


Boston University Global Development Policy Center

POLICY RESEARCH FOR A BETTER WORLD

A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE
BU GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY CENTER

A partnership with:

 Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies

 Office of Research



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Global Development Policy Center's (GDP Center) mission is to advance policy-oriented research for financial stability, human well-being, and environmental sustainability. The GDP Center is a university-wide research center in partnership with the Frederick S. Pardee School for Global Studies and the Office of Research at Boston University. The ambition of the GDP Center is to be recognized for its intellectual leadership and global engagement. The strategic plan we share with you outlines the five pillars of our first five-year plan.

There are two aspects of the GDP Center that will make it unique among development-oriented centers across other academic institutions. First and foremost, the GDP Center recognizes that the development process is complex and thus we will necessarily be interdisciplinary in our approach. To that end, we have assembled a faculty steering committee from the schools of law, engineering, business, public health, earth and environmental studies, economics, and global studies at Boston University.

Second, the GDP Center will put a premium on global engagement—generating concrete policy lessons from rigorous research and advancing such lessons into the global discourse. The GDP Center strives to not only be a university-based *think* tank, but also a *do* tank.

As the first director of the GDP Center, I am honored to begin this journey. To that end, the pages that follow outline the Center's integrative mission and bold ambition, and five strategic objectives to fulfill the Center's aspirations.

Let the journey begin.

Kevin P. Gallagher





AN INTEGRATIVE MISSION WITH BOLD AMBITIONS

Our mission is to advance policy-relevant knowledge for financial stability, human well-being & environmental sustainability across the globe.

Four Research Initiatives

Human Capital Initiative (HCI)

The Human Capital Initiative (HCI) advances interdisciplinary research on the role of human capital in human development to inform policy solutions to global challenges including poverty, women's empowerment, and sustainable economic growth through investments in education and health.

Land Use & Livelihoods Initiative (LULI)

The Land Use and Livelihoods Initiative (LULI) advances policy-relevant, interdisciplinary research on the impacts of international institutions, domestic policies, and local practices on ecosystem and human well-being in regions with commodity based resource extraction.

Global China Initiative (GCI)

The Global China Initiative (GCI) examines the extent to which Chinese overseas development finance can help trigger a transformation toward a greener and more socially inclusive world economy.

Global Economic Governance Initiative (GEGI)

The Global Economic Governance Initiative (GEGI) examines the extent to which international economic institutions can foster financial stability and sustainable development.



“ Not only a university-based *think* tank, but also a *do* tank ”

[From upper left]→

Group photo from T20 workshop hosted at the BU GDP Center

Table photo of T20 workshop in Beijing co-hosted by IWEP/CASS, UNCTAD, and the GDP Center

Human Capital Initiative Fieldwork Photo

The eighth Secretary-General of the UN Ban Ki-moon with GDP Center Director Kevin P. Gallagher and Pardee School Dean Adil Najam

GDP Center Director Kevin P. Gallagher presenting at the Wilson Center



FIVE YEARS FIVE PILLARS

Over the next five years, the GDP Center is committed to upholding the five pillars outlined in this strategic plan.



- Pillar 1.** Foster a global development policy **community at Boston University**
- Pillar 2.** Advance **scholarly knowledge** of global development policy
- Pillar 3.** Engage in global **policy dialogue**
- Pillar 4.** Support **student research & experiential learning**
- Pillar 5.** Build a **global support base**



POLICY RESEARCH FOR A BETTER WORLD

1

P I L L A R O N E

**FOSTER A
GLOBAL
DEVELOPMENT
COMMUNITY AT
BOSTON
UNIVERSITY**

Build a policy research community at BU

A key objective of the GDP Center will be to foster a global development policy research community at Boston University. This will be fulfilled by the formation of multi-faculty research initiatives housed and supported by the GDP Center.

To recruit and foster this community the Center will:

Establish a faculty steering committee

The aim will be to attract a steering committee that represents BU's core development constituencies.

The steering committee will serve as a sounding board for GDP Center activity, help shape our strategy, as well as identify and cultivate research initiatives.

Create a seed funding program to form research clusters

The seed funding program will allow faculty at BU to lay the foundation for interdisciplinary, policy-oriented research initiatives that dovetail with the GDP Center's mission.

Recruit a group of core faculty that actively participates in research initiatives

Each research initiative will have an associate director(s) and involve at least three core faculty from across BU.

Host lectures, workshops, and conferences

Our hosted events will encourage active engagement with the GDP Center and our mission while continuing to build our thriving community.



President Robert A. Brown of Boston University with BU students and alumni at our kick-off event in Washington, D.C.



Associate Director of the Human Capital Initiative Mahesh Karra listening to the eighth Secretary-General of the UN Ban Ki-moon at our inaugural event in February 2018.



Provost Jean Morrison of Boston University with Jin Liqun, President of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and former BU Humphrey Fellow, at our Washington, D.C. event, April 2018.



P I L L A R T W O

ADVANCE SCHOLARLY KNOWLEDGE ON GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT



The GDP Center co-hosted the 23rd New Structural Economics (NSE) International Development Forum in Beijing, China with colleagues at the Institute of New Structural Economics at Peking University.



A breakout session at our inaugural Land Use & Livelihoods Initiative (LULI) workshop with LULI Associate Director Julie Klinger.



Workshop in Jaunpur, India with Human Capital Initiative Associate Director Mahesh Karra and Summer in the Field Fellow Federico Pisani.

Create a working paper series for each of the established research initiatives to promote preliminary research generated by core faculty and participants in the Center's workshops and conferences.

Convene scholarly workshops, conferences, and lectures where scholars across disciplines come together to address key aspects of global development.

Publish in peer-reviewed scholarly journals and book outlets in order to establish BU and the GDP Center as a place of excellence in development research.

3

P I L L A R T H R E E

ENGAGE IN GLOBAL POLICY DIALOGUE



GDP Center Director Kevin P. Gallagher and the eighth Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon during our inaugural ceremony in Boston, February 2018.



LULI Associate Director Julie Klinger during a presentation in Brazil.

Strong emphasis on global engagement

The GDP Center will hire a full-time outreach and communication specialist to work with the research initiatives to generate:

Policy Briefs and Reports that synthesize the key lessons and recommendations stemming from rigorous academic research generated by the Center.

Media Attention in traditional and social media outlets when major Center publications are advanced and when core faculty members' research is relevant to timely global events.

Policy Workshops where GDP Center faculty and fellows directly engage with policymakers to generate new ideas for scholarly research and to advance the results of Center research to policy makers.

Visiting Scholars that come to the GDP Center to participate in the Center's research initiatives and beyond.

Global Partnerships with like-minded centers and institutions in countries outside of the United States.

Global Policy Advisory Board that can provide informal advice to the GDP Center about advancing the fruits of its research to the global policy community.

Global Development Policy Award that sheds light on policy-oriented scholars and practitioners who exemplify the ideals of the Center. This award will not only bring the frontiers of development thinking and practice to BU, but will also send a signal outside of the University that will help brand and advance our mission.



GEGI Post-doctoral Fellow Rebecca Ray presenting in Quito, Ecuador.



GDP Center Post-doctoral Fellow Youyi Zhang asking questions to Jin Liqun, President of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), and Jose Antonio Ocampo, Co-chair of the Central Bank of Colombia, at a GDP Center event in Washington, D.C.



P I L L A R F O U R

SUPPORT STUDENT RESEARCH & EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Students form the heart of our university. A measure of success for excellence will be the extent to which the Center can attract and eventually help place high level, policy research oriented graduate students.

We will establish two robust programs to engage students:

Pre and post-doctoral fellowship programs where PhD students and/or recent graduates will attach themselves to the GDP Center's research initiatives.

'Summer in the Field' program where PhD and graduate students will work on development projects in foreign countries during the summer recess.

Summer in the Field



Anna Garick, a BU UROP recipient and CAS Earth & Environment undergraduate student, in Brazil with LULI Associate Director Rachael Garrett.



Associate Director of Land Use & Livelihoods Initiative (LULI) Julie Klinger with Bridget Baker (Pardee '18) during fieldwork in the Amazon.



Summer in the Field Fellow & CAS Economics Department PhD candidate Gedeon Lim in Indonesia.



P I L L A R F I V E

The GDP Center gives special thanks to our inaugural group of funders:



CHARLES STEWART

MOTT FOUNDATION



Rockefeller
Brothers Fund

Philanthropy for an Interdependent World

GORDON AND BETTY
MOORE
FOUNDATION



UNITED NATIONS
UNCTAD



JAPAN FOUNDATION

MacArthur
Foundation



ClimateWorks
FOUNDATION

BUILD A GLOBAL SUPPORT BASE

We will require resources beyond the operational support generously provided by the Vice President and Associate Provost for Research & the Dean of the Pardee School.

A key indicator of excellence will be the ability **to attract additional financial resources to support the research and policy initiatives** advanced by the GDP Center and to ensure a long-lasting legacy of these issues at Boston University.

To this end, the GDP Center will:

Create a sponsored research platform to assist research initiatives in efforts to generate sponsored research activity. The GDP Center will work with the associate directors of each research initiative and with BU's development office to identify sponsored research opportunities, develop proposals, and process the execution of subsequent grants to the Center and its initiatives.

Build an alumni advisory board in constant dialogue with Boston University alumni to generate financial support for various initiatives and provide advice on Center activities.



The eighth Secretary-General of the UN Ban Ki-moon and Provost Jean Morrison of Boston University at the inaugural event for the GDP Center.



Audience at the GDP Center inaugural event at Boston University.

YEAR 1

2

✓ By Year 1

- ❑ **Design a strategic plan** that is approved by the Vice President and Associate Provost for Research and the Dean of the Pardee School.
- ❑ **Hire a committed professional staff.**
- ❑ **Establish a faculty steering committee and an initial group of 6-8 core faculty members.**
- ❑ **Establish a seed research program, Summer in the Field program, and doctoral fellows programs.**
- ❑ **Establish a working paper and policy brief series** and system for tracking progress toward peer-reviewed publication.
- ❑ **Establish a media and outreach presence and strategy** through a web page, social media accounts, and email campaign capabilities.
- ❑ **Establish initial collaborative research arrangements overseas and establish a visiting scholar program.**
- ❑ **Begin work on establishing an alumni advisory board and establish inaugural members of global policy advisory board.**
- ❑ **Hold a major event to launch the Center** and award the first “Global Development Policy” prize.



Jin Liqun, President of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), and Jose Antonio Ocampo, Co-chair of the Central Bank of Colombia, with GDP Center Director Kevin Gallagher at our kick-off event in Washington, D. C.



Ban Ki-moon, eighth Secretary-General of the United Nations, speaking at the GDP Center inaugural event at Boston University.

3

✓ By Year 3

- ❑ **Have at least two considerable research initiatives** that engage multiple core faculty and generate external funding.
- ❑ **Establish an alumni advisory board to help build a global support base.**
- ❑ **Generate sponsored research funding and alumni gifts** that match the amount of operational funds provided by the Vice President and Associate Provost for Research & the Dean of the Pardee School.
- ❑ **Generate an initial wave of peer-reviewed publications, media attention, and policy engagement.**

4

5

✓ By Year 5

- ❑ **Have at least three total research initiatives** that engage multiple core faculty and generate external funding.
- ❑ **Generate sponsored research funding and alumni gifts** that exceed the amount of operational funds provided by the Vice President and Associate Provost for Research & the Dean of the Pardee School.
- ❑ **Earn a reputation as a burgeoning Center of excellence** after undergoing an internal and external evaluation process at Boston University.




Workshop hosted by Boston University's Global Development Policy (GDP) Center, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Institute of World Economics and Politics (IWEP) at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) in support of the T-20 Task Force on 'An International Financial Architecture for Stability and Development.'



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