

## BIOGRAPHY

# Advancing Good Governance & Sustainable Peace: DRIVING ACTION WITH RIGOROUS RESEARCH

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# SPEAKERS



## **Oriana Bandiera ([Website](#))**

Professor of Economics, London School of Economics

### **Evidence Panel I – Governance & Climate Change**

This session will explore governance strategies for enforcing and incentivizing compliance with environmental regulations as a tool to mitigate climate change.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Oriana Bandiera is the Sir Anthony Atkinson Professor of Economics at the London School of Economics, and a honorary foreign member of the American Economic Association, a fellow of the British Academy, the Econometric Society, CEPR, BREAD and IZA. She is co-editor of *Econometrica*, director of the Hub for Equal Representation at the LSE and of the Gender, Growth and Labour Markets in Low-Income Countries (G<sup>2</sup>LM|LIC) programme at IZA. She serves on the council of the Econometric Society, on board of the International Growth Centre and of the Barcelona Graduate School of Economics. Her research has been awarded the IZA Young Labor Economist Prize (2008), the Carlo Alberto Medal (2011), the Ester Boserup Prize (2018), the Yrjö Jahnsson Award(2019), the Arrow Award (2021) and a Honorary Doctorate in Economics from the University of Munich (2021). At the LSE she teaches the undergraduate Development Economics course, for which she won a Student Union Award in 2020.



## **Ceren Baysan ([Website](#))**

Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Toronto & Adjunct Professor, Bahçeşehir University

### **Evidence Panel II – Fostering Social Cohesion in Divided Societies**

This session will showcase findings from new research on interventions designed to strengthen social cohesion—by increasing trust, willingness to help, and sense of belonging—in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Ceren Baysan is an Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Toronto and an Adjunct Professor at Bahçeşehir University. She is also an affiliate of the Abdul Lateef Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) and a CEPR Development Economics group Research Affiliate. She received her PhD from UC Berkeley (ARE) in 2018. Her research seeks to understand how extant institutions and institutional change interact with individual beliefs and

preferences in lower-income settings to shape outcomes ranging from conflict to polarization, social integration, democratization, and economic behavior.



**Michael Callen ([Website](#))**

Associate Professor of Economics, London School of Economics

**Evidence Panel III – Strengthening State Capacity in Fragile Contexts**

This session will feature research on strategies to rebuild, strengthen, reform, and supplement the capacity of various state institutions—from tax authorities to the police and justice institutions—and reduce corruption in contexts where the state’s reach has previously been limited for various reasons, including due to conflict.

**BACKGROUND**

Michael Callen is an Associate Professor at the London School of Economics. His recent work uses experiments to identify ways to address accountability and service delivery failures in the public sector, working primarily in Afghanistan, Nepal, and Pakistan. Callen is the Research Program Director at the International Growth Center’s State Capabilities program, the Scientific Director for Nepal at Inclusion Economics, an Editorial Board Member at the Review of Economic Studies and the Journal of the European Economic Association, and Co-Editor at VoxDev. He is also a board member of the American Comparative Economic Society and is an affiliate of CEPR, CESifo, BREAD, J-PAL, CEGA, AALIMS, and ESOC.



**Katherine Casey ([Website](#))**

Professor of Political Economy, Stanford Graduate School of Business

**Evidence Panel III – Strengthening State Capacity in Fragile Contexts**

This session will feature research on strategies to rebuild, strengthen, reform, and supplement the capacity of various state institutions—from tax authorities to the police and justice institutions—and reduce corruption in contexts where the state’s reach has previously been limited for various reasons, including due to conflict.

**BACKGROUND**

Katherine Casey is a professor of political economy at Stanford University Graduate School of Business. Her research explores the interactions between economic and political forces in developing countries, with particular interest in strengthening electoral institutions and the efficacy of foreign aid on economic development. She is currently collaborating with government partners in Sierra Leone and Zambia on evaluating large scale governance reforms.



## **Ranil Dissanayake ([Website](#))**

Senior Research Fellow, Center for Global Development

### **Evidence Panel I – Governance & Climate Change**

This session will explore governance strategies for enforcing and incentivizing compliance with environmental regulations as a tool to mitigate climate change.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Ranil Dissanayake is a senior fellow in the Sustainable Development Finance and Europe programmes at CGD. Dissanayake is an economist with more than 15 years' experience in international development policy making. He has been a senior adviser to the Governments of Malawi and Tanzania and was a Senior Economic Adviser to successive Chief Economists in the UK's Department for International Development between 2016 and 2020. He currently splits his time between CGD and completing his doctoral research into organisational decision-making at the Blavatnik School of Government (University of Oxford). His work focuses on the future of development cooperation, economic development in poor countries, and bridging the gap between research and policymaking.



## **Oeindrila Dube ([Website](#))**

Philip K. Pearson Professor of Global Conflict Studies, University of Chicago

### **Evidence Panel II – Fostering Social Cohesion in Divided Societies**

This session will showcase findings from new research on interventions designed to strengthen social cohesion—by increasing trust, willingness to help, and sense of belonging—in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

### **Closing Plenary: Where Do We Go From Here?**

In this closing session, we will discuss emerging global challenges, questions, and priorities and identify places where GCCI and related initiatives may continue to fill evidence gaps and support evidence-informed decision-making.

## BACKGROUND

Oeindrila Dube is the Philip K. Pearson Professor of Global Conflict Studies at the University of Chicago, Harris School of Public Policy. Professor Dube studies poverty, violence and crime in countries around the world. One strand of her research analyzes how economic shocks shape conflict dynamics. Another strand examines how cognitive factors give rise to violence. She uses both quasi-experimental and experimental research designs, and draws on a wide variety of sources, including original surveys, hand collected records, and big data to study these questions. Her work has appeared in leading journals including the Quarterly Journal of Economics, Science, the Journal of Political Economy, the Review of Economic Studies, and the American Political Science Review. Dube is a faculty research fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), a fellow at the Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), a fellow at the Centre for Economic Policy and Research (CEPR) and an affiliate of the University of Chicago Crime Lab. She co-leads the Crime and Violence Initiative at J-PAL, and the Socio-economic Inequalities Initiative at the University of Chicago's Becker Friedman Institute.



### **Alison Fahey ([Website](#))**

Director of Policy and Communications, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab

#### **Closing Plenary: Where Do We Go From Here?**

In this closing session, we will discuss emerging global challenges, questions, and priorities and identify places where GCCI and related initiatives may continue to fill evidence gaps and support evidence-informed decision-making.

## BACKGROUND

Alison Fahey is the Director of Policy and Communications. She leads the Policy and Communications group which collaborates with J-PAL researchers and staff to synthesize and share insights from randomized evaluations to inform policy design and scale decisions with partners worldwide. She previously served as the founding Executive Director of J-PAL Middle East and North Africa, where she led J-PAL's newest regional office based at The American University in Cairo, guiding strategy and growth for the office's research, policy, capacity building, and operations teams, and forging partnerships for evidence generation and use with innovative policymakers across the MENA region. Prior to joining J-PAL in 2014, Alison worked in a variety of positions related to service delivery, economic growth, and decentralization with USAID in Afghanistan and Jordan, and with the World Bank in Indonesia. Alison was a Fulbright Scholar in Jordan and she holds an M.P.A. in International Development from Princeton University.



### **Frederico Finan ([Website](#))**

Professor of Economics and Business Administration, University of California, Berkeley

#### **Evidence Panel III – Strengthening State Capacity in Fragile Contexts**

This session will feature research on strategies to rebuild, strengthen, reform, and supplement the capacity of various state institutions—from tax authorities to the police and justice institutions—and reduce corruption in contexts where the state’s reach has previously been limited for various reasons, including due to conflict.

#### **Closing Plenary: Where Do We Go From Here?**

In this closing session, we will discuss emerging global challenges, questions, and priorities and identify places where GCCI and related initiatives may continue to fill evidence gaps and support evidence-informed decision-making.

### **BACKGROUND**

Frederico Finan is a Professor of Economics at the University of California, Berkeley and Co-Chair of J-PAL's Political Economy and Governance Sector and Governance Initiative. His research focuses on a broad range of economic topics in the areas of economic development and political economy, with a regional focus on Latin America. He holds a PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics from UC-Berkeley and has held faculty positions at UCLA and Stanford GSB. He is a recipient of a Sloan Research Fellowship. He is a co-director of Berkeley’s Center for Economics and Politics and CEGA’s Initiative on Economic Development and Institutions.



### **Adnan Khan ([Website](#))**

Chief Economist, FCDO

#### **Evidence Panel III – Strengthening State Capacity in Fragile Contexts**

This session will feature research on strategies to rebuild, strengthen, reform, and supplement the capacity of various state institutions—from tax authorities to the police and justice institutions—and reduce corruption in contexts where the state’s reach has previously been limited for various reasons, including due to conflict.

## BACKGROUND

Professor Adnan Khan is the Chief Economist and Director for Economics and Evaluation in the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO). He is seconded from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), where he is Professor in the School of Public Policy. Adnan has focused his career on advancing the understanding of development economics, political economy, entrepreneurship, and public sector reform. He has taught courses at the London School of Economics on development economics, public organisations, and political economy. He has taught at Harvard Kennedy School and has also been an Academic Director at the School of Public Policy. Adnan co-chaired LSE-Oxford Commission on State Fragility, Growth and Development. He continued to work on the theme of fragile states through the follow-up Reducing Fragilities Initiative, and he has spent more than a decade in policy roles in different capacities and in various government departments.



## Salma Mousa ([Website](#))

Assistant Professor of Political Science, UCLA

### **Evidence Panel II – Fostering Social Cohesion in Divided Societies**

This session will showcase findings from new research on interventions designed to strengthen social cohesion—by increasing trust, willingness to help, and sense of belonging—in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

## BACKGROUND

Salma Mousa is a scholar of migration, conflict, and social cohesion. Salma typically uses field experiments and partnerships with local governments and NGOs in the Middle East to explore these questions. Currently an Assistant Professor at UCLA's political science department, her research has been published in *Science*, and covered by *The Economist*, the BBC, *Der Spiegel*, the *Times of London*, and PBS NOVA. Salma received her PhD from Stanford University's political science department in 2020.





## **Vivian Bronsoler Nurko ([Website](#))**

International Programmes and Impact Director, International Growth Centre

### **Evidence Panel II – Fostering Social Cohesion in Divided Societies**

This session will showcase findings from new research on interventions designed to strengthen social cohesion—by increasing trust, willingness to help, and sense of belonging—in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Vivian is the IGC's International Programmes and Impact Director. She has extensive experience in evidence-informed policymaking and international development research, having worked in evaluation, program design and management, strategy development, and research initiatives focused on locally-led development and violence prevention. She holds a Master of Public Policy from the University of California, Berkeley, and a B.A. in Political Science from the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM). Prior to joining the IGC, Vivian worked as Senior Advisor for Evidence and Impact at the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, as an Evaluation Team Leader at the Center on Conflict and Development at Texas A&M University, and as the founding Senior Manager for JPAL's office for Mexico and Central America.



## **Rohini Pande ([Website](#))**

Henry J. Heinz II Professor of Economics, Yale University

### **Opening Remarks**

### **Evidence Panel I – Governance & Climate Change**

This session will explore governance strategies for enforcing and incentivizing compliance with environmental regulations as a tool to mitigate climate change.

### **Fireside Chat**

## BACKGROUND

Rohini Pande is the Henry J. Heinz II Professor of Economics, Director of the Economic Growth Center, and Director of Inclusion Economics at Yale University. She is a co-editor of *American Economic Review: Insights*. Pande's research is largely focused on how formal and informal institutions shape power relationships and patterns of economic, political, and environmental advantage in society, particularly in developing countries. She is interested in the role of public policy in providing the poor and disadvantaged political and economic power, and how notions of economic justice and human rights can help justify and enable such change.



### **Anant Sudarshan ([Website](#))**

Associate Professor of Economics, University of Warwick

#### **Evidence Panel I – Governance & Climate Change**

This session will explore governance strategies for enforcing and incentivizing compliance with environmental regulations as a tool to mitigate climate change.

## BACKGROUND

Anant Sudarshan is an Associate Professor at the Department of Economics at the University of Warwick and a Senior Fellow at the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC). He received his PhD in Management Science and Engineering from Stanford University and holds undergraduate and masters degrees in Mechanical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (Delhi) and Stanford University respectively. His research spans several aspects of energy and environment policy including the design of environmental regulation, reducing air-pollution, climate change, energy efficiency, electricity access, and renewable energy policy.



### **Sarah Taylor ([Website](#))**

Director for Conflict, Stabilisation and Mediation, FCDO

#### **Opening Remarks**

## BACKGROUND

Sarah Taylor was appointed Director for Conflict, Stabilisation and Mediation at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office in summer 2022. Immediately prior to that she worked on the UK's response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. From 2019-2022 Sarah was Europe Director, responsible for the UK's bilateral relationships across Europe and overseeing the FCDO's European network of Embassies. Prior to that she was responsible for overseeing continuity of international agreements as the UK left the EU. Sarah joined FCDO in 2016 as Cyber Director. In that role she oversaw the UK's international negotiations to promote a free, open, peaceful and secure cyberspace, was the UK's Expert on the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts on responsible state behaviour in cyberspace, and led international efforts to call out state sponsored cyberattacks. Sarah has held roles in the Cabinet Office and the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, working on Social Exclusion, and in the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, among others. Sarah has also spent time in international government at UNHQ New York, as Special Assistant to the Director of the United Nations Security Council.



## Loïc Watine ([Website](#))

Chief Research & Policy Officer, Innovations for Poverty Action

### **Closing Plenary: Where Do We Go From Here?**

In this closing session, we will discuss emerging global challenges, questions, and priorities and identify places where GCCI and related initiatives may continue to fill evidence gaps and support evidence-informed decision-making.

## BACKGROUND

As Chief Research & Policy Officer, Loïc Watine is responsible for leading IPA's overall strategy to ensure that research is relevant to and used by decision-makers, and to equip them to use data and evidence to improve the lives of people living in poverty. He provides strategic guidance and leadership to a team of senior leaders overseeing IPA's Sector programs, Policy team, and Right-Fit-Evidence unit, who together form the Research & Policy global team and work closely with IPA's Country Office teams. Previously, Loïc led the Right-Fit Evidence Unit, IPA's advisory department aimed at supporting NGOs, social businesses, governments, and funders in building right-fit Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning systems. Since joining IPA in 2010, he has directed IPA's work in Ghana, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Mali, both as Country Director and Regional Director. As an internal principal investigator, Loïc led a multi-country study on pre-primary education in poor urban areas throughout Africa, as well as a study on targeted instruction in Sierra Leone. He has prior experience working in Guatemala and India, and holds a Diplôme d'Ingénieur from the École Polytechnique, along with an MPA in International Development from Harvard University.



## **Charlotte Watts** ([Website](#))

Chief Scientific Adviser and Director for Research and Evidence, UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office

### **Fireside Chat**

#### **BACKGROUND**

Professor Charlotte Watts is Chief Scientific Adviser and Director for Research and Evidence at the UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). She is seconded from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, where she is Professor of Social and Mathematical Epidemiology. Charlotte is the most senior scientist in FCDO, with responsibility for providing scientific advice to the Foreign Secretary, Ministers, the Permanent Under-Secretary and Executive Committee, including during the COVID-19 pandemic and other emergencies. She heads the Research and Evidence Directorate, that brings together leadership of FCDO's expert geopolitical and development advisors, FCDO's significant research and technology development investments, and jointly oversees (with the Department of Science, Innovation and Technology) the UK's overseas science and innovation diplomatic network. Charlotte has a PhD in mathematics, with further training in public health. In her academic career, prior to joining UK Government, she made important contributions in infectious disease epidemiology, HIV prevention, and violence research, including showing that domestic violence is preventable. She is a Fellow of the UK Academy of Medical Sciences and Foreign Associate Member of the US National Academy of Medicine. In 2019 she was appointed a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George in the Queen's Birthday Honours.



## **Jonathan Weigel** ([Website](#))

Assistant Professor, Business and Public Policy Group, University of California, Berkeley

### **Evidence Panel III – Strengthening State Capacity in Fragile Contexts**

This session will feature research on strategies to rebuild, strengthen, reform, and supplement the capacity of various state institutions—from tax authorities to the police and justice institutions—and reduce corruption in contexts where the state's reach has previously been limited for various reasons, including due to conflict.

## BACKGROUND

Jonathan Weigel is an assistant professor in the Business and Public Policy Group at University of California, Berkeley's Haas School of Business and a Barbara and Gerson Bakar Faculty Fellow. He is affiliated with BREAD, CEGA, CEPR, EGAP, IFS, JPAL, NBER, and STICERD. His research interests are at the intersection of political economy, development, and public economics. His primary research agenda explores the role of state capacity in development with a focus on taxation. A second agenda explores the relationship between culture (especially religion) and institutions. His field work is based in the D.R. Congo, where he ran a research organization called ODEKA, as well as Haiti and Myanmar. He completed a PhD in Political Economy and Government at Harvard in 2018. He also worked as a researcher at Partners In Health from 2010-2012.