

GLOBAL MINDS FUND GHENT UNIVERSITY 2021 SELECTED PROJECTS							
OPERATIONAL GRANT 2021							
	Candidate's name	Promoter	Department	Title of the activities proposed within this grant application	Abstract	Country	Budget
1	Jelena Jovanovic	Andreja Rajkovic	Food Technology, Safety, and Health	Multifaceted investigation of <i>Bacillus cereus</i> as food safety hazard in Ecuador, Mali and Uganda - Prevalence of toxigenic isolates in food products and effects of tropical climate on pathogenicity	Food safety remains a marginalized policy objective within national health and food safety systems worldwide. This study aims to estimate the prevalence of <i>B. cereus</i> in food products in Ecuador, Mali, and Uganda. Moreover, it will determine the effects of tropical climate on pathogenic properties of <i>B. cereus</i> and the discovery of novel highly cytotoxic strains.	Ecuador, Mali, and Uganda.	12,500 €
2	Femke Maes	Bart Defloor	Department of economics	Analysis of the effect of drinking water provision on rural households' livelihoods in Western Uganda	The research project aims to assess the health and socio-economic impacts of drinking water infrastructure provision by Join for Water (NGO) on rural communities in Western Uganda. Water quality and health, as well as intra-family time use and trust between community members and in formal institutions, are analysed.	Uganda	12,500 €
3	Clod Marlan Krister Yambao	Jeroen Adam	Department of Conflict and Development Studies	Is It the End of the Road? Creative Fieldwork on the Immobility and Everyday Life of the Selected Internally Displaced (ID) Lumad Indigenous Peoples (IP) during the Global Pandemic and Militarized Lockdown in the Philippines.	This multi-sited project narrates the lived experiences of the vulnerable and internally displaced indigenous peoples. I analyze their political responses to the escalating state violence against them in the time of the pandemic. I deploy curation as a strategic method of researching to respond to the ethics and cultural sensitivity of the pandemic.	Philippines	11,242 €
4	Mary Ann Manahan	Jeroen Adam	Department of Conflict and Development Studies	Igmale' eng'en (Sacred Forests): participatory mapping of the Talaandig people's ecological knowledge in relation to PES adoption	The project explores how indigenous ecological knowledge of the forest are deployed by the Talaandig people in shaping a PES project in Mt. Kalatungan. It interrogates how cumulative and intergenerational knowledge, belief, and practice systems contribute to their adoption of green neoliberalism and consequently, provide concrete insights into how local interests and demands find its way into climate change solutions.	Philippines	8,125 €
5	Tânia Margarida Lourenço De Abreu	Gilbert Van Stappen,	Department of Animal Sciences and Aquatic Ecology	HUFA profile characterization and optimal use of local Bolivian <i>Artemia</i> resources, used as live food of early stages of important aquaculture species of the Bolivian highlands	This proposal aims at cooperation with Bolivian partners to study the HUFA composition and metabolism in <i>Artemia</i> populations of the Bolivian altiplano, complementary to my PhD study on other strains originating from other thermal regimes. Furthermore, it aims to improve the use of <i>Artemia</i> as live feed and thus to develop aquaculture of local fish species.	Bolivia	11,925 €
6	Andrée De Cock	Peter Goethals	Faculty of Biosciences Engineering Department of Animal Sciences and Aquatic Ecology Research Group Aquatic Ecology (AECO)	The protection of aquatic and human health in relation to red mangrove crab consumption in Ecuador.	An integrated study will be performed in which the risk and benefits of the consumption of the Ecuadorian red mangrove crab will be presented, including the communication of a threshold value for the consumption of crabs in order to protect human health is expected to be delivered.	Ecuador	12,500 €
7	Elke Mahieu	Stijn Joye	Department of Communication Sciences	The role of global power relations in the everyday professional lives and practices of the journalists of the online and print press in post-colonial Kinshasa.	By looking at the ways in which the journalists of the online and print press interact with foreign players, this research project aims to investigate the role of global power relations in the everyday professional lives and practices of the journalists in post-colonial Kinshasa.	DR Congo	9,040 €
8	Bintou Sanogo	Stefaan De Henauf	Public Health and Primary Care	Application of epigenetic clinical diagnostics in severely acute malnourished children with oedema (Kwashiorkor)	Kwashiorkor, a severe form of acute malnutrition (SAM) remains enigmatic. SAM children with oedema have a higher risk of dying than SAM without oedema. This add-on study investigates the associations of SAM children who developed/or did not oedema as well as the associations of Kwashiorkor children who responded/or did not to the treatment with epigenetic DNA methylation variation using Pyrosequencing.	Burkina Faso	12,500 €
9	Slosse Wannes	Buyse Jeroen	Agricultural Economics	Understanding smallholder cooperatives and institutions in unstable, conflict-affected regions: the case of Eastern DRC Arabica coffee	This project aims to gather qualitative and quantitative information on coffee cooperatives and their smallholder members in the conflict-affected Eastern DRC. In collaboration with the NGO Rikolto, we want to gain insights on the effect of informal cross border smuggling and the colonial land systems on uncertainty in this unstable region.	DR Congo	12,500 €
10	Mohamed Fathi Abdallah Abdelmohsen	Andreja Rajkovic	Department of Food technology, Safety and Health	AF-CYSTIN-milk: assessing the incidence of aflatoxin M1 and microcystin-LR in water buffalo milk from Philippines and their potential in vitro toxic interaction	Aflatoxin M1 (AFM1) and microcystins (MCs) are both hepatotoxic compounds. Although the occurrence of AFM1 in milk is well-known, the carry-over of MCs is still doubtful. The potential combined effects due to the co-exposure to AFM1 and MCs has not been investigated. This project aims at quantifying both toxins in dairy milk and testing the in vitro combined toxic effects.	Philippines	11,000 €
CAPACITY BUILDING 2021							
	Promoter	Type of initiative	Department	Title of the initiative	Abstract	Country	Budget
1	Bert Suykens	Seminar, network event	Conflict & Development Studies	Politics of information and new technologies of surveillance in Tanzania's and Bangladesh' nascent autocracies	This initiative wants to establish a research collaboration between researchers in Tanzania, Bangladesh and the CRG with the aim to explore social media information regimes of nascent autocracies. This includes an online introductory session and a workshop in Ghent to establish trust and to formulate a joint grant application for the Gerda Henkel Stiftung call: 'Security Society and the State'.	Tanzania and Bangladesh	7,480.00 €
2	Dewaele Stijn, Thomas Hermans	Visit at UGent for proposal preparation	Geology	Geodynamic setting of hydrothermal systems in Southern Ecuador: preparation phase	Through geological, geophysical and geochemical research in the provinces of Azuay and Cañar in Ecuador, a geodynamic model for the formation of hydrothermal and epithermal deposits will be created. Through this model an explanation for the past and present hydrothermal activity in the area can be given with the aim of optimising the areas geothermal potential.	Ecuador	7,500.00 €
3	Geert Janssens	Extension of stay for 1 month in Belgium for PhD defense	Nutrition, Genetics and Ethology	Delayed PhD defense on tropical livestock due to corona pandemic	Biruk Kebede Biru will finalise and defend his PhD on tropical livestock nutrition.	Ethiopia	1,500.00 €
4	Miriam Taverniers	A PhD, publications, training	Linguistics	Examination of dimensionality and predictors of verbal skills in Vietnamese children in preschools and primary schools	The proposed plan includes the following activities: 1. Two manuscripts for A1 journal submissions will be submitted. 2. Two presentations in symposiums/conferences will be presented. 3. Training in transferable skills, statistics using R software, and European management and proposal development will be undertaken. 4. A PhD dissertation will be submitted and defended.	Vietnam	4,500.00 €

5	Herman Peiffer	Startup of a master program, seminar and network event	Department of Civil Engineering	Development of a master program in geotechnical engineering and promotion of the specific research in the field of the sustainable use of groundwater	The layout of the planned activities can be presented as follows - Discussions with the University (Laboratory, Dean, Rector), the Bolivian Society of Geotechnics and other stakeholders in a planned seminar - Setup of a Master program in geotechnical engineering based on international study programs and specific Bolivian needs and topics	Bolivia	7,200.00 €
6	Antonissen Gunther, Croubels Siska, Devreese Mathias, De Vlieghe Sarne, Dewulf Jeroen, Duchateau Luc, Gabriël Sarah, Janssens Geert, Levecke Bruno, Maes Dominiek	Explorative mission	Department of Pathology, Bacteriology and Avian Diseases; Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Biochemistry; Department of Reproduction, Obstetrics and Herd Health; Department of Nutrition, Genetics and Ethology; Department of Veterinary Public Health and Food Safety	Exploring Opportunities for a University Collaboration on Food Security, Health and Higher Education Research in Rwanda	This explorative mission we aim to explore and strengthen the collaborations between Ghent University (Faculty of Veterinary Medicine), research institutes in Rwanda (e.g. University of Rwanda and Rwanda Biomedical Centre) and NGOs (e.g. Veterinarians Without Borders – Belgium), with the ultimate aim to set up a University Collaboration on food security, health and higher education research.	Rwanda	7,500.00 €
7	Kris Rutten	Explorative mission	Educational Studies	Research collaboration on decolonial curatorial practices.	Funding for an explorative mission to South Africa with the aim of setting up research collaboration around decolonial curatorial practices with the Universities of Pretoria and Johannesburg. The explorative mission is aimed at (a) developing a clear focus for the research collaboration and (b) targeting the relevant funding opportunities both in the North as well as in the South.	South Africa	6,900.00 €
8	Gilbert Van Stappen	Exploratory missions with training	Laboratory of Aquaculture & Artemia Reference Center (ARC), Department of Animal Sciences and Aquatic Ecology, Faculty of Bioscience Engineering	A crucial step in the development of aquaculture in Bolivia: assessment of local Artemia resources	This CBI includes 2 mutual exploratory missions between the Universidad Mayor de San Andres, La Paz, Bolivia, and Ghent University, addressing for the first time the study of natural populations of the brine shrimp Artemia in lakes on the Bolivian altiplano, aiming at sustainable exploitation. Within a broader context, this proposal fits within sustainable aquaculture and food production in Bolivia.	Bolivia	7,500.00 €
9	Bart Defloor	Explorative mission	Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Department of Economics	Impact of water and sanitation interventions on farmers' livelihoods in rural Uganda.	The aim of this project is twofold. First, to get contact with researchers from the MMU in Fort Portal (Uganda) in order to apply for a VLIR UOS South Initiative. Second, to meet with local staff from Join for Water NGO in order to evaluate a drinking water intervention in the Mpanga region in 2021.	Uganda	7,220.00 €
10	Ricardo Ayala	Training and field actions	Sociology		The present project involves two main stages in Belgium and Ecuador: a stage of participatory dialogs (meant to produce a database) and a stage of socialisation/adoption of the produced information on interprofessional care and intercultural health. The stages include fieldwork and editorial work leading to guidelines, a tentative syllabus, training sessions and policy documents, using cross-national and cross-disciplinary synergy.	Ecuador	6,545.00 €
11	Peter Goethals	Staff training	Department of Animal Sciences and Aquatic Ecology	Training of advanced techniques to monitor macroinvertebrates in the aquatic ecosystems of the Ecuadorian Andes	This initiative aims to develop capacities to monitor macroinvertebrates in aquatic ecosystems using advanced techniques, for which water samples and macroinvertebrates will be collected from high Andean aquatic ecosystems in central Ecuador. Training of advanced monitoring techniques will be implemented in the Department of Animal Sciences and Aquatic Ecology of Ghent University.	Ecuador	7,500.00 €
12	Souheila Abbeddou	Training and capacity building	Public Health and Primary Care	Development of an electronic information system for data management and reporting to improve management of severe acute malnourished children	Severely acute malnourished children (SAM) with complications need inpatient care. At the refeeding centers in Burkina Faso, data collected are processed manually which can increase human errors in assigning treatment. The project aims to develop an electronic information system for the data management and reporting. The system includes informatics decision making. Prompt decision making can save the lives of SAM children.	Burkina Faso	7,500.00 €
PERMANENT CALL CAPACITY BUILDING							
	Promoter	Type of initiative	Department	Title of the initiative	Abstract	Country	Budget
1	Geert Haesaert	Research - finishing PhD study of Le Dung	Department of plants and crops	Uncovering the role of BEA and FB1 in the virulence of Fusarium oxysporum and F. proliferatum in onion (as part of the PhD thesis of Le Dung - Exploration of the Fusarium complex causing foot rot in Allium spp. in Vietnam)	Fusarium basal rot (FBR) is a disease severely affecting Allium spp. in Vietnam. Besides causing yield losses, they also pose a threat by the production of the mycotoxins beauvericin and fumonisin B1. Until now, the role of these mycotoxins in the pathogenesis of Fusarium is unknown. By combining bioassays with molecular techniques and multispectral imaging its role will be uncovered.	Vietnam	7,430.00 €
2	Gunther Antonissen	Funding for PhD research affected by the COVID-19 outbreak	1. Department of Pharmacology Toxicology and Biochemistry 2. Department of Pathology, Bacteriology and Avian Diseases, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Efficacy of mycotoxin detoxifiers in reduction of toxicity and carry-over of mycotoxins in exotic and indigenous dairy cattle	LC-MS/MS analyses at Ghent University to evaluate the interaction between ruminal microbiome and its capacity to degrade aflatoxins in different African dairy breeds, and to evaluate the efficacy and safety of mycotoxin detoxifying agents in these animals.	Kenya	7,500.00 €
3	Siska Croubels	Funding for PhD research affected by the COVID-19 outbreak	Department of Pharmacology Toxicology and Biochemistry Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Decreasing aflatoxins contamination in poultry food products in Africa	Laboratory and data analyses at Ghent University of samples from poultry trials conducted in Kenya to evaluate the efficacy of mycotoxin detoxifiers to reduce the negative effects of aflatoxins and fumonisins on chicken health and productivity, as well as to reduce human exposure to aflatoxins through animal products including meat and eggs.	Kenya	7,500.00 €
4	Lieva Van Langenhove	The principal initiative is to finish the intended research activity within a running PhD work (Yetanawork Wubneh Teyeme), which is affected due to COVID-19 outbreak.	Department of Materials, Textiles and Chemical Engineering	Customized Ergonomic Compression Garment development for Trunk Monitoring	Improper posturing for cyclist has been considered in association with a number of spinal musculoskeletal disorders, such as structural deformity of the spine and back pain. The goal of this project is to develop a novel measuring sensor system and integrate it into a cycling garment to obtain a smart wearable shirt for posture monitoring.	Ethiopia	7,130.00 €
5	Johan Lauwaert	Funding Ph.D. research (Yacob Gebreyohannes Hiben) affected by COVID-19 outbreak and conflict in Tigray, Ethiopia	Electronics and Information Systems	Model-Based Design for Optimal Integration of Industrial Solar Heating and Cooling Processes.	Industry has a large technical potential for solar thermal systems. One main difficulty of realizing this potential is the considerable engineering costs associated with the individual data acquisition and techno-economic assessments, as each facility often have unique load profiles, working temperatures, and solar resource. This motivates the research of a complete solar system simulation model combining Python and TRNSYS software.	Ethiopia	6,000.00 €
6	Bart Deygers	Seminar / Explorative Mission	LW22, Dept. of Translation, Interpreting and Communication	Validity, fairness and justice in university admission: the role of language and language assessment in multilingual South Africa.	This capacity building project will examine language requirements in the South African universities' admission policy. More concretely, we will focus on developing and validating a diagnostic university admission assessment tool. We envisage that its impact will stretch wider than the South African context and aim to build capacity on both sides for critical examination of practices that impact on livelihoods.	South Africa	7,100.00 €

7	Ilse Ruyssen	Education: Development of learning material Research: building climate-resilient and migrant-inclusive health systems	Economics	A time for action: developing and testing an educational package on the Climate Change-Migration-and-Health(care) nexus to help prepare postgraduate primary care providers in building climate-resilient and migrant-inclusive health services	Creating a culturally appropriate, active learning, location-relevant education package – using a train-the-trainer model to maximise impact – for primary care providers in Sub-Saharan Africa focussing on the connections between climate change, migration and health(care). The package will educate and empower PCPs to train others and to contribute their insights regarding how to make health systems more climate-resilient and migrant-inclusive.	South Africa	7,500.00 €
8	Pascal Boeckx	Research, activities or costs with the intention to limit the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak within a running PhD (Frehiwot Sileshi Woldetsadik)	Department of green Chemistry and Technology, Isotope Bioscience laboratory	Vir-uos network Ethiopia programme	During this mobility plan, the researcher will conduct the following activities; - Seed nutrient analysis to determine seed Fe, Zn and Se content - Data analysis and manuscript writing up	Ethiopia	5,970.00 €
9	Wannes Hubau	Explorative mission	Environment	Training Congolese field leaders in tropical forest resilience research	During this explorative mission to the Yangambi Forest Reserve, we will train three Congolese field leaders who will then be able to perform data collection independently, reducing the need to bring researchers from North to South. This will reduce the carbon footprint to our fieldwork-oriented projects, reduce the risk of delays (e.g. pandemic), and contribute to capacity building in D.R. Congo.	DR Congo	7,420.00 €
10	Padalko, Elizaveta	Research, activities or costs with the intention to limit the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak within a running PhD (Mengistu hailemariam zenebe)	Department of Diagnostic Sciences	Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) among pregnant women and congenital infection of newborn at Hawassa University comprehensive and specialized Hospital, Ethiopia	At this last stage of the project, we planned to finalize collaborative research activities with Sciensano on serological assay optimization on oral fluid and achieve the final thesis preparation for PhD defence after completion of PhD book and submission. Also we planned to achieve full filament of all administrative requirement for PhD certificate finally clearance process from Ghent University.	Ethiopia	6,855.00 €
11	Peter Goethals	Research, finalization of PhD (Beekam Kebede Olkeba) in relation to Covid-19 challenges	Animal Sciences and Aquatic Ecology, FBW	Spatiotemporal distribution and habitat suitability modeling of disease vectors and intermediate hosts in Ethiopia, PhD as a part of the VLIRUOS Network project Ethiopia. (VectorPhD in Network Ethiopia)	This project aims to compensate for Covid-19 related time losses, and allow the PhD student to work on comments on the manuscripts, submit the PhD thesis, and allow for the internal defence, adaptation of comments on PhD, public defence of the PhD in September-October 2021.	Ethiopia	5,970.00 €
12	Carl Lachat	Research, finalization of PhD (Kokeb Tesfamariam) in relation to Covid-19 challenges	Department of Food technology, Safety and Health	Mycotoxins exposure during pregnancy and child growth in Ethiopia	Dietary exposure to high levels of aflatoxins (mycotoxins) during pregnancy may be a contributor to adverse birth outcomes. The planned activities for this project are 1) to analyze and write a manuscript on the association between mycotoxins exposure and adverse birth outcomes; 2) To draft a manuscript on the associations between mycotoxins exposure and metabolome profile and birth outcomes.	Ethiopia	5,970.00 €

SHORT RESEARCH STAYS 2021				Outcomes		
Promoter	Department	Visitor	Title of the initiative	Abstract	Country of Residence	
1	Sofie Goormachtig	Plant Biotechnology and Bioinformatics	Ho Manh Tuong	Plant Growth Promoting Rhizobacteria (PGPR) to alleviate salt stress in plants	Plants have developed several mechanisms to avoid, adapt, or tolerate salt stress caused by climate change for instance through the use of the root microbiome. We aim at identifying and characterizing plant growth promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR) that can alleviate salt stress in plants. Once identified, they can be used in agriculture to allow crops to be grown in salty soils.	Vietnam
2	Jan Nyssen	Department of Geography	Addis Alaminie	Evaluating satellite and reanalysis soil moisture products in the Upper Blue Nile Basin, Ethiopia	Incorporating evaluated soil moisture states as input into hydrological models is expected to yield improved stream flow predictions within the hydrological models. In this study, collected long-term global satellite and reanalysis soil moisture products over the Upper Blue Nile Basin will be evaluated through standard statistical methods. Finally, satellite and reanalysis Soil Moisture products with excellent performance will be identified.	Ethiopia
3	Jan Nyssen	Department of Geography	Biadgilgn Demissie Mullaw	Runoff and erosion from mountain catchments in Ethiopia	In northern Ethiopia, due to severe land degradation, concerted efforts have been made to rehabilitate land. The objectives of this study is to (i) estimate and understand peak discharge for ungauged catchments, and (ii) quantifying soil erosion severity and the correlation with bio-physical catchment characteristics. The Curve Number method will be used to estimate peak discharge. The RUSLE model and remote sensing techniques will be used to quantify soil erosion in the study area.	Ethiopia
4	Gorik Ooms	Public Health and Primary Care	Moses Mulumba	Developing a Human Rights-Based Approach to Community Participation in Healthcare Systems with Special Reference to Uganda	Basic health services are often unavailable, of low quality, or unaffordable in the public health system of many post-colonial countries. These challenges arise from limited resources and the way health and healthcare is governed. This study focuses on developing a human rights-based approach to community participation in healthcare in Uganda.	Uganda
5	Dirk Verschuren	Department of Biology	Vincent Omondi Odongo	Assembling datasets of the timing and amplitude of historical lake-level fluctuation in Kenya's Rift Valley	The Rift Valley lakes of Kenya are naturally sensitive to multi-annual variation in rainfall, but strong lake-level rises in 2012-2013 and 2020 are now causing historically record flooding. This project engages Kenyan hydrologists to assemble reliable datasets of 20th-21st century lake-level fluctuation, as essential foundation to develop studies aimed at disentangling the relative impacts of expanding land use and anthropogenic climate change.	Kenya
6	Kristine Walraevens	Department of Geology	Fenta Nigate Abera	1. Paper 1: Water level fluctuation and flow dynamics in the Lake Tana basin 2. Paper 2: Hydrogeochemical and isotopic analysis of Southwestern Chokie watersheds, Northern Ethiopia: Implications to Recharge-Discharge conditions of Chokie Mountain Chain 3. Research proposal: conducting a hydrogeological system of the Eastern Amhara Intermountain Valley	Research on Chokie and Lake Tana basin on the basaltic plateau of the north-western Ethiopian highlands will be published. Similarly, a proposal to study the hydrogeology of northeastern rift western margin, intermountain alluvial valleys will be developed. Plans for a joint Master programme will be concretised.	Ethiopia
7	Kristine Walraevens	Department of Geology	Charles Bakundukize	Scientific article or research paper	This SRS will be devoted to writing scientific papers out of our research on a Precambrian basement in Bugesera region. Interesting findings of this research prove the existence of an unexploited groundwater potential despite frequent crop failure due to erratic rainfall. Moreover, the SRS will be an opportunity to draft a research proposal to be submitted for the period of 2022 to 2026.	Burundi
SENSITIZING EVENTS 2021						
Promoter	Type of initiative	Department	Title of the initiative	Abstract	Budget	

1	Carl Lachat ; Patrick Kolsteren; Daniela Penafiel	A Virtual Conference	Dep Food Technology, Safety and Health; Escuela Superior Politecnica del Litoral	Better Eating in Ecuador – Past, Present and Future.	This videoconference aims to inform stakeholders in Flanders and Latin America about the research conducted between Ghent University and two Universities in Ecuador (one in the coast and one in the highland) which joint forces to reduce the double burden of malnutrition in Ecuador. The conference starts with a documental about the double burden of malnutrition in Ecuador (title: to eat or not to eat, that is the issue in Ecuador) and follows with a videoconference which presents a SWOT analysis of the problematic conducted by several researchers who are experts in the field of human nutrition and development research. Finally, there is a space open for questions from students, researchers public and private institutions.	3,450.00 €
2	Elaine Hochepeid; Niko Vandebos; Brian Sabbe	Podcast/ digitally guided walking tour through Ghent	UNYA Gent	Taking the next step for decolonization: a podcast tour through Ghent	The initiative will consist of a walking tour through the city of Ghent, supported by a podcast. During this tour the podcast will address topics such as our colonial history, decolonization and north-south relations, while linking them to actual places (and stories, artwork, ...) in Ghent. By approaching these subjects in our own local environment, we will be able to provide a practical dimension to these sensitive debates. Our goal is to sensitize and encourage reflection not only among students, but also among other interested locals.	3,500.00 €
3	Maxime Kalouguin; Fien De Fauw; Joakim Galle	3-day simulation of the United Nations and its institutions, with training of debating, public speaking, networking, ... (Workshops, training and smaller sensitizing events)	GhentMUN VZW	Ghent Model United Nations (short: GhentMUN)	The GhentMUN project is an initiative by students from Ghent University who want to help build a sustainable event about sustainability in the international world of the Model United Nations. The main focus is the educational diplomacy simulation and academic activities in which students can learn about diplomacy, international relations, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the United Nations. The goal of the project is to train and help students around the globe in debating about the main topics of the United Nations, which include human rights, sustainable development goals, health,... This will be realized by training the participants during the semester in cooperation with the United Nations Youth Associations (such as VVN Youth). The end goal is to have constructive and prepared debates during the GhentMUN conference about these subjects, accompanied with sustainable (online) social events during the entire semester.	1,000.00 €
4	Ali Ihsan Karadeniz; Duha Ceylan; Dante Gabriel	Workshop	C&D; Sociology – Research Assistant (VUB);	Policy Formation and Implementation: Methods and Technologies to Encourage Input from Below	<p>"It is the prime task of any social scientist to determine the limits of freedom and the limits of the role of reason in history." – C. Wright Mills</p> <p>Throughout our lectures, we are oft taught to consider the ethics of development, this in mind, this proposal aims to bring to UGent the question of looking at praxis of development in the Belgian periphery.</p> <p>Our aim is to utilise a workshop format to encourage workshop participants (UGent colleagues, activist organisations, migrant activists) to think critically about the input mechanisms that feed into Belgian Federal, Regional and Community policies, who is included and who isn't and in what capacity. However, those who are most attenuated to the issues faced by minority groups in the local context are often forced to petition the state by navigating a series of institutional barriers.</p> <p>Therefore, this workshop emphasises learning about and engaging with various methods and technologies used by Belgian activists and grassroots organisations to influence the policy making process.</p> <p>Through increasing awareness regarding the challenges of influencing government policy, yet also emphasising the potentiality for implementing change through advocacy, the UGent and the local migrant community will be empowered to overcome the division between academia and the State through technologies of activism.</p>	700.00 €