

POSITIONS

Research Director for Tax & Development, Institute for Fiscal Studies	2020 –
Honorary Associate Professor, University College London, Department of Economics Senior Economist, World Bank (on external service leave)	
Senior Economist, World Bank	2018 – 2020
Economist, World Bank	2013 – 2018
Affiliations:	
Research Affiliate, Centre for Economic Policy Research	2021 –
International Research Fellow, Oxford Centre for Business Taxation	2019 –
International Research Fellow, Institute for Fiscal Studies	2016 – 2020

EDUCATION

PhD in Economics , London School of Economics	2008 – 2013
BA and MA in Development Economics , Sciences Po Paris	2003 – 2008
Middle East Studies and Arabic , Al Akhawayn University Morocco	2005 – 2006

PUBLICATIONS

“Transnational Terrorist Recruitment: Evidence from Daesh Personnel Records”, 2021. With Quy-Toan Do, Clément Joubert, Kartika Bhatia and Mohamed Abdel-Jelil. *Review of Economics and Statistics*. Forthcoming

- Coverage from Le Monde, Times of Israel, Times of India, Alarabiya and others.

“Casting a Wider Tax Net: Experimental Evidence from Costa Rica.” 2019. With Marco Hernandez, Stewart Kettle and Spencer Smith. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*. 11(3): 55-87.

- Coverage from VoxDev, ICTD, World Bank.

“Production Efficiency versus Revenue Efficiency with Limited Tax Capacity: Theory and Evidence from Pakistan.” 2015. With Michael Best, Henrik Kleven, Johannes Spinnewijn and Mazhar Waseem. *Journal of Political Economy*. 123(6): 1311-1355.

- Coverage from Microeconomic Insights, Vox, World Bank Blog.
- Featured by the Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation.

“The Normality of Informality: Trade Between Algeria and Mali.” 2017. With Sami Bensassi, Matthieu Pellerin and Gael Raballand. *Middle East Development Journal*. 9: 1-23

- Coverage from The Economist.
- Winner of the Prize for Best Paper in International Economics, Economic and Social Research Forum.

“The Investment Effect of Taxation: Evidence from a Corporate Tax Kink.” 2014. *Fiscal Studies*. 35(4): 477-509.

“Exporting for Development? The Pineapple Sector in Ghana.” 2009. *L’Economie Politique*. 41: 69-78.

WORKING PAPERS

“Electronic Payment Technology and Tax Capacity: Evidence from Uruguay’s Financial Inclusion Reform”, 2023. R&R at the *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*. With Magaly Saenz Somarriba.

“Does the Value-Added Tax Add Value: Empirics Meets Theory”, 2023. With Miguel Almunia, Giulia Mascagni, Vedanth Nair and Mazhar Waseem. *In preparation for the Journal of Economic Perspectives*.

“Taxing Property in Developing Countries: Theory and Evidence from Mexico”, 2023. With Alejandro Estefan, Karina Ramirez, Juan Carlos Suárez Serrato.

- Premio Citibanamex de Economía, ADB-IEA Innovative Policy Research Award, coverage from [VoxDev](#).

“Effective Tax Rates and Firm Size”. 2023. With Pierre Bachas, Roel Dom and Camille Semelet

“How to Target Tax Enforcement at Scale”, 2023. With Pierre Bachas, Alipio Ferreira and Bassirou Sarr.

“Taxation, Information and Withholding: Evidence from Costa Rica.” 2022. With Marco Hernandez.

- Winner of the World Bank Innovation Prize, coverage from [La Nación](#).

“The Impact of COVID-19 on Formal Firms: Micro Tax Data Simulations Across Countries”, 2020. With Pierre Bachas and Camille Semelet.

- Coverage from the [Economics Observatory](#). Country-specific background notes available on my website.

POLICY REPORTS

Working with Administrative Tax Data: A How-To-Get-Started Guide, MTI Practice Note. 2019. [sole author]

Tax Chapter of Costa Rica Public Finance Review. 2019. [lead author]

Tax Chapter of Ecuador Public Expenditure Review. 2019. [lead author]

Taxing the Digital Economy: Policy Options. 2018. [contributor]

Brazil’s Tax System: Overview and Reform Options. 2018. [lead author]

Ecuador’s Tax System: Overview and Reform Options. 2017. [co-author]

Economic and Social Inclusion to Prevent Violent Extremism, MENA Economic Monitor Report. 2016. [co-author]

Unlocking the Potential for Economic Growth in Yemen. 2015. [lead author, chapter on oil and gas sector]

Distributional Effects of the 2014 Tax Reform in Chile. 2015. [contributor]

Governance of State-Owned Enterprises: Lessons from Egypt, Iraq, Morocco and Tunisia. 2015. [contributor]

Performance Contracts in Customs Agencies: Lessons from Cameroon and Togo. 2014. [co-author]

Public Sector Size and Performance Management: A Case Study of Post-Revolution Tunisia. 2015. [lead author]

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

PRESENTATIONS

- 2023: Imperial, Oxford CSAE, keynote lecture at World Bank – GWU Sustainable Cities Workshop, Barcelona EU Tax Observatory workshop, CESifo public economics week, Oxford CBT Symposium; planned: PSE, NHH
- 2022: Exeter, LSE-IFS-UCL, Oxford Economics, Syracuse Maxwell School, CMI Bergen conference, Warwick
- 2021: Michigan, Bremen, Chr. Michelsen Institute, ZEW Public Finance Conference, Oxford CBT Symposium, Economic Development and Institutions Conference
- 2020: Oxford Said Business School, Virtual Public Finance Seminar, Gates Foundation Working Group, ZEW Public Finance Conference, NBER Summer Institute (DEV), EEA, George Mason University, Georgetown University, Universitat de Barcelona, Cities in Developing Countries Workshop, NBER Fall Meeting (PE), Queen Mary University of London, IFS-UCL-LSE-STICERD seminar, University of Munich
- 2019: AEA, Tübingen/Stuttgart, Berlin Hertie School, Royal Economic Society Conference, CEPR Development Conference, NTA, NEUDC, IDB, World Bank, Zurich PF & Dev conference
- 2018: Nottingham, Cambridge, IFS TAXDEV conference, Columbia University Tax Policy Workshop, Michigan OTPR anniversary conference, UC Berkeley, NEUDC, Zurich PF & Dev conference
- 2017: AEA, University of Michigan, World Bank, Oxford CSAE, Impact Evaluation Network, Institute for Fiscal Studies, Oxford Economics, NTA, Copenhagen inequality conference
- 2016: PacDev, LSE STICERD, Oxford CSAE, World Bank ABCDE, Oxford CBT Symposium, IIPF, IMF, the George Washington University, IDB, NTA, Zurich PF & Dev conference

- 2015: World Bank, IMF, IIPF, PEUK, NTA, Renmin University of China, CUFE University Beijing
- 2013/14: LSE, Warwick, HMRC, Oxford CBT Symposium, EBRD, IEA World Congress

TEACHING

- Module on the Value-Added Tax, MSc in Taxation, Oxford University, 09/2022
- Economics of Tax Policy, third year undergraduate course, University College London, Spring 2023
- Module on Tax and Development in MSc Policy Analysis course, University College London, 2021
- Micro-Econometrics, third year undergraduate course, University College London, Fall 2021
- Undergraduate dissertation module, University College London, 2020-2021 and Spring 2022
- Guest lectures on public finance and development, Harvard Kennedy School, 2019-2021
- Guest lectures on public finance, Johns Hopkins and George Washington University, 2016-2018
- Guest lectures on econometrics, George Washington University, 2016-2017
- Impact Evaluation Methods for Tax Administrators, Costa Rica and Guatemala, 2016-2017
- Tax Policy and Administration Course, World Bank, 05/2016
- Impact Evaluation Methods, J-PAL Latin America, 10/2015
- Development Economics for MPA Students, LSE, 2011-2012
- Microeconomics for MSc Students, LSE, 2010-2011
- Introductory Microeconomics and Macroeconomics, LSE, 2009-2010

GRANTS

- TaxDev III (GBP 15 mio), 2023-2030, with Hazel Granger, David Phillips, Yani Tyskerud & IFS/ODI team
- UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship (GBP 1.5 mio), 2022-2026
- TaxDev Research Fund (GBP 50,000), 2019-2021, with Pierre Bachas and Bassirou Sarr
- World Bank Research Support Budget (USD 90,000), 2019-2021
- Umbrella Facility for Trade Rwanda (USD 40,000), 2019-2020, with Pierre Bachas and Anders Jensen
- Knowledge for Change Trust Fund (USD 110,000), 2018-2020, with Pierre Bachas and Oyebola Okunogbe
- Umbrella Facility for Trade Costa Rica (USD 80,000), 2018-2020
- Economic Development and Institutions (GBP 177,000), 2018-2021, with Pierre Bachas and Bassirou Sarr
- Economic Development and Institutions (GBP 5,880), 2017, with Pierre Bachas and Bassirou Sarr
- Korea Development Institute Trust Fund (USD 36,000), 2016-2017, with Marco Hernandez

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Associate Editor: The Economic Journal, 2023 -
- Associate Editor: Fiscal Studies, 2022 – 2023
- Guest Editor: International Tax and Public Finance, 2022 – 2023
- Co-Chair of the Scientific Committee for the International Institute of Public Finance Congress 2022
- Co-Organizer of the World Bank / IFS /ODI Tax Research Conference: 2019 -
- Program Committee Member for the National Tax Association Conference: 2017, 2021
- Referee: American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Review, American Economic Review: Insights, Econometrica, Economica, Economic Journal, European Economic Review, Fiscal Studies, International Organization, International Tax and Public Finance, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Housing Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, National Tax Journal, Oxford Review of Economic Policy, Quantitative Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies
- Grant review: British Academy, Swiss National Science Foundation, World Bank
- PhD examination: Andrea Lopez-Luzuriaga (George Washington University, 2020), Pablo Garriga (Brown University, 2022), Øivind Andre Aase Strand (NHH, 2023), Linda Wu (UCL, ongoing)

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

- Research Assistant to Tim Besley, Robin Burgess, Rohini Pande, 2010-2012
- Research Assistant, International Growth Centre, Bihar, India, July and Dec 2010
- Consultant on Libya, African Development Bank, Tunisia, July – Sept 2009
- Intern, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Ghana, Sept 2007 – Feb 2008
- Intern, German-Arab Chamber of Commerce, Cairo, July to Sept 2005

Languages: German (native); English, French, Spanish (fluent); Arabic (advanced)