

REMI C. JEDWAB

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS AND PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Professor of Economics & International Affairs, George Washington University
Department of Economics and Elliott School of International Affairs (ESIA) 2023-

Director of the Institute for International Economic Policy (IIEP), ESIA

Director of the ESIA Initiative on Climate Change and Sustainable Cities 2023-

co-Director of the ESIA Local Sustainable Governance Lab 2024-

Institute for International Economic Policy: <https://iiep.gwu.edu/>

IIEP serves as a catalyst for high-quality, multi-disciplinary research to improve local, national, and global policy in business, development, finance, poverty, sustainability, science, technology, and trade. IIEP has 60 faculty affiliates spread across departments and schools, 2 employees, and 35 student staff. IIEP hosted 150 events in 2022-2025. IIEP supports faculty with funding, by providing research assistants and grant support, and by helping publicize their work to various audiences.

Local Sustainable Governance Lab: <https://iiep.gwu.edu/local-sustainable-governance-lab>

The Policy Lab focuses on enhancing local governance's role in addressing climate change and sustainability challenges. Led by 15 core faculty from various disciplines at ESIA, the Lab's primary goal is to make local governance around the world an effective force for measurable progress in the area of climate change and sustainability. Recognizing that most climate action happens at the local level, the initiative seeks to overcome the significant challenges local policymakers face, such as data management, system coordination, and just infrastructure development.

Visiting Professor, SMU Urban Institute at Singapore Management University 2025-

Affiliated Scholar, Marron Institute of Urban Management at New York University (NYU) 2019-

Associate Professor of Economics and International Affairs, GWU, 2016–2023

Assistant Professor of Economics and International Affairs, GWU, 2012– 2016

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, Paris School of Economics-EHESS*, 2012

Visiting Fellow, LSE, Department of Economics, 2008-2012 (job market candidate, PSE and LSE)

M.A. in Economics, Paris School of Economics-EHESS*, 2007

BSc in Economics, University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, 2005

* Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales

RESEARCH FIELDS AND KEYWORDS

Fields: Urban & Regional Economics; Development & Growth; Environmental Economics; Real Estate Economics

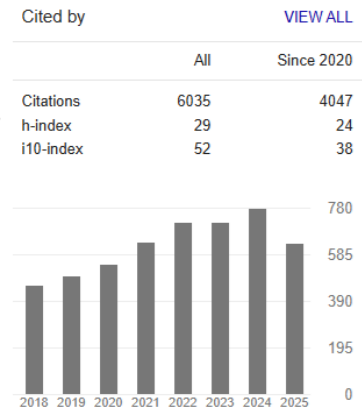
Keywords: urbanization, construction, urban technology, municipal and regional governance, land use regulations, height restrictions, city growth, urban decline, urban renewal, urban inequality, resilience, housing and neighborhoods, commercial real estate and firms, vertical development, sprawl, urban sustainability, climate change, environmental change, pollution, spatial models, remote sensing technology, satellite mapping, Big Data, water and development, human capital, education, labor markets, demography, transport infrastructure, trade, economic history.

RESEARCH SCORES AND CITATIONS

REPEC IDEAS for economists - Authors10 score (publications last 10 years, since PhD in 2012) = 18.91, ranked **#14 in the District of Columbia** and #1 at GWU: see <https://ideas.repec.org/top/top.usa-dc.html>

GOOGLE SCHOLAR citations = **6,035**. Since 2020 = 4,047

See: scholar.google.com/citations?user=QrSpg2oAAAAJ&hl=en&oi=sra



ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS (N = 28)

28 publications in peer-reviewed journals. Publications (by chronological order):

28. Thomas Esch, Klaus Deininger, Remi Jedwab and Daniela Palacios-Lopez. 2025. “Outward and Upward Construction: A 3D Analysis of the Global Building Stock”, forthcoming in **World Development**.

27. Remi Jedwab, Elena Ianchovichina & Federico Haslop. 2025. “Consumption Cities vs. Production Cities: New Considerations and Evidence”, forthcoming in **World Development**.

26. Remi Jedwab, Brian Blankespoor, Takaaki Masaki and Carlos Rodriguez. “Estimating the Spillover Economic Effects of Foreign Conflict: Evidence from Boko Haram and its Impact on Trade and Cities”, forthcoming in **World Development**.

25. Mathieu Couttenier, Lucile Laugerette and Remi Jedwab. “Climate Change, Groundwater and Conflict: Evidence from sub-Saharan Africa”, forthcoming in the **World Bank Economic Review**.

24. Roberto Samaniego, Remi Jedwab, Paul Romer & Asif Islam. 2024. “Scars of Pandemics from Lost Schooling and Experience: Aggregate Implications and Gender Differences Through the Lens of COVID-19”, forthcoming in the **Journal of Economic Growth**

23. Remi Jedwab, Paul Romer, Asif Islam & Roberto Samaniego. 2023 “Human Capital Accumulation at Work: Estimates and Implications for Long-Run Economic Growth”, **American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics**, 15: 191-223.

22. Remi Jedwab and Jason Barr. “Vertical Urban Development Gaps in Global and Historical Perspective”, **Real Estate Economics**, 00, 1–35. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1540-6229.12436>

21. Remi Jedwab, Mark Koyama & Noel Johnson. 2024 “Pandemics and Cities: Evidence from the Black Death”, **Journal of Urban Economics**, Volume 139. 103628.

20. Marina Gindelsky & Remi Jedwab. 2023. “Killer Cities and Industrious Cities? New Data and Evidence on 250 Years of Urban Growth”. **Journal of Economic Geography**. Volume 23, Issue 1, Pages 179–208

19. Jason Barr, Jan Brueckner & Remi Jedwab. 2022. “Cities Without Skylines: Worldwide Building-Height Gaps and their Possible Determinants and Implications”, **Journal of Urban Economics**, Vol. 132, 103507.

18. Remi Jedwab, Prakash Loungani & Anthony Yezer. 2021. “Comparing Cities in Developed and Developing Countries: Population, Land Area, Building Height and Crowding”, **Regional Science and**

Urban Economics, Volume 86, 103609.

17. Remi Jedwab, Daniel Pereira & Mark Roberts. 2021. “Cities of Workers, Children, or Seniors: Age Structure and Economic in a Global Cross-Section of Cities”, **Regional Science and Urban Economics**, Volume 87, 103610.
16. Remi Jedwab & Adam Storeygard. 2021. “The Average and Heterogeneous Effects of Transportation Investments: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa 1960-2010”, **Journal of the European Economic Association**, jvab027.
15. Remi Jedwab, Amjad Khan, Jason Russ & Esha Dilip Zaveri. 2021. “Pandemics, Migration and Social Cohesion: Lessons from the Past for Policy Responses to COVID-19”, **World Development**, Volume 147.
14. Remi Jedwab, Felix Meier zu Selhausen & Alexander Moradi. 2021 “The Economics of Missionary Expansion: Evidence from Africa and Implications for Development”, Forthcoming in the **Journal of Economic Growth**.
13. Remi Jedwab, Felix Meier zu Selhausen & Alexander Moradi. 2021. “Christianization without Economic Development: Evidence from Ghana”, **Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization**, Volume 190, 2021, Pages 573-596.
12. Remi Jedwab, Mark Koyama & Noel Johnson. 2021. “The Economic Impact of the Black Death”, forthcoming in the **Journal of Economic Literature**.
11. Remi Jedwab, Mark Koyama & Noel Johnson. 2020. “Medieval Cities Through the Lens of Urban Economic Theories”, **Regional Science and Urban Economics**, 103598.
10. Remi Jedwab & Dietrich Vollrath, 2019. "The Urban Mortality Transition and Poor-Country Urbanization," **American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics**, American Economic Association, vol. 11(1), pages 223-275, January.
9. Remi Jedwab, Mark Koyama & Noel Johnson. “Negative Shocks and Mass Persecutions: Evidence from the Black Death”, 2019. **Journal of Economic Growth**, Springer, vol. 24(4), pages 345-395, December.
8. Remi Jedwab & Adam Storeygard. 2019. “Economic and Political Factors in Infrastructure Investment: Evidence from Railroads and Roads in Africa 1960–2015”, **Economic History of Developing Regions**, Economic History of Developing Regions, 34:2, 156-208.
7. Remi Jedwab, Kerby, E. and Moradi, A. 2017, History, Path Dependence and Development: Evidence from Colonial Railways, Settlers and Cities in Kenya. **The Economic Journal**, 127: 1467-1494.
6. Remi Jedwab, Christiaensen, L. and Gindelsky, M., 2017. "Demography, urbanization and development: Rural push, urban pull and...urban push?" **Journal of Urban Economics**, Elsevier, vol. 98(C), pages 6-16.
5. Remi Jedwab & Alexander Moradi, 2016. "The Permanent Effects of Transportation Revolutions in Poor Countries: Evidence from Africa," **The Review of Economics and Statistics**, vol. 98(2), pp. 268-284, May.
4. Douglas Gollin & Remi Jedwab & Dietrich Vollrath, 2016. "Urbanization with and without industrialization," **Journal of Economic Growth**, Springer, vol. 21(1), pages 35-70, March.
3. Robin Burgess, Remi Jedwab, Edward Miguel, Ameet Morjaria and Gerard Padro-i-Miguel. 2015. “The Value of Democracy: Evidence from Road Building in Kenya”, **American Economic Review** Vol. 105 (6): 1817-51.
2. Jedwab, Remi and Vollrath, Dietrich, (2015), Urbanization without growth in historical perspective,

Explorations in Economic History, 58, issue C, p. 1-21.

1. Denis Cogneau and Remi Jedwab. 2012. “Commodity Price Shocks and Child Outcomes: The 1990 Cocoa Crisis in Cote d'Ivoire” **Economic Development and Cultural Change** 60(3) 507-534.

WORKING PAPERS (N = 11; including 2 R&Rs)

1. Remi Jedwab, Gabriel Ahlfeldt and Nathaniel Baum-Snow. “The Skyscraper Revolution: Global Economic Development and Land Savings”, **R&R at the Review of Economic Studies**.

2. Remi Jedwab and Jason Barr. “The American (Housing) Dream? U.S. vs. Worldwide Construction Patterns in Global Building Volume Data”

3. Thomas Esch, Klaus Deininger, Remi Jedwab and Pedro Rodriguez. “The Spatial Distribution of Building Volumes in 7,000 World Cities: Global Data and Old and New Stylized Facts”

4. Remi Jedwab and Mark Roberts. “Don’t Look Up? Future Climate Change and Durable Construction”

5. Remi Jedwab and Jingwen Zheng. “Urban Renewal and Long-Run Economic Development”

6. Remi Jedwab and Mark Roberts. “Urban Fertility, Migration, and City Growth”

7. Remi Jedwab, Paul Romer, Asif Islam & Roberto Samaniego. “Returns to Experience and the Sectoral Misallocation of Labor across Sectors, Occupations, and Rural and Urban Locations”.

8. Luc Christiaensen, Elena Ianchovichina and Remi Jedwab. “The Agrifood System’s Role in Global Urban Employment and Structural Change”

9. Remi Jedwab, Roman David Zarate, Federico Haslop, and Carlos Rodriguez. “Lakes and Economic Development: Evidence from the Permanent Shrinking of Lake Chad”. **2nd round R&R at the Review of Economic Studies**.

10. Remi Jedwab, Carlos Rodríguez-Castelán, Kathryn Nicholson and Roman Zarate. “Climate Change, Structural Change and International Migration to the U.S.: Evidence from Corridor Seco in Four Central American Countries”

11. Remi Jedwab and Bruno Conte. “Quantifying the Future Effects of Climate Change on sub-Saharan Africa’s Regional Lake Economies”

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS (N = 7)

1. Gabriel Ahlfeldt and Remi Jedwab. “Public Skyline Investments and Trade-Oriented Growth”

2. Gabriel Ahlfeldt and Remi Jedwab. “Vertical Urban Development and Urban Sustainability: Global Empirical Evidence on Tall Building Construction, Air Pollution, and Carbon Emissions”

3. Remi Jedwab. “Tall Building Construction, Gentrification, and Urban Inequality”

4. Remi Jedwab. “Subway Expansions and Tall Buildings: Complements or Substitutes?”

5. Thomas Esch, Klaus Deininger and Remi Jedwab. “3D Mapping the World 2015-2024”

6. Remi Jedwab and Jason Barr. “Global Network Effects in Tall Building Construction”

7. Remi Jedwab and Pedro Rodriguez. “The Long-Term Global Effects of Earthquakes on Vertical Urban Development”

BOOK CHAPTERS (N = 6)

1. Roberts et al. 2025. Sub-Saharan Africa's urbanization mega-trends and their links with economic growth and job creation. Chapter 1 of the World Bank *Urbanization Flagship Report for Sub-Saharan Africa*.
2. Remi Jedwab et al. 2021. *Lake Chad Regional Economic Memorandum: Development for Peace*. Analytical Papers 2 and 3. The World Bank.
3. Remi Jedwab. 2020. "The Economic Value of Sustainable Urbanization: Inclusive Prosperity and Opportunities for all". 3rd chapter of the *World Cities Report 2020* of UN-Habitat.
4. Asif Islam, Remi Jedwab, Paul Romer and Daniel Pereira. 2018 "Returns to Experience and Labor Misallocation". Results summarized in the 4th chapter of the 2019 *World Development Report* of The World Bank edited by Asif Islam and Paul Romer ("*The Changing Nature of Work*").
5. Remi Jedwab and Robert Darko Osei. 2017. "Is Structural Change Different in Sub-Saharan Africa? New Historical Evidence from Ghana", edited by Margaret McMillan, Laura Wallace and Dani Rodrik in *Structural Transformation in Developing countries*. Washington D.C.: The World Bank
6. Remi Jedwab and Alexander Moradi. 2017. "Colonial Railroad and Roads and African Underdevelopment", edited by Stelios Michalopoulos and Elias Papaioannou in *The Long Economic Shadow of History*. VOX E-book

EDITORIAL BOARDS

- Co-Editor, *World Bank Economic Review*, 2024- (sustainability portfolio)
- Editorial Advisory Board, *World Development*, 2025- (specializations: Urbanization, Global Cities, Housing, Construction, Sustainability, Environmental Change, Demography)
- Associate Editor, *Journal of Urban Economics*, 2018-
- Associate Editor, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 2018-

SELCTED OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

My World Bank funded projects are instead listed at the end of the CV.

Total money raised \$896,904 (does not include World Bank funded projects = \$270,000):

Institute for International Economic Policy, Executive Circle, endowments, and other donor-funded initiatives - \$175,000 x 3 years = \$525,000 – 2024-2025, 2023-2024. 2022-2023

GW-ESIA Labs competition \$90,000 - Local Sustainable Governance Lab, 2024-2027

Generations Dialogue \$11,000 for the IIEP Fellows Program (thanks to J. Brinkerhoff), 2025

GW Cross-Disciplinary Research Fund \$39,000 - The Nexus between Cities, Climate Change and Sustainability, 2024-2025

Institute for Humane Studies \$5,000 – Sustainable Cities, 2024-2025 (with Tanner Regan)

GW University Seminar Series \$4,000 – Data Science & Urban Governance, 2024-2025 (Ibid.)

Institute for Humane Studies \$2,200 - The American (Housing) Dream - 2024-2025

GW CIBER \$12,884 - Skyscrapers, Trade, and Structural Change, 2024-2025

GW University Seminar Series \$4,000 – Sustainable Cities, 2023-2024,

GW University Seminar Series \$8,000 – Water and Economic Development, 2023-2024, 2024-2025 (with Alicia Cooperman)
Institute for Humane Studies \$3,000 – Land-Use Regulation in US Cities, 2023-2024
Institute for Humane Studies \$4,000 - Urban Renewal in Hong Kong, 2023-2024 (with J. Zheng)
Institute for Humane Studies \$7,000 - Sustainable Cities, 2023-2024 (with T. Regan)
GW ESIA Governance and International Affairs Fund \$10,000 (with E. Lagadec), 2023-2024
GW University Seminar Series \$4,000 – Sustainable Cities, 2022-2023
GW ESIA Supplemental Research Award \$1,900 – Urban Renewal in Hong Kong, 2022-2023
STEG Small Research Grant, \$20,120 – Climate Change in Africa, 2022-2023 (with Bruno Conte)
International Growth Center \$20,000 – Quantifying Land Use Regulation Globally, 2020-2022
PhD Advising Award (for A. Sahay), International Center for Research on Women, \$750, 2020
GW ESIA Supplemental Research Award \$1,200, 2019-2020
GW-CIBER Professional Development Funding Award \$600, 2019
World Bank Economic Review Excellence in Refereeing Award, 2018, 2020-2024
International Monetary Fund. Urbanization in Low-Income Countries Program \$25,000, 2017-18.
GWU Shapiro Policy Research Scholars \$12,000, 2016-2017
International Growth Center \$20,000, 2016-2017
GWU-David H. Miller Memorial Endowment grant \$10,000, 2015-2016
World Bank Transportation in Developing Countries Program \$20,000, 2015-2016
World Bank Urbanization in Developing Countries Program – LSE \$24,000, 2014-2015
GWU-SOAR grant \$4,000, Elliott School of International Affairs, 2015-2016
GWU-SOAR grant \$7,000, Elliott School of International Affairs, 2012-2013
PSE Research Grant \$2,000, 2011

TEACHING

- Urban Economics (“Urban Land Use”), Master and PhD Level, preparation of an online Efd course for the University of Cape Town and CATIE in Costa Rica, November-December 2020
- Urban Economics (“Urban Land Use”), Master and PhD Level, African Economic Research Consortium, Kenya School of Monetary Studies and World Bank – Nairobi (Kenya), July 2019
- Urban Economics (“Urban Land Use”), Master and PhD Level, University of Cape Town and World Bank – South Africa, Cape Town (South Africa), January 2018, January 2019
- Transportation and Urban Economics (“Welfare Effects of Transportation and Urbanization”), PhD Level, Summer School of The World Bank, Washington D.C., July 2017
- Urban Economics (“The Economics of Cities”), Master and PhD Level, Summer School of the Universidad de los Andes, Bogota (Colombia), June 2017
- Public Economics (“Infrastructure Economics”), Master and PhD Level, African School of Economics (Cotonou, Benin), May 2016, *Pro bono publico*
- Development Economics, PhD Level, GWU, 2012-2022
- Economics of Sub-Saharan Africa, Undergraduate Level, GWU, 2015-2018
- Development Economics (Survey of Economic Development), Master Level, GWU, 2012-

- Development Economics (Intermediate Development Economics), Master Level, GWU, 2020-
- Microeconomic Principles I, Undergraduate Level, LSE, 2008-2009

SELECTED CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS AND PARTICIPATIONS

Total = About 300 in the past decade

- 2026 (N = 5) American University, World Bank-GWU-IGC-JHU conference on Urbanization and Poverty Reduction (DC), UC-Louvain, SMU, World Bank-GWU-SMU-Jinan conference on Urbanization and Poverty Reduction (Singapore Management University)
- 2025 (N = 9) AREUEA (ASSA, San Francisco), World Bank-GWU Workshop on “Flooding and Cities”, World Bank-GWU-IGC conference on Urbanization and Poverty Reduction (Cape Town, South Africa), University of Maryland, World Bank-KDI School Development Impact Conference, University of Geneva, HEC Lausanne, University of Luxembourg (Economics), University of Luxembourg (Finance)
- 2024 (N = 18) University of Connecticut, PUC-Rio (Brazil), NUS (Singapore), SMU (Singapore), Cities Conference (JHU-SAIS), AREUEA Seminar (online), AREUEA (DC), OSU, Alabama, APPAM (DC), Spatial Economic Development Conference (St-Gallen), World Bank, World Bank Land and Poverty conference, World Bank Workshop on Private and New Cities, UEA (Georgetown), UIUC, Toronto, World Bank-GWU-UVA Conference on The Economics of Sustainable Development
- 2023 (N = 17) Workshop in Urban and Regional Economics (Javeriana, Colombia), World Bank-GWU Urbanization and Poverty Reduction Conference, World Bank-GWU Workshop on Urban Public Finance, World Bank-GWU Workshop on The Economics of Slums, UCLA, HKUST (Hong Kong), HKU (Hong Kong), WADES (GWU), Peking University, Fordham, AREUEA (DC), Columbia, PSU/FRB Conference on Frictions in Real Estate and Infrastructure Investment, UNU-WIDER (Helsinki), World Bank-GWU-UVA Conference on The Economics of Sustainable Development, AREUEA (San Antonio)
- 2022 (N = 10) World Bank Climate Change and Cities Workshop, World Bank Human Capital Workshop, George Washington University (Political Science), USC Price, WADES (UVA), IGC, Oxford University, NBER Urban SI, UVA, UEA (World Bank)
- 2021 (N = 12) Groningen University, Geneva Macro-History Seminar (co-presenter), World Bank Workshop on Land in Africa (discussant), William & Mary, WADES, World Bank Workshop on the Lake Chad Basin, World Bank Economics of Conflict Workshop, World Bank Workshop on the LAC Flagship, George Mason (Policy School), World Bank Climate Change and Natural Disasters Workshop, Eighth International Annual Workshop of New Structural Economics (Beijing)
- 2020 (N = 17) ASSA (Session Organizer), IDB Housing and Urban Development Workshop, UCI, World Bank Land Conference (cancelled), Economic Demography Workshop (cancelled), WADES (cancelled), Korea University (cancelled), Seoul National University (cancelled), Toulouse School of Economics, GWU (Discussant), NBER SI Real Estate Economics

- Workshop, NBER SI Urban Economics Workshop, World Bank BBLx2, GWU (Chair of Session), Roundtable on the World Cities Report of UN-Habitat 2020 (Nairobi)
- 2019 (N = 25) Stellenbosch (South Africa), World Bank BBL (discussion of “Order without Design: How Markets Shape Cities” by A. Bertaud), Eastern Economic Association Meetings (New York), Columbia University (Zoom), World Bank – The Future of Cities, Cities Mini-Conference (JHU-SAIS/Harvard), World Bank Land Conference (session chair), Chapman University, UC-San Diego, UC-Irvine, GWU WALES conference, GWU WADES conference (co-organizer), CEPR Economic History conference (Venice, Italy), AREUEA (DC), Land Governance Workshop (KMUS, Nairobi), NBER SI Urban Economics Workshop, George Mason-Georgetown Economic History Workshop, World Bank-GWU Urbanization Conference, World Bank Workshop on “Measuring Cities: The Promise of Big Data”, Urban Economics Association (Philly FED), University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, World Bank Africa Region, World Bank Urban GP, UN-Habitat
- 2018 (N = 12) Stellenbosch (South Africa), University of Cape Town (South Africa), Flacso Ecuador (Quito), World Bank / Regional Academy, WADES (GWU), DC Urban Day (GWU), International Monetary Fund, World Bank-GWU Urbanization and Poverty Reduction Conference, William & Mary, Urban Economic Association Meetings (Columbia), NEUDC (Cornell), Syracuse, Pacifico (Peru),
- 2017 (N = 24) IMF Regional Economic Outlook for Africa at GWU (discussant), UVA, IEB Barcelona, Sussex, American University, Centre for Global Development, Paris Empirical Political Economy Seminar (Sciences Po and PSE), WADES (GMU), IFPRI (for book launch: Structural Change, Fundamentals, and Growth: A Framework and Case Studies), AREUEA (New York), Rosario & Los Andes (joint seminar), Pontificia Universidad Javeriana (Bogota), Urbanization without growth in the Ancient World (British School at Rome), George Mason Economic History Workshop, World Bank-George Washington University-IGC Cities Conference on Urbanization and Poverty Reduction, George Washington University, McGill, Universite de Montreal x 2, HEC Montreal, Dalhousie University, International Monetary Fund, Georgetown, San Andres (Argentina)
- 2016 (N = 30) ASSA Meetings (San Francisco, discussant), World Bank-Development Research Group, Maryland-AREC, Oxford University, IMF Regional Economic Outlook for Africa at GWU (discussant), 3rd World Bank-GWU Conference on Urbanization and Poverty Reduction, UPF-CREI, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa meetings on Urbanization and Industrialization (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia), Washington Area Development Economics Symposium (University of Virginia-CGD), Syracuse, GWU Conference on the Economics and Political Economy of Africa, BREAD Conference (Georgetown), Working Group in African Political Economy (GWU-World Bank-DIME), Harvard Urban Economics Conference, African School of Economics (Cotonou, Benin), CEPR Economic History Conference (Dublin, Ireland), African Econometrics Society Conference (Kruger, South Africa), UQAM (Montreal, Canada), Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia (CURE, Discussant), GWU India Conference (moderator), George Washington University, International Monetary Fund, Florida State University, World Bank (Poverty Global

Practice), Southern Methodist University, GWU China Conference (moderator), Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (Santiago, Chile), Brookings Africa Growth Initiative

- 2015 (N = 33) AEA- AREUEA (Boston), George Mason Economic History Mini-Conference, World Bank Transport Program, Universidad del Rosario (Bogota), Universidad de Los Andes (Bogota), ANU (Canberra), Conference on “New Perspectives on the Economic Impact of Canals and Railways”, UNSW (Sydney), GWU Inaugural Conference on India's Economy (Discussant), George Mason School of Public Policy, Washington Area Development Economics Symposium (WADES), Washington Area International Trade Symposium (WAITS - Discussant), GWU-IMF Africa Conference (Discussant), Georgetown, GWU Urban Day, USAID, AREUEA (New York), World Bank ABCDE Conference in Mexico City (Discussant), World Bank Transportation Programme, World Economic History Congress (Kyoto), The Urban Institute, GMU-GWU Economic History Workshop, Berkeley-Haas, CEPR Conference on Urban and Regional Economics (Basel, discussant), PODER Conference and CEPR Annual Symposium on Development Economics (UPF-Barcelona), OCDE African Economic Outlook (AEO) 2016 Experts’ Meeting on “Sustainable Cities and Structural Transformation in Africa” (Paris), GWU, IMF Workshop on Macroeconomic Policy and Income Inequality (discussant), Wharton, FGV-EESP (Sao Paulo), PUC-Rio (Rio de Janeiro)
- 2014 (N = 24) AEA (Philadelphia), George Mason Economic History Mini-Conference, Portland State University, UC-Irvine, UCLA (PACDEV), U.S. Department of State Analytic Exchange on Strategic Consequences of Urbanization in Africa, Washington Area Development Economics Symposium, IMF, GWU Urban Day, Empirical Methods in Economic History (CIDE – Mexico), International Economic Congress (Jordan), RSUE Workshop at PSE, World Bank BBL, NBER SI Urban Economics, GMU Economic History Workshop, Michigan, IFPRI, NYU (Urbanization Project), CURE (Brown), Climate Change: Do Cities Hold the Solution? (GWU), World Bank-GWU Conference on Urbanization and Poverty Reduction, IERES Lecture on Demography, Urbanization and Poverty Reduction, BBL Urban Development (UN ECLAC-World Bank)
- 2013 (N = 35) AEA (San Diego), UC Berkeley (Development Seminar), George Mason University (Economic History Seminar), World Bank (Africa Region - BBL), Georgetown University (Development Seminar), BREAD-World Bank Conference on Development in Sub-Saharan Africa, PACDEV Conference (SFSU), Brown University (Macroeconomics Seminar), American University, Tufts University (Development Seminar), University of Houston, McGill University (Development Seminar), World Bank (Africa Region - Workshop), Eastern Economic Association (New York), Georgetown (GCER), Washington Area Development Economics Symposium, World Bank-GWU Conference on Urbanization and Poverty Reduction, University Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne, Paris School of Economics, Society for Economic Dynamics (Yonsei University), George Mason University Economic History Workshop, NBER SI Political Economy, NBER SI Urban Economics, Columbia University (Development Seminar), Harvard University (Economic History Seminar), EHA Meetings, University of Stellenbosch, University of Cape Town, Wits University, University of Pretoria, Maryland, NEUDC, John Hopkins-SAIS, Urban Economic Association Meetings (Atlanta)

- 2012 (N = 17) RAND, NEUDC (Dartmouth), University of Virginia, IFPRI, GDN/EUDN Conference (Central European University), CEPR Development Economics Conference (Bocconi University), PSE (Lunch Seminar), World Bank Workshop on Structural Change in Developing Countries, LSE (SERC Annual Conference), RES Conference (Cambridge University), Oxford University (CSAE Conference), Warwick, George Washington University, World Bank FEU-DEC, CU-Boulder, UPF & CREI, CEMFI
- 2011 (N = 14) SAE (Malaga), NEUDC (Yale University), BREAD/CEPR/AMID Conference on Development Economics (PSE), Oxford University (CSAE Research Workshop), IGC Growth Week, Paris School of Economics (Lunch Seminar, CFDS Seminar), EUDN PhD Conference (Tinbergen Institute), Oxcarre Conference (Oxford University), Namur University (CRED Workshop), LSE (STICERD Work-in-Progress Seminar, EOPP, SERC), ABCDE World Bank Conference (OECD), CSAE Conference (Oxford University), Pacific-Development Conference (UC-Berkeley), Sussex University (Research in progress seminar)
- 2010 (N = 11) IGC Cities and Economic Growth in Developing Countries (LSE), IGC-AERC- NSF Agriculture Workshop (Mombasa), EUDN Scientific Conference (AFD), Oxford University (CSAE Research Workshop), Paris School of Economics (Lunch Seminar), Namur University (CRED Workshop), Second AMID Summer School (LSE), CEPR/AMID Conference on Development Economics (Stockholm University), African Economic History Workshop (LSE), TSE/WB Infrastructure and Development Conference (Toulouse School of Economics), LSE (EOPP Seminar)
- 2009 (N = 5) LSE (STICERD Development and Growth Internal Seminar), CEPR/BREAD/AMID Development Economics Conference (LSE), Paris School of Economics (Lunch Seminar), African Economic History Workshop (LSE), CEPR Development Economics (LSE)
- 2008 (N = 8) LSE (STICERD WIP Seminar), CEPR Development Economics Conference (LSE), UCW/WB Seminar (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid), Riccardo Faini Doctoral Conference on Development Economics (University of Milano), GDR CNRS (CERDI), Nordic Conference in Development Economics (Stockholm University), Paris School of Economics (Lunch Seminar), CSAE Conference (Oxford University)

ORGANIZED CONFERENCES / SESSIONS (*incl. scheduled*):

Co-founder and co-organizer of the “World Bank-GWU Conference on Urbanization and Poverty Reduction”, 2013, 2014, 2016 (with the NYU Urbanization Project), 2017 (with IGC Cities), 2018 (with the IMF and IGC), 2019 (with IADB and IGC), 2023 (with IGC), 2024 (with IGC and MCC), 2025 (Cape Town, South Africa; with the IGC and the city of Cape Town), 2026 (DC; with the IGC and JHU), 2027 (Singapore, with Singapore Management University and Jinan University)

Co-founder and co-organizer of the “World Bank-GWU-UVA Conference on The Economics of Sustainable Development”, 2023 (with UVA), 2024 (with UVA), 2025 (with UVA)

Selection Committee for the Urban Economic Association (UEA) Meetings, U. Chicago, 2026

Selection Committee for the Urban Economic Association (UEA) Meetings, UQAM, 2025

Co-organizer of the GW China conference, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026

Co-organizer of the GW India conference, 2024, 2025, 2026

Organizer of the World Bank-GWU Workshop Series on Sustainable Cities, Spring 2023 – “Urban Public Finance”, “Economics of Urban Inclusion / Slums”, Spring 2024 “Urban planning and local economic development”, “Local Externalities in Cities”, Fall 2024 “New Cities: government and private led initiatives”, Spring 2025 “Flooding and Cities”

Selection Committee for the Urban Economic Association (UEA) Meetings, Georgetown, 2024

Organizer of the GWU-World Bank Climate Change and Cities mini-event, Spring 2023

Selection Committee for the American Real Estate and Urban Economic Association (AREUEA) Meetings, San Antonio, 2024

Organizer of the World Bank-GWU Workshop on the Economics of Climate Change, 2021

Organizer of the World Bank-GWU Workshop on the Economics of Conflict, 2021

Session Organizer, “Local Shocks and Long-Run Persistence” for the American Economic Association Meetings (San Diego), 2020

Selection Committee for the Urban Economic Association Meetings, Columbia University, 2018 (Columbia University), 2019 (Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia)

Co-organizer of the World Bank Workshop on “Measuring Cities: The Promise of Big Data” 2019

Co-organizer of the “Conference on the Economics and Political Economy of Africa”, George Washington University, 2016

Co-organizer of the “Working Group in African Political Economy”, George Washington University & World Bank-DIME, 2016

Co-founder and co-organizer of the “Washington Area Development Economic Symposium”. First conference organized by George Washington University, 2013 (GWU), 2014 (University of Maryland), 2015 (Georgetown University), 2016 (University of Virginia-Centre for Global Development), 2017 (George Mason University), 2018 (George Washington University), 2019 (University of Maryland-Centre for Global Development), 2021 (Georgetown University), 2022 (University of Virginia), 2023 (George Washington University)

Co-founder and co-organizer of the “Economic History Workshop”. First conference organized by George Mason University, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

“Cities and Economic Development” for the World Economic History Congress in Kyoto, 2015

Invited session “Urbanization in Developing Countries” for the AREUEA-American Economic Association Meetings, 2015

“History and Long-Term Development in Africa” for the American Economic Association Meetings, 2014

“Structural Change and Productivity in Developing Countries” for the Eastern Economic Association Conference, 2013

“Urbanization and Transportation Infrastructure in Developing Countries” (with Adam Storeygard) for the American Economic Association Meetings, 2013

“Structural Transformation in Africa” for ABCDE World Bank Conference, 2011

OTHER SERVICE

University Services

Director of the Institute for International Economic Policy, ESIA, 2023-

Director of the ESIA Initiative on Climate Change and Sustainable Cities, ESIA, 2023-

Co-Director of Local Sustainable Governance Lab, 2024-

Creator of the IIEP Fellows Program, 2025-
Chair of the Mid-Tenure Committee for Nicholas Li (GWU), 2026
Reviewer for the University Facilitating Fund, 2023
Department-Designated Mentor for Nicholas Li (GWU), 2022-
Dean's Council, ESIA, 2021-2022
Appointments, Promotions, and Tenure Committee, ESIA, 2019-2023
Chair, Organization of the Dean's Seminar of African Economics, ESIA, 2019-2023
Member of the Mid-Tenure Review Committee for Stephen Hamilton, 2022-2023
Co-organizer of the GWU International Trade and Development Seminar, 2012-2022, 2023
Member, Search for Assistant Professor in Behavioural & International Economics, ESIA, 2021-2022
Member of the Committee on the Future of the M.A. in International Economic Policy, ESIA, 2020-
Presentation for the Executive Circle of the Institute for International Economic Policy, 2021
Chair of the Website Committee of the Economic Department, 2019-2021
Chair, Mid-Tenure Review Committee for Bryan Stuart (GWU), 2020-2021
Department-Designated Mentor for Bryan Stuart (GWU), 2019-2021
Chair, Search for African Studies Visiting Assistant or Associate Professor, ESIA, 2017-2018
Member of the By-Laws Committee of the Economics department, 2017-2018
Member of the Advisory Committee of the Economics department, 2015-2017
Member of the Publication Committee of the Economics department, 2015-2018
Member of the Bylaws Committee of the Economics department, 2017-2018
Co-organizer of the GWU Applied Micro/Development Tea Seminar, 2014-2019
Committee to revise the webpage of the Economics department, 2012-2013, 2015-2020
Teaching for the Bolashak Program, ESIA, 2015

Thesis Committee and Other Student-Related Activities

Ph.D.: Jingwen Zheng (co-advisor, in progress), Kathryn Nicholson (co-advisor, in progress), Pedro Esteban Rodriguez Martinez (co-advisor, in progress), Federico Haslop (co-advisor, in progress), Vitaliy Novik (co-advisor, 2024), Maheen Javaid (co-advisor, in progress), Shatakshi Gupta (3rd-year paper proposal paper committee), Prerna Dokania (dissertation committee), Ebad Ebadi (co-advisor, 2022), Jeffrey Kuo (3rd-year paper proposal paper committee), Kan Sun (committee, 2024), Nisan Gorgulu (co-advisor, 2021), Abhilasha Sahay (co-advisor, 2020), Daniel Pereira, Jin Ho Kim (committee, 2019), Amjad Kahn (co-advisor, 2019), Lama Al-Humaidan (committee, 2018), Aaditya Dar (co-advisor, 2018), Nazmul Hoque (committee, 2018), Carolyn Chisadza (University of Pretoria, committee, 2016), Chun Kuang (committee, 2016), Weihua Zhao (committee, 2016), Yishen Liu (committee, 2016), Saher Asad (committee, 2015), Onoche Jude Dieli (committee, Howard University, 2015), Yao Pan (committee, 2013), Yan Sun (committee, 2012).

Independent Study, University Honors & Internships: Emily Ryon (2014), Thomas Harr (2014), Rose Choi (2014), Zachary Toal (2014), Karen Chen (2015), Erin McDevitt (2015), Yury Higuchi (2015), Vaibhav Jain (2016), Taher Elsheikh (2016), Julia Granata (2016), Jayne Walker (2016), Samuel Kramer (2016), Thomas Howe (2016), Anour Esa (2016), Liam Wash (2017), Marie-Louise Decamps (2017), Yao Ling Jiang (2017), Alessandra Roselli (2018), Kunal Gupta (2018), Xuerui Yang (2021), Eleanor Greenbaum (2022), Devika Zahra Mukherjee (2022), Eleanor Greenbaum (2023), Tianyi Xiao (2025)

REFEREEING

Econometrica, American Economic Review, American Economic Review - Insights, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, American Economic Journal-Applied, American Economic Journal-Macroeconomics, American Economic Journal-Economic Policy, Journal of Urban Economics, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Real Estate Economics, The Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics, Journal of Economic Geography, Journal of Regional Science, Regional Studies, Urban Studies, Journal of Economic Growth, Journal of International Economics, Journal of European Economic Association, The Economic Journal, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Comparative Economics, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Journal of Human Resources, Review of Economic Dynamics, World Bank Economic Review, World Development, Journal of African Economies, The Journal of Economic History, Economic Inquiry, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Economics, Journal of Population Economics, China Economic Review, Resource and Energy Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Review of Development Economics, Canadian Journal of Economics, Annual Review of Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization.

OUTREACH/CONTRIBUTIONS TO PUBLIC POLICY

18 years of experience in international development

- Co-founder and co-organizer of the [World Bank](#)-GWU Conference on Urbanization and Poverty Reduction, [2013](#), [2014](#), [2016](#) (with the NYU Urbanization Project), [2017](#) (with IGC), [2018](#) (with the [IMF](#) and IGC), [2019](#) (with [IADB](#) and IGC), [2023](#) (with IGC), [2024](#) (with IGC and the [Millennium Challenge Corporation](#)), [2025](#) (with the [City of Cape Town](#), South Africa), [2026](#) (DC, with IGC and JHU), [2027](#) (with Singapore Management University and Jinan University). Each time, the conference was co-organized with the Development Research Group and the Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience Global Practice of the World Bank.

Website for the 9th edition (2025 “Urban Economics in Action: Addressing African Cities’ Challenges”):

www.worldbank.org/en/events/2025/06/11/9th-urbanization-and-development-conference

Website for the 8th edition (2024 “Urban Expansion and the Future Cities”):

www.worldbank.org/en/events/2024/03/07/8th-urbanization-and-poverty-reduction-research-conference

Website for the 7th edition (2023 “Climate Change and Sustainable Urbanization”):

www.worldbank.org/en/events/2023/01/30/7th-urbanization-and-poverty-reduction-research-conference

- Co-founder and co-organizer of the [World Bank](#)-GWU-UVA Conference on The Economics of Sustainable Development, [2023](#), [2024](#), [2025](#). The WB offices involved are the Chief Economist’s Office for Sub-Saharan Africa and Chief Economist’s Office for Sustainable Development.

Website for the 1st edition (2023):

www.worldbank.org/en/events/2023/11/29/economics-of-sustainable-development#2

Website for the 2nd edition (2024):

www.worldbank.org/en/events/2024/10/21/economics-of-sustainable-development

- Co-founder & co-organizer of the “[World Bank](#)-GWU Sustainable Cities Workshop Series: [Spring 2023](#): (1) Urban Public Finance (2) Economics of Urban Inclusion; [Spring 2024](#) (3) Urban Planning and Local Economic Development (4) Local Environmental Externalities in Cities; [Fall 2024](#) (5) New Cities: government and private led initiatives; [Spring 2026](#): (6) Flooding and Cities
- Two background papers for the Urbanization Flagship report for sub-Saharan Africa for the Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice, [World Bank](#), [2025-2026](#). Manager: Mark Roberts.
- Co-editor of the *World Bank Economic Review*, [World Bank](#), [2024-](#)
- Visiting Scholar, Chief Economist for Infrastructure Office (INFCE), [World Bank](#), [Fall 2025](#)
- Reviewer for the Sector Economics and Development Impact Department at the [IFC](#).
- One background paper for the “Global Study of Agricultural Supply Chains” project of the Agricultural and Food Global Practice, [World Bank](#), [2024-2025](#). Manager: Luc Christiaensen.
- One background paper for the “Climate Change and Economic Development in Central America” project for the Poverty Global Practice, [World Bank](#), [2023-24](#). Manager: Carlos Rodriguez Castelan.
- Two background papers for the “3D Mapping the Built-Up World” project of the Development Research Group, the [World Bank](#), [2022-2024](#). Manager: Klaus Deininger.
- Two background papers to the “Climate Change, Water and Economic Development” project for the Chief Economist’s Office for Sub-Saharan Africa, the [World Bank](#), [2022-2023](#). Managers: Cesar Calderon and Andrew Dabalen.
- Two background papers for the “Climate Change and Cities” project for the World Bank Global Urban Flagship Report, the [World Bank](#), [2021-2022](#). Manager: Mark Roberts.
- One background paper for the “Consumption Cities in Latin America” project for the World Bank Flagship Report on Latin America, Office of the Chief Economist, Latin America and the Caribbean, the [World Bank](#), [2021-2022](#). Manager: Elena Ianchovichina.
- Two background papers for the “Lake Chad Basin” project of the Poverty Global Practice of the [World Bank](#), [2021-2022](#). Manager: Carlos Rodriguez Castelan.
- Organizer of the [World Bank](#)-GWU Workshop on the Economics of Climate Change, 2021. Co-organized with Carlos Rodriguez Castelan from the Poverty Global Practice.
- Organizer of the [World Bank](#)-GWU Workshop on the Economics of Conflict, 2021. Co-organized with Carlos Rodriguez Castelan from the Poverty Global Practice.
- Contributions to the “The Effects of COVID-19 on Migration and Social Cohesion” project of the Water Practice of the [World Bank](#), [2020](#). Manager: Esha Zaveri and Richard Damania.
- Contributions to the “Future of Cities” project of the Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience Global Practice of the [World Bank](#), [2019](#). Manager: Mark Roberts.
- Co-organizer of the [World Bank](#) Workshop on “Measuring Cities: The Promise of Big Data” [2019](#)

- Contributions to the 2020 World Cities Report of [UN-Habitat](#). Product: 3rd chapter on The Economic Value of Sustainable Urbanization, 2019. Manager: Benedict Arimah.
- Visiting Researcher at the Development Research Group of the [World Bank](#) (Sustainability and Infrastructure Unit), January-July 2019. Manager: Michael Toman.
- Two background papers used for the 2019 World Development Report (The Changing Nature of Work) of the [World Bank](#). Managers: Paul Romer, Simeon Djankov and Federica Saliola.
- Visiting Researcher at the Office of the Chief Economist of the [World Bank](#), under the supervision of Paul Romer, Simeon Djankov and Federica Saliola, January-June 2018.
- Taught the module “Urban Land Use” for the [World Bank](#) Land Economics courses in July 2019 (Nairobi) and January 2018 and January 2019 (Cape Town). Manager: Klaus Deininger.
- Taught the module “Welfare Effects of Transportation and Urbanization” for the Summer School of the [World Bank](#) organized by Tara Vishwanath and Carlos Rodriguez Castelan (Poverty and Equity Global Practice) in July 2017 (Washington DC, World Bank headquarters).
- One background paper for the [International Monetary Fund](#) research projects “New Urban Giants in Low-Income Countries: Stylized Facts” and “Policy Considerations for Urbanization in Low-Income Countries”, 2017-2018. Manager: Prakash Loungani (Research Department).
- Two background papers for the “Urbanization in Developing Countries” and “Transportation in Developing Countries” programs of the Development Research Group and the Disaster Risk and Urbanization Management Department of the [World Bank](#), 2015-2017. Manager: Somik Lall.
- Referee about 40 times for the [World Bank](#) Economic Review, 2012-2024.
- [World Bank](#) Economic Review Excellence in Refereeing Award, 2018, 2020-2024
- Consultant for the [International Food Policy Research Institute](#) on the project “Structural Change in Developing Countries”, 2011-2012. Manager: Margaret McMillan (Tufts and IFPRI).
- [PhD in Economics](#), Paris School of Economics, 2007-2012.
- [Visiting Ph.D. Student, Teacher](#), London School of Economics, Economics Department, 2008-12
- Intern for [UNDP](#) Azerbaijan, summer 2006.