

Beyond Development

Local Visions of Global Poverty

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The first part of the exhibition introduces the story and the aim of the AHRC funded project of the Poverty Research Network, ‘Beyond Development: Local Visions of Global Poverty’. The project met with academics, activists, and communities around the world to explore the ways they have used history and culture to resist poverty. Three banners provide insights of the project as well as a summary of the workshops which took place around the world, in Bangladesh, Brazil, Mexico, Senegal, Slovenia, and finally here in Glasgow. The project has always focused upon local perspectives and engaged with the struggles of grassroots activists. For this reason, a documentary narrates the history of WestGap, Glasgow based grassroots group that was formed to fight poverty in the West End of Glasgow.

The second part of the exhibition presents newly commissioned short films. These short pieces present specific contextual narratives that aim to fight common stereotypes about representations of poverty around the world. The films will provide a powerful insight into autonomous communities in Mexico, urban groups in Senegal, and grassroots activists in Glasgow. The films will show how these groups critique the value systems of capitalism that have manufactured poverty, and how people have formed communities to create spaces both within and outside cities to resist impoverishment.