

# Michael A. Clemens

Center for Global Development      *Phone* (+1) 202 416 4000  
2055 L Street NW, 5<sup>th</sup> floor      *Email* [mclemens@cgdev.org](mailto:mclemens@cgdev.org)  
Washington, DC 20036 USA      *Web* <http://mclem.org>

## Affiliations

- 2010–present      **Senior Fellow**, Center for Global Development  
    ▸ *Director for Migration, Displacement, & Humanitarian Policy, 2019–present*  
    ▸ *Co-Director for Migration, Displacement, & Humanitarian Policy, 2017–2019*
- 2014–present      **Research Fellow**, IZA–Institute of Labor Economics (Bonn, Germany)
- 2016–present      **Associate Editor**, *Journal of Population Economics* (Springer)
- 2012–present      **Affiliate**, Financial Access Initiative, New York University
- 2016–2020      **Associate Editor**, *World Development* (Elsevier)
- 2011      **Visiting Scholar**, Dept. of Economics & Wagner School, New York University
- 2003–2010      **Affiliated Associate Professor**, McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University
- 2002–2010      **Research Fellow**, Center for Global Development (*Research Manager 2011–2017*)
- 2000–2002      **Research Fellow**, Center for International Development, Harvard University
- 1998–2000      **Consultant**, environmental economics, World Bank
- 1999      **Associate Consultant**, Bain & Company (Istanbul, Turkey)
- 1996 & 1997      **Summer Assistant**, environmental economics, World Bank
- 1994–1995      **Watson Fellow**, Thomas J. Watson Foundation (Bogotá, Colombia & Cuiabá, Brazil)

## Education

- 2002      **Ph.D., economics**, Harvard University Dept. of Economics, Cambridge, MA  
    ▸ *NSF Graduate Research Fellowship; Derek Bok certificate of distinction in teaching*
- 1997      **M.S., econ. & environmental management**, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD  
    ▸ *Abel Wolman Merit Scholarship*
- 1994      **B.S., engineering and applied science**, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA

## Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2019      “[The Place Premium: Bounding the Price Equivalent of Migration Barriers](#)”, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 101 (2): 201–213 (with Claudio Montenegro and Lant Pritchett). (Pre-pub. versions at [CGD](#), [Harvard University](#))  
    ▸ Covered in the [New York Times](#); [The Economist](#) (bis); [The Atlantic](#); [Axios](#); [El País](#); [Quartz](#)  
    ▸ Replication code at DOI:[10.7910/DVN/DHZUOT](https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/DHZUOT)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles, *continued*

- 2019 “[The New Economic Case for Migration Restrictions: An Assessment](#)”, *Journal of Development Economics*, 138: 153–164 (with Lant Pritchett). *(Pre-pub. versions at CGD, IZA, and Harvard University)*
- Covered in the *New York Times* and *The Economist*
  - Replication code and data at DOI:10.7910/DVN/HFTDQZ
- 2019 “[The Labor Market Effects of Refugee Waves: Reconciling Conflicting Results](#)”, *ILR Review*, 72 (4): 818–857 (with Jennifer Hunt). *(Pre-pub. version; Co-released with CGD, LSE, IZA, and CEPR)*
- [Summary on VoxEU](#)
  - Covered in *New York Times*; *Bloomberg*; *Wall Street Journal*; *The Economist* (bis); *Washington Post*; *U.S. News*; *Miami New Times*; *Huffington Post*; *Bloomberg Surveillance* (1:20:15)
- 2018 “[Immigration Restrictions as Active Labor Market Policy: Evidence from the Mexican Bracero Exclusion](#)”, *American Economic Review*, 108 (6): 1468–1487 (with Ethan G. Lewis and Hannah M. Postel). *(Pre-pub. versions at NBER, CGD, and IZA)*
- [Summary on VoxEU](#)
  - Covered in *New York Times* (bis); *The Economist*; *WSJ*; *AP*; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*; *Vox*; *El Diario*; *Newsweek*; *NY Daily News*; *Bloomberg*; featured by *NBER Digest*
  - Replication code and data at <https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/bracero>
- 2018 “[Why don’t remittances appear to affect growth?](#)”, *Economic Journal*, 128 (612): F179–F209 (with David McKenzie). *(Pre-pub. version; Co-released with World Bank)*
- Covered in *The Economist*
- 2018 “[Deterring Emigration with Foreign Aid: An Overview of Evidence from Low-Income Countries](#)”, *Population and Development Review*, 44 (4): 667–693 (with Hannah M. Postel). *(Pre-pub. version; Co-released with GLM-LIC and IZA)*
- Covered in *Financial Times*; *The Economist*; *Washington Post*; *The Guardian*; *Mother Jones*; *CS Monitor*; *Die Welt*; *El País*; *De Standaard*; *CQ Researcher*
- 2018 “[Testing for repugnance in economic transactions: Evidence from guest work in the Gulf](#)”, *Journal of Legal Studies*, 47 (S1): S5–S44. *(Pre-pub. version; Co-released with IZA)*
- 2017 “[Split Decisions: Household Finance When a Policy Discontinuity Allocates Overseas Work](#)”, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 99 (3): 531–543 (with Erwin R. Tiongson). *(Pre-pub. version)*
- Replication code and data at DOI:10.7910/DVN/2DO8QP
- 2017 “[The Meaning of Failed Replications: A Review and Proposal](#)”, *Journal of Economic Surveys*, 31 (1): 326–342. *(Pre-pub. version)*
- 2017 “[Temporary Work Visas as U.S.-Haiti Development Cooperation: A Preliminary Impact Evaluation](#)”, *IZA Journal of Labor & Development*, 6: 4 (with Hannah Postel). *(Pre-pub. version)*
- Replication code and data at DOI:10.7910/DVN/J6P2KT
  - Covered in *The Economist* (bis, ter); *Washington Post*; *Reuters*; *NBC*; *CNN*; *UPI*; *Miami Herald*; *La Opinión*
- 2016 “[The New Role for the World Bank](#)”, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 30 (1): 53–76 (with Michael Kremer). *(Pre-pub. version)*
- Covered in *Vox*
- 2016 “[Losing Our Minds? New research directions on skilled migration and development](#)”, *International Journal of Manpower*, 37 (7): 1227–1248. *(Pre-pub. version)*
- Covered in the *Financial Times*

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles, *continued*

- 2015 “Global Skill Partnerships: A proposal for technical training in a mobile world”, *IZA Journal of Labor Policy*, 4:2. [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)  
 ▶ Proposal endorsed by the UN Secretary General and the UN Marrakesh Compact for Migration, Objective 18. Covered by [Inter Press Service](#); [El País](#)
- 2015 “Skill Development and Regional Mobility: Lessons from the Australia-Pacific Technical College”, *Journal of Development Studies*, 51 (11): 1502–1517 (with Colum Graham and Stephen Howes). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 2014 “A case against taxes and quotas on skilled emigration”, *Journal of Globalization and Development*, 5 (1): 1–39. [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 2014 “Migration and Development Research Is Moving Far Beyond Remittances”, *World Development*, 64: 121–124 (with Çağlar Özden and Hillel Rapoport). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 2013 “Why Do Programmers Earn More in Houston than Hyderabad? Evidence from Randomized Processing of U.S. Visas”, *American Economic Review, Papers & Proceedings*, 103 (3): 198–202. [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)  
 ▶ Covered in [Bloomberg](#) and [Slate](#)
- 2013 “Blunt Instruments: Avoiding Common Pitfalls in Identifying the Causes of Economic Growth”, *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 5 (2): 152–186 (with Sami Bazzi). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 2012 “Counting chickens when they hatch: Timing and the effects of aid on growth”, *Economic Journal*, 122 (561), 590–617 (with Steven Radelet, Rikhil Bhavnani, and Sami Bazzi). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)  
 ▶ Paper awarded the [Royal Economic Society Prize](#)
- 2012 “Why were Latin America’s tariffs so much higher than Asia’s before 1950?”, *Journal of Iberian and Latin American Economic History*, 30 (1): 12–39 (with Jeffrey G. Williamson). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 2011 “Economics and Emigration: Trillion-Dollar Bills on the Sidewalk?”, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 25 (3): 83–106. [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)  
 ▶ Covered in the [New York Times](#); [The Economist](#) (bis); [Fortune](#); [Forbes](#) (bis); [The Atlantic](#); [Salon](#); [NPR](#)  
 ▶ Subject of the American Economic Association’s [inaugural Research Highlight 2015](#)
- 2011 “When Does Rigorous Impact Evaluation Make a Difference? The Case of the Millennium Villages”, *Journal of Development Effectiveness*, 3 (3): 305–339 (with Gabriel Demombynes). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)  
 ▶ Replication code and data at DOI:10.7910/DVN/28146  
 ▶ Covered in the [Financial Times](#); [New York Times](#) (bis); [The Economist](#); [Nature](#) (bis); [Daily Mail](#)
- 2008 “Income Per Natural: Measuring Development for People rather than Places”, *Population and Development Review*, 34 (3): 395–434 (with Lant Pritchett). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)  
 ▶ Covered in [The Economist](#) and [The Atlantic](#)
- 2008 “New data on African health professionals abroad”, *Human Resources for Health*, 6:1 (with Gunilla Pettersson).  
 ▶ Replication code and data at DOI:10.7910/DVN/28161
- 2007 “The trouble with the MDGs: Confronting expectations of aid and development success”, *World Development*, 35 (5): 735–751 (with Charles Kenny and Todd J. Moss). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 2007 “The ghost of 0.7%: Origins and relevance of the international aid target”, *International Journal of Development Issues*, 6 (1): 3–25 (with Todd J. Moss). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 2004 “Wealth Bias in the First Global Capital Market Boom, 1870-1913”, *Economic Journal*, 114 (495): 304–337 (with Jeffrey G. Williamson). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles, *continued*

- 2004 “[Why Did the Tariff-Growth Correlation Change after 1950?](#)”, *Journal of Economic Growth*, 9 (1): 5–46 (with Jeffrey G. Williamson). *<Pre-pub. version>*
- 1999 “[Genuine Savings Rates in Developing Countries](#)”, *World Bank Economic Review*, 13 (2): 333–356 (with Kirk Hamilton). *<Pre-pub. version>*
- 1999 “[Reserve Design for Species Preservation](#)”, *European Journal of Operational Research*, 112 (2): 273–283 (with Charles R. ReVelle and Justin Williams).
- 1993 “[Homologous and illegitimate recombination in developing \*Xenopus\* oocytes and eggs](#)”, *Molecular and Cellular Biology*, 13 (11): 6897–6906 (with Chris W. Lehman, David K. Worthyake, Jonathan K. Trautman, and Dana Carroll).

## Books

- 2021 [The Walls of Nations](#), New York: Columbia University Press, forthcoming.
- 1991 [Geometry for the Classroom](#), New York: Springer-Verlag (with C. Herbert Clemens).

## Papers Under Review

- 2019 “[Human Capital Investment under Exit Options: Evidence from a Natural Quasi-Experiment](#)”, CGD Working Paper 152, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development (with Satish Chand). *<Co-released with IZA>*  
 ▶ Covered in *The Economist* and *The Atlantic* (bis)
- 2019 “[Measuring the Spatial Misallocation of Labor: The Returns to India-Gulf Guest Work in a Natural Experiment](#)”, CGD Working Paper. *<Co-released with IZA>*  
 ▶ Covered in *India Times*; *Khaleej Times*; *Gulf News*; *The National*
- 2017 “[Violence, Development, and Migration Waves: Evidence from Central American child migrant apprehensions](#)”, CGD Working Paper 459. *<Co-released with IZA>*  
 ▶ Covered in *New Yorker*; *Washington Post* (bis); *Wall Street Journal*; *The Atlantic*; *American Prospect*; *Forbes*; *PolitiFact*
- 2017 “[The Effect of Occupational Visas on Native Employment: Evidence from Labor Supply to Farm Jobs in the Great Recession](#)”, IZA Discussion Paper 10492, Bonn: IZA Institute for the Study of Labor.  
 ▶ Covered in the *Washington Post* (bis), *Fortune*, *News & Observer*  
 ▶ Referenced in U.S. Congress debate (video)

## Book Chapters

- 2015 “Does Development Reduce Migration?”, in Robert E. B. Lucas, ed., *International Handbook on Migration and Economic Development*, Northampton, Mass.: Edward Elgar Publishing, pp. 152–185. *<Pre-pub. version>*  
 ▶ Covered in *The Economist*; *New York Times*; *Foreign Policy*; *Der Spiegel*; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*
- 2013 “Seize the Spotlight: A Case for GCC Engagement in Research on the Effects of Labor Migration”. In *Labor Mobility: An Enabler for Sustainable Development*, Abu Dhabi: Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research, pp. 103–120. *<Pre-pub. version>*
- 2012 “The Collision of Development Goals and Impact Evaluation”, in Robert Peccoud, ed., *Evaluation and its Discontents: Do We Learn from Experience in Development?*, Proceedings of the 9th AFD-EUDN Conference, Paris: Agence Française de Développement, pp. 169–197.
- 2012 “Income per Natural: Measuring Development for People Rather Than Places”, in Oliver Bakewell, ed., *Migration and Development*, The International Library of Studies on Migration series, London: Edward Elgar Publishing, Ch. 34 (with Lant Pritchett).
- 2011 “The Labor Mobility Agenda for Development”, in Nancy Birdsall and Francis Fukuyama, eds. *New Ideas on Development after the Financial Crisis*, Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, pp. 260–287.
- 2011 “The Financial Consequences of High-Skill Emigration: Lessons from African Doctors Abroad”, in Sonia Plaza and Dilip Ratha, eds. *Diaspora for Development in Africa*, Washington, DC: World Bank, pp. 165–182.
- 2011 “Genuine Savings Rates in Developing Countries”, in Karl-Gustaf Löfgren and Chuan-Zhong Li, eds. *Green National Accounting And Sustainability*, Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar, pp. 653–676 (with Kirk Hamilton).
- 2010 “The Biggest Idea in Development That No One Really Tried”, in Emily Chamlee-Wright, ed., *The Annual Proceedings of the Wealth and Well-Being of Nations: 2009–2010, Volume II*, Beloit, WI: Beloit College Press, pp. 25–50.
- 2006 “Aid and Growth: The Current Debate and Some New Evidence”, in Peter Isard, Leslie Lipschitz, Alexandros Mourmouras, and Borianna Yontcheva, eds., *The Macroeconomic Management of Foreign Aid: Opportunities and Pitfalls*, Washington, DC: International Monetary Fund, pp 43–60 (with Steven Radelet and Rikhil Bhavnani).
- 2006 “A first look at the consequences of African health professional emigration”, in Treasury of Australia and Reserve Bank of Australia, *G-20 Workshop on Demographic Challenges and Migration: Sydney, 27-28 August 2005*, Canberra: Commonwealth of Australia, pp. 195–231.
- 2003 “Absorptive capacity: How much is too much?” and “Exit: How long should the MCA commitment last?”, in Steven Radelet, *Challenging Foreign Aid: A Policymaker’s Guide to the Millennium Challenge Account*, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development (with Steven Radelet).
- 2001 “Are we saving enough for the future?”, in Jonathan M. Harris, Timothy A. Wise, Kevin P. Gallagher, and Neva R. Goodwin, eds., *A Survey of Sustainable Development: Social and Economic Dimensions*, Washington, DC: Island Press, pp. 37–41 (with Kirk Hamilton).
- 1997 “Are we saving enough for the future?”, in World Bank, *Expanding the Measure of Wealth: Indicators of Environmentally Sustainable Development*, Environmentally Sustainable Development Studies and Monographs Series, No. 17, Washington, DC: World Bank (with Kirk Hamilton).

## Book Chapters, *continued*

- 1997 “The Hidrovia Paraguay-Parana: A Review and Analysis of the Feasibility Studies and Environmental Assessment in the Context of Regional Development”, in Environmental Defense Fund, *The Hidrovia Paraguay-Parana Navigation Project: Report of an Independent Review*, Washington, DC: Environmental Defense Fund and Fundação Centro Brasileiro de Referência e Apoio Cultural/CEBRAC (with Thayer Scudder).

## Policy Writings

- 2020 “Migration and household finances: How a different framing can improve thinking about migration”, *Development Policy Review*, 38 (1): 3–27 (with Timothy N. Ogden). *(Pre-pub. version at CGD)*
- 2019 “Three Facts You Haven’t Heard Much About Are Keys to Better Policy Toward Central America”, CGD blog, Nov. 1 (with Jimmy Graham).  
 ▶ Covered in *Mother Jones*
- 2019 “Promoting New Kinds of Legal Labour Migration Pathways Between Europe and Africa”, CGD Policy Brief (with Helen Dempster and Katelyn Gough).
- 2019 “The President Has Mostly Wiped out US Refugee Resettlement. Other Countries Aren’t Picking up the Slack”, CGD blog, Feb. 6.
- 2019 “La migración es lo que hacemos de ella”, *Política Exterior*, No. 187. Jan./Feb. (with Cindy Huang, Jimmy Graham, and Kate Gough).
- 2018 “A Tool to Implement the Global Compact for Migration: Ten Key Steps for Building Global Skill Partnerships”, CGD Brief, Dec. 4.
- 2018 “Migration as a form of development: New kinds of regulations to create shared benefits”, *Migration Policy Practice*, 8 (3): 6–11.
- 2018 “The Economic and Fiscal Effects of Granting Refugees Formal Labor Market Access”, CGD Working Paper 496 (with Cindy Huang and Jimmy Graham).  
 ▶ Covered in *Politico, Apolitical*
- 2018 “Countries should train migrants coming to work—before they arrive”, *Apolitical*, June 29 (with Kate Gough).
- 2018 “Migration Is What You Make It: Seven Policy Decisions that Turned Challenges into Opportunities”, CGD Note, May 30 (with Cindy Huang, Jimmy Graham, and Kate Gough).
- 2018 “Can Development Assistance Deter Emigration?”, CGD Policy Brief, Feb. 12 (with Hannah Postel).
- 2018 “The Best Ideas for Making Migration Work”, *Refugees Deeply*, Jan. 25 (with Katelyn Gough).
- 2017 “Migration is a Form of Development: The Need for Innovation to Regulate Migration for Mutual Benefit”, Technical Paper No. 2017/8, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. New York: United Nations.  
 ▶ Covered in *El Periódico*
- 2017 “Regional Security Means Border Security: New Data on Why Central American Children Flee to the United States”, *War on the Rocks*, Texas National Security Network, 30 November.
- 2017 “Migrants will keep coming. We should give them the skills they need to thrive”, World Economic Forum *Agenda*, 15 November.

Policy Writings, *continued*

- 2017 “The Need for a Bilateral Labor Agreement Between the US and Mexico, and the Responsibility for Leadership”, Keynote speech at the conference *¿Qué hacer frente a la crisis migratoria? Nuevas visiones y propuestas de acción*, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City, jointly sponsored by Colmex and CIDE, 23 October. *(En español)*
- 2017 “The labour market impact of refugee waves”, *CentrePiece* 22 (3, October): 26–28. London: Centre for Economic Performance, London School of Economics (with Jennifer Hunt).
- 2017 “The economic effects of refugees are largely down to decisions made by the countries which take them”, *American Politics and Policy* blog, LSE United States Centre, Oct. 20.
- 2017 “Global Skill Partnerships: A Proposal for Technical Training in a Mobile World”, CGD Policy Brief, Oct. 11.
- 2017 “Global Skill Partnerships: A Proposal for Technical Training in Settings of Forced Displacement”, CGD Policy Brief, Oct. 11 (with Katelyn Gough).
- 2017 “Foreign Policy Is Migration Policy: Lessons from the Drivers of Central American Child Migration”, CGD Policy Brief, Sep. 13 (with Hannah Postel).
- 2017 “How Central American Youth Test Outdated U.S. Immigration Laws”, *Americas Quarterly*, Aug. 15.
- 2017 “The Real Economic Cost of Accepting Refugees”, *Refugees Deeply*, Aug. 8.
- 2017 “Trump says banning immigrants helps US workers. A leading economist says he’s wrong”, *Vox.com*, Aug. 3.
- 2017 “The debate over the Mariel boatlift, economics’ most famous immigration controversy, explained”, *Vox.com*, Jun. 23.
- 2017 “Does Kicking Out Mexicans Create Jobs? Here’s what happened the last time an American president promised to create jobs by removing Mexican immigrants”, *Politico*, Feb. 15.
- 2017 “Walling the U.S. Off From Mexico Won’t Work”, *U.S. News & World Report*, Feb. 2.
- 2017 “Don’t despair, innovate—Now is the time to try new forms of development cooperation”, *Devex Global Views*, Feb. 23.
- 2016 *Shared Border, Shared Future: A Blueprint to Regulate US-Mexico Labor Mobility*, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development (with Ernesto Zedillo and Carlos Gutierrez). *(En español)*  
 ▶ Covered by the *New York Times*; *Washington Post*; National Public Radio; *El Universal*; *La Crónica*
- 2016 “Development Aid to Deter Migration Will Do Nothing of the Kind”, *Refugees Deeply*, Oct. 31.
- 2016 “World Bank’s US dependency has to end: It’s time to choose the institution’s president based on merit rather than geopolitical considerations”, *Politico Europe*, September 13.
- 2016 “Why today’s migration crisis is an issue of global economic inequality”, Ford Foundation *Equals Change* blog, July 29.
- 2016 “Global Skill Partnerships: A proposal for technical training in a mobile world”, *OECD Development Centre blog*, April 19.
- 2016 “Time for philanthropists to get on board with migration”, *Alliance* magazine, March.
- 2015 “A Self-Interested Approach to Migration Crises: Push Factors, Pull Factors, and Investing In Refugees”, *Foreign Affairs*, Sept. 27 (with Justin Sandefur).
- 2015 “Gestionar la crisis migratoria desde el interés propio”, *Política Exterior*, November–December (with Justin Sandefur).

Policy Writings, *continued*

- 2015 “Remittances 101 for Populist Politicians”, *Views from the Center* blog, August 24.  
 ▶ Covered in *Newsweek* and *ABC News*
- 2015 “Smart policy toward high-skill emigrants”, *IZA World of Labor* 203, November.
- 2015 “Zero Illegal Immigration: A Thought Experiment (with Time Travel)”, *Peregrine*, Issue 1502, Hoover Institution, Oct. 23.
- 2015 “The South Pacific Secret to Breaking the Poverty Cycle”, *Huffington Post: Impact*, Sept. 15.
- 2015 “Global Skill Partnerships: A Proposal for Technical Training in a Mobile World”, in Bertelsmann Stiftung, ed., *A Fair Deal on Talent: Fostering Just Migration Governance*, Gütersloh: Verlag Bertelsmann Stiftung, pp. 297–304.
- 2015 “In Haiti, U.S. rectifies missed opportunity to help”, *The Hill* Congress Blog, Jan. 12 (with Royce Bernstein Murray).
- 2014 “The WHO Global Code of Practice: A Useful Guide for Recruiting Health Care Professionals? Lessons from Germany and Beyond”, CGD Essay (with Steffen Angenendt and Meiko Merda). *〈Auf Deutsch〉*
- 2014 “Let the People Go: The Problem With Strict Migration Limits”, *Foreign Affairs*, 93 (1, Jan./Feb.): 152–159 (with Justin Sandefur). *〈Pre-pub. version〉*
- 2014 “Skilled Migration from Mexico: Trends, Concerns, and Outlook”, CGD Essay. Washington, DC: Center for Global Development. *〈En español〉*
- 2013 “Temporary Work Visas: A Four-Way Win for the Middle Class, Low-Skill Workers, Border Security, and Migrants”, CGD Brief, April. Washington, DC: Center for Global Development (with Lant Pritchett).
- 2013 “More Unskilled Workers, Please: The new immigration bill doesn’t do nearly enough to address America’s real labor shortage”, *Foreign Policy*, July 8.
- 2013 “What Nativists Don’t Want You to Know About Immigrants”, *Boston Review*, June 3.
- 2013 “The New Transparency in Development Economics: Lessons from the Millennium Villages Controversy”, *World Economics Journal* 14 (4): 77–97 (with Gabriel Demombynes). *〈Pre-pub. version〉*
- 2013 “What Do We Know About Skilled Migration and Development?”, Policy Brief No. 3, September. Washington, DC: Migration Policy Institute.
- 2013 “The Big Picture on Global Talent: How to better compete for, and grow talent”. Paper prepared for the Salzburg Trilogue, August 30. Bertelsmann Stiftung (with Christal Morehouse).
- 2012 “L’affrontement entre les objectifs de développement et l’évaluation d’impact”, *Revue d’économie du développement*, 26 (4): 175–205.
- 2012 “Crossing borders to escape natural calamities is no easy option”, *The Guardian*, Aug. 23.
- 2011 “Putting solutions on trial: Impact Evaluation and the Millennium Villages Experiment in Africa”, *Boston Review*, June 16.
- 2011 “Memo to the WHO: Blocking health worker migration is not the answer”, *AidWatch* blog, April 26 (with Amanda Glassman).
- 2010 “The year when shrinking was good”, *Foreign Policy*, Jun. 21.
- 2010 “Let Haitians come to the U.S.: The best way to help Haiti rebuild is through immigration”, *Global Post*, Feb. 26.



## Policy Writings, *continued*

- 2010 “Let them leave: Why migration is the best solution for Haiti’s recovery”, *Foreign Policy*, Jan. 27.
- 2010 “To help Haiti’s earthquake victims, change U.S. immigration laws”, *Washington Post*, Jan. 24, page B2.
- 2010 “Heath Worker Migration: Disease or Symptom?”, *Global Health*, Winter issue.
- 2009 “Migrants Count: Report of the Commission on International Migration Data for Development Research and Policy”, Washington: Center for Global Development (with Patricia A. Santo Tomas and Lawrence H. Summers). *(Arabic, French, Russian, Spanish)*
- 2009 “Skill Flow: A fundamental reconsideration of skilled-worker migration and development”, background paper for the *Human Development Report 2009*, New York: United Nations Development Program.
- 2009 “Think Again: Brain Drain—The movement of skilled workers from poor countries to rich ones is nothing to fear. In the long run, it will benefit both.”, *Foreign Policy*, Oct. 22 (with David McKenzie).
- 2008 “Immigrants are an Engine of Prosperity”, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Nov. 27.
- 2007 “Smart Samaritans: Is There a Third Way in the Development Debate?”, *Foreign Affairs*, 86 (5, Sept./Oct.): 132–140.
- 2006 “Le mythe des 0,7% : origines et pertinence de la cible fixée pour l’aide internationale au développement”, *Afrique Contemporaine*, 219: 173-201 (with Todd J. Moss).
- 2005 “The Millennium Development Goals, Aid Targets, and the Costs of Over-Expectations”, *Sustainable Development Law & Policy*, 6 (1): 58–84 (with Charles J. Kenny and Todd J. Moss).
- 2005 “Costs and Causes of Zimbabwe’s Crisis”, CGD Note, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development (with Todd J. Moss).
- 2005 “Aid and Growth: New evidence shows that aid flows aimed at growth have produced results”, *Finance and Development*, 42 (3): 16–20 (with Steven Radelet and Rikhil Bhavnani).
- 2005 “Interpréter les OMD”, *Courrier de la Planète*. 76: 18–21 (with Charles Kenny and Todd J. Moss).

## Comments and Reviews

- 2017 “Review of Patrick Kingsley, *The New Odyssey: The Story of the Twenty-First-Century Refugee Crisis*”, *Population and Development Review*, 43 (2).
- 2015 “Mapping the Worm Wars: What the Public Should Take Away from the Scientific Debate about Mass Deworming”, Views from the Center blog, July 30 (with Justin Sandefur).
- 2013 “Comments on ‘Gender Equality and Development’ by Esther Duflo”, in Justin Yifu Lin and Claudia Paz Sepúlveda, eds., *Development Challenges in a Post-crisis World*, Annual World Bank Conference on Development Economics 2011, Washington, DC: World Bank.
- 2012 “Concerns about the Millennium Villages project report”, *The Lancet*, 379 (9830): 1945 (with Jesse B. Bump, Gabriel Demombynes, and Lawrence Haddad).  
 ▶ This comment resulted in a retraction of findings in the critiqued paper.
- 2012 “Multisector intervention to accelerate reductions in child stunting: an independent critique of scientific method”, *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 95 (3): 774–775 (with Gabriel Demombynes).
- 2009 “Thesis of a rigid revivalist: Review of *Dead Aid* by Dambisa Moyo”, *Finance and Development*, 46 (3): 53–54.

## Comments and Reviews, *continued*

- 2003 | “[Paul Streeten, Globalisation: Threat or Opportunity?](#)”, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 52 (1): 243–245.

## Other Research Papers

- 2007 | “[Do visas kill? Health Effects of African Health Professional Emigration](#)”, CGD Working Paper 114, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development.
- 2004 | “[The long walk to school: Development goals in historical perspective](#)”, CGD Working Paper 37, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development.
- 2004 | “Inequality, Institutions and Long-Term Growth in Colombia”, Manuscript (with William Easterly and Carlos Esteban Posada).
- 2003 | “[Who Protected and Why? Tariffs the World Around 1870–1938](#)”, Harvard Institute of Economic Research Discussion Paper No. 2010, Dept. of Economics, Harvard University (with Christopher Blattman and Jeffrey G. Williamson).
- 2002 | “[World Bank Capital Neither Complements Nor Substitutes for Private Capital](#)”, CGD Working Paper 20, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development.
- 2002 | “[Do Rich Countries Invest Less in Poor Countries Than the Poor Countries Themselves?](#)”, CGD Working Paper 19, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development.
- 1998 | “[Estimating National Wealth: Methodology and Results](#)”, Environmental Economics Series, Paper Number 57, Washington, DC: World Bank (with Arundhati Kunte, Kirk Hamilton, and John Dixon).

## Honors

- 2013 | [Royal Economic Society Prize](#) for best paper published in the *Economic Journal* in 2012 (with co-authors Steven Radelet, Rikhil Bhavnani, and Sami Bazzi).
- 2010 | Invited for 15<sup>th</sup> [Sir Arthur Lewis Memorial Lecture](#), Eastern Caribbean Central Bank.
- 2010 | Devex.com “[40 young leaders shaping the way international relief and development assistance are being delivered](#)”.
- 1996–2000 | National Science Foundation [Graduate Research Fellowship](#).

## Influence

- Research* | Academic citation statistics at: [Google Scholar](#) | [SSRN](#) | [RePEc IDEAS](#) | [ResearchGate](#)  
[Top 1% of academic economists](#) on RePEc IDEAS, 2008–2019  
 Replication data and code: <https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/mclem>  
 “[Six Vital Voices on the Economics of Migration](#)”, by *NewsDeeply*
- Social media* | “[20 most influential think tank experts on Twitter, 2017](#)” by ESGlobal.  
*Foreign Policy* magazine “[Who’s who of the foreign policy Twitterverse](#)” 2012 and 2013.

## Teaching

2003–2010	<b>Macroeconomics</b> (Master's) and <b>Thesis Advising</b> (Master's), Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy.
2005	<b>Foreign Aid Effectiveness</b> (Ph.D.), University of Copenhagen.
2002	Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Derek Bok Center for Teaching & Learning, Harvard Univ.
2001–2002	<b>Economic Development in East Asia</b> (Undergrad.), Harvard Univ. Dept. of Economics.
2001	<b>Globalization and History</b> (Undergrad.), Harvard Univ. Dept. of Economics.

## Peer Reviews

Referee reports for *American Economic Review*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Labour Economics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Science*, *Science Advances*, *Journal of Economic Growth*, *Journal of Economic History*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of International Economics*, *World Development*, *Journal of Population Economics*, *Journal of Health Economics*, *World Bank Economic Review*, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Public Choice*, *European Economic Review*, *The Lancet*, *International Migration Review*, *Population and Development Review*, *Journal of Globalization and Development*, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, *Journal of Economic Surveys*, *European Economic History Review*, *Journal of Development Effectiveness*, *Review of World Economics*, *Journal of Iberian and Latin American History*, *Journal of International Money and Finance*, *Economic Notes*, National Science Foundation, World Bank Research Committee, Princeton University Press, Oxford University Press, MIT Press, Stanford University Press, Zed Books, Berkeley Electronic Press *Journal of Economics and Growth of Developing Areas*, *Health Affairs*, *Human Resources for Health*, *Financial History Review*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *Georgetown University Public Policy Review*.

## Personal

Languages	English (native); Spanish (advanced); Portuguese, French, Turkish (intermediate)
Citizenship	United States

*Updated February 4, 2020*