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Education

- 2008 Doctor of Philosophy in Economics, Sheffield University, United Kingdom
Thesis: The impact of microcredit on income poverty, labour and well-being. A quasi-experiment study in urban Mexico.
Supervisor: Professor Paul Mosley
Examiner: Emeritus Professor Malcolm Harper
- 2002 Master of Science in International Development, Bath University, United Kingdom
Dissertation: Obstacles to scaling up microfinance organisations for achieving greater outreach among the poor.
Supervisor: Dr James Copestake
- 1995 Bachelor of Science in Economics, National Autonomous University of Mexico
Thesis: Financing microenterprises with informal savings mechanisms
Supervisor: Professor Clemente Ruiz Duran

Current appointment

- 1) Research associate, Brooks World Poverty Institute, the University of Manchester, from January 2009. I am involved in the research project: "Social transfers and chronic poverty", which is undertaken as part of the Chronic Policy Research Centre's analysis work.

Previous employment

- 2) Research and teaching assistant, Economics Department, Sheffield University, from April 2002 to July 2007. I taught microeconomic analysis, macroeconomic theory and topics on development economics at undergraduate level. I was involved in two research projects:
 - *The impact of microcredit on income poverty, labour and well-being.* As part of my PhD, I conducted a quasi-experimental study that I specifically designed to control for endogeneity and selection bias in the context of urban poverty in Mexico. I collected primary data through a household sample survey that served as raw material for the econometric analysis. OLS, Probit analysis, sample selection techniques and instrumental variables estimators were largely employed. The project was funded by the National Council of Science and Technology of Mexico, and the Research Stimulation Fund of the University of Sheffield.
 - *Trust under uncertainty. An experimental study.* Project coordinated by Professor Paul Mosley. I assisted in the design, pilot process and operationalisation of an experimental study that measured the determinants of trust under situations of uncertainty. Risk preference lottery techniques were largely employed. The study was conducted in England and funded by the UK Department for International Development.
- 3) Researcher, from August to October 2001. Project: *The impact of credit on employment generation: Evidence from rural poverty Bangladesh.* I was responsible for designing and

operationalising a household sample survey that served for the impact analysis of credit on employment generation and efficiency labour in the context of rural Bangladesh. The project was commissioned and funded by the Institute for Development Policy Analysis and Advocacy at Proshika, a leading development organisation in Bangladesh.

- 4) Researcher, 2000. Project: *Health Risks of Atmospheric Pollution*. I was part of the research team that examined the effects of atmospheric pollution on health status and productivity losses in Mexico City. Large household surveys were used. The project was funded by the World Bank, and the final report was part of the assistance provided by the Bank to the government of Mexico City in the formulation of the proposed Third Air Quality Management Plan in the Mexico City Metropolitan Area.
- 5) Research and teaching assistant, Faculty of Economics, National Autonomous University of Mexico, from 1994 to 1996. I taught econometrics and development economics at undergraduate level. I was involved in two research projects:
 - Project: *Early childhood education and care policy*. Project coordinators: Professors Clemente Ruiz Duran and Benilde Garcia. My role in the project was to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of the pre-school education system in Mexico, based on country-based household surveys and national census. The project was funded by the World Bank, and the final report served as the background paper for the OECD country note on Mexico's pre-school education system.
 - Project: *Social Security in the microenterprise sector in Mexico*. Research coordinator: Professor Clemente Ruiz Duran. My role in this project was to coordinate a sample survey amongst microentrepreneurs across the country. Main activities involved the design of questionnaires, test the instruments and coordinate fieldworkers. I was also involved in data analysis and report writing activities. The project was funded by the Social Security Institute of Mexico.

Publications and working papers

The utility cost of group lending (with Paul Mosley). Economics Department, University of Sheffield. Currently under peer reviewing.

The impact of microcredit on income poverty. An endogeneity-corrected estimation. Sheffield Economics Research Paper (SERP), No. 2007005. Currently under peer reviewing.

Wider impacts of credit. Evidence from labour and human capital (with Paul Mosley) Economics Department, University of Sheffield. Currently under peer reviewing.

Dynamics of informal lending (2007) Economics Department, University of Sheffield. Mimeo

Poverty estimates in Mexico. A review (2006) Economics Department, University of Sheffield. Mimeo

Improving Air Quality in Metropolitan Mexico City. An Economic Valuation. With Vergara, et al (2002) in: *Policy Research Working Paper* No. 2785, World Bank.

Moving toward individual lending in rural Bangladesh. (2001). Bath University

PhD thesis: The impact of microcredit on income poverty, labour and well-being. A quasi-experiment study in urban Mexico

Master dissertation: Obstacles to scaling up microfinance organisations for achieving greater outreach among the poor

Languages

Spanish: mother tongue

English: Proficiency in reading, writing and speaking

Portuguese: Good reading, writing and speaking skills

Swedish: Good reading, and speaking skills

Computer literacy

STATA: Proficiency

Eviews: good command

SPSS: Proficiency

N-Vivo: good command

Atlas-TI: good command

Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint)

Referee activities and other activities

Journal of International Development (3 commissions per year)

Nordic Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies (1 commission per year)

Several journalistic articles in: El Nacional newspaper; Etcetera magazine.

Member of the Microfinance Network Sweden, since 2007.

Former Vice-president and founder member of the Advisor Unit for Entrepreneurial Communities (UNACE).