



THE FORD PROGRAM

In Human Development & Solidarity



KELLOGG INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

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Highlights

- **A New Approach to Integrating Applied Research and Charitable Work**
- **Expanding Networks through Virtual Research Communities**
- **New Studies for Fall 2022**
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A New Approach to Integrating Applied Research and Charitable Work

In June 2022, the Ford Program convened a multi-day workshop, bringing together an interdisciplinary and international team of researchers, faculty, and doctoral students committed to supporting the integration of applied research and charitable work for the benefit of the global poor. Participants were part of a new Ford Program initiative called the Collaborative for Econometrics and Integrated Development Studies (CEIDS), a network of development researchers committed to partnering with faith-based international development organizations around the globe. CEIDS members are diverse, ranging from senior to junior faculty and from doctoral students to practitioners in faith-based organizations. This diversity in composition affords the network opportunities for mentorship and coaching.

At the workshop, CEIDS members explored significant value questions, methods, and the impact on development economics and identified critical research categories and sub-committees (health *(continued)*)

and nutrition, immigration and integration, education, faith, and development). They also established an ambitious annual schedule of engagement that includes workshops and conferences, bi-weekly meetings focused on individual research, and research partnerships with not-for-profit institutions.

Most recently, CEIDS submitted a new external grant proposal on work seeking to evaluate the impact of a humanitarian intervention on the physical, psychological, social, and spiritual outcomes of refugees. This proposal additionally seeks to utilize the diverse expertise of CEIDS members to generate evidence of impacts on human flourishing from holistic responses to humanitarian crises.

This proposal marks the first external grant proposal in what we hope will be a culture of strategic grant seeking, which we are striving to develop at the Ford Program. We will endeavor to carefully seek external grants to augment internal funding and provide more opportunities for faculty and students to conduct research, teaching, and service that advance the Ford Program mission.

You can find more information about CEIDS teams and research projects on our website [here](#).



Expanding Networks through Virtual Research Communities

This year, the Ford Program launched a new virtual research community to engage communities and expand the network of researchers and policymakers whose work can enrich integral human development. This project leverages lessons learned during Covid-19 and the opportunity to breach physical barriers to reach communities outside the University of Notre Dame. This innovative community brings together international development researchers from Africa, the United States, and Latin America for collaborative work on global challenges aligned with our mission.

The Collaborative for Econometrics and Integrated Development Studies (CEIDS) was established through this initiative.



New Studies for Fall 2022

This fall there are two new Ford Program research programs starting.



The first is a project on mental well-being that our post-doctoral research associate [Sylvia Blom](#) will lead. Sylvia is an economist who earned her PhD from Cornell University. This research project seeks to measure the prevalence of depression and anxiety among adult men and women, identify the primary stressors associated with poor mental health, and investigate how poor mental health interferes with daily activities, long-term goal setting, and investments in child development.



The second project is by faculty member [Maura Ryan](#), which investigates the experience of the health interventions in six African countries by an alliance of Catholic sisters in Africa called the “All Africa Conference: Sister to Sister.” The project will generate lessons on preparedness for public health crises and on solidarity with communities affected by the dual crisis of HIV/AIDS and the COVID-19 pandemic.



Later this fall we will send the next round call for proposals. We look forward to updating you on other new studies and partnerships at the Ford Program.

Friends of the Ford Program Gathering

On October 14, 2022, we had an excellent Friends of the Ford Program gathering. The event, attended by our benefactors and other friends of the Ford Program, including some faculty, staff, and students, provided an excellent opportunity to reconnect after a long time of being unable to get together due to the pandemic. We also showcased some of our faculty research projects: “Maternity Spaces and Human Dignity in Kenya” by faculty members [Vania Smith](#), [John Onyango](#), [Paul Perrin](#), and others, and “Fostering Solidarity and Empathy with Immigrants in Mexico” by [Abby Córdova](#) and doctoral student [Natán Skigin](#). We also listened to [Oneile Baitlotli](#), a Masters of Global Affairs candidate and Ford Program research assistant, on her transformative experiences working with faculty at the Ford Program. Finally, the event allowed us to reflect on how we continue advancing human dignity through research on Integral Human Development in the COVID-19 era. We are grateful to our benefactors and other friends of the Ford Program for your support and participation at the gathering. We know that some partners and friends could not participate due to other commitments, but we will continue to update all on the Program happenings.





