

PREFACE TO THE EDITION

The **Journal of Economics Insights and Research** is pleased to present its upcoming issue, which brings together a diverse set of empirical investigations addressing some of the most pressing economic challenges facing developing and emerging economies today. The articles in this volume are grounded in rigorous data analysis, innovative econometric approaches, and policy-oriented perspectives, reflecting JEIR's mission to advance evidence-based economic scholarship for global development.

The issue opens with a cross-country study on *financial inclusion and poverty reduction*, offering quantitative evidence that expanding access to financial services significantly lowers extreme poverty, particularly when supported by digital infrastructure and financial literacy initiatives. This research contributes to ongoing global debates on inclusive finance as a catalyst for sustainable development.

India's economic transformation is explored through two complementary studies. The first examines *agricultural productivity and structural transformation*, revealing how productivity gains in agriculture accelerate shifts toward manufacturing and services, while identifying infrastructure, research, and land reforms as key drivers. The second study analyzes *climate change-induced agricultural shocks and their impact on rural–urban migration*, providing compelling statistical projections of climate-linked displacement and its implications for future labour markets and urban systems.

A landmark contribution in this issue investigates *gender inequality and economic development, using inheritance reforms in India* as a natural experiment. The findings demonstrate how strengthening women's property rights generates substantial improvements in education, labour participation, social outcomes, and regional economic growth—offering strong evidence for gender-equal policy frameworks.

Expanding the geographical lens, the final article examines the role of *digital financial services in Sub-Saharan Africa, showing that adoption of mobile money* systems significantly enhances household resilience to economic shocks, especially for rural and female-headed households. This research highlights the transformative potential of digital finance for fostering stability in vulnerable regions.

Collectively, the studies featured in this issue underscore the importance of inclusive growth, institutional reform, and climate-aware development strategies. They also reaffirm JEIR's commitment to publishing high-quality economic research that informs policymakers, guides practitioners, and enriches scholarly discourse across the global South.

The editorial board extends its sincere appreciation to the authors, reviewers, and readers whose contributions make this work possible. We hope that this issue inspires further research, collaboration, and innovative thinking in the field of development economics.

Dr Sinitha Xavier
Chief Editor

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