

OUR MISSION

The mission of Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government is to strengthen democratic governance around the world by preparing individuals for public leadership, and by helping to solve problems of public policy.

The Kennedy School of Government's newest degree program, the MPA in International Development (MPA/ID), is designed to prepare the next generation of leaders in international development. It is an economics-centered, multi-disciplinary program, combining rigorous training in analytical and quantitative methods with an emphasis on policy and practice.

Each academic year, about 60 exceptional, highly motivated people from all over the world with strong math and economics backgrounds undertake a carefully designed course of study to expand their understanding of development challenges, deepen their analytic skills through intensive coursework, and broaden their experience through summer internships in international settings.



Professor Lant Pritchett, Faculty Chair of the MPA/ID Program. © 2002 M. Stewart



MPA/ID graduates, June 2007. © 2007 D. Hickey



HARVARD Kennedy School
JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT

MPA/ID PROGRAM

MASTER IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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to Make a Difference
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Curriculum

The MPA/ID Program offers a unique approach to the study of development challenges, combining exceptionally rigorous training in economics and quantitative methods, a multidisciplinary perspective, and an emphasis on professional skill-building. Although its courses are taught at an advanced graduate level and are a solid foundation for applied research, the two year MPA/ID is geared primarily toward future practitioners rather than full-time academics.

The first year is dedicated to courses especially designed for this program, which introduce students to the main economic, quantitative, political, and managerial tools needed by analysts and leaders in the field of development.

MPA/ID students take microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics sequences taught at the doctoral level, but with an emphasis on policy applications to development over pure theory.

In addition, they take a demanding set of core courses in public sector management, law and legal institutions, democratic governance, and the practice of economic development. Thus they are fully steeped in multidisciplinary approaches to development problems.

Finally, MPA/ID students gain professional expertise through case workshops, a required summer internship, a policy-oriented capstone paper, and elective coursework in specific fields of development.

Electives offered may include negotiations, finance, development policy strategy, microfinance, human rights, health, sustainable development and the management of natural resources, trade, capital market reform, international security, and many others.

Students

The students who enroll in the MPA/ID program are one of its most valuable resources. Representing an extraordinary variety of countries and backgrounds, they bring a wealth of experience to classroom discussions and study groups. In a typical class, over 60 percent are from developing or transitional economy countries; about 25 percent are from the US. Men and women are about equally represented in the class, and the typical age range is from 25 to mid-forties.



Students studying in the Forum. © 2001 Martha Stewart

Careers

The MPA/ID Program offers unparalleled training for a professional career in development. The mix of theoretical rigor with a practical approach has proven to be a winning combination in the professional world.



Vuk Jeremic, MPA/ID 2001, was appointed Serbia's Minister of Foreign Affairs in May 2007.

Our graduates hold influential policy and management positions in a wide range of international organizations, national governments, central and regional banks, non-profit and research organizations, and private sector companies.

Alumni include one minister of foreign affairs, two deputy ministers of finance, nine World Bank Young Professionals, two members of the IMF's Economist Program, and Oxfam's youngest country representative, to list only a few.

Admissions & Financial Aid

Both U.S. and international candidates are considered for admission. Applicants must demonstrate competence in economics and quantitative analysis and the potential for leadership in international development. Most admitted candidates have at least three years of work experience in government, central and regional banks, international development institutions, non-governmental organizations, or private businesses.

Admission requirements include a bachelor's degree and completion of four university courses: microeconomics, macroeconomics, calculus, and multivariable calculus. All applicants must submit GRE (preferred) or GMAT scores. The TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) is required of applicants whose native language is not English.

Applications for admission are due in early January for August enrollment; the on-line application form is available beginning in September each year. For more information, including instructions for applying on-line, please visit our website: www.hks.harvard.edu/degrees/masters/mpa-id

The Kennedy School generally expects students to fund their studies through a combination of personal resources and government, corporate, or scholarship support. The School provides a limited number of full and partial scholarships for which international students are eligible. Students who hold U.S. citizenship or U.S. permanent residency status are eligible for federal subsidized financial aid. Please refer to the School's financial aid website (www.hks.harvard.edu/degrees/sfs) for further information.