

RACHID LAAJAJ

Assistant Professor in Economics
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EDUCATION

- 2012 Ph.D Wisconsin – Madison, Agricultural and Applied Economics
Dissertation obtained with highest distinction:
Agricultural, Financial and Behavioral Changes on the Path to Sustainable Technology Adoption in Rural Mozambique
Adviser: Michael R. Carter
- 2005 M.A. University of Clermont-Ferrand, Center for Study and Research in International Development (CERDI), Development Economics, 2005

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2015 - ... Assistant Professor in Economics, University of Los Andes
- 2012-2015 Postdoctoral Scholar at Paris School of Economics
- 2009 – 2011 Research Assistant and Project Coordinator “Savings, Subsidies and Sustainable Food Security: A Field Experiment in Mozambique”, project funded by BASIS AMA CRSP, U.S. Agency for International Development
- Dec 2007- Jan 2008 *Consultant*, World Bank Vietnam Country Office, Washington, D.C.
Main duty: Research
- Sept 2005- Aug 2007 *Consultant*, World Bank Independent Evaluation Group, Washington, D.C.
Main duty: Research

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

"Endogenous Time Horizon and Behavioral Poverty Trap: Theory and Evidence from Mozambique" *Journal of Development Economics* (2017).

[“Oil, Governance and the \(Mis\)Allocation of Talents in Developing Countries”](#) (with Christian Ebeke and Luc Désiré Omgba), *Journal of Development Economics*, 2015; 114, p126-141

[“The Impact of Voucher Coupons on the Uptake of Fertilizer and Improved Seeds: Evidence from a Randomized Trial in Mozambique.”](#) (with Carter, M.R., and D. Yang) *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 2013, v. 95 - 5.

[“Disasters, Climate Change and Economic Development in Sub-Saharan Africa: Lessons and Directions”](#) (with A. Chhibber), *Journal of African Economies* 2008; 17: ii7-ii49

RACHID LAAJAJ

WORKING PAPERS

Measuring Skills in Developing Countries 2017, Policy Research Working Paper; No. 8000. World Bank, Washington, DC. World Bank; with Karen Macours

“Subsidies and the Persistence of Technology Adoption: Field Experiment Evidence from Mozambique”, NBER Working Paper with Michael R. Carter and Dean Yang

Directed vs. Enabling Interventions: A Study of Fertilizer Subsidies and Savings in Rural Mozambique with Michael R. Carter and Dean Yang

“Training Spillovers among Competition and Under-provision of a Profitable Technology: Theory and Evidence from a Field Experiment in Mozambique” with Michael R. Carter and Dean Yang

“Can Matched Savings Stimulate Asset Accumulation? Theory and Evidence from a Field Experiment in Mozambique” with Michael R. Carter and Dean Yang

“When Instability Increases the Effectiveness of Aid Projects” (with P. Guillaumont), World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 4034

“Toward a Global Development Index, Axiomatic Approach and Extension of the HDI” (with Ajay Chhibber)

CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES

[Learning-by-doing and learning from-others: evidence from agronomical trials in Kenya](#). In “de Janvry, A., Sadoulet, E., and Suri, T. (2017) "Field Experiments in Developing Country Agriculture", Handbook of Economic Field Experiments, vol2, April 2017”, with Karen Macours

[Securing Against Natural Disasters: Better Preparedness and Better Development](#). In: Mavrotas, G. *Security and development* 2012 Edward Elgar Pub p.171-207, with Ajay Chhibber.

The Inter-linkages Between Natural Disasters and Economic Development. In: Guha, S. and Santos, I. *The Economic Impacts of Natural Disasters* Oxford *Oxford University Press* 2012, with Ajay Chhibber.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2016-	Development Seminar (undergraduate level)
Spring 2016	University of Los Andes

RACHID LAAJAJ

Fall 2015 – Fall 2017	Introduction to Econometrics (undergraduate level) University of Los Andes
Fall 2012, 2013 and 2014	Microeconomics Graduate Level (lecturer) PPD (Public Policy and Development) at Paris School of Economics

MAJOR RESEARCH GRANTS

USD 257,527	World Bank LSMS-ISA 2016-2017 “Skills measurement, reliability and validity application to Nicaragua” (co-PI with Karen Macours)
GBP 385,736	ESRC DFID 2014-2016 “Heterogeneous quality of agricultural commercial inputs and learning through experimentation” (co-PI with Karen Macours)
USD 196,229	World Bank LSMS-ISA 2012-2014 “Skills measurement and their role in agricultural productivity and technology adoption” (co-PI with Karen Macours)
USD 137,374	BASIS AMA CRSP, U.S. Agency for International Development, 2011 “Savings, Subsidies, and Sustainable Food Security in Mozambique: PostHarvest Survey” (with Michael R. Carter and Dean Yang)
USD 947,658	BASIS AMA CRSP, U.S. Agency for International Development, 2009-2011 “Savings, Subsidies, and Sustainable Food Security: A Field Experiment in Mozambique” (with Michael R. Carter and Dean Yang)

AWARDS

2014	EUDN (European Development Research Network) Associate Member
2013	Henry C. Taylor Award for Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation, University of Wisconsin-Madison Dept. Ag. & App. Econ
2012	3 rd price at the IBES (International Behavioral Economic Section) student paper competition at the AAEA meetings.
2011-2012	Louis and Elsa Thomsen Distinguished Graduate Fellowship, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2007-2008	University Fellowship, University of Wisconsin-Madison

REFEREE REPORTS:

RACHID LAAJAJ

Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Development Economics, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Agricultural Economics, Journal of African Economies.

PROPOSAL REVIEWS:

3IE
BASIS (USAid)
I2I (DIME, World Bank)
SPIA (CGIAR)

LANGUAGES

Fluent in French, English, Spanish, Portuguese and Arabic

INVITED SEMINARS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

2016:

RCT evidence from agronomical trials in Kenya (co-organizer of the workshop)
“Skills: Measurement, dynamics and effects”, LACEA Labor Network 4th Annual Meeting, Cartagena
“Understanding the Productivity Gap in Latin America” workshop organized by CAF in Buenos Aires
National Bureau of Economic Research, “The Economics of Asset Accumulation and Poverty Traps”, Washington DC

2015:

EUDN Scientific Conference, ESOP University of Oslo
60th ISI World Statistics Congress, Rio
Improving productivity in developing countries: identifying bottlenecks and obstacles to productive investments and technology adoption, ESRC, IFS, Goodenough College, London
Paris School of Economics
University of Los Andes
University of Carlos III Madrid
IFPRI, Washington DC
Australian National University
CSAE Oxford University

2014:

Oxford Development Economics Workshop
MIEDC in University of Minnesota
University of California Davis
University of San Francisco
University of California San Diego
Paris School of Economics
Annual Bank Conference on Africa (World Bank)

RACHID LAAJAJ

NEUDC in Boston

2013:

BREAD 24th conference in Development Economics, at the WB in Washington DC
EUDN (European Union Development Network) in Namur,
Center for the Study of African Economies in Oxford,
Midwest International Economic Development Conference at UW Madison,
Paris School of Economics
ATAI partnership Development Conference at Berkeley

2012:

IFPRI in Washington DC
PacDev at UC Davis
Eastern Economic Association Meetings in Boston
World Bank Development Impact Evaluation Group in Nairobi Kenya.
AAEA IBES (International and Behavioral Economics Section) in Seattle
International Conference for Agricultural Economists in Foz do Iguacu, Brazil
Workshop on Agricultural Productivity in Africa at Paris School of Economics
NEUDC at Dartmouth College

2011:

Paris School of Economics
UW Madison
UC Davis

REFERENCES

Michael Carter (PhD Supervisor)
Professor at University of California Davis
and Director of BASIS Innovation Lab

Dean Yang
Associate Professor at University of
Michigan, Department of Economics
Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy

Karen Macours (Post-Doc Supervisor)
Professor at Paris School of Economics

Sylvie Lambert
Professor and Associate Chair at Paris
School of Economics