

# International Development

# Overview

## About us

The Centre for International Development (CID) at RMIT University houses applied researchers based in Melbourne and Vietnam that lead to the co-creation of innovative, evidence-based policies that promote sustainable improvements in the quality of peoples' lives.

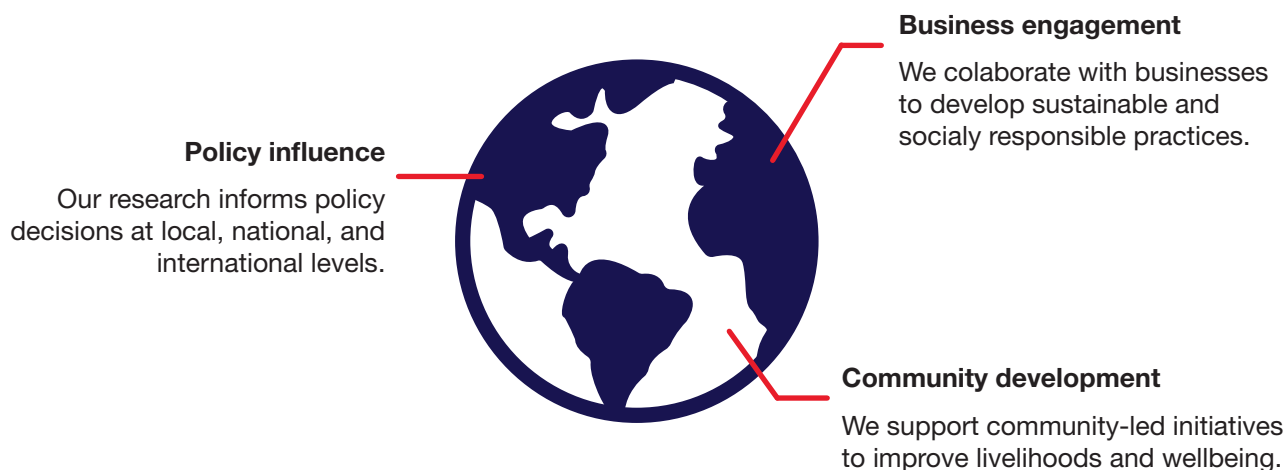
Our research encompasses the wellbeing of the poor and most vulnerable at its core. CID researchers specialise in Development Economics and Finance.

We approach development from a multidimensional and multidisciplinary perspective, thus providing innovative evidence-based policy suggestions to address some of the world's most pressing problems.

## Values

- **Inclusivity:** We prioritise the needs and perspectives of the most marginalized communities.
- **Evidence-Based:** Our work is grounded in rigorous research and analysis.
- **Innovation:** We seek to develop creative and impactful solutions.
- **Collaboration:** We foster partnerships with governments, NGOs, businesses and other academic institutions.
- **Sustainability:** Our initiatives aim to create long-lasting and positive change.

## Areas of impact



## Research areas

### 1. Foreign Aid, Financial Flows and Inclusion

- **Effective aid delivery:** Research on the most effective ways to allocate and utilize foreign aid to achieve development outcomes
- **Financial inclusion:** Strategies to promote financial inclusion among the poor and vulnerable, enabling participation in economic activities and improved livelihoods.
- **Remittances:** Understanding the role of remittances in development and identify ways to maximise their impact.

### 2. Poverty, Inequality and Vulnerability

- **Poverty reduction:** Evidence-based policies and programs to alleviate poverty and improve living standards.
- **Inequality:** Analysing the causes and consequences of inequality and propose strategies for reducing disparities.
- **Vulnerability:** Assessing factors that make individuals and communities vulnerable to shocks and stresses, and develop resilience-building measures.

### 3. Health and Wellbeing:

- **Health systems strengthening:** Supporting the development of equitable and efficient health systems that meet the needs of all populations.
- **Disease control:** Contributing to efforts to prevent and control infectious and non-communicable diseases.
- **Mental health:** Promoting mental health and well-being, addressing the stigma associated with mental health issues.

## Impactful projects

The CID has a strong track record of external funding and has completed many high profile research projects.

### Bringing safe drinking water to Bangladesh

- Dept. Foreign Affairs and Trade
- CSIRO
- Water: Effective Technologies and Tools (WETT) Research Centre (RMIT)

Climate-vulnerable communities in Bangladesh's coastal regions are experiencing a critical lack of access to safe drinking water.

Drawing on Australian and international expertise, this CID-led project focuses on co-creating community-based water treatment solutions to suit local conditions. Using renewable energy, nature-based approaches and low-cost technologies, the project targets the treatment of saline, contaminated surface and groundwater.

Combining technology with locally appropriate design, the project aims to deliver sustainable, life-saving water systems that strengthen community resilience in climate-affected areas.

### Life in the Mekong

- World Bank

The Mekong Delta has long been a key agricultural hub, particularly for rice production. However, land distribution land has become unequal, with many rural households losing access to land.

RMIT researchers investigated the causes behind this.

The report calls for a people-centred response focused on investment in education, skills, infrastructure and climate adaptation.

Such measures could support household resilience, enable transitions to higher-value land uses, and facilitate a more inclusive shift away from low-productivity agriculture.



View full list of projects at  
[rmit.edu.au/cid/projects](https://rmit.edu.au/cid/projects)

### Strengthening the Research Capabilities of Women Researchers in Papua New Guinea

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

This major initiative was designed to enhance the research skills of women in Papua New Guinea, expand their professional networks, and build long-term mentoring pathways that support stronger academic and career outcomes.

Led by a team of senior researchers and funded by DFAT, the program worked to create sustainable professional and mentoring networks for female researchers.

Participants will further develop their expertise through advanced academic training, mentorship and collaboration with leading experts at RMIT and partner institutions.

Whilst still early in implementation, the program is expected to contribute to stronger research capacity, expanded leadership opportunities and long-term professional growth for women across PNG's research community.

### Victoria's Future China Strategy

- Victorian Government

This project analyses how the state can strengthen and diversify its engagement with one of its key international partners, China.

Based on wide consultation across sectors, the research identifies priority industries - such as education, agriculture, health and professional services - and opportunities for deeper, more regionally diverse relationships.

The strategy supports a resilient, values-driven and globally connected Victorian economy, fostering long-term investment, stronger cross-cultural understanding and sustainable partnerships aligned with national foreign policy.

## Partnerships

We partner with leading development organisations, advising their practice, programmatic interventions and strategy.



## Directors



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RMIT Centre for International Development