MEDIA WAHYUDI ASKAR, S.IP., M.Sc., Ph.D

Email: mediawahyudiaskar@gmail.com

Media Wahyudi Askar, Ph.D is the Founder of the Center of Economic and Law Studies (CELIOS), an independent Indonesian think tank focused on fiscal policy, inequality, and sustainable economic governance. He also lectures at Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM), teaching courses on econometrics, data analytics, and quantitative research methods. Holding an M.Sc. and Ph.D. from the University of Manchester, United Kingdom, Media's research and advocacy center on fiscal justice, poverty reduction, and MSME development.

Previously with Oxfam International, he led advocacy and research on just energy transition and fiscal justice across Asia, Africa, and Latin America, and contributed to the development of the Commitment to Equity (CEQ) Tools. Active in the UN Financing for Development (FfD) process, he champions progressive tax reform and equitable development finance. A frequent media commentator. He holds master's and doctoral degrees from The University of Manchester, UK focusing on development finance and earned his Bachelor's degree in Public Policy and Management (UGM).

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Development Policy and Management, The University of Manchester, 2015 - 2019

Master of Science (M.Sc.), International Development: Public Policy and Management with Distinction, the University of Manchester, 2014 – 2015

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Public Policy and Management with Distinction, Gadjah Mada University, 2008 - 2012

RESEARCH FIELDS

Applied Econometrics
Econometrics of Program Evaluation, Cross Sectional, Panel Data and Time Series analysis
Development Economics
Inclusive climate change adaptation, Inequality, Public Policy, Women Economic Empowerment

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Proficient use of econometrics tools
Data analysis with *STATA, Python, Tableau, Orange,* and *MS Office* for quantitative research
Ability to work with large panel and cross-sectional data

WORK EXPERIENCES

Center of Economic and Law Studies (CELIOS) – Founder
January 2019 – Current

- Initiate individual and collaborative research projects on vulnerability, energy transition, businesses, markets, investments, or the economy and writing up results of research and contributing to publishing of results in high quality peer-reviewed academic literature.

Gadjah Mada University – Lecturer
April 2020 - Current

- Teaching at undergraduate, master and doctorate level, participating in departmental seminars aimed at sharing research outcomes and building interdisciplinary collaboration within and outside the Department.

Oxfam International – Manager for Influencing Just Energy Transition in Asia
January 2023 – December 2023

- To develop, manage, lead, and support the influencing, advocacy, campaigning, multi-stakeholder partnerships and policy work of Oxfam in Asia related to Just Energy Transition.

- To build powerful movements, voices with community-based movements, relevant government bodies, international institutions, private sector, academic and technical allies, partners, and networks to achieve emission reduction and renewable energy targets set for 2030.

Oxfam in Indonesia – Fiscal Justice Program Manager
January 2021 – January 2023
- Take a lead in the implementation and execution of the project on taxation in two countries: Indonesia and Ghana.
- Convene the Finance Ministry, the national statistical agency, CEQ Institute, the local offices of the World Bank and GIZ, fiscal justice advocates and other relevant actors to build ownership over, draw a plan for, and set in motion the processes necessary to collect the data required to compute the SDG10.4.2 indicator (Fiscal Policy Impact on Inequality).
- Project management: e.g., timetabling and meeting project milestones; participating in regular discussions with stakeholders. Liaise with potential partners to enhance impact of research.

Institute for Policy Development, Gadjah Mada University – Director
December 2020 – 2025
- Carrying out research, producing publications and policy brief, engaging with the broader scholarly, industrial, and professional communities

Women's World Banking – Consultant
January 2022 - Current
- Conduct research projects on micro, small and medium enterprises, women economic empowerment, e-commerce, etc.
- Writing up results of research and discusses findings of research with relevant policymakers.

Regional Representative Council of Indonesia (DPD RI) – Special Adviser
January 2020 – December 2022
- Give assistance on aspects of Indonesian Government business, legislation and the constitution and give advice (including expert advice as a specialist in a particular field).
- Undertake long term policy thinking and contribute to policy planning within the government.
- Undertake related research on issues of government policy.
- Liaise with outside interest groups (including those with a political allegiance).
- Hold meetings with government officials and society in general, to discuss public accountability.

Global Development Institute, University of Manchester – Graduate Researcher and Teaching Assistant
September 2015 – December 2019
- Develop and implement social and economic research.
- Facilitated and encouraged autonomous and enquiry-based learning, through actively searching out opportunities for students, and tools to support their personal development and growth.
- Coordinated the Student's Routine Monitoring Program. This includes program design, implementation strategy, liaising with students and other academic support staff to monitor and evaluate students' progress.

Astra International – Corporate Social Responsibility
April 2012 - September 2014
- Assessing and evaluating the effect that mining company on the local community development.
- Consulting a number of mining companies on the issues of CSR in order to provide an equitable way to compensate communities for the social and environmental costs associated with mining while at the same time engaging the community through involvement in the mining project.
- Helping local communities by funding health services, schooling, and small-local business

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL

1. **ICT adoption and household economic outcomes among women entrepreneurs in Indonesia's agri-food system.,"** with Hidayah, I., Valerio, E., & Fajri Gusnansyah, M. N. (2026 Gender, Technology and Development)., 1-25.
2. **"Empowering Rural Transformation: The Role of Good Governance in Developing Smart Villages in Indonesia,"** with Indri slamiati, & Resky Aisyah, H. (2026. Public Integrity, 1-19).
3. **"Informing decision makers: Development of Online News Media Monitoring and Visualisation,"** with Syahrina, A., Hardiyanti, M., Permana, M. S. R., & Santoso, K. Q. Electronic Government 21(6), 613–633 (2025).
4. **"Process Failure in Conditional Cash Transfer Policies: Applying Mcconnell's Framework in Indonesia's Decentralized System,"** with Safrida, S., & Hadna, A. H. (2026 NISPAcee Journal of Public Administration and Policy, 19(1), 223-243.).
5. **"Strategies and Resilience of Firms Facing Competition from the Informal Sector,"** with Hidayah, I. Asian Development Bank (2025).
6. **"Navigating uncertainty: The Role of Financial Access in Poverty Alleviation During Economic Crises,"** Jurnal Kebijakan Pemerintahan 7(1), 1–17 (2024).
7. **"Measuring the Gig Economy in Indonesia: Typology, Characteristics, and Distribution,"** with Permana, M. Y., & Izzati, N. R. Jurnal Manajemen Teknologi (2023).
8. "**The Impact of Conditional Cash Transfers on Low-Income Individuals in Indonesia,"** with Hadna, A. H. ASEAS – Advances in Southeast Asian Studies 15(1), 23–41 (2022).
9. **"Financial Literacy and Poverty Reduction: The case of Indonesia,"** with Ouattara, B., & Zhang, Y.-F. ADBI Working Paper No. 1097, Asian Development Bank Institute (2020).
10. **"Agricultural Transformation, Economic Growth, and Poverty in Indonesia,"** Jurnal Ilmiah Administrasi Publik (JIAP) 1(1), 17–21 (2015).
11. **"Foreign Aid and Economic Development in Indonesia,"** Jurnal Ilmiah Administrasi Publik (JIAP) 1(2), 14–18 (2015).

POLICY REPORTS AND COLLABORATIVE PUBLICATIONS

1. **"Energy Transition Readiness Index (ETRI) 2026,"** with Lianasari, A., Yudhistira, B., & Darmawan, J. CELIOS (2026).
2. **"From Volume to Value: How Indonesia Shift the Transition Minerals Agenda Supporting Forest and Energy Nexus,"** with Yudhistira, B. CELIOS (2026).
3. **"Indonesia Economic Inequality 2026,"** with Muhammad, G. D., Yudhistira, B., Hidayah, I., Fikri, B., Lianasari, A., & Darmawan, J. CELIOS (2026).
4. **"(Not) Free and (Not) Nutritious Meals",** with Hidayah, I., Fikri, B., Darmawan, J., Lianasari, A., Muhammad, G. D., & Lestari, R., D. CELIOS (2025).
5. **"Who Goes Hungry? Who Gets Full? Strategies to Mitigate Risks in The Free Nutritious Meal Program,"** with Muhammad, G. D., Fikri, B., & Darmawan, J. CELIOS (2025).
6. **"One-year Performance Report of the Prabowo–Gibran Administration,"** with Yudhistira, B., Fikri, B., Darmawan, J., Muhammad, G. D., Saleh, M., Fikri, M. Z., Lianasari, A., & Assyayuti, M. M. CELIOS (2025).
7. "**Kopdes Merah Putih: A Study on Implementation, Reforms, and Policy Alternative Models,"** with Muhammad, G. D., Setiadi, B. M., Lianasari, A., Darmawan, J., & Fikri, B. CELIOS (June 2025).
8. **"Building a Restorative Rural Economy: Solutions Against the Illusion of Self-Sufficiency,"** with Imaduddin, A. H., & Muhammad, G. D. CELIOS (2025).
9. **"Budget Cuts for Fiscal Justice and Public Welfare,"** with Fikri, B., Darmawan, J., Muhammad, G. D., & Setiadi, B. M. CELIOS (2025).
10. **"Dear Mr President: Stop Taxing Like Hunting in a Zoo,"** with Darmawan, J., Muhammad, G. D., Fikri, B., & Muhammad, B. CELIOS (2025).

11. **"Vanishing Forests and Rising Emissions: How the Merauke Food Estate Speeds Up The Climate Crisis,"** CELIOS (December 2024).
12. **"Energy Transition Readiness Index 2024,"** with Imaduddin, A. H., Darmawan, J., Fikri, B., & Muhammad, G. D. CELIOS (2024).
13. **"The New Economic Paradigm: Fiscal Support for a Restorative Economy,"** with Imaduddin, A. H., Muhammad, G. D., & Darmawan, J. CELIOS (July 2024).
14. **"Measuring The Impact of a Restorative Economy: A Way Out of Economic Stagnation,"** with Darmawan, J., Fikri, B., Imaduddin, A. H., & Huda, N. CELIOS (2024).
15. **"Ten Fiscal Pitfalls Left by Joko Widodo's Administration,"** with Fikri, B., Darmawan, J., Muhammad, G. D., & Imaduddin, A. H. CELIOS (2024).
16. **"Indonesia Inequality Report 2024: Private Jets for The Rich, Bicycles for The Poor,"** with Muhammad, G. D., Darmawan, J., Imaduddin, A. H., & Yudhistira, B. CELIOS (2024).
17. **"VAT 12%: A Heavy Blow to Gen Z And the Lower Middle Class Wallets,"** with Huda, N., Yudhistira, B., Fikri, M. B., Darmawan, J., & Muhammad, G. D. CELIOS (2024).
18. **"Financial Technology Media Toolkit: Innovations Expanding the Impact of Peer-To-Peer (P2P) Lending,"** with Huda, N., Muhammad, G. D., & Purnama, Y. Amartha & CELIOS (n.d.).
19. **"Economic Resilience and Digital Adoption Among Ultra Micro Entrepreneurs In Indonesia,"** with Salyanty, A. Women's World Banking (2022).
20. **"Reaching Rural Women: Catalyzing Financial Inclusion at the Edge of Finance,"** with Salyanty, A. Women's World Banking (2024).
21. **"Building Digital Finance Solutions for Women E-Commerce Entrepreneurs,"** with Salyanty, A. Women's World Banking (2023).

PUBLISHED ARTICLE (OP-EDS)

1. Wealth Tax: Not the Misguided Idea You Think It Is, Kompas 2026
2. Moving Up the Economic Ladder or Fighting for Collective Survival, Tempo 2025
3. We must think about tax justice and the moral responsibilities of the rich, The Conversation, June 2022
4. How Artificial Intelligence Can Help Micro Businesses Get Access to Finance. The Conversation, December 2022
5. Shortcut Way in Reducing Inequality. Republika, November 2021
6. Challenges Fintech Industry Faces in 2021. Seputar Indonesia, January 2021
7. Looking for Solution of LPG Subsidy Scheme, January 2021
8. Banking System Won't Help Poor. *Selasar*, September 2016
9. How Poor People Save Their Money. *Selasar*, November 2016
10. Motorcycle Credit Causes Poverty. *Detik*, January 2016
11. Money Falling from The Sky. *Detik*, November 2017
12. Free Trade Implications on Labour Exploitation. *Detik*, March 2016
13. Government Deprives Employment Rights. *Detik*, December 2016
14. Indonesian Tycoons Find Tax Haven in Singapore. *Fair Observer*, February 2016.
15. Indonesia and the UK: A Growing Relationship. *The Huffington Post*, February, 2016
16. Indonesia is In No Need of ASEAN Economic Community. *The Huffington Post*, January, 2016
17. The Gap Between Rich and Poor. *Detik*, March 2016
18. Papua, Peace, and Development. *Detik*, March 2016
19. Brexit, Education, and Indonesia. *Huffington Post*, June 2016
20. How to Become a non-consumptive Consumer. *Selasar*, January 2016
21. Indonesia Opportunities 2018. *Detik*, January 2018
22. Who Will Win the City Budget Controversy? *The Jakarta Post*, March 2015
23. Papua is Held Hostage by Global Capitalists. *Fair Observer*, August 2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCES

Contemporary Issue in Development Finance, University of Manchester. Master level
Trade Theory and Development, University of Manchester. Master level
Big Data for Development, Gadjah Mada University. Master level
Data Analytics for Public Policy, Gadjah Mada University. Master level
Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Gadjah Mada University. Undergraduate level
Economics of the Public Sector, Gadjah Mada University. Undergraduate level
Policy Advocacy and Communication, Gadjah Mada University. Undergraduate level
Risk Management, Gadjah Mada University. Undergraduate level
Academic Writing, Gadjah Mada University. Undergraduate level
Quantitative Method, Gadjah Mada University. Undergraduate, Master and Doctoral level
Introduction to Statistics, Gadjah Mada University. Undergraduate, Master and Doctoral level

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE

Academic Presenter at Climate Week NYC
New York, September 2026
Academic Presenter at the 9th National Conference on Constitutional Law (KNHTN)
Jakarta, September 2026
Academic Presenter at International Conference on Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels
Santa Marta, April 2026
Academic Presenter at the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4)
Seville, July 2026
Academic Presenter at Global Convening for a Just Transition for Land, Forests, and People
Madrid, June 2026
Academic Presenter at UNCTAD's 14th International Debt Management Conference
Switzerland, March 2025
Academic presenter at the ADB Conference
Manila, June 2024
Academic presenter at the International Economic Association Conference
Jakarta, June 2021
Academic presenter at the RSEP International Conference on Business, Economics & Finance
Kadir Has University Istanbul, June 2019
Academic presenter at the ADBI Human Capital development for Inclusive Growth and Shared Prosperity Conference
Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, Chengdu, China, July 2018
Academic presenter at the Human Capital and Industry 4.0 Seminar
The University of Manchester, April 2019
Academic presenter at the GDI Work in Progress Seminar
The University of Manchester, May 2018
Academic presenter at the SEED PGR Conference
The University of Manchester, May 2018

WORKSHOP INSTRUCTORS

- November 2021: **"Quantitative Methods for Policy Analysis",** workshop organized by Department of Public Policy and Management, Indonesia
- November 2021: **"Quantitative Methods for Analysing Taxation",** workshop organized by DJP Ministry of Finance, Indonesia
- November 2021: **"Data Management and Statistical Analysis Using Stata",** workshop organized by Department of Public Policy and Management, Indonesia
- August 2021: **"How to be Spotted on by the Scholarship Committee"** workshop organized by Elemenesia, Jakarta, Indonesia
- July 2021: **"Online Survey During Covid-19 Pandemic"** workshop organized by Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

- June 2021: **"Women Economic Empowerment dan Digital Market Access"**, workshop organized by Oxfam Indonesia
- August 2020: **"Econometrics for Policy Evaluation"** workshop organized by Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- August 2020: **"Developing Indonesia SME Strategy and Manual Enterpreneurship Development Training"**, workshop organized by Ministry of Labour, Indonesia

INVITED SEMINARS, KEYNOTES, AND TALKS

- October 2026: **"Impactful Leadership: From Ideas to Movements and Systemic Change"** Talk Organized by Rumah Kepemimpinan, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- September 2026: "**Assessing the Effectiveness of Macroeconomic Policy: Balancing Growth, Inflation, and Welfare"** Talk Organized by Ministry of State Secretariat, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- September 2026: **"Public Hearing on Strengthening Regional Fiscal Independence and Accountability through Follow-Up Actions on BPK Audit Findings",** Talk Organized by DPD RI, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- September 2026: **"Three Dimensions of Indonesia's Readiness for Energy Transition"** Talk Organized by Lentera Experiences Lab, Bandung, Indonesia.
- September 2026: **"Economic Democracy at a Crossroads: Is Indonesia Becoming More Democratic or More Oligarchic?"** Talk Organized by LAB45, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- September 2026: "
- August 2026: **"Reimagining the Constitutional Republic"** Talk Organized by Konferensi Republik, Padang, Indonesia.
- August 2026: **"Pre-Departure Orientation for LPDP Awardees - Batch 281"** Talk Organized by LPDP, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- August 2026: **"A Foundation or an Afterthought? Weighing the Role of Evidence in Public Policy"** Talk Organized by Centre for Innovation Policy and Governance (CIPG), Jakarta, Indonesia.
- August 2026: **"Toward a Constitutional Court Judicial Review of Clustering Provisions in the Higher Education Law"** Talk Organized by Asosiasi Dosen Akademisi dan Keahlian Seluruh Indonesia (ADAKSI), Jakarta, Indonesia.
- July 2026: "**Mobilizing Change from the Grassroots"** Talk Organized by Aksi Bersama, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- July 2026: **"Evidence-Based Advocacy for High-Impact Public Policy"** Talk Organized by ASN Academy, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- May 2026: "**Reading Santa Marta 2026: What Does the 'Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels' Agenda Mean for Indonesia?"** Talk Organized by Perhimpunan Pelajar Indonesia (PPI) Dunia
- April 2026: **"Indonesia's Economic Outlook, Global Policy Shifts, and the Challenges of Achieving 8% Growth"**, Talk Organized by DPD RI, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- April 2026: **"Macroeconomic Framework and Fiscal Policy Priorities (KEM-PPKF), the 2027 Government Work Plan, and DPD RI Oversight of the Implementation of Law No. 1 of 2022 on Fiscal Relations between the Central Government and Regional Governments (HKPD Law)"**, Talk Organized by DPD RI, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- December 2025: **"Advocacy Research School: Shaping Climate Justice Together with Communities"** Talk Organized by LHKP Muhammadiyah, Trenggalek, Indonesia.
- November 2025: **"Integrating Sustainable Finance and Optimizing MSMEs in Bank Business Plans to Strengthen Synergy with Government Programs"** Talk Organized by Otoritas Jasa Keuangan (OJK), Semarang, Indonesia.
- December 2021: **"Human Capital and Digital Economy"** Talk Organized by INDEF School of Political Economy, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- July 2021: **"Notes on Mobility Restriction Policy"** Talk Organized by Institute for Policy Development, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- July 2021: **"Mobility Restriction Policy and a Slowdown in Economic Growth"** Talk organized by Institute for Development of Economics and Finance (INDEF), Jakarta, Indonesia.

- July 2021: **"The Effectiveness of Response to Covid-19 Pandemic in Indonesia"** Talk organized by Institute for Global and Strategic Studies (IGSS), Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- March 2021: **"Foreign Products: What to Do"** Talk organized by Institute for Development of Economics and Finance (INDEF), Jakarta, Indonesia.
- March 2021: **"Fiesta Academia Primagama: Inspirational Stories"** Talk organized by Primagama, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- March 2021: "**A Year of the Covid-19 Pandemic: A Trial to Tame Inequality in Indonesia"** Talk organized by Institute for Development of Economics and Finance (INDEF), Jakarta, Indonesia.
- June 2021: **"SDGs and Women Economic Empowerment"** Talk organized by Institute for Policy Development and Oxfam International, Indonesia.
- January 2021: **"Gadjah Mada Expo: Inspirational Talks"** Talk organized by Gadjah Mada Education Roadshow XI, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- December 2020: **"Archival Design for the New Capital City"** Talk organized by National Archive of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- November 2020: **"IBM Partner Solutions Summit 2020: Accelerating Digital Reinvention – Build Resilient Smarter Business"** Talk organized by IBM, Indonesia.
- November 2020: **"Empowering MSMEs in the Midst of a Pandemic"** Talk organized by BNPB and Tirto.id, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- October 2020**: "Indonesia's Economic Prospects After Covid-19 Pandemic"**, Talk organized by Masika ICMI, Sulawesi Selatan, Indonesia.
- August 2020: **"The Urgency of Democracy and Good Governance for Economic Growth and Regional Welfare"** Talk organized by Political Economy Dialogue with Didik J Rachbini, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- August 2020: **"Covid-19 and Recovery Economy"** Talk organized by Institute for Development of Economics and Finance (INDEF), Jakarta, Indonesia.
- June 2020: **"Mobility Restriction and the New Normal: Where are we going"** Talk organized by Ikatan Ahli Kesehatan Masyarakat Indonesia (IAKMI), Jakarta, Indonesia.
- June 2020: **"Knowing our Limits and Boundaries"** Talk organized by Pri.vi.le.se, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- June 2020: **"Human Rights, Poverty and Covid-19"** Talk organized by Universitas Islam Indonesia (UII). Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- June 2020: **"New Normal: Hope VS Reality"** Talk organized by Institute for Development of Economics and Finance (INDEF), Jakarta, Indonesia.
- June 2020: "**Challenges of the Covid-19 New Normal"** Talk organized by Mata Garuda Sumatera Barat, Padang, Indonesia.
- June 2020: **"Helping Our Country do Better"** Talk organized by LNSW Ministry of Finance, Indonesia.
- April 2020: **"Covid-19: The New Era of Global and National Development"** Talk organized by INDEF School of Political Economy (ISPE), Jakarta, Indonesia.
- April 2020: "**Covid-19 Pandemic: Breaking the Digital Divide in Indonesia"** Talk organized by Institute for Development of Economics and Finance (INDEF), Jakarta, Indonesia.

SCHOLARSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

Ph.D. Scholarship, awarded by the Indonesia Endowment Fund for Education
The University of Manchester, 2015-2019
Master scholarship, awarded by the Indonesia Endowment Fund for Education
The University of Manchester, 2014-2015
MSc with Distinction in International Development: Public Policy and Management
The University of Manchester, 2015
Outstanding Student Scholarship, awarded by Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education, Indonesia
Gadjah Mada University, 2008-2011
Most Outstanding Student
Department of Management and Public Policy, Gadjah Mada University 2012
The Winner of national science writing competition
Paper title: E-Governance and Bureaucratic Inertia

Best poster at the School of Environment, Education and Development PGR Conference, 2017
Conference grant from the Asian Development Bank, to present my research in Chengdu, the People's Republic of China, 2018
Conference grant from the The University of Manchester, to present my research in Istanbul, Turkey

OTHER RESEARCH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Manchester Alumni Network Indonesia
Alumni Advisory Council (2025-present)
The Development Studies Association
Member (2015-present)
Indonesian Student Association in the United Kingdom
President (2015-2016)
Community Empowerment Team (Implementing the idea of 'Smart Village' in Kampung Iguriji, West Papua Province)
Leader (2011-2012)
Yogyakarta Research Forum
The initiator of 'Youth Voice Movement' (2011)
Public Policy and Management Student Association, Gadjah Mada University
President (2010-2011)