**CONTACT** International Monetary Fund

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DC 20431, United States LinkedIn: // monicagao

**University of Washington** Seattle, WA **EDUCATION** 

> Ph.D. in Economics 2021

> University of Tennessee, Knoxville Knoxville, TN

> M.S. in Agricultural Economics, Minor in Statistics 2011

> **Huazhong University of Science & Technology** Wuhan, China

B.S. in International Economics & Trade 2009

#### International Macroeconomics, Macro-Finance, Applied Time Series **FIELDS**

#### Work **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**

Washington, D.C.

**EXPERIENCE Economist Program**  9/2021-present

- First rotation (Central Bank Operations Division, MCM): Co-developed a forward-looking model to stress test central bank balance sheets (Python-based). Applied the model to assess the medium- to long-term balance sheet resilience of the Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Reserve Bank of Australia, and the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. Conducted analysis on systemic liquidity management and bank liquidity stress test for the Botswana 2023 FSAP (Financial Sector Assessment Program).
- Second rotation (Saudi Arabia team, MCD): Contributed to issues related to the real and oil sectors, as well as analysis on the economic impact of digitalization.

Summer Intern (Monetary and Capital Markets Department)

6/2018-9/2018

• Co-authored a working paper to examine the role of macroprudential policy in addressing the effects of external shocks on financial stability.

Research Analyst (Strategy, Policy, and Review Department)

12/2012-8/2015

• Researched emerging markets' issues in reserve adequacy, growth convergence, capital flows, financial markets development, and monetary policy.

#### **International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)**

Washington, D.C.

Senior Research Assistant (Market, Trade, and Institutions Division)

9/2011-11/2012

· Conducted quantitative analysis on trade liberalization, biofuels, and economic growth in Africa.

#### RESEARCH **Publication**

The Accuracy of IMF Crises Nowcasts. (2022) International Journal of Forecasting (with Theo Eicher)

Exchange Rates and Domestic Credit – Can Macroprudential Policy Reduce the Link? (2023) Chapter 12 in book "Shocks and Capital Flows Policy Responses in a Volatile World" (with E. Nier and T. Olafsson)

## **Working and Policy Paper**

Assessing the Resilience of the Currency Board. (2022)

Bosnia and Herzegovina 2022 Article IV Consultation, Annex V (with C. Fernandes)

The State of Emerging Markets: A New Perspective on Clusters and Taxonomies. (2015)

IMF Working Paper No. 15/155 (with Z. Zhang)

Rethinking Financial Deepening: Stability and Growth in Emerging Markets. (2015)

IMF Staff Discussion Note 15/08 (with R. Sahay, M. Cihak, P. N'Diaye, A. Barajas, R. Bi, D. Ayala, A. Kyobe, L. Nguyen, C. Saborowski, K. Svirydzenka, and S.R. Yousefi)

Emerging Markets in Transition: Growth Prospects and Challenges. (2014)

IMF Staff Discussion Note 14/6 (with L. Cubeddu, A. Culiuc, G. Fayad, K. Kochhar, A. Kyobe, C. Oner, R. Perrelli, S. Sanya, E. Tsounta, Z. Zhang, et al.)

Assessing Reserve Adequacy – Further Considerations. (2013)

IMF Policy Paper (with N. Porter, S. DAS, P, De Imus, G. Fayad, S. Hara, A. Khachatryan, K. Moriyama, N. Mwase, R. Perrelli, P. Sharma, et al.)

## **Work in Progress**

Stress Testing Central Bank Balance Sheets

(with R. Lafarguette, D. King, C. Fernandes, Y.Sakurai, R. Wytenburg)

From Sand to Silicon: Digital Transformation in the GCC Economies (with F. Fareed, R. Bi, J.D. Lee, S. Rehman, T. Yuan)

# COUNTRY MISSION AND CONTRIBUTION

Saudi Arabia (May 2023, Dec 2023)

- Article IV Consultation: real and oil sector issues, digital transformation
- FSAP: systemic liquidity management and macro-financial issues

**Botswana** (Oct 2022, Jan 2023)

• FSAP: systemic liquidity management and bank liquidity stress test

Sri Lanka (Dec 2022)

• Technical assistance to the central bank: balance sheet risk modeling

## **Bosnia and Herzegovina** (June 2022)

 Technical assistance to the central bank: balance sheet risk modeling and communication strategy

#### **HONORS**

Graduate Teach Assistant Scholarship, University of Washington	2015 - 2021
Outstanding Master's Thesis Award, Southern Agricultural Economics Association	2012
Graduate Research Assistant Scholarship, University of Tennessee	2009 - 2011
Intern of Season Award, AIESEC Lodz, Poland	2007
Outstanding Student Leadership Scholarship, Huazhong University of Sci & Tech	2006

**SKILLS** 

Programming: Python, Stata, R, LATEX, Matlab, EViews, Gauss, GAMS Other: Tableau, Bloomberg, Datastream, ArcGIS

Language: Chinese (native), English (full professional)

OTHER

• Nationality of Chinese

INFORMATION

• Permanent resident of United States