

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & POLITICAL SCIENCE

Department of Economics

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GENDER: Female

CITIZENSHIP: French

PRE-DOCTORAL STUDIES

2014-2016	Master of Research in Economics <i>with Merit</i> London School of Economics & Political Science, London, UK
2010-2011	M.A. in International and Development Economics <i>cum laude</i> Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA
2007-2010	BSc. in Philosophy and Economics <i>cum laude</i> London School of Economics & Political Science, London, UK

DOCTORAL STUDIES

2016-2021 London School of Economics
Thesis title: "**Essays in Development Economics**"
Expected completion date: May 2021

THESIS ADVISORS AND REFERENCES

Prof. Oriana Bandiera Department of Economics London School of Economics Houghton Street, WC2A 2AE London, UK o.bandiera@lse.ac.uk	Prof. Robin Burgess Department of Economics London School of Economics Houghton Street, WC2A 2AE London, UK r.burgess@lse.ac.uk	Prof. Nava Ashraf Department of Economics London School of Economics Houghton Street, WC2A 2AE London, UK n.ashraf1@lse.ac.uk
Dr. Gharad Bryan Department of Economics London School of Economics Houghton Street, WC2A 2AE London, UK g.bryan@lse.ac.uk	Dr. Rachael Meager Department of Economics London School of Economics Houghton Street, WC2A 2AE London, UK r.meager@lse.ac.uk	

DESIRED TEACHING AND RESEARCH

Primary Fields: Development Economics

Secondary Fields: Labor Economics, Family Economics

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2020	Empirical Methods for Public Policy – Teaching Fellow <i>Executive Master of Public Administration and Policy, LSE</i>
2019	Introduction to Statistics – Teaching Fellow <i>Executive Master of Public Administration and Policy, LSE</i>
2019	Introduction to Mathematics and Statistics – Lecturer <i>Master of Public Administration and Policy, LSE</i>
2019	Development Economics – Teaching Fellow <i>Executive Master of Public Administration and Policy, LSE</i>
2018	Extended Essay Surgeries – Teaching Fellow <i>MSc. Economics, LSE</i>
2016-2018	Development Economics – Graduate Teaching Assistant <i>Undergraduate (3rd year), LSE</i>
2017	Development Economics – Graduate Teaching Assistant <i>Undergraduate Summer School, LSE</i>
2017	Higher Education Teaching Certification – PGCertHE (Associate Level) <i>Teaching and Learning Centre, LSE</i>

RELEVANT POSITIONS HELD

2019-2020	Research Officer <i>Gender, Growth and Labour Markets in Low-Income Countries (G²LM/LIC)</i> <i>LSE/IZA – London, UK</i>
2015-2016	Research Assistant to Prof. Stephen Machin and Dr. Shqiponja Telhaj <i>Centre for Economic Performance, LSE – London, UK</i>
2014	Research Assistant to Dr. Julia Cajal-Grossi and Prof. Christopher Woodruff <i>University of Warwick – UK</i>
2013-2014	Research Assistant to Prof. Tavneet Suri <i>MIT Sloan School of Management – Cambridge, MA, USA</i>
2013-2014	Research Officer <i>Private Enterprise Development in Low-Income Countries (PEDL)</i> <i>Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) – London, UK</i>
2011-2013	Project Coordinator on an RCT (PIs: Esther Duflo, Tavneet Suri, and Daniel Keniston) <i>Innovations for Poverty Action – Kigali, Rwanda</i>

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2018	LSE Student-led Teaching Excellence Award for Feedback and Communication
2018	LSE Class Teacher Award (Department of Economics)
2017	LSE Class Teacher Award (Department of Economics)
2017	IPUMS-International Research Award, Best Unpublished Work by a Graduate Student
2014-2018	PhD Scholarship – Economic and Social Research Council, LSE Doctoral Training Centre

LANGUAGES

French (native), English (proficient), Spanish (intermediate), German (basic)

COMPLETED PAPERS

Job Market Paper: "Defusing a Population Explosion? Jobs and Fertility in sub-Saharan Africa"

Over three-quarters of global population growth between now and 2100 is expected to occur in sub-Saharan Africa. This paper leverages micro data from 153 reproductive health surveys to shed light on a macro puzzle: fertility rates in sub-Saharan Africa are exceptionally high conditional on GDP per capita. I establish an important empirical fact: the relationship between income and desired fertility is on average steeper in sub-Saharan Africa relative to other regions. I hypothesize that the main reason for the poor to have a higher demand for children in sub-Saharan Africa is that they face especially limited job opportunities. A simple quantity-quality model of fertility choice featuring a human capital threshold for entry into salaried employment predicts that a poverty trap can arise where the poor are stuck in a high fertility, low-wage equilibrium, in which they also under-invest in their children's education relative to richer households. Rich micro data assembled from reproductive health surveys, censuses and household expenditure surveys provide empirical support for the model's assumptions and predictions. The results suggest that differences in labor market opportunities across the income distribution represent a key driver of sub-Saharan Africa's exceptional fertility trend.

OTHER PAPERS

"The Impacts of Free Primary Education on Female Labor Market Participation: Evidence from 1,300,000 Women in Sub-Saharan Africa"

IPUMS-International Research Award for Best Unpublished Work by a Graduate Student

This paper uses IPUMS micro-census data from Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia to evaluate the effects of the Free Primary Education (FPE) reforms on the education levels, employment status and choices of occupation of women in these countries. The methodology exploits variation in exposure to the reform across birth cohorts and locations of birth to construct a differences-in-differences approach. The findings suggest that the reforms increased female years of schooling and literacy rates in all three countries. The abolition of primary school fees is also associated with a decrease in fertility, an increase in labour force participation, and a rise in women's propensity to migrate from their region of birth. However, the analysis reveals striking differences across these countries in terms of occupational choice effects. In Malawi and Zambia, the reform is associated with a shift away from agriculture as women's primary sector of occupation and into wage employment (especially in retail and public services), whereas in Tanzania the results suggest that, conditional on being employed, the FPE reform led to higher participation in agricultural work and a lower probability of working for a wage.

"Technology and Development" (with Menna Bishop and Robin Burgess)

While the relationship between technology and productivity is at the core of many economic models, the field of research on the role of technology in development remains small. In this chapter, we provide an overview of the channels through which technology stands to impact development, focusing on six areas: firms, trade and infrastructure; labour markets and structural change; energy and environment; state capacity and public sector delivery; health and education; financial technologies. We uncover why developing countries often lag far behind more developed ones in their adoption of certain improved practices, despite their widely purported benefits, and consider the extent to which

lessons learned from developed countries can be carried over to those at earlier stages in the structural change process. This includes a discussion of the importance of behavioural factors, information constraints and lack of complementary infrastructure investments in inhibiting the diffusion of technologies among firms and households. Important attention will also be paid to how technology can be harnessed to guarantee sustainability, enabling countries to leapfrog past old dirty forms of production, transportation and energy generation. Throughout, the chapter makes it clear that there is significant room for both economists and the engineering community to make a vital contribution to the future of development policy.

"Chat Over Coffee? Technology Diffusion Through Social and Geographic Networks in Rwanda"

(with Esther Duflo, Tavneet Suri and Daniel Keniston) [[IPA project description](#)]

This paper contributes to building evidence on why farmers adopt some agricultural technologies and not others, and how knowledge and adoption of these technologies spread through social networks. We partner with a leading NGO in Rwanda to evaluate the impact of an agronomy training program on small-scale farmers' adoption of agronomic practices and quantify the diffusion of these effects through their social and geographic networks. We randomly assign half of the applicants to the trainings in one small geographical unit (sector) and track the diffusion of the impacts of the program through detailed social network data collection over the course of three years.