## **Scientific Committee**



Paolo Abarcar Research Economist Mathematica

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Dr. Paolo Abarcar (Ph.D., Economics and Public Policy, University of Michigan) is an applied microeconomist with research experience in international development, labor economics, and migration. At Mathematica, his work involves evaluating the impact of foreign aid projects in developing countries.



**Anjali Adukia**Assistant Professor
University of Chicago

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Anjali Adukia is an Assistant Professor at the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy.

In her work, she seeks to understand how to reduce inequalities such that children from historically disadvantaged backgrounds have equal opportunities to fully develop their potential. Her research is focused on understanding factors that motivate and shape behavior, preferences, attitudes, and educational decision-making, with a particular focus on early-life influences. She examines how the provision of basic needs such as safety, health, justice, and representation can increase school participation and improve child outcomes in developing contexts.



**Sofia Amaral**Assistant Professor
ifo Institute at the University of Munich

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Sofia Amaral is an Economist at the Center for Labor Economics of the ifo Institute at the University of Munich. She is also a CESifo Research Affiliate.

Her research interests include Development Economics, Family Economics and Economics of Crime. Her work is focused on the causes of violence against women and what type of interventions are effective in preventing it. The focus of her research has been India, UK, Mexico and Mozambique.

She is currently the holder of a Leibniz Junior Research Groups Grant designed to support early-career researchers in Germany, under the project "The Economics of Violence Against Women: Understanding Causes and Identifying Remedies."



**Bocar Ba**Assistant Professor
UC Irvine

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Bocar Ba, Assistant Professor of Economics, studies police accountability. His work has taken a close look at where breakdowns happen in the criminal justice system, following cases from arrests to the final dispositions. Using insight from labor economics literature, he seeks to understand police use of force, overall police officer behavior and what cities want from their local law enforcement. His research, funded by the Russell Sage Foundation and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Pipeline Grant, has been featured in the Science, Journal of Labor Economics and American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings, and the Washington Post.

Ba earned his Bachelors in economics and finance at the Université du Québec à Montréal and and Masters in economics at the University of British Columbia. He completed his Ph.D. in public policy at the University of Chicago in 2018 and was hired as a one-year postdoctoral scholar in the economics department at Duke University. He was then appointed as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Pennsylvania Law School Quattrone Center where he spent a year focused on criminal justice system research.



Luis Baldomero-Quintana
Assistant Professor
William and Mary

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Baldomero-Quintana is an Assistant Professor at William & Mary.

His research focuses on international trade, economic geography, and development economics. He received a B.A. in Economics from Tecnologico de Monterrey and completed his Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Michigan.



Felipe Barrera-Osorio
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The aim of Felipe Barrera-Osorio's research is to determine how different educational incentives impact the learning outcomes of primary- and secondary school-aged children in different contexts and levels of education development. He uses identification methods to find causal effects of educational programs in a large array of outcomes.

His research extends across low- and middle-income countries.



Chris Barrett
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Chris Barrett is an agricultural and development economist at Cornell University. He is the Stephen B. and Janice G. Ashley Professor of Applied Economics and Management, and an International Professor of Agriculture at the Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, as well as a Professor in the Department of Economics, a Professor in the Department of Global Development, and a Fellow of the Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability.

He is co-editor-in-chief of the journal Food Policy, edits the Palgrave Macmillan book series Agricultural Economics and Food Policy, co-edits the Elsevier Handbook of Agricultural Economics, volumes 5 and 6, and previously was editor of the American Journal of Agricultural Economics. He is an elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, African Association of Agricultural and Economists, and has won numerous university, national and international awards for teaching, research and policy outreach and public service. His more than 350 publications have been cited more than 43,000 times, placing him among the top five scholars globally in the agricultural economics, development economics, food security, poverty, and resource economics fields, according to Google Scholar, and well within the top 1 percent of all economists worldwide according to RePEc/IDEAS. He has served as a principal investigator on more than \$43 million in extramural research grants from various corporate, foundation, government agency and nongovernmental organization sponsors. He has supervised more than 100 graduate students and post-docs, many of whom now serve on faculty and staff at leading universities and research institutes worldwide.

He has held leadership roles at Cornell, including as the Deputy Dean and Dean of Academic Affairs of the SC Johnson College of Business, and as the David J. Nolan Director of the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, and externally as President of the Association of Christian Economists, and Chair of the International Section of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association. He serves on a variety of boards and panels, including on the Independent Science and Development Council of the CGIAR and the elected Executive Board of the International Association of Agricultural Economics currently. He previously served on faculty at Utah State University and has been a visiting scholar at Harvard, Melbourne,

Monash, Notre Dame, and Stanford Universities.

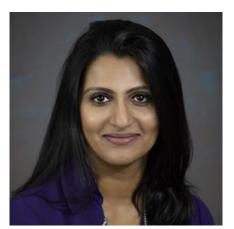


Emily Beam Assistant Professor University of Vermont

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Dr. Emily Beam is an assistant professor at the University of Vermont. She was a Visiting Assistant Professor at the National University of Singapore from 2013 until 2016.

Her research interests center on education and employment policy, with a particular focus on strengthening learning and facilitating school-to-work transitions among low-income youth.



Sabrin Beg Assistant Professor University of Delaware

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Sabrin Beg is an Assistant Professor of Economics at the Lerner College of Business and Economics at the University of Delaware.

She is a development economist specializing in the economics of human capital and in political economy. She focuses on vulnerable populations in the developing world, including students and farmers. Her work includes randomized controlled trials in Bangladesh, Pakistan, India and Ghana. Her research also uses rich administrative data to understand behavior of politicians in developing countries and the subsequent effect on economic outcomes.

Sabrin received her PhD and MA in Economics from Yale University and her BA in Economics and Mathematics from Wellesley College.



**Peter Blair** Assistant Professor Harvard University

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Dr. Peter Q. Blair (@pqblair) is on the faculty in the Graduate School of Education at Harvard University where he co-directs the Project on Workforce. He serves as a Faculty Research Fellow of the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) and the Principal Investigator of the BE-Lab (www.peterqblair.com).



Rossella Calvi Assistant Professor Rice University

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Rossella Calvi is an Assistant Professor of Economics at Rice University. She joined Rice in 2016 after receiving her PhD from Boston College. Her areas of expertise are development economics and economics of the family and gender.

Her research focuses on gender inequality, poverty, health and education in developing countries. Some of her recent work looks at intra-household resource allocation in India and its effects on women's health and poverty. She is also interested in economic history and studies the role that historical institutions play in determining contemporary outcomes.



Ritam Chaurey Assistant Professor Johns Hopkins SAIS

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Ritam Chaurey is an Assistant Professor of International Economics at Johns Hopkins SAIS. Ritam holds a PhD in Economics from Columbia University.

Prior to his doctoral studies, he completed an MA (Cantab.) from Cambridge University, and a BA (Hons) in Economics from St. Stephen's College, Delhi. His research interests are in the fields of development economics and applied microeconomics with a focus on firm behavior and entrepreneurship in developing countries.



Gaurav Chiplunkar Assistant Professor of Business Administration University of Virginia

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Gaurav Chiplunkar is an Assistant Professor of Business Administration at the Darden School of Business, University of Virginia. He completed his PhD in Economics from Yale University in 2019.

Gaurav's research examines how access to digital technologies and policy reforms impact the labor market outcomes of workers and firms, especially across gender.



Josh Dean
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Josh Dean is an Assistant Professor of Behavioral Science and Economics at The University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

He does research on the interaction of poverty and cognition using primarily randomized controlled trials. Under this broad agenda, his research can be grouped into three main categories. First, he is interested in how the conditions of poverty shape cognitive development by affecting human capital investment. Second, he is interested in how environments of poverty impede cognition. Finally, he is interested in how cognitive processes may impede poverty alleviation. He hopes that by improving our understanding of these relationships, his research can provide guidance to policy makers on the best ways to alleviate poverty.



**Brian Dillon**Assistant Professor
Cornell

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Brian Dillon is the Assistant Professor of Development Economics and Applied Econometrics in the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University.

Dillon's research focuses on agricultural development, seasonality, market integration, labor, and the emergence of new markets. He works primarily in Sub-Saharan Africa, though he has lived and worked in Guatemala, Vietnam, and Tanzania. His empirical research uses a range of methods, including RCTs, estimation of structural models, time series analysis, and evaluation of natural experiments.



Alex Eble
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Alex Eble is an Assistant Professor of Economics and Education at Teachers College, Columbia University. He is also a research fellow at the IZA Institute of Labor Economics.

His research focuses on two core areas. In the first research area, he works to understand how children form beliefs about their own ability, and how this affects their human capital development. In the second research area, he works to identify, evaluate, and study the scalability of potentially high-leverage policy options to raise learning levels in the developing world.

He holds a Ph.D. in economics from Brown University.



**Thomas Fujiwara**Associate Professor of Economics
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Thomas Fujiwara is an Associate Professor of Economics at Princeton University. His research is in political economy, with a substantive focus on developing countries. His work addresses questions related to representation both in elections and in the workplace. In particular, he has investigated how political participation shapes public policy and the determinants of voter behavior and the role of gender norms in driving female participation in the workplace. He received his PhD from the University of British Columbia in 2011.



**Jevay Grooms** Assistant Professor Howard University

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Dr. Jevay Grooms is an applied microeconomist with research areas of interests that lie at the intersection of public economics, health economics, and studies of poverty and inequality. Her overall research agenda studies the impediments to adequate health care delivery and health outcomes of underserved and vulnerable populations with the keen intent to understand how poverty and the legacy of wealth inequality have contributed to health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities.



Teevrat Garg
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Teevrat Garg is an Assistant Professor of Economics at the School of Global Policy and Strategy at the University of California in San Diego.

His research is at the intersection of environmental and development economics with an emphasis on the role of public policy and institutions in fostering sustainable development and helping the poor cope with environmental stressors such as heat, air and water pollution. In recent years, he has conducted research in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Mexico and Uganda.

Prior to joining UC San Diego, Professor Garg was a postdoctoral fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He received a B.A. in Economics (with Honors) and a B.S in Mathematics from Lafayette College in 2010, and a PhD. in Applied Economics and Management from Cornell University in 2015.



Siddharth George Assistant Professor of Economics Boston University

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Siddharth George is an Assistant Professor of Economics at Boston University. His research interests are in development economics, political economy and labour economics.

He studied at the LSE and Harvard, and has previously worked as an economist for India's Chief Economic Advisor and a research economist for the Singapore government. Till recently, he was an Assistant Professor of Economics at Dartmouth College.



Siddharth Hari Economist World Bank

Siddharth Hari is an economist in the World Bank's Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice. His research interests are in the areas of social safety nets, political economy and education. He received a PhD from New York University in 2017.



Rachel Heath
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Rachel Heath is an Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Washington in Seattle. Before joining the faculty at UW, she was a post-doc in the Research Group at the World Bank.

Her research examines labor markets in developing countries. In particular, she has focused on the expansion of manufacturing jobs (such as the garment industry in Bangladesh) in developing countries, looking at women's decision to work, how workers are hired and the effects these job opportunities have on women and their households.

She holds a PhD in Economics from Yale University and a BS in Economics from Duke University.



Asad Islam
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Asad Islam is currently the Director of the Centre for Development Economics and Substantiality (CDES), and Professor at the Department of Economics at Monash University.

He has extensive experience working in the field to implement academic and policy-relevant research including the economics of education and health, energy, disaster and environment, technology adoption, gender, microfinance, social networks, and corruption.

His research work spans several developing countries including Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, China, Cambodia, Uganda, and Tanzania.



Pamela Jakiela Associate Professor Williams College

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Pamela Jakiela is an associate professor of economics at Williams College, where she studies gender issues, behavioral development economics, survey design and measurement, and impact evaluation. She is also a Non-Resident Fellow at the Center for Global Development, an IZA Research Fellow, and an Affiliate at BREAD and J-PAL.

Her work has been published in leading academic journals including Science and the Review of Economic Studies, and has been featured in media outlets including the New York Times and NPR. Her current work includes research on women's labor force participation and occupational choice, the gender dynamics of investments in early childhood, preference elicitation techniques appropriate for low-income settings, and active labor market interventions targeting women and youth.

She received her PhD from UC Berkeley in 2008, and she also holds a BA from the University of Michigan and an MSc from the London School of Economics.



Gaurav Khanna
Assistant Professor
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Website https://gps.ucsd.edu/faculty-directory/gauravkhanna.html Gaurav is an Assistant Professor of Economics at UCSD's School of Global Policy and Strategy. His interests lie in Development Economics, Labor Economics and Applied Econometrics.

His research focuses on education, migration, infrastructure, and conflict. He is a faculty affiliate at the Center for Effective Global Action, and a Non-resident Fellow at the Center for Global Development.



Gabriel Kreindler Assistant Professor Harvard University

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Gabriel studies issues in urban transportation in developing countries using experimental and quantitative spatial methods.

His current projects focus on understanding the impact of traffic congestion management policies in large cities in developing countries through natural and field experiments.

Gabriel received his PhD in Economics from MIT.



Elaine M. Liu
Associate Professor of Economics
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Website https://uh.edu/~emliu/ Elaine M. Liu is an Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Houston. She received her Ph.D. in Economics from Princeton University.

Professor Liu's research lies at the intersection of the fields of development, gender, health and behavioral economics. She is an associate editor for the Journal of Health Economics.



Shanthi Manian
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Shanthi Manian is a development economist and an Assistant Professor at Washington State University.

She uses RCTs, lab-in-the-field experiments, and natural experiments to study intersections of global health, gender, and development. She has particularly focused on the health decisions of vulnerable women, gender discrimination in developing country labor markets, and cognitive constraints among the poor.

She has previous or ongoing experiments in Ethiopia, Kenya, the Philippines, and Senegal. She received her PhD in economics from UC San Diego and her BSFS from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University.



Madeline McKelway
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Madeline is a postdoctoral fellow at Stanford's King Center on Global Development. In July 2021, she will join Dartmouth's Department of Economics as an assistant professor.

Her research is in development economics. Much of her work studies the empowerment and employment of women in India.



Meera Mahadevan
Postdoc
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Meera is the Chancellor's ADVANCE Postdoc at the University of California, Irvine (UCI).

Her research focuses on Energy and Environmental Economics in developing countries, specifically examining the political and institutional factors affecting state provision of electricity and water. She studies questions such as political corruption in electricity provisioning, the design of state and national level policies in restructuring electricity markets and the use of solar panels to power households with no prior access to energy.

Meera will be an Assistant Professor of Economics at UCI from 2021. Previously she was a postdoc at the Bren School, UCSB, and completed her PhD in Economics at the University of Michigan in 2019. Prior to joining her PhD, she worked at the Poverty and Equity unit at the World Bank in Washington DC.



**Debi Mohapatra**Assistant Professor
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Website https://sites.google.com/a/cornell.edu/debiprasad/ Debi Mohapatra works in the area of Empirical Industrial Organization, and Applied Microeconomics with a focus on pharmaceutical and insurance markets in developing countries.



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Abhiroop's primary specialization is in econometric methods applied to topics in the field of education in developing countries (especially India). Recent topics of his research include the impact of better school infrastructure on rural schooling attendance, how to design teacher transfer programs and the impact of the distribution of human capital on growth and development.

Abhiroop has also worked on issues related to public policy: in particular, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), a big public workfare program in India: the political economy of it's implementation and the effects of NREGS on education and borrowing. In the past he has also worked on issues related to health: the economic effects of HIV-AIDS and Cancer (Health).



Paul Novosad Associate Professor Dartmouth College

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Paul Novosad is an associate professor of economics at Dartmouth College. His research examines why poor countries have remained poor for so long, and what policy interventions can help improve people's lives in developing countries. His team builds new open source economic data from information age sources like satellites, and private and government sector data exhaust. Some of his recent projects have focused on judicial bias in India, the impacts of India's large-scale rural roads program, the impacts of mineral sector development, and on measuring intergenerational mobility in developing countries.



Analisa Packham Assistant Professor Vanderbilt University

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Professor Packham completed her B.S. in Economics and Ph.D. in Economics from Texas A&M University. She is an applied microeconomist with interests in health and education policy.

Her research focuses primarily on the effects of contraception and family planning program access on teen childbearing and the effects of nutritional assistance receipt on crime and academic achievement.



Maria Padilla-Romo
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Maria is an Assistant Professor of Economics in the Haslam College of Business at The University of Tennessee.

Her research interests include labor economics, development economics, and economics of education.

At the core of her research is an interest in improving policy design to reduce inequality and improve the well-being of vulnerable populations. Her current work focuses on evaluating the intended and unintended consequences policy changes have on education, labor, crime, and health outcomes.



Esteban Quinones
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Esteban Quinones is a *Researcher* at Mathematica Policy Research. He joined Mathematica's *International Division* in the summer of 2019 to work on an expanding international research portfolio and the Center for International Policy and Evaluation (CIPRE).

He completed his Ph.D. in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Wisconsin - Madison in 2019 where he was also a Predoctoral Trainee at the Center for Demography and Ecology.

His fields of interest include development economics, migration, demography, gender, rural development, social protection and labor economics.



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Javaeria Qureshi is an Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is an applied microeconomist with research interests in education, labor and development, with a focus on the role of the family.

She is a research fellow at the Harvard Kennedy Women and Public Policy Program this year. She earned her Bachelors degree in Economics and Political Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2007 and her PhD in Public Policy from the University of Chicago in 2012.



Atonu Rabbani Associate Professor University of Dhaka

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Atonu Rabbani is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Dhaka and an Associate Scientist with the James P Grant School of Public Health at the BRAC University. He has a PhD in Economics from the University of Chicago and an MSS and BSS (Honors) in Economics at the University of Dhaka. He works in the areas of health, labor, and organization economics.



Gautam Rao Associate Professor Harvard University

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Gautam's research tries to bring insights from psychology to bear on topics in economics, particularly topics relevant to developing countries.

Recent projects include studying how improving sleep affects the economic outcomes of workers in India, how the endowment effect influences consumer demand for collateralized loans in Kenya, how research findings affect the beliefs and policy choices of mayors in Brazil, and how mixing rich and poor students in schools in India affects social preferences and behaviors.



Stephen L Ross
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The research of Stephen L Ross, Professor, PhD, 1994, Syracuse University, focuses on understanding experiences of disadvantaged groups, especially African-Americans, in U.S. cities and metropolitan areas. His research primarily studies peer effects and social interactions, neighborhood effects, residential and school segregation, housing and mortgage lending discrimination, urban labor markets, racial profiling and local government.

He has been published in the Journal of Political Economy, Review of Economics and Statistics, Economic Journal, American Economic Journals: Economic Policy and Applied Economics, and Review of Financial Studies. His book, the Color of Credit, was published with MIT Press in 2002. Funded by the Institute for Education Sciences, National Institute for Child Health and Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Ford, MacArthur, WT Grant and FannieMae Foundations.

Recent funded research includes: effects of foreclosure crisis on children's educational outcomes, effects of school peers on immigrants, and impact of attending Connecticut's State Technical High Schools. Appointed to the Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group, University of Chicago in 2011, Penn Institute for Urban Research, University of Pennsylvania in 2014 and Center for Financial Security, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Regular invitee to National Bureau of Economic Research Education and Crime program meetings. Co-editor for Regional Science and Urban Economics and Education Finance and Policy, and serves on the editorial board of the American Economic Journal: Economic Policy and for five key journals within urban economics. Has consulted for K&L Gates, National Consumer Law Center, New York State Attorney General, FannieMae, Abt Associates, National Resource Council (National Academy of Science) and the Urban Institute primarily on matters related to mortgage discrimination, predatory lending and discrimination in housing markets.



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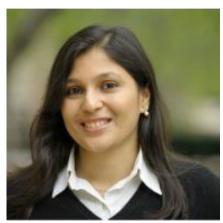
Justin Sandefur is a senior fellow at the Center for Global Development and the co-director of CGD's education program. Prior to joining CGD, he spent two years as an adviser to Tanzania's national statistics office and worked as a research officer at Oxford University's Centre for the Study of African Economies. His research focuses on a wide range of topics, including education, poverty reduction, legal reform, and democratic governance.



Frank Schilbach
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Frank Schilbach is a behavioral and development economist at MIT. His work seeks to understand psychological and other aspects of poverty, including sleep deprivation, substance abuse, and psychological well-being.



Ruchi Singh Assistant Professor University of Georgia

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Ruchi Singh is an Assistant Professor at University of Georgia. She received her Ph.D. in Economics from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2017. Her research interests include urban economics, real estate, and crime.

Her current research focuses on crime, land use regulation, housing affordability, and the effect of natural disasters on house prices. Dr. Singh has published articles in Journal of Urban Economics, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Real Estate Economics, and Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics. She is an IZA Research Affiliate and serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics.



Meredith Startz Assistant Professor Dartmouth University

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Meredith Startz is an assistant professor in the Dartmouth economics department. Her research is at the intersection of development and trade, and focuses on how contracting problems shape transactions and firms in developing countries.



**Dan Stein**Chief Economist
Idinsight

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Dan Stein is the Chief Economist at IDinsight and a Partner, based in the US.

As Chief Economist, Dan is responsible for setting and maintaining technical standards throughout the organization, developing exciting new projects and partnerships, and helping manage our team of technical experts. Dan likes digging deep into the details of projects, and therefore is the primary Economist on a number of specific IDinsight engagements. He is especially passionate about agricultural technology adoption, rural development, nutrition, and climate change mitigation.

Prior to IDinsight, Dan was an Economist at the World Bank, where he specialized in agriculture and forestry impact evaluations. Dan holds a PhD in Economics from the London School of Economics, where he researched agricultural micro-insurance.



Andrew Stevens
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Andrew Stevens is an applied economist with research interests in agricultural and food policy. Currently, he works as an Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

His research focuses on economic decision-making throughout the food supply chain from agricultural production to consumer demand with a focus on causal inference and policy-relevant analyses.



**Daniela Vidart**Assistant Professor
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Daniela is an Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Connecticut.

She is a macroeconomist with an interest in development and economic history. Her research focuses on the interactions between technological change and human capital accumulation patterns within households and firms.

She received her Ph.D. in Economics from UC San Diego in June 2020.



Basit Zafar
Professor
University of Michigan

Website https://sites.google.com/site/basitakzafar/ Basit Zafar is an applied microeconomist. His research is focused on labor economics, economics of education, and household finance. Specifically, his work seeks to understand how individuals make decisions under uncertainty.

Professor Zafar's research employs a disparate set of empirical methods and techniques, including the use of subjective expectations data and experimental data.

He received his Ph.D. from Northwestern University in 2008, and his B.Sc from Caltech. Before joining the faculty at Michigan, he held positions at Arizona State University and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.



Roman Andres Zarate
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Roman Andres Zarate's research lies in the intersection of the economics of education and development economics. He has a particular interest in studying the formation of social skills and their impact on labor market outcomes and productivity of organizations.

He has used field and natural experiments to study the role of social interactions and peer characteristics on students' outcomes. He is currently working to improve measures of social skills and estimate their effect on job opportunities and inequality in developing countries.