

Lorenzo Casaburi

Contact Information

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Current Employment

2021- University of Zurich, Associate Professor (with tenure)

Past Employment

2016-20 University of Zurich, Assistant Professor
2013-16 Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR), Postdoctoral Fellow

Education

2013 Harvard University, Ph.D. Economics
2004 University of Bologna, B.A. Economics *cum laude*
2003-04 University of California Berkeley, *Education Abroad Program Student*

Affiliations

2016- Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), Affiliated Professor
2016- Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), Affiliate
2019- Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), Research Fellow (2016-19 Research Affiliate)
2016- International Growth Centre (IGC), Research Affiliate
2014- Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), Research Affiliate

Publications

Madon T., Anderson R.J., Casaburi L., Lee K., Rezaee A., Gadgil A.J. (Eds.). (2021) *An Introduction to Development Engineering*. Springer.

“Demand and Supply of Infrequent Payments as a Commitment Device: Evidence from Kenya” with Rocco Macchiavello, *American Economic Review*, 109.2 (2019): 523-555

“Time vs. State in Insurance: Experimental Evidence from Contract Farming in Kenya” with Jack Willis, *American Economic Review*, 108.12 (2018): 3778-3813

“Ghost-House Busters: The Electoral Response to a Large Anti Tax Evasion Program” with Ugo Troiano, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 131.1 (2016): 273-314

“Contract Farming and Agricultural Productivity in Western Kenya” with Michael Kremer and Sendhil Mullainathan, in S. Edwards, S. Johnson, D. Weil (eds.), *African Economic Successes: Volume IV Sustainable Growth*, (2016): 137-160, University of Chicago Press, NBER Books.

“Loyalty, Exit and Enforcement: Evidence from a Kenya Dairy Cooperative” with Rocco Macchiavello, *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*, 105.5 (2015): 286-90.

“Production in Advance versus Production to Order: The Role of Downstream Spatial Clustering and Product Differentiation” with G. Alfredo Minerva, *Journal of Urban Economics*, 70.1 (2011)

“Firms’ International Status and Heterogeneity in Performance: Evidence from Italy” with Valeria Gattai and G. Alfredo Minerva, *Rivista di Politica Economica*, V-VI (2007): 151-187

Working Papers

- “Interlinked Transactions and Competition: Experimental Evidence from Cocoa Markets” with Tristan Reed (*R&R American Economic Journal: Applied*)
- “The Electoral Impact of Wealth Redistribution: Evidence from the Italian Land Reform” with Bruno Caprettini and Miriam Venturini
- “Crony Capitalism, Collective Action, and ICT: Evidence from Kenya Contract Farming” (with Michael Kremer and Ravindra Ramrattan)
- “Harnessing ICT to Increase Agricultural Production: Evidence from Kenya.” (with Michael Kremer, Sendhil Mullainathan, and Ravindra Ramrattan)
- “Rural Roads and Intermediated Trade: Regression Discontinuity Evidence from Sierra Leone” with Rachel Glennerster and Tavneet Suri

Teaching Experience

- 2017-20 Development Economics (Master), U Zurich, instructor
- 2016-20 Development Economics (Ph.D.), U Zurich, instructor
- 2015 Development Economics (Ph.D.), Stanford, co-instructor
- 2014-15 Economic Development in Sub-Saharan Africa (B.A.), Stanford, instructor
- 2010 Development Economics (Ph.D.), Harvard, teaching fellow for Prof. M. Kremer
- 2009 International Trade (B.A.), Harvard, teaching fellow for Prof. M. Melitz
- 2004, 2006 Advanced Micro (M.A.), Bologna, teaching fellow for Prof. P. Onofri

Research Experience and Other Employment

- 2009-11 Government of Sierra Leone, Agricultural Tracking Survey, Technical Consultant
- 2005-06 Research Assistant, International Child Support and IPA, Kenya

Professional Activities

Referee: *American Economic Review*, *American Economic Review: Insights*, *Econometrica*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Agricultural Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *Economic Journal*, *Journal of African Economies*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Development Studies*, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of International Economics*, *Journal of International Trade and Development*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Routledge*, *World Bank Economic Review*

Conference Program Committee Member: European Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society (2019, 2020); EEA-ESEM (2019-21), Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics (2019), BREAD/NBER pre-conference (2019),

Grant Proposal Reviewer: *J-PAL/CEGA ATAI*, *Private Enterprise Development in Low Income Countries (PEDL)*, *NSF*, *USAID Development Innovation Ventures (DIV)*.

Presentations

- 2020/21 (including scheduled talks) CERGE-EI Prague, Tinbergen, University of Naples, CEPR STEG workshop, Paris Dauphine University, Japan Empirical Economics Seminar
- 2019/20 Yale Kuznets Conference Trade and Development, Lund, Tilburg
- 2018/19 Euregio Workshop Trento (*keynote speaker*), Barcelona GSE Summer Forum Economic Analysis of Electoral Policies, RIDGE political economy (*coauthor presenting*), UZH Workshop Political Economy and Development, AEA Meetings (*discussant*), University of Bolzano, Stockholm School of Economics, University of Liverpool, LMU Munich,

- Swiss Development Network Conference, Imperial College, University of Sussex, University of Fribourg, UK DFID, University of Maryland, Inter-American Development Bank, IMT Lucca, ETH Zurich
- 2017/18 Development Economics Conference German Economic Association, New Economic School Moscow, IPA Ghana, IFPRI, University of Vienna, Geneva Workshop on Financial Inclusion, IGC-PEDL Conference, Oxford CSAE, BREAD/NBER (*coauthor presenting*), Nova School of Business and Economics, Pompeu Fabra, TCD/LSE/CEPR Development Workshop
- 2016/17 Edinburgh Workshop on agricultural productivity, rural-urban migration, and structural transformation, Harvard/MIT, AEA Meetings, NBER Development, LSE/UCL, Stockholm University, University of Naples, Georgetown, Montreal Workshop on Productivity, Entrepreneurship and Development, Trinity College Dublin.
- 2015/16 McGill, USAID, Theoretical Research in Development Economics Conference, Bocconi, Brown, Yale, CREI/UPF, New York University, UC Berkeley ARE, UC Davis (Econ/ARE), Cambridge, IIES Stockholm, Toulouse, EIEF, IESE, Zurich, UC San Diego, UC Berkeley, University of Southern California, Oxford, Yale School of Management, NEUDC, UC Santa Cruz, Stanford, CEPR/PODER Annual Symposium on Development Economics, Harvard
- 2014/15 NBER Summer Institute Development Economics, Barcelona GSE Summer Forum Development Economics, PACDEV, Boston University, American Economic Association Meetings, Columbia, BASIS Annual Conference, IGC Growth Week, Stanford SIEPR
- 2013/14 European Economic Association Meetings, World Bank, Royal Economic Society, CSAE Oxford, UC Berkeley ARE, UC Davis ARE, IPA-SME/PEDL Conference, Millennium Challenge Corporation, National Tax Association Conference, UC San Diego, IGC Growth Week, BASIS Annual Conference, Stanford SIEPR
- 2012/13 Paris School of Economics, NBER Development and Organizational Economics Workshop, Stanford SIEPR, JPAL ATAI
- 2010-2012 NBER Africa Conference, NSF/AERC Agriculture Session

Research Grants, Honors, and Fellowships (selected)

- 2019 European Research Council Starting Grant (\$1.65M)
- 2019 Prize for Excellence in Development, German Economics Association & KfW
- 2017, 2018 Excellence in Refereeing Award, *American Economic Review*
- 2018 Swiss National Science Foundation *Eccellenza Grant* (\$1,170,000)
- 2018 J-PAL ATAI, with Jack Willis (\$50,000)
- 2017 J-PAL Governance Initiative, with Dina Pomeranz (\$50,000)
- 2016 IGC, with Dina Pomeranz (\$65,000)
- 2015 Stanford Global Development and Poverty Initiative, with John Shoven (\$48,800)
- 2013 Anonymous Donor, with Rocco Macchiavello and Tristan Reed (\$113,000)
- 2013 Anonymous Donor, with Michael Kremer (\$630,000)
- 2013 USAID-BASIS, with Michael Kremer, Alphonse Odondo, and John Shoven (\$715,000)
- 2013 PEDL Exploratory Grant, with Michael Kremer and Sendhil Mullainathan (\$75,000)
- 2011 J-PAL ATAI, with Tristan Reed and Tavneet Suri (\$31,000)
- 2010 3ie, with Rachel Glennerster, Tavneet Suri and Sullay Kamara (\$165,000)
- 2010 USAID Development Innovation Ventures, with Rachel Glennerster (\$230,000)
- 2010 J-PAL ATAI, with Michael Kremer and Sendhil Mullainathan (\$180,000)
- 2010 Harvard Derek Bok Center Certificate of Distinction in Teaching
- 2009 IGC, with Rachel Glennerster and Tavneet Suri (\$123,000)
- 2008-09 Harvard Interdisciplinary Program in Inequality and Social Policy Fellowship
- 2007-08 Harvard Sustainability Science Program Giorgio Ruffolo Fellowship
- 2004 *Rotary Award*, Best Graduate in Economics at the University of Bologna
- 2000-2004 University of Bologna, Collegio Superiore Fellowship