



International
Growth Centre

A dark purple silhouette of the African continent is centered on the page. A small white circle with a dark purple outline is positioned in the eastern part of the continent, specifically over the region of East Africa, indicating the location of IGC Uganda.

IGC Uganda promotes sustainable growth by providing demand-led policy advice based on frontier research. The programme focuses on managing resources for growth, promoting regional integration, improved monetary management, investments in people to raise incomes, and inclusive growth.

Dr. Richard Newfarmer

Country Director, IGC Uganda



Since its founding in 2012, the IGC Uganda Country Programme has delivered research and policy advice within the priority areas identified by government. We have been especially pleased to collaborate with our host institution, the Bank of Uganda. In addition, we have collaborated closely with the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development as well as the Office of the Prime Minister, the Ministry of Education and Sports and Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, the Uganda Bureau of Statistics, and the National Planning Authority, the Economic Policy Research Centre at Makerere University, among others.

A diverse programme has seen fruitful contributions to questions posed by our partners in government and in the larger development community. These range from how to think about pursuing public-private partnerships, explore what opportunities there are for tax and monetary policy choices in light of regional integration, or how to understand the impact of large-scale asset-transfer programmes. Our network of international researchers and a permanent in-country presence have allowed us to offer collaborative assistance to the policy-making process as we respond to government's needs.

HISTORY OF THE PROGRAMME

The IGC Uganda Country Programme has been generously hosted at the Bank of Uganda since it opened in 2012. Priority areas include managing resources and monetary policy, the regional integration process, raising incomes and inclusive growth.

Amongst others, highlights of past work include: research into the real integration of economic activity within the EAC; the evolution of public expenditure priorities in light of natural resource revenues; the options and strategies for financing fiscal deficits within the country; and a conference to explore how best to harness public-private partnerships.

One of the Programme's most prominent contributions in Uganda was the Africa Growth Forum in 2013. Co-hosted by the Bank of Uganda and the Ministry of Finance,



Planning and Economic Development, the forum brought together top policymakers from across Africa and the world's leading experts to discuss growth throughout the region.

As the priorities of the Ugandan government evolve, the IGC will expand to cover new research areas. The team looks forward to a vigorously growing programme, and the emergence of even stronger partnerships.



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

The Impact Evaluation of the Second Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF2) implemented by the Office of the Prime Minister is one of IGC Uganda's flagship projects. Our [evaluation of the Household Income Support Programme component](#), which transfers livestock to the poorest, will provide a robust understanding of the mechanisms through which a major social support programme lift the poorest out of poverty. The conclusions of the evaluation could feed into the design of similar projects in Uganda, and elsewhere.

The [Fiscal Capacity and Tax Revenues](#) in Uganda project targets low domestic revenue generation, which hampers Uganda's growth trajectory. It is aimed at enhancing tax audits by assigning auditors to cases based on the best match of case and auditor characteristics. If effective, it could become a model for other tax administrations.

In support of [East African regional integration](#), IGC Uganda is working on the impact of operations and maintenance expenditures shortfalls on long-term fiscal sustainability. Our application of this work to the cases of EAC member countries will enable the creation of medium and long-term expenditure frameworks and models

to improve fiscal efficiency and provide more resources for growth.

With agricultural productivity improvement being a priority for government, our research in this area aims to understand [barriers to technological adaption by farmers](#). The study will be the first empirical assessment of the prevalence of fake seeds and fertilisers in Africa and the distribution of economic returns resulting from inputs at different scales purchased from the market. The resulting empirical evidence of the size and source of the problem will allow policymakers to design more effective intervention strategies in this widely known but under-researched topic area.

IGC Uganda is also partnering with the Economic Policy Research Centre at Makerere University to produce a robust analysis of poverty dynamics since 2006 using the four available Ugandan National Panel Surveys. The focus will be on regional differences. The results will inform policymakers on poverty trends and potential explanatory factors in movements out but also back in to poverty.

IGC LOCATIONS

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

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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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