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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2018 - ... Associate Director, *The Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS)*, London, UK.
2012 - 2018 Senior Research Economist, *The IFS, Centre for the Evaluation of Development Policies (EDePo)*, London, UK.
2009 - 2012 Research Economist, *The IFS, EDePo*, London, UK.
2008 - 2009 Postdoctoral Fellow, *The IFS, EDePo*, London, UK.

EDUCATION

2009 **Ph.D. in Social Protection Policy**, *University of Maastricht*, NL.
2005 **Masters in Econometrics** (Doctorandus in Econometrie), *University of Maastricht*, NL.
Erasmus Visiting Scholar, University of Toulouse, France.
2002 **Propedeuse in Econometrics**, University of Maastricht, Maastricht, NL.

OTHER AFFILIATIONS/ROLES

NIHR Healthy Weight Policy Research Unit (HWPRU) at UCL, Co-lead of the Economic Circumstances and Outcomes workstream.
University College London, Department of Economics, UK. Associate Staff.
FCDO Thrive Ghana international PI.
Centre for European Research in Microfinance (CERMi) Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management (ULB, Brussels). Associated Senior Researcher.
Research Fellow at the Development Research Centre at the University of Kent (DeReCK).
United Nations University-Merit, Maastricht, NL. Affiliated Researcher.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS IN PEER REVIEWED JOURNALS

Enhancing Maternal and Newborn Outcomes in Ghana: A Comprehensive Randomized Controlled Trial Evaluation of Obstetric Triage Effectiveness and Midwives Training, Mary Eyram Ashinyo, Antonella Bancalari, Julia Loh, Medge Owe, *BMC Health Services*, 2025 Oct 21;25(1):1386. [Link](#).
Evidence on designing sanitation interventions (with A.Foster, T.Johnson, M.Lipscomb). *Journal of Development Economics*, Volume 171, 2024, 103316. [link](#).
Sanitation Marketing in Nigeria (with L. Abramovsky, and others), *World Development*, forthcoming.
Complementarities in the production of child health (with L. Abramovsky, P. Jervis, B. Malde, and A. Phimister), *The Journal of Human Capital*. <https://doi.org/10.1086/735106>. [Link](#).
Religious proximity and misinformation: Experimental evidence from a mobile phone-based campaign in India (with A.Armand, A.Bancalari, K.K.Kamershwara. *Journal of Health Economics*, 2024 Jun:96:[102883](#).
Sanitation and marriage markets in India: Evidence from the Total Sanitation Campaign (with P.Rodriguez

Lesmes, S.Gautam, J.P.Baquero). *Journal of Development Economics*, Volume 163, 2023, 103092. [link](#).

To invest or not to invest in sanitation: The role of intra-household gender differences in perceptions and bargaining power (with B.Malde, H.Olorenshaw, Z.Wahhaj). *Journal of Development Economics*, Volume 162, 2023, 103074. [link](#).

Community Matters: Heterogeneous Impacts of a Sanitation Intervention (with L.Abramovsky, M.Luehrman, F Oteiza, J.P.Rud), *World Development*, Volume 165, 2023, 106197. [link](#).

Labelled loans and human capital investments (with B.Caeyers, S.Giunti, B.Malde, S.Smets). *Journal of Development Economics (2023) 158*, 103053. [link](#).

Mothers' Social Networks and Socioeconomic Gradients of Isolation (with A. Andrew, O. Attanasio, J. Behrman, M. Day, P. Jervis, C. Meghir, A. Phimister), accepted at *EDCC*.

Leaving No One Behind: Urban Poverty Traps in Sub-Saharan Africa (with T.Janz, F.Gassmann, Z. Nimeh) *World Development*, 172, 2023, 106399. [link](#).

Lively Minds: Improving health and development through play – a randomised controlled trial evaluation of a comprehensive ECCE programme at scale in Ghana (O.Attanasio, R.Dreibelbis, E.Nkethia-Amponsah, A.Phimister, S.Wolf, S.Krutikova). *British Medical Journal Open Protocol*. 2022;12:e061571. [link](#).

When Nature Calls Back: Sustaining Behavioural Change in Rural Pakistan (with A.Bancalari, Z.Durrani, M.Vaidyanathan, Z.White). *Journal of Development Economics*, Volume 158, 2022, 102933. [link](#).

COVID-19 Vaccine Acceptance and Hesitancy in Low- and Middle-Income Countries, and Implications for Messaging (with J.S.Solís Arce, et al., A.M.Mobarak), *Nature Medicine* 27, pages 1385–1394 (2021). [link](#).

Editorial: WASH Economics and Financing: towards a better understanding of costs and benefits (with T. Sainati), *Journal of WASH for Development* (2020) 10 (4): 615–617. [link](#).

Sanitation Dynamics: toilet acquisition and its economic and social implications in rural and urban contexts (with P. Rodríguez Lesmes), *Journal of WASH for Development* (2020) 10 (4): 628–641. [link](#).

Group Sessions or Home Visits for Early Childhood Development in India: A Cluster RCT (with O. Attanasio, J. Behrman, B. Caeyers, M. Rubio-Codina, M. Day, S. Grantham-McGregor, P. Jervis, R. Kochar, P. Makkar, C. Meghir, A. Phimister, K. Vats). *Paediatrics*, Vol. 146, Issue 6, 1 Dec 2020. [link](#).

Effects of a home visiting intervention in the slums of Cuttack, Odisha: a cluster randomized trial (with A. Andrew, O. Attanasio, S. Grantham-McGregor, C. Meghir, M. Rubio Codina), *The Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, Volume 61, Issue 6, June 2020, Pages 644-652. [link](#).

Microcredit Contracts and Risk Diversification (with O. Attanasio, R. De Haas), *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 2018, Volume 17, Issue 6, pages 1-46. [link](#).

Sanitation and Child Health in India (with P. Rodríguez Lesmes), *World Development*; Volume 107, July 2018, Pages 22-39. [link](#).

Holy Cows or Cash Cows (with O. Attanasio), *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 66(2)307-330 (2018). [link](#).

Subjective Expectations and Income Processes in rural India (with O. Attanasio), *Economica*, Volume 83, Issue 331, pages 416–442 (2016). [link](#).

The Impacts of Microcredit: Evidence from Bosnia and Herzegovina (with R. De Haas, H. Harmgart and C. Meghir), *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 7(1): 183–203 (2015). [link](#).

The impacts of microfinance: Evidence from joint-liability lending in Mongolia (with O. Attanasio, R. De Haas, E. Fitzsimons and H. Harmgart), *American Economic Journal: Applied*, 7(1): 90-122 (2015). [link](#).

Livestock Asset Transfers With and Without Training: Evidence from Rwanda (with J. Argent, I. Rasul), *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organizations*. Volume 108, December 2014, p.19–39. [link](#).

Lively Minds: Improving health and development through play – a randomised controlled trial evaluation of a comprehensive ECCE programme at scale in Ghana (O.Attanasio, R.Dreibelbis, E.Nkethia-Amponsah,

A.Phimister, S.Wolf, S.Krutikova). *British Medical Journal Open Protocol*. 2022;12:e061571. [link](#).

SELECTED RESEARCH GRANTS AND PROJECTS

- 2023 - 2028 NIHR PRP. *Policy Research Unit Healthy Weight*. (£5,486,726). **Co-I**.
- 2022 - 2026 FCDO. *'Thrive -- Research into taking early childhood development interventions to scale'*. (£16,873,644) A 5-country programme. **International PI** for Ghana.
- 2023 - 2026 NIHR Public Health Research (PHR) Programme. *'Evaluating the impact of the placement regulations on the CONvenience store sector and co-creating solutions for a healthier system: ECON study'*. (£1,372,815). **Co-I**.
- 2021 - 2024 PRP Evaluation of the Healthy Start Scheme. *'Evaluation and co-creation to optimise uptake and benefits of the Healthy Start scheme'*. (£844,785). **Co-I**.
- 2021 - 2024 USAID. *'Evaluating the Lively Minds ECCE Programme in Ghana'*. US\$1,500,000, **Co-I**. (PI: O. Attanasio, S. Krutikova)
- 2021 - 2024 UK Medical Research Council. *'Improving development through play – Evaluation of a comprehensive ECCE programme at scale in Ghana'*. £1,100,000, **Co-I**. (PI: S. Krutikova).
- 2021 - 2021 World Bank. *'Enhancing the Sustainability of Rural and Small-Town Water Services in Nigeria'*. US\$19,250. **Co-I**.
- 2020 - 2021 IGC. *'Coping with COVID-19 measures in Informal Settlements'*. £16,348, **PI**, with A. Armand and A. Bancalari.
- 2020 - 2021 LSE. *'COVID-19 Spread in Informal Settlements'*. £10,062. **Co-I**.
- 2019 - 2021 ESRC Secondary Data Analysis Initiative. *'Family and social effects on adoption of preventative health measures'*. £299,530.76. **PI**.
- 2019 - 2021 ESRC-DFID Growth Research Programme (DEGRP) Follow-on Fund. *'Does information provision foster or hinder the effectiveness of microcredit for human capital investments?'* **Co-I** (PI: O. Attanasio). £97,532.46.
- 2016 - 2018 British Academy: Sustainable Development Programme. *"Improving children's life chances in high-risk, low-income settings: Designing a "new generation" longitudinal cohort study of child development*, (O. Attanasio, S. Krutikova, C. Meghir, A. Stein, J. Boyden, £202,163)
- 2017 - 2020 3ie: *"Community toilet use in slums - willingness to pay and the role of informational and supply side constraints."*. US\$550,000. **PI** (with A. Armand and O. Attanasio).
- 2013 - 2018 WaterAid UK (funder BMGF). *"Sustainable Total Sanitation in Nigeria – implementation, learning, research, and influence on practice and policy"*. (US\$ 1,113,930). **PI**.
- 2012 - 2018 Strategic Impact Evaluation Fund (SIEF): *"Incentivizing Sanitation Uptake and Sustainable Usage through Microfinance"*. US\$601,508. **Co-I**.
- 2014 - 2018 Consultant on *Monitoring, Verification and Evaluation Service Provider for the DFID WASH Results Programme*, Department for International Development, managed by OPM.
- 2012 - 2018 National Institute of Health (NIH): *"Early Childhood Development for the poor: Impacting at scale"*. US\$ 2,242,585. **Co-I**.
- 2014 - 2017 Strategic Impact Evaluation Fund (SIEF): *"Early Childhood Development for the Poor - Evaluation of the Impacts – midline survey"* (US\$ 439,656). **Co-I**.

ADVANCED WORKING PAPERS

At Scale Implementation and the Perils of Fragmentation" with M.Ghatak, S.Giunti, B.Malde , under review *Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics*.

Public Service Delivery, Exclusion, and Externalities (with A. Armand, A. Bancalari, M.Ghatak), IFS Working Paper [W23/37](#).

Pregnancy, food purchases and nutritional quality (with G.Conti, M.Luehrman, P.Spinola, Stephanie v.H.)

Understanding Teacher Turnover: A Framework of Teacher Demotivation Over Time”, with N. Colombé.
Learning from colleagues, with A.Bancalari, M.Eyram-Ashinyo, J.Loh, M.Owen, Thrive working paper, [link](#).
Managing Early Learning: Local Bureaucratic Practices and Pre-school Quality in Northern Ghana, with S. Krutikova, I. Merediz-Solà, KB Tandoh, and O. Veroux. Thrive working paper, [link](#).
Teacher (De)motivation in a Low-Income Rural Setting: Prominent Correlates in Sub-Saharan Ghanaian Kindergarten Teachers, with J.Anamoah-Mensah, N.Colombé, S.Krutikova. Thrive Working Paper.
Mother and Father Time Use of Preschool-Aged Children in Rural Ghana, with J. Anamoah-Mensah, MH Bornstein, S. Krutikova, NM Suntheimer, O. Veroux, and S. Wolf, Thrive working paper, [link](#).
Nutritional impacts of targeted food payments in early life, with G.Conti, C.Farquharson, S.von Hinke, M.Luehrmann, A.McKendrick, L.Wang.

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

Nutrition: [Britain’s taste for food delivery has continued post-pandemic](#) - The Guardian, [Britain eating 50% more takeaways than before Covid](#) - The Times, [Surge in takeaways doubles calorie-count](#) - The Daily Telegraph, [WE’RE TAKEAWAY MAD SINCE COVID](#) - The Sun, [Brits are eating 50% more calories from takeaways now than before Covid](#) - MailOnline, [Addiction to takeaways is eating our towns alive](#) - Sunday Times

WASH: [VoxDev](#), [VoxDev](#), [Ideas for India](#), [VoxDev](#), [VoxEu](#), [UNU Merit Blog](#), [Guardian's Global Development section](#), [The Conversation](#).

WASH & Nutrition: [GlobalDev](#)

Social networks: [VoxDev](#).

Microfinance: [VoxDev](#), [Ideas for India](#).

Other COVID-19 related work: [IGC](#), [Ideas for India](#), [IFS Observation](#),

SELECTED POLICY REPORTS

Longer-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the dietary purchasing choices of British households, particularly families (with C.Farquharson, A,McKendrick), HWPRU, 2023. [\[link\]](#)

Quantification of purchasing of formula, commercial baby meals, finger foods and drinks using Kantar data (with R. Griffith and R. Stroud), OPRU, 2020.

Community Toilet Use in Indian Slums: willingness-to-pay and the role of informational and supply side constraints (with A. Armand, A. Bancalari and B. Trivedi), Impact Evaluation Report 113, 3ie International Initiative for Impact Evaluation, 2020.

Sustainable Total Sanitation – Nigeria: Final research report (with L. Abramovsky, F. Oteiza), The IFS, 2018.

Sustainable Total Sanitation – Nigeria: first SanMark impact evaluation report (with L. Abramovsky, F. Oteiza), The IFS, 2017.

Incentivizing Sanitation Uptake and Sustainable Usage through Microfinance - Endline Report (with B. Caeyers, S. Giunti, B. Malde), 2018.

Randomised Control Trial Research Study Summary Report: Understanding the role of follow-up (Outcome-phase) activities in achieving sustainable WASH outcomes in Pakistan (with OPM), 2018.

Early Childhood Development for the Poor: Impacting at Scale. NIH India Final Report. 2018.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Sanitation Infrastructure (edited with A. Foster and M. Lipscomb), *VoxDev Lit.* [Link](#).

How can policy reduce food poverty among children? (with J. Cribb, R. Griffith, F. Scott-Reilly), *Economics Observatory*, 2021.

Is borrowing relief ending too soon? Post-lockdown income recovery and loan moratoriums in rural India, (with B. Malde), *Economic & Political Weekly*, Vol. 56, Issue No. 2, 09 Jan, 2021.

The global sanitation challenge: Is there a silver bullet? [Thomas Reuter Foundation Opinion Piece](#). 2019.

INVITED SEMINARS

2025: WB Seminar, ECDAN; **2024:** University of Bath; **2023:** University Aix-Marseille Economics; **2022:** LISER Seminar; **2021:** Asian Development Bank Institute, World Bank, Nigerian Federal Ministry of Water Resources, Research Department of Behavioural Science and Health, UCL, University of Kent, Covenant University; **2019:** 3ie LIDC, LSHTM, Agence Française de Développement, DfID; **2018 and earlier:** Berlin DIW, BMGF MEDS Convening, CERMi, EBRD, 3ie LIDC, BMGF MEDS Convening, CERMi, RWI Zürich, IADB, Universities of Göttingen, Edinburgh, Paris, Toulouse, EBRD.

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

2025: WASH Econ Oberlin, Thrive conference, EBRD-CEPR Research Symposium, IFS-ADBI-GHE Workshop on Health Economics in LMICs **2024:** WASH Econ Aix-Marseille; **2022:** 7th EU Research Conference on MF, SEHO, EcHo Royal Holloway, DevEcon Workshop Maastricht; **2021:** EEA-ESEM, RES, upcoming: WEDC International conference, SEA 91st Annual Meeting; **2020:** EEA; **2019:** CSAE, RES, DIV Finance and Development, 6th EU Research Conference on Microfinance, CSAE; **2018:** UNU-Wider, Oslo Workshop on Microfinance, UNC's Water and Health Conference; **2017 and earlier:** 3rd and 5th EU Research Conference on MF, RES, UNC, UNU-Wider, ASSA, CSAE, BREAD, ACEGD ISI Delhi.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Co-Editor Special Issue: *Journal of Development Economics* (Sanitation and Development, in progress); *World Development* (Social and financial barriers to WASH adoption and provision, in progress); *Journal of WASH for Development* (2020, <https://iwaponline.com/washdev/issue/10/4>)

Associate Editor: *Oxford Development Studies*.

Advisory role: U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), [Report](#) on Microenterprise and Related Development Assistance, GiveWell, DHSC, Ghana MoE.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Journal referee: *Econometrica*, *European Economic Review*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Economic Journal*, *Economica*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, *World Development*, *BMJ Global Health*, *Paediatrics*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *World Bank Economic Review*, *Journal of Economic Behaviour and Organisation*, *Latin American Economic Review*, *Journal of WASH for Development*, *Asian Development Review*, *Journal of Development Effectiveness*, *Education Economics*, *Southern Economic Journal*, *International Journal of Social Sciences*, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*.

Grant application evaluator: Fund for International Development (FID), UKRI, Medical Research Council, 3ie, Swiss National Science Foundation, Waterloo Foundation, RGHI.

Teaching: UCL MSc Health Psych. (2023, 2024); Lectures in UCL MSC Dev Econ Course (2017).

Ethics advisor: ERC

PhD commentator: University Maastricht; Norwegian School, Bergen; KTH Stockholm.

Recent seminar/conferences organised: WASH Econ (2023, 2024, 2025, 2026); IFS-UCL-LSE/STICERD Development Economics Work-In-Progress Seminar series (starting 2020, ongoing); Seminar Series and roundtable discussion on Sanitation and Development (2021, with ADBI and BMGF).

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