


CURRICULUM VITAE

Tim Dobermann

JANUARY 2025

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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* 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.

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

- Research Fellow in Environmental Economics in the Department of Economics.

External Advisor January 2019 – June 2024
Ministry of Energy, Government of Pakistan (*unremunerated*) Islamabad

- Presented confidential analyses to federal Cabinet, including to PM, on (i) electricity losses, (ii) energy tariffs, and (iii) energy subsidy reforms
- Recommendations on industrial energy subsidies adopted at national level
- Managed team of six analysts and embedded advisors

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

- Managed Myanmar, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Jordan, Lebanon & Afghanistan portfolios with a research focus on energy issues.
- High-level government interaction in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Myanmar & Jordan.
- 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

- Worked alongside government to develop research on policies that facilitate economic growth.
- Led the establishment of energy and cities research portfolios.

EDUCATION PHD ECONOMICS 2018 – 2024
London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

- Co-Chair, [LSE Environment Week](#)
- MRes Economics, *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 Adaptation to 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)

The Economic Costs of Distorted Power Tariffs: Evidence from Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) 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 Heterogeneous 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.

- *Grants:* £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

Client: 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

Client: 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

Client: Adam Smith International

- Prepared report on critical gaps in Myanmar’s infrastructure (transportation, energy, ICT)

TEACHING

Teaching Fellow, Development Economics, 2018–2023

Masters in Public Administration/Public Policy, LSE School of Public Policy

- LSE Excellence in Education Award, each year 2018–2023

TECHNICAL SKILLS

L^AT_EX, STATA, QGIS, Python, R

LANGUAGE SKILLS

ENGLISH, GERMAN