

REACH PROJECT: BRIEF OVERVIEW

Reflections from a Centre of Environment and Human Health (REACH) Project

<https://www.ecehh.org/research/reachproject/>

<https://www.ukri.org/news/diversity-equity-and-inclusion-research-in-environmental-science/>



REACH PROJECT: WHAT WE DID

Beginning a conversation about decolonial and intersectional perspectives in the environments and health research space

Worked alongside academics with decolonial expertise (and lived experience of encountering whiteness) as an advisory board

Decolonial-themed seminars and informal drop-ins for ECEHH members

Critical Review of all ECEHH publications

Review of Resources on decolonisation and racism in practice

Survey on Diversity and Inclusion by external Consultants (INCLUDED)

One-to-one dialogues with ECEHH members

Public engagement – HEPE (Health and Environment Public Engagement) Group

WHAT WE LEARNED

- “LEARNING BY DOING”
- “SPACES FOR DISCUSSION”
- “OPENNESS”
- “INCLUSION AND KINDNESS”
- “ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH HAS ALWAYS BEEN ABOUT RACE”
- “CULTURAL DIFFERENCES WITHIN INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS”

LEARNINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS & LEGACY

Legacy

- Regular discussions with ECEHH members
 - encouraged inclusive & kind, but critical process
- Resources on decolonisation, intersectionality, & anti-racism
- Began uncomfortable conversations & empowered people

Limitations

- Insufficient time & resources to
 - implement concrete measures
 - incorporate new policies or protocol
- Initiated only beginnings of a conversation
- Still potential for further collaborations, discussions & (un)learnings