



International  
Growth Centre

# Annual Report 2014–2015



DIRECTED BY



*The International Growth Centre (IGC) aims to promote sustainable growth in developing countries by providing demand-led policy advice based on frontier research.*

International Growth Centre  
London School of Economics  
and Political Science  
32 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
Houghton Street  
London WC2A 2AE  
United Kingdom

[www.theigc.org](http://www.theigc.org)

**Ideas for Growth**



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### Directors' statement

Robin Burgess and Paul Collier look at the trends in economic growth research and how the IGC can play its part in extending the stock and flow of knowledge.

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The IGC is led by a Steering Group of top researchers from around the world.



“ *Generating high rates of inclusive growth is a big question that does not have a big answer – it has lots of little answers.* ”

At Growth Week 2014, the Chief Minister of Bihar described the remarkable transformation of his state, the poorest in India and yet the fastest growing, with GDP growth averaging more than 10% between 2005 and 2012. Two things stood out from his lecture. The first is how higher growth saw a sharp decline in poverty – from 54% to 33%. The second is how broad-ranging the reforms have been: from strengthening law and order to reforming education, from building roads to empowering women. The IGC has had the privilege of working closely with the government of Bihar since 2009, consolidating, monitoring and informing different aspects of these policy reforms.

The Bihar example shows how growth can be inclusive and transformational. At the same time, the scale of the reforms illustrates how generating high rates of inclusive growth is a big question that does not have a big answer. It's a big question that has lots of little answers.

The IGC helps countries find these answers through a “co-generation” approach. We bring leading researchers together with policymakers and stakeholders to enhance the ability of our 14 partner countries to find solutions to their own growth policy challenges.

This collaborative approach is built on a unique model that combines a global network of top researchers with embedded country teams across Africa and South Asia. These teams develop long-term relationships with senior policymakers and provide a platform for engaging researchers. Our London hub works closely with

country teams, building multiple channels to feed new ideas from frontier research into policy, at the national level and globally. We have commissioned nearly 800 projects since 2009, concentrating on the four key drivers of inclusive growth – effective states, productive firms, functioning cities, and accessible and sustainable energy.

For example, IGC researchers have worked in close partnership with the tax authorities in Pakistan since 2010, developing innovative ways to boost revenues. In Zambia, IGC researchers worked with the Ministry of Health to design an effective recruitment strategy for a new cadre of Community Health Assistants – and have now been asked to help reform government recruitment more broadly. The IGC has provided the governments of Sierra Leone and Liberia with rigorous analysis of the economic impact of Ebola and informed their economic recovery plans.

The 143 projects commissioned this year include a comparative analysis of the coffee value chains in Rwanda, Uganda and Ethiopia, which aims to improve the design of industrial policies. Another, in Zambia is analysing the impact of urban density on the spread of mobile money solutions, while a project in Kenya and Tanzania is examining how affordable solar power affects household outcomes.

In all these projects, researchers are working closely with policymakers to generate new ideas to tackle key growth challenges, drive up living standards and lift people out of poverty. ●



**Jonathan Leape**  
Executive Director  
*International Growth Centre (IGC)*

“ *Our ambition is to change policy in these areas [State, Firms, Cities and Energy] while also improving global knowledge.* ”

In the world's poorest countries, economic growth is central to improving living standards. The IGC aims to help these countries find solutions to their growth policy problems. To do this we connect top researchers with policymakers to co-generate knowledge: that way the ideas produced through the IGC are most likely to influence policy. We focus on four key drivers of growth: State; Firms; Cities; and Energy. Our ambition is to change policy in these areas while also improving global knowledge. By changing the way people think about these issues we influence global policy debates. This then affects how policy is enacted even beyond those countries in which the IGC directly operates.

Within the *State* theme, we have been analysing how better to raise taxation and motivate public servants, finding innovative means of improving accountability and preventing capture of policy by economic and political elites. In Bangladesh, for example, working with the National Board of Revenue (NBR), IGC researchers found that reward schemes could leverage the public's interest in status and recognition to generate increased tax compliance. If the government can cheaply provide social recognition, it may be a cost-effective way to improve the available budget.

On *Firms*, we recognise not only the importance of industrial development and trade for increasing productivity, but also the role of smaller firms in improving living standards. Building on earlier projects in Bangladesh, Myanmar and Ethiopia, the IGC is currently playing

a strong role in developing a strategy for improving growth in the garments sector in Pakistan. The government is developing a ready-made garments cluster in Punjab and we are already seeing accelerated productivity growth and a move to higher value garments.

The IGC is also analysing how to make *Cities* more productive and how to use policy to drive agglomeration, which ultimately, is a key determinant of structural change and economic growth. In Rwanda, as is common in many cities across the developing world, access to affordable housing for workers is a key constraint on increasing productivity growth. In response, IGC researchers have developed an affordable housing supply policy framework. The challenge of delivering affordable housing for Kigali remains huge, but the findings from this study are helping address this crucial challenge, and producing lessons for other rapidly growing cities.

Finally, on *Energy* we recognise that the lack of access to reliable energy is a key constraint on individuals and firms becoming more productive. For example, citizens of the state of Bihar, in India, only consume about 1% of the energy of U.S. consumers. With the government of Bihar, the IGC has been looking at how individuals and firms can be incentivised to pay for the electricity they use. Having this revenue flow to distribution companies is critical in terms of expanding access to electricity but also providing industrial and residential consumers with a more continuous supply of electricity. The findings from this study may well serve as template for other countries. ●



**Robin Burgess**  
Director  
*International Growth Centre (IGC)*



**Paul Collier**  
Director  
*International Growth Centre (IGC)*

# Our model

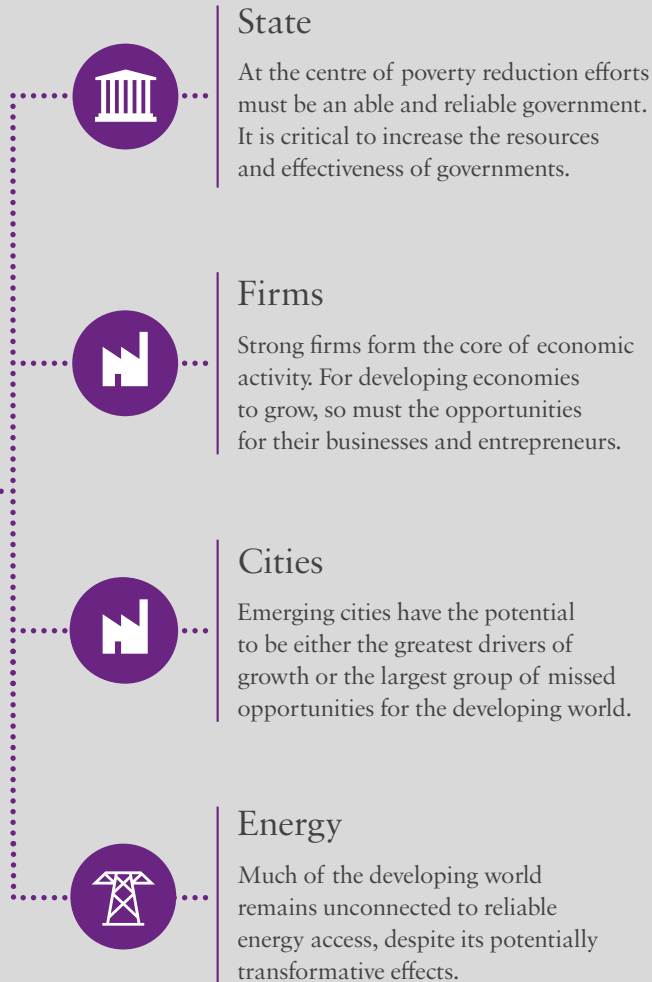
## Economic growth

Long term poverty reduction will not be achieved without sustainable economic growth. Yet there remain many unanswered policy questions on how to promote economic growth. The IGC works with policymakers to find answers to these questions.

## Our research themes

We focus our research on state effectiveness, productive firms, cities and energy – all critical areas for promoting growth.

774  
RESEARCH  
PROJECTS



## Partner countries

Our in-country teams of economists make the IGC distinctive among international research initiatives in sustaining long-term policy engagement, ensuring our research is demand-led.



We work in 14 countries across Africa and South Asia. See the following page for more details.

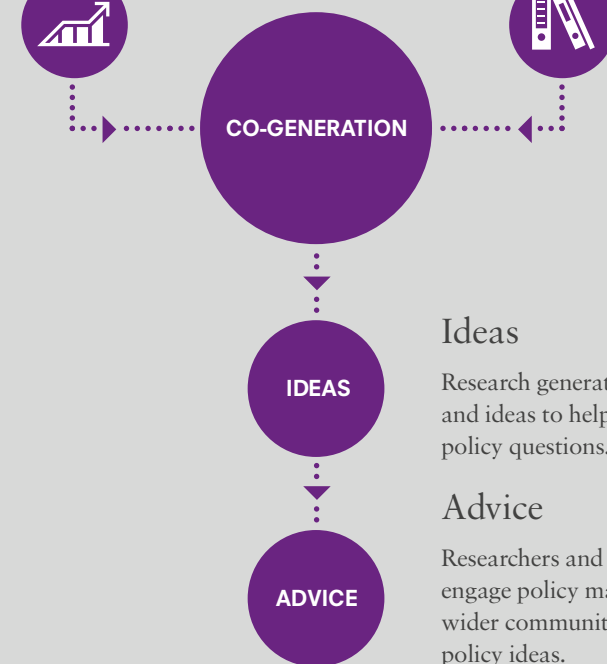
## Co-generating knowledge

Together researchers and policymakers identify and explore research questions that underlie growth policy challenges. This happens both directly and indirectly with IGC country teams facilitating these contacts.

**Policymakers**  
Hundreds of senior policymakers from IGC partner countries.



**Researchers**  
Over 1,000 top researchers from over 100 institutions.



### Ideas

Research generates new knowledge and ideas to help answer growth policy questions.

### Advice

Researchers and country teams engage policy makers and the wider community with pro-growth policy ideas.

# Our work

**143**  
RESEARCH  
PROJECTS IN  
2014-15

The IGC promotes 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.

In 2014-15 over 60 research projects influenced policy making, in areas such as regional growth planning (Pakistan), Low income housing (Rwanda), Export Promotion (Tanzania), Garment production (Bangladesh) and Health and Sanitation (India). The IGC's work on the economic implications of Ebola has been particularly influential.

“ This is exactly what we need – this research will feed directly into our policy decision making.  
– Tariq Bajwa (Chairman, Federal Board of Revenue, Government of Pakistan)



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[www.theigc.org/?p=202](http://www.theigc.org/?p=202)



## Increasing tax compliance in Bangladesh through social recognition



compliance among firms. The team conducted a multi-arm randomised controlled trial to rigorously evaluate the impact of these programmes on tax payments. The researchers found evidence that social incentives and peer effects may be an effective way to improve tax compliance. The results suggest that in the neighbourhoods where some firms were already complying, the promise of exposing information about all firms' tax payment behaviour led to an increase in tax compliance, especially among firms who had not paid the previous year.

The results suggest that exposing information about firms to their peers can increase tax compliance and payment. Publicly available information about tax compliance may affect consumer behaviour—perhaps steering customers towards tax compliant businesses, and thus induce additional incentives for compliance. Scaling this programme to a larger geographic area, in addition to the potential changes in consumer behaviour, may lead to increases in revenue far greater than is predicted by the study.

The Ministries of Finance and Planning will consider the note for incorporation in the budget speech and the Seventh Five Year Plan.



Bangladesh has one of the lowest tax-to-GDP ratios in the world. Revenue collection using audits, fines and other punishment-based methods has proven difficult due to firms' ability to evade payment, and the challenges of enforcing legal sanctions. This research project instead attempts to exploit firms' interest in social recognition to increase VAT compliance.

IGC researchers partnered with the National Board of Revenue (NBR), Bangladesh to implement a range of programmes that attempt to leverage in social incentives and peer recognition to increase voluntary tax

### In brief

- 1 Improving revenue mobilisation in Bangladesh is critical to addressing the infrastructure deficit and spurring economic growth.
- 2 Researchers implemented a range of programmes to exploit firms' interest in social recognition.
- 3 Exposing information about firms' tax compliance to their peers can increase tax payment in a cost-effective way.
- 4 A committee was set up based on the findings of this study and the policy note will be considered for incorporation in the budget speech and the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Researchers – Raj Chetty (Harvard University), Mushfiq Mobarak (Yale School of Management) and Monica Singhal (Harvard University) (and others)  
Partner Organisation – Bangladesh National Board of Revenue (NBR)

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## Developing the Growth Strategy of the Punjab province, Pakistan



Like the rest of Pakistan, Punjab has been suffering from low rates of economic growth for the past few years. Due to a rapidly increasing labour force, especially young people, the province needs to grow at a much faster rate every year to provide enough jobs, of a good quality, to young workers entering the job market.

IGC experts worked closely with the government in identifying areas of policy reform and investment that will lead to higher rates of economic growth, job creation and human capital development. The output of this project is a Growth Strategy document that covers various sectors. Within the Government, the Planning and Development Department was the lead agency, led by the Chairman of the Planning and Development Board who was a champion of this exercise.

The researchers identified a number of growth-enhancing policy interventions and investment projects for the province: catalysing Punjab's GDP growth based on improvements in productivity of resources and better functioning urban clusters; private sector-led economic growth that will require a revival of investment by the private sector; employment-intensive economic growth that will require a focus on employment

generation by revival of employment-intensive sectors and the creation of quality jobs by addressing critical gaps in human capital; export buoyancy to be driven by a focus on export-oriented economic growth; complete social sector coverage to be embedded in quality provision of education, healthcare and social protection for the poor and vulnerable; and effective security through improved governance and law and order.

The recommendations from this project have now been formally adopted by the government.



### In brief

- 1 Punjab has been suffering from low rates of economic growth for the past few years.
- 2 The province needs to grow rapidly to provide enough jobs for its increasing labour force.
- 3 The Chief Minister asked the IGC to help develop a growth strategy for the province.
- 4 The strategy has now been adopted by the government as its official Growth Strategy.

Researchers – Ijaz Nabi (IGC Pakistan Country Director), Naved Hamid (Lahore School of Economics) and Ali Cheema (Center of Economic Research in Pakistan) (and others) Partner Organisation – Government of Punjab

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[www.theigc.org/?p=8862](http://www.theigc.org/?p=8862)



## Gender empowerment and productivity in the garment sector

 Firms  
Bangladesh (and others)



Sustained increases in income are not possible without increases in productivity. This cross-country study compares the efficiency of production lines in hundreds of firms which make ready-made garments (RMG) typically staffed by women. 10 countries are being studied including five IGC countries: Bangladesh, Myanmar, Pakistan, India-Central and Ethiopia. The research will help gain insights into which factors affect productivity in developing countries.

The researchers will study productivity by looking at sewing sections in garment factories and measuring efficiency by analysing the average

number of minutes a factory takes to sew a specific piece of garment. This data will be compared against international standards which will allow the researchers to accurately compare firms across countries. In particular, the researchers will compare the productivity of lower-income countries such as Bangladesh and Myanmar against the performance of countries such as Sri Lanka, China and Indonesia which are perceived to have higher productivity.

The data collection exercise is going to be large and complicated: the data involved comes from a variety of different reports and each factory keeps data in different ways.

For an idea of scale, a typical factory with 20 production lines results in about 300,000 pieces of data each year. Once compiled, this data will be the most comprehensive dataset ever collected on the manufacturing sectors in low-income countries.

The main stakeholders in this project are owners and workers in the RMG sector. Once the data is collected, the IGC will hold dissemination events with factory owners and workers representatives to track the impact of our findings. This data will then be made freely available to researchers and stakeholders through a dedicated website.

### In brief



- 1 New IGC study will collect data on productivity in ready-made garment factories across the world.
- 2 Information will be compared against international standards to accurately compare factories in ten countries (including five IGC partner countries).
- 3 This will be the most comprehensive data ever collected on the manufacturing sectors of low-income countries.



Researchers – *Chris Woodruff (University of Warwick) and Rocco Macchiavello (University of Warwick)*

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## Assessing the economic impacts of Ebola in Liberia and Sierra Leone

  State and Firms  
Liberia and Sierra Leone



Much of the response to the Ebola outbreak has been based on anecdotal or unreliable data. This makes effective and informed policymaking very difficult. This IGC initiative aims to support the governments of Liberia and Sierra Leone by producing and disseminating credible data and analysis to ensure that policy responses are evidence based, effective, and well targeted.

The IGC launched a specialised call for proposals to fund projects and match researchers with evolving policy demands. In Liberia, projects are assessing the socio-economic impact, effects on trust in state capacities, and the impact on the public's healthcare-seeking behaviour. In Sierra Leone, IGC researchers evaluated the impact of the crisis on prices and quantities, and the performance of cordoned vs non-cordoned regions. Herbert M'cleod (Country Director for IGC Sierra Leone), has become part of a team responsible for the government's revised Ebola Recovery Strategy.

IGC researchers have found that since the onset of the Ebola Crisis, employment in urban Sierra Leone has decreased from 75% to 67%. In a survey undertaken in Monrovia (Liberia) researchers found that nearly half of the respondents had lost their job since the start of the outbreak.



91% of respondents blamed Ebola for this decline in employment. IGC researchers in Sierra Leone have found that food prices have remained broadly stable, but there are some markets where prices are substantially higher than average.

The IGC has disseminated research findings to nearly 1,000 stakeholders including DFID, the World Bank, the IMF, USAID, the UN World Food Programme, the FAO, and the Africa Governance Initiative (AGI). There is also a dedicated web page to centrally collate research findings and data.

Finally, this work has attracted significant media attention from outlets such as the New York Times, the BBC, the Huffington Post, The Times, Reuters, Bloomberg, The Conversation and the Daily Mail.

### In brief

- 1 The IGC is supporting the governments of Liberia and Sierra Leone to ensure their policy responses to Ebola are evidence-based.
- 2 Researchers found little evidence of effects on food security or prices, but significant falls in employment.
- 3 Findings have been cited in reports by the UN, World Bank, and European Commission.
- 4 The recent Ebola outbreak highlighted the need for economists to assess the impacts of economic crises.

Researchers – *Various*  
Partner Organisation – *Government of Liberia and Government of Sierra Leone*

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[www.theigc.org/?p=9897](http://www.theigc.org/?p=9897)



## The role of government in sustaining mobility and accessibility in Rwanda



Journey times, costs, and the congestion challenges that come with rapid urbanisation are the greatest impediment to business development in Rwanda. IGC Rwanda was asked to host a conference on the key issues Rwanda must face in order to urbanise successfully. MINECOFIN (The Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning) requested that one panel address urban transport.

The IGC researchers reviewed planned road sector improvements and recommended how policies and implementation could be reformed to meet ambitious road sector targets.

The study highlights the importance of proper sequencing and developing synergies across priority investments. In Kigali, the researchers recommend optimising the use of existing road capacity through improved traffic engineering and management, in parallel with increasing the reliability and coverage of buses; these measures would establish the proper foundation for the planned bus priority schemes and parking supply management. The researchers recommended compact, mixed-use neighbourhoods with adequate walk and bicycle facilities. Improvements to the institutions managing transport included, for example, reductions in institutional

overlap and efforts to ensure clearer lines of accountability.

The President's Strategy and Policy Unit contacted the IGC to say the President was interested by the conference, and they briefed him on the contents of this note. The government requested further work in this area, which is now integrated into the IGC's ongoing work on affordable housing in Kigali.



### In brief

- 1 The need to avoid congestion blighting efficiency is the greatest challenge to business development in Rwanda.
- 2 Journey times and costs as well as rapid urbanisation pose a significant impediment to business productivity.
- 3 IGC researchers suggested a number of ways to improve policies and implementation.
- 4 The paper was presented at the March 2014 urbanisation conference, with discussion from key stakeholders. The President expressed interest in this work and is now integrated into the IGC's work on affordable housing.

Researchers – *Jit Bajpai (The World Bank)* Partner Organisation – *Rwanda Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN), Rwanda Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA) and The World Bank*

**READ MORE**  
[www.theigc.org/?p=10349](http://www.theigc.org/?p=10349)

## How the natural gas boom could expand industrial development in Tanzania



Major exploration of the Indian Ocean Basin around Tanzania has uncovered enormously important gas fields. Today, Tanzania ranks 28th in international rankings of discovered reserves. It is popularly believed that this new resource will bring large economic benefits to Tanzanian citizens. The Government of Tanzania faces the challenge of ensuring that the development of extractive industries translates into real job creation and growth.

IGC researcher Professor John Sutton was invited by the Bank of Tanzania to be the guest lecturer for the 7th Gilman Rutihinda Memorial Lecture. Building on his work on the Enterprise Map of Tanzania, this presentation centred on the potential to integrate Tanzanian firms into the industry supply chain and subsequently expand upstream and downstream sectors of the Tanzanian offshore gas industry.

After the lecture, Professor Sutton met with a variety of stakeholders, including the government-appointed task-

force on natural gas policy, to discuss his proposals in more detail. He advised the establishment of a Local Content Unit to help identify and recruit local firms that could serve as sub-contractors and suppliers in the industry supply chain. To take advantage of the gas industry's potential to generate broader sector growth and employment, Professor Sutton advocated that authorities immediately initiate discussions with offshore gas multinationals to identify sectors that could supply the multinationals' needs and demands. He also suggested the establishment of an Enterprise Development Centre which would train these companies to bring their services and practices up to international standards. Professor Sutton recommended that partner multinational corporations develop a cohort of Tanzanians with expertise on international sub-contracting practices.

The presentation was well-received by the Bank of Tanzania, and a Local Content Unit has now been set up by the Government of Tanzania.



### In brief

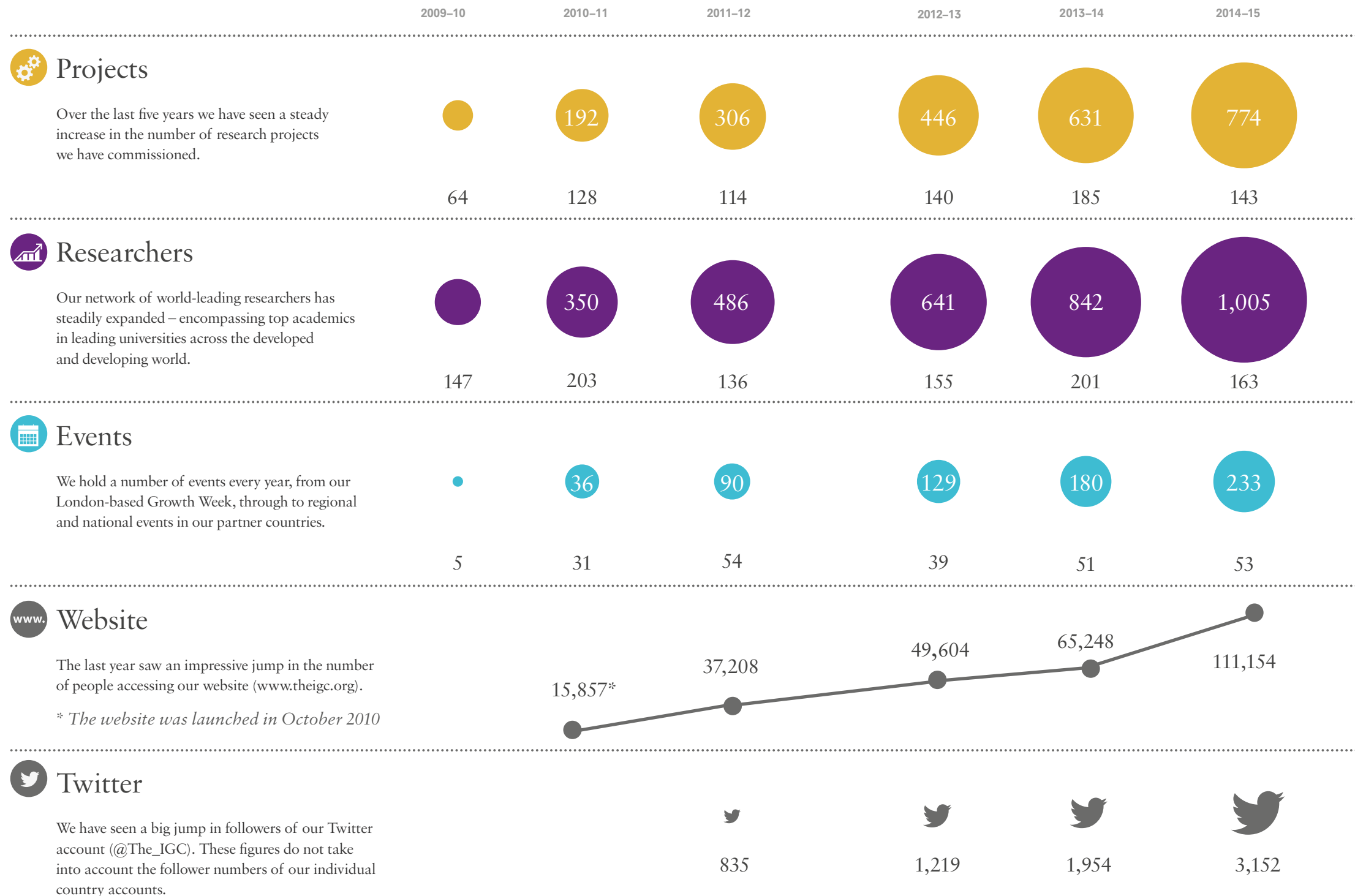
- 1 An estimated 45–55 trillion cubic feet of fields containing natural gas have been discovered in Tanzania since 2010.
- 2 Translating this natural resource wealth into growth and employment is a key challenge for the government.
- 3 Research by Professor John Sutton in this area has emphasised how a natural gas boom could facilitate an expansion of industrial activities.
- 4 The work was presented to stakeholders in June 2014 and was well-received by the Governor of the Bank of Tanzania, Benno Ndulu. A Local Content Unit has now been set up.

Researcher – *John Sutton (LSE)*  
Partner Organisation – *Bank of Tanzania, Uongozi Institute*

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[www.theigc.org/?p=4095](http://www.theigc.org/?p=4095)



The IGC was founded in 2009 and since then has seen impressive growth across our range of activities.



KEY:



774

Projects  
2009–2015

1,005

Researchers  
2009–2015

233

Events  
2009–2015

191

Media mentions  
2014–2015

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# Our events

The IGC held 53 events in 2014–2015, ranging from research dissemination discussions, to capacity building workshops, to thematic conferences. Here are some highlights.

233  
EVENTS SINCE  
THE IGC FORMED

June 2014



## Public Lecture: Professor John Sutton – Local Content and Tanzania’s Industrial Development

10 June 2014  
*Dar es Salaam,  
Tanzania*

Professor John Sutton (IGC and LSE) delivered the Bank of Tanzania’s Memorial Lecture on the gains from Natural Gas. The lecture was chaired by the Governor of the Bank of Tanzania and was attended by over 150 stakeholders.

July 2014



## Africa Growth Forum 2014

15–17 June 2014  
*Accra, Ghana*

The IGC’s second Africa Growth Forum was organised in partnership with the Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Ghana. Over 200 academics and policymakers from across Africa and the world discussed issues of economic growth.



## OECD-AfDB Seminar on Investment in African Infrastructure

15 July 2014  
*Paris, France*

This seminar focused on resolving policy impediments to private investment in African infrastructure. It was jointly organised by the IGC, the OECD and AfDB and brought together a range of stakeholders including government representatives and development finance institutions.



## IGC-ISI India Development Policy Conference 2014

17–18 July 2014  
*Delhi, India*

The IGC India-Central team’s fifth annual conference brought together researchers and policymakers to discuss prominent IGC research, discuss India’s growth and development and to identify questions for future research.

September 2014



## Growth Week 2014

23–25 September 2014  
*London, UK*

Growth Week again brought together over 300 leading researchers and policymakers to discuss key growth issues affecting all developing countries. It also featured public lectures by key decision-makers such as the President of the African Development Bank.

November 2014



## Seminar: Gender Equality and Productivity in the Bangladeshi Garment Industry

19 November 2014  
*Dhaka, Bangladesh*

Professors Chris Woodruff and Rocco Macchiavello (IGC) presented their research which analysed the impact of a training program on female garment workers in Bangladesh.

February 2015



## Rwandan Coffee Sector Conference

9 February 2015  
*Kigali, Rwanda*

This event stimulated discussion on the coffee sector in Rwanda, specifically the need for more fully washed coffee, and the new Rwandan Coffee Policy. It was opened by the Rwandan Minister of Agriculture and closed by the Rwandan Ministry of Trade.

July 2015



## East Africa Mobile Money Forum

17–18 July 2015  
*Kampala, Uganda*

Opened by the Governor of the Bank of Uganda and closed by the Ugandan Minister of Finance, this conference provided an integrated perspective on the impact of mobile money on the macro economy. It was co-hosted with UNCDF and the World Bank.



READ MORE  
[www.theigc.org/?p=210](http://www.theigc.org/?p=210)



The IGC is managed by a *Steering Group* of top researchers from around the world.

**Steering Group**

Professor Robin Burgess

Director  
Professor of Economics,  
London School of Economics  
and Political Science (LSE)

Professor Paul Collier

Director  
Professor of Economics,  
University of Oxford

Professor Tim Besley

Professor of Economics  
and Political Science,

London School of Economics  
and Political Science (LSE)

Professor Chang-Tai Hsieh  
Professor of Economics,  
University of Chicago

Professor Tony Venables

Professor of Economics,  
University of Oxford

Professor Jonathan Leape

Executive Director  
Associate Professor of Economics,  
London School of Economics  
and Political Science (LSE)

**Senior Management Team**

Professor Jonathan Leape

Executive Director

Dr Adnan Khan

Research and Policy Director

Sarah Lyness

Evaluation and  
Communications Director

Jo Underwood

Chief Administrative Officer

Mike Cole

Chief Finance Officer

The IGC's research programmes are led by 16 *Research Programme Directors (RPDs)* who are each, respectively, world leading specialists in one of the IGC's four research themes: *State, Firms, Cities, and Energy*.

Professor Oriana Bandiera

State RPD  
Professor of Economics,  
London School of Economics  
and Political Science (LSE)

Professor Henrik Kleven

State RPD  
Professor of Economics,  
London School of Economics  
and Political Science (LSE)

Professor Eliana La Ferrara

State RPD  
Professor of Economics,  
Bocconi University

Professor Gerard Padró i Miquel

State RPD  
Professor of Economics,  
London School of Economics  
and Political Science (LSE)

Professor Nick Bloom

Firms RPD  
Professor of Economics,  
Stanford University

Professor Greg Fischer

Firms RPD  
Lecturer in Economics,  
London School of Economics  
and Political Science (LSE)

Professor Imran Rasul

Firms RPD  
Professor of Economics,  
University College London (UCL)

Professor Andrés Rodríguez-Clare

Firms RPD  
Professor of Economics,  
University of California (Berkeley)

Professor Tavneet Suri

Firms RPD  
Professor of Applied  
Economics, Massachusetts  
Institute of Technology (MIT)

Professor Christopher Udry

Firms RPD  
Professor of Economics,  
Yale University

Professor Eric Verhoogen

Firms RPD  
Associate Professor of  
Economics, Columbia University

Professor Christopher Woodruff

Firms RPD  
Professor of Economics,  
University of Warwick

Professor Gharad Bryan

Cities RPD  
Lecturer in Economics,  
London School of Economics  
and Political Science (LSE)

Professor Edward Glaeser

Cities RPD  
Professor of Economics,  
Harvard University

Professor Michael Greenstone

Energy RPD  
Professor of Economics,  
University of Chicago

Professor Nicholas Ryan

Energy RPD  
Assistant Professor of Economics,  
Yale University

IGC in-country programmes are led by *Country Directors* working with dedicated *Lead Academics*, supported by locally-based *Country Economists*. They are based in the offices of think tanks or government bodies of the relevant country.

**Bangladesh**

Dr Sultan Hafeez Rahman

Country Director

Professor Wahiduddin Mahmud

Country Advisor

Professor Ahmed Mushfiq Mobarak

Lead Academic  
Professor of Economics,  
Yale University

Professor Fahad Khalil

Lead Academic  
Professor of Economics,  
University of Washington

**India (Bihar)**

Professor Anjan Mukherji

Country Director

Dr Shaibal Gupta

Country Co-Director

Professor Maitreesh Ghatak

Lead Academic  
Professor of Economics,  
London School of Economics  
and Political Science (LSE)

Professor Ashok Kotwal

Lead Academic  
Professor of Economics,  
University of British Columbia

**Mozambique**

Dr Claudio Frischtak

Country Director

Professor Sandra Sequeira

Lead Academic  
Lecturer in Development  
Economics,  
London School of Economics  
and Political Science (LSE)

Professor Pedro Vicente

Lead Academic  
Associate Professor of Economics,  
Universidade Nova de Lisboa

**Ethiopia**

Dr Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse

Country Director

Professor Douglas Gollin

Lead Academic  
Professor of Economics,  
University of Oxford

Professor Pramila Krishnan

Lead Academic  
University Senior Lecturer,  
University of Cambridge

**India (Central)**

Dr Pronab Sen

Country Director

Professor Dilip Mookherjee

Lead Academic  
Professor of Economics,  
Boston University

Professor Eswar Prasad

Lead Academic  
Professor of Trade Policy,  
Cornell University

**Myanmar**

Dr Ian Porter

Country Director

Professor Rocco Macchiavello

Lead Academic  
Associate Professor of Economics,  
University of Warwick

**Pakistan**

Professor Ijaz Nabi

Country Director

Professor Naved Hamid

Resident Director

Professor Ali Cheema

Lead Academic  
Associate Professor of Economics,  
Lahore University of Management  
Sciences (LUMS)

Professor Asim Khwaja

Lead Academic  
Professor of International  
Finance and Development,  
Harvard Kennedy School  
of Government

**Rwanda**

Dr Richard Newfarmer  
Country Director  
Professor Andrew Zeitlin  
Lead Academic  
*Assistant Professor,  
Georgetown University*

**Sierra Leone**

Herbert M'cleod  
Country Director  
Professor Rachel Glennerster  
Lead Academic  
*Executive Director,  
Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty  
Action Lab (J-PAL)*

**South Sudan**

Dr Richard Newfarmer  
Country Director  
Peter Biar Ajak  
Country Co-Director  
Professor Nada Eissa  
Lead Academic  
*Associate Professor,  
Georgetown University*

**Tanzania**

Dr John Page  
Country Director  
Professor Christopher Adam  
Lead Academic  
*Professor of  
Development Economics,  
University of Oxford*

**Uganda**

Dr Richard Newfarmer  
Country Director  
Professor Tessa Bold  
Lead Academic  
*Professor,  
Goethe University Frankfurt*  
Professor Jakob Svensson  
Lead Academic  
*Professor of Economics,  
Stockholm University*

**Zambia**

Professor Alan Hirsch  
Country Director  
Dr Robert Liebenthal  
Country Advisor  
Professor Nava Ashraf  
Lead Academic  
*Associate Professor,  
Harvard Business School*

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[\[COUNTRY\]@theigc.org](mailto:[COUNTRY]@theigc.org)

## Summary of the year

Read more *about all our features this year*  
on the IGC website ([www.theigc.org](http://www.theigc.org))

### Public lectures

Four public lectures were held at Growth Week 2014 Donald Kabureka (President of the African Development Bank), Jitan Ram Manjhi (Chief Minister of the state of Bihar, India), Michael Greenstone (University of Chicago) and Montek Singh Ahluwali (former Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, India).

### Videos

We issued a range of new videos in 2014–2015 including Footballs in Pakistan, Health workers in Zambia, Taxation in Pakistan, The case for growth (with Tim Besley and Paul Collier) and The priorities for sustainable development.

### United Nations open letter

We initiated an open letter to the United Nations Secretary General signed by 18 world leading economists, warning that the Sustainable Development Goals will not succeed without a stronger emphasis on economic growth.

### IGC blog

We launched the new IGC blog which quickly became our most read website section. Three of the most read blogs were The age of sustainable development (Jeffrey Sachs), How employees' personality types affect productivity (Michael Callen), and Doing business with corruption (Sandra Sequeira).

### Growth briefs

We published three new Growth briefs authored by world-leading IGC researchers. Paul Collier and Caroline Laroche discussed the optimal natural resource management chain, Tony Venables highlighted the potential of developing country cities, and Ed Glaeser and Helen Sims discussed the downsides of density.





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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