

# Successful Strategic Research Grant (SRG) Projects

## ***Project Title:***

Investigating the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) Role in the Transformation of Development

## ***Brief Abstract:***

The proposed research project - situated within critical political economy - is designed to produce a study of the World Bank's private sector arm, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and its underappreciated role in reshaping development policy around a broad pro-private sector and finance-oriented focus. The IFC is now the world's largest source of multilateral funds for the private sector and is responsible for lending and mobilising very large sums for both public and private actors via an array of different modalities including lending, co-financing, equities, bond issuances and political risk insurance. The project is specifically interested in questions of why the IFC promotes a particular array of policies (focusing on attendant interests and ideology) and - importantly - focuses analytical attention on the contested, contradictory and uneven implementation of the IFC's agenda in particular country contexts. The project has scholarly implications for how both the nature and influence of contemporary development policy (and other policy sets) are appraised and understood. The project also stands to be of significant relevance to state agencies, multilateral organisations, NGOs and activists interested in the very latest iterations of development policy, development practice, and development alternatives.

## ***Investigator:***

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