

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



The Global Development Network (GDN) is a public international organization that supports high quality, policy-oriented, social science research in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs), to promote better lives. We promote research on the premise that contextualized and locally driven research leads to more informed policies, increased policy ownership, better informed implementation, and more sustainable and inclusive development choices. GDN also enables research capacity strengthening across countries and disciplines.

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# PREFACE



**Innovation and continuity.** These have been the drivers of GDN's initiatives in 2022.

Innovation, because the world is changing fast, requiring constant adaptation. We have witnessed innovation in communications, with the development of webinars and hybrid conferences; in methods and practices, with policy labs connecting researchers and societal actors, and with GDN supporting novel ways to think and conduct evaluation for development finance. We are expanding our thematic areas with an increasing focus on generating evidence on the state of Southern research systems, recognizing that the use of research for policy is, in itself, an important

research topic. Our buoyant partnerships in developing countries and major donors helped us operate and increase our effectiveness and impact. Moreover, with the imminent opening of the new GDN office in Clermont-Ferrand, France, GDN has evolved into a decentralized organization, with institutional presence in three continents and research fellows thriving across the world.

Continuity, because GDN's mission has never been more crucial in a world where scientific approaches are paradoxically at the same time accepted and questioned. Never before has the scientific effort – in hard and social sciences - been called upon like this to address current challenges - from health to education, from environment to sustainable development policies. The effective mobilization of social science for development requires high quality research by developing country researchers. This is not only because they are best placed to understand the local environment, but also because research is more than a scientific product; it is an 'engine for ideas'. Through its programs in 2022, described in this report, GDN has once again demonstrated that there is huge scope for innovation and impact in international support to research for development and research capacity building in developing countries.

**Pierre Jacquet**  
Former President,  
Global Development Network (2012-22)

"GDN has once again demonstrated that there is huge scope for innovation and impact in international support to research for development and research capacity building in developing countries."



A major development for GDN at the end of 2022 is the transition in leadership. As of January 1, 2023, Professor Jean-Louis Arcand, a Canadian economist and professor of economics at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva has been appointed President of GDN. Jean-Louis will be GDN's fifth president, succeeding Pierre Jacquet, who served in the role for more than a decade. The Board and I are delighted to have been able to recruit such a strong candidate for this critical post, and I know that Jean-Louis will devote all his time and energy to pursue the work of his predecessors, with the support of partners, staff, donors and the Board. As for Pierre Jacquet's considerable contribution to GDN's

mission during his 10-year long tenure, in the name of the Board and for myself, I want to express our gratitude and admiration to Pierre for managing GDN over his mandates and being successful in defining better its mission, in the service of policy research capacity building for development, and in designing a viable long-term strategy. He will always be an important part of GDN's DNA.



Jean-Louis assumes the leadership of the organization at a crucial time, when GDN embarks on a new strategic period and aims to solidify its niche in

the global development arena, catalyzing development research and evidence globally and promoting knowledge and voices from the Global South to inform and improve policy at national, regional and global levels, across a wide range of thematic areas. As Chair of the Board of Directors, I would like to ensure Jean-Louis of our support as he gears up to lead the organization, putting his vast experience in fundraising for research to use, while strengthening GDN's institutional structure from within.

**François Bourguignon**  
Chair, GDN Board of Directors

"The Board and I are delighted to have been able to recruit such a strong candidate for this critical post, and I know that Jean-Louis will devote all his time and energy to pursue the work of his predecessors, with the support of partners, staff, donors and the Board."



Photo credit: GDN

## GDN AND THE KNOWLEDGE FOR DEVELOPMENT AGENDA DURING THE LAST DECADE

I joined GDN in 2012 with the conviction that the knowledge-for-development agenda was a necessary and even crucial feature of all efforts to promote development. If anything, the last 10 years have further strengthened that conviction and I leave GDN proud that the organization could make its way and innovate in troubled times to support that agenda.

GDN has streamlined its identity and activities over the last decade.

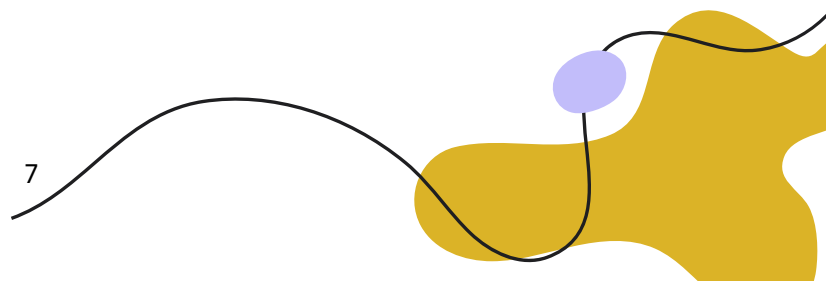
### **Catalyst and Organizer**

GDN has become a catalyst and organizer of diverse partnerships aligned with the

objectives of strengthening research capacity in developing countries – partnerships with top level academics worldwide, with research institutions in the South and in the North, with development donors.

### **Mobilizer**

In turn, these partnerships have enabled GDN to mobilize the skills and competences of relevant actors in the research and research capacity building field, and to focus on its own value add as a trusted research-based intermediary.



## Diverse Service Provider

The organization has become a provider of a whole range of research-based services to researchers and development donors that include:



## Research Capacity Building

Through our work in developing countries for more than 20 years, GDN has learnt much about research capacity building such as:

1. Promoting social science research in developing countries and its use for policy debates and policymaking, requires looking not only at how research is generated, funded and produced, but also how it takes place and is disseminated within a system of personal and institutional

interactions between suppliers and users in a given environment. This is the essence of GDN's 'Doing Research' program, which provides a systematic analysis, conducted by local researchers and research institutions, of social science research systems in developing countries. This work allows us to better understand the kind of support that is needed to strengthen research capacity.

2. The current situation is characterized by the dominating influence of international research agendas, approaches and methods. To give agency to developing country researchers and institutions to shape their own thematic research agendas, formulate research questions, choose methodologies and define the kind of capacity building they might need, it is necessary to provide attractive opportunities to researchers and institutions to work on domestic issues but be connected through international networking, interact with reputed worldwide researchers, and see their work discussed domestically and internationally.
3. External resource persons are essential to provide tailored capacity building. This can be seen in the evaluation of the second phase of the Think Tank Initiative (TTI), which contributed to strengthening think tanks worldwide with USD 100 million. This was illustrated again through a pioneering partnership between GDN and the European Investment Bank (EIB), through which talented developing country researchers from Africa and the Caribbean had to conduct impact studies on impact investment projects funded by the EIB. Researchers were paired with external advisers who guided them, whenever necessary, from the identification of research questions and their negotiation with private sector companies, to research plan and the choice of methodologies, to the interpretation and presentation of results, and, in most cases, to the publication of the studies in an international peer-reviewed journal.
4. Capacity building is best organized as learning-by-doing research, but it needs to be organized for its own merits. Too often,



Photo credit: GDN



it is formally included and mentioned as one of the objectives of research programs and is simply expected to happen as a by-product of research work. It is important to include a capacity building component that is explicitly organized and implemented, with its own theory of change, its own monitoring, quality control and evaluation. One of the takeaways from the EIB-GDN program mentioned above has been that the main capacity building benefit for young and talented researchers was not in the technical realm, but more in the interaction with non-researchers and in the capacity to design effective research in a given, constrained environment.

5. To act on these lessons requires organization, human resources, experience and appropriate intervention technologies. This requires long term commitment and long-term funding, currently too scarce. Instead of promoting high quality research outputs in the short term, funders of development research should focus more on strengthening the capacity to produce such outputs. The horizon of successful capacity building, leading to the establishment of a research culture, is not even that of a multiyear project, and even the 10 years of the TTI, a much better horizon, leaves much uncertainty for those institutions who are not able to secure core funding enough to keep valuable

human resources. A change of approach is needed in the realm of development research funding. Instead of focusing on the research output, what is necessary is to understand research as a high-quality process through which facts and data are carefully collected and analyzed, existing academic and non-academic knowledge is critically assessed, and development challenges are considered on the basis of existing evidence. This analytical process is crucial for development. To sum up, the time has come for rethinking the “research-for-development” motto into a “research as development” vision.

This is where GDN comes in, as a trusted intermediary and a valuable partner for both Southern and Northern actors. There is some reluctance among funding agencies about working with intermediaries, as opposed to directly funding Southern institutions. The intermediary is often seen not only as adding transaction costs but also as preventing the objective of building local ownership and capacity. The points made above, I hope, highlight the value of providing research-based services that only a trusted intermediary can provide. There are costs, but as existing evaluations time and again suggest, the value that is created is more than worth those costs. GDN relies on its like-minded funding partners to continue delivering on an exciting research-as-development mission.



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## GDN PROGRAMS

### Overview

In 2022, in the midst of our global programs, GDN launched its first comprehensive regional initiative, thanks to funding from the *Agence Française de Développement* (AFD) to run a series of innovative programs in Francophone Africa. This means that we have been able to bring together much of what we have learned along the years to launch a series of complementary interventions that look at research capacity in all its facets.

In Francophone Africa, GDN is working first of all on research systems, to better understand the structural barriers and opportunities that shape the research space, with GDN's flagship Doing Research Assessments being launched in five new countries in the region. This echoes our global work, but with renewed scope for comparative insights in countries with a common history.

We also work with research institutions (both universities and think tanks), through demand-driven micro grants that support institutions to develop in line with their own research

### GDN shares its expertise with partners interested in supporting Southern research

A close collaboration with Future Earth enabled the piloting of a multi-step selection process that adapted some of GDN's in-house tools to the Collaborative Research Action 'Migration and Mobility in an Era of Global Change, a call supported by national research agencies of 14 countries and led by the National Science Foundation of South Africa as part of the Belmont Forum.

In the spring of 2022, and before the submission deadline for the call, GDN ran online networking sessions with a pool of 400+ pre-registered applicants, to support the creation of consortia. It also ran a series of online workshops on methodological approaches to migration research, and a series of capacity building workshops on issues of equitable research collaboration.

This project showcases the role of technical support that GDN can play for partners and funders looking to integrate capacity building, networking and a greater involvement of social sciences in their existing funding processes. The partnership was recognized through the acceptance of GDN as an official partner of the Belmont Forum, during their October 2022 General Assembly.

vision, to build and implement strong and relevant research agendas. This institutional-level support allows GDN us to work on the link between systemic conditions and the evolution of research institutions.

Finally, we work (and will work) with researchers, and with young researchers, individually and in teams. Typically defined more by career advancement than by age alone, young researchers are the next generation to populate research systems and push for change: they hold the keys to opening further the avenues for evidence-informed development. Being able to work across these three levels (systems, institutions, and individuals) means GDN can look both wide and deep into the future of research for development.

The attention to the conditions of work of researchers (not just publications) shapes GDN's work in other regions and on other topics too. In partnership with

*Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)*, we created tools to study how existing evidence on the equity of fiscal policy circulates and is used in counties such as Guatemala, Namibia and Ghana, to support impactful dissemination and training. With the Government of Japan and the World Bank, through the Global Development Awards Competition, we accompany researchers and NGOs in working closer together to benefit the most vulnerable populations. With the Belmont Forum, we work on lowering entry barriers to global funding calls on sustainability research, for Southern social scientists.

We hope that the design of these tools and processes can contribute to current funding practices globally.

Below we take you on a tour of our main activities, explaining for each what part of research capacity it focuses on, and why it is important for development.



Photo credit: GDN



Photo credit: GDN

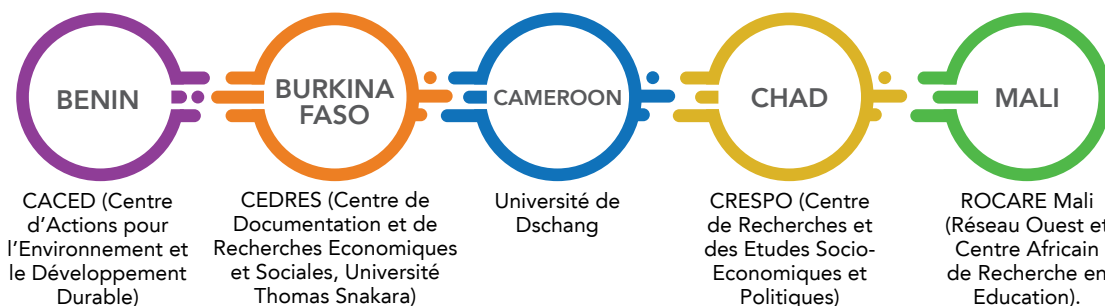
## Program Highlights from 2022

### DOING RESEARCH GLOBAL INITIATIVE

In 2022, in collaboration with AFD, GDN focused on Francophone Africa for the launch of four new Doing Research Assessments

(DRAs) in this region, specifically in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, and Chad. An additional DRA in Mali, funded directly by GDN, took the number to five. Five local partner research institutions have been analyzing the systemic barriers and opportunities facing research using the DRA methodology, adapted to their own countries.

#### The Five National Focal Points of the Program in Francophone Africa



## Southeast Asia | Social Sciences and COVID-19 Region-wide Assessment

A new, region-wide assessment by GDN and the Asia Research Centre (ARC UI) at Universitas Indonesia on the pandemic response in 11 countries of Southeast Asia was released in early 2022. The assessment found that opportunities were missed to involve social scientists in national COVID-19 response strategies in Southern and Southeast Asia. The report titled *'Social Science and COVID-19: The Southeast Asia Response'* underlines the need for policymakers to engage more closely with social scientists in response to understand the socio-economic, cultural and political contexts behind the behaviors that we need to change in response to global crises.

## Highlights

- ★ A new Doing Research Assessment for El Salvador and a regional 11-country study report on the role social scientists played in COVID-19 response in Asia were published.
- ★ Five new Doing Research Assessments (DRAs) were launched in Francophone Africa in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, and Mali.
- ★ A international workshop on the state of social sciences in Francophone Africa was held on November 22-24, 2022, in Dakar, Senegal.
- ★ GDN is curating strategic partnerships with local partners also in Latin America, Anglophone Africa and Asia.

They were selected through a regional competitive call during the summer of 2022

The teams worked closely with the global Doing Research (DR) team at GDN, and with five independent advisors. The regional

initiative kicked-off on November 22-24, 2022, in Dakar, Senegal. A three-day in-person workshop was organized on how to adapt the DRA methodology to the specificities and diversity of the Francophone Africa contexts. Before the workshop, the DR team organized three webinars with the five selected research teams to start discussions on the national contexts of social science research in the five countries, the DRA methodology and its adaptation to Francophone Africa - the next steps of the partnership between the research teams and GDN.

The initiative in Francophone Africa was the result of efforts to scale up the DR program, one region at the time. GDN was curating strategic partnerships with local partners also in Latin America and in Asia, as demonstrated by the spin-off project on the role social sciences played in the COVID-19 response in South and South East Asia, a collective effort by 11 senior social scientists from South East Asian countries.

*The Doing Research (DR) program focuses on the implementation of an original comparative methodology (called the Doing Research Assessment or DRA) to assess social science research systems in developing countries. This methodology allows local research teams to generate high-quality evidence on the strengths, weaknesses, challenges and bottlenecks that affect quality and policy-relevant social science research across LMICs. GDN partners with research institutions in LMICs (competitively selected) to implement the DR Assessment in their country.*



## GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS COMPETITION

GDN's flagship Global Development Awards Competition is in the process of being renewed for another three editions, with generous support from the Ministry of Finance, Government of Japan, through the Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) at the World Bank.

The first of these three new editions, in 2022, was launched with retroactive financing, with a focus on **'Post- COVID-19 Governance - Learning from challenging circumstances to build better governance systems.'** GDN is planning to introduce a new funding window in upcoming editions: The Connector Grant, which consists in a top-up fund to co-create

research (scaling science) projects in support of scale-up efforts targeting the most vulnerable populations. This new additional grant will help NGOs awarded the Japanese Award for Most Innovative Development Project (MIDP) to access a scale-up grant of up to USD 200,000 (GDN's largest single grant). In addition, MIDP grantees will be assigned Technical Advisors that were previously available only for research grants.

The **Global Development Awards Platform** ([www.gdn.int/gdac/awardsplatform](http://www.gdn.int/gdac/awardsplatform)) continued to connect over 100 grantees awarded by this program since 2000. It offers features such as a location map of grantees and their details, a network of researchers and development practitioners, a search option, and more.

Till December 2022, 14 grants were active under this program



## Highlights

- ★ The Global Development Awards Competition is currently being renewed for another three editions, thanks to the support of the Ministry of Finance, Government of Japan, through the Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) at the World Bank.
- ★ The 2022 edition focused on the theme 'Post- COVID-19 Governance - Learning from challenging circumstances to build better governance systems.'
- ★ A new 'scaling science' grant will now incentivise collaboration between awarded NGOs and awarded researchers of each edition to co-create projects to support scale-up efforts.
- ★ The Global Development Awards Platform continues to offer a dynamic overview of past awardees.
- ★ A total of 210,000 USD has been awarded through 14 active grants in 10 Low- and Middle-income Countries, across both categories, in 2022.

*This is GDN's longest standing program (we celebrated its 20th anniversary at the 2021 Global Development Conference). Its specificity is the combination of a yearly competition for research funding targeting LMIC researchers with a yearly competition for implementation funding targeted at NGOs, typically under a single broad theme per edition. Overall, the program uses micro-grant to test and identify research and implementation ideas with a potential to impact development practice.*





## Highlights

### INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH CAPACITY BUILDING (IRCB) IN FRANCOPHONE AFRICA

With this program, GDN further formalized its signature approach to demand-driven support to research institutions committed to strengthening in-house research capacity of research organizations from LMICs. Through a competitive call for projects, this program shortlisted six public universities in Francophone Africa, that will compete for funding and technical support to implement a series of tailored activities in-house, such as:

- Strengthening doctoral and post-doctoral training programs
- Launching signature research initiatives
- Creating dedicated fundraising teams
- Co-designing and co-running an innovative regional funding scheme for young researchers. The fund design will match the institutions' own analysis of the barriers researchers face in early years of their career, when trying to access funding.

- ★ Through a competitive call for projects, six public universities have been identified to implement a series of in-house research capacity building activities.
- ★ The call received 34 full applications which demonstrated the demand for international support for institutional development projects, particularly in social sciences.
- ★ In early December 2022, a proposal finalization workshop was conducted in Kigali, Rwanda to support the pre-selected teams to present and develop their projects, through an innovative peer-review methodology.
- ★ Five teams will be awarded a grant, starting in spring 2023.



GDN received 34 full applications for this call from the Francophone Africa region. The number and quality of the applications demonstrated the demand for international support for institutional development projects, particularly in the social sciences, and the interest local research institutions have for demand-driven support. The call offered another opportunity to refine GDN's innovative selection process for demand-driven grants (see below).

A proposal finalization workshop was organized in Kigali, Rwanda, in early December 2022, to accompany pre-selected teams to present and develop their projects, through an innovative methodology which frames them as peer reviewers of their respective project ideas, rather than as competitors. Five teams will be awarded a grant, starting in spring 2023.

The program is temporarily managed from Madagascar, and will be managed from Clermont-Ferrand in the coming years.





## **SAVOIRS SAHEL 2 – STRENGTHENING THINK TANKS IN THE SAHEL REGION**

In line with other institutional capacity building at GDN, we started working with think tanks in the particularly complex Sahel region in Africa. The program will award (in two cohorts) up to 12 think tanks development grants (within the range of EUR 20-80,000 each) to implement self-identified institutional strengthening activities.

The goal of the program is to support think tanks to play a larger role in evidence-informed public debates on the multiple and overlapping crisis facing the region, but GDN remains agnostic when it comes to how each institution should work towards that goal. On top of individual grants, the program will leverage institutional partnerships to organize yearly regional events (in 2023 and 2024) that will feature capacity building activities for think tanks and policy makers: an 'evidence marketplace' to showcase the research agendas and outputs of all think tanks from the region, and high-level policy debates.

## **Highlights**

- ★ As part of its institutional capacity building agenda, GDN started working with think tanks based in the Sahel region.
- ★ The program will award institutional development grants (within the range of EUR 20-80,000 each) to 12 think tanks, to implement self-identified activities.
- ★ In addition to individual grants, the program will organize yearly regional events in 2023 and 2024, that will feature capacity building activities for think tanks and policy makers.
- ★ A call for expressions of interest was launched in October 2022 that attracted both private and public institutions that self-define as 'think tank'.

A call for expressions of interest was launched in October 2022, and circulated across the region, attracting both private and public institutions that self-define as

'think tank', a label that typically does not have clear statutory definition. The program is funded by AFD and managed by GDN from Burkina Faso.

*A timely complement to the program described above, this new program expands GDN's intervention in Francophone Africa by focusing on 'think tanks' as a distinct category of research organizations, with a distinct role in development debates, in a region where humanitarian and security concerns often shun discussions on development. Target countries are Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal. This program adapts GDN's demand-driven support to institutions to think tanks and combines it with the design of a yearly regional 'fair' to showcase their work.*





## AFD-GDN BIODIVERSITY AND DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH AWARD

In 2021, five teams of researchers based in Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Madagascar and Vietnam received individual research grants worth USD 40000 each. Four of these teams received (in pairs) two collaborative research grants, worth USD 20000 each, to explore synergies between their projects. All grants focused on the link between biodiversity and development, and were led by multidisciplinary teams of LMIC-based social and natural scientists. In addition, the teams received mentoring by a world-class cohort of independent advisors and opportunities to network.

The goal of the program is to generate knowledge that can support scaling up of biodiversity mainstreaming efforts, i.e. efforts to 'think biodiversity' across sectors. This specific effort requires stepping up collaboration opportunities between social and ecological scientists, in connection to national policy efforts.

## GDN Labs

These are immersive workshops that connect researchers with policy actors working in their same subfield. Through a series of highly-structured activities GDN researchers, global experts and policy actors share priorities and perspectives on a given topic, identifying not only overlapping questions and common evidence needs, but also data sources and data access strategies. The labs are part of GDN's multi-step selection process, and contribute to co-creating research agendas that are responsive to the policy environment (in terms of the questions asked and the methodologies chosen to answer them). By combining capacity building and networking, a GDN Lab challenges the idea that competition is a barrier to sharing information, and it creates an early demand for research projects under consideration for funding. The uniqueness of the Labs is that they take place before researchers finalize their proposals, making it possible to influence the research questions they will ask.

We document the impact of labs on the quality of research projects that enter the final stage of selection in GDN programs, and on the experience of applicants.

Over the years, GDN has run labs on topics such as education policy, climate change adaptation, migration and biodiversity, and adapted the format for both online and offline events.

In late June 2022, under the guidance of a high-level scientific committee and independent advisors, the teams met in Pretoria, South Africa for a mid-term in-person review workshop, and a public panel at the Sustainability Research and Innovation (SRI) Summit 2022. The meeting paved the way for networking among teams, and with GDN and the independent advisors, allowing a critical but constructive review of the progress of the research grants, as well as, planning of the second half of the program.

*This ongoing global research program has allowed GDN to cultivate its expertise (and institutional credibility) in managing multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary global research programs in LMICs at the crossroads of social and eco/biological disciplines. This came after a few years of effort by GDN to enter the related research funding space on climate change.*

## Highlights

- ★ In 2021, five teams of researchers based in Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Madagascar and Vietnam received individual research grants worth USD 40000.
- ★ Four of these teams received two collaborative research grants to explore synergies between their projects, worth USD 20000.
- ★ All grants focused on the link between biodiversity and development.
- ★ The teams received mentoring by world-class independent advisors.
- ★ In June 2022, the teams met in Pretoria, South Africa for a mid-term in-person review workshop, and the SRI Summit 2022.

Photo credit: GDN





## Highlights

### PUBLIC DEVELOPMENT BANKS

GDN and AFD joined hands in May 2021 to commission five quality research papers from leading Northern and Southern researchers on the role of public development banks (PDBs) in the implementation of the Agenda 2030. Topics include:



The countercyclical role of PDBs

The role of PDBs in agricultural finance in Sub-Saharan Africa



The agro-ecological transition and PDBs

PDBs and the gender-climate nexus



The global financial architecture

- ★ GDN and AFD commissioned five quality research papers on the role of public development banks in the implementation of the Agenda 2030.
- ★ GDN 'curated' the construction of research teams and the co-construction of joint research projects among senior academics.
- ★ The papers were presented and discussed at the Finance in Common Summit (FICS) in October 2022.

Given the seniority required and the narrow focus of the program, GDN 'curated' the construction of collaborative research teams featuring leading experts from the global South, and the co-construction of joint research projects among them.

Some of the papers were presented and discussed at the Finance in Common Summit (FICS) in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, in October 2022.

This program showcases the role GDN can play as a trusted partner for Official Development Assistance (ODA) institutions interested in funding high-quality evidence generation by subject matter experts in the global South.

## FISCAL POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT

Thanks to the impetus offered by a revamped MoU with the Commitment to Equity (CEQ) Institute at Tulane University (USA), signed in

May 2022, a long-standing programmatic partner of GDN, we have built new capacity to implement projects on the link between fiscal policy and development in LMICs.

## ONGOING ACTIVITIES



Implementation of existing fiscal incidence analysis tools such as the CEQ Assessment, under the oversight of a joint CEQ-GDN Scientific Committee.



Implementation of existing fiscal incidence analysis tools such as the Equity Budgeting Tool (EBT) developed by GIZ.



Expansion of these tools, for example, the EBT+ tool, which leverages data from the CEQ Assessment.



Trainings on how to most effectively implement and use these tools.



Photo credit: GDN

In 2022, the team piloted a new tool to analyze and strategize support to local researchers working on fiscal equity in LMICs called 'Research-in-Use', which drew on the lessons and framework of GDN's Doing Research Assessment. After a slow start (most of the activities relied on access to government datasets and local networks, which is typically laborious), projects are underway in Ghana, Guatemala and Namibia with GIZ funding.

The original approach that GDN is currently developing to embed fiscal incidence work in broader local evidence ecosystems was discussed during a dedicated session at the 2022 Global Development Conference in Clermont-Ferrand in November 2022.

GDN also conducted multiple trainings on CEQ Assessments, including in Colombia, France and Namibia.

## Highlights

- ★ GDN has built new capacity to implement projects on the link between fiscal policy and development in LMICs through a deeper collaboration with the Commitment to Equity (CEQ) Institute.
- ★ Existing fiscal incidence analysis tools, such as the CEQ Assessment and the Equity Budgeting Tool have been implemented and expanded, for example, the EBT+ tool.
- ★ The team piloted an original tool called 'Research-in-Use', which draws on the lessons and framework of GDN's Doing Research Assessment.
- ★ GDN's approach to embed fiscal incidence work in broader local evidence ecosystems was discussed during the 2022 Global Development Conference.
- ★ GDN also conducted multiple trainings on CEQ Assessments.



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Photo credit: iStock

## EVALUATION AND EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS

GDN's new Evaluation of Evidence Synthesis program works with research teams in countries across Africa and Asia to support them in producing high quality research and evaluation to inform policy and practice. This program is being taken over by GDN from work previously conducted under the auspices of the Campbell Collaboration, which was hosted by GDN. The focus in 2022 has been on evidence synthesis, with a plan to move into evaluation in the coming year.

The program also has an ongoing relationship with researchers at the Africa Centre for Systematic Reviews and Knowledge Translation at Makerere University, Uganda. This work has focused on youth employment,

## Highlights

- ★ GDN's new Evaluation of Evidence Synthesis program supports research teams in Africa and Asia to produce high quality research and evaluation to inform policy and practice.
- ★ The focus in 2022 has been on evidence synthesis, with a plan to move into evaluation in the coming year.
- ★ Their work with the Africa Centre for Systematic Reviews and Knowledge Translation at Makerere University, Uganda has focused on youth employment, with regular updates of the Youth Employment EGM.
- ★ The program has been supporting ICED through in-person support and mentoring.
- ★ An evidence map on financial inclusion was completed, which was the basis for a review on the effectiveness of financial literacy interventions.
- ★ CSA has conducted workshops on the production of evidence maps and reviews and provided training and mentoring to research teams.

with regular updates of the Youth Employment EGM, which has received funding from Mastercard, the European Commission and Youth Futures Foundation. Most recently the team has been adding a new set of gender codes to the Youth Employment EGM, as well as updating and adding gender codes to the Uganda Country Evaluation Map.

The program has been supporting the International Centre for Evaluation for Development (ICED) in Accra, Ghana, through regular visits for in-person support and mentoring through weekly calls with the team. In addition, a small team of researchers in Manila completed an evidence map on financial inclusion, commissioned by Asian Development Bank (ADB), which was the basis for a review on the effectiveness of financial literacy interventions.

Capacity development is an integral part of the program. The establishment of CSA was the creation of a new research body for evidence synthesis in India and the region. This body has conducted workshops to support the production of evidence maps and reviews in Bangladesh, India and Nepal. Moreover, as part of GDN's support of South-South collaboration, training and mentoring has also been provided to research teams in China, Ghana, Kenya, Uganda and Manila.

## Campbell South Asia

GDN's headquarters in New Delhi have hosted Campbell South Asia (CSA), originally the Delhi office of the Campbell Secretariat, since 2016. CSA is a regional center for the Campbell Collaboration which is a global research network promoting the production and use of systematic reviews. CSA staff run workshops across the region on producing evidence synthesis and on 'the use of evidence'. The organization has an active portfolio of evidence and gap maps and reviews. In 2022, it completed a set of five systematic reviews and one evidence map commissioned by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) to inform their gender platform. CSA also completed an evidence map on women's empowerment commissioned by GCF and IFAD. The studies in the map were the basis for a systematic review of the effect of life skills training. Another review, paid for by the UK Aid funded Centre of Excellence for Development Impact and Learning (CEDIL) program, summarizes studies of economic interventions in humanitarian areas. In addition, a map of evidence resources for the pandemic response produced for the Swedish Research Council has developed innovations in categorizing and assessing different types of resources. The staff at CSA also supports a number of ongoing projects for Campbell Central, especially for UK What Works Centers

# MENTORING AT GDN



## A THREE-WAY CONVERSATION

At GDN, we think of mentoring as a space for critical discussion around the structure, potential and progress of a project, that involves a three-way conversation between the advisor, the grantee, and GDN program managers, each one having a specific role to play in the success of a project.

Mentoring plays a key role in all our grant making, specifically in our research grants, research capacity strengthening grants, and even institutional capacity strengthening grants. Mentors at GDN are called 'Independent Advisors'. Our program managers identify and match them with teams working on projects funded by GDN at the outset of their grant, typically in conversation with the team themselves. Often, teams and mentors build longer-term collaboration that continue past the end of the GDN grant.

## THE PROCESS

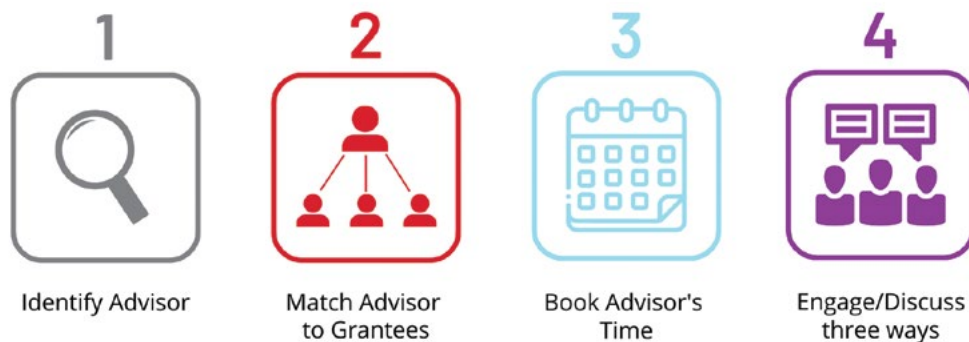




Photo credit: GDN

# GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 2022

## Tax Policy for Sustainable Development – Clermont-Ferrand, France

### Overview and Participation

The GDN Global Development Conference hosts high-level, inclusive, evidence-based debates on current development challenges and priorities, with a majority of participants coming from LMICs. It provides promising developing country researchers with an opportunity to disseminate their work, share their ideas, interact with world-renowned academics and policymakers and network globally.

The 2022 Global Development Conference on Tax Policy for Sustainable Development was successfully held in Clermont Ferrand, on November 2-4, 2022, jointly organized by GDN, the Center for Studies and Research on International Development (CERDI),



the Foundation for Studies and Research on International Development (FERDI), and the University of Clermont-Auvergne.

With generous funding from the French Development Agency (AFD) and the Hewlett Foundation, among others, the conference was held in hybrid mode, with 280 participants in-person and 322 participants joining online, from 79 countries. This allowed a wider reach and participation from many researchers,



### Thematic focus and key take-aways

The conference covered a wide range of topics such as:

- Broad links between taxation and sustainable development
- Environmental taxation
- Effects of tax regimes and reforms on inclusion and inequality in developing countries
- Taxation and natural resources
- The international dimension of tax coordination and governance
- The political economy of taxation
- Progressivity and tax expenditures
- Future tax research agenda and local evidence ecosystems

policy makers, development funders and private sector representatives that could not have attended the conference otherwise. Despite the concerted effort to ensure reasonable gender balance, there were only 35% female participants in the conference. This year the conference was bilingual

(English and French), which attracted a large contingent of participants from Francophone Africa.

Here are a few key take-aways from the three-day discussion:

- **Domestic Resource Mobilization.** By collecting just 10-15% of GDP as taxes, LMICs cannot hope to make substantial progress on critical domestic challenges, such as infrastructure or education. Moreover, quality matters as much as volume. If citizens do not see tax payments as being linked with good quality services, they cease to pay. Increasing taxes in a fair way, using the ability to pay principle, is crucial, as is increasing the perception of progressivity, which impacts the propensity to pay.
- **Global Challenges.** Many of the world's problems such as health, climate change and supply chain management are interconnected. The global nature of crises requires rethinking fiscal capacity through a global lens. Tackling these problems requires trillions of dollars, and domestic resource mobilization; philanthropy alone will not close the financing gap.

- **Taxing Workers vs Taxing Wealth.** Rather than continuously taxing the labor market — whether progressively or otherwise — there is greater merit in changing tax structures that favor the rich, who have capital sources of income. Taxes must be raised in a way which is fair, reduces inequality and sustains economic growth. Fair and equitable taxation promotes taxpayer trust in the government and strengthens social contracts that underpin development.
- **Taxing Bads.** Taxing ‘bads’ is much easier than taxing ‘goods’. For example, taxing tobacco, alcohol, and highly processed foods can generate revenue that can be earmarked to universal healthcare. Moreover, it also reduces the burden on public health.
- **Political Economy of Taxation.** The Political Economy of taxation cannot be overlooked because tax systems are extremely path dependent and suffer from inertia. It is hard to reform them and this is tied in with the issue of legitimacy and trust in government institutions; that the revenue collected will turn into efficient and high-quality public spending.
- **Analytical Base.** Political windows of opportunity are narrow so one needs to have the analytical base to inform tax decisions and reforms. There is clear recognition that there is an urgent need to use available data for better tax policymaking, build collaborative models, and improve capacity for tax administration. Other top priorities include strengthening property tax systems in low-income countries, and improving overall fiscal capacity and monitoring tax evasion or fraud, domestically and cross-border.
- **Country Ownership and Capacity Development.** Country ownership is critical, though external advice and recommendations (that is, from IMF) can help with uptake of unpopular tax reforms in the country. More capacity development is needed to encourage adherence to modern taxation systems, ability to undertake complex reforms, enforce tax rules, evolve in line with current developments such as digital financial services or green taxation, access good data and global knowledge.
- **Environmental Taxation.** Many developing countries still do not have carbon pricing mechanisms and even those that do, like South Africa for instance, still collect much less than comparable economies. There is tremendous potential in this area and urgent need for action, though elite capture will make the process more cumbersome. Researchers and policymakers working on environmental taxation also need to get more creative in environment tax design, to get around progressivity concerns.





## SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH



- International Dimension.** Global coordination, governance, shared frameworks and cross-border data exchanges are crucial of course. Eliminating tax heavens and enforcing a global minimum tax on MNCs is no small feat and current heated debates around the OECD Pillar 2 proposal or the multilateral UN tax convention indicate that.

The presentations, papers, detailed conference program, expert interviews and session recordings can be found on GDN's conference page, the microsite and YouTube recordings. More than 230 posts were published across the

four GDN social media channels – Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and YouTube, resulting in a combined 147,746 reach/impressions, during April-November 2022, in addition to numerous posts tagging GDN and the conference.

### Conference Program, Call for Papers, Sessions and Posters

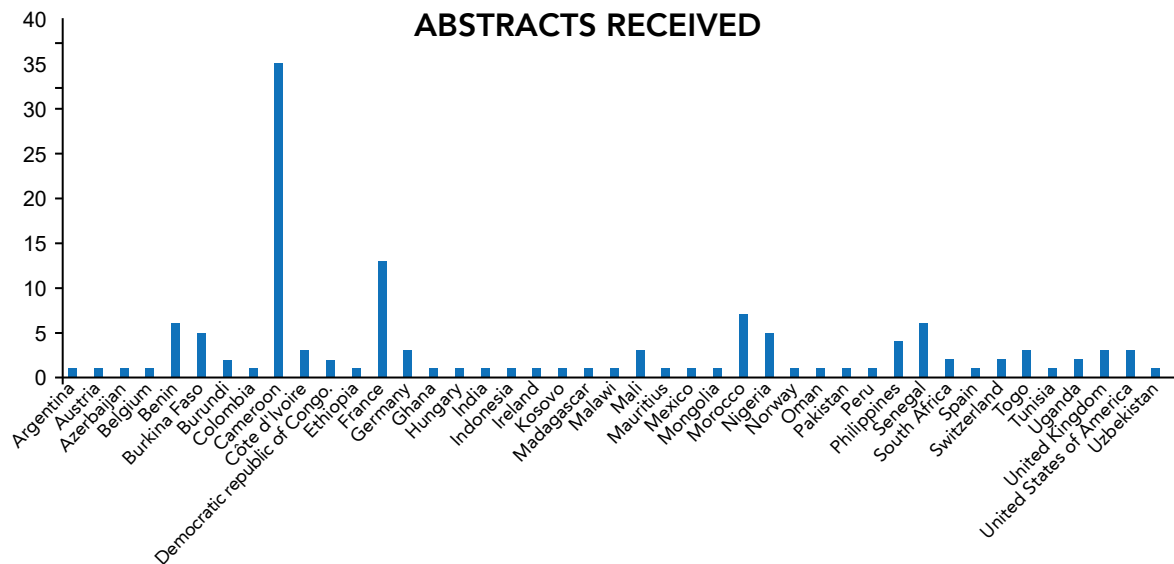
The two- and half-day conference consisted of *dynamic plenaries, high level policy panels, and parallel sessions* in a range of formats to encourage broad participation. There were six plenary sessions including a High-level Policy Panel and a Roundtable with Donors. There were 20 interactive parallel sessions, some with papers from the open Call for Papers (CFPs), several sessions by the core conference partners, and 13 sessions from organizations such as the World Bank, European Commission (EC), Japan International Cooperation Ogata Research Institute (JICA-RI), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Economic Research Forum (ERF) in Egypt, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), UNU-WIDER, the Addis Tax Initiative (ATI), the International Center for Tax and Development (ICTD), the UNDP, the Local Governance Revenue Initiative at the University of Toronto, and the Policy Center for the New Global South, all selected through the open Call for Sessions.

The CFP launched in March 2022 received 140 abstracts. Based on several stages of careful review from the Organizing and Scientific Committees, 18 papers were selected to be presented at the conference during parallel sessions and 12 authors invited to submit posters based on their research paper, which were displayed at the venue and presented during the breaks.

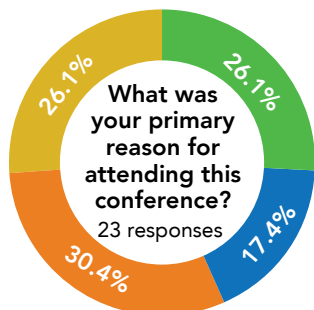
There was a total of 133 speakers, out of which 49 were women. In keeping with the trademark of the Global Development Conference, the majority of the speakers were from developing countries. Speakers and participants came from a wide range of institutional backgrounds and disciplines,

which enriched the discussion and provided diversity of perspectives and insights. In terms of sectoral representation, researchers from universities, think tanks, research centers, etc. were joined by representatives of international organizations, government agencies, multilateral banks, development funders, independent consultants, civil society and the private sector, as well as a sizable contingent of students and faculty from UCA.

An expo was organized during the conference, with booths to showcase relevant work, publications of the various partners and conference session organizers, as well as, to facilitate networking and discussions during the breaks.



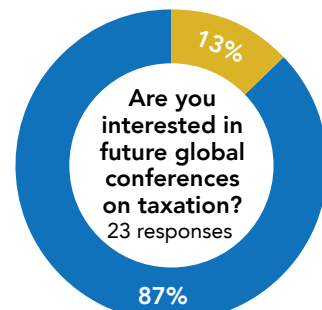
### POST-CONFERENCE SURVEY



- Program and speaker profiles
- Chance to network with other participants
- Gaining more subject matter expertise
- Present own work / own institution's work



- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied



- Definitely
- No
- Possibly (depending on funding, location etc)



## PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

Photo credit: GDN



*"Such a valuable conference! The diverse perspectives on climate impact, including fiscal are critical, as is the discussion - if not finished - about ways climate action can and should be financed. Much to take forward to #COP27 and beyond. Thank you GDN, FERDI and CERDI."*

**Arjan de Haan**  
Senior Program Specialist,  
Sustainable Inclusive Economies  
International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

*"Dialogue between the North and the South is crucial for policy-making and sharing experiences. Tax policies are essential for development, as they provide the fiscal capacity necessary for the public sector to do its job. Tax policy discussion at conferences like this is important for improving development, even though it may be politically difficult."*

**Mauricio Cardenas**  
Former Minister of Finance and of Energy, Colombia;  
Professor of Professional Practice in Global Leadership; Director,  
MPA in Global Leadership, School of International and Public Affairs,  
Columbia University, former President of LACEA

Photo credit: GDN



*"GDN did an amazing job in organizing this #taxpolicyconference. Congratulations to the entire team on bringing together some of the most brilliant minds in the field of taxation, and in other areas which are of critical importance to sustainable development. This was truly an enriching experience, and it was also a great honor to moderate the panel on 'Tax, International Financial Flows, and Governance'."*

**Marlene Nembhard Parker**  
Deputy Commissioner General, Legal Support Services, Tax Administration, Jamaica

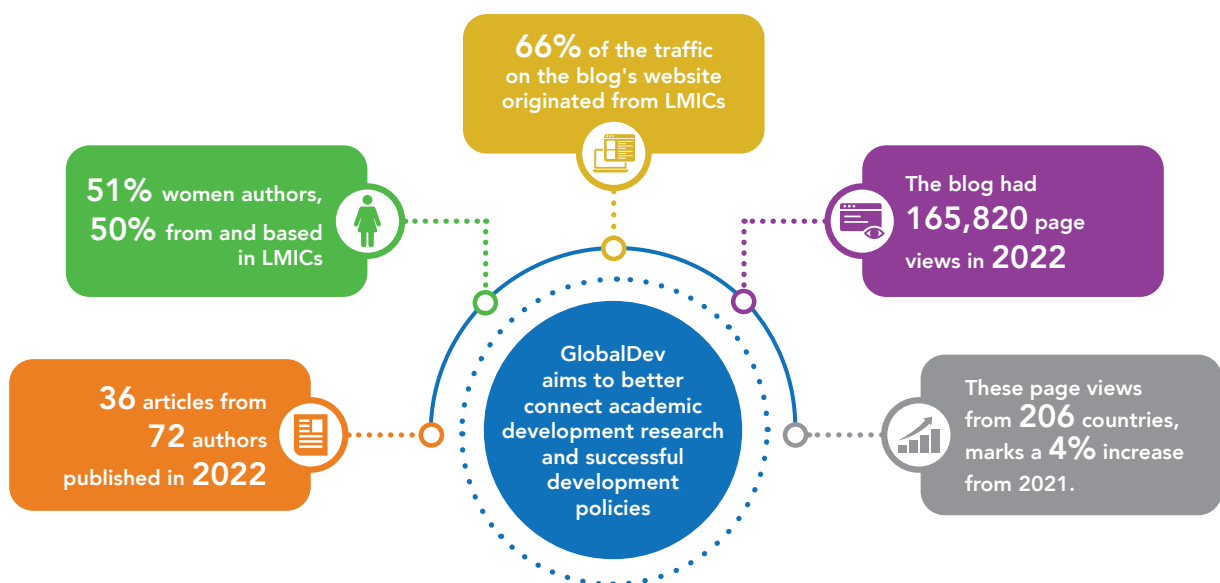


Photo credit: iStock/joakimbkk

## GLOBALDEV BLOG

GlobalDev is a blog developed by GDN that aims to better connect academic development research and successful development policies. In 800 words, researchers are asked to tell the audience what they have learned from their research, and the research of others, on specific development challenges, in a clear and accessible way. In 2022, GlobalDev

published 36 articles from a total of 72 authors (51% of them were women, 50% were from and based in LMICs), and more than 66% of the traffic on the blog's website originated from LMICs. All content is translated and published in English, French, and Spanish, reaching a worldwide audience. The blog had 165,820 pageviews in 2022, that is,



around 14k per month, originating from 206 countries. This is a 4% increase from 2021. The articles cover a large range of topics, and the blog launched special 'debates' on "Social Mobility", with the United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER); "Taxation and Development", with the Centre d'Études et de Recherches sur le Développement International (CERDI) and the Foundation for Studies and Research on International Development (FERDI); "Biodiversity and Finance", with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and "Development Transitions", with the Sustainability Transitions Research Network.

Through the GlobalDev platform, and its dedicated team, GDN provides professional, hands-on editorial support to Southern and Northern researchers committed to turning existing research into accessible and updated knowledge that can inform public debates and discussions. The drafts received go through a review process led by the blog's senior editor.

The goal is to provide non-academic readers a better understanding of development issues, in order to encourage and contribute to the adoption of well-informed, evidence-based policies.

In 2022, GlobalDev partnered with UNU-WIDER and launched a series of articles about social mobility. The blog also organized a series on Biodiversity and Development, in partnership with the *Agence Française de Développement*.

At the end of the year and in conjunction with the GDN Global Development Conference 2022 on 'Tax Policy for Sustainable Development', GlobalDev launched a debate on taxation and development. GDN offered a travel grant to women researchers from LMICs whose articles got accepted, and invited them to attend the conference in-person in Clermont-Ferrand, France, from November 2 to 4, 2022. This series was organized in partnership with CERDI, FERDI, and the conference team at GDN.



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Photo credit: iStock

## NEW PARTNERSHIPS

### Belmont Forum

In 2022 GDN joined hands with Belmont Forum to increase the number and quality of Southern applications in its calls, as well as the number of applicants from the social sciences. The Belmont Forum is a multilateral coordination mechanism used by national research funders across the globe to run joint research calls on issue linked to sustainability. Calls that are run through the Forum fund exclusively trans-disciplinary and multi-national consortia. Till date, the Belmont Forum only ran single-step selection processes. In 2021, it sought technical support from GDN to develop a multi-step selection process as well as networking and capacity building activities to take place ahead of the call.

As national research funders engage increasingly with questions of relevance and impact, which are traditionally the primary concern of ODA funders that spend on local research capacity, GDN has an opportunity to position itself as an agency with relevant know-how, experience, and tools. This was recognized through the acceptance of GDN as an official partner of the Belmont Forum, during their October 2022 General Assembly.

### Commitment to Equity Institute (CEQI)

GDN has signed a long-term MoU with the Commitment to Equity Institute (CEQI), at Tulane University, USA. The agreement formalizes the long-standing scientific

partnership in support of the diffusion and uptake across LMICs of tools to analyse the incidence of fiscal policies on equality, including the CEQ Assessment. The partnership advances comprehensive and rigorous tax and benefit incidence analysis, but also active engagement with the policy community, with the shared goal to ensure methodological rigour as well as to build capacity and encourage communities of researchers and other stakeholders (civil society, state actors, media) to be directly engaged in evidence-informed debates on the link between fiscal policy and development.

### Michelin Foundation

GDN is very pleased to announce and recognize the support received from the Michelin Foundation as part of the installation of GDN's new European office in Clermont Ferrand, France. This is an important endorsement of the importance of GDN's mission centered around advancing research and knowledge in LMICs, across themes, countries and regions. GDN looks forward to working in partnership with the Michelin Foundation to enhance the dynamism and visibility of the Clermont International Development Hub, while also advancing the strategic priorities of the Michelin Foundation and the initiatives in our portfolios. The Michelin Foundation thus joins a range of other bilateral, multilateral and philanthropic organizations supporting GDN's activities and global outreach.



Photo credit: GDN

# COMMUNICATIONS, EVENTS AND NEWS AT GDN

Given GDN’s recognition for the need to increase the organization’s visibility, among all relevant stakeholders from the developing country researchers eligible for GDN’s programs to like-minded organizations, partners and funders, GDN has invested in the last year in expanding its communication activities, within the limited resources available. This has included a search engine optimization effort for the website, regular and expanded social media presence in three languages (English, French and Spanish), with dedicated part time staff, as well as, events and publications. Emphasis has been placed on better explaining what GDN does and how as well as conveying the organization’s identity and ethos. In the pipeline is a new Communications Strategy is in the making, a complete website revamp and more initiatives.



Photo credit: GDN



Photo credit: Jaago Foundation

## Publications and Articles

- GDN Impact Study Report: An Evaluation of Award Winners from 2015 – 2018
- Social Science and COVID-19 | The Southeast Asia Response
- Use of Research Evidence in the Policy Domain: A Best-Evidence Synthesis of Social Science Research in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. *International Social Science Journal*, 72(246), 1181-1194.
- Diffusion of Social Science Research in Nigeria. *International Social Science Journal*, 72(246), 1161–1180.
- Rebuilding Social Science Research Systems in Myanmar: The Past informs the Future. *International Social Science Journal*, 72(246), 1149–1159.
- The Production of Social Science Research in Nigeria: Status and Systemic Determinants. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*, 9(1).
- Doing Research in El Salvador - Country Report. GDN and FUSADES. (Spanish / English)
- Special edition of the *Journal of Development Effectiveness* (Vol. 14, issue 1, 2022) with studies from the GDN-EIB joint program on Applied Development Finance
- Policy-driven Municipal Solid Waste Management Assessment Using Relative Quadrant Eco-efficiency: A Case Study in Malaysia. *Journal of Environmental Management*, Volume 323, 2022, 116238, ISSN 0301-4797. Under the Japanese Award for Outstanding Research on Development (ORD).



Photo credit: GDN

## Events

### Webinar | Social Sciences and Sustainable Development in Asia

A webinar titled, 'Putting people at the center: Why investing in social research will set Asia on the path towards sustainable development?' took place on April 28, 2022, with top researchers and policy makers from the region. It brought together different angles from some of the most prominent Asian social scientists, active in academia and policy, to discuss options for strategic investments in an alliance between Asia's social scientists and the region's policy infrastructure — with a view to accelerating COVID-19 recovery and a regional transition towards a more sustainable and inclusive region.

### Mid-Term Review Workshop | SRI Panel Discussion

An in-person mid-term review workshop was hosted at the Future Africa Campus in Pretoria, South Africa on the side lines of the Sustainability Research and Innovation (SRI) 2022 Congress on June 24-26, 2022. The workshop provided a space for teams to meet and for the review of the progress of the on-going research projects awarded under the AFD-GDN Biodiversity and Development Awards. The teams received feedback on their projects from other researchers, scientific-technical advisors, and scientific committee members, and learnt about and reviewed other projects.

### Public Event | AFD-GDN Biodiversity and Development Awards

The grantees of the biodiversity program met in the city of Pretoria, South Africa, for a midterm review workshop on June 25-26, 2022 where they had the chance to discuss the progress of their research projects with their mentors. The workshop included presentations by the grantees, one-on-one meetings with mentors, a communication training, as well as a meeting with Deshnie Pillay, Chief Director of Biodiversity Information and Policy Advice at the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI).

### Webinar | Doing Research in Latin America

As part of GDN's Doing Research global initiative, a report titled 'Doing Research in El Salvador' (Spanish / English) was launched during a global webinar on June 29, 2022 (recording in Spanish / English). The webinar was led by Helga Cuellar Marchelli at the Salvadoran Foundation for Economic and Social Development (FUSADES).

### Capacity-Building | Training Development Agencies to Support Fiscal Equity

In early July, GDN ran a four-day online training for the staff of the French Development Agency (AFD), on existing tools to analyse the equity of fiscal policies in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMIC). Participants were introduced

to the concepts and tools developed by the Commitment to Equity (CEQ) Institute at Tulane University to assess the impact on equity of fiscal policies, taxes and transfers, at country level. The training was delivered by the Fiscal Policy and Development team at GDN, within the framework of GDN's MoU with the CEQ Institute. GDN is currently working with AFD and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) to implement fiscal incidence analysis projects in multiple countries in Africa and Central America.

### **Dialogue | Doing Research Workshop in Francophone Africa**

From November 22-24, the National Focal Point Institutions of GDN's Doing Research global initiative in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad and Mali met with the global Doing Research team and regional institutions in Dakar, Senegal. The objective was to discuss the challenges facing social sciences in Francophone Africa. The workshop brought together subject matter experts from the region to debate the conceptualization, the measurement and the aggregation of data on social science research in the region, in preparation for the implementation of five parallel Doing Research Assessments.

### **Presentation | Fiscal Policy and Development Program Workshops in Guatemala and Namibia**

Under its Fiscal Policy and Development Program, GDN in partnership with GIZ

conducted a workshop in Guatemala City, Guatemala on the November 30 and in Windhoek, Namibia on the November 29 and 30. The team presented GIZ's Equity Budgeting Tool methodology, and findings from CEQI's Fiscal Incidence Assessment of Guatemala and Namibia. This, from a one-year pilot of a tool designed to map Fiscal Policy and Budgeting evidence systems (full report due to be released shortly), and from an LSE study on perceptions of inequality in South Africa (read blogpost featured below). Participants included policymakers, civil society organizations, think-tanks, international organizations and higher educational institutions.

### **Global Event | GDN attends COP15 to Promote Biodiversity Research**

From December 7-19, 2022, 196 countries met at the COP15 of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to see the adoption of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. It recognizes the need for urgent global, regional and national policy action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030. GDN, as a leading global organization supporting high quality, policy-oriented, social science research in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs), is striving to promote biodiversity research and create opportunities for LMIC-based scientists to work on biodiversity challenges locally, in a globally interconnected way. GDN attended the convention for the first time to highlight the role research has to play in the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework.







## News

### Clermont-Ferrand | A new hub for international development

GDN will be opening up a new office in Europe at Clermont-Ferrand, a university town located in the French Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, that is also a dynamic center for international development studies.

The establishment of GDN-Europe is part of a major project called Pôle Clermontois de Développement International (PCDI) or Clermont International Development Hub. This project is funded by the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Recovery, Government of France and overseen by the *Agence Française de Développement*.

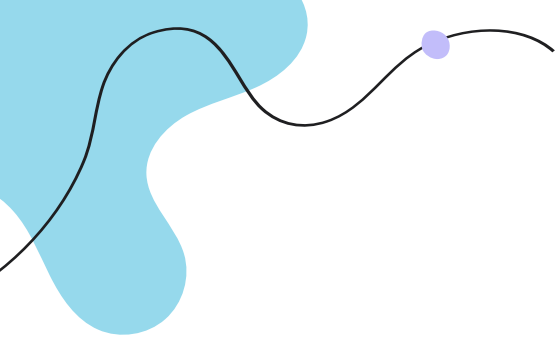
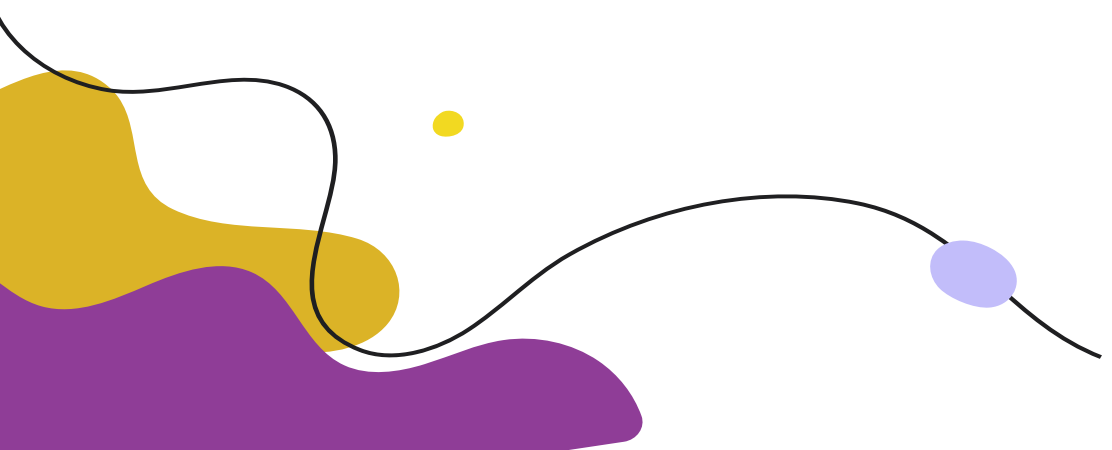


Photo credit: GDN





## TEAM GDN MEETS

### Staff Retreat

GDN's staff travelled to the French city of Clermont-Ferrand just before the opening of their European office, GDN-Europe. The staff retreat provided a unique opportunity to cement GDN's growing team and to reflect on GDN's mission, identity, activities and strategy. GDN also discussed synergies and cooperation with its Clermont-Ferrand partners, FERDI, CERDI and the University Clermont-Auvergne, and they launched together the preparation of GDN's Global Development Conference 2022 on 'Tax Policy for Sustainable Development'. GDN's retreat was hosted by FERDI at its office, in the very building where the GDN-Europe office has been set up.

### Global Development Conference 2022

The entire GDN team met once again in November to organize the 2022 Global Development Conference on Tax Policy in Clermont-Ferrand.



# GRANTS, AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Program	Study or Project	Countries/ Regions Covered	Amount	Name	Affiliation
AFD-GDN Biodiversity and Development Awards Program	Mainstreaming biodiversity in Vegetable Farming in Vietnam through Promoting Adoption of Low Chemical Pesticide Practices: A Discrete Choice Experiment Approach	Vietnam	\$40,000	Nam Hoang Vu	Foreign Trade University
	Assessing the Role of Different Types of Knowledge for Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation in Ramsar Sites in Fiji and Ghana	Fiji, Ghana	\$20,000	Margaret Akwetey & Lavenie Tawake	University of Cape Coast & The University of the South Pacific
	Agroecology for Biodiversity Conservation and Welfare in Africa and Asia: A Comparative RCTs Study on Indigenous Earthworms Utilization	Madagascar, Vietnam	\$20,000	Malaladiana Razafindrakoto & Nam Hoang Vu	FADES c/o Laboratoire des Radioisotopes, Université D'Antananarivo & Foreign Trade University
Global Development Awards Competition:					
Japanese Award for Outstanding Research on Development (ORD)	Implication of Large-scale Agricultural Investment on Biodiversity: Evidence from Mixed Method Study of Farm Households in Northern Ghana	Ghana	\$30,000	Abdul-Hanan Abdallah	University for Development Studies
	Global Amazon: Harmonizing development visions and multi-scalar interventions in the building of a pluriversal governance	Peru	\$10,000	Roger Merino Acuña	Universidad del Pacifico
	Evaluation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) on Africa's Biodiversity	Nigeria	\$5,000	Chukwuka Onyekwena	Centre for the Study of the Economies of Africa
Japanese Award for Most Innovative Development Project (MIDP)	Access to Healthcare for Migrant Families in Thai Construction Site Camps	Thailand	\$20,000	Baan Dek Foundation	
	Hello Saathi	India	\$20,000	Gramin Vikas Samiti	

	Establishing Infection Prevention & Control Mechanism in Public Hospitals	India	\$5,000	United Way of Mumbai
	Capacity building of local community against climate change and improved livelihood, Tharaka North County Kenya	Kenya	\$20,000	International Aid Services Kenya
	Expansion Of Village of Hope to Karwiru Village in Nyanza District, Rwanda	Rwanda	\$5,000	Dufatanye Organization
	A water kiosk at school - Patriana Educational center & Agawo Primary School	Kenya	\$20,000	International Transformation Foundation
	Dream Accelerator Project	India	\$20,000	Bal Raksha Bharat (Save the Children India)
	Expansion Nepal Waste Map, a digital waste management system: A community empowered governance Project	Nepal	\$5,000	Clean Up Nepal
AFD-GDN Public Development Banks (PDBs) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Walking the Talk: Insight into the Public Development Banks' Operational Framework for Gender-responsive Climate Change Action.	Botswana, France, USA	€24,000	Agnes Babugura, Camila Villard Duran, & Mariola Acosta
	Financing the Agroecological Transformation of Agri-food Systems	India	€24,000	Rajeswari Raina, Tara Nair
Doing Research Assessments in Francophone Africa	Doing Research in Francophone Africa: Assessing Social Science Research Systems in Cameroon	Cameroon	€50,000	Université de Dschang
	Doing Research in Francophone Africa: Assessing Social Science Research Systems in Chad	Chad	€50,000	Centre de Recherche et D'étude Socio-économiques et Politique

# BOARD AND ASSEMBLY

GDN is very pleased to announce the appointment of 10 new members for its Board of Directors for a three-year term, reflecting the excellence and diversity of our broad constituency and global reach. GDN is honored to have these highly accomplished and outstanding individuals on its board to steer the organization into the future.

## **GDN Board Of Directors, December 2022**

**François Bourguignon (Chair of the Board)**  
Emeritus Professor of Economics, Paris School of Economics, France  
Former Chief Economist, The World Bank

**Shantayanan Devarajan  
(Vice Chair of the Board)**  
Professor of the Practice of Development at Georgetown University's Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service  
Former Senior Director for Development Economics (DEC) and Acting Chief Economist, The World Bank

**Albert Park (New)**  
Chief Economist, Asian Development Bank (ADB)  
Former Chair Professor of Economics and Director of the Center for Economic Policy, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)

**Alexandros Sarris**  
Emeritus Professor, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece  
Former Director of the Trade and Markets Division, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

**Christopher Isike (New)**  
President, African Association of Political Science (AAPS); Director, African Centre for the Study of the United States, University

of Pretoria; Professor of African Politics and International Relations, University of Pretoria, South Africa  
Former Vice President of the International Political Science Association (IPSA)

**Dani Rodrik (New)**  
Ford Foundation Professor of International Political Economy, Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government  
Former Albert O. Hirschman Professor of Economics School of Social Science Institute for Advanced Study

**Frannie Leautier (New)**  
CEO of SouthBridge Investments and Senior Partner at SouthBridge Group  
Former Chief of Staff to the President and Vice President at the World Bank Group and Senior Vice President at the AfDB

**Habibul Haque Khondker**  
Professor, Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Zayed University

**Heba Handoussa**  
Managing Director, The Egypt Network for Integrated Development (ENID) and Member of the Board of Trustees, The Egypt Foundation for Integrated Development (El Nidaa)  
Former Director and Lead Author, National Human Development Report for Egypt 2010

**Justin Yifu Lin**  
Dean, Institute of New Structural Economics, Peking University; Dean, Institute of South-South Cooperation and Development, Peking University, China  
Former Chief Economist and Senior Vice President of the World Bank

**Luis Felipe Lopez-Calva (New)**  
Current position: Global Director, Poverty and

Equity Global Practice, World Bank Group  
Former UNDP Regional Director for Latin  
America and the Caribbean

**Nora Lustig (New)**

Samuel Z. Stone Professor of Latin American  
Economics and Founding Director,  
Commitment to Equity Institute (CEQI), Tulane  
University, New Orleans, LA  
Former J. B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Visiting  
Professor of International Affairs, Elliott School  
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**Patrick Guillaumont (New)**

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Former Professor-University of Auvergne,  
Member of CERDI and Director of the Revue  
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**Poonam Gupta (New)**

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Former Lead Economist, Global Macro and  
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University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

**Siew-Yean Tham**

Visiting Senior Fellow, ISEAS-Yusof  
Ishak Institute, Singapore; and Emeritus  
Professor, Universiti Kebangsaan, Malaysia

**Vera Songwe (New)**

Co-chair of the High-Level Panel on  
Climate Finance and Chair of the Liquidity  
and Sustainability Facility  
Former United Nations Under-Secretary-  
General & Executive Secretary, Economic  
Commission for Africa (ECA)

**GDN International Assembly  
Representatives 2022**

**Colombia**

Ambassador of Colombia to India

**Hungary**

Ambassador of Hungary to India

**India**

Additional Secretary (FB & ADB)  
Department of Economic Affairs  
Ministry of Finance, Government of India

**Spain**

Ambassador of Spain to India

**Sri Lanka**

High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to India  
We thank our former board members for  
their invaluable contribution to GDN and  
its mandate.

# GDN FINANCES - 2022

## Global Development Network Consolidated Statements of Financial Position

June 30, 2022 and 2021

	2022	2021
	Amount (US\$)	Amount (US\$)
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,257,785	832,401
Contributions receivable	406,141	798,075
Prepaid expenses	3,183	3,772
Other current assets	26,969	1,238
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>1,694,078</b>	<b>1,635,487</b>
Property and Equipment, Net	1,897	0
<b>Other Assets</b>		
Security deposits & investment	4,238	4,238
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Grants payable	186,488	60,843
Accounts payable	305,521	426,049
Accrued expenses	603,676	589,658
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,095,685</b>	<b>1,076,549</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted	63,957	148,133
Temporarily restricted	540,571	415,043
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>604,528</b>	<b>563,176</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>1,700,213</b>	<b>1,639,725</b>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.



# Global Development Network Consolidated Statements of Activities

Year ended June 30, 2022 & Year ended June 30, 2021

	2022			2021		
	"Temporarily Unrestricted		Total Amount (US\$)	"Temporarily Restricted"		Total Amount (US\$)
	Amount (US\$)	Restricted" Amount (US\$)		Unrestricted Amount (US\$)	Restricted" Amount (US\$)	
<b>Support and revenue</b>						
Grants, contracts and contributions	(135,867)	2,747,280	2,611,413	(541,007)	3,223,770	2,682,763
Interest income	1,591	–	1,591	1,864	–	1,864
Foreign currency exchange gain/(loss)	(6,497)	–	(6,497)	2,970	–	2,970
Other income	56,598	–	56,598	15,292	–	15,292
Net assets released from restrictions	2,621,752	(2,621,752)	–	3,419,632	(3,419,632)	–
<b>Total support and revenue</b>	<b>2,537,577</b>	<b>125,528</b>	<b>2,663,105</b>	<b>2,898,751</b>	<b>(195,862)</b>	<b>2,702,890</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
<b>Program Services</b>						
Annual Conference	172,106	–	172,106	1,745	–	1,745
Research Capacity Building Program	1,476,428	–	1,476,428	1,163,751	–	1,163,751
GlobalDev Blog	96,011	–	96,011	81,049	–	81,049
Global Collaborative Research	707,827	–	707,827	1,470,128	–	1,470,128
Other programs	21,272	–	21,272	10,735	–	10,735
<b>Total program</b>	<b>2,473,644</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2,473,644</b>	<b>2,727,407</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2,727,407</b>
<b>Supporting services</b>						
Donor coordination and fundraising	–	–	–	–	–	–
Secretariat (indirect costs)	148,108	–	148,108	692,226	–	692,226
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>2,621,752</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2,621,752</b>	<b>3,419,633</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>3,419,633</b>
Change in net assets	(84,176)	125,528	41,353	(520,879)	(195,863)	(716,743)
<b>Net assets (deficit)</b>						
Beginning of period	148,133	415,043	563,174	669,012	610,906	1,279,918
<b>End of period</b>	<b>63,957</b>	<b>540,571</b>	<b>604,528</b>	<b>148,133</b>	<b>415,043</b>	<b>563,174</b>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

# GDN DONORS - 2022

Agence Française de Développement  
Asian Development Bank  
Campbell Collaboration  
Deutsche Gesellschaft Fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit  
Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office  
Future Earth  
Giving Evidence  
Hewlett Foundation  
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International Fund for Agricultural Development  
Michelin Foundation  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands  
Swedish Research Council  
Tulane University  
World Bank (PHRD Trust Fund)





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