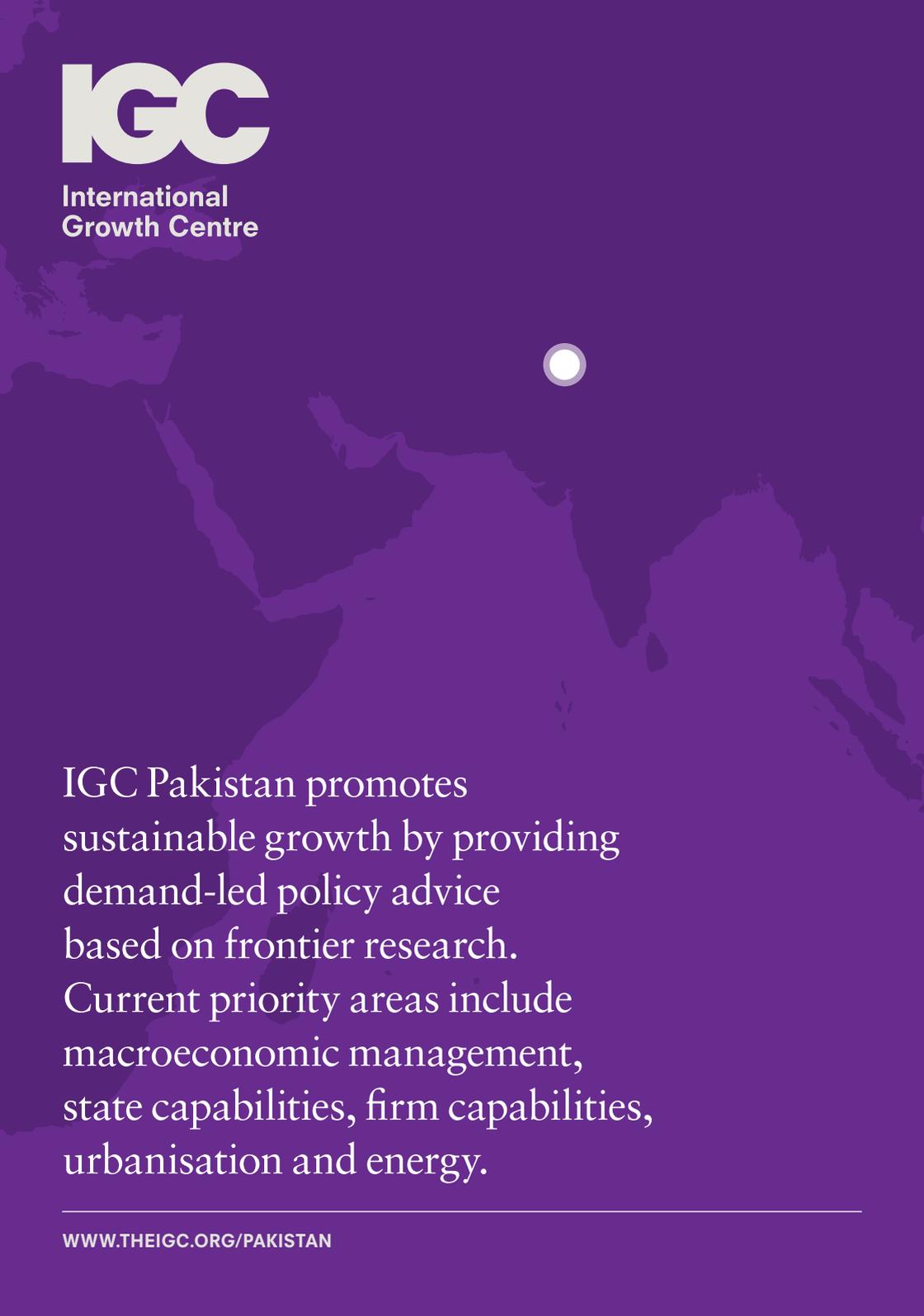




International
Growth Centre

A dark purple map of Pakistan is shown in the background. A white circle with a grey border is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the map, indicating a specific location. The map is semi-transparent, allowing the text to be overlaid.

IGC Pakistan promotes sustainable growth by providing demand-led policy advice based on frontier research. Current priority areas include macroeconomic management, state capabilities, firm capabilities, urbanisation and energy.

Dr. Ijaz Nabi

Country Director, IGC Pakistan



IGC Pakistan, in conjunction with stakeholders in the private, non-government and public sectors, uses the results of high-quality research to inform the economic decisions facing policymakers. It also provides input into formulating reforms sensitive to constraints embedded in the local context, beyond global best practices and generic reforms.

In addition, the IGC also attempts to cement the interface between policymakers and academics by providing an opportunity to local and international academics to become active participants in research, and to policymakers to become recipients of evidence-based advice.

In spite of the challenging economic and security context, recent political developments have presented significant opportunities to IGC Pakistan for deepening its policy work and engaging in meaningful demand-based policy research. With the continuation of the democratic process in Pakistan, following the May 2013 elections, there is an increased likelihood of forging a consensus on policy reform.

HISTORY OF THE PROGRAMME

The IGC Programme in Pakistan was initiated in 2010 with the aim of improving the capacity to generate world-class policy-oriented research on reform issues critical to sustained economic growth. Housed in the country's leading academic institution, the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), it is guided by a team consisting of Dr. Ijaz Nabi (Country Director), Dr. Naved Hamid (Resident Director), Dr. Ali Cheema (Lead Academic) and Dr. Asim Khwaja (Lead Academic).

The programme currently focuses on five inter-related policy areas for growth – macroeconomic management, state capabilities, firm capabilities, urbanisation and energy. Key programme deliverables include: policy-oriented research publications; rapid responses to meet the immediate need of policymakers;

and collaborative dialogues with key stakeholders – all aimed at cultivating ownership to sustain momentum of critical policy reforms.

Since its inception, IGC Pakistan has supported the Federal Government on several policy issues. It is now not only engaged with the provincial governments of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces on medium-term economic planning, but has also formed new partnerships with the private sector. At the same time, the programme also continues to link policymakers and local academics with international researchers from highly reputable international universities like Harvard, Princeton, Columbia, Oxford and London School of Economics, as well as leading local universities.



stephanemgrueso

IGC Pakistan is currently engaged in a number of projects with leading academics from around the world.



Punjab Growth Strategy 2018, Pakistan

IGC Pakistan Country Team

The Chief Minister of Punjab, Pakistan, requested IGC to assist in the formulation of the Punjab Growth Strategy 2018 (PGS, 2018). The request arose from the need to fulfill Punjab's vision of inclusive economic growth. The strategy aims to achieve a high economic growth rate, increase employment and enhance the productivity of resources. The IGC has assisted in the development of the Medium Term Development Framework 2018 and the Annual Development Plan 2014–15, which is aligned with the objectives and outcomes of the Growth Strategy. It has been formulated by the Planning & Development Department with the input of an esteemed group of economists and sector experts, and assistance from IGC.

IGC is currently assisting in the development of sector work plans for line departments based on the PGS.



Monitoring the Monitors (MTM): Using ICT to improve health governance in Punjab, Pakistan

Michael Callen (*Harvard Kennedy School*), Syedain Ali Hasanain, Saad Ahmad Gulzar (*NYU*) and Muhammad Yasir Khan (*IGC*) MTM tested the impact of a smartphone-based monitoring system on health worker attendance and facility outcomes in Punjab, Pakistan. The project was funded by the IGC and managed by academics from leading local and international universities. The pilot study conducted in Khanewal District in Punjab showed that the program is creating a positive change, and this intervention will now be replicated in eighteen districts of Punjab. The use of technology prevented the health workers from sending fabricated information without visiting the health facilities. Executive District Officers use the system extensively for managing the performance of Deputy District Officers. The MTM project has the potential to improve healthcare provision in Punjab by delivering data on resource utilisation to managers who rely critically on this information – in real time. It holds strong promise for service delivery management in many sectors in the country.

Transforming Punjab

Smart monitoring and reporting – using mobiles to improve monitoring and data collection (Bahawalpur)



Punjab Growth Strategy



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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