A GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

Around the world, Washington University researchers are working at the forefront of new knowledge to transform lives. This is just a sample of the many research projects the university has in its global network. For a complete list, go to global.wustl.edu.

North America & the Caribbean

Helping moms and children
Lori Lerro, associate professor and associate dean for public health, and Patricia Koh, associate professor and associate dean for social work, teamed up in Haiti to create a parenting intervention program. It offered families eggs for 12 weeks and brought mom-to-mom discussions on sanitation, hygiene and the importance of animal-sourced foods for kids. “What we’re learning in Haiti is applicable to impoverished communities in the U.S.,” Koh says.

Understanding animals
Jonathan Lossos, the William H. Danforth Distinguished University Professor, has traveled the world studying animals and biodiversity, with a focus on Caribbean Anolis lizards. He is also the founding director of the Living Earth Collaborative, a collaboration involving Washington University, the Missouri Botanical Garden and the St. Louis Zoo, the Living Earth Collaborative will have field projects all over the world to study and save the plants and animals that sustain life on Earth.

Central & South America

Battling cancer
As the Larry J. Shapiro Director of Washington University’s Institute for Public Health, William S. Powderly, MD, the Dr. J. William Campbell University Professor, has traveled the world studying animals and biodiversity, with a focus on Caribbean Anolis lizards. He is also the founding director of the Living Earth Collaborative, a collaboration involving Washington University, the Missouri Botanical Garden and the St. Louis Zoo, the Living Earth Collaborative will have field projects all over the world to study and save the plants and animals that sustain life on Earth.

Helping children through savings
Michal Grinstein-Weiss, the Shanti K. Khinduka Professor in Arts & Sciences, launched SuperTIGER in Antarctica, which could clear the air.

Asia

Clearing the air
In India and other energy-impoverished regions, people still use solid fuels (wood, charcoal, crop waste) to cook their food, which can release dense, black smoke into the home. Pratim Biswas, assistant vice-chancellor of international programs and the Lucy and Stanley Lopata Professor in the James McKelvey School of Engineering and Rajan Chakrabarty, assistant professor of engineer-

South Asia

In the air
India and other energy-impoverished regions, people still use solid fuels (wood, charcoal, crop waste) to cook their food, which can release dense, black smoke into the home. Pratim Biswas, assistant vice-chancellor of international programs and the Lucy and Stanley Lopata Professor in the James McKelvey School of Engineering and Rajan Chakrabarty, assistant professor of engineering, went to rural parts of India to study the impact of cook-stove emissions. “Traditional cook-stove burning is one of the largest sources of pollutants in India,” Chakrabarty says. “We found it’s a really big problem, revising what people knew for decades.”

Treating the gut
Jeffrey I. Gordon, MD, the Dr. Robert J. Glaser Distinguished University Professor and the director of the Edison Family Center for Genome Sciences & Systems Biology, has used his groundbreaking studies in gut microbiome to help malnourished children in developing countries. His research in Bangladesh showed that children suffering from malnutrition possess gut microbial communities that fail to assemble normally. His studies have catalyzed efforts to develop new medicines food directed at repairing the problem.

Europe

Protecting human rights
Leila Sadat, the James Carr Professor of International Criminal Law at the School of Law and director of the Whitney R. Harris Institute of Public Law, wrote the world’s first global treaty on crimes against humanity, addressing their prevention and punishment. The draft treaty, available in seven languages, is being debated by the UN International Law Commission and governments around the world.

Building connections
In addition to exploring the broad social transformations taking place in the worldwide Muslim community (with field sites across Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Africa), John Brown, the Dunbar Van Cleve Professor in Arts & Sciences, is also leading the Trans-Atlantic Forum, a collaboration between Washington University scholars in the social sciences and graduate schools in Paris and Amsterdam.

Africa

Developing new diagnostics
Testing blood for malaria can be expensive and challenging in developing countries. Audrey Denon, MD, associate professor of pediatrics and director of the pediatric infectious diseases fellowship program, is developing a breath test for malaria, by collecting breath samples from children in Malawi.

Battling childhood malnutrition
In 2001, world-renowned doctor and researcher Mark J. Haney, MD, the Helen B. Roberson Professor of Pediatrics, was in Malawi field-testing a nutrient-rich, peanut butter–based food that restored malnourished children to health. Since 2004, his Project Peanut Butter has treated more than one million malnourished children in Africa.

Improving women’s reproductive health and girls’ access to education
Throughout his career, L. Lewis Wall, MD, the Selina Okin Kim Cornelia Professor in Arts & Sciences and professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the School of Medicine, has worked in Africa to improve the health and lives of women. Now, he has started Dignity Period to help girls in Ethiopia get access to menstrual products and menstruation education. Typically, girls stay home from school during their menstrual periods because they lack proper supplies, a practice that contributes to higher dropout rates.

East & Southeast Asia

Earning high honors
The university currently has three faculty members who have earned the Chinese Ministry of Education’s highest award for an individual in higher education, the Yangtze River Scholar Award. (An alum as well as another faculty member who earned his Yangtze River Scholar Award through another school were also honored.) It is rare for a U.S. university to have even one such scholar, let alone three.

Barbara Schaal, dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences and the Mary Dell Chilton Distinguished Professor, is an interna-

Improving legal education
As director of Washington University’s Criminal Justice Clinic, Peter A. Joy, the Henry Hitchcock Professor of Law and vice dean for academic affairs in the School of Law, supervises student-lawyers who provide direct legal representation to clients. Joy’s expertise in clinical programs led him to co-author the book Australasian Clin/Clinical Education and recently took him to Monash University and University of Melbourne, both in Melbourne, Australia. He delivered talks on legal ethics, another of his areas of expertise.

Helping families save for children
Michael Sherraden, the George Warren Brown Distinguished University Professor and founding director of the Center for Social Development (CSD), studies inclusion and asset building. His policy ideas have led to many countries starting child-development accounts that help families save for their children. Recently, Li-Chen Cheng, PhD ’95, a former student of Sherraden’s, helped develop a child-development–account policy in Taiwan, after working closely with Washington University’s CSD.

Central Asia

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Advancing global food security
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Central Asia

Unlocking the universe...
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Antarctica

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