

## Curriculum Vitae

Paris School of Economics and INRA  
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## Karen Macours

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### ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Paris School of Economics –INRA  
Professor at PSE & INRA Researcher, as of September 2010

Johns Hopkins University, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS)  
Associate Professor of International Economics, April 2010-June 2011  
Assistant Professor of International Economics, July 2003-April 2010

### EDUCATION

PhD: Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California at Berkeley (1998-2003)  
MS: Agricultural Engineering, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium (1992-1997)  
Coursework partly at the department of agricultural economics, G.A. Universität Göttingen, Germany

### TEACHING

Paris School of Economics:  
Econometrics (graduate): fall 2010-2018  
Applications of Impact Evaluation in Development Micro-Economics (graduate): spring 2011-2019  
Doctoral course in development economics: fall 2018

Johns Hopkins University:  
Econometrics (graduate): fall and spring 2003- 2005, fall 2008  
Microeconomics of Development (graduate): fall and spring: 2003- 2009  
Introduction to Development (graduate, co-taught): fall 2006 - 2009  
Topics in Microeconomics of Development (graduate): fall 2006 - 2007  
Quantitative Methods for Impact Evaluation (graduate): fall 2009

### REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Long-term Impacts of Conditional Cash Transfers: review of the evidence”, (with Teresa Molina-Millan, Tania Barham, John Maluccio, Marco Stampini), 2019. *World Bank Research Observer*, forthcoming.

Comment on “Estimating the Productivity Impacts of Technology Adoption in the Presence of Misclassification”, 2019. *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 101(1):17-18.

“Can RCTs help improve the design of CAP?” (with Luc Behaghel and Julie Subervie), 2019. *European Review of Agricultural Economics*, forthcoming.

“Preschools and Parental Response in a Second Best World: Evidence from a School Construction Experiment” (with Adrien Bouguen, Dean Filmer, and Sophie Naudeau), 2018. *Journal of Human Resources*: 53(2): 474-512.

“Women’s Political Reservation, Early Childhood Development and Learning in India” (with Yuvraj Pathak), 2017. *Economic Development and Cultural Change*. 65(4): 741-766.

“Wealth Gradients in Early Childhood Cognitive Development in Five Latin American Countries” (with Norbert Schady Jere Behrman, Maria Caridad Araujo, Rodrigo Azuero, Raquel Bernal, David Bravo, Florencia Lopez-Boo, Daniela Marshall, Christina Paxson, and Renos Vakis). 2015. *Journal of Human Resources*, 50(2): 446-463.

“Impact of land administration programs on agricultural productivity and rural development: existing evidence,

- challenges and new approaches (with Jeremie Gignoux and Liam Wren-Lewis), 2015. *Review of Agricultural and Environmental Studies*, 96(3).
- “Changing Households’ Investment Behavior through Social Interactions with Local Leaders: Evidence from a randomized transfer program” (with Renos Vakis), *Economic Journal*, 2014, 124 (May), 607–633.
- “Adoption and Adaptation in Developing Country Agriculture”, *Revue d’Etudes en Agriculture et Environnement*, 2014, 95(1):13-24.
- “Boys’ Cognitive Skill Formation and Physical Growth: Long-term Experimental Evidence on Critical Ages for Early Childhood Interventions”, (with Tania Barham and John Maluccio), *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*, 2013, 103(3): 467–471.
- “Ethnic Divisions, Contract Choice and Search Costs in the Guatemalan Land Rental Market”, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 2014. 42(1): 1-18 (lead article).
- “Volatility, Agricultural Risk and Household Poverty: Micro-evidence from Randomized Control Trials”, *Agricultural Economics*, 2013, 44(s1): 79-84.
- “Cash Transfers, Behavioral Changes, and Cognitive Development in Early Childhood: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment” (with Norbert Schady and Renos Vakis), *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2012, 4(2): 247–273.
- “Increasing Inequality and Civil Conflict in Nepal”, *Oxford Economic Papers*, 2011, 63(1): 1-26 (lead article).
- “Property Rights Imperfections, Asset Allocation and Welfare: Co-ownership in Bulgaria” (with Liesbet Vranken, Nivelin Noev, and Johan Swinnen), *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 2011, 39: 159–175.
- “Insecurity of Property Rights and Social Matching in the Tenancy Market” (with Alain de Janvry and Elisabeth Sadoulet), *European Economic Review*, 2010, 54(7): 880-899.
- “Seasonal Migration and Early Childhood Development” (with Renos Vakis), *World Development*, 2010, 38(6): 857-869.
- “Leveling the Intra-household Playing Field: Compensation and Specialization in Child Labor Allocation” (with Ximena Del Carpio), *Research in Labor Economics*, 2010. 31: 259-296.
- “Rural-Urban Poverty Differences in Transition Countries” (with Johan Swinnen), *World Development*, 2009, 36(11): 2170-2187.
- “Agricultural Labor Adjustments in Transition Countries: The role of migration and the impact on poverty”, (with Johan Swinnen). *Review of Agricultural Economics*, 2005, 27(3) 405-11
- “Transition and Agricultural Labour”(with Johan Swinnen and Liesbeth Dries), *Agricultural Economics*, 2005, 32, 15-34.
- “Hervormingen, Initiële Conditie en Groei : Lessen uit de transitie van de landbouwsector in Centraal- en Oost-Europa, de voormalige Sovjet-Unie en Oost-Azië”, (with Johan Swinnen). *Tijdschrift voor Economie and Management (Journal for Economics and Management)*, 2003, XLVIII(1): 47-68
- “Patterns of Agrarian Transition”, (with Johan Swinnen), *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 2002, 50(2): 365-395
- “Impact of Initial Conditions and Reform Policies on Agricultural Performance in Central and Eastern Europe, the Former Soviet Union, and East Asia”, (with Johan Swinnen), *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 2000, 82(5): 1149-1155
- “Causes of Output Decline in Economic Transition: The Case of Central and Eastern European Agriculture”, (with Johan Swinnen), *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 2000, 28(1): 172-206

## WORKING PAPERS

- “Yield gap or field gap? Reconciling yield gains in agronomic trials and African smallholder conditions” (with Rachid Laajaj, Cargele Masso, Moses Thuita, and Bernard Vanlauwe), R&R, *PNAS*

- “Experimental Evidence of Exposure to a Conditional Cash Transfer During Early Teenage Years: Young Women’s Fertility and Labor Market Outcomes” (with Tania Barham and John Maluccio), 2018. *CEPR Discussion Paper* 13165.
- “Measuring Skills in Developing Countries” (with Rachid Laajaj). 2018. *CEPR Discussion Paper* 13271.
- “Experimental Long-term Effects of Early Childhood and School-age Exposure to a Conditional Cash Transfer Program” (with Teresa Molina Millan, John Maluccio, and Luis Tejerina), 2018.
- “Are Conditional Cash Transfers Fulfilling Their Promise? Schooling, Learning, and Earnings After 10 Years” (with Tania Barham and John Maluccio), *CEPR Discussion Paper* 11937.
- “Six Years of Comunidades Solidarias Rurales: Impacts on School Entry of an Ongoing Conditional Cash Transfer Program in El Salvador” (with Ana Sanchez Chico, John Maluccio and Marco Stampini), 2018. *IADB Working Paper* 908. *R&R, Economia*
- “Attrition in Randomized Control Trials: Using tracking information to correct bias” (with Teresa Molina Millan), *CEPR Discussion Paper* 11962.
- “Adoption of Improved Seeds and Land Allocation, Evidence from DRC” (with Tanguy Bernard, Sylvie Lambert, Margaux Vinez).
- “Challenges to Capture the Big Five Personality Traits in non-WEIRD populations” (with Rachid Laajaj, Daniel Alejandro Pinzon Hernandez, Omar Arias, Samuel Gosling, Jeff Potter, Marta Rubio-Codina, and Renos Vakis), mimeo.
- “Demand versus Returns: Pro-poor targeting of business grants and vocational skills training” (with Patrick Premand and Renos Vakis), *World Bank Policy Research Working Paper*, 6389.
- “Transfers, Diversification and Household Risk Strategies: Experimental Evidence with Lessons for Climate Change Adaptation” (with Patrick Premand and Renos Vakis), *CEPR Discussion Paper* 8940.

## **SELECTED OTHER PUBLICATIONS AND OUTREACH**

- “Farmer adoption of plot and farm-level natural resource management practices: Between rhetoric and reality (with James Stevenson, Bernard Vanlauwe, Nancy Johnson, Lakshmi Krishnan, Frank Place, David Spielman, Karl Hughes, Paul Vlek), 2019. *Global Food Security*, forthcoming.
- “Sustaining Impacts when Transfers End: Women Leaders, Aspirations, and Investment in Children” (with Renos Vakis), 2018. in *The Economics of Asset Accumulation and Poverty Traps*, *NBER Volume*. C. B. Barrett, M. Carter, and J-P. Chavas, eds.
- “Learning for adopting: Technology adoption in developing country agriculture” (with Alain de Janvry and Elisabeth Sadoulet), 2017.
- “Cash or Information ? Changing parental behavioral for early child development in Nicaragua”, *G-monde, note 10*, Paris School of Economics
- “Conditional Cash transfers and Early Cognitive Development”, essay in *The State of the World’s Children*, UNICEF flagship report, 2014.
- “Cash transfers, information, and seasonal migration”, *Early Childhood Matters*, November 2013, 121, Bernard van Leer Foundation, Den Hague, Netherlands.
- “Helping poor farmers help themselves against drought”, *Vox EU*, September 12, 2012.
- “Rural Households and Their Pathways out of Poverty”, chapter 3 in the *World Development Report 2008: Agriculture for Development, 2007*, Oxford University Press.
- “Managing the Exodus: Helping some farmers get out of agriculture”, (with Elisabeth Sadoulet), *Development Outreach*, October 2008, 23-26.
- “El acceso a tierras a través del arrendamiento”, in *El acceso a la tierra en la agenda de desarrollo rural (Access to Land in the Rural Development Agenda)*, 2002, Serie de informes técnicos del Departamento de Desarrollo

Sostenible, BID (Inter-American Development Bank), Washington, DC (with Alain de Janvry and Elisabeth Sadoulet).

“How Gradual was China’s Agricultural Reform? Initial Conditions, Reform Policies and Performance”, *Transition. The Newsletter about Reforming Economies*, 1999, The World Bank. 10(6): 17-18. (with Johan Swinnen).

### **SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS**

Impacts of the differential exposure to Progresa after 20 year (with M. Caridad Araujo)

Skills, heterogeneous quality of agricultural commercial inputs and learning through experimentation (with Rachid Laajaj)

Adoption of improved seed varieties in DRC: experimental evidence on the role of supply constraints, targeting and intra-household decision making (with Tanguy Bernard, Sylvie Lambert, Margaux Vinez)

Constraints to productivity investments by the rural poor in Haiti: the role of liquidity and information (with Jérémie Gignoux, Dan Stein, Kelsey Wright)

Dissemination of new agricultural technologies in Africa: making extension work (with Luc Behaghel, Jeremie Gignoux, Monica Karuhanga Beraho, Jane Kugonza, Judith Odiol, and Margaret Najjingo Mangheni)

Impact evaluation of randomized early childhood parenting intervention in Nicaragua (with Patrick Premand, Norbert Schady, and Renos Vakis)

Impact evaluation of randomized parenting information by text message (with Oscar Barrera, Patrick Premand, and Renos Vakis)

Long-Term Evaluation of Atención A Crisis (with Patrick Premand and Renos Vakis)

### **OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS**

Chair of SPIA (Standing Panel on Impact Assessment), CGIAR: 2017- present (previously Lead Coordinator for Experimental Methods for Impact Evaluation). Member of the Independent Science and Partnership Council CGIAR: 2017-present

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (JPAL), Member of the Board of Directors and co-chair health sector

Co-editor *Journal of Development Economics (JDE)*, 2019-2021

Associate Editor, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics (AJAE)*. 2016-present

BREAD fellow

CEPR Research Affiliate (Development Economics)

EUDN member

PODER (training networks for PhD students in development economics): node leader for Paris School of Economics

Member Editorial Board of the *European Review of Agricultural economics (ERAE)*: 2014-2017

Member Review Board JPALs Cash Transfers for Child Health Initiative.

Member IRB JPAL-Europe

Referee work for *Agricultural Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Economic Review*, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*, *Choices*, *Comparative Economic Studies*, *Contemporary Economic Policy*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *Economic Journal*, *Economic Systems*, *Economics of Education Review*, *Environmental Management*, *Feminist Economics*, *Food Policy*, *Journal of African Economies*, *Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Development Studies*, *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, *Journal of Economic History*, *Journal of Human Capital*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Urban*

*Economics, Labour Economics, Louvain Economic Review, Oxford Economic Papers, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, Science, World Bank Economic Review, World Development, Blackwell Publishing, and World Bank and Inter American Development Bank working papers.*

External member of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)'s Publications Review Committee (2010-2016).

Research Proposal reviews for 3ie, ANR, ATAI (JPAL-CEGA), EDI, ERC, FWO, National Science Foundation, SPIA, World Bank.

Co-organizer PSE development seminar- (2015-present), co-responsible for development economics group, PSE.

Co-organizer Massachusetts Avenue Development Seminar (MADS) - jointly with Center for Global Development (2003-2010).

World Bank: Core team member *World Development Report 2008: Agriculture for Development* (2006-2007)

## **LANGUAGES**

Dutch (native), English, French, German and Spanish