

# AMPARO PALACIOS-LOPEZ

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Citizenship: El Salvador, Gender: Female  
Date of Birth: November 5, 1973

## EDUCATION

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- Ph.D. Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Maryland, College Park, 2013  
*Dissertation Title:* “Essays on Decomposition Analysis”  
*Research Fields:* Development Economics, Agriculture and Gender, Environment and Public Expenditure  
*Adviser:* Dr. Ramón López
- M.S. Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Maryland, College Park, 2010
- M.A. Economics, Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, 1998
- B.S. Economics, Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, 1997

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

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Development Economics, Agricultural Economics, Gender

## EXPERIENCE

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The World Bank, Development Economics Research Group (Poverty and Inequality Unit), *Washington, DC*, May 2012-present

Extended Term Consultant

- Co-coordinator of the project titled “Agriculture in Africa: Telling Facts from Myths.” The goal of the project is to uncover, verify, and update stylized facts associated with African agriculture. Tasks include management of research activities and data harmonization.
- Investigated and modelled the gender differences in agricultural labor productivity using decomposition analysis.
- Co-investigator of project titled “Measuring household labor in small holder farming in Tanzania.” The objective of the project is to conduct an experiment to compare recall versus other survey methods of data collection such as frequent enumerator visits specifically for agricultural labor data.
- Analyzed the contribution of female labor in agriculture across six African countries. Results are to be presented in an academic paper with the goal of eventual publication in a peer-reviewed journal.
- Provided technical training to African professors through the standing partnership of the LSMS team and the CMAAE.
- Mentored African researchers as part of the Young African Scholars program of the Myths and Facts project.

The World Bank, Development Economics Research Group (Poverty and Inequality Unit), *Washington, DC*, September 2010-May 2012

Short Term Consultant; full time

- Provided research support for projects using The Living Standards Measurement Study-Integrated Surveys on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA) data which involved indicator creation and harmonization especially with regards to agriculture productivity measures. Tasks involved data control, and addressing data queries from users.
- Extracted data from The Living Standards Measurement Study-Integrated Surveys on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA) Project and calculated agricultural productivity measures
- Analyzed the gender differences in agricultural productivity and technology adoption in Sub Saharan Africa
- Explored the gender differences in nutrition and anthropometrics indicators in Sub-Saharan Africa

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, *Santiago, Chile*, October 2009 - July 2010

Short Term Consultant

- Analyzed the impact of international trade on income distribution in developing countries for “Trade Openness, Poverty, and Public Spending Allocations”
- Evaluated the effect of the composition of government spending on the relationship between trade openness, income distribution, and poverty using a system of equations.
- Compiled datasets on income distribution data from household surveys, public expenditure and trade indicators for Latin America

Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, *College Park, MD*, August 2006 – August 2010

Research Assistant to Professor Ramón López

- Provided research assistance and analysis for the project titled “Natural Disaster Shocks, Public Policy Biases, and Economic Growth” in collaboration with The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction & Recovery, The World Bank
- Empirically analyzed the relationship between natural disasters and human and natural capital
- Analyzed the temporal impact of governmental expenditures on environmental conditions
- Created a database of government expenditures, environmental indicators, natural disasters, and stocks of physical, human and natural capital
- Analyzed economic and development indicators of Chile

The World Bank, Development Economics Research Group (Agriculture and Rural Development Unit), *Washington, DC*, April 2009 - August 2009

Economic Consultant; full time

- Examined how geographic characteristics, including soils, weather, water resources, temperature and proximity to urban centers affect farming practices for the project titled “An African Green Revolution: Finding Ways to Boost Productivity”
- Extracted data from African household surveys and calculated agricultural productivity measures
- Compiled datasets of agricultural production indicators and created GIS maps of crop coverage for countries in Africa and Asia

Economics Department, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, *Santiago*, August 1999 – July 2006

Assistant Director of the Inter-American Program of Applied Macroeconomics

Research Assistant to Professor Juan Eduardo Coeymans

- Coordinated the Inter-American Program of Applied Macroeconomics, program co-financed by the Inter-American Development Bank and some Central Banks and Finance Ministries of Latin America.
- Served as an academic advisor, providing academic support to graduate students
- Traveled once a year to the partner countries to promote the program and interview candidates.
- Conducted macroeconomic and statistical analysis of iron consumption, cement consumption, growth and total productivity, and unemployment in Chile
- Developed econometric models and computed forecasts on a quarterly basis for Chile
- Maintained the Economics Department's database of macroeconomic indicators

## **WORKING PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS**

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"Why has Europe Become Environmentally Cleaner? Decomposing the Roles of Fiscal, Trade and Environmental Policies" 2014, forthcoming in Environmental and Resource Economics (with Ramón López).

"Caught in a productivity trap: a distributional perspective on gender differences in Malawian agriculture" 2013 Policy Research Working Paper Series 6381, The World Bank. Invited to review and resubmit in World Development (with Talip Kilic and Markus Goldstein)

"Why Europe has become environmentally cleaner: Decomposing the roles of fiscal, trade and environmental policies," 2011 CEPR Discussion Papers 8551 (with Ramón López).

Have Government Spending and Energy Tax Policies Contributed to make Europe Environmentally Cleaner?." 2010 University of Maryland, College Park, Working Paper 10-06 (with Ramón López).

Gender Differences in Agricultural Productivity: The Role of Market Imperfections" 2014 University of Maryland, College Park, Working Paper 14-01. Under review in the Journal of Development Studies (with Ramón López).

"Why do women spend more time on farming than men? (with Luc Christiaensen and Talip Kilic)

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, College Park 2008-2010  
Teaching Assistant to Professor Marc Nerlove. Course: AREC 445 Agricultural Development, Population Growth and the Environment

Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, College Park 2008-2010  
Teaching Assistant to Professor Ramón López. Course: AREC 404 Applied Price Analysis

Economics Department, Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, Santiago 1999-2006. Lecturer. Topics included: Introduction to Economics, Introduction to Microeconomics, General Equilibrium and Aggregate Demand Models

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

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GRASP-CEPR Grant, Co-investigator, 2011-2012

Graduate Assistantship, University of Maryland, College Park, 2006-2010

Scholarship from the Government of El Salvador for Master Studies at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, 1997-1998

Fundacion Francisco Marroquin Scholarship for Latin American Students to study Economics at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, 1995-1997

## LANGUAGES

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Spanish (native), English (speak, write, and read)

## REFERENCES

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Prof. Ramón López	University of Maryland	<a href="mailto:rlopez@arec.umd.edu">rlopez@arec.umd.edu</a>	(301) 405-1281
Kathleen Beegle	The World Bank	<a href="mailto:kbeegle@worldbank.org">kbeegle@worldbank.org</a>	(202) 458-9894
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