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

Executive Director’s statement
Jonathan Leape analyses the impressive performance of the IGC over the last year, and charts the way forward.

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.

Our model
Promoting sustainable growth in developing countries by providing demand-led policy advice based on frontier research.

Impact case studies
08 Increasing tax compliance in Bangladesh through social recognition
09 Developing the growth strategy of the Punjab province, Pakistan
10 Gender empowerment and productivity in the garment sector
11 Assessing the economic impacts of Ebola in Liberia and Sierra Leone
12 The role of government in sustaining mobility and accessibility in Rwanda
13 How the natural gas boom could expand industrial development in Tanzania

Snapshot of growth
Showcasing the impressive growth of IGC research, our network, and our communications reach.

Our work
Providing a snapshot of the impact IGC research has had on policy in our partner country programmes.

Our events
Highlighting the success of our global events in bringing together researchers and policymakers.

Our staff
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 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)

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 examining 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.

State
At the centre of poverty reduction efforts must be an able and reliable government. It is critical to increase the resources and effectiveness of governments.

Firms
Strong firms form the core of economic activity. For developing economies to grow, so must the opportunities for their businesses and entrepreneurs.

Cities
Emerging cities have the potential to be either the greatest drivers of growth or the largest group of missed opportunities for the developing world.

Energy
Much of the developing world remains unconnected to reliable energy access, despite its potentially transformative effects.

Co-generated 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.

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.
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.
Increasing tax compliance in Bangladesh through social recognition

**State**

Bangladesh

**Partner Organisation**

Bangladesh National Board of Revenue (NBR)

Researchers

- Raj Chetty (Harvard University), Mushfiq Mobarak (Yale School of Management) and Monica Goyal (Harvard University) (and others)

In brief

1. 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 tax compliance.

2. 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 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.

3. 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.

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.

Developing the Growth Strategy of the Punjab province, Pakistan

**State**

Pakistan

**Partner Organisation**

Government of Punjab (and others)

Researchers

- Ijaz Nabi (IGC Pakistan Country Director), Naved Hamid (Lahore School of Economics) and Ali Cheema (Center of Economic Research in Pakistan) (and others)

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 strategy has now been adopted by the government as its official Growth Strategy.

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.

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

Read more

www.theigc.org/?p=5477

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.

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.

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.

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 73% 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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**IMAGES**

**IMPACT CASE STUDIES**

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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 impediments 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

How the natural gas boom could expand industrial development in Tanzania

Major exploration of the Indian Ocean Basin around Tanzania has uncovered enormous 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.

The presentation was well-received by the Government of Tanzania since 2010. Translating this natural resource wealth into growth and employment is a key challenge for the government.

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.

Researchers – John Sutton (LSE) Partner Organisation – Bank of Tanzania, Uongoi Institute

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www.theigc.org/?p=10349

READ MORE
www.theigc.org/?p=4095
The IGC was founded in 2009 and since then has seen impressive growth across our range of activities.

**Projects**
Over the last five years we have seen a steady increase in the number of research projects we have commissioned.

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**Researchers**
Our network of world-leading researchers has steadily expanded – encompassing top academics in leading universities across the developed and developing world.

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**Events**
We hold a number of events every year, from our London-based Growth Week, through to regional and national events in our partner countries.

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**Website**
The last year saw an impressive jump in the number of people accessing our website (www.theigc.org).

* The website was launched in October 2010

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**Twitter**
We have seen a big jump in followers of our Twitter account (@The_IGC). These figures do not take into account the follower numbers of our individual country accounts.

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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.

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.

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

**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

**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 Haquez Rahman**
  - Country Director
- **Professor Wahiduddin Mahmad**
  - Country Advisor
- **Professor Ahmed Mushfiq Mobarak**
  - Lead Academic
- **Professor Fahad Khalil**
  - Lead Academic
- **Professor of Economics, University of Washington**

**Indonesia**

- **Professor Anjan Mukherji**
  - Country Director
- **Dr Shazial Gupta**
  - Country Co-Director
- **Professor Maitreech Ghatak**
  - Lead Academic
- **Professor of Economics, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)**
- **Professor Ashok Korkal**
  - Lead Academic
- **Professor of Economics, University of British Columbia**

**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**

**Ghana**

- **Dr Nii Sowa**
  - Country Director
- **Dr Sam Mensah**
  - Resident Country Director
- **Professor Chris Udny**
  - Lead Academic
- **Professor of Economics, Yale University**

**India (Bihar)**

- **Professor Eric Werker**
  - Country Director
- **Professor Jonas Hjort**
  - Lead Academic
- **Assistant Professor of Finance and Economics, Columbia Business School**

**Mozambique**

- **Dr Claudio Frischak**
  - 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**

**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 Naveed Ali**
  - Resident Director
- **Professor Ali Cheema**
  - Lead Academic
- **Associate Professor of Economics, Labore University of Management Sciences (LUMS)**
- **Professor Asim Khwaja**
  - Lead Academic
- **Professor of International Finance and Development, Harvard Kennedy School of Government**

**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 Ottana 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 Elia Ferrara**

- **State RPD**
- **Professor of Economics, Bocconi University**

**Professor Gerard Padri 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**
- **Professor of Economics, University of California (Berkeley)**

**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 Tasneet Suri**

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

**Professor Christopher Udry**

- **Firms RPD**
- **Professor of Economics, Yale University**

**Professor Greg Verhoogen**

- **Firms RPD**
- **Associate Professor of Economics, Columbia University**

**Professor Christopher Woodruff**

- **Firms RPD**
- **Professor of Economics, University of Warwick**

**Professor Bharat Bhatnagar**

- **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**
Summary of the year
Read more about all our features this year on the IGC website (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).