



## Impact and engagement: going forward with evaluation

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October at Cambridge University Botanic Garden

### Speaker Biographies

**Dr Kion Ahadi**, is Head of Evaluation at HLF having joined the organisation in May 2016. He has over fifteen years' experience leading multi-year national and international Research & Evaluation projects. He has previously worked at a senior level for organisations like the Department for Work and Pensions, LLUK, and the Management Standards Centre. He has been a Senior Evaluation Advisor for Nesta, undertaking an evaluation of the Regional Innovation Funds Advisory Service (£200m fund to support innovative NHS projects), and was most recently Head of Research and Evaluation at Creative Skillset, managing a portfolio of projects worth over £3m. Kion has a PhD in Sociology (ESRC funded); MSc International Business (Distinction); BA (Hons) Business Economics (1st class); NVQ Level 5 Management; and is a PRINCE2 Practitioner. In 2013, the RSA invited him to become a Fellow in recognition of his contribution to research. Kion is also a published author of science fiction. His first book, *Exit Darkness, Enter Light* continues to sell well.

**Sarah-Jane Harknett** has a background in Archaeology and Museum Studies. Currently, she works across University of Cambridge Museums, looking at how visitors engage with collections, interpretation and displays. Sarah-Jane also runs the public engagement programmes at the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

**Dr Elsa Lee** is an educational researcher with an interest in environmental and sustainability education and citizenship education. She is a Research Associate at the Faculty of Education in the University of Cambridge and has also been appointed as a Research Associate at Homerton College. The focus of her current research project is how children perceive and articulate place and changing climates at both the local and the global level. This is an interdisciplinary AHRC funded project entitled *Pathways to Understanding the Changing Climate: time and place in cultural learning about the environment*. In this project Elsa has used walk and talk interviews with groups of children to explore connections to dwelling places. This method is now being developed for a follow on project walking with young people in the Norfolk Broads and in urban settings on waterways in Durban, South Africa.

**Kate Measures** is Chair of bgen and Director of Heritage Insider - a nationwide heritage learning consultancy. Kate specialises in helping organisations improve their visitor experience and is a trainer, author and Heritage Lottery Fund mentor. Kate has been helping to create inspiring visitor experiences in the visitor destination, culture and heritage environment for over 14 years. She has worked in key heritage learning roles for Leeds City Council Museums Service, the Royal Geographical Society, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and the National Trust before starting her own consultancy in 2007. Kate and her Heritage Insider team launched their new Greedy Squirrel website last autumn and is currently On Tour, delivering a great range of fun, hands on workshops throughout the country.