



# THE FORD PROGRAM

## In Human Development & Solidarity



KELLOGG INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

September 2024

### Highlights

- Education Research Partnership Trip to East Africa
- Collaborative for Econometrics and Integrated Development Studies Collaborative (CEIDS) Workshop at Notre Dame
- New Faces at the Ford Program



### Education Research Partnership Trip to East Africa

This summer, Ford Program Director Patrizio Piraino and Assistant Director Maurice Sikenyi traveled alongside colleagues from the Pulte Institute as part of the “global learning poverty” project.

The trip included meetings with representatives leading local education non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Kenya ([Zizi Afrique](#)) and Uganda ([Building Tomorrow](#), [Bethany Land Institute](#)). These local partners shared insights on current challenges in education in East Africa, highlighting the need for data-driven approaches and interdisciplinary research collaboration. We agreed on concrete research initiatives to better understand how to enhance educational outcomes in the region. We further held consultative discussions with various government institutions, including the [Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development](#), and had a research workshop with colleagues at the [University of Nairobi](#). *(continued)*



## Education Research Partnership Trip to East Africa *(continued)*



These meetings exemplify the Ford Program's commitment to building sustainable partnerships between local partners, All with the goal of providing practical applications and feeding research findings into policy. We will continue this work by launching new studies that support scalable solutions to address learning poverty.

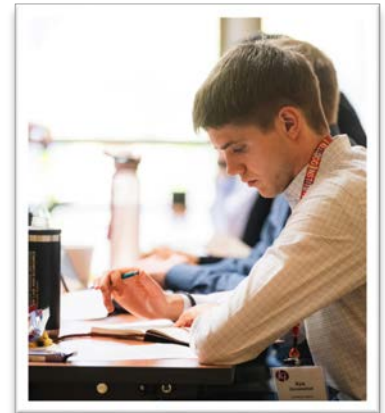




## Collaborative for Econometrics and Integrated Development Studies (CEIDS) Collaborative Workshop at Notre Dame



In August 2024, the Ford Program hosted its third annual Collaborative for Econometrics and Integrated Development Studies (CEIDS) workshop. The theme of the workshop was “Holistic Measurements of Integral Human Development,” and it featured a diverse and multidisciplinary group of 45 scholars and practitioners from 28 different institutions. Participants presented papers on approaches to operationalize Integral Human Development, particularly holistic measurements of the economic, social, cultural, psychological, and spiritual drivers of human flourishing. CEIDS members also established mentorship groups and devised a strategy to engage Faith-based NGOs in empirical research.



## New Faces at the Ford Program

We are also pleased to share news of our 2024-2025 graduate and undergraduate student Research Assistants.



This fall, we are excited to welcome [Prakriti Shakya](#), our new Research Associate. Prakriti recently earned her MA in development economics from the University of San Francisco. Her research interests include early childhood development, family dynamics, environment, food insecurity, and poverty alleviation, and she has completed fieldwork in Uganda and Nepal.



[Khadijat Atere](#) is an MGA candidate at the Keough School of Global Affairs. Khadijat earned a bachelor's degree in forest resources management at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. Her journey at the Keough School of Global Affairs has deepened her love for the role of data in development. At the Ford Program, she will support ongoing research projects and hopes to learn how data can be used to measure development goals.



Finally, the Ford Program has also welcomed [Vivian Kattan](#) as an undergraduate research assistant. Vivian is a senior at Notre Dame double majoring in management consulting and global affairs. She grew up in Honduras, which has shaped her commitment to advancing education and fostering social entrepreneurship. She is excited to deepen her understanding and expand her knowledge in these areas to drive meaningful change.