



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

 Global Development Policy Center

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MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR



Dear Friends of the Global Development Policy Center,

The Boston University Global Development Policy Center (GDP Center) has now moved into its second demi-decade. Founded in 2017 at Boston University (BU), the mission of the GDP Center is to advance policy-oriented research for financial stability, human well-being and environmental sustainability across the globe. In our inaugural Strategic Plan, the GDP Center was guided by five strategic pillars: to foster a broad global development policy community of faculty, students and staff at BU; to advance interdisciplinary, scholarly knowledge by BU faculty and researchers; to engage in global policy dialogue and strategic communications; to provide experiential learning experiences for BU students and to build a global support base for success.

While surging ahead on many exciting projects over the past year, the GDP Center also engaged in a series of multi-stakeholder dialogues to craft a new Strategic Plan that will guide the Center over its next five years. Throughout 2022 and 2023, we engaged BU faculty, leadership, students, staff members, academic partners and policymakers to explore future directions for the GDP Center. After lengthy deliberations with these stakeholders at BU and beyond, our motto for the next five years will be to continue innovating but also to institutionalize our success. The GDP Center has benefited from a 'start up' mentality among innovative faculty, staff and students that led to major accomplishments in research, communications and policy change over the past five years. Overall, we will strive to maintain that spirit of innovation and the ability to rise to new opportunities, while also implementing systems to institutionalize our success for a growing staff and resource base.

As I note in our new Strategic Plan, in many ways, the GDP Center is an embodiment of key components of BU's 2030 Strategic Plan. The GDP Center engages in 'research that matters' by conducting rigorous, interdisciplinary research across BU's schools and colleges to address and provide solutions for the world's most pressing development challenges. Our work also enhances a 'vibrant academic experience' by providing experiential learning opportunities that address global challenges and prepare students for global citizenship. The GDP Center has been built on a global vision of 'diversity, equity and inclusion' that seeks to conduct policy research and forge partnerships for social justice across the world. By creating research clusters across BU on financial stability, human well-being and environmental sustainability, the GDP Center partners with like-minded research institutions across the world and strives to foster a global 'community, big yet small.' And, given the fact that the core of the GDP Center's mission is a global one and in partnership with the Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, we strive to epitomize BU's strategic priority of 'global engagement.'

Active reflection and long-range planning did not hold the GDP Center back from another important year of interdisciplinary scholarship, strategic communications and policy engagement. Over the course of the year, we published 31 academic articles, 25 working and technical papers, 68 op-eds in leading opinion pages and garnered 2,908 media hits in major international media outlets. Additionally, the Center hosted 61 events which drew an estimated audience of over 12,500 people at BU and around the world. We also

continued to provide experiential learning opportunities by employing 64 BU students, with 48 undergraduate graduate research assistants, 20 pre- and post-doctoral fellows, as well as nine Summer in the Field Fellows and seven Communications Fellows.

The GDP Center has seen yet another year of remarkable growth in its sixth year of operations. In FY23, our main sources of revenue were from private foundations (\$3.5 million), the Office of Research (\$480,000) and the Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies (\$147,000). We are proud to report that our spending for the fiscal year reached \$4.20 million, representing a growth of 13.8 percent compared to the previous fiscal year. Throughout FY23, the GDP Center actively pursued funding opportunities and successfully secured 12 awards totaling \$2.2 million, with an additional ten proposals still under consideration. Our total active grant portfolio for FY23 amounted to an impressive \$9.1 million.

As you will see in the pages of this report, the GDP Center's Human Capital Initiative (HCI) had an impactful year. The inaugural cohort of HCI Faculty Affiliates welcomed six new faculty members from across BU. HCI Core Faculty Member and Pardee School Assistant Professor Rachel Brulé founded a partnership between the GDP Center, the Pardee School and the United States Department of State to establish the Alliance for Afghan Women's Economic Resilience, an initiative aimed at advancing the economic security and well-being of Afghan women in Afghanistan and in countries to which they have been exiled. HCI Core Faculty Member and School of Public Health Associate Professor Jacob Bor conducted a randomized evaluation of an app-based intervention to deliver information on HIV treatment-as-prevention via HIV counseling in South Africa in partnership with JiveMedia-Africa, the HIV Prevention and Survivors Network, Prevention Access Campaign and the Health Economics and Epidemiology Research Office in South Africa. HCI Associate Director and Assistant Professor at the Pardee School Mahesh Karra published results from his Malawi family planning research in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* and was appointed editor of *Studies in Family Planning*. Patricia Cortes, HCI Associate Director and Associate Professor at the Questrom School of Business, published a landmark study in the prestigious *Quarterly Journal of Economics* using survey data from Questrom students to examine the relationship between gender differences in job search behavior and the enduring gender pay gap, finding women are more risk averse than men in their job search behavior.

The Global Economic Governance Initiative (GEGI) also had a banner year, publishing a major assessment of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) record on climate change as part of the Task Force on Climate, Development and the IMF, a collaboration among research institutes in China, India, the Philippines, Chile and Kenya. Additionally, GEGI Core Faculty Member and Pardee School Professor, Perry Mehrling, published a groundbreaking history of the dollar system and the eminent economist Charles Kindleberger with Cambridge University Press, titled 'Money and Empire: Charles Kindleberger and the Global Dollar Order.'

Veronika Wirtz and Warren Kaplan from the School of Public Health published the last of a series of articles on trade, access to medicines and development in Bangladesh, finding that poorer households pay proportionally more for medicines than wealthier households.

Research also examined how chronic diseases can have a major impact on out-of-pocket expenses for poorer households in Bangladesh. GEGI also continued its collaborative research on linking the global sovereign debt crisis with climate and development goals as part of the Debt Relief for a Green and Inclusive Recovery Project with the Centre for Sustainable Finance at SOAS, University of London and the Heinrich Böll Foundation.

The Global China Initiative (GCI) was busy as well, hosting a 'Research on Tap' that brought scholars from across campus working on China together to share research findings and approaches amid growing tensions between the US and China. In December, a team of GCI researchers published a flagship study assessing the social and environmental marine risks of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in the journal *One Earth*, laying out a series of policy recommendations to maximize the benefits and minimize the risks of China's overseas development finance. In January, GCI released version 2.0 of our flagship China's Overseas Development Finance Database, which has received over 32,000 pageviews since launching in 2020 and garnered media mentions in esteemed international outlets such as *Reuters*, *Associated Press*, *BBC News* and more. Additionally, GCI researchers participated in an external commission to China's Ministry of Ecology and Environment on greening the BRI, while researchers and staff traveled to China and to Washington, D.C. to present their research and engage in policy dialogues for the first time in-person since 2019. GCI also welcomed its first cohort of in-person Global China Fellows since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In March 2023, the GDP Center, alongside BU's Department of Economics and the Institute for Economic Development, hosted Eswar Prasad from Cornell University for the annual Paul Streeten Distinguished Lecture in Global Development Policy. Dr. Prasad gave a sweeping and insightful lecture that ranged from the promise and perils of cryptocurrencies to the blurred contours of an emerging new international financial order. The following month, the GDP Center was honored to host the Institute for New Economic Thinking's Young Scholars Initiative Conference on Debt Sustainability, which brought young scholars and early career professionals from around the world to BU to connect with leaders in the field of economics.

Participants presented their research on the key conceptual and policy themes for sovereign debt sustainability with a view to proposing possible policy reforms, receiving feedback and guidance on next steps.

As always, we thank you for your support of the GDP Center. We look forward to working with you as we continue to innovate and institutionalize our success and process.

Sincerely,



Kevin P. Gallagher

Professor, Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies
Director, Global Development Policy Center

GDP CENTER

MISSION AND STRATEGY

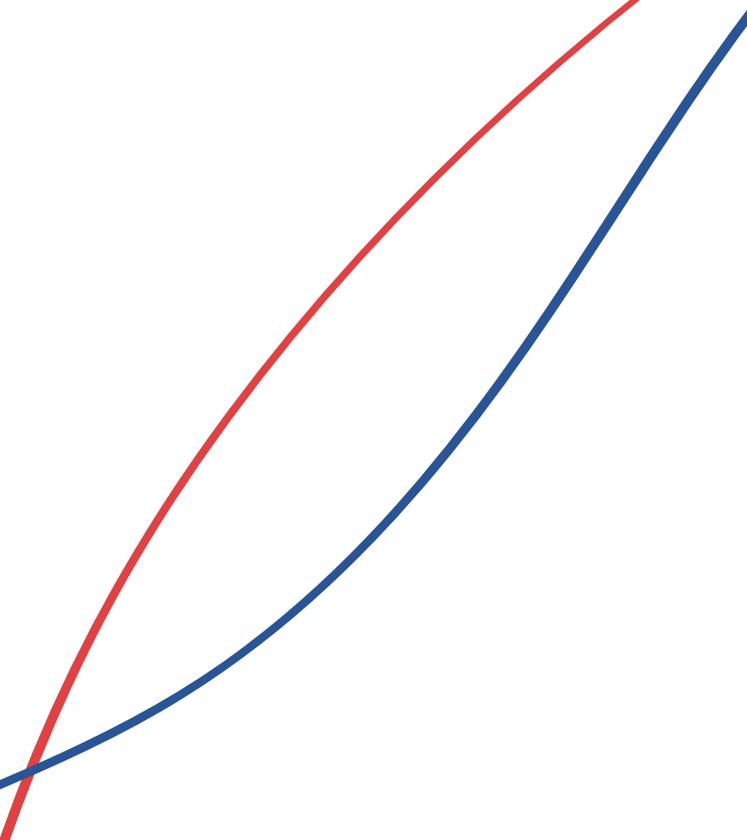
The Boston University Global Development Policy (GDP) Center is a University- wide research center in partnership with the Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies and the Office of Research at Boston University.

There are two aspects that make the GDP Center unique among development- oriented centers across other academic institutions. First and foremost, the GDP Center recognizes that the development process is complex and thus, it is accordingly interdisciplinary in its approach. To that end, the Faculty Steering Committee is staffed with experts in law, engineering, business, public health, economics, sociology and global studies.

Second, the GDP Center places a premium on global engagement—generating concrete policy lessons from rigorous research and advancing them into the global discourse.

The ambition of the GDP Center is to be recognized for its intellectual leadership and global engagement. The GDP Center strives to not only be a think tank, but also a *do* tank.

The GDP Center is guided by a Strategic Plan, the latest of which was developed this year and comprises five strategic pillars, each set with unique milestones and goals:



5 STRATEGIC PILLARS

2023-2028

1

Foster a global development community at BU

2

Advance scholarly 'research that matters' on global development policy

3

Engage in global policy dialogue and strategic communications

4

Provide a 'vibrant academic experience' through student research and experiential learning

5

Solidify the legacy of the GDP Center

LEADERSHIP



Vice President and Associate Provost for Research

Gloria Waters



Dean, Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, Professor of International Relations

Scott Taylor



Director, Global Development Policy Center; Professor of Global Development Policy

Kevin P. Gallagher

OPERATIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND FINANCE



Executive Director

William N. Kring



Assistant Director, Communications and Outreach

Maureen Heydt



Associate Director, Finance and Administration

Victoria Puyat

ALUMNI ADVISORY BOARD



Lamin Barrow
GRS '89



Brittany Baumann
GRS '11, '13



John Bush
Pardee '17



Ana Maria Carrasquilla
Law '02



Danielle De La Fuente
CGS '04, Pardee '06



Sylvia Delafield
COM '84



Jean Pierre Dupui
CAS '91



Neva Goodwin
GRS '88



Weiqiang Han
Pardee '89, Questrom '89



Michael Kalavritinos
Pardee, '90



Sunil Kanoria
Par Questrom '12



Kimberly Pope
Pardee, '07

FACULTY STEERING COMMITTEE



Deborah Carr
Professor of Sociology,
Boston University



Daniela Caruso
Professor of Law,
School of Law



Patricia Cortes
Associate Professor of Markets, Public
Policy and Law at the Boston University
Questrom School of Business



Susan Eckstein
Professor of International
Relations and Sociology



Sucharita Gopal
Professor, Department of
Earth & Environment



Dilip Mookherjee
Professor of Economics, CAS Director,
Institute for Economic Development



Donald Thea
Professor of Global Health,
School of Public Health



Muhammad Zaman
Professor of Biomedical Engineering,
Boston University

STAFF AND RESEARCH TEAM



Rishikesh Ram Bhandary
Assistant Director, Global Economic
Governance Initiative



Cecilia Springer
Assistant Director,
Global China Initiative



Pratistha Joshi Rajkarnikar
Assistant Director,
Economics in Context Initiative



Rebecca Ray
Senior Academic Researcher,
Global China Initiative; Global
Economic Governance Initiative



Yan Wang
Senior Academic Researcher,
Global China Initiative



Rachel Thrasher
Researcher, Global Economic
Governance Initiative



Lara Merling
Senior Policy Advisor,
Global Economic
Governance Initiative



Oyintarelado (Tarela) Moses
Data Analyst and Database
Manager, Global China
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Joshua Pitts
Data Analyst, Global China
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Samantha Igo
Communications and
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Liaoguo (Joyce) Chen
Communications and
Outreach Associate,
Global China Initiative



Lin Zhu
Project Coordinator,
Global China Initiative



Mridhu Khanna
Project Coordinator,
Global Economic
Governance Initiative



Vidhu Priya Mukundan
Project Coordinator,
Human Capital Initiative

BY THE NUMBERS

**\$4.2
million**

Total FY23 Budget

391,228

Website Views
(28% increase from FY22)

95

Blogs

17

Policy Briefs

12,665

Event Attendees
and Viewers

61

Events

1,164

New Twitter
Followers

25

Working and
Technical Papers

31

Journal Articles

68

Op-eds and Invited
Commentary

3

Books

5

Reports

5

Database and
Interactive Updates

Media Mentions
(48% increase from FY22)

2,908

64

BU Student Employees

1

**FOSTER A GLOBAL
DEVELOPMENT
COMMUNITY AT BU**

FACULTY ENGAGEMENT

The key objective of the GDP Center will be to foster a global development policy research community at BU. We have built a core constituency that works collaboratively to research, engage and envision solutions to the most pressing development issues facing the world.

Our faculty members come from a wide array of disciplines spanning 21 schools, departments and centers across Boston University, including the College of Communication, School of Public Health, the School of Law, Questrom School of Business, Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, the Wheelock College of Human Development, the Departments of Anthropology, Biology, Computer Science, Earth & Environment, Economics, Engineering, History, Political Science and Sociology as well as the African Studies Center, the Center for the Latin American Studies, the Center for the Study of Asia, the Humphrey Fellowship Program, the Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future and the Institute for Economic Development.



38
Affiliate
Faculty
Members



22
Core Faculty
Members



8
Faculty Steering
Committee
Members



21
Schools,
Departments
and Centers



EVENTS

61
Events

12,655
Attendees
and Viewers

The GDP Center places a premium on engaging with audiences both locally and globally, from on campus at Boston University, to viewers around the world in China, Brazil, Indonesia, South Africa and many more. Concomitantly, we also offer a diverse array of event types - from conferences and seminars, to lectures, book talks, webinars and hybrid panelist discussions.

In the previous fiscal year, the GDP Center hosted 61 events with an estimated 12,655 attendees and viewers. Among the many insightful and engaging events, the GDP Center cohosted the fourth annual Paul Streeten Distinguished Lecture in Global Development Policy and hosted the Young Scholars Initiative (YSI) Conference on Debt Sustainability, which brought more than 60 senior and early career economists to Boston University to discuss debt sustainability, share research, network and engage in policy dialogue.



The Fall 2022 GEGI Book Talk Series kicked off in September 2022 with Jamie Martin, Assistant Professor of History and of Social Studies at Harvard University, and author of “The Meddlers: Sovereignty, Empire, and the Birth of Global Economic Governance.” Martin and Kevin P. Gallagher pose with his book.



In March 2023, the Human Capital Initiative (HCI) hosted a Research Symposium, convening the HCI Core and Affiliate Faculty Members to advance an agenda on the future of human capital research in the post-pandemic era. Rachel Nolan, HCI Affiliate Faculty Member and Assistant Professor of International Relations at the Pardee School, presents her research.



In November 2022, the GDP Center hosted a book talk for Perry Mehrling, Professor of International Political Economy at the Pardee School of Global Studies, on his latest book, “Money and Empire: Charles P. Kindleberger and the Dollar System. Mehrling responds to a question from moderator, Kevin P. Gallagher.



In September 2022, the GDP Center hosted its annual Open House to introduce students, staff and faculty and highlight opportunities for engagement. Patricia Cortes, HCI Core Faculty Member, GDP Center Faculty Steering Committee Member and an Associate Professor of Markets, Public Policy and Law presents on HCI.



Mridhu Khanna, GEGI Project Coordinator, talks with Cecilia Springer, Global China Initiative Assistant Director and Luma Ramos, GEGI post-doctoral fellow.



Participants in the Working Group on Trade and Access to Medicines Workshop pose for a group photo.



The Working Group on Trade and Access to Medicines hosted its first in-person workshop since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in June 2023. Brook Baker, Professor of Law, Northeastern University School of Law and member of the Working Group, presents on the post-pandemic landscape.



In April 2023, the Task Force on Climate, Development and the International Monetary Fund hosted a launch for its new flagship report. Njuguna Ndung'u, Kenyan Minister of Finance and former Task Force member, provides his comments on the report alongside Ken Ofori-Atta, Finance Minister of Ghana, and Laurence Tubiana, architect of the Paris Climate Agreement.

THE 2023 PAUL STREETEN DISTINGUISHED LECTURE IN GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY

The Paul Streeten Distinguished Lecture in Global Development Policy celebrates the example and legacy of Boston University Professor Paul Streeten as an eminent economist and interdisciplinary scholar, who has had a significant impact on global development policy. The joint sponsorship of this lecture by the GDP Center, the Institute for Economic Development and the Department of Economics reflects the breadth of Professor Streeten's engagement at Boston University during his years as Professor of Economics and Director of the World Development Institute. Previous Streeten lecturers have included Joseph E. Stiglitz, Nobel Prize-winning economist and Professor at Columbia University, Ann E. Harrison, Dean of the Haas School of Business at UC Berkeley, and Dani Rodrik, Ford Foundation Professor of International Political Economy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

On Wednesday, March 29, the Streeten Lecture was delivered by Eswar Prasad, renowned economist and the Tolani Senior Professor of Trade Policy at Cornell University. Prasad's talk focused on the blurred contours of the emerging new international financial order, wherein economic flows are coming to closely parallel geopolitical alignments. The lecture was followed by a reception for guests and speakers. Additionally, students had the opportunity to meet with Prasad in a small pre-lecture meeting.



Streeten Lecturer Eswar Prasad presents.



LEFT: GDP Center Director Kevin P. Gallagher and Executive Director William Kring.



RIGHT: Assistant Director of Communications Maureen Heydt and GEGI Communications and Outreach Associate Samantha Igo.



LEFT: Streeten Lecturer Eswar Prasad speaks with attendees at the reception.



RIGHT: GEGI/GCI Core Faculty member William Grimes and GEGI Core Faculty member Perry Mehring.



GDP Center staff and researchers fellows pose at the reception.

YSI CONFERENCE ON DEBT SUSTAINABILITY

From April 28-30, 2023, the GDP Center hosted the Young Scholars Initiative (YSI) Conference on Debt Sustainability. YSI, as a program of the Institute for New Economic Thinking, seeks to create a global network to nurture the next generation of economic thinkers.

During the conference, young scholars and early career professionals from around the world connected with leaders in the field of economics and presented their research on the key conceptual and policy themes for sovereign debt sustainability with a view to proposing possible policy reforms. Participants also explored the crucial implications of debt sustainability issues for wider global challenges of economic development, climate mitigation and international cooperation.

The aim of the conference was to equip young scholars and early career professionals with concepts and frameworks for dealing with debt sustainability in theory and practice and account for technical and political dimensions of the issues at hand. The topics were informed by renowned international experts from the academy and practice.

The conference featured two public panels with high-level speakers including Martin Guzman, former Minister of the Economy in Argentina, Jayati Ghosh, Andrés Arauz, Orsola Constantini and Lee Buchheit, among other luminaries. Boston University participants included GDP Center Director Kevin P. Gallagher and Perry Mehrling, Professor of International Political Economy at the Pardee School of Global Studies, as well as Yan Wang, Senior Academic Researcher, Lara Merling, Senior Policy Advisor to the Global Economic Governance Initiative, and GDP Center organizers Mridhu Khanna and Samantha Igo.



GEGI Policy Advisor Lara Merling and GDP Center Director Kevin P. Gallagher participate in panel discussion.



YSI participants toast at meet-and-greet event after Day 1.



Perry Mehrling, Professor of International Political Economy at the Pardee School of Global Studies, presents on panel.



YSI participants walk across campus to next event.



YSI participants group photo.

**2 ADVANCING
SCHOLARLY
'RESEARCH THAT
MATTERS' ON GLOBAL
DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

RESEARCH INITIATIVES

Human Capital Initiative

The mission of the Human Capital Initiative (HCI) is to advance interdisciplinary research on the role of human capital in human development to inform policy solutions to global challenges including poverty, women's empowerment and sustainable economic growth through investments in education and health.

Global Economic Governance Initiative

The Global Economic Governance Initiative (GEGI) advances policy-oriented research to align global economic governance with development and climate ambitions and deliver green and inclusive prosperity.

Global China Initiative

The Global China Initiative (GCI) advances policy-oriented research on China's overseas economic activity and engagement with international institutions in order to enable financial stability, human well-being and environmental sustainability.

HUMAN CAPITAL INITIATIVE

AT A GLANCE

The Human Capital Initiative (HCI) conducts rigorous, policy-oriented, social science research on human capital – the productive potential embodied in all people – and its role in development. HCI's research seeks to improve understanding of the social, political and institutional factors that shape (a) how human capital is formed and (b) how human capital is translated into individual and collective well-being. In doing so, HCI shifts the focus of human capital research from individual production functions toward generating a deeper understanding of collective functions – or the resources, institutions, strategies and interventions that shape human well-being. HCI is comprised of three research programs: Population Health Economics, Program on Women's Empowerment Research and the Political Economy of Human Capital.

FY23 Highlights

- Launched the Alliance for Afghan Women's Economic Resilience, an initiative aimed at advancing the economic security and well-being of Afghan women in Afghanistan and in countries to which they have been exiled, a public-private partnership between the US State Department and the Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies.
- Conducted a randomized evaluation of an app-based intervention to deliver information on HIV treatment-as-prevention via HIV counseling in South Africa in partnership with JiveMedia-Africa, the HIV Prevention and Survivors Network, Prevention Access Campaign and the Health Economics and Epidemiology Research Office in South Africa. Researchers are working with South Africa's National Department of Health to harmonize the app with the department's messaging on HIV treatment as prevention.
- Built a pilot with SEWA Bharat and Seva Mandir for a large-scale randomized control trial that will test the power of female solidarity – through peer mentoring meetings – to increase female elected officials' centrality in decision-making about local development in rural India.

Top Five Most Viewed HCI Webpages:

1. Devising Ways to Measure Unmet Need in Family Planning: A Thought Experiment (Blog)
2. The Effect of Fertility Decline on Economic Growth in Africa: A Macrosimulation Model (Journal Article)
3. The Power of Intersectionality: India's Two-Dimensional Legislative Quotas Reduce Inter-Group Conflict and Discrimination (Blog)
4. Access to Family Planning Services is Key to Improving Contraceptive Use and Birth Spacing (Blog)
5. The Alliance for Afghan Women's Economic Resilience: A Partnership Between the State Department and Boston University (Blog)

Population Health Economics: As a key component of human capital, health is both a cause and consequence of economic and social development. Led by Jacob Bor, the Program on Population Health Economics (PHE) supports research and policy outputs that investigate the determinants of population health in transitioning societies, particularly those determinants that are related to social and economic development, environmental change and shifting disease burdens. PHE received extensive press coverage for a series of high-profile manuscripts on the COVID-19 pandemic and US mortality disparities. A paper on disparities in COVID-19 vaccination and booster rates in Massachusetts (in collaboration with the Boston Public Health Commission) was featured on the front page of the *Boston Globe* and published in *PLOS Medicine*.

Program on Women's Empowerment Research: The objective of the Program on Women's Empowerment Research (POWER) is to investigate the causes and consequences of women's empowerment on human well-being in low- and middle-income settings through evidence-based research. Led by Mahesh Karra, Patricia Cortés and Rachel Brulé, POWER research seeks to identify the extent to which policy and programmatic interventions that seek to be empowering do (or do not) contribute to welfare improvements for women, their families and their communities. The program focuses on applied intervention research that critically investigate four core domains within the larger women's empowerment narrative: 1) human capital; 2) mobility and access; 3) sustainable economic empowerment and 4) gender equality in the labor market. This past year, POWER researchers traveled to and conducted work across Ethiopia, Malawi, India and the United States, with many notable studies to come. In Malawi, researchers briefed the Malawi Ministry of Health and other key stakeholders on preliminary results from two new studies on child and maternal health.

Political Economy of Human Capital: Led by Rachel Brulé, the Program on Political Economy of Human Capital (PEHC) supports research that examines the political, social and economic effects of development, decentralization and institutional change. Projects are unified by their focus on core public policy challenges in developing countries, including: 1) human social, political, physical and economic mobility and economic development; 2) political representation and decision-making centrality over government policy and 3) the impact of exogenous shocks on

mobility, economic bargaining power and political engagement. This year, PEHC worked to support citizens and researchers across rural Maharashtra, India, to build resilience from the COVID-19 pandemic while redesigning the structure and pace of the survey design to collect data on the extent, dynamics and interventions that can alter the scope of proxy politics in contemporary India.

Additionally, to incubate cross-disciplinary collaborations, HCI launched its Faculty Affiliate program, which has brought together outstanding Boston University researchers whose scholarship is centered around issues related to human capital, social and economic development and human well-being. The aim of the program is to actively support faculty research activities in these focal areas and to foster engagement and collaboration within the BU human capital research community at large. The initiative accepted six new affiliates for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Looking forward, HCI researchers will begin new research projects as well as resume fieldwork for several ongoing initiatives. Key projects include:

- Conducting online surveys to understand the barriers to taking paternity leave in Japan, in collaboration with the Cabinet Office of Japan.
- Assessing gendered differences in mobility and the latent demand for transport and travel in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- Assessing the role of mothers-in-law on women's family planning and reproductive health decision-making in rural India.
- Evaluating the power of female solidarity, through all-women peer mentoring meetings, to increase female elected officials' centrality in decision-making about local development in rural India.
- Evaluating acceptability and impact of an intervention to integrate treatment-as-prevention into HIV counseling. Creating a national cohort – and novel platform for research and patient care – to integrate tuberculosis, HIV and diabetes care in South Africa.
- Evaluating the SEED secondary school construction initiative in Malawi.

SPOTLIGHT

HUMAN CAPITAL INITIATIVE WELCOMES SIX NEW FACULTY AFFILIATES

The GDP Center is pleased to announce the inaugural cohort of HCI Faculty Affiliates. These six full-time BU faculty members represent diverse departments across the University, including the Department of Earth and Environment, the Department of Economics, the Pardee School of Global Studies, the Department of Global Health and the Department of Health Sciences.

The HCI Faculty Affiliate Program provides seed grants, opportunities for collaboration and administrative resources to outstanding BU researchers whose scholarship is centered around issues related to human capital, social and economic development and human well-being. The aim of the program is to actively support faculty research activities in these focal areas and to foster engagement within the BU human capital research community at large. Affiliates join the four current HCI Core Faculty Members for a one-year term to work on academic and policy outputs that are commensurate with HCI's mission.



Andrew Bell
Assistant Professor,
Department of Earth &
Environment



Rachel Nolan
Assistant Professor,
International Relations, Pardee
School of Global Studies



Ray Fisman
Slater Family Chair in
Behavioral Economics,
Department of Economics



Peter Rockers
Associate Professor,
Department of Global Health



Martin Fiszbein
Assistant Professor,
Department of Economics



Lawrence Were
Assistant Professor,
Global Health,
Department of Health Sciences

**GLOBAL ECONOMIC
GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE**

AT A GLANCE

The Global Economic Governance Initiative (GEGI) advances policy-oriented research to align global economic governance with development and climate ambitions and deliver green and inclusive prosperity. GEGI work streams include international trade and investment, financial stability and development finance institutions.

FY23 Highlights

- The Task Force on Climate, Development and the International Monetary Fund launched a flagship report providing a preliminary assessment of the IMF's progress to date on mainstreaming climate into its operations.
- The Working Group on Trade and Access to Medicines reconvened in person for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic for a two-day workshop in Boston to establish a research agenda for the post-pandemic landscape.
- GEGI projects Debt Relief for a Green and Inclusive Recovery Project and Task Force on Climate, Development and the IMF were named partners of the new Emergency Coalition of Debt Sustainability and Climate Prosperity, a coalition initiated by the Vulnerable Group of 20 (V20) Ministers of Finance to advance reforms of the international financial architecture.

Top Five Most Viewed GEGI Webpages:

1. India's 2023 G20 Presidency: What to Expect? (Blog)
2. The Case for a New Bretton Woods (Book)
3. IMF Austerity is Alive and Increasing Poverty and Inequality (Blog)
4. The Price of Success? How Graduation from Least Developed Country Status Could Impact Insulin Accessibility in Bangladesh (Blog)
5. The Global Impact of a Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (Technical Paper)

International Trade and Investment: GEGI's work on international trade and investment examines the intersection of the international trade regime with climate and access to medicines. In collaboration with researchers at Colorado State University and Queen's University in Canada, a December 2022 study in *Climate Policy* expanded on previous research on the financial and legal liability posed by investor-state dispute settlements (ISDS) in response to climate action. The researchers found that more than two-thirds of the calculated financial risk of ISDS would be borne by Global South countries. Recent advocacy on this issue is directed towards encouraging countries to withdraw from the controversial Energy Charter Treaty, which poses a potential \$111.5 billion liability for policies aimed at phasing out fossil fuels.

GEGI also hosted two trade-related workshops in FY23. The first in November 2022 brought together a group of experts on trade and climate to discuss the impact of trade policy on developing countries and climate action. In June 2023, the Working Group on Trade and Access to Medicines reconvened for the first time since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic to update its policy-orientated research agenda for a post-pandemic world. These workshops are critical for producing empirical research advocating for a fit-for-purpose international trade and investment regime.

Financial Stability: The Task Force on Climate, Development and the IMF, a consortium of experts from around the world utilizing rigorous, empirical research to advance a development-centered approach to climate change at the IMF, significantly built upon its existing technical knowledge and policy engagement over the past year. Ahead of the IMF/World Bank Group Annual Meetings in October 2022, the Task Force released a suite of new research, including five technical papers and two policy briefs. The Task Force's research culminated the following spring in a flagship report that provides a preliminary assessment of the IMF's efforts to mainstream climate into its operations. The report launch took place on the sidelines of the 2023 IMF/World Bank Spring Meetings with a high-level, invite-only panel that was attended by nearly 100 representatives from the IMF, US Department of the Treasury, finance ministries, academics, civil society and press.

As part of the Debt Relief for a Green and Inclusive Recovery (DRGR) Project, GEGI researchers estimated in an April 2022 report that more than \$812 billion in debt needs to be restructured for 61 debt-distressed emerging market and developing countries to achieve debt sustainability and put them on a path towards meeting their development goals and climate commitments. The report, highlighted by The New York Times Editorial Board, has gained substantial traction in both academic and political spaces. Moving forward, both the Task Force and DRGR Project will be key partners in the Emergency Coalition of Debt Sustainability and Climate Prosperity, a coalition initiated by the Vulnerable Group of 20 (V20) Ministers of Finance to advance reforms of the international financial architecture.

Development Finance Institutions: The need to reform development finance institutions has gained tremendous momentum in the last year, and GEGI has been actively engaged in this dialogue. In October 2022, GEGI hosted a workshop with development finance experts just days after the call from US Secretary of the Treasury Janet Yellen to reform the World Bank. Insights from this workshop were packaged into a policy brief that has been utilized by developing country representatives at the World Bank in active discussion on integrating climate and development goals into the institution's reform agenda. Ongoing research seeks to interrogate the role of multilateral development banks to enhance climate and development action, particularly in significantly scaling up lending capacity for climate finance and facilitating a just transition away from fossil fuels.

GLOBAL CHINA INITIATIVE

AT A GLANCE

The Global China Initiative (GCI) advances policy-oriented research on China's overseas economic activity and engagement with international institutions in order to enable financial stability, human well-being and environmental sustainability. GCI research is streamlined into four areas of focus: data analysis for transparency and accountability (DATA); forestry, agriculture, Indigenous rights and the Belt and Road Initiative (FAIR-BRI); energy and climate; and China and the international economic order. GCI also runs the Global China Fellows Program, which supports pre- and post-doctoral researchers to become future thought leaders on global China topics.

Top Five Most Viewed GCI Webpages (Research and Commentary):

1. Ten Years of the Belt and Road: Reflections and Recent Trends (Blog)
2. "Small is Beautiful": A New Era in China's Overseas Development Finance? (Policy Brief)
3. Bailouts From Beijing: How China Functions as an Alternative to the IMF (Working Paper)
4. Tracking China's Overseas Development Finance (Blog)
5. China's Interest-Free Loans to Africa: Uses and Cancellations (Policy Brief)

Top Five Most Viewed GCI Webpages (Databases):

1. Chinese Loans to Africa Database
2. Chinese Loans to Latin America and the Caribbean Database
3. China's Overseas Development Finance Database
4. China's Global Energy Finance Database
5. China's Global Power Database

FY23 Highlights

- Traveled to China for the first time since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, with GCI staff and researchers meeting with partners and conducting an in-person workshop with the Peking University Institute of New Structural Economics. Participated as international co-chair for the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development's Special Policy Study on greening the Belt and Road Initiative for the fourth year in a row.
- Traveled to Washington, D.C. in April 2023 to brief US policymakers on newly launched GCI research findings, with roundtable events and private briefings for top think tanks, US government agencies and media outlets.
- Study 'China's Global Development Finance Poses Heterogeneous Risks to Coastal and Marine Socio- ecological Systems' published in the journal *One Earth*.

DATA: GCI manages a suite of five interactive public databases that collectively track hundreds of billions of dollars in Chinese lending commitments and investment to a variety of sectors, including energy and other types of infrastructure development. These databases aim to provide transparent information to aid research, education, policymaking, journalism and accountability with regards to China's overseas development finance and projects around the world. In FY23, the DATA team launched updates to four databases: the Chinese Loans to Africa Database, the China's Global Power Database, the China's Overseas Development Finance Database and the Chinese Loans to Latin America and the Caribbean Database, which was also expanded to include the Caribbean.

FAIR-BRI: China is, by far, the world's largest source of bilateral official finance. At that scale, it is crucial for policymakers and stakeholders at all levels to understand the local environmental and social implications of this finance. The FAIR-BRI program examines these aspects, with a special focus on land use, biodiversity and natural resources critical for Indigenous communities worldwide. In FY23, the FAIR-BRI team launched a working paper with the BRICS Policy Center, Pontfca Universidade Catlica do Rio de Janeiro, on environmental regulations and Chinese investment in the Amazon Basin, hosted a workshop on Chinese investment in transition materials in Latin America and the Caribbean and published a working paper on China's overseas investments in the aquaculture industry and implications for local environments and livelihoods.

Energy and Climate: International flows of finance and technology from China are shaping the global landscape of energy infrastructure, with profound implications for climate change. The Energy and Climate program conducts research on the composition and impacts of China's overseas energy projects and aims to identify opportunities for shifting development finance towards renewable energy sources. In FY23, the Energy and Climate program contributed to the China Council on International Cooperation on Environment and Development's special policy study on key pathways to a green and low-carbon Belt and Road Initiative, and published two papers advocating for a cooperative approach to working with China on low-carbon financing in developing countries. The Energy and Climate program also produced a new report as part of a third round of collaboration with partners in Southern Africa on increasing development finance for renewable energy in the region.

China and the International Economic Order: GCI's work in this area – in collaboration with institutes in China and other emerging market and developing countries – seeks to understand the level and composition of Chinese development finance; the impacts of such finance on growth, stability and sustainable development; and the role of China in global economic governance. In FY23, researchers advanced high-impact commentary on proposals for debt relief, convened a workshop on IMF quota reform with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences Institute for World Economics and Politics and published a working paper recommending the novel use of asset management companies to help development finance institutions restructure debt.

Global China Fellows Program: The Global China Fellows recruits and supports pre- and post-doctoral fellows from around the world to engage in policy-oriented research and commentary on China's role in shaping global affairs. In addition to receiving support for their own research, fellows contribute to GCI research projects, public research seminars and policy engagement. In FY23, GCI recruited six new and returning pre- and post-doctoral fellows for the 2023-2024 academic year, including scholars from Boston University, the University of Cape Town, Ohio State University, MCC Berlin, UC Berkeley and Johns Hopkins SAIS.

SPOTLIGHT

GLOBAL CHINA INITIATIVE VISITS WASHINGTON, D.C.

In April 2023, GCI traveled to Washington, D.C. to brief US policymakers and stakeholders on new GCI research findings, with roundtable events and private briefings for Congressional offices, US government agencies, top think tanks and prominent media outlets.

Over the course of four days, the GCI team gave private briefings to 11 different government agencies and Congressional offices, as well as five private briefings to officials and stakeholders convened by local think tanks, including the Center for Strategic and International Studies, the Wilson Center, World Resources Institute and the Center for Global Development. Researchers also met with reporters from prominent media outlets and met with staffers at the Congressional Research Service.

In tandem with the trip, GCI released a suite of research products dedicated to advancing US-China cooperation for global public goods, including a policy brief demystifying the drivers of China's overseas lending and development finance, the case for greater US-China cooperation on renewable energy in developing countries and the annual China-Latin America and the Caribbean Economic Bulletin, expanded this year to include the Caribbean.

Following the virtual outreach typical of recent years amid the COVID-19 pandemic, GCI was able to engage in policy outreach and engagement in-person, with great results. GCI researchers were able to socialize their research and policy recommendations, connect with stakeholders, advance dialogue on US-China cooperation and collect valuable insights to take with them back to BU and beyond.

RESEARCH PARTNERS AROUND THE WORLD

NORTH AMERICA

- Inter-American Dialogue - Washington, D.C., USA
- World Resources Institute - Washington, D.C., USA
- China-Africa Research Initiative, Johns Hopkins University School for Advanced International Studies - Washington, D.C., USA
- World Bank - Washington, D.C., USA
- Howard Delafield International - Washington, D.C., USA
- USAID - Washington, D.C., USA
- Center for Strategic and International Studies - Washington, D.C., USA
- US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Washington, D.C., USA
- National Institutes of Health - Bethesda, USA
- National Intelligence Council - Washington, D.C., USA
- International Food Policy Research Institute - Washington, D.C., USA
- William and Flora Hewlett Foundation - Menlo Park, USA
- FHI360 - Durham, USA
- Ideas42 - New York City, USA
- Russell Sage Foundation - New York City, USA
- Prevention Access Campaign - Brooklyn, USA
- Innovations for Poverty Action - New Haven, USA
- Boston Public Health Commission - Boston, MA, USA
- Boston Women's Workforce Council - Boston, MA, USA
- National Bureau of Economic Research - Cambridge, MA, USA
- Global Development and Environment Institute, Tufts University, Medford, MA, USA

SOUTH AMERICA

- United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean - Santiago, Chile
- BRICS Policy Center, Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro - Rio De Janeiro, Brazil
- Universidad del Pacífico, Center for China and Asia-Pacific Studies - Lima, Peru

EUROPE

- South Centre - Geneva, Switzerland
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development - Geneva, Switzerland
- Heinrich Böll Stiftung - Berlin, Germany
- Max Planck Institute of Demographic Research, Rostock, Germany
- Bocconi University - Milan, Italy SOAS, University of London - London, United Kingdom
- International Growth Centre, London, United Kingdom
- Economy Studies - Amsterdam, Netherlands
- International Union for the Scientific Study of Population - Paris, France



AFRICA

- China-Global South Project – Johannesburg, South Africa
- National Health Laboratory Service – Johannesburg, South Africa
- South African Institute of International Affairs – Johannesburg, South Africa
- Health Economics and Epidemiology Research Office, University of Witwatersrand - Johannesburg, South Africa
- University of Pretoria – Pretoria, South Africa
- National Department of Health - Pretoria, South Africa
- JiveMedia-Africa - Pietermaritzburg, South Africa
- HIV Survivors and Prevention Network - Centurion, South Africa
- The SADC Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency – Windhoek, Namibia
- African Economic Research Consortium - Nairobi, Kenya
- EconInsight Center for Development Research - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Ministry of Health - Lilongwe, Malawi
- Reproductive Health Directorate of Malawi - Lilongwe, Malawi

ASIA

- Peking University, Beijing, China Institute for World Economics and Politics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences – Beijing, China
- China Institute of New Structural Economics, Peking University – Beijing, China
- China Council on International Cooperation for Environment and Development – Beijing, China
- Green Finance and Development Center, Fudan University – Shanghai, China
- Financial Futures Center - Manila, Philippines
- University of Indonesia, Research Center for Climate Change – Depok, Indonesia
- BU Foundation – South Delhi, India
- Centre for Social and Economic Progress - New Delhi, India
- Self-Employed Women’s Association (SEWA) - Ahmedabad, India
- Seva Mandir - Udaipur, India Cabinet Office of Japan - Toyko, Japan

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS

BOOK

 CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

MONEY & EMPIRE: CHARLES P. KINDLEBERGER AND THE DOLLAR SYSTEM

Perry Mehrling

BOOK

 LOM
EDICIONES

XI-NA EN EL SIGLO DEL DRAGÓN. LO QUE TODOS DEBEN SABER SOBRE CHINA

Jorge Heine

JOURNAL ARTICLE

 climate
policy

INVESTOR-STATE DISPUTE SETTLEMENT: OBSTRUCTING A JUST ENERGY TRANSITION

Kyla Tienhaara, Rachel Thrasher, B. Alexander Simmons & Kevin P. Gallagher

JOURNAL ARTICLE

PLOS ONE

OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENDITURE ON MEDICINES IN BANGLADESH: AN ANALYSIS OF THE NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SURVEY, 2016-17

Edson Serván-Mori, Md Deen Islam, Warren A. Kaplan, Rachel Thrasher & Veronika J. Wirtz

JOURNAL ARTICLE

 ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

WOMEN AND POWER IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

Rachel Brulé



JOURNAL ARTICLE

APPLYING MACHINE LEARNING AND PREDICTIVE MODELING TO RETENTION AND VIRAL SUPPRESSION IN SOUTH AFRICAN HIV TREATMENT COHORTS

Jacob Bor et al.



JOURNAL ARTICLE

MEASUREMENT OF UNMET NEED FOR CONTRACEPTION: A COUNTERFACTUAL APPROACH

Mahesh Karra



JOURNAL ARTICLE

CHINA'S GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE POSES HETEROGENEOUS RISKS TO COASTAL AND MARINE SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

B. Alexander Simmons, Nathalie Butt, Casey C. O'Hara, Rebecca Ray, Yaxiong Ma & Kevin P. Gallagher



JOURNAL ARTICLE

GENDER DIFFERENCES IN JOB SEARCH AND THE EARNINGS GAP: EVIDENCE FROM THE FIELD AND LAB

Patricia Cortés



JOURNAL ARTICLE

ASSESSING METHANE EMISSIONS FROM THE NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY: REVIEWING THE CASE OF CHINA IN A COMPARATIVE FRAMEWORK

Xi Yang, Yiyang Gao, Mingzhe Zhu & Cecilia Springer

**3 ENGAGE IN GLOBAL
POLICY DIALOGUE
AND STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATIONS**

GLOBAL POLICY DIALOGUE: ENGAGEMENT AND IMPACT

To meet the ambition of being a think and *do* tank, the GDP Center works to translate expedient research into real policy impact.

In the past year, the GDP Center has been increasing its engagement in policy networks by participating in strategic global policy discussions, advancing evidence-based recommendations in policy briefs, collaborating in workshops, initiating high-level policy interventions and strengthening relationships with a broad range of actors.

Below are highlights from the GDP Center's policy engagement and impact in FY23:

Human Capital Initiative

Impact: During the summer of 2022, Mahesh Karra and a team of research assistants traveled to Lilongwe to meet with Innovations for Poverty Action Malawi, along with representatives from the Malawi Ministry of Health and other key stakeholders to discuss preliminary research results and to propose local dissemination activities of the findings. Karra and team presented research findings and are currently in discussions to identify concrete policy implications for improving existing reproductive health programs.

Engagement: In September 2022, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced the launch of the Alliance for Afghan Women's Economic Resilience (Alliance), an initiative aimed at advancing the economic security and well-being of Afghan women in Afghanistan and in countries to which they have been exiled. A public-private partnership between the State Department and the Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University and led by HCI Core Faculty Member Rachel E. Brulé, the Alliance will bring together resources and support from the private sector, civil society and governments to collectively boost Afghan women's economic resilience and empowerment.

Impact: In FY23, Jacob Bor and colleagues conducted a randomized evaluation of an app-based intervention to deliver information on HIV treatment-as-prevention via HIV counselling in South Africa. The intervention was developed in partnership with Jive-Media-Africa, the HIV Prevention and Survivors Network, Prevention Access Campaign and the Health Economics and Epidemiology Research Office in South Africa. The app had a large impact on knowledge of HIV treatment-as-prevention and had very high acceptability among respondents. The intervention was endorsed by South Africa's National AIDS Council in their 2023 HIV Literacy Framework, indicating wide acceptability and an opportunity for broader dissemination.



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken announces the Alliance for Afghan Women's Economic Resilience - a joint initiative of the State Department and Boston University's Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies - on September 20, 2022, at the United Nations in New York City. (Source: US Department of State YouTube).

Global Economic Governance Initiative

Impact: This past year was a momentous one for multilateral development bank (MDB) reform. The G20 Capital Adequacy Frameworks expert review spurred governments to initiate a reform process at the World Bank. GEGI's work provided the evidence base on how MDB balance sheets could be stretched to deliver more dollars for development finance. Over the course of the year, GEGI researchers and policy experts engaged in extensive thought leadership on how MDBs could be evolved in a manner that supports development and climate resilience.

Engagement: In April, GEGI researchers and staff members traveled to Washington, DC to participate in the 2023 IMF/World Bank Group Spring Meetings, including four separate Civil Society Policy Forum events. The team hosted an invite-only roundtable on debt, climate and development to discuss various proposals for debt relief and green recovery, with attendees from multiple UN agencies including the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the UN Conference on Trade and Development. Additionally, the Task Force on Climate, Development, and the IMF launched its preliminary assessment report of the IMF's progress at mainstreaming climate at an event on the sidelines of the Spring Meetings. The event was attended by a range of stakeholders, including US government agency representatives, government ministers, country representatives, civil society and press.

Engagement and Impact: In 2022, contentious negotiations were underway regarding "modernizing" the Energy Charter Treaty (ECT), the only international investment treaty with a sectoral focus on energy. A key point of debate was the removal of the controversial investor-state dispute settlements (ISDS) mechanism that allows fossil fuel investors to bring legal claims against countries for climate action. Research published by a team of researchers at the GDP Center, Colorado State University and Queen's University in Canada shows that, of the data analyzed, the ECT alone protects the most oil and gas production of any treaty, making this a crucial opportunity for policy intervention. Using two studies published in *Science* and *Climate Policy* and a policy brief on the ECT as a bedrock, GEGI researchers have led on thought leadership on this issue. This includes several op-eds in *Social Europe*, *Thomson Reuters Foundation*, *OpenDemocracy* and commentary in the *Financial Times* as well as submitting input to the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Consultation, which published their contributions in its Public Consultation 'Investment Treaties and Climate Change.' The European Union recently announced in July 2023 a proposal to collectively withdraw from the ECT, which - if approved - would be a significant win for climate policy.

The Task Force on Climate, Development and the International Monetary Fund launched its new flagship at the 2023 IMF/World Bank Spring Meetings with an invite-only, high-level panel. Kevin Gallagher opens the event with a presentation on the report.

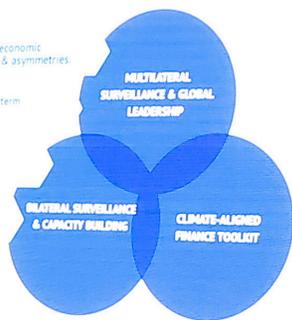
EXIT

279

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS FOR GOVERNMENT-CREATED CLIMATE POLICY AT THE IMF



- 1 Adopt the global role of addressing macroeconomic implications of climate risk, climate action & asymmetries.
- 2 Align short-term stability concerns with long-term sustainable & resilient growth pathways.
- 3 Tailor policy advice to member country circumstances.
- 4 Empower national & stakeholder ownership of policy.
- 5 Reconcile shared climate goals with equity & appropriate burden-sharing.



Global China Initiative

Impact: Last summer, the China Council for International Cooperation on the Environment and Development (CCICED), a team of Chinese and international policy experts and researchers, presented a new report detailing a realistic approach for supporting Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) green and low-carbon energy development. Consisting of senior Chinese and international officials and experts, and chaired by China's Vice-Premier, CCICED serves as a high-level advisory body with a mandate to conduct comprehensive, cross-sectoral and multidisciplinary research that integrates the environment, the economy and the society. The new report is the result of international collaboration with dozens of experts from institutions around the world, including Kevin P. Gallagher, who served as one of three International Co-Leaders of the project, as well as GCI researchers Rebecca Ray and Cecilia Springer, who served as part of the Special Policy Study Members.

Engagement: In April 2023, GCI researchers and staff traveled to Washington, D.C. to brief US policymakers and stakeholders on new GCI research findings, with roundtable events and private briefings for Congressional offices, US government agencies, top think tanks and prominent media outlets. Over the course of four days, the GCI team gave private briefings to 11 different government agencies and Congressional offices, as well as five private briefings to officials and stakeholders convened by local think tanks.

Engagement: In June 2023, GCI researchers and staff traveled to Beijing, China for the first time since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. During the trip, researchers and staff met with partners and conducted an in-person workshop on 'Development Finance and Debt in a Multipolar World' with the Peking University Institute of New Structural Economics.

GCI team members Oyintarelado Moses, Cecilia Springer and Lin Zhu, with Georgetown University's Joanna Lewis, meet with Congressman Jamaal Bowman for a private briefing during GCI's trip to Washington, D.C.





STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

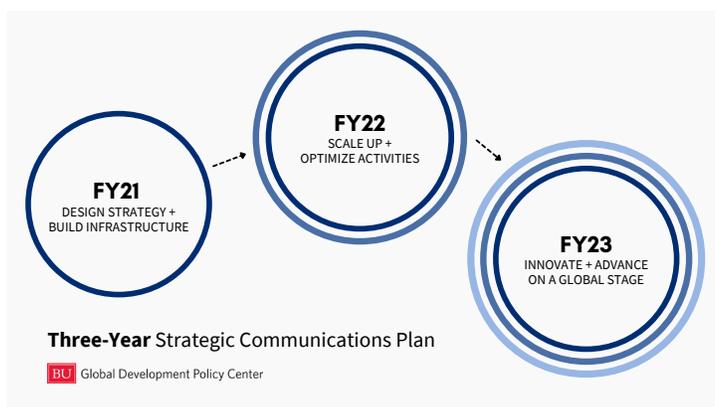
In FY23, the GDP Center completed the final phase of its three-year strategic communications plan in which we sought to innovate and advance GDP Center research and policy experts on a global stage.

Communications and outreach efforts yielded significant successes across the Center's research initiatives over the course of the year.

Human Capital Initiative: A number of HCI studies generated significant media coverage. In May 2023, a study by Patricia Cortés and coauthors was published in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* assessing how gender differences in job search behavior impacts the gender pay gap, with evidence from recent graduates of the BU Questrom School of Business. *Yahoo News*, *HRM Asia* and other international outlets covered the findings. Additionally, Jacob Bor led a study on 'missing Americans' - quantifying the early deaths of Americans from 1933-2021. The original working paper and subsequent journal article published in *PNAS Nexus* garnered major media coverage, including a full write-up in *The Atlantic*.

Global Economic Governance Initiative: The GEGI released two landmark reports in the spring of 2023. First, the Task Force on Climate, Development and the IMF published in March a preliminary assessment of the IMF's progress on incorporating climate into its operations. The release of the 109-page report was accompanied by exclusive coverage in *Semafor*, a novel digital news platform, and promoted on social media with an explainer Twitter thread and shared with the Task Force email mailing list. The report received over 1,400 web views in its first month of publication. A high-level, invite-only panel was organized alongside the 2023 IMF/World Bank Group Spring Meetings to promote the report to key policymakers and stakeholders, featuring Njuguna Ndung'u, Minister for Finance of Kenya; Ken Ofori-Atta, Minister for Finance and Economic Planning of Ghana; and Laurence Tubiana, President and CEO of the European Climate Foundation.

Second, the Debt Relief for a Green and Inclusive Recovery (DRGR) Project released its third large-scale report, analyzing new data on the level and composition of public and private external sovereign debt for emerging market and developing economies. *Reuters* carried an exclusive on the report, which was then shared across social media and to DRGR Project mailing lists. The report was also widely promoted at the 2023 Spring Meetings, notably during a Civil Society Policy Forum panel that boasted standing room only attendance. The report was also cited by the *New York Times* Editorial Board in its opinion on the growing sovereign debt crisis. Additionally, the report was accompanied by a comprehensive rebrand of the DRGR Project, including a new brand book, website design and logo.



Global China Initiative: In December 2022, a study by a team of GCI researchers quantifying the social and environmental marine risks of China’s overseas development finance was published in *One Earth*. The publication was supported by an omnichannel media campaign across web, email, social and press, leading to media mentions in *South China Morning Post* and an op-ed in *The Conversation*. Then, GCI kicked off the new year with an update to its flagship China’s Overseas Development Finance Database, releasing two years worth of new data and a policy brief that has since shaped the narrative of China’s overseas lending and development finance in the post-pandemic era. The database update was covered in major international outlets like *Reuters*, *France24*, *Voice of America*, *Bloomberg*, *The Guardian*, *BBC News*, *Washington Post*, *Foreign Affairs* and many others. Additionally, in September 2022, GCI researchers released a policy brief documenting the uses and cancellations of China’s interest-free loans to African countries, gathering press mentions in *Bloomberg*, *Reuters*, *South China Morning Post*, *Devex* and others.

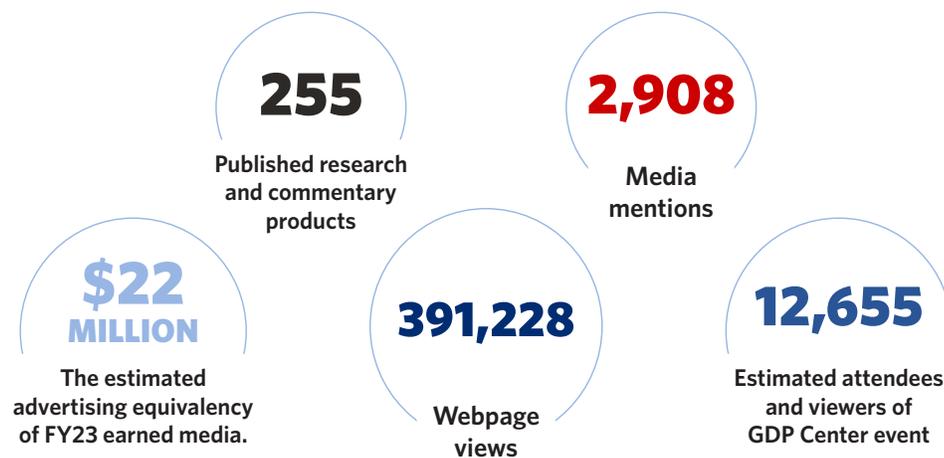
Looking at the strategic communications and outreach efforts holistically across key metrics also paints a picture of continued growth and engagement for the GDP Center.

Editorial Content: In FY23, the GDP Center experts authored 255 research and commentary products, including 31 journal articles, 25 working and technical papers, 17 policy briefs, five reports, three books, 95 blogs, 68 op-eds and invited commentary. The Center has established a reputation for producing high quality and cutting-edge research and commentary products that are engaging and accessible across disciplines and fields, from policy and reporting to civil society and the general public.

Press Mentions: The GDP Center garnered 2,908 media mentions, a 48 percent increase from the previous fiscal year, in major international outlets, including the *Financial Times*, *Bloomberg*, *Associated Press*, *Reuters*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Politico*, *South China Morning Post*, *The Economist*, *Foreign Policy*, *CNBC*, *The Guardian*, *Wall Street Journal*, *NPR*, *BBC* and other prominent print and digital media outlets. The FY23 earned media coverage, based on the viewership, brand strength and reach of media outlets, is equivalent to \$22 million worth of advertising in the same outlets.

Social Media: The GDP Center also enjoyed sustained growth across its social media platforms, including 1,164 new followers on Twitter. Across Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn, curated posts promote the Center’s work and engage social audiences with thought-provoking research and commentary.

Events and Webpage Views: In FY23, the GDP Center website earned 391,228 website views, a 28 percent increase from FY22. The Center also hosted 61 events with an estimated 12,665 attendees joining in from Boston and around the world.



**4 PROVIDE A
'VIBRANT
ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE'
THROUGH STUDENT
RESEARCH AND
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING**

STUDENT RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATIONS FELLOWS

- 64** Total BU Student Employees
- 48** Undergrad and Graduate Research Assistants
- 20** Pre- and Post-Doctoral Fellows
- 9** Summer in Field Fellows
- 7** Communications Fellows

Pre- and Post-Doctoral Research Fellows



Communications Fellows

The GDP Center’s Communications team works with an inspiring team of student Communications Fellows to assist in the ideation, creation and execution of communications materials for English and Chinese language audiences. FY23 Communications Fellows included:



Amanda Brown



Christina Duran



Tianyi (Tiffany) Gan



Xuemeng (Shannon)
Guan



Emanne Khan



Claire Paul



Xiaoyun (Ellie) Hu

Student Researcher Awards

In FY23, two Research Assistants received awards in recognition of their GDP Center research contributions. Laura Gormley was the inaugural recipient of the Adil Najam Fellowship for Advancing the Public Understanding of Global Affairs, while Hua- Ke (Kate) Chi was awarded the Prize for Academic Excellence in the Economics Master’s Program.



Hua-Ke (Kate) Chi



Laura Gormley

STUDENT VOICES



“Working at the GDP Center gave me the opportunity to be a part of an amazing team dedicated to critical policy-oriented research. I learned how to effectively communicate complex research and was supported by a fantastic group of coworkers.”

—Amanda Brown,
Communications Fellow, BA Candidate,
International Relations, Pardee School of Global Studies



“The postdoctoral research fellowship at the GDP Center has provided me with an exceptional experience. It has allowed me to work in a team of highly talented, generous and critical thinkers who do cutting-edge research that addresses pressing policy issues. I firmly believe that the knowledge and skills gained during my time in Boston will significantly shape all my future endeavors, both within academia and beyond.”

—Timon Foster,
GEGI Postdoctoral Fellow



“Engaging in HCI fieldwork in Malawi was rewarding and thought-provoking. It broadened my perspective on cross-cultural dynamics and highlighted the importance of context in shaping contractual arrangements and fostering positive change.”

—Laura Aquino,
HCI Research Assistant,
PhD Candidate, Economics



“My time with the GDP Center has been both academically and interpersonally enriching for my PhD studies. I have learned so much from these experts on both the best practices of data collection in energy finance, and how to leverage data to address the policy challenges of climate change and development. This experience has been instrumental for shaping my own research ideas, and learning with leaders in the energy and development space.”

—Ishana Ratan,
Global China Pre-doctoral Research fellow



“My experiences from having worked with ECI over the past year have been terrific. As a PhD student in Political Science, I was able to recognize how political and social factors immensely contribute to, and also are contributed by, the workings of economies in the world. The experience has provided me with a holistic point of view I really appreciate as a researcher.”

—Songhyun Park,
ECI Research Assistant;
PhD Candidate, Political Science

SUMMER IN THE FIELD FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The GDP Center is proud to present the 2023 Summer in the Field Fellows. These nine Boston University students are pursuing graduate degrees in various disciplines across the University, including social work, linguistics, earth and environment, economics, biostatistics and political science.

The GDP Center Summer in the Field Program provides a \$6,000-\$8,000 stipend to a select group of qualified graduate students to participate in unpaid internships or conduct field research for a dissertation project during the summer. The program enables students to take advantage of unpaid internship opportunities or field research that would otherwise have been financially unfeasible.

Starting June 1, 2023, the Summer in the Field Fellows spent ten weeks developing research skills and gaining professional experience by participating in a variety of research projects and internships. In line with the GDP Center's mission of advancing policy-oriented research for financial stability, human well-being and environmental sustainability across the globe, the fellows tackled topics like whistled languages in South Africa and Zimbabwe, South Africa's HIV response, mangroves for climate mitigation and more.



Laura Aquino
PhD Candidate, Economics

Project: Collect data on the spending and savings behavior of consumers in Mexico to determine whether access to the banking system has changed households' expenditure, investment and savings composition



Andre Batchelder-Schwab
PhD Candidate, Linguistics

Project: Conduct interviews and linguistic experiments to research how whistled TshiVenda, a whistled language in South Africa and Zimbabwe, works at a technical and conversational level between VhaVenda people in the village of Nzhelele in Limpopo province.



Sasha Gilmore
PhD Candidate, Earth & Environment

Project: Partner with Diponegoro University (UNDIP) professors and Indonesian organizations to study the potential for mangroves to mitigate heatwaves through survey data collection, remote sensing and agent-based modeling.



Mira Kelly-Fair
PhD Candidate, Earth & Environment

Project: Study potential indicators of the presence of the three species of mangroves in Belize in order to map them using remote sensing imagery.



Emily Lamunu
PhD Candidate, Social Work

Project: Interning at the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation in Uganda to ensure and advocate for the strengthening of health systems.



Evelyn Lauren
PhD Candidate, Biostatistics

Project: Collaborate with researchers at the Health Economics and Epidemiology Office (HE2RO) and the Africa Health Research Institute (AHRI) in South Africa to evaluate the country's progress towards achieving UNAIDS goals for addressing the HIV epidemic.



Kazi Mukitul Islam
PhD Candidate, Sociology

Project: Conduct 60 in-depth interviews of women of reproductive ages 15-49 from Dhaka, Bangladesh and rural Khulna to understand how women navigate their empowerment status in the face of structural inequalities in day-to-day life that shapes how they seek out health resources.



Si Wu
PhD Candidate, Political Science

Project: Conduct field interviews of politicians, community organizers, policy entrepreneurs, legal professionals and human resources representatives in Guangdong Province, China to understand the impact of ending China's one-child policy on gender inequality in employment in the world's largest economy.



Xiaofei Qin
PhD Candidate, Earth & Environment

Project: Conduct field surveys to gather feedback from local residents of heat-vulnerable communities in Guangzhou, a city in southern China that is at high risk of heat waves, on heat-mitigation-related actions.

ECONOMICS IN CONTEXT INITIATIVE

FY23 Highlights

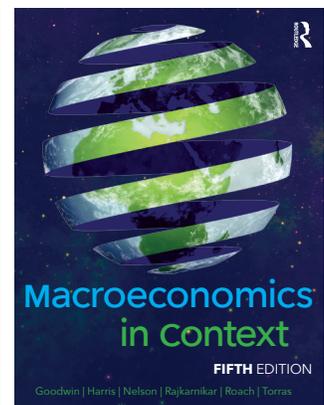
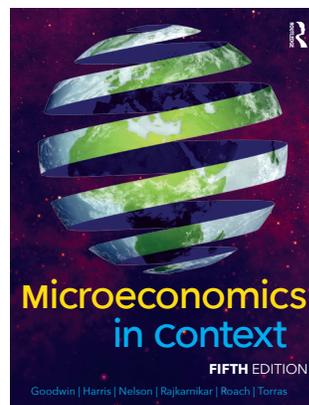
- Completed work on the support materials for the fifth edition of Microeconomics in Context and the fourth edition of Macroeconomics in Context textbooks.
- Published two new teaching modules and thoroughly revised and updated five other teaching modules.
- Continued to expand ECI's outreach work by engaging with audiences on Twitter and LinkedIn and through quarterly newsletters, blog posts, op-eds and articles.

The Economics in Context Initiative (ECI) creates educational materials in economics that are engaging, relevant and thoroughly researched. The key goal of the ECI is to advance the teaching and application of economics to serve the goal of enhancing human well-being by fostering equitable societies in sustainable ecological surroundings. The “in context” approach means continually recognizing that economic activity takes place in broader social, historical, political, environmental and institutional contexts and integrating these aspects into our understanding of the economy. This approach emphasizes the need to consider issues of social and environmental sustainability in economic analysis, as opposed to the standard mainstream approach that focuses on narrow goals of increasing income and production levels.

Founded by BU alumnus Dr. Neva R. Goodwin, ECI builds on over two decades of work by Dr. Goodwin and colleagues at the Global Development and Environment Institute (GDAE) at Tufts University. Dr. Pratistha Joshi Rajkarnikar, serves as the ECI Assistant Director and pilots the group's educational materials in classes as a Lecturer at the Pardee School of Global Studies. ECI's educational materials include five textbooks on the principles of economics (Microeconomics in Context; Macroeconomics in Context; Principles of Economics in Context; Macroeconomics in Context: A European Perspective; and Essentials of Economics in Context), along with teaching modules, articles and working papers on various social and environmental issues in economics.

In FY24, ECI will update and publish a new edition of the 'Essentials of Economics in Context' textbook and launch an online Social Science Library with bibliographic references for over 9,300 journal articles, book chapters and working papers organized by seven disciplines (Anthropology, Economics, History, Political Science, Social Psychology, Sociology and Philosophy).

Additionally, ECI will create a “learning system,” including a new textbook and a set of web resources, to aid understanding of the current global economy and explore ideas on creating a just and sustainable world. The materials will be designed for students, as well as those interested in learning about the economy outside the university system, including activists, journalists, trade unions, think tanks and others.



**5 SOLIDIFYING
THE LEGACY OF
THE GDP CENTER**

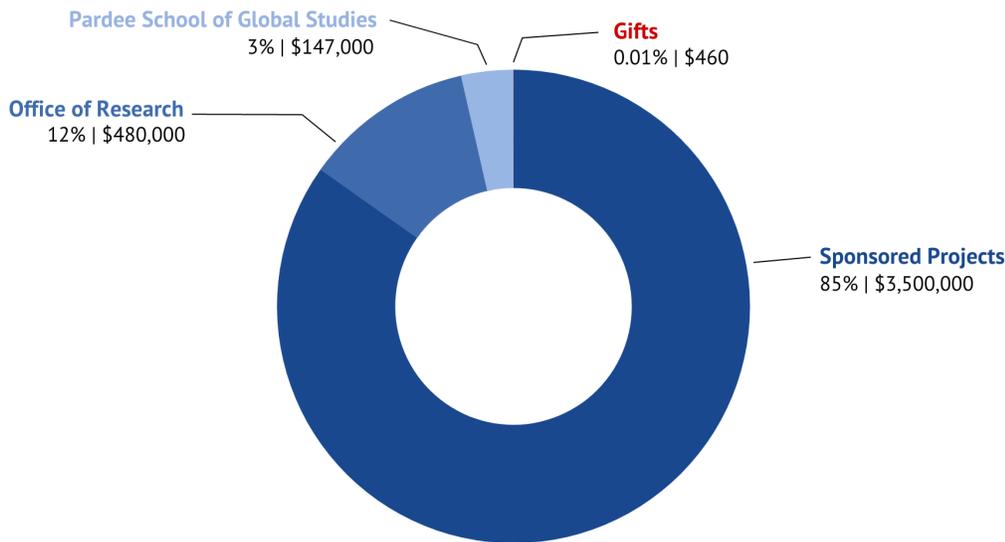
FINANCE

The GDP Center has seen yet another year of remarkable growth in its sixth year of operations. In FY23, our main sources of revenue were private foundation funding (\$3.5 million), the Office of Research (\$480,000) and the Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies (\$147,000). We are proud to report that our spending for the fiscal year reached \$4.20 million, representing a growth of 13.8 percent compared to the previous fiscal year.

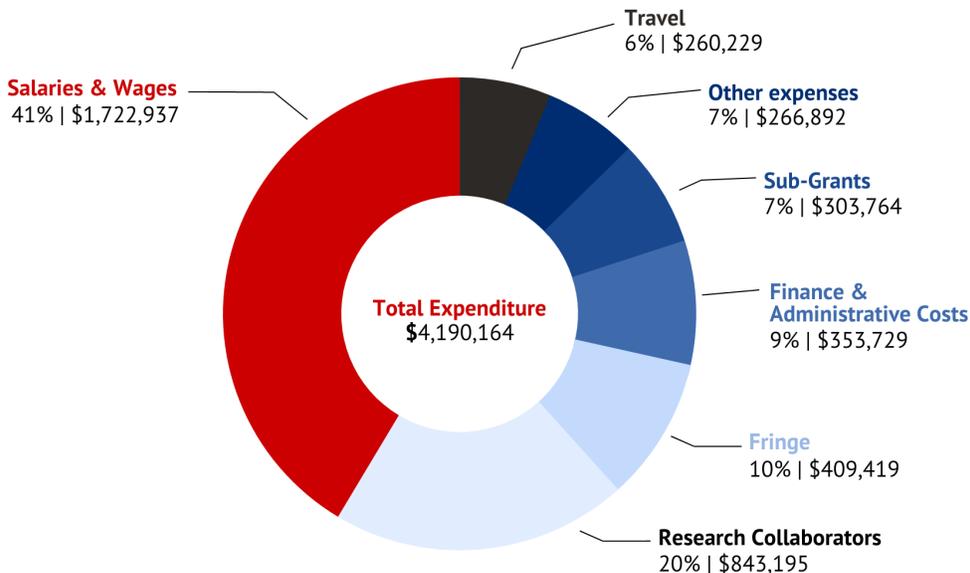
In FY23, the GDP Center actively pursued and secured funding totaling \$4.5 million in grants. Additionally, there

were ten proposals submitted in FY23 that are currently awaiting funder approval. The GDP Center's active grant portfolio during FY23 amounted to \$9.1 million. Moreover, affiliated faculty from other departments at BU successfully raised \$4.6 million in FY23 grants. Revenue from alumni gifts in FY23 dropped significantly to \$460 compared to \$31,000 in FY22. We are immensely grateful to our global community of alumni and friends whose contributions funded the Paul Streeten Distinguished Lecture in Global Development Policy and the Summer in the Field Fellowship Program.

GDP Center Sources of Revenue, FY23



GDP Center Total Expenditures, FY23



SUPPORTERS OF THE GDP CENTER



MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
FOR DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH



JAPAN FOUNDATION

\$16.6 million
raised in grants
since 2017

\$9.1 million
total active grants
in FY23

20 funders
in FY23

LOOKING FORWARD

Over the course of the next academic year, the GDP Center plans to:

1. Institutionalize a set of research, communications and outreach procedures to prepare the GDP Center for a significant scaling of resources, staff and longevity.
2. Offer a suite of public events to re-engage in-person with the BU community, while connecting with global audiences through a hybrid medium.
3. Establish a program to incubate collaborative research among the new cohort of Human Capital Initiative Affiliate Faculty Members.
4. Formulate and implement a Chinese language communications and outreach strategy for the Global China Initiative.
5. Continue to build a global support base for the GDP Center's activities.

