



UNIVERSITY OF
GOTHENBURG



ANNUAL REPORT 2017

THE PROGRAM ON GOVERNANCE

AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

WHAT DETERMINES WHEN COMMUNITY DECISION-MAKING IS TRANSPARENT, LEADERS ARE ACCOUNTABLE, AND CITIZENS ENJOY GOOD GOVERNANCE? WHY DO SOME COMMUNITIES PROVIDE SECURE ENVIRONMENTS, GOOD EDUCATION, ADEQUATE HEALTH CARE, AND OTHER FACTORS THAT PROMOTE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, WHILE OTHERS FAIL TO DO SO?

Produced by the Program on Governance and Local Development

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website: <http://gld.gu.se>

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ABOUT US



INTRODUCTION FROM THE DIRECTOR

Preparing the inaugural report for the Program on Governance and Local Development is a time not only to review the past year, but to look back on the two and a half years since I moved to Gothenburg. With generous support from the Swedish Research Council and encouragement from soon-to-be-colleagues in Gothenburg, in June 2015 I left my professorship at Yale University and moved to the University of Gothenburg. A major impetus for the move was the opportunity to establish a Program on Governance and Local Development, a research program modeled after the Yale GLD Program that I had established in 2013.

At both Yale and Gothenburg, the programs have focused on understanding the nature of governance and drivers of development at the local level; however, the move to Gothenburg offered opportunities for establishing a more vibrant, expansive program. Swedish support allowed me to dedicate my energies more fully to research, to extend the research focus beyond the Arab world, and to work in an environment that excels in supporting cutting-edge research conducted by large teams of world-renowned scholars. The Quality of Government Institute (QoG), the Varieties of Democracy Institute (VDem), the Laboratory of Opinion Research (LORE), and the newly established Center for Collective Action Research (CeCAR), as well as smaller research groups in the Department of Political Science, School of Global Studies, and elsewhere in the university are dedicated to producing scientifically rigorous, policy-relevant research addressing questions of governance and development. The synergies between these programs and GLD research are exciting.

The GLD program has grown significantly since I arrived in June 2015. I spent much of the first months in Gothenburg alone. With an American understanding of summer vacation, I had come to Sweden expecting that it would be a good time to become acquainted with my colleagues, only to be met, soon after midsummer, with door signs promising returns in mid-August. However, September brought the first two post-doctoral fellows, Adam Harris and Kristen Kao, and the first PhD student, Felix Hartmann, to the GLD program. We were soon engaged in a large collaborative research project on Malawi. Working with colleagues at the Institute of Public Opinion Research (Zomba, Malawi), the Christian Michelsen Institute (Bergen, Norway), Portland State University (Portland, Oregon) and New York University Shanghai, we fielded focus groups, surveyed over 8,100 households, and conducted more than 300 elite surveys in the spring of 2016. Somehow, simultaneously, we conceived of the project on social institutions and urbanization. Maria Thorson joined GLD as a research coordinator in spring 2016, taking on the daunting task of establishing administrative routines in a new organization while supporting an active research program. Jens Ewald and Petter Holmgren joined soon thereafter as GLD's first interns. In the fall of that year, Sebastian Nickel came to us to be GLD's data manager, and Ruth Carlitz became our third postdoctoral fellow. By the end of 2016, we were disseminating the results of research in Malawi, Europe, and the United States; we had successfully obtained funding for the projects on social institutions and urbanization; we had prepared a background paper for the World Bank's *World Development Report* and conducted research for WDR on administrative reform in Malawi; and we were preparing for future research.

The activities of 2017, chronicled in this report, are due in large part to these early efforts,

and to the incredible support from the administration and our colleagues at the Department of Political Science and at the University of Gothenburg in general. The administration supported the process of expansion, while helping fill in gaps in the support staff where they emerged. Colleagues integrated GLD researchers into the department through seminars, conferences, and research collaborations. Our colleagues not only stimulate research ideas and share best practices in methodology, but they also make the department a fun, exciting, and productive research environment.

Reflecting on GLD since my arrival in Gothenburg leaves me with a sense of accomplishment, but also with a feeling of enormous gratitude and responsibility. I am grateful to the Swedish Research Council and colleagues at the University of Gothenburg who granted the opportunity to undertake this work and supported GLD's establishment at Gothenburg. I am thankful to funders and colleagues who supported my efforts in the past, and I am perhaps most appreciative of my family, who bear with me, both past and present. I also feel responsibility. I have been entrusted with stewardship of extraordinary resources, supportive colleagues and family, and a growing, talented team. The questions we seek to answer – understanding why some communities live healthy, happy, and peaceful lives while others are plagued by

development challenges and conflict – are critical for millions of people. GLD research will not solve all of the problems at hand, but it can provide insights and information to address these issues. I hope that the research chronicled here, and that to come, help to meet these challenges.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ellen Lust".

ELLEN LUST
Director

GOVERNANCE AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT (GLD)

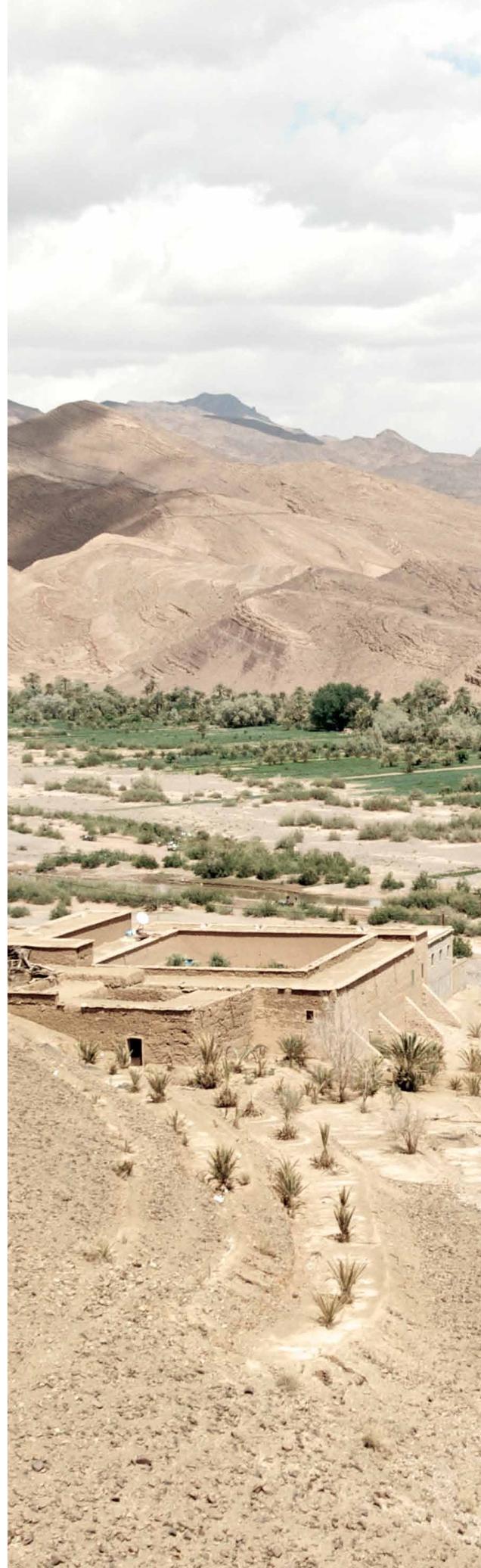
The Program on Governance and Local Development (GLD) is a research program based at the University of Gothenburg. Originally founded in 2013 at Yale University by program director Professor Ellen Lust, GLD focuses on issues of governance and local development in an effort to promote human welfare globally. With over twelve full-time staff dedicated to scientifically rigorous research, the program aims to develop insights into the role of state and non-state actors, to consider the relationship between local level factors and governance, and to provide policy-relevant findings.

WHAT IS THE LGPI?

The Local Governance Performance Index (LGPI) is a survey-based methodology developed by GLD. The LGPI provides a new approach to the measurement, analysis, and improvement of local governance. It is a tool that aids in the collection, assessment, and benchmarking of local governance and service delivery, using face-to-face surveys to detect important, local-level variation. The LGPI has already been utilized in large national surveys in Tunisia (2015) and Malawi (2016) and will be implemented in Kenya, Tanzania, and Zambia in 2018.

Key Elements of the LGPI

1. Employs a methodology of clustered surveys at the village level, allowing for measures of local variation undetectable in most surveys.
2. Focuses on direct behavioral measures.
3. Covers multiple sectors, enabling us to see relationships between governance and outcomes across sectors, such as education, health, livelihoods, and security.
4. Provides a detailed map of citizen experiences with governance and service delivery.



GLD IN 2017

The year 2017 has been an exciting and eventful one for GLD. From undertaking new and diverse research projects to providing platforms for dialogue between academics and policy makers through our conferences and workshops, our work over the last twelve months has embodied one of our core objectives: **bringing together scholars and practitioners from across the world in an effort to foster our understanding of governance and development.** Our activities this year

have focused on the dissemination of results from previous research projects, including working papers, presentations, and workshops of the LGPI in Tunisia (2015) and Malawi (2016); the public release of the truncated Malawi 2016 LGPI data set; and undertaking new research projects. We have also been fortunate to welcome a number of leading international scholars through our visiting scholars program, which has greatly enriched our ongoing efforts.

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WORKING PAPERS

01

DATA SET

11

VISITING SCHOLARS

10+

PRESENTATIONS IN OVER
10 COUNTRIES AROUND
THE WORLD

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LGPI COUNTRY REPORTS

03

RESEARCH PROJECTS

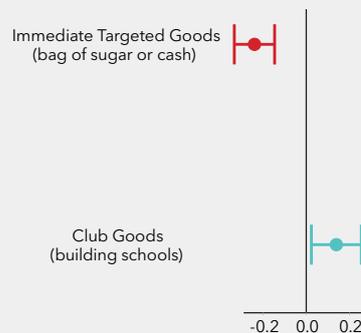
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SPONSORED CONFERENCES
AND WORKSHOPS

DID YOU KNOW?

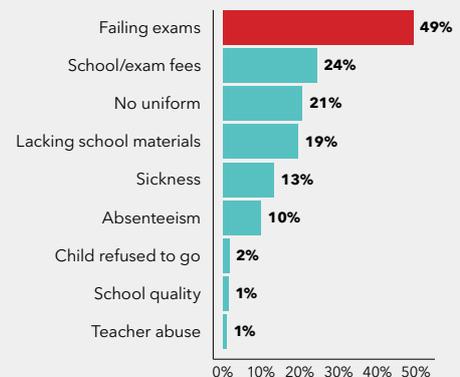
Our latest insights from research in 2017. Follow us on twitter @gld_göthenburg for more DYKs.

Malawian voters turn against candidates who offer them targeted goods, such as bags of sugar or cash.



Although many studies expect that voters in Africa prefer immediate, targeted goods from candidates, the 2016 LGPI in Malawi reveals that voters are repelled by a candidate offering such goods. Instead, voters tend to support candidates who promise to pass legislation aimed at building schools and improving health care.

Malawians are more likely to report problems related to their children's learning than problems related to the quality of education service delivery.



The 2016 LGPI shows that the most commonly reported problems relate to children failing exams or not doing well in school. In general, reported problems relate to outcomes of service delivery rather than inputs.

THE TEAM



ELLEN LUST
Director



RUTH CARLITZ
Postdoctoral Research
Fellow



ADAM HARRIS
Postdoctoral Research
Fellow



KRISTEN KAO
Postdoctoral Research
Fellow



SARA KENNEY
Program Management Unit



SEBASTIAN NICKEL
Program Management Unit



DALILA SABANIC
Program Management Unit



MARIA THORSON
Program Management Unit



FELIX HARTMANN
PhD Student



EZGI IRGIL
PhD Student



PRISCA JÖST
PhD Student



LINDSAY BENSTEAD
Portland State University
Associated Researcher



ASIYATI CHIWEZA
University of Malawi
Associated Researcher



BONIFACE DULANI
University of Malawi
Associated Researcher



HAPPY KAYUNI
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PIERRE F. LANDRY
Chinese Uni. of Hong Kong
Associated Researcher



RAGNHILD L. MURIAAS
University of Bergen
Associated Researcher



LISE RAKNER
University of Bergen
Associated Researcher



VIBEKE WANG
Chr. Michelsen Institute
Associated Researcher

Research Assistants Benjamin Akinyemi, Anmar Kamalaldin **Interns** Hala Agha, Felipe Bauer, Hanna Buznytska, Yuying Chen, Ben Craddock, Lyudmyla Khrenova, Mina Kjellén, Max Peterson, Anita Rind, Almira Tikvesa, Evangelia Varagka



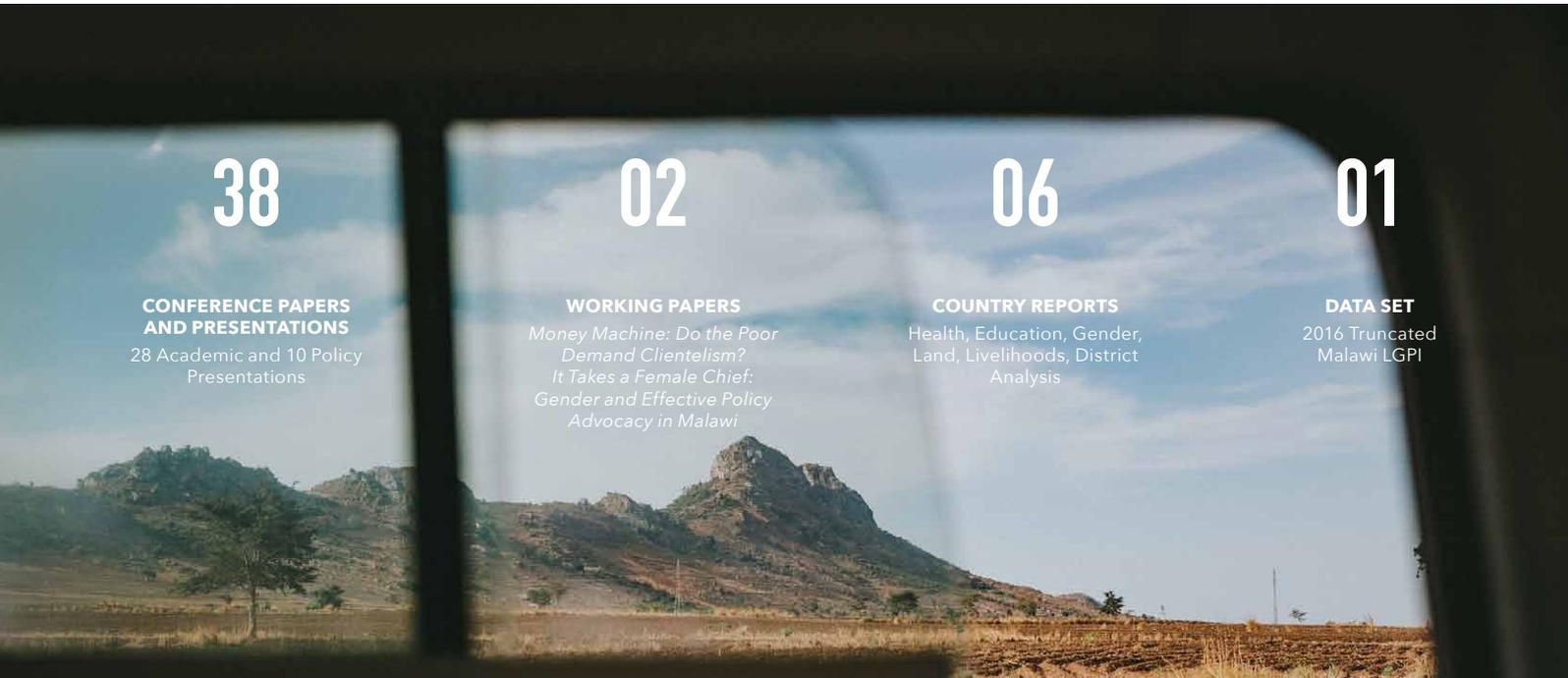
OUR PROJECTS

GENDER, GOVERNANCE, AND PARTICIPATION IN MALAWI

The Project on Gender, Governance, and Participation is a collaborative effort between GLD and the Department of Comparative Politics in Bergen, Norway; the Christian Michelsen Institute, Bergen, Norway; and the Institute of Public Opinion and Research, Zomba, Malawi. The study seeks to understand the drivers of governance

and service provision at the local level, paying particular attention to the attitudes toward and experiences of women.

This project has resulted in the following presentations, papers, and data sets now available at www.gld.gu.se.



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CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

28 Academic and 10 Policy Presentations

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WORKING PAPERS

Money Machine: Do the Poor Demand Clientelism? It Takes a Female Chief: Gender and Effective Policy Advocacy in Malawi

06

COUNTRY REPORTS

Health, Education, Gender, Land, Livelihoods, District Analysis

01

DATA SET

2016 Truncated Malawi LGPI

Malawi countryside. Photo by Robert Alexander Wilson

SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND GOVERNANCE: LESSONS FROM SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

This project aims to develop a unified theory of social institutions in order to understand how, when, and where they promote good governance and improve daily lives. The study will conceptualize and measure social institutions, focusing on the strength, nature, and content of the norms and rules governing social interactions. Paying particular attention to social institutions governing gender and

ethnic relations, it takes a multi-method approach, leveraging surveys, experiments, focus groups, and stakeholder interviews in Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, and Zambia to examine the links between social institutions and governance.

7.8

FUNDING

SEK7.8 million from Swedish Research Council

9.1

FUNDING

SEK9.1 million from Swedish
Research Council Formas

URBANIZATION IN KENYA, TANZANIA, AND ZAMBIA

Rapid and unplanned urban growth creates significant governance challenges, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa, which is urbanizing at a faster rate than any other region of the world. Yet our understanding of governance in the face of urbanization is grossly limited and needs further investigation. In this project, we explore governance in the major cities of three rapidly urbanizing, low-income countries: Kenya, Tanzania, and Zambia. Through this study we examine the role of

social institutions in a multi-method inquiry into how rules and norms governing ethnic and gender relations affect governance. We examine the impact of social and political institutions on the quality of governance and service provision, and on the inequalities within these, based on traditional power structures of class, ethnicity, gender, and geographic location.

Africa's Rural and Urban Population (% annual growth), 2013



Source: World Bank Development Indicators * Equatorial Guinea

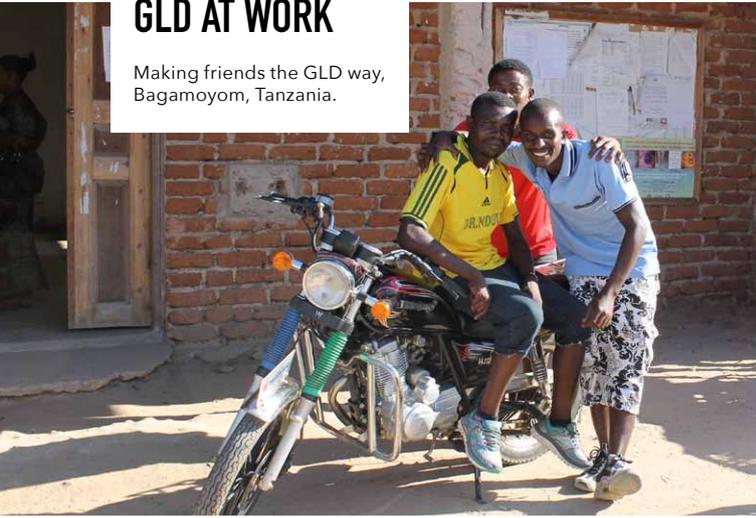
OUR WORK





GLD AT WORK

Making friends the GLD way, Bagamoyom, Tanzania.



Research assistant Ansila Albert, with a student in a village classroom, Bagamoyo, Tanzania.



Downtown Moshi, Tanzania.



Ruth Carlitz, GLD, and Anisla Albert talking to villagers, Bagamoyo, Tanzania.



Ellen Lust, GLD, at Grand Mosque, Oman.



Intissar Kherгим, Jasmine Foundation, presenting at GLD/UNDP OGC workshop, Gothenburg, Sweden.

Photo Credits: Ruth Carlitz, Kristen Kao and Ellen Lust.

Street vendors, Tanzania.



Bedouin man with child, Madaba, Jordan.



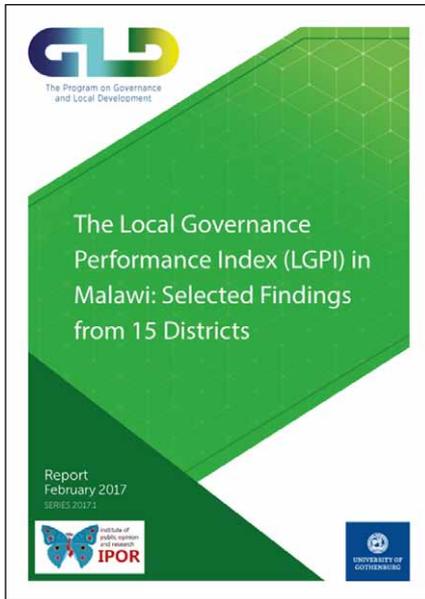
Local village assembly meeting, Wama Sokoine, Tanzania.



Civil service exam results, Morogoro, Tanzania.



Kristen Kao, GLD, presenting survey methods paper at GLD/UNDP OGC workshop, Gothenburg, Sweden.



REPORTS

The LGPI in Malawi: Selected Findings from 15 Districts

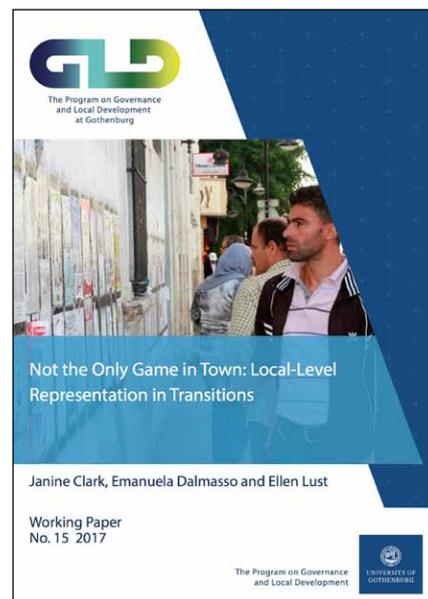
The analysis presented in this report draws from the Malawi LGPI. This report presents key findings from each of the 15 districts sampled. In particular, findings related to livelihoods, health, land, and education are highlighted.

The LGPI in Tunisia: Selected Findings on Health

Utilizing the Tunisian LGPI, this report sheds light on both the successes and the shortcomings of the health-care system in Tunisia. It identifies areas needing improvement and highlights areas where the system is doing a good job. Armed with this information, citizens and stakeholders can channel efforts to areas in need and seek to understand best practices and drivers of success from areas of excellence.

The LGPI in Malawi: Selected Findings on Gender

Drawing on the Malawi LGPI, this report assesses the extent to which women and men across different regions of the country, matrilineal and patrilineal cultural groups, and socioeconomic statuses access health and education services equally, experience more or less secure environments, and participate politically.



WORKING PAPERS

Not the Only Game in Town: Local-Level Representation in Transitions

Janine Clark, Emanuela Dalmasso, and Ellen Lust

This paper examines the relationship between national and sub-national actors in the context of political transitions, exploring issues of representation in early periods of democratic processes, how pressures to alter the composition of local councils arise as part of power struggles among

central elites, and the conditions under which local councils resist or succumb to such pressures. We argue that local councils take on an important political role in transitions, becoming politicized even in the absence of local elections.

Money Machine: Do the Poor Demand Clientelism?

Kristen Kao, Ellen Lust, and Lise Rakner

Studies suggest that the middle class punishes vote-buying candidates but assume that the poor welcome offers. Employing a rating-based, conjoint analysis in Malawi to examine the poor's preferences concerning vote-buying, we find that the poor are repelled by candidates who promise an immediate exchange of particularistic goods for votes and prefer candidates who promise community goods. This highlights the need to consider the possibility that candidates incur costs when offering to buy votes in poor communities.

Islam in a Changing Middle East: Local Politics and Islamist Movements

The papers in this collection cover a diverse set of countries and historical periods. Bringing together specialists on local Islamist politics in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, South Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa provides an extraordinary breadth of contexts. This allowed us to consider the extent to which the mechanisms we uncovered operate across multiple domains, to weigh factors common to Islamist movements, and to recognize when outcomes appear to be driven primarily by context.

Poor People's Beliefs and the Dynamics of Clientelism

Miquel Pellicer, Eva Wegner, Lindsay J. Benstead, and Ellen Lust

Political science literature on clientelism has tended to focus on vote-buying, viewed primarily from the perspective of parties/brokers. The motives that drive clients to engage in clientelism and the different forms of clientelism that result remain relatively unexplored. This paper proposes a formal model of clientelism that focuses primarily on the client's side, setting clientelism against the possibility of supporting a redistributive platform and incorporating insights from social psychology theories.

It Takes a Female Chief: Gender and Effective Policy Advocacy in Malawi

Ragnhild Muriaas, Vibeke Wang, Lindsay J. Benstead, Boniface Dulani, and Lise Rakner

Traditional leadership often coexists with modern political institutions, yet we know little about how traditional and state authority cues – or those from male or female sources – affect public support for human rights issues. Using an original survey experiment of 1,381 Malawians embedded in the 2016 Local Governance Performance Index (LGPI), we randomly assign respondents to a control group or to one of four treatment groups to receive a message about child marriage reform from a female or male traditional authority or parliamentarian.

Governance and Service Delivery in the Middle East and North Africa

Adam Harris, Kristen Kao, Ellen Lust, Jens Ewald, and Petter Holmgren

This paper explores the clientelistic

equilibrium that remains prevalent in much of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region during the post-independence period, undermining service delivery and creating inequality in access. Political institutions and social practices that shape incentives for policy makers, service providers, and citizens create what can be called a potentially tenuous, "clientelistic equilibrium." Service delivery is influenced by political institutions that allow for the capture of public jobs and service networks, and by social institutions that call upon individuals to respond more readily to members of their social networks than to others.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Lindsay Benstead, Kristen Kao, Pierre Landry, and Dhafer Malouche. "Using Tablet Computers to Implement Surveys in Challenging Environments." *Survey Practice* 10(2): 1-9.

Ruth Carlitz. "Money Flows, Water Trickles: Understanding Patterns of Decentralized Water Provision in Tanzania." *World Development* 93: 16-30.

Ruth Carlitz. "Identifying and Overcoming Binding Constraints to Rural Water Services for the B40 in Tanzania." *WASH Poverty Diagnostic* commissioned by the World Bank. June 2017.

Ruth Carlitz and Jamie Boex. "Decentralization and the Delivery of Water and Sanitation Services in Tanzania." *World Bank Water Global Practice and Governance Global Practice*. September 2017.

Ruth Carlitz, Adam Harris, Kristen Kao, Pierre Landry, Ellen Lust, and Lise Rakner. "Beyond the State: Measuring Governance at the Community Level." *APSA Comparative Democratization Newsletter* 17(2): 26-29.

Mine Eder and Özlem Öz. "Spatialities of Contentious Politics: The case of Istanbul's Beşiktaş Neighborhood, çArşı Footfall Fandom, and Gezi." *Political Geography* 61: 57-66. November 2017.

Ellen Lust and Kristen Kao. "Why Did the Arab Uprisings Turn Out as They Did? A Survey of the Literature." *POMED Snapshot Series*. August 2017.



SEEKING SOLUTIONS 2017 ANNUAL GLD CONFERENCE

MAY 11-12, 2017, HINDÅS, SWEDEN

We held our first conference on May 11-12, 2017, with the theme "Seeking Solutions." We showcased research that examines the ways in which ordinary citizens seek solutions to the challenges they face in their daily lives. These include but are not limited

to challenges related to service delivery, safety and security, land tenure, employment, and health. We sought to understand when and why citizens pursue different strategies for seeking solutions from both state and non-state actors.

Annual Conference Presenters



ABDUL-GAFARU ABDULAI
University of Ghana



MONIKA BAUHR
University of Gothenburg



SUSANNE BYGNES
University of Bergen



RUTH CARLITZ
University of Gothenburg



MINE EDER
Bogazici University



ERIN K. FLETCHER
University of Gothenburg



JOSEPHINE GAKII GATUA
University of Gothenburg



DIANA GREENWALD
University of Michigan



MARCIA GRIMES
University of Gothenburg



MONA HARB
American University of Beirut



FELIX HARTMANN
University of Gothenburg



DANIELLE HIGGINS
American University



SALWA ISMAIL
School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London



KRISTEN KAO
University of Gothenburg



ANNE-KATHRIN KREFT
University of Gothenburg



PIERRE LANDRY
Chinese University of
Hong Kong



ADRIENNE LEBAS
American University



ELLEN LUST
University of Gothenburg



LAUREN M. MACLEAN
Indiana University



ZOE MARKS
University of Edinburgh



STEPHEN MARR
Malmö University



DANIEL MASTERSON
Yale University



JOHN MCCAULEY
University of Maryland



JEFFREY PALLER
University of San Francisco



ALEXANDRA PANMAN
St. John's College,
University of Oxford



LISE RAKNER
University of Bergen



DIANE SINGERMAN
American University

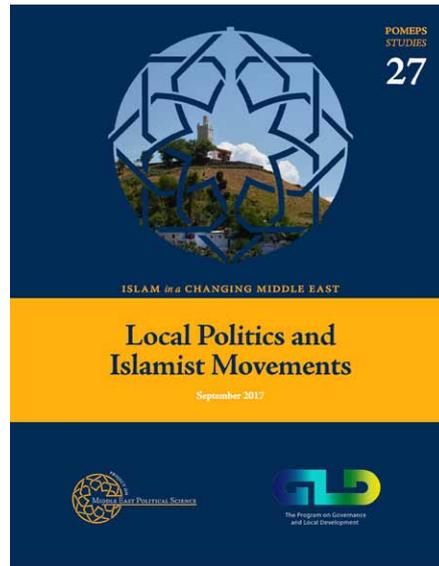
WORKSHOP ON ISLAMISTS AND LOCAL POLITICS

JUNE 13-15, 2017, BRASTAD, SWEDEN

In conjunction with the Project on Middle East Political Science, GLD hosted a two-day workshop featuring practitioners, policy makers, and academics from around the world exploring Islamist politics at the local level. Political scientists, the media, and policy analysis of Islamist movements and the Middle East often concentrate on national politics and major urban areas. We aimed to showcase a growing body of political science research that is instead focused on the significance of political organization, mobilization, and contestation taking place outside major cities.

Many questions remain regarding if and how Islamist movements and actors are different in rural areas and secondary cities from how they are in the capitals. To what extent do the strategies and performance of Islamists vary subnationally? And what explains this variation?

To address this gap in understanding, the Project on Middle East Political Science and GLD convened a workshop in June 2017.



The papers in this collection cover a diverse set of countries and historical periods. Bringing together specialists on local Islamist politics in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, South Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa provided us an extraordinary breadth of contexts.

Participants

Yasmina Abouzzohour
University of Oxford

Olabanji Akinola
University of Guelph

Lindsay Benstead
Portland State University

Steven Brooke
University of Louisville

Janine Clark
University of Guelph

Margot Dazey
Trinity College, University of Cambridge

Mujtaba Ali Isani
University of Muenster

Kristen Kao
University of Gothenburg

Neil Ketchley
King's College London

Ellen Lust
University of Gothenburg

Marc Lynch
Project on Middle East Political Science

Melissa Marschall
Rice University

Marwa Shalaby
Rice University

Asya el-Meehy
United Nations-ESCWA, Lebanon

Yuree Noh
University of California, Los Angeles

Mara Revkin
Yale University

Hillary Wiesner
Carnegie Corporation of New York

Evren Celik Wiltse
South Dakota State University

Diana Zeidan
École des hautes études en sciences sociales



FROM KNOWLEDGE TO ACTION: CURRENT INSIGHTS ON DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE, AND ARMED CONFLICT

MAY 10, 2017, POLICY DIALOGUE DAY GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN

The 2017 Policy Dialogue Day was organized jointly by the Varieties of Democracy Institute, the Quality of Government Institute, the Program for Governance and Local Development, and the Uppsala Conflict Data Program. The event sought to bridge the gap between analysis and

practice. It covered topics related to the most recent findings in the areas of democracy, conflicts, corruption, and local governance. The event continues to serve as a dialogue platform for practitioners, policy makers, and academics.

WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED

“Measuring Radicalization.” Co-sponsored with CMI and World Bank, Marseille, France. March 15-16.

“Building the State.” Co-organized with Professor Rabab El Mahdi at the American University of Cairo, Cairo, Egypt. March 25-26.

“Toward a Better Measurement and Understanding of Radicalization, Support for Violence, and Adherence to Political Groups.” Co-hosted with United Nations Development Programme Oslo Gover-

nance Centre. Gothenburg, Sweden. April 26.

Book workshop for manuscript by Adam Harris. Gothenburg, Sweden. April 28.

Project workshop on Tanzania. Hindås, Sweden. May 13.

“Varieties of Autocracy (V-AUT) Workshop.” Co-organized by Ellen Lust, Anna Lührmann, Kristen Kao, Staffan I. Lindberg and Marcus Tannenberg. Gothenburg, Sweden. May 31-June 2.

DATA

This year we published a truncated data set based on the 2016 LGPI survey conducted in Malawi. The truncated version includes almost all questions of the LGPI and features 1,023 variables and 8,100 respondents. An anonymized village-level variable is provided to differentiate between the villages.

The data is provided in Stata, SPSS, and a more general CSV version. The Stata version includes the weighting command via the `-svyset-` feature. Therefore, we

recommend using the data in Stata. A documentary file and a codebook, as well as a BibTeX citation file, are provided as well.

Please note that outside researchers who would like access to these and other variables should contact us and follow confidentiality procedures.

All truncated data sets can be accessed at <http://gld.gu.se/en/resources/data>.

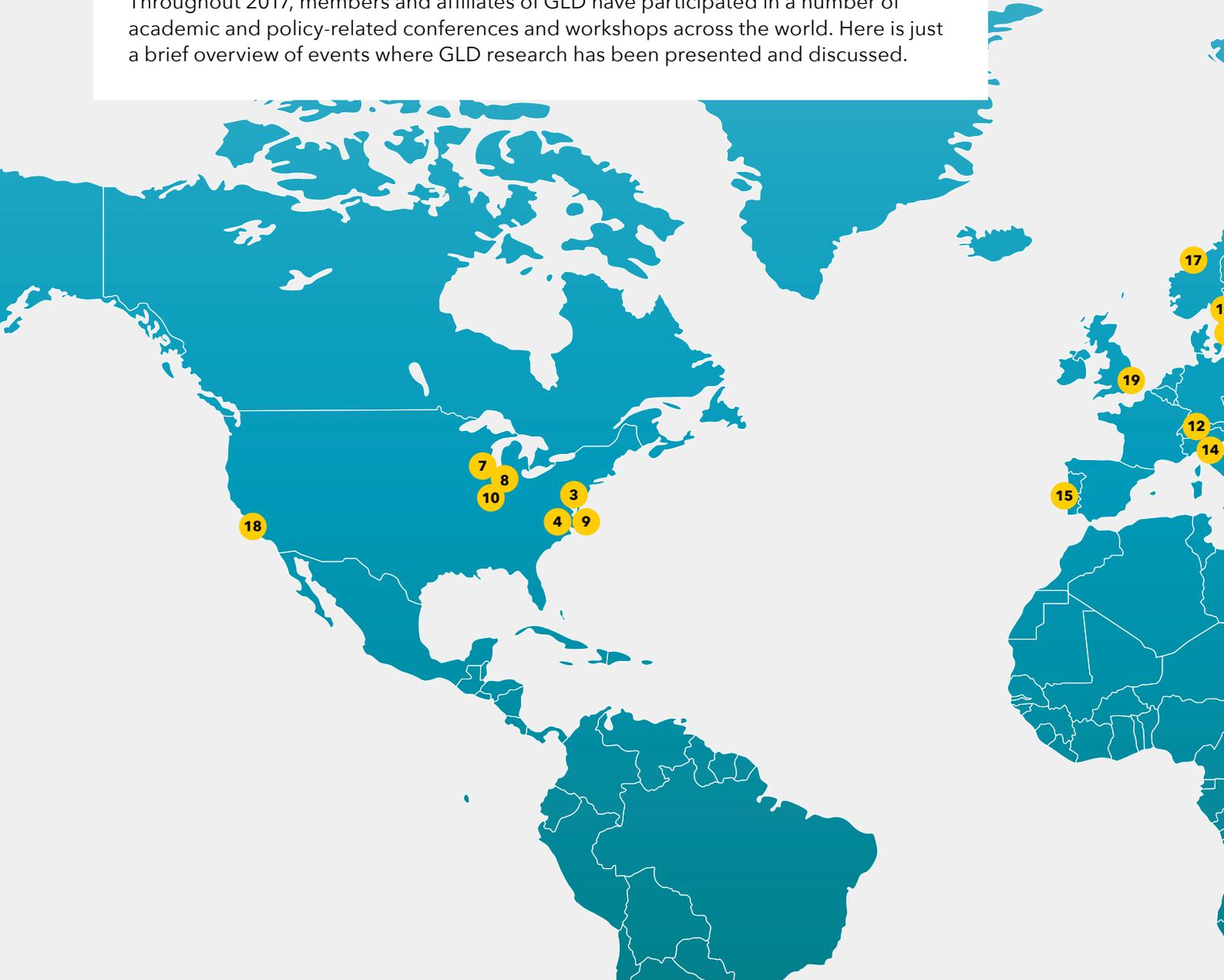
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DATASETS

All truncated datasets can be accessed at <http://gld.gu.se/en/resources/data>

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND EVENTS

Throughout 2017, members and affiliates of GLD have participated in a number of academic and policy-related conferences and workshops across the world. Here is just a brief overview of events where GLD research has been presented and discussed.



JANUARY

1. Working Group in African Political Economy, New York University, Abu Dhabi. January 6-8.
2. Quality of Government Conference, Budapest. January 25-26.

FEBRUARY

3. The International Political Science Association Meeting, Baltimore. February 22-25.

MARCH

4. World Bank Water Week, Washington, DC. March 21, 2017.
5. A Hundred Years after Sykes Picot: The Nation State in the Arab World, Cairo. March 25-26.

APRIL

6. Center for Middle East Studies, Lund University, Lund, Sweden. April 4.
7. Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago. April 6-9.
8. Conference on the Democratic Change Research Initiative: Global Trajectories and Policy Analysis, Northwestern University. April 12.

MAY

9. Project on Middle East Political Science annual conference, Washington, DC. May 18.
10. Social Identity and Politics Conference, Washington University, St. Louis. May 28.

JUNE

- 11. V-AUT Workshop, Gothenburg, Sweden. June 1.
- 12. European Conference on Politics and Gender, Lausanne, Switzerland. June 8-10.
- 13. CeCAR Workshop, Gothenburg, Sweden. June 12-14.
- 14. European Political Science Association 7th annual conference, Milan. June 22-24.

JULY

- 15. Meeting of the World Association for Public Opinion Research, Lisbon. July 15-17.

AUGUST

- 16. Quality of Governance Internal Conference, Tylebäck, Sweden. August 21-23.
- 17. European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes Nordic Conference, Bergen, Norway. August 23.

**SEPTEMBER**

- 18. American Political Science Association annual meeting, San Francisco. August 31 - September 3.
- 19. Royal Geographical Society and Institute of British Geographers annual conference, London. September 1.

OCTOBER

- 20. Annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Middle East and North Africa, Washington, DC. October 19-21.

NOVEMBER

- 21. African Studies Association 60th annual meeting, Chicago. November 16-18.
- 22. Middle East Studies Association annual conference, Washington DC. November 18.

DECEMBER

- 23. Middle East Roundtable and Workshop at Lund University, Lund. December 4-5.

VISITING SCHOLARS



CATHERINE BOONE
 Professor, London School of Economics
 Interests: Comparative politics, economic development, property rights, and institutions.



FARES BRAIZAT
 Director, Strategic Studies and Evaluation, Royal Hashemite Court
 Interests: Radicalism and terrorism in the Arab world



MINE EDER
 Professor, Bogazici University
 Interests: Comparative political economy, regionalism, and informal economy



INTISSAR KHERIGI
 Program Director, Jasmine Foundation
 Interests: Decentralization, regional inequality, and local governance reforms



PIERRE LANDRY
 Professor, Chinese University of Hong Kong
 Interests: Asian and Chinese Politics, comparative local governance, and quantitative comparative analysis



RABAB EL MAHDI
 Associate Professor, American University in Cairo
 Interests: State-civil society relations, social movements and resistance, and political economy of social policy



ATO KWAME ONOMA
 Senior Program Officer, CODESRIA
 Interests: Identity politics, human rights, forced migration, property rights, and political economic reform in Africa



WENDY PEARLMAN
 Associate Professor, Northwestern University
 Interests: Comparative politics of the Middle East, social movements, and conflict processes



MARA REVKIN
 PhD Candidate, Yale University
 Interests: State-building, law-making, and governance by armed groups



NORA STEL
 Assistant Professor, Maastricht School of Management
 Interests: Governance dynamics in informal and fragile settings, and political economy of refugee policies in the Middle East



HUYEN THANH
 Policy Analyst, UNDP Vietnam
 Interests: Public administration, anti-corruption, citizen participation, and youth initiatives

LOOKING AHEAD: GLD IN 2018

The year 2018 aims to be just as productive and rewarding as the previous year. Below are some highlights of the year ahead.



REGISTER HERE

Register for this event by visiting <http://gld.gu.se/en/conferences/gld-annual-conference-2018/>

SECOND GLD ANNUAL CONFERENCE: LAYERED AUTHORITY

We will hold our second annual conference, May 31 to June 1, 2018, with the theme "Layered Authority." In areas where the state is weak, scholars have highlighted the importance of traditional authorities and other non-state actors when it comes to dispute resolution, tax collection, and a variety of other functions. We seek to showcase research that examines the ways in which different authorities interact, and the extent to which they complement or clash with one another. We also wish to understand how such interactions affect governance more broadly - at the community and state levels. We aim to stimulate dialogue on such questions among scholars, policy makers, and other members of the development community.

SAFERESEARCH HANDBOOK AND WORKSHOP

SAFEResearch is a collaborative project aimed at providing practical suggestions for people conducting research in difficult environments. Conducting field research has become an increasingly risky endeavour in recent years, particularly in regions characterized by violent conflict, repressive political regimes, or state failure. Working under such conditions is challenging. Despite these conditions, guidance on how to prepare and conduct safe field research is not readily available. A collaborative effort between GLD and a number of international scholars and security specialists, SAFEResearch aims to address these shortcomings with the production and launch of a new handbook providing researchers and others engaged in on-the-ground work in difficult places, with a targeted resource for engaging in safe, ethical research. An author's workshop, to be held in Greece, and a collaborative workshop (see below) are being hosted to facilitate writing. The handbook will be available in late 2018.

400K

FUNDING

SEK 250,000 from Riksbankens Jubileumsfond
SEK 150,000 from Swedish Research Council



MORE INFO

Gothenburg University at <http://gld.gu.se/en/conferences/saferesearch-handbook-göteborg-workshop/>

WORKSHOP AT GÖTEBORG UNIVERSITY

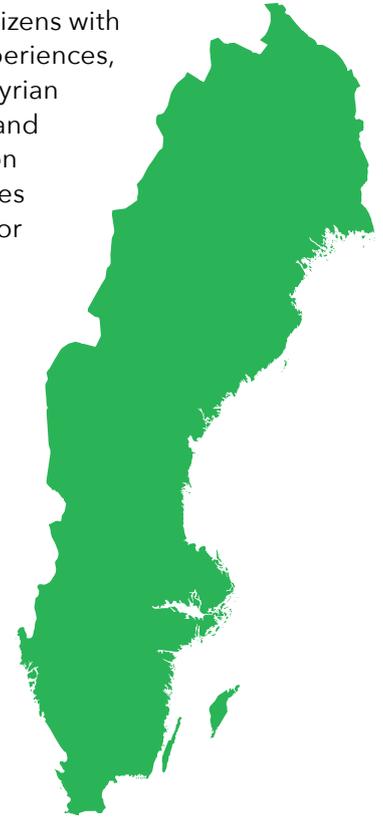
Gothenburg University will host a special SAFEResearch workshop on April 26 to engage research practitioners and administrative professionals in an effort to develop a shared understanding of potential solutions

to the challenges of field research. You can find more information about the handbook on the GLD website at <http://gld.gu.se>.

FROM APATHY TO EMPATHY? THE EFFECTS OF FACE-TO-FACE DIALOGUE AND VIRTUAL REALITY IMMERSION ON REDUCING PREJUDICE AGAINST REFUGEES IN SWEDEN

Sweden has witnessed an increase in negative reactions toward Syrian refugees. This project seeks to understand how empathy works, how compassion can be promoted, and how intergroup prejudice in Sweden can be reduced. This study integrates a philosophically informed conceptualization of empathy with a field experiment aimed at testing methods of inducing empathy. Implementing this innovative experimental design in selected Swedish municipalities, an interdisciplinary team from GLD, the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Lund University, and Yale University will assess whether engagement with 1) immersive virtual-reality 360-degree refugee experiences and 2) face-to-face dialogue with former and current Syrian refugees changes Swedish attitudes toward refugees. The research team will use an experimental design, including door-to-door canvassing,

in which they present Swedish citizens with immersive 360-degree video experiences, face-to-face conversations with Syrian refugees, or control treatments, and employ pre- and post-intervention online surveys to measure changes in attitudes and prosocial behavior toward refugees. A better understanding of empathy and its role in prosocial behavior among the Swedish population is crucial at this time to foster compassion and dialogue and build understanding between host communities and newly arrived refugees, facilitating a more successful integration of Syrian immigrants into society.



IDENTITIES AND MIGRATION: LOCAL GOVERNANCE IN SHIFTING LANDSCAPES

Understanding the challenges and prospects for incorporating domestic and international migrants is extremely important. Migration changes the social composition of neighborhoods. It also influences norms and behavior. While it can engender anti-migrant attitudes and reinforce group boundaries, it can also facilitate the emergence of new common identities and cooperative behavior. This research examines how community composition—including activated social identities, solidarity networks, and the social norms that shape relations between groups—influences community governance and service delivery. It considers which social identities become salient (e.g., religious sects, ethnicity, regional and national identities), examines the relationships between groups, and analyzes

how neighborhood composition and political and social rules governing these groups influence social and political outcomes (e.g., health, education, housing, and security).

The research will focus on poor neighborhoods in Istanbul, Amman, and Beirut, cities that have faced a steady flow of internal migrants as well as a massive inflow of Syrian refugees. This project will utilize focus groups, a household survey, and experiments, generating original empirical data that will shed light on vital issues of social cohesion, migrant incorporation, and governance, in order to inform scholars and policy makers.



The research will focus on poor neighborhoods in Istanbul, Turkey, Amman, Jordan, and Beirut, Lebanon

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

Ariel Ahram. "On the Making and Unmaking of Arab States." *International Journal of Middle East Studies*.

Lisa Anderson. "The State and Its Competitors." *International Journal of Middle East Studies*.

Eric Arias, Adam Harris, Kristen Kao, Ellen Lust, Luis Schiumerini, Karen Ferree, and Lise Rakner. "Government Responsiveness from the Perspective of Voters." *APSA Comparative Democratization Newsletter*.

Lindsay J. Benstead. "Survey Research in the Arab World: Challenges and Opportunities." *PS: Political Science & Politics*.

Lindsay J. Benstead and Ellen Lust. "Why Do Some Voters Prefer Female Candidates? The Role of Perceived Incorruptibility in Arab Elections." Chapter 6 in *Gender and Corruption: Historical Roots and New Avenues for Research*. Editors: Helena Stensöta and Lena Wängnerud.

Boniface Dulani, Lise Rakner, Lindsay J. Benstead, and Vibeke

Wang. "'Because We Expect More from You': The Gender and Corruption Factor in the 2014 Presidential Elections." *Malawi Journal of Social Science*.

Mine Eder and Özlem Öz. "'Problem Spaces' and Struggles over the Right to the City: Challenges of Living Differentially in a Gentrifying Istanbul Neighborhood." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*.

Rabab El Mahdi. "The Failure of the Regime or the Demise of the State." *International Journal of Middle East Studies*.

Ellis Goldberg. "Imagining Citizens." *International Journal of Middle East Studies*.

Hans Lueders and Ellen Lust. "Multiple Measurements, Elusive Agreement, and Unstable Outcomes in the Study of Regime Change." *Journal of Politics*.

Ellen Lust. "Layered Authority and Social Institutions: Reconsidering

State-Centric Theory and Development Policy." *International Journal of Middle East Studies*.

Ragnhild Muriaas, Vibeke Wang, Lindsay Benstead, Boniface Dulani, and Lise Rakner. "Why the Gender of Traditional Authorities Matters: Intersectionality and Women's Rights Advocacy in Malawi." *Comparative Political Studies*.

Lise Rakner and Ellen Lust. "The Other Side of Taxation: Extraction and Social Institutions in the Developing World." *Annual Review of Political Science*.

Charles Tripp. "The State as an Always Unfinished Performance: Improvisation and Performativity in the Face of Crisis." *International Journal of Middle East Studies*.

David Waldner and Ellen Lust. "Unwelcome Change: Coming to Terms with Backsliding." *Annual Review of Political Science* 21, May 11.

INTERNS: CLASS OF 2017

Interns are integral to our program. Not only do they assist in all aspects of our ongoing research efforts, but they also enrich the office with their unique skills and experiences.

We are always on the lookout for new talent. If you are interested in applying for a position please email your CV and cover letter to contact@gld.gu.se.



HALA AGHA
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University of Gothenburg. Global Studies Master's Program



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University of Gothenburg. European Studies Master's Program



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University of Seville. Master of Constitutional Law



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Lund University. Master of Global Studies



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University of Gothenburg. Political Science Master's Program



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