

Ivette Contreras

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics

The George Washington University

Research interests: labor economics,
migration economics, impact evaluation

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EDUCATION

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics

Washington, DC, USA

Expected: May, 2021

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Master's in International Development

Washington, DC, USA

May, 2016

- Fulbright Scholarship Recipient

PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DE CHILE

Undergraduate Academic Exchange

Santiago, Chile

December, 2010

ESCUELA SUPERIOR DE ECONOMÍA Y NEGOCIOS

B.A. in Business and Economics

La Libertad, El Salvador

December, 2011

- Magna Cum Laude/Excellence Award "Luis Poma 2011" Recipient

SKILLS

- **Data analysis/programming tools:** Advanced user of Stata, R, MATLAB, and Python.
- **Document preparation:** Advanced user of LaTeX, Overleaf, Microsoft Office
- **Data visualization:** Tableau, Power BI
- **Languages:** English (fluent), Spanish (fluent), French (basic)

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- Turn Off the Faucet: Moral Hazard in Water Consumption (2020) with Paul Carrillo, and Carlos Scartascini
- Early Child Education: What We Learn from 18 Reviews of the Literature (2020) with David Evans, Magdalena Bendini, and Sharon Wolf.
- [Network effects: Evidence from Salvadoran Migration to the U.S. \(2019\)](#)
- The World Bank (2020). Measuring energy access: A guide to collecting multi-dimensional data on energy access and cooking solutions in Household Surveys

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2019** **Stanford University**
Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics (SITE) Summer Workshop 2019
[Migration session \(speaker\)](#)
- 2015** **Human Development & Capability Association**
[Capabilities on the Move: Mobility and Aspirations Conference \(speaker\)](#)

Ivette Contreras
June 2020

PUBLICATIONS IN SPANISH

- [Luciano D., Nadal E., Brito S., Negrete M., Contreras I. \(2019\). Análisis de situación en salud mental y atención primaria en República Dominicana](#)
- [ESEN \(2018\). ¿Y si termino la escuela? Un análisis de la inserción laboral de la juventud salvadoreña](#)
- [PNUD \(2018\). Informe sobre Desarrollo Humano El Salvador 2018. ¡Soy joven! ¿Y ahora qué?](#)
- [ESEN \(2017\). ¿Y si no termino la escuela? La deserción escolar de la juventud salvadoreña entre 15 y 19 años](#)
- [PNUD \(2014\). La pobreza en El Salvador. Desde la mirada de sus protagonistas](#)
- [ESEN \(2013\). Educación: generando oportunidades, 5 pilares, 12 ideas. Una propuesta para mejorar la educación en El Salvador](#)
- [PNUD \(2013\). Informe sobre Desarrollo Humano El Salvador 2013. Imaginar un nuevo país. Hacerlo posible. Diagnóstico y propuesta.](#)
- [PNUD \(2010\). Informe sobre Desarrollo Humano El Salvador 2010. De la pobreza y el consumismo al bienestar de la gente: Propuestas para un nuevo modelo de desarrollo](#)

EXPERIENCE

THE WORLD BANK - DECPM

Washington, DC, USA

Consultant

August 2016– present

- Member of the COVID-19 Questionnaire Group focused on developing a global questionnaire to monitor the impacts of COVID-19. This questionnaire is part of The World Bank's strategy to promote the implementation of phone surveys in more than 100 countries across all developing countries
- Developing the do files needed to process and analyze data of Nigeria Surveys (GHS, NLSS and COVID-19 related survey)
- Designing and reviewing questionnaires for data collection of household surveys in Nigeria, Ecuador, Guatemala, and other countries
- Conducting data analysis for the Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS) focused on labor markets
- Creating harmonized indicators about poverty and agriculture in Africa (Nigeria, Tanzania, Malawi, Uganda, and Mali)
- Co-author in a guide to collect information of energy access and cooking methods, using the *Multi-Tier Framework* (MTF) methodology in middle- and low-income countries

THE WORLD BANK – HEDGE

Washington, DC, USA

Consultant

January 2020– present

- Reviewing meta-analytic studies and systematic reviews, as well as experimental and quasi-experimental literatures relevant to the early child education effectiveness and education interventions fade-out studies
- Maintaining a database of papers and relevant information such as sample size, results, estimation strategy, and any complications such as attrition or non-compliance. Standardizing results across studies
- Collecting data related to the implementation details of evaluated programs (for example, what profile of worker delivered the program, how much were they paid, how much contact did they have with beneficiaries, etc.)

Ivette Contreras
June 2020

BANCO CENTROAMERICANO DE INTEGRACIÓN ECONÓMICA (BCIE)

San Salvador, El Salvador

Consultant

March 2020 - present

- Formulation of the project “Mi Nueva Escuela” (My New School) with the Government of El Salvador to obtain funding from BCIE (up to US\$200 million). This project objective is improving schools’ infrastructure, providing technological equipment, and teachers training to prepare children to use new technologies
- Providing BCIE’s board of directors the analytical inputs to make an informed decision to finance this project

POMA FOUNDATION (FUNDACIÓN POMA)

San Salvador, El Salvador

Technical Advisor

September 2018-December 2019

- Advised the implementation of agreements between the Foundation and NGOs to estimate their contribution to the Social Progress Index in projects supported by the Foundation
- Designed and implemented the project “Diseña tu Meta” (Design your goal). Project focused in strengthening and developing the self-esteem and social capabilities of Salvadoran girls through positive psychology. Currently, the program is being institutionalized and implemented by helping 84 girls in poverty. After an impact evaluation we have found that the girls’ corporal self-stem increased 24% after the project

SAVE THE CHILDREN

San Salvador, El Salvador

Consultant

September 2019 - January 2020

- Conducted an impact evaluation in El Salvador with Save the Children. The program that I’m evaluating is called “Primeros Pasos para el Éxito” (First Steps to Success). It is focused on Early Childhood Development in one province of El Salvador
- Led the data collection process that includes surveys (1,000 questionnaires) and cognitive abilities tests (Woodcock-Johnson, Ages and Stages tests).
- Conducted data analysis using both DiD and Propensity Score Matching methodologies

FOMILENIO II

La Libertad, El Salvador

Consultant

February 2019– September 2019

- FOMILENIO II is the government executing agency of a US \$277 million grant from the Millennium Challenge Corporation
- Designed the institutional framework and strategy of “*El Salvador Inc*”: a government implementing-agency focused on channeling strategic investments to the country (taking into consideration the lessons learned from FOMILENIO II). It will have a budget of \$100 million.

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Washington, DC, USA

Teaching Assistant and Researcher

September 2016 – September 2018

- Coauthor of the behavioral economics paper “*Turn off the faucet: Moral Hazard in Water Consumption*”. Worked with EPMAPS (Metropolitan Public Enterprise of Drinking Water and Sanitation of Quito) to design and implement policies for saving water. Proposed politics included: delivery of individual meters for apartments in housing complexes and savings reminders by text message
- Teaching assistant for the course ECON 1001: Principles of Mathematics for Economics, with about 100 students per semester

INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION (ILO)

San Salvador, El Salvador

Consultant

April - June 2016

- Research project: *Youth in Salvadoran labor market – Violence’s effect*. This project was focused on understanding the effect of violence on access to the labor market for the youth that live in municipalities labeled as violent

THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (ECLAC)

San Salvador, El Salvador

Consultant

March – October 2014

- Conducted an economic research project about SMEs in El Salvador and their trade trends reaching information for 2,785 enterprises to categorize them and understand what their main growth drivers were
- Facilitated a workshop with 30 Salvadoran Government Officials to train them on the social and economic conditions of SMEs in El Salvador
- Analyzed and presented the results at an ECLAC workshop attended by Latin America countries' Government officials

ESCUELA SUPERIOR DE ECONOMÍA Y NEGOCIOS

La Libertad, El Salvador

Professor and Researcher

August 2013-July 2014

- Professor in the courses of Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Algebra and Economic Research. Average of 80 students per class. Awarded "Best professor 2014"
- Led the research project: "*Education: generating opportunities, 5 pillars, 12 ideas. A proposal to improve education in El Salvador*". This proposal of public policy was designed for the presidential candidates in 2014 elections

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (UNDP)

La Libertad, El Salvador

Multidimensional Poverty Associate

February 2012-August 2013

- Designed and coordinated focus groups to capture poverty dimensions of Salvadoran population. Member of the team that elaborated the report: *Poverty in El Salvador. From the stare of its protagonists*. A qualitative research project that helped the government to understand other poverty dimensions and created the National Multidimensional Index
- Technical support for the institutionalization of the multidimensional poverty measurement as a public policy, included in the Development and Social Protection Law
- Member of the technical team of the Human Development Report 2013
- Designed and analyzed the Social Mobility Survey El Salvador 2013. First survey in the country that considered a methodology to measure social mobility