

# Lorenzo Casaburi

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## Contact Information

University of Zurich  
Department of Economics  
Schönberggasse 1  
8001 Zürich, Switzerland  
+41 44 634 61 38  
lorenzo.casaburi@econ.uzh.ch  
<https://www.econ.uzh.ch/en/people/faculty/casaburi.html>

## Current Employment

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

## Past Employment

2016-20 University of Zurich, Department of Economics, 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*

## Editorship

2021- Associate Editor, *Economic Journal*

## Affiliations

2016- Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), Affiliated Professor  
2021- Bureau for Research & Economic Analysis of Dev. (BREAD), Fellow (2016-21: Affiliate)  
2019- Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), Research Fellow (2016-19: Affiliate)  
2016- International Growth Centre (IGC), Research Affiliate  
2014- Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), Research Affiliate

## Publications

“Using Individual-Level Randomized Treatment to Learn about Market Structure” with Tristan Reed, *American Economic Journal: Applied*, forthcoming  
Madon T., Anderson R.J., Casaburi L., Lee K., Rezaee A., Gadgil A.J. (Eds.). (2022) *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**

- “Land rental markets: experimental evidence from Kenya” with Michelle Acampora and Jack Willis  
“Redistribution, voting, and clientelism: 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**

- 2017-22 Development Economics (Master), U Zurich, instructor  
2016-21 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*, *RAND Journal of 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**

- 2021/22 (includes scheduled talks) BREAD, Barcelona Summer Forum, Northwestern University, St. Gallen, Peking University, University of Basel, Bar-Ilan, Catholic University/LEAP Milan, CERGE-EI Prague, University of Venice

- 2020/21 NYU Abu Dhabi, Bologna, Ben Gurion University, Williams College, 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, 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

### **Honors and Fellowships (selected)**

- 2019 Prize for Excellence in Development, German Economics Association & KfW
- 2017,18,20 Excellence in Refereeing Award, *American Economic Review*
- 2010 Harvard Derek Bok Center Certificate of Distinction in Teaching
- 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

### **Research Grants (selected)**

- 2020 European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grant (\$1.65M)
- 2019 Swiss National Science Foundation *Eccellenza Grant* (\$1.17M)
- 2018 J-PAL ATAI, with Jack Willis (\$50,000)
- 2016 IGC, with Dina Pomeranz (\$65,000)
- 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)