Ameek Singh

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Education

London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) *[Sep 2019 - July 2026]*

MRes/PhD in Economics (near completion)
Dissertation: *Essays in Development Economics*
Research Fields: *Development Economics; Organizational Economics; Applied Microeconomics*

Harvard Kennedy School *[Sep 2017 - Jun 2019]*

Master in Public Administration - International Development (MPA/ID)

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay *[Jul 2009 - May 2013]*

B.Tech, Metallurgical Engineering & Materials Science

Research Papers

Learning-by-Doing at Home: The Childhood Origins of Girls' Domestic Work *[Job Market Paper]*

The output of household work is rarely observed, particularly for individual members, making gendered comparative advantage difficult to measure. I develop a model-based test using household consumption per minute of domestic work: lower opportunity cost alone cannot raise this measure, whereas productive capacity can. I exploit rainfall-induced variation in household-production demand in rural India to study how such capacity forms. A one-standard-deviation rainfall increase at ages 4–7 raises girls' domestic work at ages 12–17 by 5.3 minutes daily. The estimate for boys is 1.0 minute and insignificant; infancy rainfall has no persistent effect for either gender. Effects concentrate among eldest daughters. Households whose eldest daughter experienced favourable early-childhood rainfall obtain 4–10 percent more consumption per minute, depending on current rainfall. Despite lower study time, I find little evidence of adverse effects on enrolment, grade progression, or measured learning. The results are consistent with early domestic-work engagement building task-specific productive capacity.

Building Relationships for Sustainable Supply Chains: Experimental Evidence from the Rwanda Coffee Sector *[Manuscript upon request]*

(with Rocco Macchiavello, Iris Steenkamp, and Mohamed Abouaziza)

Attending a low-cost relationship-building training (instrumented by randomised call-versus-SMS invitations) more than triples take-up of a stumping contract paid on later delivery, but not of one paid on the spot.

Mitigating Automation-Induced Mass Layoffs in Global Value Chains: Experimental Evidence from Burundi *[Baseline ongoing]*

(with Tommaso Crosta, Srishti Gupta, and Iris Steenkamp)

With an exporter in Burundi laying off about 2,500 low-skilled female workers, we study workers' beliefs about automation risk, how networks and informal insurance buffer the shock, and firm-led mitigation.

Optimal Implementation of PES in Supply Chains: Contracts, Monitoring, and Verifiability *[RCT endline ongoing]*

(with Rocco Macchiavello and Iris Steenkamp)

An RCT with 3,711 Rwandan coffee farmers tests upfront versus relational (survival-bonus) payments for planting trees, call-centre monitoring, and a stamped compliance booklet (preliminary: take-up +20%).

Structural Transformation and Children's Time Allocation *[Data harmonization done]*

(with Gabriela Deschamps)

A new harmonised dataset of global time-use surveys, centred on children and developing countries, to study how children's time allocation evolves with development and may shape structural transformation.

Downstream Loyalty, Sustainability Programs, and Labor Market Frictions *[RCT completed]*

(with Rocco Macchiavello and Iris Steenkamp)

Stumping coffee trees means a costly fallow: a delivery-contingent contract has lower take-up than an upfront one but raises later delivery; a second trial tests frictions in hiring workers to do the stumping.

Lawyers and Development *[Data harmonization done]*

Harmonising 250+ nationally representative datasets from 50+ countries, I show that lawyers per capita rise with development, driven by the legal-services sector, with wages keeping pace with supply.

Grants and Awards

Jobs and Opportunity Initiative - J-PAL ($30,077) *[2025-2027]*

Labor Market Effects of Automation of Seasonal Jobs in Low-Income Settings: Evidence from Burundi
(with Iris Steenkamp, Srishti Gupta, and Tommaso Crosta)

King's Climate Action Initiative - J-PAL ($366,437) *[2025-2028]*

Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in the Supply Chain: Agroforestry with Coffee Farmers in Rwanda
(with Rocco Macchiavello and Iris Steenkamp)

International Growth Centre - LSE ($125,000) *[2024-2026]*

Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in the Supply Chain: Agroforestry with Coffee Farmers in Rwanda
(with Rocco Macchiavello and Iris Steenkamp)

PEDL ($125,000) *[2024-2026]*

Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in the Supply Chain: Agroforestry with Coffee Farmers in Rwanda
(with Rocco Macchiavello and Iris Steenkamp)

Digital Agricultural Innovations and Services Initiative - J-PAL ($281,000) *[2023-2025]*

Evaluating Bundles of Resources and Information on Productivity and Gender-Driven Differences in the Rwanda Supply-Chain
(with Rocco Macchiavello and Iris Steenkamp)

Hub for Equal Representation - LSE ($4,200) *[2023-2024]*

Productivity of Home Production and Women's Economic Development
(with Gabriela Deschamps)

Hayek Grant - LSE ($2,500) *[2023-2024]*

Lawyers and Development

Presentations

North East Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC) *[Nov 2026, scheduled]*
Cornell University

Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development *[Dec 2026, scheduled]*
ISI Delhi

IFS/STICERD/UCL Development Work in Progress Seminar *[Oct 2026]*

Climate Change Resilience Workshop *[June 2024]*
IGC Uganda

Teaching

Firms and Markets *[2022-2026]*
Student rating: 4.3/5
Core module on Organisation Economics
MSc in Economics and Management, School of Management, LSE

Quantitative Methods for Public Policy *[2021-2024]*
Student rating: 4.5/5
Master of Public Policy, School of Public Policy, LSE
Excellence in Teaching Award, 2024

Public Policy Applications *[2021-2022]*
Student rating: 4.0/5
Master of Public Policy, School of Public Policy, LSE

Principles of Econometrics *[2020-2021]*
Student rating: 4.6/5
Core econometrics for 2nd year Undergraduates in Economics at LSE

Firms in Developing Countries *[2022-2024]*
Final year Undergraduates at Summer School, LSE

Research and Professional Experience

Harvard Business School *[Sep 2017 - Jun 2019]*

Research Assistant to Prof. Vincent Pons — Cambridge, MA

The World Bank, Development Research Group *[May 2018 - Aug 2018]*

Research Intern — Bengaluru

J-PAL South Asia, MIT *[Jul 2015 - Jun 2017]*

Research Associate — New Delhi, India
Implemented field RCTs and policy evaluations on electricity subsidies and public service delivery. Managed survey piloting, enumerator training, tablet-based data collection, field monitoring, data cleaning, and analysis while coordinating with academic researchers and state government partners.

Fractal Analytics *[Jul 2013 - Jun 2014]*

Data Scientist — Mumbai

References

Prof. Rocco Macchiavello
Professor of Management, LSE
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Sir Tim Besley
School Professor of Economics, LSE
t.besley@lse.ac.uk