



2019-2020 Annual Report

Stanford | King Center on
Global Development



About the King Center on Global Development

The King Center on Global Development is a Stanford University research center that works to improve the lives of the world's poor by enabling research on critical issues and informing policy.

The King Center's approach is multidisciplinary and multi-faceted. We support emerging scholars and large-scale faculty initiatives while facilitating impactful student experiences at Stanford and abroad. We convene key stakeholders across campus for knowledge-sharing opportunities, as well as engage with policymakers and private-sector leaders.

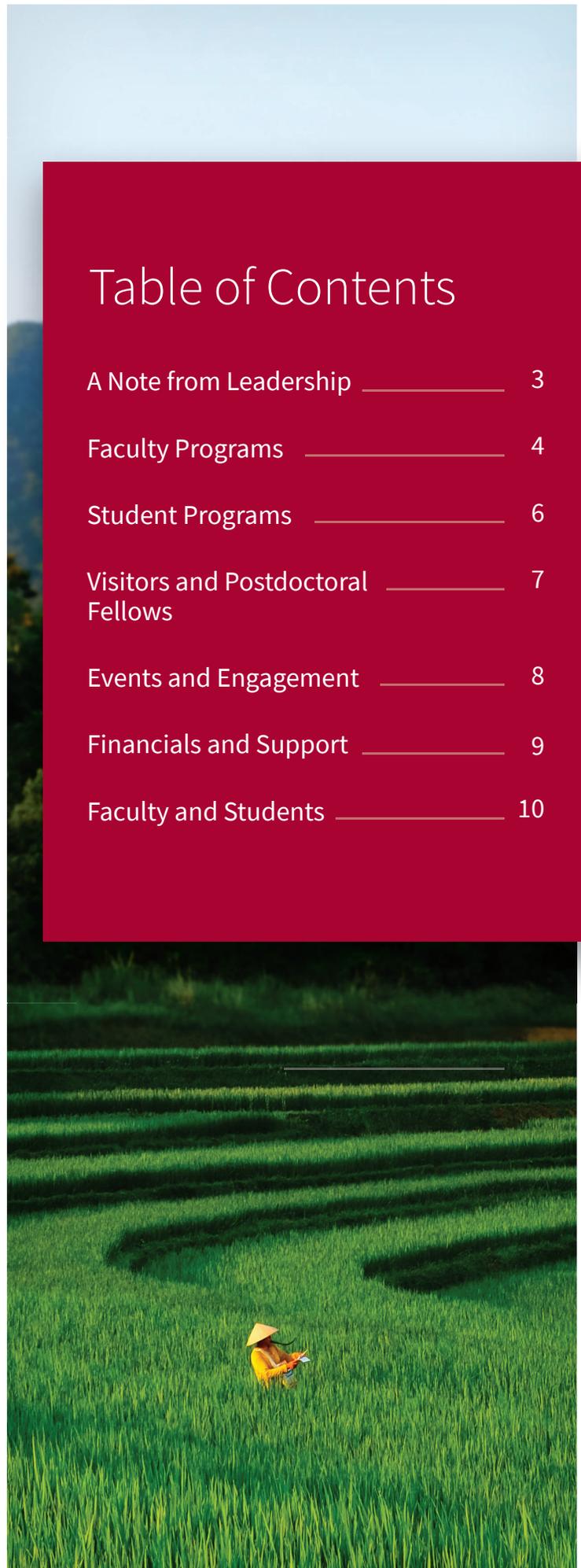
The center's impact goes beyond Stanford. Research and engagement supported by the center endeavor to

- provide a clearer understanding of the challenges in alleviating poverty and spurring development;
- better understand strategies to more effectively address challenges in global development;
- help create scalable solutions and inform policies and implementation efforts.

The center was launched in fall 2017 as the Center on Global Poverty and Development and renamed the King Center in 2019 in honor of benefactors Bob and Dottie King. The King Center is a joint venture between the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR) and the Stanford Institute for Innovation in Developing Economies, known as Stanford Seed. The center is graciously supported by committed donors to whom we are very grateful.

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A Note from Leadership

Dear Friends,

The King Center brings people and resources together to enhance Stanford's global development-focused research, helping students and faculty build partnerships and collaborate with policymakers and others working to address global poverty. We are pleased to present the King Center's annual report for the 2019-20 academic year, in which we share a few highlights of the past year and discuss how the center is in a stable position to continue its mission into the future.

Last academic year, we continued to support Stanford faculty and students through our multidisciplinary initiatives, junior faculty grants, undergraduate student research assistantships, graduate student research funding, and by hosting engaging (virtual) conferences and events. Through these programs, the center addressed a broad range of challenges in global development and poverty alleviation, from examining effective wastewater sanitation in Senegal to promoting political participation in India. This annual report showcases our programs and provides just a few examples of the multidisciplinary development work we are funding.

The effects of COVID-19 in low- and middle-income countries have exacerbated underlying challenges in alleviating poverty and spurring development. The King Center has responded by increasing our support for work on COVID-19 in developing countries, as well as on other, systemic development issues. During this critical time, it is vital to continue this research to avoid losing the progress we have made to alleviate poverty.

Our ability to support the research of faculty and students as well as engage with stakeholders and our global community is possible because of the interest and contributions of people who entrust their charitable giving to us. The King Center remains in a sound financial position, even as we recognize new challenges and create opportunities to do more. We are grateful for your partnership and continued support, which makes this all possible.

We encourage you to contact us if you would like to know more about the King Center or if there is a particular issue related to global development or poverty alleviation in which you are interested. We look forward to new ways to connect, learn, and make an impact this coming year. And we greatly appreciate your support and collaboration.

Sincerely,



Pascaline Dupas
Faculty Director, King Center on Global Development
Professor, Department of Economics



Jessica Leino
Executive Director and Research Scholar
King Center on Global Development

Support for Stanford Faculty

The King Center stimulates research and creates an environment where diverse perspectives in global development thrive. The more than 120 faculty affiliated with the center represent every school at Stanford and nearly every research institute.

The King Center's multidisciplinary, faculty-led initiatives comprise collaborative research agendas that produce broad, cutting-edge analysis and help inform policy and design innovative solutions to enduring challenges. Our eight initiatives cover such critical global development topics as conflict, migration, infrastructure, and more.

In addition to its initiatives, the King Center supports emerging scholars at Stanford through research grants to junior faculty members, capacity and policy engagement grants, and support for conferences and events. Recipients of junior faculty grants last year included faculty in chemical engineering, education, management science and engineering, and political science. Projects covered topics such as testing strategies to overcome barriers to women's political participation and leveraging technology to make supply chains more efficient, particularly for small-scale farmers.



Reducing Lead Exposure

The King Center's initiative Improving Health, Intelligence and Economic Growth by Reducing Lead Exposure continues to conduct innovative research in Bangladesh on how to limit exposure to the harmful metal. Initiative researchers documented the prevalence of lead in the common spice turmeric, which has informed new regulation. After the findings were released, Bangladesh's prime minister restricted imports of lead chromate, the country's food safety officials began issuing fines to wholesalers, and the country launched a public awareness campaign. Outside of Bangladesh, public health organizations in the U.S. and low- and middle-income countries, as well as trade organizations, reached out to learn more about these findings and how to make the turmeric supply chain more transparent. Initiative team members are also exploring low-cost market innovations to help manufacturers avoid adding lead chromate during processing and more easily identify lead in processed turmeric, as well as develop supply-chain innovations for battery recycling, which is another major source of lead contamination.

Capacity Building in Senegal

The King Center also supports faculty engagement with policymakers, private-sector leaders, and academics in low- and middle-income countries in order to help build in-country capacity for research and evidence-based policymaking. Will Tarpeh, a faculty affiliate and an assistant professor of chemical engineering, received a capacity building and policy engagement grant to train a team of sanitation researchers on recovering useful chemicals from human waste in Senegal, in partnership with the National Office of Sanitation of Senegal and the University of Senegal. Access to sustainable sanitation is a critical development challenge with impacts ranging from environmental sustainability to education and food security. This collaboration will help Senegal establish best practices for combining research, implementation, and education to accelerate sustainable sanitation access.



Members of the Tarpeh Lab meeting with sanitation researchers in Senegal

By the Numbers

39

FACULTY RECEIVED
RESEARCH SUPPORT

\$1.06M

AWARDED TO SUPPORT
FACULTY RESEARCH

2,342

PEOPLE ATTENDED KING
CENTER EVENTS

100

STUDENT RESEARCH
OPPORTUNITIES
SUPPORTED

\$538k

AWARDED IN
STUDENT RESEARCH
SUPPORT

32

COUNTRIES ON WHICH
STUDENTS HAVE CONDUCTED
RESEARCH

Providing Opportunities for Students

Helping to alleviate global poverty requires committed individuals and fresh ideas. The King Center typically offers in-the-field learning opportunities through which students work with Stanford faculty members conducting research in low- and middle-income countries. However, with students unable to travel internationally or participate in field research due to the pandemic, the center pivoted to enable students to conduct research remotely with faculty. Over the past year, the center supported 39 undergraduate students conducting research on nine countries. Prior to the global pandemic, 12 students traveled to Kenya and Rwanda through the Journeys of Inquiry program to learn how new technologies can help micro-entrepreneurs in emerging economies.

The King Center supports the next generation of global development leaders by enabling graduate students to pursue field research. Both graduate student research funding and fellowship programs support the innovative work of graduate students on topics including migration and refugees, digital credit transactions, entrepreneurship, and effective local governance. Last year, the center supported 28 graduate students conducting research in 19 countries, including India, Myanmar, Peru, and Uganda.

King International Development Association (KIDA)

KIDA is an undergraduate, student-led organization dedicated to fostering collaboration and community among young leaders addressing international development challenges. Affiliated with and supported by the King Center, KIDA convenes weekly meetings with its members and focuses on human rights, global health, and financial inclusion. In 2020, KIDA sponsored a series of events, including a conversation with Lisa D. Cook, professor of economics and international relations at Michigan State University.



Members of KIDA talking with Associate Professor of Earth Systems Science, Marshall Burke

Sunni Muslim political signs in Tripoli, Lebanon



Democracy in Lebanon

With research funding from the King Center, Christiana Parreira, a PhD candidate in political science, spent three years researching how local governance has evolved in Lebanon since the country's civil war, which lasted from 1975 to 1990. The war led to a series of national unity governments formed by political elites from parties created during or shortly after the conflict. Parreira's research details a "patchwork" system where some municipalities benefit from close ties to powerful political parties and others are punished for not having ties to political parties, resulting in no real opportunity for political engagement.

Distinguished Visitors and Postdoctoral Fellows

Hosting distinguished faculty and emerging scholars from around the world offers both visitors and the Stanford community the opportunity to collaborate on innovative research focused on global development.



Noosheen Hashemi Visiting Professor

This past year, the center hosted economics professor Seema Jayachandran from Northwestern University as the Noosheen Hashemi Visiting Professor. Jayachandran's research focuses on gender equality, environmental conservatism, health, and education across the developing world, primarily relying on randomized controlled trials for gathering data. During her time at the King Center, she collaborated with Stanford faculty on new research topics and advised both graduate and undergraduate students on their own research projects.

Postdoctoral Fellows

The King Center welcomed two postdoctoral fellows in 2019: Sara Lowes, a development economist researching social structures in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Brandon de la Cuesta, a political scientist whose research is focused on electoral accountability in Ghana and Uganda.

The center's postdoc program provides rising scholars an environment to collaborate with Stanford faculty and students. This fall 2020, Lowes joined the economics faculty at the University of California, San Diego, and de la Cuesta became a postdoctoral fellow with the King Center's Data for Development Initiative, led by Stanford faculty members from computer science, earth system science, economics, and political science.

Events and Engagement

The King Center regularly convenes researchers, students, policymakers, and private-sector leaders from around the world to explore new partnerships and inform effective policy, motivated by the overarching goal of improving the lives of the world's poor. Last year, more than 2,300 people attended the King Center's 23 events, which spanned timely topics including income inequality in China, impact investing, and the effects of COVID-19 in low- and middle-income countries. The center's Speaker Series features talks by distinguished scholars and policymakers including 2019 Nobel Laureate Abhijit Banerjee.



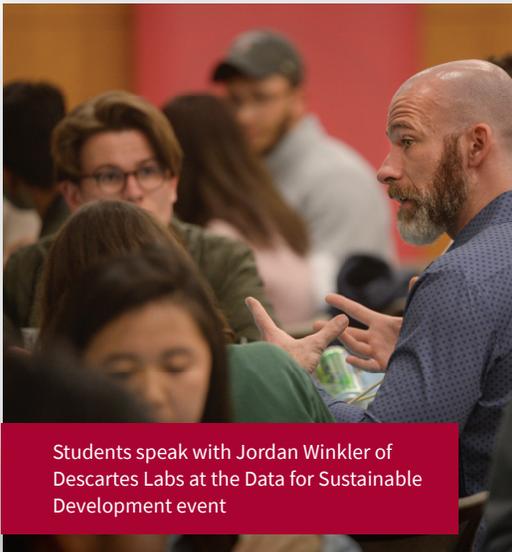
Nobel Laureate Abhijit Banerjee speaking with Saumitra Jha, associate professor of political economy at the Graduate School of Business.

China Program

Through its Stanford research network and strategic collaborators around the globe, the China Program at the King Center provides crucial insights into challenges facing China's economic development and transition, their implications in the world, and necessary remedies. The program plays a key role in developing the annual Stanford China Economic Forum. The second forum was held at Stanford in September 2019, where participants heard Stanford scholars and business leaders discuss China's economic development efforts, online censorship, and the country's trade relationship with the U.S.



Jennifer Pan, assistant professor of communication, speaking at the Stanford China Economic Forum



Students speak with Jordan Winkler of Descartes Labs at the Data for Sustainable Development event

Student Events

The King Center provides undergraduate and graduate students opportunities for close interaction with faculty, subject experts, and distinguished visitors during speaker events, panel presentations, and interactive workshops. This programming aims to help students to reflect upon, and engage with, key challenges in global development. In January, nearly 100 Stanford undergraduate students gathered at the King Center to learn from aerospace and machine learning industry experts who are utilizing satellite data to identify current global development trends, such as forced conflict migration, food scarcity, and changes in resource usage in resource-scarce climates.

Financials and Support

The King Center remains on solid financial footing, increasing its investments in students and research during the past year. In the 2020 fiscal year, the King Center invested \$5.5 million in large-scale faculty research initiatives, transformative student experiences at Stanford and abroad, and knowledge-sharing events, among other priorities. Generous contributions from dedicated supporters, augmented by funding from the university, balanced the sources and uses of funds. Looking ahead, the King Center’s sources of funds will shift from start-up funds, financial backing used to establish and grow the center, to a larger proportion of current year gifts, while continuing to rely on the stability of the center’s endowment payout.

The King Center is grateful for its many supporters who make this work possible. The center will continue to facilitate gift opportunities that foster research and support global development.

KING CENTER FUNDING SOURCES

FY20 INCOME	\$4,159,045
ENDOWMENT PAYOUTS	\$2,495,379
GIFTS	\$921,425
UNIVERSITY CENTRAL	\$661,961
UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS	\$80,280
START-UP FUNDS	\$1,345,964
TOTAL	\$5,505,009

KING CENTER FUNDING USES

FACULTY RESEARCH SUPPORT	\$2,448,978
STUDENT PROGRAMS	\$576,830
OUTREACH AND VISITORS	\$1,057,634
COUNTRY PROGRAMS	\$833,272
OPERATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT	\$588,295
TOTAL	\$5,505,009

DETAILED USES OF FUNDS



FACULTY STEERING COMMITTEE



Lisa Blaydes

Professor of Political Science
Department of Political Science



Pete Klenow

Ralph Landau Professor in Economics Policy
Department of Economics
Dong Wei Faculty Fellow at the King Center



Jenna Davis

Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering,
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering



David Lobell

Professor of Earth System Science
Department of Earth System Science



Pascaline Dupas

Professor of Economics
Department of Economics



Grant Miller

Associate Professor of Medicine
School of Medicine



Saumitra Jha

Associate Professor of Political Economy
Graduate School of Business
Peiros Family Faculty Fellow at the King Center

RONALD I. MCKINNON MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS



Beatriz Pousada

PhD student
Department of Economics



Sally Zhang

PhD student
Department of Economics

Affiliated Faculty

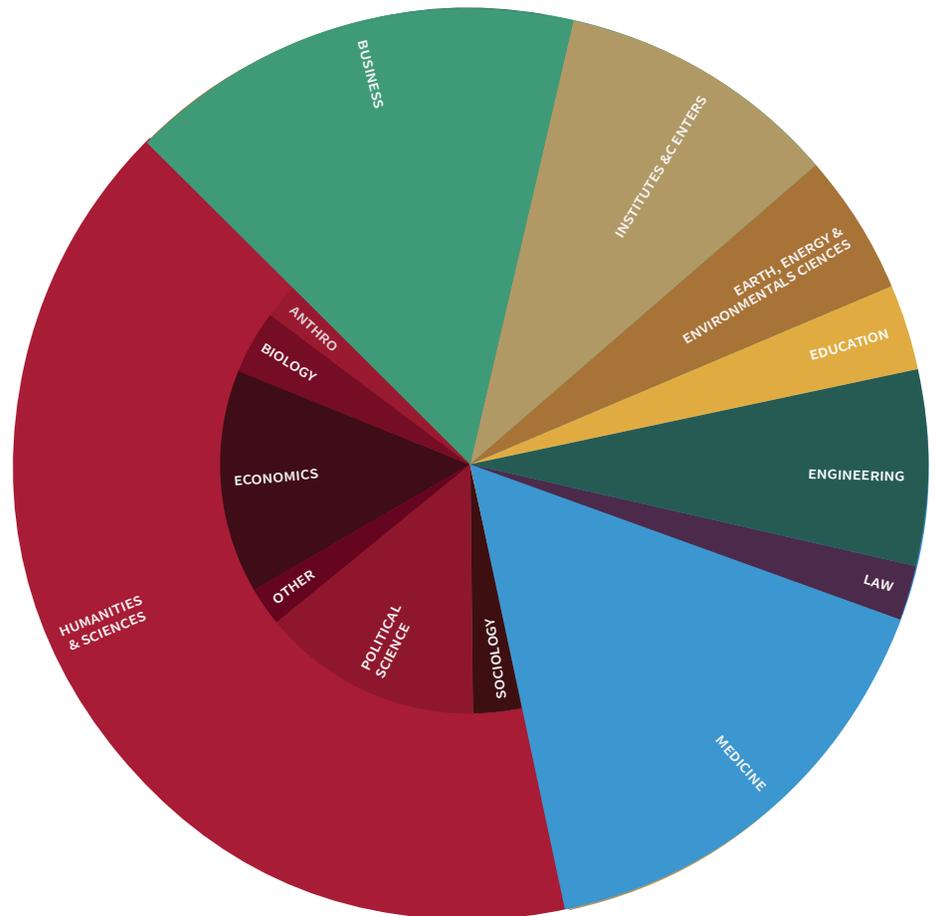
The King Center boasts more than 120 affiliated faculty representing all of Stanford's seven schools.

SCHOOLS & INSTITUTES

● GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS	16%
● INSTITUTES & CENTERS	10%
● SCHOOL OF EARTH, ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES	5%
● SCHOOL OF EDUCATION	3%
● SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING	7%
● SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SCIENCES	41%
● SCHOOL OF LAW	2%
● SCHOOL OF MEDICINE	16%

DEPARTMENTS IN THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SCIENCES

● ANTHROPOLOGY	6%
● BIOLOGY	10%
● ECONOMICS	35%
● OTHER DEPARTMENTS	6%
● POLITICAL SCIENCE	35%
● SOCIOLOGY	8%



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PHOTO CREDITS

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Back Cover: A women's agricultural cooperative in a village outside Niamey, Niger. Photo taken by Catherine Thomas

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