

Juan Carlos Muñoz-Mora

Professor of Development Economics · Universidad EAFIT, Colombia

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PROFILE

Scholar and development economist specializing in the **evaluation of social programs and public policy**. Combines **rigorous impact evaluation** (experimental and quasi-experimental designs) with **monitoring, measurement, and social-value analysis**, covering the full evaluation cycle—from design and field data collection to causal identification, learning, and decision-making. Integrates **micro-econometrics, data science, and mixed quantitative–qualitative methods**, applied across **agricultural and rural development, conflict, and climate change**, for multilateral organizations (World Bank, IDB, FAO, USAID) and governments in Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa.

RESEARCH FIELDS

Development Economics · Agricultural & Rural Development · Economics of Conflict · Climate Change · Impact Evaluation · Micro-econometrics · Data Science · Mixed Methods

EDUCATION

2012--2016	PhD in Economics , ECARES – Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) & Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF) (<i>European Doctorate</i>)
2011--2012	Doctoral Training in Quantitative Economics (MSc equivalent), ECARES – ULB
2008--2010	MSc in Economics , Universidad de los Andes, Colombia
2001--2006	BSc in Economics , Universidad de Antioquia, Colombia

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2019--present	Full Professor , Department of Economics, Universidad EAFIT, Colombia
	Assistant Professor , Department of Economics, Universidad EAFIT, Colombia
2017--2019	Marie Curie Postdoctoral Research Fellow , Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK
2017--2019	Postdoctoral Research Fellow , Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF), Spain
2016--2017	

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP & ADMINISTRATION

2022--2026	Chair, Policy & Development Area , Universidad EAFIT
2019--2022	Director, PhD Program in Economics , Universidad EAFIT

TEACHING & THESIS SUPERVISION

Recent Courses

2026-2	Formulating and Evaluating Sustainable Projects (MF7011), MSc in Sustainable Finance and Climate Change, Universidad EAFIT. [course site]
2026-2	Doing Economics — Project 1: Tools and Applications (PD1002), BSc in Economics, Universidad EAFIT; co-taught with Susana Berrío. [course site]
2026	Augmented Research Studio (EC0744), MSc in Applied Economics, Universidad EAFIT. [course site]
2026	Information Management and Data Governance , Specialization in Territorial Public Management, Universidad EAFIT. [course site]
2026	Measuring and Valuing Social Impact: a Theory of Change Approach , executive education for Comfama, Universidad EAFIT; with Paola Velásquez. [course site]
2026	New Financing Instruments for the Social Sector , MSc in Social Management and Innovation (MGIS), Universidad EAFIT. [course site]

Doctoral Thesis Supervision

ongoing	Walter Alfredo Salas Zapata , PhD in Economics, Universidad EAFIT (advisor)
ongoing	Jesús Fernando Flórez Herrera , PhD in Economics, Universidad EAFIT (advisor)
ongoing	Darío Felipe Jiménez Narváez , PhD in Economics, Universidad EAFIT (tutor)

ongoing	Luisa Fernanda Correa Díaz, PhD in Economics, Universidad EAFIT (tutor)
2025	Germán Tabares, PhD in Economics, Universidad EAFIT (graduated)
2025	Andrés Felipe Sánchez, PhD in Economics, Universidad EAFIT (graduated)

AFFILIATIONS

2017--present	Research Associate, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex
2017--present	Institute of Political Economy and Governance (IPEG), Universitat Pompeu Fabra
2011--present	Households in Conflict Network (HiCN)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (International)

- “Being ready for climate change: determinants of climate change adaptation among smallholder farmers in Antioquia, Colombia” (2026), with Yazari Agudelo and Santiago Bohórquez Correa. *Environmental Research Communications*, 8(8), 085026. doi:10.1088/2515-7620/ae97e6
- “Managing destructive entrepreneurship in place: formal and informal institutions for the achievement of regional economic growth” (2025), with Sebastián Aparicio, Diego Martínez-Moya and David Urbano. *Small Business Economics*, 66(2), 565–588. doi:10.1007/s11187-025-01090-7
- “Education and land inequality: evidence on Colombian land tenure and human-capital formation” (2025), with Germán Tabares-Pozos and Irina España-Eljaiek. *Economic History of Developing Regions*, 40(1), 49–79. doi:10.1080/20780389.2025.2459909
- “From Local Voices to Global Impact” (2025), with Estefany Peña-Rojas and Andrés Felipe Sánchez-Saldarriaga. *The Journal of Public Space*, 10(1), 107–116. doi:10.32891/jps.v10i1.1854
- “The spatial interplay between productive and destructive entrepreneurship: do institutions meet expectations in rural areas?” (2024), with David Urbano, Sebastián Aparicio and Diego Martínez-Moya. *Entrepreneurship & Regional Development*, 37(3–4), 350–374. doi:10.1080/08985626.2024.2389378
- “Key Determinants of COVID-19 Vaccination Take-Up in Remote Rural Areas: Evidence From Colombia” (2024), with Natalia Cantet, Marcela Ibáñez and Laura María Quintero. *International Journal of Public Health*, 69, 1606689. doi:10.3389/ijph.2024.1606689
- “Control, dispute, and concentration of land during civil war: Evidence from Colombia” (2023), with José Fortou and Sandra Johansson. *International Interactions*, 49(2), 201–236. doi:10.1080/03050629.2023.2186406
- “From immigrants to local entrepreneurs: understanding the effects of migration on entrepreneurship in a highly informal country” (2022), with Sebastián Aparicio, Diego Martínez and David Urbano. *International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behavior & Research*, 28(9), 78–103. doi:10.1108/IJEBR-07-2021-0615
- “Do Trees on Farms Improve Household Well-Being? Evidence From National Panel Data in Uganda” (2020), with Daniel C. Miller, Laura V. Rasmussen and Alberto Zezza. *Frontiers in Forests and Global Change*, 3, 101. doi:10.3389/ffgc.2020.00101
- “The role of land property rights in the war on illicit crops: Evidence from Colombia” (2018), with Santiago Tobón and Jesse d’Anjou. *World Development*, 103, 268–283. doi:10.1016/j.worlddev.2017.10.021
- “Returning Home after Civil War: Food security, nutrition, and poverty among Burundian households” (2018), with Philip Verwimp. *Journal of Development Studies*, 54(6), 1019–1040. doi:10.1080/00220388.2017.1311407
- “Prevalence, Economic Contribution, and Determinants of Trees on Farms across Sub-Saharan Africa” (2017), with Daniel C. Miller and Luc Christiaensen. *Forest Policy and Economics*, 84, 47–61. doi:10.1016/j.forpol.2016.12.005
- “The agriculture from economics: theoretical contributions to an old debate” (in Spanish, 2007), with Yady Barrero, Marleny Cardona, Ever Álvarez and Dorian Espinoza. *Revista Interamericana de Ambiente y Turismo*, 3(1). [link]

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (Colombia)

- “Approaching the impact of armed conflict and illicit crops on the Colombian coffee sector” (in Spanish, 2015), with Ana María Ibáñez and Philip Verwimp. *Ensayos de Economía Cafetera*, Federación Nacional de Cafeteros, 29. [link]
- “The price of land: state of the art in the economic valuation of rural land and its application in Colombia” (in Spanish, 2013), with Harold Cardona. *Suma de Negocios*, 4(1). [link]
- “Property taxes and economic development: property taxes and the investment of Antioquia’s municipalities” (in Spanish, 2013), with Santiago Tobón. *Ecos de Economía*, 17(36). [link]
- “Air pollution and vulnerability of exposed individuals: the case of downtown Medellín” (in Spanish, 2012), with Carlos Gaviria and Gabriel González. *Revista Nacional de Salud Pública*, 30(3). [link]
- “Is the economy a game? Experimental classroom evidence for an introductory economics course” (in Spanish, 2012), with Sebastián Aparicio and Manuel Mesa. *Ecos de Economía*, 15(33). [link]
- “The Paths of Coffee: Rural Armed Conflict and Colombian Coffee Production” (in Spanish, 2010). *Ensayos Sobre Política Económica*, 63. [link]
- “The effect of the Rural Armed Conflict on Colombian Coffee Production: a false myth?” (in Spanish, 2010). *Ensayos de Economía Cafetera*, Federación Nacional de Cafeteros, 26. [link]
- “Colombian labor market 2000–2006: an approach from signaling theory” (in Spanish, 2010), with Andrés Cano and Manuel Mesa. *Revista de la Educación Superior*, Mexico.
- “The environmental Kuznets curve for water quality: unit-root and co-integration tests” (2008), with Catalina Granda, Luis Guillermo Pérez and Mauricio Alviar. *Lecturas de Economía*, 69, 221–244. [link]
- “Land concentration and agricultural production in Antioquia, 1995–2004” (in Spanish, 2008), with Tatiana Mora. *Ecos de Economía*, 26. [link]
- “Labor productivity and territory: a spatial analysis for three productive sectors (1995–2005)” (in Spanish, 2007), with Marleny Cardona, Andrés Cano and Isabel Montes. *Economía, Gestión y Desarrollo*, 5. [link]

■ “Forced displacement and rural land concentration in Antioquia, 1995–2004” (in Spanish, 2007), with Carlos Gaviria. *Lecturas de Economía*, 66. [\[link\]](#)

■ “The environmental Kuznets curve for water quality in Colombia, 1980–2000” (in Spanish, 2005). *Revista Oikos*, 19. [\[link\]](#)

Books

■ “This land is my land: understanding the effect of conflict on land tenure structure in Urabá-Antioquia” (in Spanish, 2021). Editorial Universidad EAFIT. doi:10.17230/9789587207101r0

■ “Informality and Illegality in the gold-mining and wood industries in Antioquia” (in Spanish, 2012), with Jorge Giraldo. Editorial Universidad EAFIT. ISBN 978-958-99013-2-8. [\[link\]](#)

■ “The atlas of rural property in Colombia 2000–2009” (in Spanish, 2012). Universidad de los Andes & Instituto Geográfico Agustín Codazzi. [\[link\]](#)

Book Chapters

■ “Midiendo desigualdad desde el cielo [Measuring inequality from above]” (in Spanish, 2025), with José G. Montalvo and Marta Reynal-Querol. In D. Peña (coord.), *Investigación Económica con Datos Masivos*, ch. 7, pp. 263–299. Madrid: Fundación Ramón Areces. ISBN 978-84-9961-472-4. [\[link\]](#)

■ “Do trees on farms matter in African Agriculture?” (2018), with Daniel C. Miller and Luc Christiaensen. In L. Christiaensen & L. Demery (eds.), *Agriculture in Africa: Telling Myths from Facts*. Washington, DC: World Bank. [\[link\]](#)

■ “The Persistence of Land Concentration in Colombia: What Happened Between 2000 and 2010?” (2011), with Ana María Ibáñez. In M. Bergsmo, C. Rodríguez-Garavito, P. Kalmanovitz & M. Saffon (eds.), *Distributive Justice in Transitions*. Torkel Opsahl / PRIO. ISBN 9780415521178. [\[link\]](#)

Other Publications (methodological)

■ “Validity and Reliability of the Facility List Coder, a New Tool to Evaluate Community Food Environments” (2019), with Ana María Arcila and Andreu Farran. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health*, 16(19), 3578. [\[link\]](#)

■ “Best practices of statistical models in the Social Sciences: understanding the language of data” (in Spanish, 2017), with Sebastián Aparicio. In M. Cardona & J.C. Muñoz-Mora (eds.), *Aproximaciones Metodológicas en las Ciencias Sociales*. Universidad de Manizales.

WORKING PAPERS & WORK IN PROGRESS

■ “With the Peace in Sight: Strategic Land Expropriation Before Paramilitary Demobilisation in Colombia”, with Lukas Kleine-Rueschkamp, Jesse d’Anjou and Andrés Sánchez-Saldarriaga. Submitted, *Journal of Development Economics* (2026).

■ “When Do Property Rights Reduce Illicit Crops? Market Connectivity as the Binding Constraint”, with Eduard Martínez-González and María del Pilar López-Urbe. CEDE Working Paper 2026-37, Universidad de los Andes; under review, *Journal of Public Economics* (2026). hdl:1992/79361; ssrn:7133959

■ “Housing Investments and Well-being in Slums: Observational Evidence from Colombia”, with Gustavo García, Albert Saiz, Juliana Lalinde-Velásquez and Daniela Mejía-Tejada. SSRN Working Paper (2025). ssrn:5387296

■ “Does Storing Pay Off? Evidence from a Counterfactual Regression Discontinuity of Colombia’s Paddy Rice Storage Incentive (2013–2025)”, with Daniela Mejía-Tejada, Daniel A. Rodríguez-Arbeláez, Nicolás Valbuena, Karen González, Stefany López, Lina Salazar, Gonzalo Rondinone, Rafael I. Parra-Peña and Carmine P. De Salvo. IDB Working Paper (2026). doi:10.18235/0014440

■ “The Property Tax Modernization Dilemma: A Decision-Support Framework for Equity and Revenue under Cadastral Reform”, with Mónica Almonacid and Laura Peña. SSRN Working Paper (2026). ssrn:6570319

■ “Healthy is Fresh: A Participatory Study of Meal Ideals and Barriers Shaping Food Choice in Rural Colombia”, with Ana María Arcila-Agudelo, Harold Cardona-Trujillo et al. SSRN Working Paper (2026). ssrn:6381888

■ “The European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) and Colombian Smallholder Coffee Producers: Between Environmental Sustainability and Social Justice”, with Harold Cardona-Trujillo and Paula Andrea Restrepo-Areiza. SSRN Working Paper (2026). ssrn:6188818

■ “Building More Than Homes: How Interior Housing Upgrades Catalyze Welfare and Investment”, with Albert Saiz, Juliana Lalinde-Velásquez, Daniela Mejía-Tejada, Gustavo García and Marcela Ibáñez. SSRN Working Paper (2026). ssrn:6399298

■ “The Questionnaire as Treatment: Question Order and Measurement Bias in Development Surveys”, with Marco Giani, Philip Verwimp, Daniela Mejía-Tejada and Laura Quintero. SSRN Working Paper (2026). ssrn:6441737

■ “The Domestic Coffee Market in Colombia: Competitive Structure, Brand Dynamics and Distribution Channels Analysis Based on Euromonitor Passport 2025 Data”, with Harold Cardona-Trujillo and Paula Restrepo. SSRN Working Paper (2026). ssrn:6635801

■ “Measuring Without Accounting: SROI Compliance and the Limits of Social Value Reporting”. SSRN Working Paper (2026). ssrn:6388419

■ “Civil War and Household Structure: evidence from Burundi”, with Richard Akresh and Philip Verwimp.

RESEARCH REPORTS & POLICY PAPERS

■ “The Complex Links Between Food Security, Migration, and Fragility in Northern Central America” (2026), with Viviana M.E. Perego, Karima Ben Bih, María Florencia Tejeda, Pol Nadal and Stefany López. World Bank. hdl:10986/45121

■ “Territorial Inequalities in Colombia: Realities and Perspectives” (2024), with Laura Giles-Álvarez, Cristhian Larrahondo, Mónica Hernández, Germán D. Angulo and Laura M. Quintero. Inter-American Development Bank. doi:10.18235/0013019

■ “Does Land Titling Matter? The Role of Land Property Rights in Colombia’s War on Drugs” (2018). Policy Briefing, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex. [\[link\]](#)

■ “Inequality in Education, School Dropout and Adolescent Lives in Burundi” (2014), with K. Cieslik, M. Giani, R.L. Ngenzebuke and P. Verwimp. UNICEF Burundi & Université Libre de Bruxelles. [\[link\]](#)

■ “Rural land tenure system in Antioquia, 2006–2011” (2012), with Oswaldo Zapata. Universidad EAFIT & Gobernación de Antioquia.

■ “Urabá: abundance and dispute for land” (2012), co-coordinated with Jorge Giraldo. Universidad EAFIT & Gobernación de Antioquia.

■ “Land taxes in Antioquia: toward an optimal design” (2012), co-coordinated with Alberto Naranjo. Universidad EAFIT & Gobernación de Antioquia.

■ “The Persistence of Land Concentration in Colombia: What Happened Between 2000 and 2010?” (2011), with Ana María Ibáñez. Notas de Política No. 9, Universidad de los Andes. [\[link\]](#)

SELECTED GRANTS, EVALUATIONS & CONSULTANCIES

2025--	<i>Co-PI. Croppie: can AI increase farmers' resilience to climate change? Impact evaluation with coffee farmers, with Alliance Bioversity-CIAT. Registered RCT (AEA RCT Registry #0016448).</i>
2025--	<i>Co-PI. It Takes a Family to Raise a (Digital) Village: experimental evidence with coffee farmers. Registered RCT (AEA RCT Registry #0016776).</i>
2024	FAO — <i>PI. Analytical monitoring mechanism for Colombia's Agri-Food Supply System.</i>
2024	IDB (BID) — <i>PI. Territorial Inequalities in Colombia: Realities and Perspectives.</i>
2023--2025	World Bank — <i>Co-PI. Comprehensive analysis of Colombia's agricultural development policy: results and spending efficiency.</i>
2023	World Bank — <i>Co-PI. Reorienting Paraguay's agricultural policies for resilience and green growth.</i>
2023--2024	IDB (BID) — <i>Co-PI. Building Healthy Homes: the effect of housing improvement on practices that reduce conflict and prevent domestic violence.</i>
2023--2024	Cementos Argos — <i>PI. Impact evaluation of the Hogares Saludables program.</i>
2023	FEDEPAPA / Minciencias — <i>PI. Strategies and mechanisms for price stabilization in the potato sub-sector.</i>
2022	IDB (BID) — <i>PI. Mid-term evaluation of the Fondo Colombia Sostenible.</i>
2022	IICA — <i>Co-PI. Climate-resilient national/regional agricultural strategies and food availability.</i>
2021--2022	IDB (BID) — <i>Consultant. Pulso Social Colombia.</i>
2021	USAID / NORC (U. Chicago) — <i>Country Expert. Evaluation of the Land for Prosperity (LfP) Activity in Colombia.</i>
2021--2022	University of Göttingen — <i>PI. The natural-resource curse? Gold mining in Colombia.</i>
2020--2024	BMBF (Germany) & Minciencias — <i>Principal Researcher. Academic Network for Evaluating the Impact of Climate-Smart Agriculture in Colombia (NET-CSA).</i>
2020	World Bank — <i>Co-PI. Integrating Venezuelan Migrants in Colombia's Agri-Food Sector.</i>

EARLIER RESEARCH POSITIONS

2015--2017	External Consultant, World Bank
2015--2016	Research Assistant for Prof. Marta Reynal-Querol, Universitat Pompeu Fabra
2014	Research Assistant for Prof. Philip Verwimp, UNICEF-Burundi
2011--2014	Early-Stage Researcher, TAMNEAC Network — European Commission (Marie Curie Actions)
2011	Senior Research Fellow, Universidad EAFIT
2010--2011	Junior Research Fellow, University of Antwerp
2008--2010	Research Assistant for Prof. Ana María Ibáñez, Universidad de los Andes
2006--2008	Research Assistant for Prof. Marleny Cardona, Universidad EAFIT
2005	Research Assistant for Prof. Mauricio Alviar, Universidad de Antioquia

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Refereeing

World Development • Journal of Peace Research • Journal of Small Business and Entrepreneurship • Ecos de Economía • Cuadernos de Economía • Economía Institucional

HONORS & SCHOLARSHIPS

2017--2019	Individual Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship — European Commission
2016	European Doctorate (UPF – ULB)
2014	Jorge Bernal Prize for Young Researchers

2011--2014	Marie Curie Fellowship — European Commission
2009	MICROCON Mobility Fund — European Commission
2008	Second Place, Revista Economía, Gestión y Desarrollo (U. Pontificia Bolivariana, Cali)
2006	First Place, Latin-American Economics Students' Paper Competition

SKILLS & LANGUAGES

Languages	Spanish (native) · English (fluent)
Programming	R · Python · Stata · $\LaTeX$ · parallel computing
GIS & Field	QGIS · ArcGIS · Open Data Kit (ODK) · CSPro · Atlas.ti