



Knowledge sharing

UNU-WIDER serves as a global platform to facilitate joint research and information exchange. Serving as a forum for open dialogue, the Institute brings researchers together with national decision-makers and their international partners to discuss key research and policy insights. The Institute's strong reputation rests on the quality and practical relevance of its research.

Policy engagement

UNU-WIDER is engaged in policy work and dialogue with governments. With its convening power and extensive expert network the Institute is able to put together highly qualified teams to work with governments facing obstacles to sustainable development.

Conferences, meetings and events

Each year hundreds of academics and policy makers from across the world participate at WIDER Development Conferences, project meetings, and special events. Requests for research proposals and application procedures can be found on the Institute's website.

WIDER Annual Lectures are given by distinguished scholars who have made significant contributions to development economics. The lectures are published and filmed – and together the collection provides a stimulating history of recent development thinking.

WIDER Development Conferences bring together researchers and policy makers from around the world to discuss specific development issues and map ways to solve them. The conferences serve as a platform for people in different stages of their career to engage and strengthen their capacities.



The *WIDERAngle* newsletter is published regularly and features updates on UNU-WIDER research, activities, and opportunities, as well as op-eds from the Institute's network.

Policy and research briefs provide an easily digested summary of research conclusions and policy recommendations.

Stay in touch through social media

Join the conversation on our research and policy analysis on Twitter and Facebook. Upcoming research opportunities are also disseminated through these channels.

We also produce a series of high quality interviews with experts on development from around the world, as well as video of most of our events. These can be accessed on our YouTube channel.

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Strengthening capacity

Capacity strengthening is an integral part of all UNU-WIDER activities, with a special emphasis on the inclusion of women and younger researchers.

The Institute aims to provide researchers, analysts, and leaders with the necessary opportunities and tools for analyzing economic dimensions of development issues, while focusing on the unique characteristics and challenges of developing economies.

Capacity strengthening activities include:

- Research projects that foster mutual learning and collaboration among experts from varying backgrounds.
- Long and short-term training courses
- Research visits at UNU-WIDER (Visiting Scholars and Visiting PhD Fellowship Programmes)

UNU-WIDER

UNU-WIDER is a unique blend of global think tank and research institute providing economic analysis and policy advice with the aim of promoting sustainable and equitable development for all. We are based in Helsinki, Finland, but operate globally and within the United Nations system.

The Institute's aim is to produce knowledge that responds to the needs of policy makers and practitioners in the developing world, across the UN, and in the international community more broadly.

Our mission

- To undertake research and policy analysis on the most pressing concerns affecting the living conditions of the world's poorest people
- To provide a forum for knowledge sharing, discussion and debate between researchers and development professionals on how to achieve equitable, gender-balanced, and environmentally sustainable policies
- To offer capacity-building and training for research and decision makers in economics and social development

The Institute is funded through an endowment fund with additional contributions from the European Union, Finland, Norway, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

Research & partnerships

UNU-WIDER engages with a broad range of researchers, partners, key policy think tanks and research institutions, and top universities across the world. It is the power of this network and these partnerships that gives the Institute credibility as a quality source of knowledge on development.

The research is coordinated by a core group of UNU-WIDER resident and non-resident researchers with expertise in the pressing issues covered by our current research programme.

Research focus

The Institute's work includes mobilizing policy research, evidence, and action around selected areas of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 goals (SDGs).

The triple challenge of transformation, inclusion, and sustainability is the focus of UNU-WIDER's research programme 2014-18.

The next research programme, which will cover the institute's activities between 2019 and 2023, is designed around three interlinked development challenges – transforming economies, transforming states, and transforming societies. The programme includes three cross cutting themes – fragility and risk, empowering people, and strengthening knowledge and capacity.

Open access research and data

The UNU-WIDER website provides free access to a vast repository of high-quality and wide-ranging research and analysis. Open access is provided for books, journals, articles, and our extensive WIDER Working Paper Series.

WIID – World Income Inequality Database is a unique collection of key statistics on income inequality for both developed and developing countries. Now the data can be explored through a custom-built visualization tool on our website.

GRD – Government Revenue Dataset provides a basis for more reliable, and comparable, cross-country tax research.

