It has enabled people across the area to use their ideas and expertise to reinterpret the region's past as local history.

To date, the network has supported 19 projects across Iraq, Turkey and Lebanon and run successful workshops on research skills across the region. It has also funded 15 scholarship placements in the UK.

One project, led by an Iraqi artist, examines the links between traditional boat building and ancient forms. The Thesiger's Tarada project compares details of Iraq's marsh canoes (pictured opposite), gathered from oral histories and archive research, with archaeological data on similar boats from ancient times.

A UCL-led research partnership spanning four continents and drawing on expertise from multiple disciplines is helping cities to develop sustainably and to improve the health of their residents.

More than half the world's population now live in cities, and the number of people living in urban areas continues to grow, with many of the people who live in them unable to access basic necessities, from clean water to employment.

A consortium of 13 research organisations based in Africa, Asia, Europe and the United States is working to help change the way cities are designed and developed to ensure they meet the needs of their residents.

The Complex Urban Systems for Sustainability and Health consortium works in close partnership with local organisations to understand how policy decisions that will help to achieve health and sustainability goals can be improved and accelerated.

Its research is focused in six cities: London (UK), Rennes (France), Kisumu and Nairobi (Kenya), and Beijing and Ningbo (China).

Evidence gathered from research reviews, data analysis and modelling ^PSS KL]LSVW ZWLJPÄJ ZVS\help inform local policy and practices based on principles of sustainable development.

