



34th Annual

**BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE**

Sponsored by the David M. Kennedy Center for International Studies  
Friday, October 27, 2023 – Provo, Utah

Esteemed Delegates,

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Ben Marr  
*United Nations High  
Commissioner for Refugees*

Mauricio Morales  
*Organization of American  
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Hello! Welcome to the 2023 Brigham Young University Model United Nations Conference (BYUMUN)! My name is Christina Parry, and I am your director for ECOSOC this year. I'm from Oklahoma, and I'm currently a Senior at BYU studying English with an emphasis on Professional Writing and pursuing a minor in Business. I have participated in BYU Model United Nations for a year, having competed in both Washington D.C and New York City, representing Croatia and Kuwait. I am pleased to introduce you to our committee, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Plenary.

The topics under discussion for the Economic and Social Council Plenary are:

- I. Reduction of Brain Drain in the Developing World
- II. Increasing Financial SDG's Incentives for Future Local Partnerships

ECOSOC is at the heart of the United Nations (UN) system. ECOSOC pulls together funding mechanisms and takes the lead in formulating policy goals and frameworks for short and long-term programs. ECOSOC is also primarily responsible for ensuring the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals, including hosting the annual High-Level Political Forum most years.

This Background Guide serves as an introduction to the topics for this committee. However, this guide will not replace individual research. We encourage you to explore your Member State's policies in depth and use the Annotated Bibliography and Bibliography to further your knowledge on these topics.

In addition, please review the mandatory NMUN Conduct Expectations on the [NMUN website](#). They include the Conference dress code and other expectations of all attendees. We want to emphasize that the BYU Model UN Committee will not tolerate any form of sexual harassment or discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, or disability.

Sincerely,

Christina Parry  
Director of the Economic and Social Council  
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## **Committee Background**

*“If you look at history, innovation doesn’t come just from giving people incentives; it comes from creating environments where their ideas can connect.” –Steven Johnson*

### **Introduction**

According to the UN Charter, ECOSOC's mandate is to promote higher standards of living, full employment, economic and social progress; solutions to international economic, social, and health problems; international cultural and educational cooperation; and universal respect for and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion. In 1945, The UN Charter established ECOSOC as one of the six principal organs of the UN, placing it at the heart of the UN system. The mission of ECOSOC contains the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social, and environmental. ECOSOC is the central platform for fostering debate and innovative thinking. It is also the predominant platform for forging consensus and coordinating efforts to achieve internationally agreed goals. It is accountable for the follow-up to major UN conferences and summits. The mission of ECOSOC contains the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social, and environmental. ECOSOC coordinates the activities of 14 specialized agencies, 13 regional and functional commissions, and over 3,900 civil society actors by commissioning studies and reports, monitoring the implementation of activities and initiatives, and encouraging cooperation and coherence among policy actions.

### **Coordination within the UN**

ECOSOC guides and coordinates various families of supplementary bodies and UN entities dedicated to sustainable development. These subsidiary bodies and UN entities include commissions that facilitate intergovernmental discussions of major global issues and regional economic and social commissions, expert bodies establishing important international normative frameworks, and specifically designed funds, agencies, and programs at work around the world to translate development commitments into fundamental changes in people's lives. ECOSOC has played a leading role in the last decade in identifying emerging challenges, promoting innovation, and achieving a balanced integration is made vital by reforms that include the General Assembly resolutions 68/1 (recognizes the lead role of ECOSOC in identifying emerging challenges and promoting reflection, debate and innovative thinking on development, as well as in achieving a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development.), 72/305 (Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/1 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council), and 75/290 A (the new Coordination Segment will replace the Integration Segment and the informal meeting of the Council with the Chairs of subsidiary bodies). ECOSOC has strived with these reforms to achieve a balanced integration of the three pillars of sustainable development - economic, social, and environmental.

ECOSOC's Charter mandate lists this committee as a coordinator convener and specialized body for policy dialogue, policymaking, working towards implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the resolutions on the High-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF). Other major UN conferences and summits, as well as Resolution 75/290A, under its purview in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to address other significant global challenges and new issues, have also strengthened ECOSOC's coordination role position. Furthermore, resolutions 75/290A and 75/290B enhanced the coordination between the work of ECOSOC and the HLPF<sup>1</sup>.

## **Partnership with the rest of the world**

Building upon its coordination role within the UN, ECOSOC is a gateway for UN partnership and participation by the rest of the world. ECOSOC offers a unique global meeting point for productive dialogues among policymakers, parliamentarians, academics, foundations, businesses, youth, and 3,200+ registered non-governmental organizations<sup>2</sup>.

To help further partnerships with the rest of the world, ECOSOC offers an essential forum for bringing partners together to debate, think, plan, and develop solutions to implement the agenda. This includes going through multi-stakeholder dialogues that have become integral to several ECOSOC meetings. Equipped to bring together diverse constituents on the full range of issues related to sustainable development through its annual meetings, ECOSOC has functional and regional commissions and a critical coordinating role in the UN development system.

## **A Spotlight on Global Issues**

ECOSOC structures its work each year around an annual theme of global importance to sustainable development. ECOSOC's yearly focus on global importance ensures focused attention among ECOSOC's array of partners and throughout the UN development system. By emphasizing combined economic, social, and environmental concerns, ECOSOC encourages agreement on coherent policies and actions that make fundamental links across all three<sup>3</sup>. ECOSOC focuses on building global and local partnerships and preventing the loss of skilled labor in struggling economies due to migration.

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<sup>1</sup>“ECOSOC Coordination Segment | Economic and Social Council.” *United Nations*, United Nations, [www.un.org/ecosoc/en/ecosoc-coordination-segment](http://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/ecosoc-coordination-segment). Accessed 24 Aug. 2023.

<sup>2</sup>“Partnership Forum | Economic and Social Council.” *United Nations*, [www.un.org/ecosoc/en/events/2023/partnership-forum#:~:text=Every%20year%20at%20the%20Partnership,can%20best%20advance%20international%20development](http://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/events/2023/partnership-forum#:~:text=Every%20year%20at%20the%20Partnership,can%20best%20advance%20international%20development). Accessed 12 July 2023.

<sup>3</sup>“About Us | Economic and Social Council.” *United Nations*, United Nations, [www.un.org/ecosoc/en/content/about-us](http://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/content/about-us). Accessed 24 Aug. 2023.



## Annotated Bibliography

**“ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment 2023.”** *OCHA*, 7 July 2023,  
[www.unocha.org/ecosoc-2023?gclid=Cj0KCQjwnrmlBhDHARIsADJ5b\\_kAOM-4L3k6gfFb16t9TeGQX09yrkKjIGjCZ0BDzddXOVJdCVOhORUaAnQyEALw\\_wcB](http://www.unocha.org/ecosoc-2023?gclid=Cj0KCQjwnrmlBhDHARIsADJ5b_kAOM-4L3k6gfFb16t9TeGQX09yrkKjIGjCZ0BDzddXOVJdCVOhORUaAnQyEALw_wcB).  
B.

This resource is helpful in further research because it shows how the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment (HAS) has been an essential platform for discussing the activities and issues related to strengthening the coordination and effectiveness of the humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. The HAS provides a critical opportunity for Member States, the United Nations system, development actors, the private sector, and other humanitarian partners to discuss current and emerging humanitarian challenges and priority themes and share experiences and lessons learned.

**“Mandate | Economic and Social Council.”** *United Nations*,  
[www.un.org/ecosoc/en/node/50043](http://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/node/50043). Accessed 13 July 2023.

This resource is helpful because it gives more background about the mandate the UN gave ECOSOC at the 2005 World Summit. In the World Summit Outcome Document, in paragraph 155, Heads of State and Government created ECOSOC's mandate as part of its high-level segment. This was to be conducted using a cross-sectoral approach focusing on thematic issues common to the outcomes of large United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, and related fields. Afterward, ECOSOC is expected by the mandate to review progress made in implementing the outcomes of those conferences and summits and their follow-up processes and assess its impact on achieving the goals and targets of the meetings and summits.

**“Partnership Forum | Economic and Social Council.”** *United Nations*,  
[www.un.org/ecosoc/en/events/2023/partnership-forum#:~:text=Every%20year%20at%20the%20Partnership,can%20best%20advance%20international%20development](http://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/events/2023/partnership-forum#:~:text=Every%20year%20at%20the%20Partnership,can%20best%20advance%20international%20development). Accessed 12 July 2023.

Every year ECOSOC and other UN entities at the Partnership Forum collaborate to bring together some of the most influential leaders from government, civil society, and the private and non-profit sectors. At this Partnership Forum, leaders share the latest innovations on how partnerships can best advance international development. This Forum aims to broaden the range of people engaging with ECOSOC. It promotes concrete measures for different groups to work together to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This resource has listed by year each statement and resolution presented at these Forums and their outcomes.

**“Partnerships | Economic and Social Council.”** *United Nations*,  
[www.un.org/ecosoc/en/content/%E4%BC%99%E4%BC%B4%E5%85%B3%E7%B3%BB](http://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/content/%E4%BC%99%E4%BC%B4%E5%85%B3%E7%B3%BB). Accessed 12 July 2023.

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This resource is helpful because it lists key issues that ECOSOC focuses on with developing local and international partnerships. It also lists nongovernmental partners (NGOs) that ECOSOC has worked with concerning key issues.

**“Resolutions | Economic and Social Council.” *United Nations*,  
[www.un.org/ecosoc/en/documents/resolutions](http://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/documents/resolutions). Accessed 12 July 2023.**

This resource helps further research about ECOSOC because it gives lists of resolutions that passed on June 7, 2023. These resolutions that recently passed in ECOSOC include solutions to issues dealing with innovation, transportation, and justice reform.

## I. Reducing Brain Drain in the Developing World

*“Education, beyond all other devices of human origin, is the great equalizer of the conditions of men, the balance-wheel of the social machinery.”*

- Horace Mann, 19th Century American Educator

### Introduction

According to the Oxford Dictionary, Brain Drain is the emigration of highly trained or intelligent people from one country to another. The net benefits of human capital flight for the country receiving immigrants are called "brain gain." In contrast, "brain drain" is the net cost for the sending country<sup>1</sup>. In occupations with excess graduates, the immigration of foreign-trained professionals can cause the underemployment of domestic graduates<sup>2</sup>. In contrast, emigration from an area with an excess of trained people can lead to better opportunities for those remaining in the area. Still, emigration can cause difficulties for the home country if trained graduates are in short supply. The impact on the country of origin is more complex, with research suggesting that the impact can be positive, negative, or mixed. Research also demonstrates that emigration, remittances, and return migration can positively impact the quality of political institutions in the country of origin and democratization

By establishing an EU-wide database for tracking career progression, providing universities with incentives to develop policies that support their employees, and working with industry to form partnerships, EU member states hope to staunch the flood of scientists seeking opportunities elsewhere. In this regard, the plan urges all African countries, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, to counter the effects of brain drain by encouraging nationals in the diaspora to contribute to developing their countries of origin by transferring skills, knowledge, and technology. This should include establishing policies that would ensure the replacement of qualified persons who left their countries of origin with local talent, as well as attracting experts in the diaspora to return, according to a recommendation. The African Union has devised a new 10-year plan of action to stop migration to developed countries of African professionals with critical technical skills – estimated to reach up to 70,000 annually. *The Revised Migration Policy Framework for Africa and Plan of Action (2018-2027)*, African countries must counter the exodus of skilled nationals, particularly doctors, nurses, and engineers. But to achieve this objective, there is an urgent need to provide gainful employment, professional development, and educational opportunities to qualified nationals in their home countries, notes the action plan.

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<sup>1</sup>“Brain Drain and the Politics of Immigration - FPIF.” *Foreign Policy in Focus*, 25 Feb. 2014, [fpif.org/brain-drain-politics-immigration/](http://fpif.org/brain-drain-politics-immigration/).

<sup>2</sup>Birrell, Bob. *Australia’s Skilled Migration Program: Scarce Skills Not Required*. 2018, [tapri.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Final-March-8-Australias-skilled-migration-program.pdf](http://tapri.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Final-March-8-Australias-skilled-migration-program.pdf).

<sup>3</sup>Barsbai, Toman, et al. “The Effect of Labor Migration on the Diffusion of Democracy: Evidence from a Former Soviet Republic.” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, vol. 9, no. 3, July 2017, pp. 36–69, <https://doi.org/10.1257/app.20150517>.

There are three main categories of human capital flight:

- **Organizational:** The flight of skilled, innovative, and highly qualified employees from large corporations happens when employees discern the direction and leadership of the company to be deteriorating, unstable, stagnant, or unfit to meet their personal and professional goals.
- **Geographical:** The movement of exceptionally trained individuals and college graduates from their area of origin
- **Industrial:** The migration of traditionally skilled workers from one division of an industry to another.

As with other human migration, the social environment is often considered a key reason for this population shift. More push factors in developing countries include lack of opportunities, political instability or oppression, economic depression, health risks, and contribute to human capital flight<sup>4</sup>. In contrast, host countries to which migrants travel too often offer rich opportunities, political stability and freedom, a developed economy, and better living conditions. These pull factors draw in talent and family influences, personal preferences, career ambitions, and other motivating factors also play a part in why migrants travel to a host country rather than stay in their country of origin<sup>4</sup>.

## Economic Effects

Some research suggests that low- and high-skilled migration benefits both the receiving and exporting countries<sup>5</sup>. Welfare increases in both types of countries, according to one study. The study stated that the "welfare impact of observed levels of migration is substantial, at about 5% to 10% for the main receiving countries and about 10% in countries with large incoming remittances". In contrast, other research suggests the detrimental impact on the country of origin<sup>6</sup>. Remittances increase living standards in the country of origin because they are a large share of GDP in many developing countries, and they help to increase the well-being of receiving families<sup>7</sup>. Haiti reported that the 670,000 adult Haitians living in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) had sent home around USD 1,700 per migrant per year. This amount is well over double Haiti's USD 670 per capita GDP<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup> Dodani, S. "Brain Drain from Developing Countries: How Can Brain Drain Be Converted into Wisdom Gain?" *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*, vol. 98, no. 11, Nov. 2005, pp. 487–91, <https://doi.org/10.1258/jrsm.98.11.487>.

<sup>5</sup> Ford, Gerald, et al. *RESEARCH SEMINAR in INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS a Global View of Cross-Border Migration*. 2012, [fordschool.umich.edu/rsie/workingpapers/Papers626-650/r627.pdf](https://fordschool.umich.edu/rsie/workingpapers/Papers626-650/r627.pdf).

<sup>6</sup> Beine, Michel, et al. "Brain Drain and Human Capital Formation in Developing Countries: Winners and Losers." *The Economic Journal*, vol. 118, no. 528, Mar. 2008, pp. 631–52, <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-0297.2008.02135.x>. Accessed 13 May 2019.

<sup>7</sup> Mergo, Teferi. "The Effects of International Migration on Migrant-Source Households: Evidence from Ethiopian Diversity-Visa Lottery Migrants." *World Development*, vol. 84, Aug. 2016, pp. 69–81, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2016.04.001>. Accessed 27 Mar. 2020.



<sup>8</sup> “Migration and Development: Who Bears the Burden of Proof? Justin Sandefur Replies to Paul Collier | from Poverty to Power.” *Frompoverty.oxfam.org.uk*, [frompoverty.oxfam.org.uk/migration-and-development-who-bears-the-burden-of-proof-justin-sandefur-replies-to-paul-collier-2/](https://frompoverty.oxfam.org.uk/migration-and-development-who-bears-the-burden-of-proof-justin-sandefur-replies-to-paul-collier-2/).

In Mexico, the authors find that direct money transfers from migrants, known as remittances, are used to provide household access to public services. The statistical analysis across Mexico's 2,438 municipalities demonstrates that citizens improve access<sup>9</sup>. Research shows that more educated and higher-earning emigrants remit more<sup>10</sup>.

Additional studies show that the remittance effect is insufficient to make the remaining natives in countries with high emigration flow better<sup>5</sup>. NBER paper suggested in 2016 that emigration from Italy after the 2008 global financial crisis reduced political change in Italy<sup>11</sup>. Return migration boosts developing states' economies because of the newly acquired skills, savings, and assets that migrants bring back to their country of origin<sup>12</sup>. According to a study of Yugoslav refugees during the Yugoslav Wars in the early 1990s, citizens of former Yugoslavia that were allowed temporary stays in Germany returned to their home countries in 1995 after the Dayton Accords with new skills, knowledge, and technologies. This led to greater productivity and export performance within the country<sup>13</sup>. Studies have shown that the removal of barriers regarding migration would have a significant impact on world GDP, with estimates of gains ranging between 67% to 147.3%<sup>14</sup>. Research also shows that migration leads to greater trade in services and goods between the sending and receiving countries<sup>15</sup>. Using 130 years of data on historical migrations to the United States, one study finds "that a doubling of the number of residents with ancestry from a given foreign country relative to the mean increases by 4.2 percentage points the probability that at least one local firm invests in that country and increases by 31% the number of employees at domestic recipients of FDI from that country. The size of these effects increases with the ethnic diversity of the local population, the geographic distance to the origin country, and the ethnolinguistic fractionalization of the origin country"<sup>16</sup>. Emigrants also significantly boost Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) back to their country of origin<sup>17</sup>. According to one review study, the overall evidence shows that emigration helps developing countries integrate into the global economy<sup>18</sup>.

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<sup>9</sup> Adida, Claire L., and Desha M. Girod. "Do Migrants Improve Their Hometowns? Remittances and Access to Public Services in Mexico, 1995-2000." *Semantic Scholar*, 2011, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0010414010381073>. Accessed 21 June 2021.

<sup>10</sup> Bollard, Albert, et al. "Remittances and the Brain Drain Revisited: The Microdata Show That More Educated Migrants Remit More." *The World Bank Economic Review*, vol. 25, no. 1, 2011, pp. 132–156, [ideas.repec.org/a/oup/wbecrv/v25y2011i1p132-156.html](https://ideas.repec.org/a/oup/wbecrv/v25y2011i1p132-156.html). Accessed 22 June 2023.

<sup>11</sup> Anelli, Massimo, and Giovanni Peri. "Does Emigration Delay Political Change? Evidence from Italy during the Great Recession." *Economic Policy*, vol. 32, no. 91, July 2017, pp. 551–96, <https://doi.org/10.1093/epolic/eix006>. Accessed 2 Apr. 2019.

<sup>12</sup> Wahba, Jackline. "Who Benefits from Return Migration to Developing Countries?" *IZA World of Labor*, 2014, <https://doi.org/10.15185/izawol.123>.

<sup>13</sup> Wahba, Jackline. "Who Benefits from Return Migration to Developing Countries?" *IZA World of Labor*, 2014, <https://doi.org/10.15185/izawol.123>.

<sup>14</sup> Iregui, Ana. *Efficiency Gains from the Elimination of Global Restrictions on Labour Mobility and Analysis Using a Multiregional CGE Model*. 2002, [www.wider.unu.edu/sites/default/files/dp2003-27.pdf](http://www.wider.unu.edu/sites/default/files/dp2003-27.pdf). Accessed 22 June 2023.

<sup>15</sup> "Cross-Border Movement of Persons Stimulates Trade." *CEPR*, [cepr.org/voxeu/columns/cross-border-movement-persons-stimulates-trade](https://cepr.org/voxeu/columns/cross-border-movement-persons-stimulates-trade).

<sup>16</sup> Burchardi, Konrad, et al. *We Are Grateful To*. 2016.

<sup>17</sup> Javorcik, Beata S., et al. "Migrant Networks and Foreign Direct Investment." *Journal of Development Economics*, vol. 94, no. 2, Mar. 2011, pp. 231–41, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2010.01.012>.

<sup>18</sup> *A Service of Zbw*. [www.econstor.eu/bitstream/10419/145243/1/dp10109.pdf](http://www.econstor.eu/bitstream/10419/145243/1/dp10109.pdf).

## **Education and Innovation**

According to many studies, researchers have found that emigration and low migration barriers positively affect human capital formation and innovation in sending countries. This positive effect means a "brain gain" instead of a "brain drain" to emigration. Research has found that sending countries benefit indirectly in the long run from the emigration of skilled workers because those skilled workers can innovate more in developed countries, which the sending countries can benefit from as a positive externality. Greater emigration of skilled workers consequently leads to more significant economic growth and welfare improvements in the long-run<sup>19</sup>.

ECOSOC emphasizes the need for inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels, especially regarding emigration and reintegration. Education is a fundamental human right and a powerful tool for poverty eradication, social empowerment, and global citizenship. Member states can enhance educational opportunities and outcomes by supporting educational programs, infrastructure development, teacher training, and technology integration to help reduce brain drain. On the other hand, innovation is recognized as a driving force behind economic growth, job creation, and sustainable development. Countries must invest in science, technology, and innovation, supporting initiatives facilitating knowledge sharing, collaboration, and capacity building to help mitigate brain drain's effects on the economy.

Education and innovation are vital pillars of sustainable development, and ECOSOC plays a crucial role in advancing these domains. By promoting inclusive and equitable quality education and fostering an enabling environment for innovation, member states can create a more prosperous, fair, and sustainable world.

## **Democracy, Human Rights, and Liberal Values**

Some essential characteristics in which remittances, return migration, and emigration can positively impact democratization and political institutions in the country of origin include knowledge transfer, institutional development, advocacy and activism, and cultural exchange and tolerance.

Returning migrants can often transfer knowledge and understanding about democratic principles, human rights frameworks, and liberal values gained from their experiences in more open societies. They can share this knowledge and promote awareness of democratic ideals within their communities, institutions, and public discourse. Engaging in discussions, organizing workshops, or participating in advocacy efforts can contribute to a more informed and inclusive understanding of democracy and human rights.

Another way that migration can contribute to the economy is through institutional development. Returning migrants can strengthen democratic institutions and governance structures in their home countries through law, public administration, civil society, media, and academic expertise.

By actively participating in policymaking, public administration, or civil society organizations, they can help build transparent, accountable, and inclusive institutions that uphold human rights, the rule of law, and liberal values.

The third way in which return migrants help to enhance their native country further is through advocacy and activism. Return migrants often advocate for democratic principles and human rights in their home countries. They can leverage their international networks, skills, and experiences to raise awareness, mobilize communities, and engage in grassroots movements for social and political change. Their involvement can empower local voices, amplify marginalized perspectives, and challenge oppressive practices, ultimately advancing democratic values.

The fourth way returning migrants help can positively impact democratization and political institutions in the country of origin is through cultural exchange and tolerance. Return migrants can foster cultural exchange and promote tolerance within their societies. They can challenge stereotypes, bridge cultural divides, and encourage respect for diversity through their interactions. Sharing their experiences living in diverse and inclusive communities can contribute to a more inclusive understanding of human rights, social justice, and respect for individual freedoms.

It is important to note that the impact of return migration on democracy, human rights, and liberal values can vary depending on the home country's context, political climate, and receptiveness. However, Research advocates that remittances, return migration, and emigration can positively impact democratization and political institutions in the country of origin<sup>20</sup>. Research also has shown that exposure to emigrants boosts turnout<sup>21</sup>. In 2009, a study found that foreigners educated in democracies foster democracy in their home countries when they return<sup>22</sup>. Research also demonstrates that remittances into a country of origin can lower the risk of civil war and lead to lower levels of terrorism<sup>23</sup>.

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<sup>19</sup> "16-016.Pdf." *Google Docs*, drive.google.com/file/d/1ZHpH22pQrmulPyo8Dh7PjbtChz1QB541/view. Accessed 22 June 2023.

<sup>20</sup> Barsbai, Toman, et al. "The Effect of Labor Migration on the Diffusion of Democracy: Evidence from a Former Soviet Republic." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, vol. 9, no. 3, July 2017, pp. 36–69, <https://doi.org/10.1257/app.20150517>.

<sup>21</sup> Chauvet, Lisa, and Marion Mercier. "Do Return Migrants Transfer Political Norms to Their Origin Country? Evidence from Mali." *Dauphine.fr*, Sept. 2017, <https://doi.org/0147-5967>. Accessed 22 June 2023.

<sup>22</sup> Spilimbergo, Antonio. "Democracy and Foreign Education." *American Economic Review*, vol. 99, no. 1, Feb. 2009, pp. 528–43, <https://doi.org/10.1257/aer.99.1.528>.

<sup>23</sup> Bove, Vincenzo, and Tobias Böhmelt. "Does Immigration Induce Terrorism?" *The Journal of Politics*, vol. 78, no. 2, Apr. 2016, pp. 572–88, <https://doi.org/10.1086/684679>. Accessed 15 Apr. 2019.

### **Questions to Consider**

1. What can countries do to reap the benefits while minimizing the costs of emigration and remittances?
2. Are there any specific industries or sectors that are more susceptible to brain drain?
3. What are the ethical considerations associated with brain drain and the recruitment of skilled professionals from developing countries?
4. Are there any positive aspects or benefits associated with brain drain?

## Annotated Bibliography

**Agrawal, Ajay, et al. “Brain Drain or Brain Bank? The Impact of Skilled Emigration on Poor-Country Innovation.” *Journal of Urban Economics*, vol. 69, no. 1, Jan. 2011, pp. 43–55, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jue.2010.06.003>.**

This recourse shows that the development prospects of a poor country depend on its capacity for innovation. The author states that the productivity of its innovators depends, in turn, on the country's access to technological knowledge. This article discusses how the emigration of highly skilled individuals weakens local knowledge networks but may also help remaining innovators access valuable knowledge experienced abroad. This article shows a model that the authors developed in which the size of the optimal innovator diaspora depends on the competing strengths of co-location and diaspora effects for accessing knowledge. Based on the findings of this model, the optimal emigration level can depend on the relative value resulting from the most cited compared to average inventions.

**Anelli, Massimo, et al. “Youth Drain, Entrepreneurship and Innovation.” *National Bureau of Economic Research*, 1 July 2019, <https://doi.org/10.3386/w26055>. Accessed 22 June 2023.**

This article discusses how the Migration outflows of young people deprive an economy of a country of entrepreneurial energy and innovative ideas. This resource shows the variation in emigration from Italian local labor markets to show that between 2008 and 2015, more immense emigration flows reduced firm creation. The main argument of this resource is that the decline affected firms owned by young people and innovative industries and that for every 1,000 emigrants, ten fewer young-owned firms were created over the whole period.

***A Service of Zbw.* [www.econstor.eu/bitstream/10419/145243/1/dp10109.pdf](http://www.econstor.eu/bitstream/10419/145243/1/dp10109.pdf).**

This paper analyzes a growing literature on migration and globalization. In particular, the author focuses on migration's relevance for developing and emerging economies. The author reviews documents and the role of diaspora networks in enhancing cross-border flows of goods and knowledge and how these eventually contribute to efficient specialization, investment, and productivity growth in the migrants' countries of origin. This resource focuses on the role of skilled migrants and how the evidence suggests that migrants contribute to their home-countries in the global economy.

**Beine, Michel, et al. “Brain Drain and Human Capital Formation in Developing Countries: Winners and Losers.” *The Economic Journal*, vol. 118, no. 528, Mar. 2008, pp. 631–52, <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-0297.2008.02135.x>.**

In the past, The Brain drain has been perceived as a severe constraint on poor countries' development. However, recent theoretical literature suggests that emigration prospects can raise the expected return to human capital and foster investment in education at home. This paper uses a new dataset on emigration rates by education level to examine the impact of brain drain migrations in developing countries on human capital formation. This resource also explores evidence of a positive effect of skilled migration prospects on gross human capital levels in one hundred and twenty-seven developing countries.

**“Brain Drain and the Politics of Immigration - FPIF.” *Foreign Policy in Focus*, 25 Feb. 2014, [fpif.org/brain-drain-politics-immigration/](https://fpif.org/brain-drain-politics-immigration/).**

This resource shows how immigration can be beneficial. However, to reap the benefits, countries must honestly account for the costs. Primarily this resource dives into the following question: How can countries manage brain drain? The article argues that to solve this problem, governments of developing nations should strive to create incentives for their educated workers to stay home and use their abilities to create a better and more sustainable society. It also recommends that developed countries provide some assistance through educational partnerships or other forms of cooperation with developing countries to help with this issue.

**Dinkelman, Taryn, and Martine Mariotti. “The Long-Run Effects of Labor Migration on Human Capital Formation in Communities of Origin.” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, vol. 8, no. 4, Oct. 2016, pp. 1–35, <https://doi.org/10.1257/app.20150405>. Accessed 8 Nov. 2020.**

This resource provides evidence of one method by which circular labor migration has long-run effects on communities of origin. According to this evidence, this method is raising the completed human capital of the next generation. By using newly digitized Census and administrative data on access to mine jobs, a difference-in-differences strategy, and two opposite-signed and plausibly exogenous shocks to the option to migrate, the author estimates the net effects of migration from Malawi to South African mines

**Dodani, S. “Brain Drain from Developing Countries: How Can Brain Drain Be Converted into Wisdom Gain?” *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*, vol. 98, no. 11, Nov. 2005, pp. 487–91, <https://doi.org/10.1258/jrsm.98.11.487>.**

This article shows the migration of health professionals, both within countries and across international borders, and the impact migration has on health systems in developing countries. The author of this article seeks to answer the following questions: Why do talented people leave their countries and go abroad? What are the consequences of such migrations, especially in the educational sector? What policies can be adopted to stem such movements from developing countries to developed countries? This article's purpose in answering these questions is to identify critical issues and provide solutions

that would enable immigrant health professionals to share their skills to enhance the economic development of their countries.

**Lodigiani, Elisabetta. “The Effect of Emigration on Home-Country Political Institutions.”** *IZA World of Labor*, Nov. 2016, <https://doi.org/10.15185/izawol.307>.

According to the author of this article, the number of immigrants from developing countries living in more prosperous, more developed countries has increased substantially during the last decades. This resource also shows how the quality of institutions in developing countries has improved. The data suggest a close positive correlation between average emigration rates and institutional quality.

**Tebble, Adam James. “More Open Borders for Those Left Behind.”** *Ethnicities*, vol. 20, no. 2, Aug. 2019, pp. 353–79, <https://doi.org/10.1177/1468796819866351>. Accessed 6 Apr. 2020.

This article is helpful because the author claims that not only can the interests of those left behind be appealed to by defenders of more open borders but that there are at least two other reasons such interests should be included when considering more open borders. The first reason is that more open borders have a unique role in the transformative economic effects of remittances and the state signaling mechanism that migrant and remittance flows provide. This effect affects wealthier states as they dispense foreign aid and poorer states as they implement national development programs. Second, more open borders are also compelling for those who are skeptical of immigration insofar as they help them identify the obligations of justice that they may owe to the world’s poor and of which obligations whose fulfillment lessens the pressure to migrate from poorer to wealthier states over the long term.

**Wahba, Jackline. “Who Benefits from Return Migration to Developing Countries?”** *IZA World of Labor*, 2014, <https://doi.org/10.15185/izawol.123>.

The author of this resource argues that return migration can have multiple benefits. She provides evidence that migration allows migrants with savings abroad to ease credit constraints at home and set up a business. This resource also shows how emigrants from low- and middle-income countries who have invested in their human capital can earn higher wages in their countries of origin when they return. However, this resource also discusses that the home country benefits from returning migrants depending on the migrant's success in accumulating savings and human capital and the home country's ability to use returnees' skills and investments. The author argues that for countries of origin to benefit from returnees, home countries need policies encouraging returnees' investment and reintegration of labor markets.





## II. Increasing Financial incentives for Future Local Partnerships through Infrastructure Development

*“What is the calculus of innovation? The calculus of innovation is really quite simple: Knowledge drives innovation, innovation drives productivity, productivity drives economic growth. “*

*- William Brody (born 1944), Scientist*

### Introduction

Increasing financial incentives for future local partnerships through infrastructure development refers to nations and governments offering appealing economic benefits and rewards to encourage local businesses, communities, and organizations to participate in and contribute to infrastructure projects. This goal aims to create mutually beneficial partnerships that result in the successful development and maintenance of essential infrastructure in each region or country.

Examples of infrastructure development projects include building or improving roads, bridges, public transportation systems, utilities (water supply and sanitation), energy facilities, communication networks, and more. These projects often require substantial financial investments, and by providing financial incentives, governments, organizations, and investors aim to attract local partners to participate in the funding, planning, construction, and management of these projects to make them more effective in cost and function.

### Economic Effects

Increasing Financial incentives for Future Local Partnerships through Infrastructure Development is integral to what ECOSOC does worldwide. Infrastructure makes up economic activity and generates development and growth. This kind includes systems like transportation, power, water, and telecom. Research has shown that globally, countries spend over \$2.5 trillion a year on infrastructure, but if they hope to keep pace with the projected GDP growth, about \$3.7 trillion a year will be needed through 2035<sup>1</sup>. Since the pandemic, economic recovery has been central to many countries' agendas in looking forward to the future<sup>2</sup>.

This focus is because, without a broad-based economic expansion, it is difficult for governments to address other challenges, such as education and healthcare. The International Monetary Fund recently raised its projection for economic growth in 2021 to 6%, up from 5.5%, and projects 4.4% growth in 2022<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Bielenberg, Aaron, et al. “Four Ways Governments Can Get the Most out of Their Infrastructure Projects.” *McKinsey & Company*, 6 Jan. 2020, [www.mckinsey.com/industries/public-sector/our-insights/four-ways-governments-can-get-the-most-out-of-their-infrastructure-projects](http://www.mckinsey.com/industries/public-sector/our-insights/four-ways-governments-can-get-the-most-out-of-their-infrastructure-projects).

<sup>2</sup> PricewaterhouseCoopers. “Creating Economic Recovery and Growth after COVID-19.” PwC, [www.pwc.com/gx/en/industries/government-public-services/six-challenges/economic-recovery-after-covid-19.html](http://www.pwc.com/gx/en/industries/government-public-services/six-challenges/economic-recovery-after-covid-19.html). Accessed 20 July 2023.

The upgraded outlook is on how well the pandemic is controlled and the efficacy of fiscal policy in mitigating economic damage and global financial conditions. Although businesses are the engines of the economy, governments create the environment and structure that enable enterprises to flourish<sup>1</sup>.

Increasing capital will build infrastructure across National, state, and local governments to keep up with these needs. The McKinsey Global Institute estimates that infrastructure has a socioeconomic rate of return of around 20 percent, which is that \$1 of infrastructure investment can raise GDP by 20 cents. However, it's only when infrastructure projects generate tangible public benefits that the full effects of the profits are realized.

The new generation of general-purpose technologies and their related industrial developments provide new opportunities for an up-to-date round of technological innovation and industrial change<sup>3</sup>. These opportunities are exceptionally changing the organization of various industries and reshaping the landscape of international competition. Infrastructure construction allows for swift digital transformation with overlapping iteration, continuous integration, and extensive applicability of new general-purpose technologies. The traditional form of infrastructure investment is gradually shifting in a new direction. The term “new infrastructure investment” refers to several vital areas of information infrastructure investment. Examples include 5G, industrial internet, artificial intelligence, cloud computing, blockchain, and big data<sup>3</sup>. It also invests in innovative infrastructure to support technology development, scientific research, and product development. This term also includes the transition towards digitalization and intelligence of traditional infrastructure<sup>3</sup>.

Under the dual pressures of the increasing uncertainty of global economic growth and the structural imbalance of supply and demand in the post-COVID-19 era, new infrastructure investments must balance the policy objectives of stimulating effective demand in the short term and increasing adequate supply in a long time<sup>3</sup>. These pressures make it necessary for member states to encourage investment vitality and innovation potential and to promote improved financial incentives for future local partnerships through infrastructure development.

### **Social and Economic Advantages**

When infrastructure operates costs and capital sustainably, it can only provide opportunities for social and economic advantages. These opportunities are sponsored either by the government sponsor's revenues or by what the project generates over time. Too many projects can become a financial burden when a government borrows money for an undertaking because of how it drains finances. This is caused when the country's revenues must cover the cost more adequately.

According to the International Labour Organization, there is generally a strong link between

<sup>3</sup>Du, Xin, et al. "How Does New Infrastructure Investment Affect Economic Growth Quality? Empirical Evidence from China." *MDPI*, Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute, 16 Mar. 2022, [www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/14/6/3511#B10-sustainability-14-03511](http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/14/6/3511#B10-sustainability-14-03511).

investment in infrastructure and local development in a region. The need for infrastructure investments in developing countries are vast. Community priorities often include infrastructure for both economic and social development. Researchers estimate that annual investment needs for infrastructure is at 5.5% of GDP in middle-income countries and 9% in the least developed countries<sup>4</sup>. The direct results of investments in infrastructure include the generation of employment, income, and business opportunities linked to the development, maintenance, and operation of public and community interest infrastructure. Longer lasting impacts such as improved access to transport, markets, health, education, and other socio-economic goods and services positively contribute to the local development of an area<sup>4</sup>.

The International Labour Organization also states that local resource-based infrastructure works, and partnerships generate income within the local community and create a multiplier effect. The local operation and maintenance of infrastructure also sustain the benefits of the investments and create longer-term employment. Optimizing local resources (labor, materials, contractors) positively impacts the local economy, while the (productive) assets created further boost local development.

To prevent a country's revenues from inadequately covering the cost, there are four main steps to increasing financial incentives for Future Local Partnerships through Infrastructure Development<sup>1</sup>. These four steps include the following: Develop projects with tangible, quantifiable benefits, improve the coordination of infrastructure investments to account for network effects, work with community stakeholders to promote inclusive economic and social benefits and unlock long-term capital. For these four steps to be influential in the current economic environment, primarily where countries, states, and cities compete for trade, corporate headquarters, jobs, and talent, governments must make sure that investments in infrastructure and partnerships generate effective public and economic benefits and to build a competitive advantage.

For governments to develop projects with tangible, quantifiable benefits, governments need to

base the selection of their projects on data and analytics that are reliable, robust financial models and designs that meet the needs of citizens. Governments should consider both the indirect effects on the rest of the economy and society and the direct impact of an infrastructure project. Such products are as follows<sup>1</sup>:

- Economic growth from construction and its varying effects. An example of this includes wages being infused into the local economy to generate partnerships between suppliers and contractors that are local to the area.

- Increased economic activity would enable results that would include the removal of economic bottlenecks and help with the growth of labor and industrial productivity

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<sup>4</sup>“Local Development.” *Local Development*, 20 Oct. 2008, [www.ilo.org/global/docs/WCMS\\_099641/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/docs/WCMS_099641/lang--en/index.htm).

- Taxes or fees that go directly to government budgets from a project concerning infrastructure
- The expansion of the talent among the labor force when a region becomes more desirable to live in helps increase the tax base and spur economic competitiveness within a local area

Another essential consideration that governments must keep in mind is considering how specific projects will affect their network<sup>1</sup>. Nation's, but think whether an investment is compatible with existing infrastructure, especially when the acquisition forms part of a network. Such an example includes transportation and power grids when considering a project. Governments should make decisions at a portfolio level to account for these network effects, and they must evaluate projects as part of a system rather than in isolation.

One roadblock these projects often face in conducting such analyses includes a need for coordination among different regional authorities or levels of government. Networks must consist of local decisions and opinions. Those working from a national or international scale may need to recognize specific issues. Thus, coordination is essential because a more extensive picture accounts for regional and national spillover benefits<sup>1</sup>.

These challenges can be mitigated through several different methods and enhance coordination among various levels of government. For example, interministerial committees and programs can minimize administrative barriers to coordination. Using strategic frameworks for infrastructure investment can help align objectives across departments and levels of government.

On a larger scale, governments may also consider projects, such as establishing a national infrastructure bank that directly finances projects. This can help to coordinate investments

among regional entities and serves as a knowledge repository. By acting as a national coordinating body, such partnerships can facilitate the selection of projects with the broader portfolio in mind.

Other effects that governments must consider are the effects infrastructure investments can have on social equity. By focusing on the effects of infrastructure investments on social equity, governments can ensure that these potential economic benefits are inclusive to all its citizens. To create a practical project concerning infrastructure, nations must consider whether investments support a geographically and demographically diverse range of residents. A critical means of ensuring more inclusive infrastructure benefits is engaging with the public, the private sector,

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and civil society stakeholders on its design and implementation<sup>1</sup>. Governments can use public consultations to share information (including economic, environmental, and social-impact study results) and solicit feedback on potential projects. That will increase the public's satisfaction with the selected infrastructure projects and the likelihood of equitable outcomes.

However, these projects can take many years to materialize since infrastructure projects frequently require multiyear planning and construction timelines. Another roadblock includes uptake, and the full use of the assets can ramp up slowly. However, money for an infrastructure project must often be borrowed for the short or medium term, with provisions tailored to the market rather than the project's economics<sup>1</sup>. As a result of this mismatch, governments must repay creditors well before the economic benefits of large infrastructure projects are realized, even if they are completed on time and budget.

Governments can work with investors that provide long-term capital to ensure that debt maturities align with time frames, considering when the benefits of the infrastructure are realized. Thankfully, there is plenty of long-term capital ready to invest in well-structured infrastructure projects. Private money is more available since investors have recently increased their capital allocation to infrastructure.

### **Questions to Consider**

1. How can infrastructure development projects be used to attract local businesses and foster partnerships with the community?
2. What are some successful cases where financial incentives encouraged local businesses to participate in infrastructure development initiatives?
3. How can governments or private investors' structure financial incentives to ensure they are effectively utilized and lead to meaningful local partnerships?
4. What are the key challenges in implementing financial incentives for infrastructure development, and how can these challenges be addressed?
5. How can infrastructure development projects be tailored to address each local community's specific needs and priorities, ensuring a more inclusive and equitable approach?

## Annotated Bibliography

**Bielenberg, Aaron, et al. "Four Ways Governments Can Get the Most out of Their Infrastructure Projects." *McKinsey & Company*, 6 Jan. 2020, [www.mckinsey.com/industries/public-sector/our-insights/four-ways-governments-can-get-the-most-out-of-their-infrastructure-projects](http://www.mckinsey.com/industries/public-sector/our-insights/four-ways-governments-can-get-the-most-out-of-their-infrastructure-projects).**

This resource is valuable because this article discusses the best practices governments can implement to better invest in infrastructure. If done correctly, these best practices can help to expand the economy and better serve the public. This article can help guide research on how to more effectively implement projects and build partnerships between local, national, and international groups by discussing four main strategies.

***Eastern Partner Countries - OECD Eurasia Regional Platform*, [www.oecd.org/eurasia/competitiveness-programme/eastern-partners/strengthening-the-role-of-private-finance-in-infrastructure-development-in-eastern-partner-countries-2019-20.htm](http://www.oecd.org/eurasia/competitiveness-programme/eastern-partners/strengthening-the-role-of-private-finance-in-infrastructure-development-in-eastern-partner-countries-2019-20.htm). Accessed 22 July 2023.**

This resource is helpful because the article discusses and analyzes how strengthening the role of private finance in infrastructure development in eastern partner countries can help boost local and national economies. This article further examines how strengthening the private sector's role in infrastructure offers an opportunity to scale up investment in quality infrastructure. It also discusses how this helps countries realize efficiency gains in their operation and how this isn't easy to achieve. The complex nature of public-private interaction requires considerable attention from policymakers for defining the modalities of private involvement and is reflective of the long-term costs in the budgetary process and adequately sharing the associated risks between the public and private co-contractors

**Elizabeth McNichol, et al. "It's Time for States to Invest in Infrastructure." *Center on Budget and Policy Priorities*, [www.cbpp.org/research/state-budget-and-tax/its-time-for-states-to-invest-in-infrastructure](http://www.cbpp.org/research/state-budget-and-tax/its-time-for-states-to-invest-in-infrastructure). Accessed 21 July 2023.**

This resource is helpful because this article discusses the importance of state investment in transportation, public buildings, water treatment systems, and other vital infrastructure. This article explains that investment in such projects and partnerships is critical to creating jobs and promoting economic recovery. The main argument within this resource is that states should reject the financial growth strategy of cutting taxes and offering corporate giveaways. Instead, state governments should identify and invest in infrastructure that provides the foundation for a strong economy. Although this resource talks particularly about states within the U.S, the principles of this article can be used in practice when creating policies on a national and international level.

**"Home." *Africa's Urbanization Dynamics 2022: The Economic Power of Africa's Cities | OECD iLibrary*, [www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/c4fa35e5-en/index.html?itemId=%2Fcontent%2Fcomponent%2Fc4fa35e5-en](http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/c4fa35e5-en/index.html?itemId=%2Fcontent%2Fcomponent%2Fc4fa35e5-en). Accessed 21 July 2023.**

This resource is helpful because this chapter discusses the role of local economic development policies in Africa. The chapter highlights the need to develop policies that target the local context, and this resource explains why local governments should play a more significant part in supporting economic development. The author discusses strategic planning as an instrument for developing coherent policy packages and emphasizes the increasingly important role of metropolitan governance in Africa. The author presents five principles around which target local economic development policies can be built. Such principles can be considered when developing other partnerships to promote projects in other nations.

**“How Does Infrastructure Investment Promote Economic Development in Fragile Regions of Africa?”** *World Bank Blogs*, [blogs.worldbank.org/ppps/how-does-infrastructure-investment-promote-economic-development-fragile-regions-africa](https://blogs.worldbank.org/ppps/how-does-infrastructure-investment-promote-economic-development-fragile-regions-africa). Accessed 22 July 2023.

This resource from the world bank is helpful because it talks about how investment in infrastructure and financial partnerships helps economies develop in fragile regions within Africa. This resource answers the critical question of what role infrastructure plays in transforming economies away from low-productivity agriculture and towards higher-productivity manufacturing and services.

**MARK HORTON is the Assistant Director, and ASMAA EL-GANAINY is an Economist in the IMF’s Fiscal Affairs Department. “Fiscal Policy: Taking and Giving Away.”** *IMF*, 28 June 2019, [www.imf.org/en/Publications/fandd/issues/Series/Back-to-Basics/Fiscal-Policy](http://www.imf.org/en/Publications/fandd/issues/Series/Back-to-Basics/Fiscal-Policy).

This article discusses fiscal policy and its use in government spending and taxation to influence the economy. The author discusses how governments typically use fiscal policy to promote strong and sustainable growth and reduce poverty. The role and objectives of fiscal policy gained prominence especially during global economic crises, and when governments stepped in to support financial systems, jump-start growth, and mitigate the impact of the crisis on vulnerable groups.

***OECD Legal Instruments***, [legalinstruments.oecd.org/en/instruments/OECD-LEGAL-0444](https://legalinstruments.oecd.org/en/instruments/OECD-LEGAL-0444). Accessed 21 July 2023.

This resource is helpful because it is a resolution about the recommendation of the Council on Global Events and Local Development. It gives ideas on presenting different arguments regarding increasing infrastructure development and urban planning. This resource can be used to gain ideas on improving financial partnerships between local groups to further regional growth.

**PricewaterhouseCoopers. “Creating Economic Recovery and Growth after COVID-19.”** *PwC*, [www.pwc.com/gx/en/industries/government-public-services/six-challenges/economic-recovery-after-covid-19.html](https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/industries/government-public-services/six-challenges/economic-recovery-after-covid-19.html). Accessed 20 July 2023.



This article is helpful because it outlines in six chapters the challenges and opportunities governments will/have faced after the Covid-19 pandemic regarding the future of healthcare, education, climate, and more. This resource helps understand and recognize essential areas and how increasing financial incentives for future local partnerships through infrastructure development post-pandemic can be helpful.

***Summary by the President of the General Assembly of the High-Level, [www.un.org/pga/71/wp-content/uploads/sites/40/2017/07/Summary-Report-of-HLM-of-NUA-and-UN-Habitat.-final.pdf](http://www.un.org/pga/71/wp-content/uploads/sites/40/2017/07/Summary-Report-of-HLM-of-NUA-and-UN-Habitat.-final.pdf). Accessed 22 July 2023.***

This resource is helpful because it summarizes the high-level meeting on the practical implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the positioning of UN-Habitat by the general assembly president in 2017. This resource can help understand ways the UN has already planned to develop urban environments through partnerships and infrastructure development. This article can also help understand various arguments for and against the plan to help better build research in understanding effective ways to increase financial incentives for future local partnerships through infrastructure development.

**Xu, Han. “Does Government Support Affect Private Partners’ Profitability in Public–Private Partnerships? Evidence from China.” *Nature News*, 9 May 2023, [www.nature.com/articles/s41599-023-01723-w](http://www.nature.com/articles/s41599-023-01723-w).**

This resource is helpful because this paper discusses the effect of public sector support on investors’ profitability. By utilizing a conceptual framework and empirical analysis, the report explores the dual impact of government support on general–private partnership (PPP) firm profitability. This resource shows that while compliant government support can theoretically enhance a PPP firm’s profitability, some supportive behavior may harm the firm’s profitability. This resource also finds that while inclusion in the national PPP platform can enhance firm profitability by 8.2%, increased shareholding reduces strong profitability significantly by –23.3%. The results imply that the government should reasonably support the private sector in PPP project.

