



# GATSBY AFRICA & ODI

## OUR LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

GATSBY AFRICA AND THE OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE ARE PARTNERING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH HAPPENS.

We want to better understand:

- What different countries' experiences through history can tell us about triggering inclusive economic growth by transforming individual sectors
- What factors drive or hold back transformative sector-level change
- What roles governments need to play in supporting inclusive economic growth through sector-level change

### WHY GATSBY AFRICA?

Gatsby's mission is to create jobs, raise incomes and reduce poverty in East Africa by accelerating inclusive and resilient economic growth.

We aim to achieve this through three interlocking objectives. We fund and implement programmes that look to catalyse and influence large-scale and lasting change in priority sectors – such as cotton in Tanzania. We also build and support local organisations dedicated to transforming sectors.

In addition, we aim to greatly multiply our impact by sharing what we are learning with others who are also trying to accelerate growth.

Our freedom as a private foundation gives us the space to take calculated risks and test new solutions to stubborn problems in many different contexts. We know we will sometimes fail, but we believe both we and others can learn from those failures and adapt for eventual success.

With our regional partner organisations, we are now operating in 11 sectors - ranging through agriculture, industry and services - across four East African countries. The programmes in these sectors are testing a number of different tools, tactics and strategies, and are building a growing body of evidence about what works and what doesn't.

### WHY ODI?

ODI is an independent, global think tank aiming to harness the power of evidence and ideas to confront challenges, develop solutions and create change. ODI undertakes cutting-edge research and analysis, acts as a trusted adviser to those making change around the world, and brings people together to turn ideas into action.

ODI has wide-ranging knowledge of economic transformation and the policies and institutions that have supported transformative outcomes across the world. It also has a track record integrating technical economic analysis with assessment of political economy constraints and opportunities, including in East Africa.

Lord Sainsbury of Turville,  
Founder of The Gatsby Charitable Foundation



YOU HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO FAIL  
IF YOU ARE REALLY LOOKING TO  
MOVE THE AGENDA FORWARD.

AT GATSBY, WE BELIEVE SUCH  
FAILURES CAN BE EXTREMELY  
VALUABLE – HELPING US TEST  
ASSUMPTIONS, LEARN ABOUT WHAT  
IS POSSIBLE, AND CHANGE COURSE  
TOWARDS EVENTUAL SUCCESS.

ODI will critically test the thinking and assumptions underpinning Gatsby's work. It will generate new evidence - drawing on case studies, academic research and economic theory - to help us strengthen our work and develop new perspectives and insights.

ODI will also use its expertise in disseminating research, as well as its strong convening power, to make sure lessons from our work are reaching the people they could benefit most. This will include governments, regulators, oversight bodies, think tanks, firms and development partners.

## INITIAL WORK

### – BUILDING THE EVIDENCE BASE ON INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH –

Exploring evidence from history and from across the globe about the factors that have driven inclusive economic growth and those that have caused countries to stagnate. Examining how approaches focused on individual sectors succeeded or failed to trigger inclusive economic growth, and detailing the lessons for Gatsby and others.

### – EXPLORING EFFORTS TO DEVELOP TEXTILES SECTORS –

Examining the experience of different countries that have sought to develop textile and garment sectors, and the reasons behind their successes and

failures. Extracting relevant lessons for Gatsby's own programme in the Tanzanian textiles sector, and for others engaged in similar work.

### – REFLECTING ON SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES IN BUILDING A RESILIENT COTTON SECTOR IN TANZANIA –

Assessing Gatsby's attempts over ten years to build resilience in a high-risk/high-reward sector when faced with volatile market conditions and inconsistent political buy-in. Detailing the lessons for our programme's future evolution, and for others engaging in politically-sensitive sectors.

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

We are eager to share what we learn and to gather lessons from others engaged in similar work. We also want to better understand the challenges others are facing in their efforts to support economic transformation, so that we can focus our learning and sharing on the topics most relevant to Gatsby and to others.

To register your interest in the results of our learning partnership with ODI, and to start a conversation with us, please get in touch by emailing [learning@gatsbyafrica.org.uk](mailto:learning@gatsbyafrica.org.uk).

