

CURRICULUM VITAE

Tim Dobermann

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SUMMARY Economist with strong research and policy experience. I combine my background in research with my experience working with governments to help shape policy.

EXPERIENCE *Director of Research & Chief Economist* June 2024 – *present*
International Growth Centre (IGC)  London, UK

- As a member of IGC's senior management team, I lead the development and expansion of IGC's global research portfolio.
- Advise senior officials across 11 countries in Africa, MENA, and Asia

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow June 2024 – *present*
London School of Economics (LSE) London, UK

- Research Fellow in the Department of Economics.

External Advisor January 2019 – June 2024, February 2026 – *present*
Ministry of Energy & Ministry of Finance, Pakistan (*unremunerated*)

- Presented confidential analyses to federal Cabinet, including to PM, on (i) electricity tariffs, (ii) tax reforms and (iii) macro crisis response

Policy Economist January 2017 – August 2018
International Growth Centre (IGC) London, UK

- Managed Myanmar, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Jordan, Lebanon & Afghanistan.
- Led the technical update of Myanmar's National Electrification Plan (NEP) in close coordination with the Ministry of Electricity & Energy.

Country Economist June 2015 – January 2017
International Growth Centre (IGC) Yangon, Myanmar

- Led the establishment of energy and cities research portfolios.

EDUCATION PHD ECONOMICS 2020 – 2024
London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

MRES ECONOMICS 2018 – 2020
London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), *Distinction*

MSC ECONOMICS 2014 – 2015
London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), *Distinction*

BSc ECONOMICS 2011 – 2014
University of Warwick, *First Class Honours*

RESEARCH **Human Capital, Mobility, and the Unequal Effects of Climate Change**

Examines how human capital generates mobility across sectors or locations, a key channel for climate adaptation. Exploits a historical schooling expansion in India to

estimate reduced form effects of human capital on adaptation. Estimates a spatial structural change model with climate change, occupational choice, and human capital investments to examine adaptation in general equilibrium.

- *Grants:* £12k (IGC)

AI and the Ladder of Development

Develops a small open economy model of AI, structural transformation, and development. Decomposes AI's effect on capability growth to demonstrate a potential development trap: AI can raise average tradable productivity yet reduce long-run capability growth if a wage-driven Baumol reallocation effect pushes labour toward weak-learning local services.

The Economic Costs of Lopsided Contracts: Evidence from Power Purchase Agreements in Pakistan

(with F. Hayat & S. Srivastav)

Assembles database on all PPAs to measure how asymmetric information and regulatory capture distort power tariffs and create misallocation.

- *Grants:* £16k (IGC)

Pushing on a String? Price and Enforcement Interventions in Pakistan's Power Sector

(with R. Burgess, M. Greenstone, F. Hayat & U. Naeem)

Two RCTs with government on (i) using religious messaging to change social norms on electricity payments and (ii) using subsidies to estimate elasticities of theft.

- *Grants:* £168k (IGC), \$75k (J-PAL), \$93k (WEISS FUND)

Reinventing Pakistan's Welfare State: Replacing Energy Subsidies with Targeted Transfers

(with R. Burgess, M. Greenstone, F. Hayat & U. Naeem)

Reforming energy pricing to deliver energy subsidies through targeted transfers instead.

- *Grants:* £56k (IGC)

Deciphering the Miracle on the Han: How South Korea Escaped Poverty and Transformed its Economy

(with O. Bandiera, I. Banares Sanchez, R. Burgess, J. Lee & H. Yang)

Studying Korea's growth miracle using an unprecedented historical micro dataset.

- *Grants:* £20k (STEG), £49k (ESRC)

Electricity, Agglomeration, and Industrialisation in Ghana

(with I. Banares Sanchez & N. Moneke)

Estimating how electricity outages influence the spatial distribution of industrial activity over time.

- *Grants:* £20k (IGC)

The Heterogenous Impacts of Market Integration: Evidence from Pakistan's Motorways

(with Faraz Hayat & Usman Naeem)

	Measuring heterogeneous impacts of transportation infrastructure using large-scale administrative data. • <i>Grants</i>: £15k (STEG)
POLICY	Burgess, R. and Dobermann, T. (2024) ‘Climate and Environment: What we know and what we need to know’, The London Consensus Report. Burgess, R., Caria, S., Dobermann, T., and Saggese, A. (2023) ‘Innovation, Growth, and the Environment’, IGC Synthesis Paper. Burgess, R., Dobermann, T., and Sharma, N. (2022) ‘Sustainable Growth for a Changing Climate’, IGC Growth Brief. IGC (2020). ‘Little Book of Growth Ideas’. Contributing Author. Burgess, R., Greenstone, M., Reguant, M., Ryan, N., and Dobermann, T. (2021). ‘Energy and Environment for Economic Growth’, IGC Evidence Paper. Dobermann, T., Hayat, F., Naeem, U., Qaddus, M.K., and Raza, M. (2020). ‘Building a Healthy Power Sector in Pakistan’, Government of Pakistan report. Dobermann, T. (2018). ‘Estimating a social discount rate for Myanmar’, IGC Brief. Dobermann, T. (2017). ‘Developing Yangon’s periphery’, IGC Policy Brief. Dobermann, T. (2016). ‘Urban Myanmar’, IGC Policy Brief. Dobermann, T. (2016). ‘Energy in Myanmar’, IGC Policy Brief.
CONSULTING	Climate Change, Education, and Skills in South Asia, 2023-2024 <i>Client</i>: World Bank • Provided overview of evidence on human capital and climate change adaptation. • Created framework to structure the relationship between climate change and human capital to understand important intervention points for South Asia. Evaluating the Economic and Environmental Impacts of a Carbon Tax in Maryland, US, 2021 <i>Client</i>: McKinsey & Company • Modeled the macroeconomic impacts (output, revenue, employment) of a suite of proposed carbon taxes. • Estimated potential emissions reductions from the tax. Myanmar’s Infrastructure Gap, 2016 <i>Client</i>: Adam Smith International • Prepared report on critical gaps in Myanmar’s infrastructure (transportation, energy, ICT)
TECHNICAL SKILLS	Python, STATA, GIS, R, $\text{\LaTeX}$
LANGUAGE SKILLS	ENGLISH, GERMAN