

Ben Crow

Biographical Information

Ben Crow is a professor of Sociology at UC Santa Cruz. He trained and worked as an engineer in London and Africa, and was an activist and volunteer in South Asia, before becoming a social scientist. His PhD is from Edinburgh University in Scotland, and he taught at the Open University in UK and at Stanford and UC Berkeley before coming to UCSC. He has done research on conflict and cooperation over international rivers in South Asia, leading to a book *Sharing the Ganges: the politics and technology of river development*; on traders, township markets and the making of social classes in rural Bangladesh (*Markets, Class and Social Change: Trading Networks and Poverty in South Asia*); on global inequalities (*The UC Atlas of Global Inequality* (online) and *The Atlas of Global Inequalities*, with Suresh Lodha). His current work studies how poor women, men and children gain access to water in urban slums in the global south, with a focus on cities in Kenya. He is seeking funding for a comparative study of four cities to look at 'Urban capabilities and the transformation of women's work.'

Research Interests

Sociology of water, urban deprivation and capability justice, global inequalities, sociology of development.

Previous Education/Training

1980 - Ph.D., Science/Development, University of Edinburgh

1970 - BSc., Civil Engineering with Honors, Polytechnic of Central London

Awards, Honors, Grants

Awards/Honors

2011- 2014. UCSC Thumbs Up Award from staff member for chairing Sociology Department.

2005. Academic Senate, Committee on Committees: "Hero of the Academic Senate Award: Dragon Slayer - The Sequel."

2004. Academic Senate, Committee on Committees: "Dragon Slayer Award." Recognizing Senate resolution on 'Cutting Ties with Elsevier' which helped save UC several million dollars.

Grants:

2013-2015. Co-Principal Investigator: NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration) Grant to study Increasing Drought Resilience Under Climate Change. Co-PI: R. Langridge, \$293,299.

2012-2014. Co-Principal Investigator: NSF Grant to support workshop on Equitable Water Governance. Funding from NSF Anthropology Program bringing participants from N America, S America, Europe and India. Co-PIs: F. Lu and C. Ocampo-Raeder, \$55,000.

2009-2012. Co-Principal Investigator: NSF CCLI #0837151 Sustainability Engineering and Ecological Design Learning Partnership (SEED-LP). Co-PIs: R. Lipschutz, A. Shakouri, M. Dupuis, S. Gliessman, \$147,303.

2008-2010. Co-Principal Investigator: NSF CCLI #0817589. Renewable Energy and Engaged Interdisciplinary Learning for Sustainability (REELS). Co-PIs: A. Shakouri, C. Bacon, M. Dupuis, J. Kubby, R. Lipschutz, \$150,000.

Selected Publications

Books:

2011. [*Atlas of Global Inequalities*](#). Co-authored with S. Lodha. University of California Press.

2001. *Markets, Class and Social Change: Trading Networks and Poverty in Rural South Asia*. London and New York: Palgrave-Macmillan.

1997. *Sharing the Ganges: the Politics and Technology of River Development*. 2nd edition. Sage Publications and University Press Bangladesh. Co-authored with A. Lindquist and D. Wilson.

Chapters in Books:

Forthcoming. "Water and poverty: pathways of escape and descent" in K. Conca and E. Weinthal (Editors), *The Oxford Handbook on Water Politics*, Oxford University Press. Co-authored with B. Swallow.

2007. "Social Dynamics of the US Environmental Challenge," in Gordon Wilson et al (Editors), *Sustainability*, Open University.

2006. "[Statistics](#)," in Roland Robertson and Jan Aart Scholte (Editors), *Encyclopedia of Globalization*. Routledge.

2002. "Water: gender and material inequalities in the global south" in *Sustainability*, Open University, Milton Keynes. Co-authored with J. Beall, S. Simon and G. Wilson. This is a teaching text for the Open University course U213, "International Development: Challenges for a World in Transition."

Journal Articles:

2014. "[What is water equity? The unfortunate consequences of a global focus on 'drinking water.'](#)" *Water International*. Co-authored with M. Goff.

2014. "[The colonial roots of inequality: access to water in urban East Africa.](#)" *Water International*. Co-authored with B. Dill.

2014. "[The Santa Cruz Declaration on the Global Water Crisis.](#)" *Water International*. Co-authored with R. Boelens, F. Lu, C. Ocampo-Raeder and M. Zwartveen.

2013. "[Using GPS and recall to understand water collection in Kenyan informal settlements.](#)" *Water International*. Co-authored with J. Davis, S. Paterson and J. Miles.

2012. "[Community organized household water increases rural incomes but also men's work.](#)" *World Development*. Co-authored with B. Swallow and I. Asamba.

2010. "[Access to water in a Nairobi slum: Women's work and institutional learning.](#)" *Water International*. Co-authored with E. Odaba.