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Education

2016-2021	King's College London PhD Development Economics
2005-2007	Tecnológico de Monterrey (Mexico) MSc Economics and Public Policy
1998-2004	Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla (Mexico) BSc Economics

Current positions and affiliations

- **Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in Development Economics**
Department of International Development
King's College London
Since November 2021
- **Senior Economic Research Consultant**
Strategic Policy Unit, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Since January 2021
- **Research Associate**
Commitment to Equity Institute (CEQ)
Tulane University
Since October 2016.

Publications

2,217 academic citations as of 1 December, 2021 ([Google scholar](#))

Refereed journal articles

1. **When Life Gives You Lemons: Using Cross-Sectional Surveys to Identify Chronic Poverty in the Absence of Panel Data** (with K. Bolch & L.F. López-Calva), 2021. *Review of Income and Wealth*, DOI: 10.1111/roiw.12566 (Wiley).
2. **Measuring Global Poverty Before and During the Pandemic: A Political Economy of Overoptimism** (with A. Sumner and C. Hoy), 2021. *Third World Quarterly*, DOI: 10.1080/01436597.2021.1995712 (Taylor & Francis).
 - Also available as [WIDER Working Paper 43](#), as [WIDER Working Paper 77](#), and as [UNDESA Working Paper](#).

- Blog posts in [WIDER Angle](#), [Global Policy](#), and [The Conversation](#), and interview in [The Guardian](#).
 - Coverage in (selected) [The Guardian](#), [The Huffington Post](#), [The New York Times](#), [Slate](#), and [Reuters](#).
 - Input for [Oxfam's Dignity Not Destitution economic rescue plan](#).
3. **Within-Country Poverty Convergence: Evidence from Mexico** (with L.F. López-Calva & C. Rodríguez-Castelán), 2021. *Empirical Economics*, DOI: 10.1007/s00181-021-02109-0 (Springer Nature).
 - Also available as [IZA Discussion Paper 13577](#) and as [World Bank Policy Research WP 9038](#).
 4. **Temporary Basic Income: Protecting Poor and Vulnerable Populations in Times of Pandemic** (with G. Gray Molina), 2021. *Basic Income Studies* (forthcoming) (Walter de Gruyter).
 - Also available as [UNDP Transition Series Working Paper](#).
 - Blog post in [The Conversation](#).
 - Coverage in [CNBC](#), [Der Spiegel](#), [Le Monde](#), and [Reuters](#).
 5. **Living on the Edge: Vulnerability to Poverty and Public Transfers in Mexico** (with A. de la Fuente & C. Rodríguez-Castelán), 2018. *Oxford Development Studies*, 46(1): 10-27 (Taylor & Francis).
 - Also available as [World Bank Policy Research WP 7165](#) and as [2014 World Development Report BP](#).
 6. **A Long-Term Perspective on Inequality and Human Development in Latin America** (with L.F. López-Calva & N. Lustig), 2015. *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*, 16(3): 319-323 (Taylor & Francis).
 7. **A Vulnerability Approach to the Definition of the Middle Class** (with L.F. López-Calva), 2014. *Journal of Economic Inequality*, 12(1): 23-47 (Springer Nature).
 - Also available as [World Bank Policy Research WP 5902](#) and as chapter in the [Palgrave Readers in Economics](#) (forthcoming).
 - Blog posts in [Americas Quarterly](#) and [WIDER Angle](#).
 - Coverage in [El País](#), [The Huffington Post](#), and [The Economist Intelligence Unit](#).
 8. **Clases medias y vulnerabilidad a la pobreza. Reflexiones desde América Latina** (with G. Cruces, S. Lach & L.F. López-Calva), 2014. *El Trimestre Económico*, 81(322): 281-307 (Fondo de Cultura Económica).
 9. **Declining Inequality in Latin America in the 2000s: The Cases of Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico** (with N. Lustig and L.F. López-Calva), 2013. *World Development*, 44: 129–141 (Elsevier).
 - Also available as [World Bank Policy Research WP 6248](#) and as [Center for Global Development WP 307](#).
 - Coverage in [Foreign Policy](#), [The New York Times](#), [Página 12](#), and [World Bank blog](#).
 10. **A Household-based Distribution-sensitive HDI: An Empirical Application to Mexico, Nicaragua and Peru** (with L.F. López-Calva), 2012. *Social Indicators Research*, 109(3): 395-411 (Springer Nature).
 11. **Multidimensional Measurement of Poverty in Mexico** (with L.F. López-Calva), 2009. *Estudios Económicos*, Special issue: 3-33 (El Colegio de México).

Books and editor

12. **Geographic Capital and Social Mobility: Unlocking Pathways of Income Earning** (forthcoming 2022). UNU-WIDER Series in Development Economics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
13. **Inequality and Human Development in Latin America: A Long-Run Perspective** (guest editor with N. Lustig & L.F. López-Calva), 2015. *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*, 16(3).
14. **Política social para la equidad** (editor with L.F. López-Calva & C.M. Urzúa), 2006. México: Porrúa.

Chapters in books

15. **A Vulnerability Approach to the Definition of the Middle Class** (with L.F. López-Calva) (forthcoming 2022). In: Goulart, P., Ramos, R. & Ferrittu, G. (eds.) *Global Labour in Distress*, Palgrave Readers in Economics, London: Palgrave Macmillan.
16. **Global Income Inequality** (with A. Sumner) (forthcoming 2022). In: Phillips, N. (ed.) *Global Political Economy: A New Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

17. **The Impact of Fiscal Policy on Inequality and Poverty in Chile** (with S. Martínez-Aguilar, A. Fuchs & G. del Carmen), 2018. In: Lustig, N. (ed.) *Commitment to Equity Handbook. A Guide to Estimating the Impact of Fiscal Policy on Inequality and Poverty*, Washington DC: Brookings Institution Press.
 - Also available as World Bank Policy Research WP 7939 and as Commitment to Equity WP 46.
18. **Deconstructing the Decline in Inequality in Latin America** (with N. Lustig & L.F. López-Calva), 2016. In: Basu, K. & Stiglitz, J. (eds.) *Inequality and Growth: Patterns and Policy. Volume II: Regions and Regularities*, International Economic Association Series, London: Palgrave Macmillan.
 - Also available as World Bank Policy Research WP 6552.
 - Interview in BBC.
19. **Inequality, Mobility and Middle Classes in Latin America** (with J.P. Azevedo, N. Lustig & L.F. López-Calva), 2015. In: Dayton-Johnson, J. (ed.) *Latin America's Emerging Middle Classes*, London: Palgrave Macmillan.
20. **Definición de clase media y estratificación social a partir de un enfoque de vulnerabilidad**, 2014. In: Hardy, C. *Estratificación social en América Latina: Retos de cohesión social*, Santiago: LOM Ediciones.
21. **Los determinantes de la disminución de la desigualdad en América Latina** (with N. Lustig & L.F. López-Calva), 2014. In: Devlin, R., Echevarria, O. A. & Machinea, J. L. (eds.) *América Latina en una era de globalización. Ensayos en honor de Enrique V. Iglesias*, Caracas: CAF.
22. **Capital social y confianza en las instituciones del Estado: Evidencia desde el México urbano** (with L. Rodríguez-Chamussy), 2012. In: López, P. and Soloaga, I. (eds.) *Capital social y política pública en México*, Mexico: El Colegio de Mexico.
23. **Política social y equidad en México** (with L.F. López-Calva), 2006. In: López-Calva, L. F., Ortiz-Juarez, E. and Urzúa, C. M. (eds.) *Política social para la equidad*, México: Porrúa.

Working papers

24. **Mitigating Poverty: Global Estimates of the Impact of Income Support during the Pandemic** (with J. Fajardo-Gonzalez, G. Gray Molina & M. Montoya-Aguirre), 2021. UNDP Development Future Series Working Papers.
25. **Corruption in Infrastructure and Social Assistance Funds: Effects on Municipal Poverty** (with M. Montoya-Aguirre & L.G. Woo-Mora), 2021. Finanzas Públicas, Centre for Public Finance Studies (CEFP), Chamber of Deputies.
 - Winner of Mexico's National Prize of Public Finance 2020.
26. **The Decline in Inequality in Latin America: How Much, Since When and Why** (with N. Lustig & L.F. López-Calva), 2011. ECINEQ Working Paper 211.
 - Also available as Tulane Economics Working Paper 1118.
 - Coverage in *The Economist*.
27. **Bigger... But Stronger? The Middle Class in Chile and Mexico in the Last Decade** (with L.F. López-Calva), 2010. Research for Public Policy, ID-02-2010, UNDP.
28. **Evidence and Policy Lessons on the Links between Disaster Risk and Poverty in Latin America** (with L.F. López-Calva), 2009. Background Paper of the 2009 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction, UNISDR.

Institutional reports, policy briefs, and other publications

29. **Alternative Uses of Pre-tax Fossil-fuel Subsidies Per Year**, October 2021. Background note for the UNDP's Don't Choose Extinction Campaign. New York: UNDP.
30. **Eradicating Poverty in a Post-pandemic World: How the G7 Can Act to End both the Pandemic and Global Poverty** (with A. Sumner), June 2021. Essay in: *Build Back Better Together: A Blueprint for a Better World*. London: King's College London.

31. **Protecting Women’s Livelihoods in Times of Pandemic: Temporary Basic Income and the Road to Gender Equality** (with M. Montoya-Aguirre & A. Santiago), March 2021. Development Future Series, UNDP Global Policy Network Brief. New York: UNDP.
32. **A Temporary Basic Income (TBI) for Developing Countries** (with G. Gray Molina), July 2020. Transition Series, UNDP Global Policy Network Brief — Social Protection. New York: UNDP.
33. **Regional Human Development Report for Latin America and the Caribbean: Update Policy Note**, October 2017. Special Policy Note, PovRisk Tool. New York: UNDP.
34. **Multidimensional Progress: Well-being Beyond Income** (with G. Gray Molina, M.J. Abud, N. Gómez Arteaga, A. González, J. Sagredo & J. Vásquez), June 2016. *Human Development Report for Latin America and the Caribbean*. New York: UNDP.
35. **Living on the Edge in Mexico** (with A. de la Fuente & C. Rodríguez-Castelán), Summer 2015. *World Bank Research Digest*, 9(4).
36. **Igualdad de oportunidades, pobreza y política social en México: Una perspectiva de largo plazo** (with M.J. Pérez García), May 2013. Mexico: World Bank and CONEVAL.
37. **Why Did Inequality in Latin America Decline in the 2000s?** (with N. Lustig & L.F. López-Calva), Fall 2012. *World Bank Research Digest*, 7(1).
38. **Clases medias y vulnerabilidad a la pobreza en América Latina** (with L.F. López-Calva), 2012. *Pensamiento Iberoamericano*, 10: 49-70.

Research work in progress

1. Race to the Middle: Common-but-Differentiated Pathways within Planetary Boundaries (with G. Gray Molina).
2. The Distributive Challenges of Green Transitions (with M. Montoya-Aguirre).
3. Different Datasets, Same Story or Not? World Income Inequality Standardised Databases Compared (with R. Kanbur & A. Sumner).
4. The Local Inequality Effects of Mobile Internet Access. Evidence from Mexico (with C. Rodríguez-Castelán).
5. The Global Inequality Boomerang? (with R. Kanbur & A. Sumner).
6. Global Poverty Decompositions (with R. Kanbur & A. Sumner).

Professional experience

Research and policy

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	
Mar 2015-Mar 2016	Senior Economist , Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, New York <i>Project coordination and research on multidimensional social progress</i>
Mar 2013-Mar 2015	Economist , Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, New York <i>Project coordination and policy support on social development and fiscal policy</i>
Mar 2011-Mar 2013	Applied Economist , Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, New York <i>Applied research on poverty, vulnerability, and social policy</i>
Jul 2008-Dec 2010	Researcher , Latin America and the Caribbean Unit for Economic and Policy Analysis, Mexico <i>Data analysis on poverty, inequality, and human development</i>
Feb 2006-Jun 2007	Junior Researcher , Human Development Research Office, Mexico <i>Data analysis on labour markets and human development</i>
Ministry of Social Development, Mexico	
Aug 2007-Jun 2008	Deputy Director of Economic and Social Analysis , Vice-ministry of Planning and Evaluation

Teaching

	King's College London
2018-2020	Teaching Assistant and Part-time Lecturer , Department of International Development <i>Poverty, Inequality and Social Policy</i> (undergraduate level, autumn terms)
2019-2020	Teaching Assistant and Part-time Lecturer , Department of International Development <i>Poverty, Inequality and Inclusive Development</i> (graduate level, spring terms)

Consultancy

	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Nov 2021-Feb 2022	Economist - Poverty Expert , Cambodia Office, Policy and Innovation Unit, Phnom Penh <i>Poverty risk and dynamics</i>
Sep-Dec 2021	Consultant , RBLAC Regional Hub, Inclusive Growth and SDG Integration, Panama <i>Fiscal microsimulation in Guatemala</i>
Oct-Dec 2020	Senior Economic Research Consultant , RBLAC, New York <i>Chronic poverty measurement</i>
Jun-Dec 2020	Consultant , Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS), New York <i>Unconditional basic income schemes</i>
Aug 2019-Aug 2020	Consultant , RBLAC Regional Hub, Inclusive Growth and Poverty Reduction, Panama <i>Social cohesion measurement</i>
Sep 2017-Jun 2019	Consultant , RBLAC, New York <i>Political economy, poverty analysis, and policy support</i>
	The World Bank Group
Mar-Jun 2021	Consultant , Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions (EFI), Africa, Washington DC <i>Chronic poverty and productive assets in Senegal</i>
Mar-Jun 2020	Consultant , EFI, Africa, Washington DC <i>Distributional effects of financial inclusion in West Africa</i>
Feb-Jun 2020	Consultant , Poverty and Equity Global Practice, Washington DC <i>Nowcasting local welfare effects of the COVID-19 pandemic</i> <i>Distributional effects of internet penetration in Mexico</i>
Mar-Jun 2018	Consultant , Poverty and Equity, Latin America, Washington DC <i>Small-area estimation of poverty in Jamaica</i>
May 2017	Consultant , Poverty and Equity, Latin America, Washington DC <i>Small-area estimation of poverty in Panama</i>
Jan-Jun 2016	Consultant , Poverty and Equity, Latin America, Washington DC <i>Small-area estimation of poverty and inequality in Jamaica, Mexico and Panama</i>
Dec 2013-Jun 2014	Consultant , Poverty Gender and Equity Group, Washington DC <i>Small-area estimation of poverty and inequality in Bolivia, Mexico and Panama</i>
Jan 2012-Jun 2013	Consultant , Poverty Gender and Equity Group, Washington DC <i>Small-area estimation of poverty and inequality in Mexico</i>
Aug-Oct 2012	Consultant , Development Research Group: Poverty & Inequality, Washington DC <i>Small-area estimation of poverty in Nigeria</i>
Mar-Oct 2011	Consultant , Mexico Country Office, Mexico <i>Perspective of welfare in Mexico</i>
	United Nations University (UNU)
May-Aug 2020	Consultant , World Institute for Development Economics Research (WIDER), Helsinki <i>Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on global poverty</i>

May 2020	Government of Curaçao Consultant , Central Bureau of Statistics, Willemstad <i>Distributional effects of the COVID-19 pandemic</i>
Feb-Sep 2016	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Consultant , Social Protection and Health Division, Washington DC <i>Small-area estimation of poverty in Honduras</i>
Oct 2014-Nov 2016	Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) Consultant , Office of the Chief of Staff, Madrid <i>Socio-economic analysis across Latin America</i>
Nov 2011-Feb 12	Centro de Estudios Espinosa Yglesias (CEEY) Consultant <i>Biological standard of living in Mexico</i>

Other affiliations

- **Research Affiliate**, Department of International Development, King's College London (Aug-Oct 2021).
- **Non-resident Associate Research Fellow**, Center for Inter-American Policy & Research (CIPR), Tulane University (Oct 2012-Oct 2016).

Additional information

Awards

2020	Mexico's National Prize of Public Finance (winner) Awarded by the Centre for Public Finance Studies (CEFP), Chamber of Deputies The awarded research provides evidence of the effects of corruption in funds for social assistance and infrastructure on poverty at the municipal level (joint work with M. Montoya-Aguirre & L.G. Woo-Mora)
2016-20	Doctoral Scholarship Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT), Government of Mexico
2005-07	Scholarship for MSc studies School of Government, Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico City

Refereeing

Journals	Annals of Economics and Statistics; Economics and Business Letters; Empirical Economics; Journal of Human Development and Capabilities (3); Journal of Social Policy; Latin American Economic Review; Latin American Research Review; Oxford Development Studies; Review of Development Economics; SAGE Open; SN Business & Economics; Social Indicators Research; Socio-Economic Review (2); The Journal of Development Studies; The Journal of Economic Inequality (3); Third World Quarterly; World Development. <i>In Spanish</i> : Región y Sociedad (El Colegio de Sonora); Revista Cuadernos de Economía (Universidad Nacional de Colombia) (2); Sociología Histórica (Universidad de Murcia); Revista de Estudios Sociales (Universidad de Los Andes).
Grants	Independent Social Research Foundation (ISRF); Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
Books	Editorial CEEY (Centro de Estudios Espinosa Yglesias, Mexico)

Other relevant academic training

London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

2019	Advanced Econometrics
2019	Applied Econometrics and Big Data
	OPHI, University of Oxford
2009	Multidimensional Poverty Analysis
	Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Colombia
2009	Econometrics with Cross-Section and Panel Data
	Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico
2006	Statistical Analysis and Impact Evaluation

Other skills

Languages	Spanish (native speaker); English (proficient)
Software	Stata, R, PovMap, L ^A T _E X