

Jonathan Robinson

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University of California, Santa Cruz
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Academic Appointments:

University of California, Santa Cruz
Associate Professor of Economics, 2014-
Ph.D. Program Director, 2013-
Assistant Professor of Economics, 2007-2014

Other Affiliations:

CEGA Digital Credit Observatory, co-Scientific Director, 2016-
Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), Affiliate, 2008-
Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), Affiliate, 2010-
Center of Evaluation for Global Action (CEGA), Affiliate, 2009-
Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), Affiliate, 2009-
National Bureau for Economic Research (NBER), Faculty Research Fellow, 2013-15. Research
Associate, 2015-

Education:

Princeton University,
Ph.D., Economics, 2007
M.A., Economics, 2004

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
S.B., Economics, S.B., Political Science, 2001

Research Papers:

(2017) "Banking the Unbanked? Evidence from Three Countries," with Pascaline Dupas, Dean Karlan, and Diego Ubfal. Accepted, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*.

(2017) "The Effect of Savings Accounts on Interpersonal Financial Relationships: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Rural Kenya," with Pascaline Dupas and Anthony Keats. Accepted, *Economic Journal*.

(2016) "Challenges in Banking the Rural Poor: Evidence from Kenya's Western Province," with Pascaline Dupas, Sarah Green, and Anthony Keats. NBER Volume *African Successes: Modernization and Development, Volume 3*, Sebastian Edwards, Simon Johnson, and David N. Weil, editors, University of Chicago Press.

(2016) "Success in Entrepreneurship: Doing the Math," with Michael Kremer and Olga Rostapshova. NBER Volume *African Successes: Human Capital, Volume 2*, Sebastian Edwards, Simon Johnson, and David N. Weil, editors, University of Chicago Press.

(2014) "Minding Small Change among Small Firms in Kenya," with Lori Beaman and Jeremy Magruder, *Journal of Development Economics* 108: 69-86.

(2013) “Keeping the Doctor Away: Experimental Evidence on Investment in Preventative Health Products,” with Jennifer Meredith, Sarah Walker, and Bruce Wydick, *Journal of Development Economics* 105: 196-210.

(2013) “Experimental Evidence on the Effects of Home Computers on Academic Achievement among Schoolchildren,” with Rob Fairlie, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 5 (3): 211-240.

(2013) “Why Don’t the Poor Save More? Evidence from Health Savings Experiments,” with Pascaline Dupas, *American Economic Review* 103 (4): 1138-1171.

(2013) “Behavioral Biases and Firm Behavior: Evidence from Kenyan Retail Shops,” with Michael Kremer, Jean Lee, and Olga Rostapshova, *American Economic Review (Papers and Proceedings Issue)* 103 (3): 362-368.

(2013) “Savings Constraints and Microenterprise Development: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Kenya,” with Pascaline Dupas, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 5 (1): 163-192.

(2012) “Coping with Political Instability: Micro Evidence from Kenya’s Post Election Violence,” with Pascaline Dupas, *Journal of Development Economics* 99 (2): 314-329.

(2012) “Limited Insurance within the Household: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Kenya.” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 4 (4): 140–164.

(2012) “Risk-Coping through Sexual Networks: Evidence from Client Transfers in Kenya,” with Ethan Yeh, *Journal of Human Resources* 47 (1): 107-145.

(2011) “Nudging Farmers to Use Fertilizer: Theory and Experimental Evidence from Kenya,” with Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer, *American Economic Review* 101 (6): 2350-2390.

(2011) “Transactional Sex as a Response to Risk in Western Kenya,” with Ethan Yeh, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 3 (1): 35-64.

(2010) “Coping with Political Instability: Micro Evidence from Kenya’s 2007 Election Crisis,” with Pascaline Dupas, *American Economic Review (Papers & Proceedings Issue)* 100 (2): 120-124.

(2008) “How High are Rates of Return to Fertilizer? Evidence from Field Experiments in Kenya,” with Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer, *American Economic Review (Papers & Proceedings Issue)* 98 (2): 482-488.

Other papers:

(2017) “Digital Credit: A Snapshot of the Current Landscape and Open Research Questions,” with Eilin Francis and Joshua Blumenstock. CEQA white paper and BREAD working paper #516.

(2016) “Income, Income Shocks, and Transactional Sex,” with Katherine LoPiccalo and Ethan Yeh. *The Oxford Handbook of the Economics of Prostitution*, Scott Cunningham and Manisha Shah, editors, pp. 188-209. Oxford University Press.

(2009) Book Review of *Sex Markets: A Denied Industry* by Marina Della Giusta, Maria Laura Di Tommaso, and Steinar Strøm, *15* (4): 158-161.

Working Papers:

“Grain Today, Gain Tomorrow: Evidence from a Storage Experiment with ROSCAs in Kenya,” with Shilpa Aggarwal and Eilin Francis. July 2017.

“Governance and the Effectiveness of Public Health Subsidies: Evidence from Ghana, Kenya and Uganda,” with Rebeca Dizon-Ross and Pascaline Dupas. Revised version of NBER working paper #21324, BREAD working paper #458. Revised July 2017. Revise and resubmit, *Journal of Public Economics*.

“Local Leadership and Targeting of Subsidies: Evidence from Chiefs in Rural Malawi,” with Pia Basurto and Pascaline Dupas. Revised July 2017.

“The Daily Grind: Cash Needs, Labor Supply and Self-Control,” with Pascaline Dupas and Santiago Saavedra. Revised September 2016. Previous version circulated as NBER working paper #19264.

“Rates of Return, Optimization Failures, and Behavioral Biases: Evidence from Kenyan Retail Shops,” with Michael Kremer, Jean Lee and Olga Rostapshova. Revised April 2016.

Works in Progress:

“Technology Diffusion and Appropriate Use: Evidence from Western Kenya,” with Esther Duflo, Michael Kremer, and Frank Schilbach.

“Failures in the Market for Agricultural Information in Kenya,” with Raissa Fabregas, Michael Kremer and Frank Schilbach.

“Storage, Savings and Agricultural Reinvestment: A Field Experiment with ROSCAs in Kenya,” with Shilpa Aggarwal and Eilin Francis.

“Market Linkages, Trade Costs and Technology Adoption in Rural Tanzania,” with Shilpa Aggarwal, Brian Giera, Dahyeon Jeong, Patrick Olobo, and Alan Spearot.

“Daily Income, Labor Supply and Multiple Accounts: A Mobile Money Field Experiment with Micro-Entrepreneurs in Malawi,” with Pia Basurto, Valentina Brailovskaya, and Shilpa Aggarwal.

“Estimating the Effects of Digital Credit: Evidence from Airtel Malawi,” with Valentina Brailovskaya, Pascaline Dupas, and Eilin Francis.

Research Grants:

NSF Economics (2017), with Shilpa Aggarwal, Brian Giera, Dahyeon Jeong, and Alan Spearot.

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, for CEGA Digital Credit Observatory (2016), with Joshua Blumenstock.

IPA Financial Inclusion Program (2016), with Shilpa Aggarwal, Pia Basurto, and Valentina Brailovskaya.

ATAI Pilot grant (2015), with Shilpa Aggarwal and Eilin Francis.

International Growth Centre (2015), with Shilpa Aggarwal, Brian Giera and Alan Spearot.

IPA SME Initiative (2015), with Shilpa Aggarwal, Brian Giera and Alan Spearot.

3ie Foundation (2014), with Raissa Fabregas, Michael Kremer and Frank Schilbach.

BRAC-CEGA (2014), with Shilpa Aggarwal, Brian Giera, and Patrick Olobo.

ATAI (2013), with Raissa Fabregas, Michael Kremer and Frank Schilbach.

ATAI (2012), with Esther Duflo Michael Kremer and Frank Schilbach.

USAID DIV (2011), with Esther Duflo Michael Kremer and Frank Schilbach.

Anonymous Donor (2011), with Esther Duflo, Michael Kremer and Frank Schilbach.

NIH P01 (2010), with Rebecca Dizon-Ross and Pascaline Dupas.

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (2009), with Pascaline Dupas, Dean Karlan and Diego Ubfal.

ATAI (2009), with Esther Duflo, Michael Kremer, and Frank Schilbach.

NBER Africa Program (2009), with Pascaline Dupas and Anthony Keats.

3ie Foundation (2009), with Pascaline Dupas and Anthony Keats.

International Growth Centre (2009), with Pascaline Dupas and Anthony Keats.

NBER Africa Program (2008), with Michael Kremer, Jean Lee and Olga Rostapshova.

World Bank, Doing Business and Gender Unit (2008), with Pascaline Dupas and Anthony Keats.

SEVEN Foundation (2007), with Michael Kremer and Olga Rostapshova.

NSF Dissertation Improvement Grant (2005).

Refereeing:

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Journal: Microeconomics, American Economic Review, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Contemporary Economic Policy, Econometrica, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economics of Education Review, Economic Inquiry, Economic Journal, Economics of Governance, Economic and Social Research Council, Global Health Perspectives, Journal of African Economies, Journal of Banking and Finance, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Globalization and Development, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Public Economics, Management Science, National Science Foundation, Oxford Economic Papers, PEDL Programme, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Income and Wealth, Science, Southern Economic Journal, Wiley Publishing, World Bank Economic Review, World Development

Advising:

Pia Basurto (chair), Ph.D. expected 2018, Peru Ministry of Education.

Brian Giera (chair), 2017, Amazon Research.

Zeinab Golmohammadian (chair), 2016.

Achmad Maulana (chair), Senior Researcher, Center for Sustainable Development Goals, Padjadjaran University, 2016.

Brandon Heck (committee member), IMPAQ International, 2016.

Jesse Mora (committee member), Assistant Professor, Occidental College, 2015.

Shilpa Aggarwal (co-chair), Assistant Professor, Indian School of Business, 2014.

Amrisha Dongre (committee member), Centre for Policy Research (India), 2010.

Valentina Brailovskaya (committee member), Ph.D. expected 2018.

Eilin Francis (chair), Ph.D. expected 2018

DJ Jeong (co-chair), Ph.D. expected 2019

Arshad Mirza (chair), Ph.D. expected 2019

Other Experience:

Evaluation Consultant, International Child Support - Africa (Busia, Kenya), 2001-2002