

Recent Publications (2019-2020)

Dr Renu Modi

I. Books/ Monographs

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| Mar 2021
(co-edited
volume) | <p><i>India-Africa Partnerships for Food Security and Capacity Building</i>
 Authors: Renu Modi and Meera Venkatachalam (eds.)
 Publisher: Palgrave MacMillan, IPE series
 ISBN: Hardcover: 978-3-030-54111-8; eBook: 978-3-030-54112-5</p> |
| 2020 (co-
authored
book) | <p><i>Common Threads: Cloth Made in India for Africa</i>
 Authors: Meera Venkatachalam, Renu Modi and Johann Salazar
 Publisher: African Studies Centre Leiden (ASCL) Publications
 ISBN: 978-90-5448-179-9
 URL: <https://openaccess.leidenuniv.nl/handle/1887/120547></p> |
| 2019 (co-
authored) | <p><i>South-South Cooperation: India-Africa Partnerships in Food Security and Capacity-Building</i>
 Authors: Renu Modi, Dhaval Desai, and Meera Venkatachalam
 Publisher: Observer Research Foundation (Conference Report)
 ISBN: 978-93-89094-01-5; Digital: 978-93-89094-02-2
 URL: <https://www.orfonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/india-africa_report_digital.pdf></p> |

II. Chapters in Books

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| Mar 2021 | <p>‘India-Africa: partnering for food security’
 Authors: Renu Modi and Meera Venkatachalam
 In Renu Modi and Meera Venkatachalam (eds.), <i>India-Africa Partnerships for Food Security and Capacity Building</i>
 Publisher: Palgrave MacMillan, IPE series
 ISBN: Hardcover: 978-3-030-54111-8; eBook: 978-3-030-54112-5</p> |
| Mar 2021 | <p>‘India, Africa and global climate diplomacy’
 Authors: Renu Modi and Meera Venkatachalam
 In Renu Modi and Meera Venkatachalam (eds.), <i>India-Africa Partnerships for Food Security and Capacity Building</i>
 Publisher: Palgrave MacMillan, IPE series
 ISBN: Hardcover: 978-3-030-54111-8; eBook: 978-3-030-54112-5</p> |
| Mar 2021 | <p>‘South-South collaborations in agriculture: a concluding note’
 Authors: Renu Modi and Meera Venkatachalam.
 In Renu Modi and Meera Venkatachalam (eds.), <i>India-Africa Partnerships for Food Security and Capacity Building</i>
 Publisher: Palgrave MacMillan, IPE series
 ISBN: Hardcover: 978-3-030-54111-8; eBook: 978-3-030-54112-5</p> |

III. Articles & e-publications

- 15th Oct, 2022 **‘The Tragedy in Gambia and the Indian Pharmaceutical Sector’**
Journal: *Economic and Political Weekly*, Mumbai, Vol. 57 (42), pg. 8.
Publisher: Sameeksha Trust
- 30 Sept, 2022 **‘The politics of gifts and reciprocity in South–South Cooperation: The case of India's Covid-19 diplomacy’**
Publisher: *Journal of International Development*, Wiley Online Library
Co-authors: Meera Venkatachalam, Kenneth Bo Nielsen, Renu Modi
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1002/jid.3705>
- 18 Jun, 2022 **‘From Afro-euphoria to Afro-realism: A Reality Check On India-Africa Relations Over The Past Decades’ (Book Review)**
Publisher: Outlook India
URL: https://www.outlookindia.com/culture-society/book-review-from-afro-euphoria-to-afro-realism-a-reality-check-on-india-africa-relations-over-the-past-decades-weekender_story-203162
- July, 2021 **‘India and Africa in Parallax: In Conversation with Renu Modi, Shobana Shankar, and Meera Venkatachalam’ (Online Interview)**
Publisher: *Borderlines*, by the Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East (CSSAAME).
Interviewer: Neilesh Bose
URL: <https://www.borderlines-cssaame.org/posts/2021/6/2/india-and-africa-in-parallax>
- 25th Mar 2021 **‘Why India is banking on health diplomacy to grow African footprint’**
Publisher: The Conversation
Co-authors: Dan Banik and Renu Modi
URL: <https://theconversation.com/why-india-is-banking-on-health-diplomacy-to-grow-african-footprint-151934>
- Dec 2020 **‘Interview: Professor Renu Modi on India-Africa partnerships’**
Interviewer: Supriya Roychoudhury (IUKDPF Research Consultant)
Organizer: India UK Development Partnership Forum (IUKDPF)
URL: <https://www.iukdpf.com/interview-professor-renu-modi-on-india-africa-partnerships/>
- Dec 2020 **‘COVID-19 Crisis in Africa: Impacts and Responses’ (Policy Brief)**
Publisher: Global Research Forum on Diaspora and Transnationalism (GRFDT)
Co-authors: Neda Shaikh and Razia Sultana
URL: https://grfdt.com/Upload/Attachment/10_Policy%20Brief%207.pdf
- Nov 2020 **‘India-Senegal: People-to-People Connections through the Ages’**
Publisher: Development Cooperation Review, Vol. 3, No. 3, September-November 2020 (pgs 46-50)
Author: Renu Modi
URL: <https://www.ris.org.in/journals-n-newsletters/Development-Cooperation-Review>

- June 2020 **‘Interview: Ambassador Gurjit Singh on India-Africa Engagements’**
 Publisher: India UK Development Partnership Forum (IUKDPF)
 Authors: Renu Modi and Meera Venkatachalam
 URL: <<https://www.iukdpf.com/interview-ambassador-gurjit-singh-on-india-africa-engagements/>>
- June 2020 **‘Interview: Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia on India-Africa Engagements’**
 Publisher: India UK Development Partnership Forum (IUKDPF)
 Authors: Renu Modi and Meera Venkatachalam
 URL: <<https://www.iukdpf.com/interview-ambassador-rajiv-bhatia-on-india-africa-engagement/>>
- June 2020 **‘Interview: Ambassador Mahesh Sachdev on India-Africa Engagements’**
 Publisher: India UK Development Partnership Forum (IUKDPF)
 Authors: Renu Modi, Meera Venkatachalam and Dan Banik
 URL: <<https://www.iukdpf.com/interview-ambassador-mahesh-sachdev-on-africa/>>
- Feb 2020 **‘India-Africa: Mapping Trade and bilateral Partnerships’**
 Publisher: *Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD)*
 URL: <<https://igd.org.za/infocus/12058-india-africa-mapping-trade-and-bilateral-partnerships>>
- Mar 2019 **‘A look at how India’s Africa strategy is working’**
 Authors: Meera Venkatachalam and Renu Modi; Publisher: *The Conversation*
 URL: <<https://theconversation.com/a-look-at-how-indias-africa-strategy-is-working-113658>>

IV. Teaching Materials

- Accepted for publication in Oct 2020 **‘Intergenerational differences and changes in the Indian diaspora - a case study of South Africa’**
 Authors: Dr. Renu Modi and Neda Shaikh. Course: No. 7, *Gender and Diaspora*
 Module: No. 72; Block 2, *Gender, Culture and Diasporic Identity*
 Institute: Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) E-module
- Accepted for publication in Oct 2020 **‘Indian women as bearers of culture - a case study of Durban, South Africa’**
 Authors: Dr. Renu Modi and Neda Shaikh
 Course: No. 7, *Gender and Diaspora*
 Module: No. 71; Block 2, *Gender, Culture and Diasporic Identity*
 Institute: Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) E-module

V. Conferences/ Seminars/ Workshops Organised

- 17th June, 2021 **‘Capacity Building Initiatives between India and Africa’** (Webinar)
 Online Internship Program - Industry Session 2
 Centre for African Studies, University of Mumbai
- 3rd June, 2021 **‘Indian Engagements in African Pharma and Healthcare’** (Webinar)
 Online Internship Program - Industry Session 1
 Centre for African Studies, University of Mumbai

20th May, 2021	‘Cinema in Africa’ (Webinar) Online Internship Program - Academic Session 5 Centre for African Studies, University of Mumbai
15th Apr, 2021	‘Understanding South-South Cooperation’ (Webinar) Online Internship Program - Academic Session 4 Centre for African Studies, University of Mumbai
9th Apr, 2021	‘African Diasporas in India’ (Webinar) Online Internship Program - Academic Session 3 Centre for African Studies, University of Mumbai
1st Apr, 2021	‘Indian Diasporas in Africa’ (Webinar) Online Internship Program - Academic Session 2 Centre for African Studies, University of Mumbai
25th Mar, 2021	‘Historical Context of India-Africa Relations: Pre-colonial & Postcolonial perspectives’ (Webinar) Online Internship Program - Academic Session 1 Centre for African Studies, University of Mumbai
30th June 2020	‘The COVID-19 Pandemic and Africa: Local Responses and Global Strategies’ (Webinar/Panel discussion) Global Research Forum on Diaspora and Transnationalism (GRFDT), New Delhi. URL: < https://grfdt.com/EventDetails.aspx?Type=Events&TabId=7124 >

DOCUMENTARY FILM PROJECTS

1) **Power up: African women's stories from Barefoot College (Jul 7, 2022)**

The solar engineering programme at Barefoot College headquartered in Tilonia, India has succeeded in electrifying rural areas across the globe by empowering their women. This short film showcases the experiences of African women being trained in solar engineering, rain water harvesting and entrepreneurship at Barefoot College. They exemplify the many and often unseen bonds that shape the relationship between India and Africa.

Director & Researcher: Renu Modi

URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VIGQXCzD9Ek>

2) **Against The Odds (Jul 14, 2022)**

In this film we see how smallholder farmers can be enabled to implement climate resilient agricultural practices. By helping them to collectively organise, SEWA has made it possible for small-holder women farmers to implement climate resilient agricultural practices like drought rainwater harvesting, solar-powered irrigation, insurance against crop failure, access to seeds, etc. that help to mitigate the impacts of climate change that disproportionately affects small-holder farmers many of whom are women.

Researcher & Producer: Renu Modi

URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZK65pgHR2J8>

3) Growing Together: Women Smallholders and Sustainability (Jul 14, 2022)

How can smallholder women farmers survive when faced with vagaries of climate and market shocks? This film explores the case of the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) that demonstrates that sustainable smallholder agriculture can be achieved with collective efforts.

Researcher & Producer: Renu Modi

URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-rNi7qan3b0>

4) Common Threads: Fabrics from India for Africa (2018)

Director: Renu Modi; *Asst. Director:* Johann Salazar; *Researcher:* Meera Venkatachalam

About the film: This film is about the transoceanic journey of 'made in India' textiles, primarily the *Kangas* and *Kitenges* which are exported to Africa. It showcases the power of globalization, continued patterns of exchange that connect two geographies – India and Africa. This documentary has been filmed in various locales; Jetpur, Tarapur, Mombasa, Zanzibar and Dar es Salaam. It documents the life cycle of the *Kanga* and *Kitenge* through the various artful processes, whereby the 'grey' cotton transforms itself into a vibrant fabric, aligned to the aesthetics and cultural and regional preferences of the people in Africa.

YouTube: <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jplcCfOfi5>>

The film premiered at the Zanzibar International Film Festival (ZIFF), 7th - 15th July, 2018

<<http://www.ziff.or.tz/2018/06/06/common-threads-fabrics-from-india-for-africa/>>

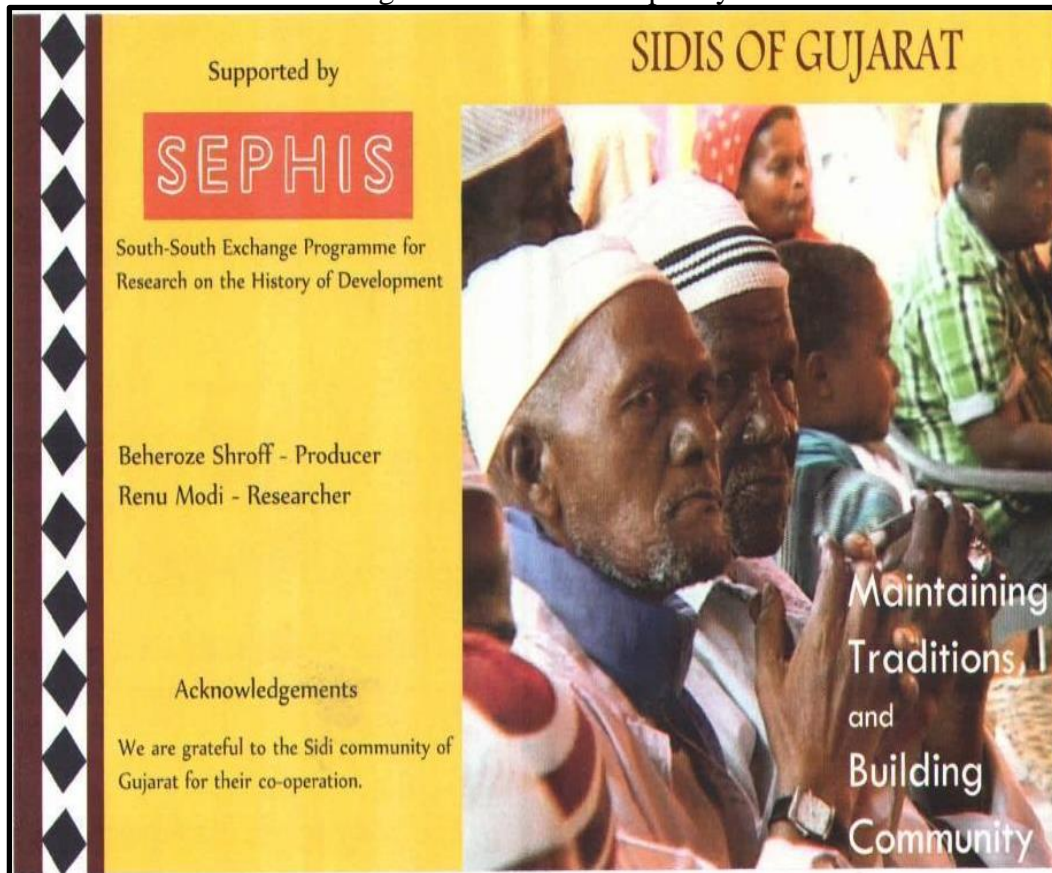


5) Sidis of Gujarat: Maintaining Traditions and Building Community

Director: B. Shroff; *Researcher:* Renu Modi.

Project: South-South Exchange Programme for Research on the History of Development (SEPHIS), Major Research Projects (June 2010 - September 2011)

About the film: This film aims to document the diverse oral traditions of the *Sidis*-- Indian Muslims of African descent in Gujarat, within the context of community initiatives. The project aimed to give space and voice to the *Sidis* themselves so that they could explain their own traditions and share their concerns about maintaining them in the contemporary context.



IX. ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

2020 -
ongoing

India's Footprint in Africa: South-South Cooperation and the Politics of Gifts and Reciprocity

Collaborators: Dan Banik, University of Oslo (Project lead); Renu Modi (Principle investigator); Vidya Vencatesan (Co-researcher) Happy Kayuni, University of Malawi (Co-researcher). Funder: Research Council of Norway

Details: This research project seeks to examine India's global ambitions and recent diplomatic approaches of re-engagement in three African countries – Senegal, Malawi and Mozambique. It aims to understand how the rituals, symbols (Gandhi, Yoga, Bollywood, Indic religions), power of South-South Cooperation (SSC) and gifts shape India's soft power in Africa. Over the past few years, India's Africa policy has been informed by the changing political landscape in India and a reimagining of India's role in inter-state relations on the world stage.

Key objectives: 1) To discern how India and its African partners assert and reciprocate SSC and Indian civilizational 'exceptionalism' in Africa; 2) To analyse the impact of India's soft power strategy in education and health sectors (specifically on the Pan Africa e-Network project funded by the Government of India), from both Indian and African perspectives; and 3) To expand the scope of international policy debates on the role of the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model in promoting sustainable development.

Status: Commenced 1st October, 2020.

2020 -
ongoing

Empowering Smallholder Women Agriculturalists in Africa

Collaborators: Renu Modi (Lead researcher); Meera Venkatachalam (Co-researcher); and Reema Nanavaty, Director, Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA, NGO, Gujarat).

Funder: Department for International Development (DFID), under the India-UK Development Partnership Forum (IUKDPF), The Margaret Anstee Centre for Global Studies, Newnham College, University of Cambridge

Details: This project attempts to understand how the development of smallholder women farmers can result in poverty alleviation, gender empowerment, rural development and food security. The research mainly studies the work of SEWA, in educating and empowering smallholder women farmers in both India and Africa (specifically Ghana and Ethiopia) through women-led agro-ecological farming, community-based supply chains and microcredit facilities. It aims to distill the lessons that can be replicated and scaled up in other parts of Africa.

Status: Commenced January, 2020

Academia.edu PROFILE: <https://mu.academia.edu/RenuModi>