



Resilience and Sustainable Development Programme (RSDP)

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RSDP Concept Note

A catalyst for sustainable change for emerging economies

The Resilience and Sustainable Development Programme (RSDP) is a joint action research initiative at The Centre for Rising Powers and The Centre for Industrial Sustainability (CIS) which is a world-leading multidisciplinary research institute. It enables:

1. Companies to develop life-changing products and services, build better businesses, create meaningful jobs, and improve the environment for the future collectively
2. Governments and civil sector foster innovation and enterprise to deliver social and economic benefits consistently

From the perspective of trust and cooperation as key to solving global challenges, the RSDP offers a leading socio-economic design studio and research hub to develop social-system frameworks to sustainably resolve particular problems with a range of stakeholders and to produce guidelines for best practice. We are a team of multidisciplinary experts from public, private and academia dedicated to make sustainable development attainable by focusing on *three pillars: investment, innovation and governance* related decision making to ensure *positive economic impacts while proactively creating good environmental, social and governance outcomes.*

Building on decades of multidisciplinary research, our international political economists and behavioral psychologist have joined with engineers and private sector thought leaders at Cambridge to devise this ambitious programme where *every solution-driven research project are evidence based and has an impact-driving strategy.*

We do this by proactively engage with emerging countries public and private sector to enable them to reduce national dependency on external support while the decisions and solutions lie within, for example RSDP in Botswana, Kosovo and Bangladesh. By aligning and informing leaders from the public, private and civil society sectors, we can create an environment to help build resilient and sustainable societies for all over time. By helping to establish the facts and so the key issues, we ensure a supportive environment can be created to catalyse sustainable and resilient development. Uniquely, by partnering with all stakeholder groups, including local institutions, *we embed supports for knowledge transfer and capacity building throughout to ensure that the means are in place for effective designing, implementation, including monitoring and evaluation.*

Three thematic research areas: **1. Sustainable Investment, 2. Good Governance** and **3. Responsible Innovation** combine with *our distinctive delivery methods based on system design thinking method combined with experiential training approach* **1. Country focus: One Country a Time, 2. Leader Focus: Creative Ideas Studio, 3. Policy Focus: Policy Simulations Lab and 4. Issue Focus: Sinews of Sustainable Development Speakers Series** to make RSDP unique.

We break down the silos between the sectors, harness new theories of change and consider legacy effects using evidence, so that new systems can be introduced. By blending system dynamics with political and economic analysis and rigorously developed business cases, we can help achieve lasting change.

Thematic Research Areas:

The RSDP is focused on three of the most dynamic areas of inquiry that are critical in shaping our world. We do it by co-creating sustainable solutions while training the participants in complex system design thinking using world-class research, embedded knowledge, and enquiring techniques:

1. Sustainable Investment

How best to create innovation in public policy to facilitate long term private sector investment? As what was once a niche activity reaches the tipping point and becomes mainstream, the RSDP is focused on providing an impartial academic view on what investments are truly beneficial to both investors and recipient societies and which are not. This highly nuanced subject is at early stages of development and our interest is to ensure the very constructive developments now taking place are built on the most solid basis possible.

The Social Investment and Governance Markers Analysis (SIGMA) applies the Cambridge Value Mapping tools to ensure maximum impact and sound recovery rates by engaging stakeholders proactively throughout the chain. The value mapping tool has been used by more than 165 companies to ensure responsible and impactful business models.

2. Good Governance

How to achieve resilient governance of these fast moving developments in often complex local situations? Industrial sustainability, financial stability and social diversity are the foundations of any economy. They depend on the performance of the public sector to ensure public goods and services are delivered adequately and efficiently to fulfill the needs of the private sector. Local private sector development, regardless of its status in the global value chain, always has the need for scaling up, moving up and catching up to withstand internal and external market challenges and tradeoffs. We have studied good governance and have developed tools, frameworks and methods to help public and private players to make the right decisions.

Institutional Feasibility Study (IFS) framework evaluate performance of governments regulatory institutions and make necessary adjustments for improvements and augmentations. The IFC analysis was used for the formation of the UN's Dead Sea Resilience Agenda in 2014.

3. Responsible Innovation

How can technology be harnessed to deliver step changes in sustainable wealth creation and public good? The huge leaps being enabled by technology, in communications, AI, blockchain or 3D printing are reshaping developed economies, but are also beginning to profoundly influence the growth potential of emerging economies. They can be forces for good, for example in solving distribution problems in rural healthcare, or can present real challenges to resource poor countries whose main offering is labour. Being at the cutting edge of this revolution enables the RSDP to bring together all the relevant stakeholders to help maximize the potential and manage the challenges created.

Cambridge Value Mapping tools contributed to the Resilience modelling exercise of physical, economic and social system for led by European Commission for the 2030 Global Agenda.

Research Impacts Delivery:

We do not stop at with academic research, rather it is a starting point. We developed impact-driven frameworks and methodologies to communicate our research findings and subsequently influence decision making. We invite public, private and civil society leaders to join the programme and focus on the profound changes now taking place, through four main activities:

- **Policy Simulation Lab : “Music is a simulation of us”**

The Policy Simulation Lab is designed to offer ‘lifelike experience’ to leaders from public, private and civil society to learn powerful new strategies for creating high impact policies to address key challenges. The lab uses system dynamic and design thinking methodologies such as *Cambridge Value Mapping tools and Institutional Feasibility Study* to catalyze engagements between stakeholders, to create solutions that are sustainable, socially relevant, and economically viable. We are currently building national capacities for policy simulation in three countries.

- **Creative Ideas Studio : “Let 1000 flowers bloom”**

The Creative Ideas Studio provides a safe environment where individual world leaders can invent the future. It takes the best and most useful elements from board level international executive leadership coaching, psychology and strategy consulting and mixes them with creative thinking theory to support leaders as they tackle the biggest issues facing them. The Creative Ideas Studio delivers an outcome where difficult issues are redefined; where different ideas are discussed and developed and where potential new approaches are identified and tested. Often, what seemed impossible becomes possible because a new approach and context have been created. Our expert facilitators ensure the process remains focused on the individual leader’s desired outcome and there is access to relevant, multi-disciplinary expertise as needed.

- **Leaders Hub : “I have a Dream”**

This is an event which leverages multidisciplinary experts and relevant knowledge for one country at a time. It brings cross-sectoral leaders together to tackle multiple challenges so they can interact with top scholars in relevant fields, using innovative methods of inquiry. The challenges can be set at country, industry or sector level. For example What options does country X have in seeking to transition its economy to a low carbon environment? At the event, we address key programme implementation issues, focussed on capacity building for mid level professionals to enhance their skills in, project management, public policy and stakeholder negotiation to deliver short term impact without jeopardizing the future sustainability principles. To date we have delivered five country programmes.

Sinews of Sustainable Development Speakers Series : Issue Focus

Underpinning this action programme is a research team who focus on identifying and studying the catalysts of sustainable development. To ensure this thinking is effectively communicated we have created the Sinews of Sustainable Development Speakers Series: this is a public event We’re exploring the questions that shape our world. To do it, Nobel Laureates in Economic Sciences share their insight, research and enquiring minds. These include such areas as private sector development, peace from conflict, gender rights and education. We host one event per term and invite major thought leaders and let the speaker lead the debate.

RSDP Fellows

Research Director of the Centre for Industrial Sustainability (CIS)



Professor Steve Evans spent 12 years in industry, rising to become Engineering Systems Manager at Martin-Baker Engineering, the world's leading manufacturer of ejection seats. His industrial experience led to an emphasis on improving engineering performance and provided an excellent grounding for tackling complex, real-life problems. Steve has over 20 years of academic experience which includes working collaboratively with leading industrial and academic institutions from around the globe and supervising over 120 PhD. and MSc. students. His research seeks a deep understanding of how industry develop solutions that move us towards a sustainable future. He has lead, or co-lead, the first UK EPSRC research projects in the fields of Concurrent Engineering,

Co-development and Eco-design and is the Director of the new EPSRC Centre for Innovative Manufacturing in Industrial Sustainability.

Research Director of the Resilience and Sustainable Development Programme (RSDP)



Nazia Mintz Habib is a political economist with more than a decade of experience working on climate resilience and sustainable development with a focus on primary commodity global value chain and regulatory framework analysis of developing countries. Prior to founding RSDP she was the Lecturer in Public Policy in the Department of Politics and International Studies at the University of Cambridge. She held multiple prestigious fellowships including the Isaac Newton Trust and Giorgio Ruffolo Research Fellowship. Before joining Cambridge University she was a Sustainability Science Fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and acted as a Policy Advisor for the

United Nations agencies. She studies the political economy sustainable development as a comparative development approach. She has published a monograph on *Biofuels, Food Security, and Developing Economies* which was recognised as one of the *top three* most influential books on food in 2016 by FoodTank. Nazia is also involved with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) to implement an institutional feasibility study framework (IFS) that she developed. Originally from Bangladesh, Nazia received her PhD from the University of Cambridge in Development Studies. By invitation she speaks at FT, EU, UN, and other multinational organisations on topics related to resilience and sustainable development. She is currently working on a book on this topic.

RSDP Senior Fellows



Kun-Chin Lin is a university lecturer in politics at the University of Cambridge. He received his BA from Harvard and MA and PhD from UC Berkeley, and was a Leverhulme postdoctoral fellow at the University of Oxford. He has taught at King's College London and the National University of Singapore. He serves on the advisory and editorial boards of top academic publications including *Business & Politics* and the *Political Economy of Public Policy Series* (Palgrave MacMillan). He is a member of the Frost Sullivan's Board of Economic Advisors, the academic board of the newly established Growth, Innovate and Leadership (GIL) University in Malaysia, and a collaborating partner of the Global Biopolitics research group based at King's College London. He frequently offers expert opinions for the media and at conferences and events around the world on topics of the political economy of China, infrastructure and energy policies, regulatory diffusion, and regionalism in Asia.



Oluf Langhelle is Professor in political science at University of Stavanger, Department of Media, Culture and Social Sciences, Norway. His research has focused on the concept of sustainable development and follow-up, strategies for sustainable development, environmental politics and policy and transitions towards low carbon societies, focusing on Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS). Current research includes participation in the Conceptual Innovations in Environmental Policy Project (lead by James Meadowcroft and Daniel J. Fiorino) on the concept of sustainable development, and a project on Food Security and international trade, funded by the Norwegian Research Council. Previously Oluf has worked at PROSUS (Programme for Research and Documentation for a Sustainable Society), and IRIS (International Research Institute of Stavanger). Oluf got his Dr. Polit. degree from University of Oslo in political theory. Oluf is also a co-coordinator of the working group on 'Transformations and transitions towards sustainability' within the Earth System Governance (ESG) network.



Steve McCauley leads work on the subject of adaptive leadership and how it can be applied as part of The International Development Leadership Programme. He is an executive leadership coach based in London and provides strategic, board and Cabinet and Board level advice to senior leaders in the worlds of government, policy development, politics, business, finance, professional services and the arts. Steve has developed effective methods to cultivate adaptive leadership, a powerful synthesis of some of the best practices in

creative and adaptive thinking, strategy consulting and executive coaching. His background includes working as a senior executive in media, communications, technology and entertainment. He has worked in the United States and ran the international division of a NASDAQ listed digital media company in Los Angeles. He was later an adviser to the BBC in London. Steve McCauley was instrumental in helping the Government of Rwanda to develop its thinking about media transformation. He has provided strategic advice to Ministers about media reform and related policy issues.



Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP has been the Member of Parliament for Sutton Coldfield since 2001. He was previously the Member of Parliament for Gedling from 1987 to 1997 during which time he held office as a Government Whip and was Minister for Social Security. He also served as a Vice Chairman of the Conservative Party 1992-93. Andrew was educated at Rugby School and studied History at Cambridge University. He was elected as President of the Cambridge Union in 1978. He served in the Army (Royal Tank Regiment) and was a United Nations Peacekeeper in Cyprus before joining Lazard, the international investment bank. In November 2003 he was appointed

Shadow Minister for Economic Affairs and from September 2004 he was the Shadow Minister for Police. Following the General Election in May 2005, he was appointed Shadow Secretary of State for International Development. He then served as the Secretary of State for International Development from May 2010 - September 2012 and Government Chief Whip from September - October 2012. Mr Mitchell advises the Centre on its overall programme and especially on our distinguished lecture and public policy forum series. Mr Mitchell's critical contribution will be based on his leadership and experience in public policy, foreign affairs, international development and the African continent.



Rajah Rasiah is Professor of International Development at the Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya. He obtained his doctorate in Economics from Cambridge University in 1992, and was a Rajawali fellow at Harvard University in 2014. He was the first holder of the Khazanah Nasional Chair of Regulatory Studies, and served as Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya in 2009-2010 and 2013-2014. He is a member of the GLOBELICS scientific board, and an advisory member of the Industrial Development Research Centre, Zhejiang University, professorial fellow at UNU-MERIT, senior research fellow of the

Technology Management and Development Centre at Oxford University. His policy-oriented work includes research in several countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Among the major contributions he has made for the benefit of society include the conceptualization of technology, and its link to development, and methodologies designed to capture clustering, technological capabilities and industrial policies. He regularly consult for the multilateral organisations namely United Nations agencies and the Asian Development Bank. He is the 2015 recipient of the Celso Furtado prize from the World Academy of Sciences for his seminal contributions in the field of social sciences.



C. Peter Timmer is an authority on agricultural development, food security, and the world rice economy who has published scores of papers and books on these topics. After undergraduate and graduate degrees in economics from Harvard, Timmer served as a professor at Stanford, Cornell, three faculties at Harvard, and the University of California, San Diego, where he was also the dean of the Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies. Timmer is now the Cabot Professor of Development Studies, emeritus, at Harvard University, as well as a non-resident Fellow at the Center for Global Development in Washington, DC. Prof Timmer has over four decades experience in Asia as an academic researcher and policy adviser, including extensive involvement in the development of Indonesia's food policy from 1970 to 2015. He was awarded the Leontief Prize in 2012 for advances in economic thought and delivered the 18th Annual UNU-WIDER Lecture at the UN in New York in 2014, on Managing Structural Transformation: A Political Economy Approach.

