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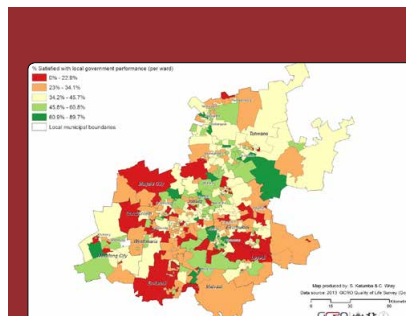
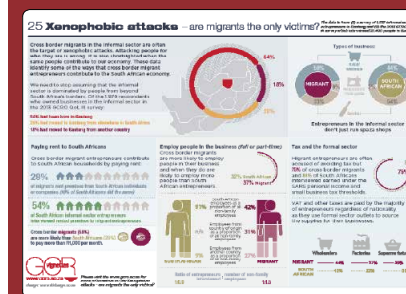
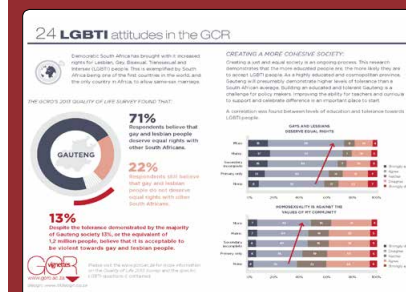
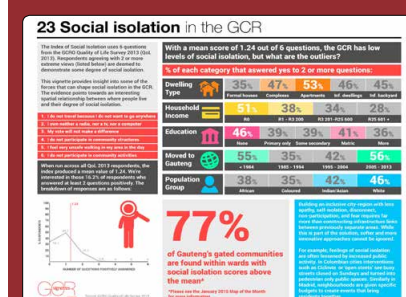
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News bytes

- Recent publications, presentations and other academic engagements



1 | Informal sector entrepreneurship and trade in the GCR – who is hurting whom in xenophobic attacks?

Two GCRO studies demystify misconceptions about the role of foreigners in exacerbating local economic hardships.

2015 has seen an increase in xenophobic violence which has often targeted cross border migrant entrepreneurs. The Gauteng City-Region Observatory (GCRO) has just completed two surveys which, amongst other things, show that those who think they are doing South Africans a favour by attacking cross border migrant entrepreneurs and putting them out of business may be sorely mistaken. In effect they are hurting South Africans because migrant entrepreneurs bring significant benefits to the local economy.

The studies also provide other valuable information about informal sector entrepreneurs and informal sector cross border trade between Gauteng and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries.

The first survey interviewed 1 567 cross border migrant and South African informal sector entrepreneurs in Gauteng. The second interviewed 1 250 cross border traders who come to Gauteng to buy goods for their businesses in their home countries, and in some cases to both sell goods from their own countries and buy goods to take home.

Neither study can claim to be representative due to the absence of baseline populations from which to draw samples. However the GCRO 2013 Quality of Life (QoL) survey was used as a guideline for sampling in the survey of informal sector entrepreneurs.

The QoL survey 2013 found that of the 1 979 respondents who owned businesses in the informal sector, 54% had been born in Gauteng, 28% had moved to Gauteng from another province in South Africa and 18% had moved to Gauteng from another country. This by itself dispels the myth that the informal sector is dominated by migrants.

The surveys explored a wide range of variables including demographics, experiences prior to starting their businesses, ways in which their businesses were started including: amounts of start-up capital; sources of capital; entrepreneurial attributes,

sources of supplies, contributions and costs to Gauteng, as well as the problems and challenges faced. The survey of traders also explored spatial patterns of trade. The data sets are rich and only a small part of the data is referred to here.

The results of the survey of informal sector entrepreneurs showed that many of the experiences, problems and challenges faced by informal entrepreneurs were shared regardless of where they came from.

The study also highlights the many contributions made by cross border migrant entrepreneurs and dispels some commonly held opinions regarding their entrepreneurial activities.

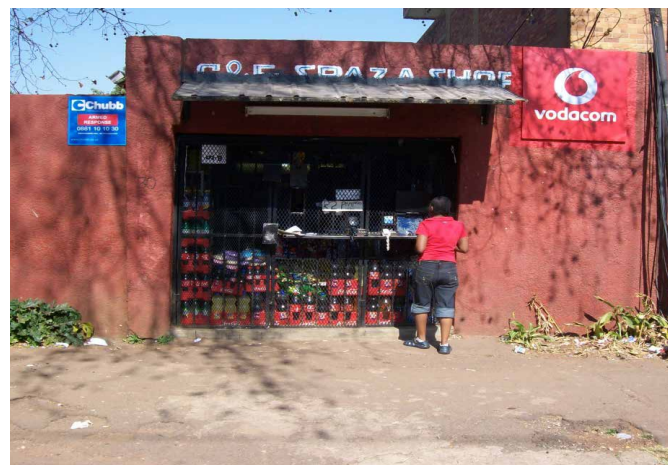
Firstly, the study found that migrant entrepreneurs were more likely to employ non-family members in their businesses than South African entrepreneurs as 37% of migrants interviewed employed people while only 32% of South African respondents did the same. Proportionally, cross border migrant respondents also employed more people. The ratio of employees to each trader interviewed was 1.5 employees: 1 migrant trader and 0.9 employees: 1 South African trader. As many as 42% of the employees of migrants were South Africans.

Secondly, we found that cross border migrant traders contribute to the incomes of South African households by paying rent. Almost three in ten (28%) of cross border migrant entrepreneurs rented premises from South Africans (10% of South Africans did the same). Over half (54%) of the South African entrepreneurs interviewed rented business premises to cross border migrant entrepreneurs.

Thirdly, cross border migrants are often accused of not paying tax. The GCRO study found that the incomes of 75% of cross border migrant and 84% of South African entrepreneurs fell under the SARS personal income or business tax thresholds. However these entrepreneurs do pay Value Added Tax (VAT) and other taxes as the main sources of supplies for the businesses of both migrants and South Africans were in the formal sector.



Photograph: Mamokete Matjomane



Photograph: Mamokete Matjomane

Goods from South Africa arriving in Mozambique



Photograph: Peter McKenzie.

As a result, putting cross border migrant entrepreneurs out of business affects their employees, their landlords, the companies and places that supply goods for their businesses and the collection of VAT.

The survey of informal sector or small scale cross border traders shows another area where xenophobic violence may affect the economy of Gauteng, and particularly Johannesburg which is their main destination. If only the 1 106 traders who spent R50 000 per trip or less are considered, on average each trader spent R10 200 per trip. Therefore, this cohort of informal sector cross border traders in one trip alone put R11 288 200 into the Gauteng economy. The overwhelming majority or close to four out of five traders (79%) travel to the province to buy goods at least once a month. And these are only some of the cross border traders travelling to the province to buy for their businesses in their home country. Did they travel to South Africa in April 2015? If they have, did they travel to Gauteng?

The full results of these surveys will be released in June 2015. Both surveys were undertaken as part of a joint research project involving the African Centre for Cities (ACC) at the University of Cape Town and the University of Eduardo Mondlane. The studies were funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) through the Southern African Migration Programme (SAMP) and the GCRO. Research was also undertaken in Cape Town, Harare and Maputo, and a workshop to release the initial results was co-hosted by the GCRO in Cape Town in February 2015.

2 | GCRO joins Economies of Regions Learning Network (ERLN) technical group.

The ERLN project – *Digging Deeper: Inter-Governmental Information Collection and Sharing* – aims to explore improved data-driven and evidence-led decision-making regarding the economic development of South Africa's economic regions and cities.

The GCRO has become an active member of the Economies of Regions Learning Network (ERLN) project known as *Digging Deeper: Inter-Governmental Information Collection and Sharing*.

The purpose of this project is to explore (through a series of workshops) improved data-driven and evidence-led decision-making regarding the economic development of South Africa's economic regions and cities.

GCRO Researcher, Darlington Mushongera and Senior Researcher Koech Cheruiyot are representing GCRO at this forum.

The forum, which consists of the major metropolitan municipalities, government departments and agencies, arose after a realisation that key data required by local municipalities and research institutions such as the GCRO are not easily obtainable from institutions holding them. These include the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the South African Revenue Service (SARS).



It is hoped that this forum will enhance inter-governmental collaboration on information collection and sharing geared to improving economic data at metropolitan scale.

In a memorandum signed by the Minister of Finance Nhlanhla Nene dated 13th February 2015, GCRO together with the Centre for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Human Science Research Council (HSRC) were formally invited to be part of the ERLN technical working group that will provide technical and research support to the working group.

In the last meeting held at Birchwood Hotel, Ekurhuleni in February, a number of pilot research projects were identified and the GCRO was nominated to lead the one on township economies.

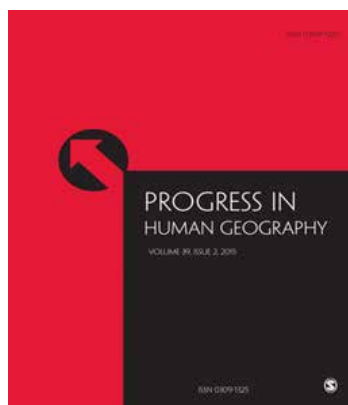
3 | Review articles on development literature

In March 2015, GCRO Principal Researcher Richard Ballard published the third in a series of articles on 'geographies of development' in the journal *Progress in Human Geography*. This section gives you some snippets of the reviews.

March 2015 saw the publication of the third and last in a series of review articles on *Development Geography* written by Richard Ballard. This series covered three aspects of critical thinking on development which are currently topical.

The first report

(<http://phg.sagepub.com/content/36/5/563.abstract>) considered the paradox of 'development without the poor'; or the way in which the middle class in the global south have become the heroes of some contemporary development narratives. These celebratory accounts argue that the expansion of middle classes in the global south has positive implications for the economy, democracy, social progress, modernization, and development. However more critical literature on this theme reflects on the limits to the growth of the middle class, and the way in which the presumed needs of the middle class might cause governments to act against the interests of the poor.



The second report

(<http://phg.sagepub.com/content/37/6/811>) on 'development for the poor' focused on the appearance of cash transfers in dozens of countries in the global south. The review considered whether these can be taken as a sign of a post-neoliberal moment which breaks with the austerity of the structural adjustment era. The article argues that cash transfers have been embraced by a wide spectrum of ideological positions, ranging from market friendly agencies who wish to create minimal safety nets to social democrats who seek to deepen and extend social spending.

The third report

(<http://phg.sagepub.com/content/39/2/214>) on 'development by the poor' contrasts two major ways in which the literature talks about the agency of the poor. The first is political movements and social movements which might attempt to influence or take over positions of political power, or to demand fairer arrangements for marginalized people, or in some cases to create autonomous spaces for ordinary people to govern themselves and meet their own needs. The second is the collective effects of the actions of the poor which are not coordinated but which nevertheless transform society. The occupation of land by shack dwellers and the commandeering of streets by traders has very often been the mechanism through which the poor take charge of their own inclusion into cities against the intentions of authorities who did not plan for these uses of space.

Free versions of these papers are available here (<https://gcro.academia.edu/RichardBallard>) or email richard.ballard@gcro.ac.za

4 | GCRO writes Occasional Paper on Acid Mine Drainage and its governance in the GCR – Written by Kerry Bobbins

This paper provides an overview of key events and actions taken in response to AMD and presents a critical review of some of the public discourse on AMD and its governance in the GCR.

A GCRO Occasional Paper has been written on Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) and its governance in the GCR, focusing in particular on the formulation and uptake of government interventions.

The Occasional Paper was published in May 2015. It is a follow up to the first edition of GCRO's Provocation Series written by Professor Terence McCarthy of the University of the Witwatersrand School of Geosciences, entitled 'The

decanting of acid mine water in the Gauteng City-Region'. The paper specifically builds on McCarthy's technical analysis of AMD and recommendations for action in light of conflicting news reports.

The main aim of the paper is to update the historical record by providing an objective overview of key events and actions taken in response to AMD and also serves to clarify grey areas that have emerged in AMD discussions. The paper also provides a critical review of some of the public discourse on AMD in an

attempt to understand how AMD is a governance challenge in addition to being a technical problem.

Through investigating the impacts of AMD in the GCR, the paper further presents on the accountability of mines for environmental degradation under South Africa's legislative framework, government action in terms of the immediate, short and long term solutions to AMD, and information flows between government and the public. The broader impacts of AMD are also explored, including implications for the Vaal

River System and who will be held liable for costs associated with interventions to AMD, and the broader mining waste legacy inherited by the GCR.

The paper indicates that much has been done in recent years to mitigate the immediate risks posed by AMD in the GCR and that fast-tracked emergency works do not necessarily mean that the problem has been solved. A longer-term solution, which is required to address increased salt loading in the Vaal River System, is yet to be developed.



Acid mine drainage water treatment plant located on the West Rand

5 | GCRO support to various government departments and municipalities

On a regular basis, the GCRO provides information and analysis or technical support to various national and provincial government departments, and to municipalities in the Gauteng City-Region (GCR).

The period November 2014 – April 2015 saw the following happening:

- In mid-2014 the Gauteng Premier set up a panel to review the impact of the Gauteng Freeway Improvement Programme and e-tolls, and GCRO was appointed to provide background research and technical assistance. The work was led by Executive Director with the assistance of a contracted specialist researcher, Ross Jennings. GCRO participated in a series of open meetings and expert round-tables, and commissioned environmental modelling, financial option modelling and selected focus groups. It completed a full background report on the socio-economic impact of e-Tolls and submitted this in November 2014;
- GCRO provided the Gauteng Provincial Commission (GPC) with data and maps for its 'service delivery war room' initiative. In the near future, the development of a set of priority ward indicators and a ward profile viewer is expected to further assist the GPC in carrying out its mandate;
- The GCRO assisted the Tshwane Metro with a series of zoomed in maps of the metro, drawn from various GCRO maps of the month;
- GCRO met with the consultants working on the Gauteng Planning Division's Infrastructure Master Planning process, and furnished a range of maps and data to support the development of their first phase framework;
- GCRO staff contributed to a range of consultation sessions organized by the Gauteng Planning Division on key strategy processes, notably the Gauteng Integrated Infrastructure Master Plan and the Spatial Development Perspective.

6 | GCRO map of the month for April 2015: Satisfaction with local government performance – by Chris Wray, Samy Katumba and Koech Cheruiyot

The map of the month illustrates the percentage of respondents per ward satisfied with the performance of *local* government. The map is derived from the 2013 Quality of Life (QoL) survey carried out by the GCRO.

The map of the month for April 2015 illustrates the percentage of respondents per ward satisfied with the performance of *local* government in the Gauteng City-Region (GCR). The map is derived from the **2013 Quality of Life (QoL) survey** done by the GCRO. During the survey, respondents were asked the question: “How satisfied are you with the performance of your local municipality?”

The results – with satisfied and very satisfied responses combined – are mapped per ward using natural breaks in the data (which explains the decimal points). Ward 74804015 was excluded due to only four respondents being interviewed in this ward.

Satisfaction varies across the GCR, with the *highest levels of satisfaction* with local government performance (shaded green in the map) being mainly located in the core of the GCR.

The areas with a visible clustering of high levels of satisfaction include Vosloorus and Alberton south; areas in south western Ekurhuleni; Sandton through to Midrand in Johannesburg; wards south of Pretoria (Garsfontein), Centurion south and Mabopane/Soshanguve wards in Tshwane; as well as a few wards surrounding Carletonville (Merafong City) and Meyerton (Midrand).

In contrast, there are a number of wards with *low levels of satisfaction* (shaded red in the map) scattered throughout the GCR, visibly clustering in Khutsong (Merafong City), the

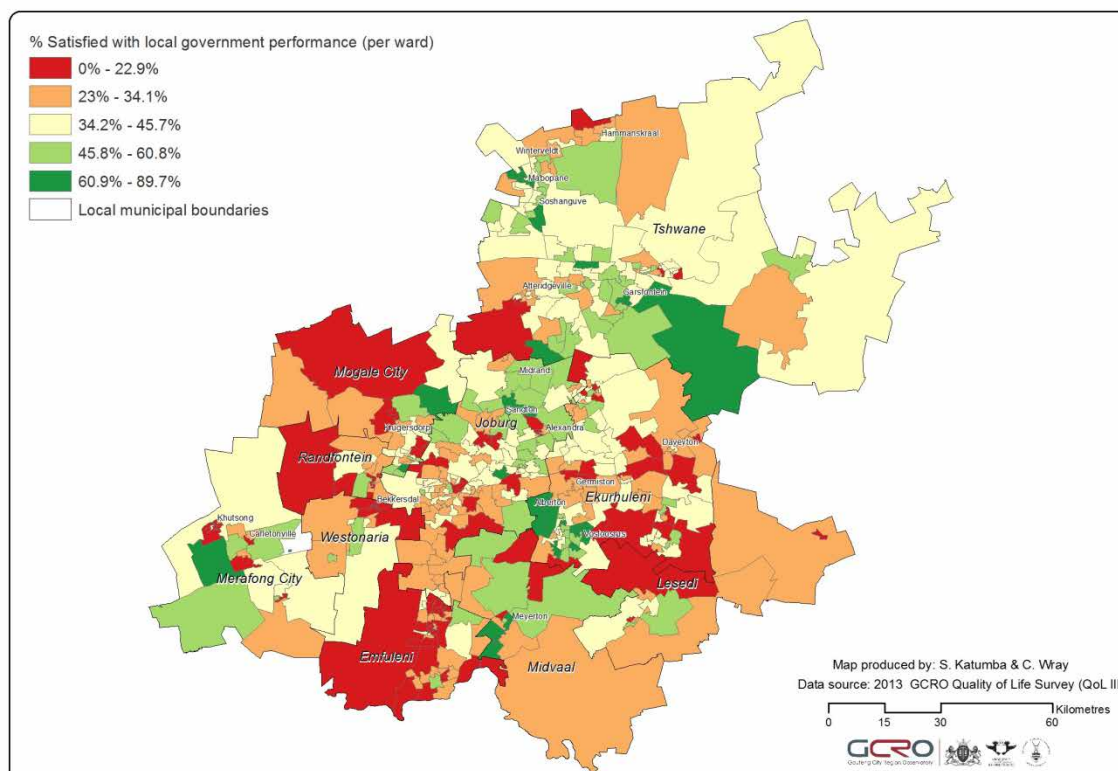
Bekkersdal area (Westonaria) Randfontein and Krugersdorp (Mogale City) in the west; the majority of wards in Emfuleni; central Germiston, Daveyton and the Ekurhuleni/Lesedi border in the east; and Atteridgeville and Winterveldt/Hammanskraal wards in Tshwane.

The highest levels of dissatisfaction are concentrated in the Emfuleni wards, as highlighted in the municipal-level September 2014 map of the month.

As part of GCRO's Quality of Life (QoL) survey spatial statistical modeling project, further analysis employed the model builder in SPSS, the Spatial Error Regression (SER) model in GeoDa and exploratory regression in ArcMap using the *percentage dissatisfaction with local government performance* per ward as the dependent variable.

The analysis identified five significant “best” predictor QoL survey variables that are assumed to contribute towards respondents' dissatisfaction with local government performance. The “best” predictor variables are as follows: percentage dissatisfied with dwelling, mean sense of safety (index score), percentage agree the country is going in the wrong direction, percentage think lack of maintenance is the biggest problem facing the community, and percentage agree politics is waste of time.

A detailed report on the analysis and results will be available in the data brief to be released in the next few months.



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7.1 Three Post-Doctoral Fellows to join GCRO

The GCRO staff complement is set to increase soon when 3 Post-Doctoral Fellows join us. The fellowships are generously funded by the University of Johannesburg. Interviews were held with several potential candidates and 3 were selected. All the 3 candidates have accepted the offer to join the GCRO in the last quarter of 2015. Their names will be announced on our website once they assume their posts.

7.2 Anti-xenophobia march in Johannesburg

Some GCRO staff members participated in the Anti-xenophobia march in Johannesburg that was carried out on 23 April 2015. Amongst others, the march was addressed by the premier of the Gauteng Province, Mr. David Makhura. The BBC estimated that 30,000 people participated in the march.



7.3 GCRO Media presence

Several GCRO staff members made contributions to the electronic and print media, either by writing a media piece that was subsequently published in newspapers or being interviewed on radio and television.

- As a result of the relevance of the research to xenophobic attacks in Gauteng in 2015, Sally Peberdy was asked to appear on radio and TV including various programs on: CCTV; eNCA; eTV; Power fm; Radio/Jozi Today; Radio 702; SAFM and VOW.
- Sally Peberdy also published an article in *City Press* 'Foreigners create more jobs in SA' (25 January 2015) and was interviewed by *Business Day*.
- Trangoš. G. (2014), 'Gentrifying Jo'Burg' In *The Architectural Review*, December 2014 Edition
- Trangoš. G. (2014/15), 'Batting for Rwanda' In *Earthworks Magazine*, January 2015 Edition

- Kerry Bobbins was interviewed by Classic FM, Rhodes Music Radio, North Eastern Tribune, and Earthworks on the Green Talents programme and the GCRO Green Assets project.
- Chris Wray was interviewed by Classic FM focusing on the maps in the book '*Changing Space Changing City: Johannesburg after Apartheid*' (29 April 2015).
- Bobbins, K. (2015). 'Green assets as an infrastructure alternative', *UrbanAfrica.net* (African Centre for Cities, Cape Town).
- Culwick, C. (2015) 'Access denied', *Urban Voices blog UrbanAfrica.net* (African Centre for Cities, Cape Town).

7.4 Recent and forthcoming publications by GCRO staff members

The following papers and/ book chapters were published by GCRO staff members between November 2014 and April 2015. The list shows that there has been a substantial number of academic outputs from the GCRO during this period

- Ballard, R. (2015) 'Geographies of Development III: Militancy, insurgency, encroachment, and development by the poor' *Progress in Human Geography*. 39(2): 214-224.
- Richard Ballard and Gareth A Jones (2015) 'The sugarcane frontier: governing the production of gated space in KwaZulu-Natal', in Chrisoph Haferburg and Marie Huchzermeyer (eds), *Urbanization of the Earth 12: Urban Governance in Post-Apartheid Cities, Modes of Engagement in South Africa's Metropolises*. Pietermaritzburg: UKZN Press.
- Everatt D. (April 2015) 'The politics of non-belonging in the developing world' (*Springer Handbook of Youth Studies*)
- Chikozho, C. (2015), Pathways for Building Capacity and Ensuring Effective Transboundary Water Resources Management in Africa: Revisiting the Key Issues, Opportunities and Challenges. *Physics and Chemistry of the Earth*, 2015.
- Harrison, P., Bobbins, K., Culwick, C., Humby, T-L., La Mantia, L., Todes, A., & Weakley, D. (2015), 'Urban Resilience thinking for Municipalities', University of the Witwatersrand and the Gauteng City-Region Observatory.
- Wray, C. and Cheruiyot, K. (2015) 'Key Challenges and Potential Urban Modelling Opportunities in South Africa, with Specific Reference to the Gauteng City-Region', *South African Journal of Geomatics*, Vol. 4 No. 1, pp. 14-35

- Gotz, G., Wray, C. and Katumba, S. (2015) 'Mapping job seekers' movements', *PositionIT*, January/February, pp. 46-47
- Gotz, G. & Schäffler, A. (2015). 'Conundrums in implementing a green economy in the Gauteng City-Region', in special journal issue edited by Simon, D. Leck H. Bearing the Brunt of Environmental Change: Understanding adaptation and transformation challenges in urban Africa, in *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability*.
- Everatt, D. (forthcoming) 'Quality of Life in the Gauteng City-Region, South Africa' in *Social Indicators Research* (in press)
- Bobbins, K and Culwick, C (forthcoming), Green growth transitions through a Green Infrastructure approach at the local government level: Case study for the Gauteng City-Region, *Journal of Public Administration*.
- Culwick, C., Gotz, G., Katumba, S., Trangoš, G. & Wray, C. (2015) 'Mobility patterns in the Gauteng City-Region, South Africa' Map graphic, *Regional Studies*, *Regional Science* 2(1), 308-310.

7.5 Seminar, workshop and conference presentations

GCRO staff members made several presentations to academic and other audiences on a regular basis, as part of their academic citizenship and scholarship. The list of selected presentations made is as follows:

- David Everatt, input to Gauteng provincial legislature 'Thought Leadership Series' on 'Reflecting on 20 years of Public participation', GPL, March 3rd 2015.
- David Everatt, 'Public attitudes to key issues facing Gauteng', provincial Cabinet Lekgotla, Misty Hills Hotel, Gauteng (February 2015).
- Chris Wray (November 2014) 'Open data + smart cities + smart province = smart city-region?', Joburg City Power IEC SEG I - Work Group 7 workshop, 25 November 2014.
- Chris Wray was invited to speak on smart cities at the 'Common purpose global leadership student workshop on smart cities' at the City of Johannesburg, 27 November 2014.
- Caryn Abrahams (February 2015), 'Strategic planning for social cohesion', *Gauteng Department of Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation*, 11 February 2015
- Caryn Abrahams (February 2015), 'Non-racialism at a dead end? What do the surveys say?' *Kathrada Foundation Colloquium*, 7 February 2015
- Caryn Abrahams (November 2014), 'South Africa 20 years after democracy'. *European Centre of the Mediterranean*. Barcelona, 22-26 November 2014

- Darlington Mushongera presented Quality of Life III to Sedibeng Municipality, 4 March 2015.
- Kerry Bobbins and Christina Culwick (February 2015) presented 'Enhancing urban resilience through GI' at the launch of the DST/NRF Urban resilience thinking for municipalities (16 February 2015)
- Sally Peberdy (February 2015), 'Migrant entrepreneurs in the City of Johannesburg: negotiating xenophobia?' Institute of Security Studies seminar 'Xenophobia in South Africa: myths and realities,' Pretoria, 13 February 2015.
- Sally Peberdy (February 2015) 'Migrant entrepreneurs in the City of Johannesburg' at GCRO/ACC/SAMP workshop 'Urban informality and Migrant Entrepreneurship in Southern African Cities', Cape Town, 9 February 2015.
- Sally Peberdy (March 2015) 'Migrant entrepreneurs in the City of Johannesburg' Department of Sociology, University of Johannesburg, 25 March 2015.

7.6 Teaching and supervision and wider academic citizenship

GCRO staff members contribute to the teaching and learning work of various universities in South Africa and beyond, predominantly through lecturing and supervision, but also in other ways. During this period, several such assignments have been in progress:

- David Everatt continues to act as external examiner for Masters and Doctoral theses, most recently for the University of Stellenbosch
- David Everatt has completed 7 Masters supervisions at the Wits School of Governance, and his PhD student has just submitted her thesis.
- David Everatt continues to peer review journal submissions, as well as manuscripts for Zed Press, Wits University press, and others.
- Claudious Chikozho continues to act as External Examiner for Masters and Doctoral theses for the University of South Africa (UNISA).
- Claudious Chikozho continues to collaborate with the University of Limpopo Graduate School of Leadership on food security research projects.
- Claudious Chikozho continues to supervise Masters and PhD level students at the University of Pretoria and University of Limpopo.
- Chris Wray (February 2015), guest lecture on "Analyzing key challenges in the Gauteng City-Region (GCR) through a map of the month" at the University of Pretoria Centre for Geoinformation Science on 27 February, 2015.

- Caryn Abrahams has guest-lectured on the Wits Geography Sustainability Course, March 4 2015.
- Caryn Abrahams is an external examiner at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University.
- Caryn Abrahams has begun to supervise a PhD at the University of Johannesburg.
- Sally Peberdy continued to be invited to examine MA and PhD theses from various South African universities
- Sally Peberdy and Claudious Chikozho each received research grants under the National Research Foundation funding for rated researchers in February 2015.
- Koech Cheruiyot continues to lecture 'Quantitative Methods for Property Studies', a year-long course in the MSc (Building) Property Development and Management, School of Construction Economics & Management, at Wits

- Guy Trangoš taught a component of the course 'Advanced Digital Applications' to Wits Architecture Masters Students.
- Koech Cheruiyot externally examined two PhD proposals at Wits School of Construction Economics and Management.
- Koech Cheruiyot co-supervises Wits School of Construction Economics and Management master's thesis
- Kerry Bobbins has organised a research stay at the German Institute of Urban Affairs (Difu) located in Berlin as part of the Green Talents Award, from 4 – 28 May 2015.