

CITBA REPORT

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*TIPS AND TRICK
BECOME SUCCESS*

2023

*Embrace the narrative of
CITBA's impactful journey in
2023, a year marked by
significant achievements,
collaborative triumphs, and
strategic alliances.*

25 December 2023



**CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE
AND BUSINESS IN ASIA (CITBA)**

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



As the sun sets on 2023, marking the culmination of a year filled with remarkable achievements, fruitful collaborations, and strategic partnerships, I am honoured to reflect on CITBA's journey throughout the year. This comprehensive report endeavours to capture the profound impact and diverse contributions that have shaped CITBA's narrative in 2023.

The Centre for International Trade and Business in Asia (CITBA), headquartered at James Cook University in Australia, stands as a beacon of cutting-edge research within the College of Business, Law, and Governance (CBLG). Since its inception in 2018, CITBA has been at the forefront of research excellence, delving into key areas such as tropical ecosystems, conservation, climate change, industries, economies, and societies in the tropics. As the only research center within CBLG, CITBA has evolved into a dynamic hub with over 50 scholars spanning James Cook University Australia and James Cook University Singapore.

As we conclude this year, CITBA remains steadfast in its commitment to driving impactful research, fostering collaboration, and contributing to the advancement of knowledge in international trade and business in Asia. The journey continues, and I invite you to explore the numerous other achievements that have shaped CITBA's impactful journey throughout 2023.

Tala Chaiechi

A/PROF TAHA CHAIECHI
CITBA DIRECTOR, AUSTRALIA

CITBA REGIONAL ECONOMIST MEETUP

DRIVE POSITIVE CHANGE FOR OUR REGION

Are you an economist in our vibrant regional community, passionate about driving economic growth and innovation? We invite you to an engaging and insightful gathering hosted by the *Centre for International Trade and Business in Asia (CITBA)* @ the *College of Business, Law, and Governance*, James Cook University.

When: 8 Dec 2023

where: JCU Nguma-bada, Smithfield Campus, Cairns

Inquiries to Associate Professor Taha Chaiechi

email: citba@jcu.edu.au or Taha.chaiechi@jcu.edu.au

REGIONAL ECONOMIST MEETUP

The CITBA Regional Economist Meetup held on December 8, 2023, at JCU Smithfield Campus in Cairns was a significant gathering that brought together esteemed professionals and experts in the field. The event was marked by the presence of distinguished delegates, each contributing valuable insights into the economic landscape of the region.



The meetup served as a platform for comprehensive discussions on the economic challenges, strengths, and opportunities within the region.



Delegates engaged in fruitful conversations, analyzing the current economic landscape sharing their expertise to formulate plans for future collaboration and initiatives in 2024.



The diverse expertise and perspectives of the attendees ensured a well-rounded discussion that will undoubtedly contribute to the advancement of the economic development

www.jcu.edu.au/CITBA



Led by JCU Head of Economics and Marketing and the Australia Director for CITBA, A/Prof Taha Chaiechi the event reinforced JCU's commitment to academic excellence and fostering impactful collaborations.

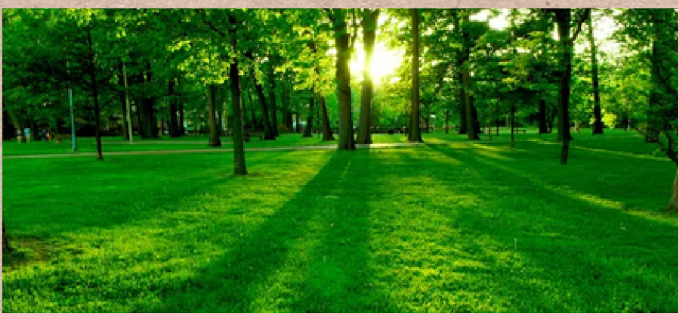
Delegates included Mr. Bill Cummings, Principal of Cumming Economics; Mr. Ian McKridy, Manager of Regional Economic Development North, Dept of Regional Development, Manufacturing, and Water; Mr. Angelo Finocchiaro, Executive Manager of Economic Development at Tablelands Regional Council; Mr. Samuel Doyle-Wiaczek, Program Leader of Economic Development at Cairns Regional Council; Dr. Thomas Bristow, former Research Development and Partnerships Advisor; A/Prof Josephine Pryce, Head of Management, Governance, and Tourism; Ms. Diana Castorina, Lecturer in Economics within the Economics & Marketing department; Prof. Hurriyet Babacan, Professorial Research Fellow, and Professor of Economics at The Cairns Institute; Dr. Diane Jarvis, Senior Lecturer at CBLG, JCU; and A/Prof Taha Chaiechi, Head of Economics and Marketing, CBLG, JCU, and Australia Director for the Centre for International Trade and Business in Asia (CITBA).

SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT



A PIVOTAL PROJECT CENTRED ON RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION.

Dr Mansi Kapoor (Research Fellow at CITBA) and Dr Rajeshwari Patil, and alumni of Sri Balaji University, Pune, took the lead in a pivotal project centred on responsible consumption and production. This transformative initiative resonates with Sustainable Development Goal 12, emphasizing CITBA's dedication to impactful research tackling pressing global issues. Their project aligns seamlessly with CITBA's flagship endeavour, "Community Empowerment, Transformative Growth, and Building a Resilient Economy."



The initiative addresses the alarming statistics of food wastage in India, showcasing how up to 40% of the nation's produced food goes to waste. It sheds light on the consequential loss of essential nutrients, exacerbating issues of malnutrition. Additionally, the project highlights the environmental toll caused by food waste, contributing to greenhouse gas emissions and escalating climate change concerns.

This project, led by Dr. Mansi Kapoor and Dr. Rajeshwari Patil and facilitated by Australia Director for , A/Prof Taha Chaiechi exemplifies CITBA's commitment to research that identifies critical global challenges and strives to implement solutions aligned with sustainable development objectives.



"You're free to be
different."



In a conscious step towards championing sustainability, CITBA has embarked on a purposeful collaboration with Green Spaces. This strategic partnership transcends the realm of mere rhetoric, embodying a shared dedication to catalyzing tangible changes that contribute to a more sustainable future.



CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND BUSINESS IN ASIA (CITBA) AT JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY, AUSTRALIA

Research and Academia

[View website](#)

ABOUT THIS ORGANISATION

CITBA is a progressive and forward-thinking innovative research centre based at James Cook University.

WHY WE'RE INVOLVED

WHY WE SUPPORT THE VISION



Together, CITBA and Green Spaces are actively engaged in sculpting a greener, more responsible future. This collaborative effort is driven by a shared vision of integrating sustainability into the core fabric of business practices, emphasizing the importance of environmental stewardship in shaping a resilient and responsible global business community. The collaboration with Green Spaces extends beyond the boundaries of traditional partnerships.

CITBA'S INCLUSION IN QUEENSLAND SCIENCE CAPABILITY DIRECTORY



Earning a coveted spot in the Queensland Science Capability Directory not only stands as a testament to CITBA's leadership in cutting-edge research but also underscores the institute's commitment to advancing the frontiers of knowledge.

Their recognized proficiency in systematic modeling and organizational behavior not only solidifies CITBA's standing as a prominent research institution but also highlights our dedication to fostering innovation and addressing complex challenges through multidisciplinary approaches. The directory inclusion further positions CITBA as a hub for pioneering research, attracting attention to our diverse research capabilities and collaborative endeavors.

The inclusion is a result of the collective efforts of our exceptional team, showcasing the expertise of lead researchers, including A/Prof Taha Chaiechi, A/Prof Josephine Pryce, and Prof Hurriyet Babacan.

This recognition is not merely an accolade but a reflection of CITBA's continuous pursuit of excellence in contributing valuable insights and solutions to contemporary scientific and societal issues. As we celebrate this achievement, we look forward to further collaborations, knowledge exchange, and the exploration of new horizons in the dynamic landscape of science and research.

CITBA'S PARTNERSHIP WITH INFORMIT

CITBA's strategic collaboration with Informit, facilitated through the stewardship of A/Prof Taha Chaiechi and the Journal of Resilient Economies (JRE), marks a significant milestone in advancing the reach and influence of our research endeavors. This partnership is emblematic of CITBA's commitment to fostering impactful connections and leveraging platforms that enhance the dissemination of knowledge



JRE

JRE has emerged as a focal point for resilient economic research, and the association with Informit further propels its significance.



Informit

Informit empowers researchers and learners with the knowledge and tools to delve into the crucial issues affecting us all.



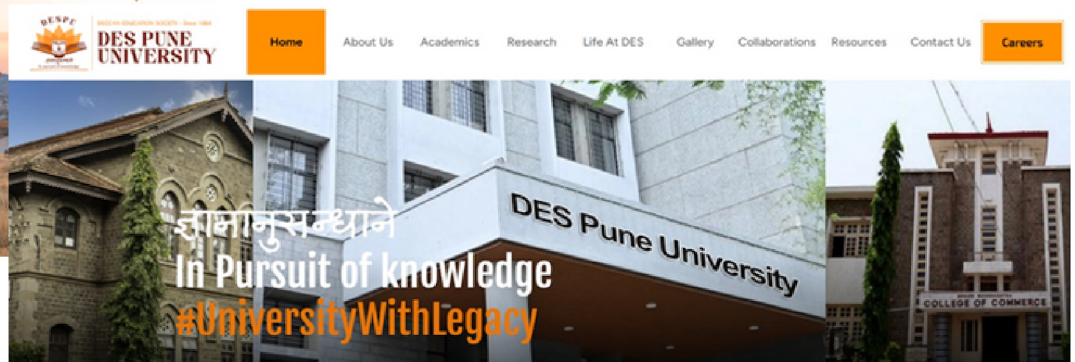
The partnership with Informit is not merely a collaboration; it signifies a commitment to excellence, knowledge dissemination, and creating a lasting impact in the academic and research landscape. By integrating our efforts with Informit, CITBA ensures that the innovative and resilient economic research published in JRE contributes meaningfully to ongoing scholarly discussions and informs future developments in the field. This strategic partnership reflects CITBA's dedication to advancing research accessibility and impact on a broader scale. ip with Informit is not merely a collaboration; By integrating our efforts with Informit, CITBA ensures that the innovative and resilient economic research published in JRE contributes meaningfully to ongoing scholarly discussions and informs future developments in the field. This strategic partnership reflects CITBA's dedication to advancing research accessibility and impact on a broader scale.

VIRTUAL RESEARCH WORKSHOP FOR DES PUNE UNIVERSITY, INDIA



Anticipating the future with enthusiasm, CITBA is charting a course for a Virtual Research Workshop in 2024, forging a collaborative venture with DES Pune University. This visionary initiative not only reflects CITBA's commitment to global academic engagement but also signifies a significant step towards fostering international collaboration.

The collaboration with DES Pune University, under the leadership of the founding Vice-Chancellor Prof Prasad Khandekar, is poised to transcend geographical boundaries. A/Prof Taha Chaiechi and Prof Khandekar met in a strategic meeting in December 2023, and both expressed willingness to work closely and support the mutual commitment to advancing knowledge and academic excellence. The Virtual Research Workshop serves as a nexus for scholars from both CITBA and DES Pune University to come together, exchange ideas, and delve into collaborative research endeavours. This platform is designed to transcend the limitations of physical distance, creating a space where researchers can explore common areas of interest, share expertise, and collectively contribute to the advancement of knowledge.



TRANSFORMATIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH UGM AND INDI

In a significant stride towards international collaboration, CITBA proudly announces a pioneering partnership with the Faculty of Economics and Business at Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM), Indonesia and the Indonesian Natural Dye Institute (INDI). This strategic alliance marks a bold initiative to extend the global reach of CITBA, fostering an extensive network of scholars.

The initial meeting, held on November 28, 2023, brought together delegates from CITBA, Magister and Doctorate, Faculty of Economics and Business UGM, and INDI. During the discussions, the delegates explored and reached agreements on various initiatives, including joint research endeavors, academic exchanges, and collaborative projects. The collaboration aims to facilitate a seamless exchange of knowledge and expertise between the institutions. The parties involved discussed specific areas of mutual interest, laying the groundwork for future joint research projects that align with the strengths and focus areas of each entity. Additionally, the delegates explored opportunities for academic exchanges, creating avenues for scholars and students to engage in cross-cultural learning experiences.

As a result of these discussions, the strategic partnership is set to create a robust framework for ongoing cooperation, emphasizing the shared commitment to advancing knowledge and fostering global academic connections.



*If you have knowledge, let others
light their candles in it*

MARGARET FULLER



STAT-HELP INITIATIVE

Dr. Rabiul Beg, an esteemed academic member of CITBA, has spearheaded the revitalisation of the "STAT HELP" initiative, injecting it with fresh energy and purpose. This initiative now stands as a vibrant platform that fosters collaborative learning and skill enhancement in the challenging realms of Statistics and Econometrics.

Dr. Beg's vision for the initiative prioritizes accessibility, inclusivity, and the provision of cost-free support, making it an invaluable resource for academics and HDR students within the College of Business, Law, and Governance (CBLG). Under his guidance, "STAT HELP" has evolved into a cornerstone for individuals seeking to strengthen their statistical knowledge and econometric skills, creating a dynamic space for academic growth and development within the college.

To book a session contact : citba@jcu.edu.au



Guest Lectures in Executive Master of Public Administration Program



A/Prof Taha Chaiechi, acknowledged for her expertise, received esteemed invitations to present two impactful guest lectures within the distinguished Executive Master of Public Administration program, hosted by the Australia & New Zealand School of Government (ANZSOG). These engaging lectures, attended by a diverse cohort comprising over 73 participants, served as a testament to CITBA's members influence extending well beyond the boundaries of traditional academic domains.

The Executive Master of Public Administration (EMPA) program offered by the Australia & New Zealand School of Government (ANZSOG) is a prestigious and advanced academic initiative designed for experienced professionals in the public sector. In these sessions, A/Prof Taha Chaiechi provided valuable insights that enhanced the learning experience for participants in the Executive Master of Public Administration program.

COST Benefit Analysis

The focus of her lectures centered around cost-benefit analysis within a public sector setting, tailored specifically for a distinguished audience comprising middle to top government managers and department leads.



MEDIA EXPOSURE

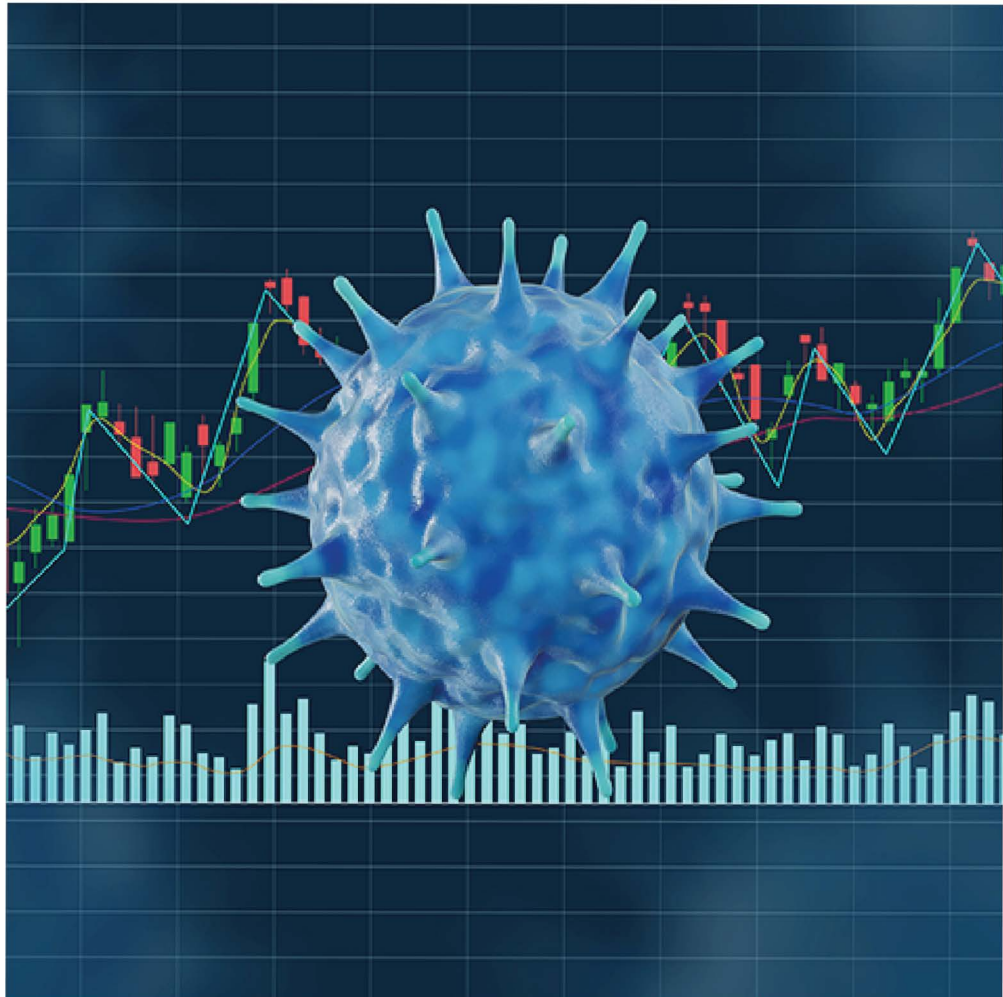
CURRENT ISSUES AND CHALLENGES



Housing issues, COVID

Economy

Demonstrating the remarkable caliber of research undertaken by CITBA, our activities, events, and groundbreaking research consistently capture the spotlight, earning substantial coverage in prestigious news outlets. This extensive recognition serves as a testament to the exceptional quality and impact of CITBA's scholarly endeavors, reinforcing our position as a preeminent thought leader in both academic and public conversations. Our steadfast commitment to advancing knowledge and nurturing innovative ideas shines through the media exposure we garner, providing a vivid showcase of the influential and transformative nature of CITBA's research initiatives.



Climate Change, Energy

As we continue along this trajectory of excellence, we eagerly anticipate the opportunity to share more updates, unveil groundbreaking discoveries stemming from the dynamic and influential CITBA community. Highlighting the impactful strides of CITBA, our activities, events, and research have seized considerable attention in the media, prominently featured in esteemed outlets such as ABC Rural, ABC News,

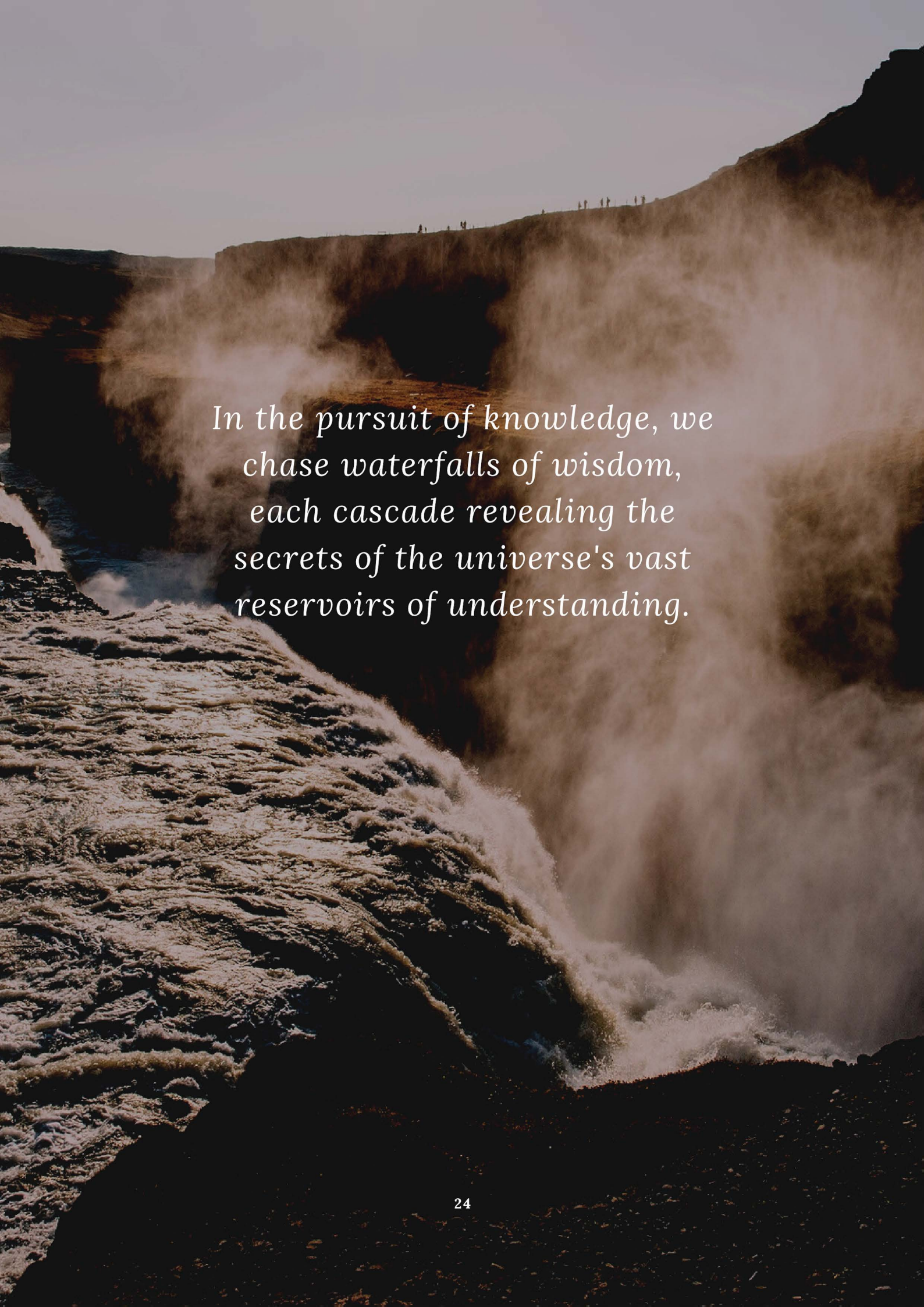
The Guardian, BD Mag, INTHEBLACK, 7News, and Conversations. This widespread acknowledgment not only emphasizes the outstanding research conducted by CITBA scholars but also cements our organization as a driving force in shaping discussions across both academic and public spheres. Stay tuned for further updates on the innovative and impactful work emerging from the vibrant and influential CITBA.



CITBA Researcher Achieves Milestone with Impactful Energy Consumption Study

In a significant achievement, Dr. Breda McCarthy, a distinguished researcher at CITBA, has successfully concluded a research grant sponsored by Energy Consumers Australia. The completion of this project, titled "The Solar Rebound," not only marks a noteworthy milestone for Dr. McCarthy but also reinforces CITBA's standing as a hub for impactful and policy-relevant research. Funded by Energy Consumers Australia Limited, a prominent entity dedicated to consumer advocacy and research projects benefiting electricity and natural gas consumers, this initiative delves into the intricacies of renewable energy adoption in Queensland, aptly known as the Sunshine State.

By honing in on the behaviors of homeowners in Queensland, the study seeks to enhance our understanding of consumer dynamics in the context of the energy transition. Recognizing the complexity of consumer behavior, Dr. McCarthy's research underscores the necessity of continuous study and comprehension to effectively address the challenges surrounding the ongoing energy transition. The findings of this project are anticipated to not only contribute to academic knowledge but also inform policy decisions and practices in the realm of sustainable energy adoption. For more information about Energy Consumers Australia Limited and its initiatives, please visit www.energyconsumersaustralia.com.au.



*In the pursuit of knowledge, we
chase waterfalls of wisdom,
each cascade revealing the
secrets of the universe's vast
reservoirs of understanding.*



Centre for International Trade and Business in Asia (CITBA)

CITBA's modus operandi is to include the finest scholars, both early career and more established, from James Cook University's Australian and Singaporean Campuses in collegial inter-disciplinary teams that foster an environment that encourages innovative thinking and supports research excellence.



CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE
AND BUSINESS IN ASIA (CITBA)



COLLEGE OF
BUSINESS,
LAW AND
GOVERNANCE