



International
Growth Centre

A dark purple background featuring a faint, light purple map of Southeast Asia. Myanmar is highlighted with a white dot, indicating its location in the region.

IGC Myanmar aims to promote sustainable growth by providing demand-led policy advice based on frontier research. Our current focus areas are firm capabilities, urbanisation, natural resource management and state effectiveness.

The IGC operates 15 programmes in 14 partner countries throughout Africa and South Asia. Country offices allow the IGC to be distinctive among international research initiatives in sustaining long-term policy engagement, and helping to ensure our work can be demand-led; they facilitate our work with partners, and deepen sensitivity to the political economy of policymaking.



01 Bangladesh, 02 Ethiopia, 03 Ghana, 04 India (Bihar), 05 India (Central), 06 Liberia, 07 Mozambique, 08 Myanmar, 09 Pakistan, 10 Rwanda, 11 Sierra Leone, 12 South Sudan, 13 Tanzania, 14 Uganda, 15 Zambia

HISTORY OF THE PROGRAMME

IGC engagement in Myanmar began in 2012 and has focused on bringing evidence to bear in informing the country's policies at a time of political and economic change. IGC Myanmar has provided input to policymakers on topics from labour regulation to natural resource management.

Working partners include the Myanmar Development Resource Institute – Centre for Economic and Social Development (MDRI-CESD), a local think tank dedicated to the economic and social transformation of Myanmar. IGC Myanmar is also actively engaged in projects with local business associations and public health providers.



IGC commissions high-quality research projects in areas of policy-relevance. For Myanmar, areas of focus include:



Firm capabilities:

The development of firms is an area of key importance for creating jobs and inclusive growth in Myanmar. With IGC funding, researchers from Columbia University (US) are studying small and medium enterprises and their links to export markets, while a team from the University of Warwick (UK) investigates the determinants of firm productivity in Myanmar's garment sector and across the region. IGC Country Economists are also working to build capacity in the local business organisations which coordinate these projects.



Urbanisation:

IGC Myanmar is beginning a study of urban service delivery including water supply, waste management and sanitation. As Myanmar's cities are expected to expand rapidly in coming years, this initiative represents a crucial area of study for local governance and infrastructure.

IGC Country Economists have worked on several ‘rapid response’ areas:



Labour markets:

As Myanmar’s Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security plans new legislation for a minimum wage and other regulations, IGC Myanmar has provided policy input and training for local partners in survey design.



Natural resources and state-owned enterprises:

Myanmar is rich in natural resources and government relies heavily on revenues from these resources. IGC has contributed to research on natural resource management and revenue flow in Myanmar, as well as briefing policymakers on key tradeoffs in these areas.



Budget analysis:

IGC Myanmar has worked on budget analysis with MDRI-CESD and led training with the Internal Revenue Department, Ministry of Finance.

For a complete list of our completed and ongoing research work, please visit www.theigc.org/myanmar.



CONTACT THE TEAM



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The International Growth Centre (IGC) aims to promote sustainable growth in developing countries by providing demand-led policy advice based on frontier research. The IGC directs a global network of world-leading researchers and in-country teams in Africa and South Asia and works closely with partner governments to generate high quality research and policy advice on key growth challenges. Based at LSE and in partnership with the University of Oxford, the IGC is funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

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