washington, DC: US Government

Cirera, X.; Willenbockel, D. and Lakshman, R. (2011) [What is the Evidence of the Impact of Tariff Reductions on Employment and Fiscal Revenue in Developing Countries?](#) Technical Report, London: EPPI Centre, Social Science Research Unit, Institute of Education, University of London (accessed 12 January 2024)

Lakshman, R.W.D. and Sangasumana, P. (2011) *Internal Migration in Sri Lanka*, RMMRU Report, Brighton: University of Sussex

Lakshman, R. W. D. and Liyanaarachchi, S. (2006) [Report Based on the Mini-Survey on Training Programs in Sri Lanka](#), Tokyo: Local Human Resources and Public Policy Development System Open Research Centre (LORC) of Ryukoku University (accessed 12 January 2024)

Abeyratne, S. and Lakshman, R.W.D. (2005), *Impact of the Ceasefire Agreement on Regional Economic Growth in Sri Lanka*, Sri Lanka Government Report, Colombo: Economic Affairs Division, Secretariat for Coordinating the Peace Process (accessed 12 January 2024)