

**Carleton University CUREB A: Proposed Interview Questions**

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**Research Project:** *History, Narrative and Refugee Resettlement: Constructing Refugee Eligibility in post-Colonial Africa.*

**Introduction:**

For this research project, I will conduct oral interviews with a range of participants listed below. Tightly structured interviews may influence tellers into following a predetermined thematic or chronological path. I will open interviews with general and biographical questions and then conduct the rest of the interviews in an open-ended, informal and conversational style in order to allow memory flow and recollection to flourish. Follow-up questions will be based on context and initial responses to afford respondents the opportunity to elaborate on aspects of their experiences or views that the interviewer may not have touched on or anticipated.

**Potential starting questions by participant group:**

**Former resettled refugees who were resettled to Canada from sub-Saharan Africa**

1. Please tell me a little about yourself?
2. Where did you grow up and where did you live and go to school?
3. When did you leave your home country or country of citizenship?
4. Which significant historical events have taken place during your lifetime: were there wars, natural disasters, or political changes?
5. Why did you leave and how did your life change?
6. Please tell me what you remember about your experience with the refugee status determination process?
7. Do you know if you were a government assisted refugee or a privately sponsored refugee?

## **Appendix 5- Proposed Interview Questions for CUREB Protocol Application- #104760**

8. If you were a privately sponsored refugee, how did your sponsoring organization or group identify or decide that you were eligible for sponsorship?
9. Please describe your experiences and views of the refugee resettlement application process, and specifically, the refugee determination process with either the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees or with a Canadian visa officer?
10. What did you do to prepare for the interviews with officials and did you get any advice from friends, family or any organizations?
11. How and at what point did you find out that you had been found eligible and selected for resettlement to Canada?

Former and current officials from non-governmental organizations (NGOs); private sponsorship groups [Sponsorship Agreement Holders, Groups of Five or Community Sponsors] or churches

1. Please tell me about yourself?
2. Were you born in Canada and if not, how old were you when you immigrated to Canada?
3. Where did you grow up and where did you live and go to school?
4. Please tell me about your work or experience with refugees and refugee resettlement?
5. Does your organization sponsor refugees from the African continent?
6. Do you have experience with resettling refugees from sub-Saharan Africa (Pretoria or Nairobi)?
7. What have been some of your challenges, highlights or notable aspects with refugee resettlement from this region?
8. Which refugee populations have you or your organization resettled from sub-Saharan Africa and how did your organization or group identify refugees that were sponsored from the region?
9. Can you describe your experience with the formal sponsorship process and especially, your engagement with the Department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (formerly Citizenship and Immigration Canada)?

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10. What were some of the experiences you or your sponsored refugees had with the resettlement application process, and specifically, refugee determination procedures?

### Former and current visa officers who have processed resettled refugees from the region

1. Please tell me about yourself?
2. Were you born in Canada and if not, how old were you when you immigrated to Canada?
3. Where did you grow up and where did you live and go to school?
4. What different jobs have you had during your life and can you tell me about your work or experience with refugees and refugee resettlement?
5. Please tell me about your experience processing resettled refugees from sub-Saharan Africa at either Pretoria or Nairobi visa office?
6. What have been some of your challenges, highlights or notable aspects with refugee resettlement from sub-Saharan Africa?
7. What were your impressions about the legal and formal requirements of eligibility determination in relation to the realities of processing refugees from this region and other parts of the world?
8. Please tell me about your experiences with interviewing resettlement applicants from sub-Saharan Africa and which countries did they come from?
9. Did you have different experiences processing government assisted refugees and privately sponsored refugees?
10. In retrospect, what do you consider to have been challenges, highlights or learning moments for you in processing resettled refugees from sub-Saharan Africa?

### Former and current government and inter-governmental officials [Canadian, Kenyan, South African and UNHCR respectively] involved in formulating refugee resettlement policy and practice

1. Please tell me about yourself?

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2. Where did you grow up and where did you live and go to school?
3. What different jobs or occupations have you held during your life?
4. Please tell me about your work or experience with refugees, refugee protection and refugee policy?
5. What are your views about the evolution or development of refugee protection policies and approaches within your country ( ?
6. Could you comment on some the challenges or highlights you have experienced with refugees or refugee protection within your country (Canada, Kenya or South Africa, depending on the official)?
7. What are your views on Canada's refugee resettlement program as it operates from your country (either Kenya or South Africa, depending on the official)?
8. What impact does Canada's refugee resettlement program have on refugee policy or issues within your country (either Kenya or South Africa, depending on the official)?
9. What role has the UNHCR played in refugee protection within this country (either Kenya or South Africa)?

### Human rights or refugee advocacy groups in sub-Saharan Africa and Canada

1. Please tell me about yourself?
2. Where did you grow up and where did you live and go to school?
3. Please tell me about the nature of your advocacy work in relation to refugees and refugee protection?
4. Could you comment on some the challenges or highlights you have experienced advocating for refugees and refugee protection within the sub-Saharan African region or your country (Canada, Kenya or South Africa)?
5. What are your views on Canada's refugee resettlement program out of sub-Saharan Africa?
6. In your advocacy work on behalf of refugees, do you directly engage with refugee resettlement and refugee eligibility processes conducted by either the UNHCR or Canadian visa officers?

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7. Do you provide any assistance to refugee applicants in their applications for refugee status with either the UNHCR or Canadian visa officers?
8. Which refugee populations have you or your organization worked with or advocated for within sub-Saharan Africa?