

# IMPACT REPORT 2022



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### **MISSION**

Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) is a research, evaluation, and learning network with worldwide reach that promotes rigorous knowledge accumulation, innovation, and evidence-based policy in various governance domains, including accountability, political participation, mitigation of societal conflict, and reducing inequality. It does so by fostering academic-practitioner collaborations, developing tools and methods for analytical rigor, and training academics and practitioners alike, with an intensive focus in the Global South.

### EGAP GLOBAL NETWORK

EGAP is a <u>global research network</u> for researchers and practitioners who are actively engaged in field research on the topics of governance, politics, and institutions, or who provide methodological expertise. EGAP's network is composed of researchers across social science disciplines, practitioners of governance innovations, and policy makers interested in policy-relevant research.



### **New Members in 2022**

Three new institutional members based in the Global South joined the EGAP network in 2022: Le Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour la Paix (CERAP) in Côte d'Ivoire; Partnership for African Social and Governance Research (PASGR) in Kenya; and Equilibrium CenDE in Peru.



"Where collaborations have really blossomed in my experience has been in the context of networks. EGAP puts people in the room together from USAID and universities. Over the years, you become friends, call each other, and say I need some help. Then, you begin to collaborate."

Jake Bowers, Associate Professor of Political Science & Statistics University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



# POLICY-RELEVANT RESEARCH: MEETINGS

EGAP's work addresses the challenges of producing and sharing rigorous evidence on governance interventions and critical current global issues to help make policy-relevant recommendations. EGAP's four <u>priority themes</u> - Crime Reduction & Police Accountability; Climate Change Governance; Displacement, Migration, & Integration; and Democracy, Conflict, & Polarization - bring EGAP members, along with key outside stakeholders in the academic, NGO, and governmental communities, together to advance research under each theme.

### **Priority Theme Meeting**

With the resumption of in-person events, EGAP hosted its inaugural priority theme meeting on October 28-29, 2022 in Ithaca, New York. EGAP researchers, institutional members, and colleagues met to discuss topics on Crime Reduction & Police Accountability and Democracy, Conflict, & Polarization.

Hosted by Sabrina Karim at Cornell University, the meeting included sessions on ethics and measurement, as well as policymaker priorities and practitioner updates on programmatic initiatives. Based on the discussions from the meetings, the steering committees will prepare a concept note that will be used as a foundation for future collaborative work.



### **Online Feedback Sessions**

At EGAP's <u>feedback sessions</u>, researchers and practitioners receive extensive feedback on research proposals and designs, advise on fruitful areas for policyrelevant research, and enter into researcher-practitioner partnerships to address pressing questions. In 2022, EGAP organized 18 sessions. EGAP has organized 63 sessions since 2020.



### Metaketa Knowledge Accumulation Workshop & Climate Change Roundtable

In collaboration with the Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship (CSDC), at the annual American Political Science Association (APSA) meeting, EGAP organized a workshop based on the Metaketa Initiative, "Knowledge Accumulation and External Validity: Implications for Design and Analysis." In addition, the Climate Change Governance Priority Theme steering committee organized a roundtable on the politics of climate governance.

# POLICY-RELEVANT RESEARCH: TOOLS & RESOURCES

EGAP publishes tools and resources aimed at improving the quality of social science research and research collaboration. These resources serve to advance our understanding on governance interventions and bring together members whose research relates to the topic.

### **Priority Theme Seminar Series**

The <u>Priority Theme Seminar Series</u> highlights researcher-practitioner collaborations around intervention-oriented research. The series is intended for practitioner and policy audiences to foster new collaborations through discussions. Since 2021, EGAP has organized seven seminar series events.



### **Blog Series & Governance Loop Podcast**

EGAP's <u>blog</u> features research by EGAP members & their co-authors, in addition to highlighting research collaborations with implementing partners. Blog posts include Q&As with Members, Election Series primers, and Priority Theme Spotlights. <u>Governance Loop</u>, EGAP's podcast about cutting-edge governance innovations & social science research, focuses on collaborative, policy-relevant studies conducted by teams of researchers & practitioners.

### Policing in the Global South

The Crime Reduction & Police Accountability
Priority Theme created a <u>resource website</u> to gather evidence and policy recommendations on policing in the Global South. The webpage includes interviews with experts, policy briefs on effective interventions, and a list of published papers on specific research areas.



### **Metaketa IV Publication**

The <u>Metaketa Initiative</u> is EGAP's collaborative, multi-site research model centered around taking a major question of policy importance, identifying an intervention, and implementing a cluster of coordinated research studies. In 2022, the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) published a summary of the Metaketa IV round on community policing as part of a webpage featuring the top governance evaluations that they have funded.

## GLOBAL RESEARCH EXCHANGE: RESEARCH GRANTS

EGAP seeks to advance knowledge on governance innovations and policy outcomes by supporting scholars advancing the field. EGAP's <u>research grants program</u> funds quantitative research in the <u>Global South</u> that could lead to an accumulated understanding of promising governance innovations. In 2021, EGAP funded a total of 22 grants to teams led by principal investigators from the Global South.

22

15

\$260K+

**GRANTS** 

COUNTRIES

AWARDED



In 2022, EGAP hosted feedback sessions for each of the 12 research teams that received a <u>Priority Theme grant</u> or a <u>LATAM Regional Hub grant</u>. Research teams received feedback from EGAP members on their research proposals and designs prior to research implementation.



As part of the COVID-19 Governance Series, EGAP organized presentations for several COVID-19 grant recipients. Six research teams studying the impacts of the pandemic, misinformation, and vaccine hesitancy in Colombia, Ghana, Kenya, Pakistan, Peru, and Zimbabwe presented their findings.

Connecting Researchers: During their presentation about the impacts of the pandemic on Ghana's 2020 election, researchers Emmanuel Ayifah and Rebecca Nana Yaa Ayifah connected and discussed potential collaborations with Emmanuel Rukundo, another EGAP grant recipient who also conducted research on the effects of the pandemic on elections in Uganda.



# GLOBAL RESEARCH EXCHANGE: REGIONAL HUBS

EGAP seeks to expand its capacity for global research exchange through the <u>Regional Hub</u> initiative. Under this model, EGAP's activities allow for locally rooted scholars to identify priorities, set the research agenda, share knowledge, and foster collaboration across regions. The Latin America Regional Hub was established in 2021 in partnership with the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, Colombia. The West Africa Regional Hub was established in 2022 in partnership with the Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour la Paix (CERAP) in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. These hubs coordinate activities such as methods trainings, policy events, and research grants.

### West Africa Regional Hub

On July 20, 2022, EGAP co-hosted an event celebrating the official launch of the West Africa Regional Hub. Arsène Brice Bado, Director of the West Africa Regional Hub, and EGAP member Leonardo Arriola, Associate Professor of Political Science at UC Berkeley, presented the partnership at the launch event. Two research teams presented their work on electoral violence and misinformation to Abidjan-based policymakers and practitioners. This event was hosted in conjunction with the Learning Days workshop hosted by CERAP in July 2022.

### **Research Grants**

In 2023, the West Africa Regional Hub will fund small research grants for quantitative field studies in sub-Saharan Africa on the theme of democracy, conflict, and polarization to teams led by principal investigators based in/from sub-Saharan Africa.



### Latin America Regional Hub: Conferences



The <u>Latin America Regional Hub</u> organized a session titled "Governance and Inequality: Motivation, Trust, and Crime" at the United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research conference on reducing inequality in Bogotá, Colombia on October 5-7, 2022. The Regional Hub also organized a session on violence, inequality, and development at the LACEA Annual Meeting held in Lima, Peru on November 3-5, 2022.

# GLOBAL RESEARCH EXCHANGE: REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

### **Mercury Project: Health Ambassadors Grant**

In August 2022, EGAP launched the Mercury Project: Health Ambassadors, a research collaboration with EGAP's institutional partners CERAP and PASGR. The project, funded through the Social Science Research Council, studies strategies to increase public fluency and confidence in reliable scientific information about COVID-19 and COVID vaccine uptake. The intervention consists of a "health ambassadors" initiative in which ambassadors will proactively engage households and offer a direct and private opportunity to discuss concerns. The randomized controlled trials will be implemented in four Anglophone and Francophone countries in sub-Saharan Africa: Côte d'Ivoire, Malawi, Senegal, and Zimbabwe.



On November 21-22, 2022, CERAP hosted a research design workshop bringing together all the country-based co-PIs and EGAP advisory committee. The National Director of Covid-19 Vaccines also participated offering country-specific knowledge. The meeting included discussions and presentations about the study design.

### **Global Fellowship Program**

EGAP's fellowship program provides an opportunity for junior scholars from sub-Saharan Africa to advance their research at UC Berkeley. Mame Mor Anta Syll from the Université Gaston Berger spent Spring 2022 at UC Berkeley. Syll audited two courses and presented his project, "Capacity Building of Gender Elected Officials Under Gender Quotas: Evidence from Senegal," at the Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA) and UC Berkeley's Center for African Studies. Syll continues to stay involved with EGAP's work and serves as the Senegal team lead for the Health Ambassadors project.

"Through the EGAP Fellowship, I was able to connect to a diverse network of researchers with collaboration prospects that are already emerging on projects of common interest."

Mame Mor Anta Syll, Associate Researcher at the Université Gaston Berger



# LEARNING & METHODS ACTIVITIES: LEARNING DAYS

EGAP's <u>Learning Days workshops</u> aim to build experimental social science research capacity among principal investigators in the Global South. These workshops offer a combination of design clinics, research presentations, guided work with statistical analysis software, and topical lectures. By sharing rigorous research methods with workshop participants, the Learning Days serve to identify and build researcher networks in the Global South, as well as create productive connections between EGAP members and researchers around the world.

To date, **168** participants from **31** different countries in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa have participated in a Learning Days workshop. **43%** of participants are women, and **32%** of participants are practitioners and policymakers.





### **Latin America Learning Days**

EGAP's Latin America Regional Hub organized a Learning Days workshop from November 28-December 2, 2022 at the Universidad del Rosario in Bogotá, Colombia. 17 researchers from five countries in Latin America participated in the workshop, which was conducted in Spanish.

### **West Africa Learning Days**

EGAP's West Africa Regional Hub held a Learning Days workshop from July 18-22, 2022, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. 24 researchers from 12 countries in sub-Saharan Africa participated in the workshop, which was conducted in a mix of French and English to serve both Francophone and Anglophone participants.



# LEARNING & METHODS ACTIVITIES: TOOLS & RESOURCES

EGAP seeks to encourage rigorous impact evaluation throughout the social and behavioral science research community by developing and disseminating methodological resources. These include Learning Days workshop training materials and Methods Guides. In addition, in 2022, EGAP translated many of its publicly accessible resources into French and Spanish.

### **Learning Days Book**

The <u>online Learning Days book</u>, The Theory of Practice of Field Experiments: An Introduction from the EGAP Learning Days, written by EGAP members, Jake Bowers, Maarten Voors, and Nahomi Ichino was translated into French and Spanish. The book is a resource that EGAP members, workshop alumni, and others can use to organize their own workshops or refresh their training.



### **Methods Guides**



The Methods Guides are ten-point primers on a range of methodological and research topics. Intended for researchers and practitioners, each guide takes one issue and outlines the ten most important points. In 2022, EGAP published two new methods guides and translated twelve methods guides into French and Spanish, bringing the total number of published methods guides to 32 since 2014.

### **EGAP Registry**

The EGAP <u>Design Registry</u> is a platform for study authors to document their research questions and evaluation plans ahead of conducting their analysis to increase the sharing of accurate and transparent information on research projects. Researchers have published a total of 2,559 registered designs on the EGAP Registry since 2011.



### ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES

EGAP's activities are led by an Executive Director, under the guidance of a rotating Board of Directors. In 2022, EGAP held elections for the EGAP Executive Director and Board of Directors. EGAP directorate roles are democratically elected by membership.

### **Incoming Executive Director & New Board of Directors**

The current Executive Director, Cyrus Samii (New York University) will complete his term at the end of 2023. Daniel Rubenson (Toronto Metropolitan University) has been elected to serve as EGAP's Executive Director from 2024-2026.

The following members were elected to the Board of Directors for the 2024-2028 term: Jake Bowers (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Jessica Gottlieb (University of Houston), and Rebecca Wolfe (University of Chicago). They will join current Board members Cesi Cruz (University of California, Los Angeles), Linda Stern (National Democratic Institute), and Juan Vargas (Universidad del Rosario).





### **Training & Methods Co-Directors**

EGAP's Trainings & Methods Co-Directors work together to lead capacity strengthening activities and develop methodological resources. Graeme Blair (UCLA) was appointed to the new role of Trainings & Methods Co-Director. Nahomi Ichino (Emory University), the incumbent Trainings Director, will serve a second term in the new role of Trainings & Methods Co-Director.

### **EGAP Pre-Doctoral Fellow**

Horace Gninafon joined the EGAP team as a pre-doctoral fellow. He is a PhD candidate in Economics at Laval University. His research interests include development economics and political economy. Gninafon will support EGAP's Learning Days workshops, methods work, and the Mercury Project: Health Ambassadors project.



### **BOARD & LEADERSHIP**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** 

Cyrus Samii

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS** 

Claire Adida

Rosario Aguilar

Cesi Cruz

Jessica Gottlieb

Linda Stern

Godber Tumushabe

Juan Vargas

**TRAININGS & METHODS** 

**CO-DIRECTOR**S

Graeme Blair

Nahomi Ichino

PRIORITY THEMES

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Crime Reduction & Police

Accountability

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Santiago Tobón

Climate Change Governance

Evan Lieberman

Melina Platas

Tara Slough

Linda Stern

Displacement, Migration, &

Integration

Gareth Nellis

Alex Scacco

Rebecca Wolfe

Democracy, Conflict, &

Polarization

Jessica Gottlieb

Robert Blair

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Max Mendez-Beck,

Research & Policy Manager

Ayuko Picot,

Program Officer

Horace Gninafon,

Predoctoral Fellow



Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP)

University of California, Berkeley • 113 Moses Hall • Berkeley, CA 94720, USA admin@egap.org • <a href="www.egap.org">www.egap.org</a> • <a href="twitter.com/EGAPTweets">twitter.com/EGAPTweets</a>