

Knowledge for Development

Making a difference



Local Research for Better Lives

The Global Development Network (GDN)

Since 1999

Networking at a Global Scale



participants at **17** annual global development conferences, **70%** from developing countries

Addressing Development Challenges Globally



462

pieces of research in the GDN collection including 19 books

Promoting Gender Balance



of grantees who declared their gender are female

Supporting Researchers



grantees across **141** developing and transition countries, supported by **40** major funders

Unearthing Excellence



researchers and development practitioners awarded prizes through global development awards competitions

Introduction

Funded in 1999 in the aftermath of the landmark report by the World Bank on knowledge for development, the Global Development Network (GDN) has supported the generation, dissemination and use of social science research in developing countries to inform development policies and improve development outcomes and individual lives. This brochure documents GDN's contributions to a buoyant knowledge-for-development agenda, since its inception in 1999, till 2017. A companion strategy brochure, for the period 2017-2022, reflects on the next frontiers for GDN.

The evidence gathered in this document points to four complementary contributions. First, GDN supported research has informed and improved local development policies. Second, GDN has strengthened regional centers of high-quality development research. Third, GDN's global network has amplified the voice of developing country researchers in global debates. And fourth, through its research activities, GDN has identified and nurtured policy and scholarly talent, thus promoting the gradual emergence of a research and evidence-based policy culture. All this was achieved with cost-effective combinations of global research and networking opportunities, as well as mentoring and capacity building services recognized for their quality.

The knowledge-for-development agenda is by no means complete. Knowledge generation remains overly concentrated in developed countries and is mainly foreign to the poorest ones. Development research still proceeds in disciplinary and regional silos. And, social science research has not become, yet, the expected mediator between knowledge and action. With the support of its partners, GDN looks forward to addressing these challenges.

Pierre Jacquet

President, Global Development Network

Jaime Saavedra

Senior Director and Head of Global Practice, Education, The World Bank Former Minister of Education, Peru Former GDN Prize Winner 2017

LOCAL RESEARCH IMPROVES POLICY

GDN's purpose is to support the development of policy-oriented research. While connecting research with policy is a process in itself, we find that almost half of the GDN grantees have been invited to share findings with policymakers in their countries, according to the most recent survey of GDN Impact (November 2017).

The GDN supported research on international migration, health, governance and agriculture has informed national and global policy over the years. Persistent development challenges have been addressed rigorously and systematically by GDN's grantees, who became more credible interlocutors for decision makers and stronger

influencers in their countries, as a result. The range of policy recommendations and success stories of uptake is broad: increased budget transparency in Nigeria, in Ukraine, insurance for farmers in Sri Lanka and the regulation of microfinance institutions in Kenya. Grantees have also reported that NGOs have used their findings for campaigns and that the media visibility as a result of the GDN supported research has helped elevate debate on some issues and put them on the national agenda.

"We work through the GDN project to make enforcement of the regulation on budget transparency possible."

GDN Impact Survey, 2017.



GDN improved institutional capacity to analyze public expenditure and service delivery. Photo: Shutterstock.

"I want to congratulate the authors of that paper [which empirically demonstrates the impact of democratic decentralization on health sanitation and water supply] and I was discussing with my colleague how we can take the results of that exercise forward."

Jairam Ramesh, Indian economist, politician and member of parliament, as well as former Minister of Rural Development (India), at a GDN-IRMA Policy Panel in 2013.

For instance, a recent GDN program, supported by the Department for International Development (DFID), UK through its Governance and Transparency Fund (GTF), built institutional capacity to track public expenditure in 14 developing countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America. Think tanks, research centers and other policy research organizations were rigorously trained by GDN and our partner Results for Development, over the course of a five-year global program, to monitor and analyze public expenditures in education, health and water. GDN strengthened the capacities of 148 professional staff from the 14 partner institutions to systematically analyze sector budgets, calculate the benefit incidence of programs and to produce policy simulations to achieve specific policy goals.

In total, 167 analytical reports were shared with 614 parliamentarians, ombudsmen and journalists, and 390 think tanks via 148 seminars. Thanks to this program, civil society in Nigeria obtained greater data disclosure on government finances; poor students in Armenia gained access to education through improved subsidies; students in Peru began to monitor the national budget; MPs and journalists in Kenya were trained to analyze national budgets; conditional cash transfers were institutionalized in Guatemala; and public officials in Mexico understood the burden of smoking on their public health system.

NORC at the University of Chicago, one of the largest independent social research organizations in the United States, evaluated the program in January 2014. They concluded that the program built 14 stronger institutions, with analytical capability, trained communications staff and increased local visibility and stature. The program was relevant to increasing voice, accountability and responsiveness. "The countries targeted are ones in which voice and accountability were limited, yet there was enough space for civil society to operate and constructively engage with the government," they said.

Elsewhere, in Morocco, GDN supported a study through its Natural Resource Management program, supported by Agence Française de Développement and the French



Findings from a GDN supported study showed that losses in the tourism sector due to beach degradation will far exceed the revenue from sand mining. Photo: Shutterstock.

Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, which quantified the economic value of beach ecosystems. Findings revealed that losses in the tourism sector due to degradation and loss of beaches will far exceed the revenue from sand mining between 2015-2048. The research showed that valuing beach ecosystem services not only documents degradation and highlights its costs, which creates incentives for better planning, management and implementation of economic and coastal development policies in line with sustainable development. Results informed the work of the Ministry of Urbanism and Planning to systematically monitor Moroccan shores.

Similar stories are repeated in other parts of the world. Mizanur Rahman from Bangladesh confirmed that after winning a medal in the GDN Awards Competition, financed by the Japanese government, he had been asked by the Research and Development Committee of the University of Dhaka to coordinate their research agenda. "Also, the Ministry of Finance and the Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister have involved me in their various economic planning activities." (2010).

In Côte d'Ivoire, the research carried out by Alban Ahoure and his team from Cellule d'Analyse de Politiques Economiques du CIRES (CAPEC) on the research

"The GDN grant generated evidence based research that has been widely accepted and discussed with policymakers"

GDN Grantee from Ecuador, GDN Impact Survey, 2017.

environment received wide coverage in the local media and has prompted the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research to examine the national research policy. In Cambodia, a similar country study under the umbrella of the global Doing Research program allowed the team to gain access to high levels of government ministries, as well as to the students at the bottom of the research process, i.e., tomorrow's research leaders. Debate centered around the need for a national policy for the integration

of research in higher education institutions in Cambodia.

In some cases, despite the wellknown difficulties of attribution, it has been possible to trace direct influence on policy from some of the research supported by GDN. The November 9, 2017 budget speech in the Sri Lankan parliament included two recommendations stemming from the research conducted by Kanchana Wickramasinghe of the Institute of Policy Studies in Sri Lanka on climate insurance for dry zone farmers, which she carried out after winning the first prize in the prestigious Award for Outstanding Research on Development (ORD) in 2014, financed by the Japanese government.



The 2017 budget speech in the Sri Lankan parliament included two recommendations stemming from the research conducted by GDN grantee Kanchana Wickramasinghe of the Institute of Policy Studies on climate insurance for dry zone farmers. Photo: Pexels.



"The benefit of strengthening the relationship between researchers and policymakers through dialogues such as GDN's is to improve the quality of policy formulation."

H. E. Dr. Armida Alisjahbana

then Minister of National Development Planning (BAPPENAS) Indonesia and former GDN grantee during her closing remarks at the GDN-BAPPENAS policy dialogue, Jakarta 2013

STRONGER REGIONAL RESEARCH CENTERS

"GDN's role has been decisive in strengthening the dialogue within Latin America; and between Latin America and the developed world."

Mauricio Cardenas, Minister of Finance, Colombia.

Created as a network of networks, GDN has been simultaneously global and local with both global reach and deep, contextualized knowledge in every region of the world. Under the global umbrella of GDN, many GDN's Regional Network Partners have provided research capacity building, networking and crossfertilization opportunities to early career researchers in Economics and other social science disciplines, and also established themselves as strong, independent and credible regional research centers.

These strong regional research networks have helped shape several cohorts of prominent academics and policymakers in their respective regions, including some that went on to become University Chancellors, Central Bank Governors and prominent actors in the global development arena, at think tanks such as the Brookings Institution or the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF). GDN's supported the autonomous development of Regional Network Partners through training, peer

reviews, mentoring and regional conferences, and facilitating global inter-linkages and the sharing of best practice.

The African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), GDN's network partner in Africa, has been consistently featured among the world's top development think tanks (ranked among 24 to 26 top development think tanks globally over the last three years) in the Global Go to Think Tank Index (GGTTI) and is among the top global think tanks influencing policy (2016). For many young African researchers, the research grants and training provided by AERC and supported by GDN, were the most significant stepping stones in their careers.

GDN's support for the last 15 years has empowered the *Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association* (*LACEA*) to emerge as the principal regional network of economists in the region, with prominent members revolving between academic and policy-making roles. Its Annual Conference and the more recent blog, voxLACEA are the most coveted platforms for sharing research and knowledge among Latin American economists and their North American counterparts.

"Many academic and non-academic economists suggest that the EERC grant competitions are the most prestigious in the post-Soviet countries."

Alexander Shapoval, National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow.

For the Middle East and North Africa region, the **Economic Research Forum (ERF)** in Cairo has been the leading think tank in the region, internationally recognized as such. GDN's support has helped ERF beneficiaries to diligently tackle regional challenges, addressing highpriority topics such as natural resource management, youth unemployment, informal labor and healthcare. Despite a rather turbulent region with political and economic upheavals, ERF has maintained its reputation as a strong and credible source of independent knowledge, policy insights and the premier capacity building entity in the Arab countries, Turkey and Iran.

In the CIS, GDN's resources have been used by the *Economics Education and Research Consortium (EERC)* to encourage young economists to work at the frontiers of their discipline and to apply their findings to real world policy issues. Volodymyr Vakhitov from the Kyiv School of Economics in Ukraine, a former GDN grantee through the Regional Research Competition run by EERC, considers that EERC generates

EERC

GDN's resources were used by the Economics Education and Research Consortium (EERC) to encourage young economists to work at the frontiers of their discipline and to apply research findings to real world policy issues.

Research Grants

650

Research Projects

470

Research Papers, Policy Briefs and other research products

370



"pretty much all the viable economic research in the CIS countries." (2016).

The Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education - Economics Institute (CERGE - EI) in Prague has also helped early career social scientists from across Central and Eastern Europe to access grants, mentoring, peer reviews and global exposure through GDN support. The scientific and policy communities in the region have benefited from their independent, world-class analysis and insights. The gap between research skills in the more advanced countries in the region (i.e. Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia) and the others has narrowed, and a diversity of approaches and disciplines has been brought into policy debates.

Just as in the post-communist transition countries, GDN has provided regional network partners across Asia, East Asian Development Network (EADN), Oceania Development Network (ODN) and South Asia Network of Economic Research Institutes (SANEI) with resources that have proved

with resources that have proved instrumental in fostering a research culture in low capacity places, which extends beyond borders and institutional boundaries.

Susana Tauaa, grantee from the Pacific region said, "There have been a lot of positive gains from my grant, since I have completed it. The report has been incorporated as one of the recommended readings for the **Environmental Management Courses** that is taught here at the University. My research on water catchment management in Samoa is a current issue at the forefront of (a) climate change project that is ongoing in this part of the world, so this research work provides primary informationdata and awareness of local landowners and water users"

As a complement to the work carried out by its Regional Network Partners, GDN has helped build institutional research capacity in Least Developed Countries. In Bhutan, for instance, this pilot program, supported by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), developed research leadership through exchange visits to centers of excellence, provided research training to staff, set up research centers across all eight colleges of the university and fostered student engagement in research. The most significant impact of this effort was to revive, improve and develop local research training opportunities that were previously



One hundred staff members participated in faculty research meets at the Royal University of Bhutan, since GDN's intervention in 2016. Photo: Madhuri Dass/GDN.

dormant or facing challenges. It introduced 4,000 students to basic research concepts and practice. One hundred staff members participated in faculty research meets, since GDN's intervention in 2016 –up from 20 in 2013. Not least, the university has secured financial resources and a clear mandate to carry out their research work in the future, well after GDN funding finishes, signaling sustainability.

"We are developing the capacity for research leadership, developing research centers, developing the capacity of faculty to do research and an enthusiasm for research among students"

Jamba Tobden, Coordinator of the team at the Institute for Gross National Happiness Studies in Bhutan.

How would you characterize, in your own words, the impact of GDN?

Impact Positive Improved Influence Results Medium Policy Low Important Support Useful Recommendation Fair

Exposure Substantial Valuable Colleagues Visibility Promotion
Reviewers Encouraging Significant PhD
Important Good Opportunity Impact
Professional Research Journal GDN Capacity
Positive Improved Early Stage Carreer Useful Higher
Publication Confidence

This scientific word-cloud is a visual representation of a weighted list of responses from GDN grantees, based on the GDN impact Survey, 2017.

Knowledge Opportunity Countries Useful Important Low Impact Significant Networking Fair Researchers Dissemination GDN Medium Globally Visible Positive Skills Experience Contribute

Medium Valuable Generate New Ideas Strong
Excellent Exposure Important Allowed
Knowledge Mentor Research Analysis
Impact Level Positive Tools Useful Topics



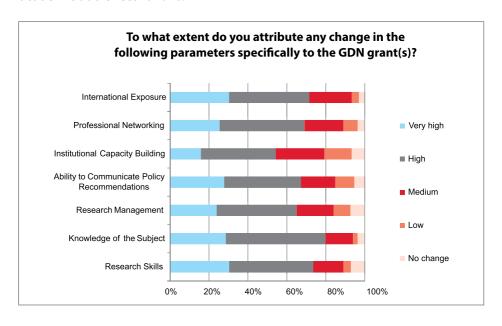
A GDN grantee from Hungary praised GDN for "Making the international academic arena more inclusive by breaking down barriers and increasing communication and mobility between scientists from countries with very different academic development."

GDN Impact SurveyNovember 2017

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAVE A STRONGER VOICE IN GLOBAL DEBATES

Global debates can and must be informed by local knowledge and home grown insights to deep development challenges. However, quality social science research and global debates remain excessively concentrated in developed countries. GDN's efforts are directed at flipping that reality. Already, over 70% of the GDN grantees surveyed in November 2017 have rated international exposure as a direct result of the GDN grant as "high" or "very high." The knowledge and insights they produce now have the potential to travel far, with wide-reaching impact.

Sixty three percent of the GDN grantees report in the same survey that they have published at least one article in an international peer reviewed journal, and, 44.3% have articles in the press. Many credit their scientific advisors and specific guidance and training from GDN on how to publish and write for non-academic audiences for this.



Take for instance migration – a global phenomenon and hotly debated topic, with rethoric and debate not always anchored in facts. Data and insights from an 11,000 household survey in Colombia, Fiji, Georgia, Jamaica, Macedonia, Ghana, and Vietnam, supported by the Australian Agency for International Development, the Austrian Ministry of Finance, the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the UK Department for International Development, formed the most extensive picture of the global impact of migration on developing countries ever compiled. They were used as part of a UK House of Lords briefing citing the benefits of immigration in 2010, "The economic and cultural benefits of immigration." The project was also featured at the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Conference in 2008.

In another example, GDN supported research has informed the global debate on climate change and adaptation, resilience and mitigation. Between 2014 and 2016, the GDN program funded by Agence Française de Développement and the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in three ecologically fragile countries—Madagascar, Mauritius and Morocco—helped understand the interaction between natural resources and socio—economic activity. These findings also featured in global policy dialogues in Paris and most recently at the WAVES Policy Forum at The Hague, Netherlands (December 2017).



A GDN program in three ecologically fragile countries–Madagascar, Mauritius and Morocco–helped researchers inform local and global debates on climate change and adaptation. Photo: Shutterstock.

'The Impact of Rich Countries' Policies on Poverty in Developing Countries' was documented in 15 countries between 2005-2008 in three specific sectors: migration, trade, and financial flows (FDI and ODA). The research was published in a book and shared at relevant international events. And not least, an ongoing collaborative program on Development Aid Effectiveness in Africa carried out in partnership with the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) and funded by USAID has brought in the much needed perspective of recipient countries into global debates on aid. GDN leveraged the insights of the African authors of the commissioned papers under the project and the local partners to convene high level policy dialogues with aid agencies, academics and minister-level policymakers in Washington, DC and Dakar, Senegal in 2016. This also brought to the fore the opportunities for development agencies to support local research, which in turn can legitimize the work of development partners across the African continent.

South-South collaborations facilitated by GDN also contribute to raising the voice of developing country researchers in global debates. The organization's range of programs brings people together physically i.e., country research teams working within a Global Research Project, and southern academics at the "Knowing who to reference and connect with on specific research agendas is enormously important. GDN is becoming a reference point for global research. It helps to bring an end to the progressive isolation of African researchers through involvement in global research projects."

Dr Olusanya Ajakaiye, Senior Research Associate at the Foundation for Economics Education (FEE), Ibadan and former Research Director at AERC (2010).

GDN Annual Conference (usually 70% of participants, and up to 90% at GDN's Global Development Conference on Education, in Lima in 2016 after) and virtually through electronic platforms and remote peer reviews. GDNet, a GDN venture funded by the Department for International Development and the Dutch Directorate General for International Cooperation (DGIS), provided southern researchers with the opportunity to share their work. It showcased over 4,000 research institutions, 8,000 researchers and over 11,000 research papers registered on its knowledge base. It also provided valuable access to published literature without a paywall, as well as networking opportunities with each other. While the initiative ran out of funding in 2014, the information on GDNet now resides in other global databases.

Said Daniel Maceira, Senior Researcher at the Center for the Study of the State and Society (CEDES) and winner of two regional awards, "Being recognized by a global organization shows that international quality standards have been used to recognize your work. The awards give private satisfaction and public recognition for your research."



Developing country researchers discuss recommendations to improve the quality of education in Latin America, at a GDN Policy Lab. Photo: Barriopixel.



"There have been, over the fifteen years of GDN, a lot of opportunities for growth (for African researchers), a lot of opportunities for cross-fertilization, and I believe that this cross-fertilization has been very, very important for making people what they have become today."

Ernest Aryeteey

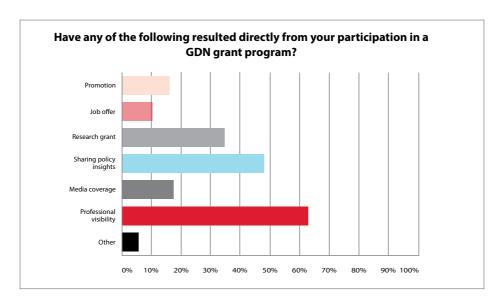
Former Vice Chancellor of University of Ghana 2014

IDENTIFYING AND NURTURING TALENT

Over 4,000 grantees from more than 140 countries have been supported by GDN through its various research capacity building programs since inception in 1999. All of them have been selected through large-scale, competitive, open calls, often with a ratio of 20 or more applicants to one grantee. GDN and its partners have used research, and research capacity-building programs, to identify and train future intellectual elites in developing and transition countries, inspiring them to become agents of change.

Young, often isolated, social-science researchers from developing countries, without the necessary support structure in place, have received funding, mentoring from top experts, peer reviews, training and access to various resources and an international, reputable platform to present their work. Many have subsequently achieved the highest levels in their career and they credit GDN for playing a part in this, at the right time, when they needed an opportunity to pursue an idea, conduct meaningful research and engage with experts and peers across the globe.

According to GDN's Impact Survey 2017, nearly 65% of respondents attribute increased professional visibility, both nationally and globally, to their affiliation with GDN. Nearly 35% of the respondents received grants from other sources,





The work that GDN grantees carry out on disaster preparedness potentially impacts millions of lives. Photo: Shutterstock

and 15.2% received promotions, directly as a result of the GDN grant.

For Quynh Ngoc Nguyen, winning the World Bank Best Thesis prize, being a finalist for a GDN Medal, and becoming a researcher on GDN's global research project, 'Development on the Move,' were all vital steps in her journey to set up a Center for Economics and Community Development in Vietnam.

Past GDN grantees include development, education and finance ministers in Indonesia, Peru and Colombia respectively, governors of central banks in Africa and South East Europe, deans and vice-chancellors of universities throughout the world, as well as internationally recognized think-tank leaders making a change for the better in their countries. The list also includes special advisors to

"The GDN grant helped to catapult my career."

GDN Impact Survey, 2017.

Ministers or Urban Councils, with key roles in the reform of the urban transport system in Yaoundé for instance, and in education reform in Peru.

The work that GDN grantees carry out potentially impacts millions of lives. Ebinezer Florano, from the Philippines, has carried out work on disaster preparedness in typhoon affected areas with the support of GDN, the East Asian Development Network and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency in a joint EADN and JICA project on resilience, which led to a co-authored chapter in the Asian Law for Disaster Recovery: A Human Centered Approach (Routledge 2016) book titled "Building Back a Better

"This project has helped us transform ourselves from a collection of academics, locked up in an ivory tower, into those with deep concern over social development around us. You all have unleashed smarter development agents that have greater potential to bring about change."

Arief Anshory Yusuf, Project Director, Center for Economics and Development Studies (CEDS).

Nation." He is regularly called upon to discuss his work on television talk shows and within policy circles.

Florano is not a unique case. For young researchers especially, guidance on how to carry out world class research, get published in top journals or present their research in prestigious national and global fora, and access a global network of peers and experts, has been instrumental in clarifying their vision, moulding their arguments, and in giving them the confidence to present their findings, and communicate their research.

With an Award for Outstanding Research from GDN, generously supported by the Japanese government in 2015, three researchers in Macedonia, Marjan Petreski, Nikica Mojskoska-Blazevski from the University American College Skopje, Macedonia, and Blagica

Petreski, from the think tank Finance Think, gained visibility and traction for their work. They developed a web-based tool EdPlaKo, to test the fairness of wage levels at the company level, based on the personal and socio-economic characteristics of workers. The tool was widely covered by the media and then found its way into the hands of 100,000 people and 300 companies, employers' organizations and trade unions. It was also being actively considered by the Macedonian Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, and Macedonia's Parliamentary Commission.

Petreski said that "GDN opened new strands of thinking," and that the research helped promote his career. He and a colleague were later hired by the International Labour Organization (ILO) to undertake a study specifically on the gender and motherhood wage gaps in Macedonia. Through networking opportunities offered by GDN to its grantees at its Annual Global Development Conference, Petreski teamed up with another GDN awardee, Sara Wong, to work collaboratively on research funded by the Inter American Development Bank to investigate how large net inflows -i.e., export booms, remittances, FDI and aid – impact manufacturing economies in Latin America.



"The studies we are sharing today root from a profound idea – that while it feels at times that the specific research we conduct is dwarfed by the enormity of the world's troubles, all our work, combined, can form a constellation of knowledge that arms human civilization with the tools to combat inequality and to pursue growth that is truly inclusive."

Beningo Aquino III

Former President of the Philippines at the opening of GDN's annual global development conference in Manila 2013

GDN's Reach 1999-2017



Africa

Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Dem. Rep., Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Jamaica, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Asia Pacific

Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Fiji, Hong Kong SAR, Kiribati, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Dem. Rep., Korea, Rep., Lao PDR, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Vanuatu, Vietnam.

Central Asia

Afghanistan, Arab Rep., Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Iran, Islamic Rep., Jordan, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyz Republic, Lebanon, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan.

Grantees Around the World



Europe

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, FYR, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

Latin America and the Caribbean

Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela.

North America

Canada, United States of America.



GDN gratefully acknowledges support from more than 40 major donors and a wide range of partners for local research in developing and transition countries, since its inception.



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