

Alex Armand

Nova School of Business and Economics
Campus de Carcavelos - Rua da Holanda, 1
2775-405 Carcavelos, Portugal
Email: alex.armand@novasbe.pt

[Personal website](#)
[Google Scholar](#)
[ORCID](#)
Citizenship: Italian

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2024-..	Professor of Economics, NOVA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS Academic Director of the PhD program in Economics and Finance (since 2022)
2022-24	Associate professor of Economics, NOVA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS
2019-22	Assistant professor of Economics, NOVA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS
2014-19	Assistant professor of Economics, UNIVERSITY OF NAVARRA

OTHER AFFILIATIONS

2024-..	Research affiliate, IZA
2024-..	Invited researcher, J-PAL
2020-..	Research affiliate, CEPR
2019-..	Resident member, NOVAFRICA
2016-..	International research fellow, INSTITUTE FOR FISCAL STUDIES
2014-..	Research fellow, NCID
2011-15	Visiting scholar, INSTITUTE FOR FISCAL STUDIES

EDUCATION

2014	PhD in Economics, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON
2006	MSc in Economics with honors, UNIVERSITAT POMPEU FABRA
2005	BSc in Economics, UNIVERSITY OF TURIN - Erasmus Visiting Student, COPENHAGEN BUSINESS SCHOOL

PUBLICATIONS IN JOURNALS

- [1] Religious Proximity and Misinformation: Experimental Evidence from a Mobile Phone-Based Campaign in India (with B. Augsburg, A. Bancalari and K. Kameshwara), [Journal of Health Economics](#), vol. 96 (2024).
- [2] Let's Call! Using the Phone to Increase Vaccine Acceptance (with M. Fracchia, and P. Vicente), [Health Economics](#), vol. 33, n. 1 (2024), pp. 82–106.
- [3] Measuring corruption in the field using behavioral games (with A. Coutts, P. Vicente and I. Vilela), [Journal of Public Economics](#), vol. 218 (2023).
- [4] COVID-19 Vaccine Acceptance and Hesitancy in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (with J.S. Solís Arce, S.S. Warren, N.F. Meriggi, et al.), [Nature Medicine](#), n. 27 (2021), pp. 1385–1394.
- [5] Does Information Break the Political Resource Curse? Experimental Evidence from Mozambique (with A. Coutts, P. Vicente and I. Vilela), [American Economic Review](#), vol. 110, n. 11 (2020), pp. 3431–53.

- [6] The Reach of Radio: Ending Civil Conflict through Rebel Demobilization (with P. Atwell and J. Gomes), [American Economic Review](#), vol. 110, n. 5 (2020), pp. 1395–1429.
- [7] The Effect of Gender-Targeted Cash Transfers on Household Expenditures: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment (with O. Attanasio, P. Carneiro and V. Lechene), [The Economic Journal](#), vol. 130, n. 631 (2020), pp. 1875—1897.
- [8] Measuring and Changing Control: Women Empowerment and Targeted Transfers (with I. Almås, O. Attanasio and P. Carneiro), [The Economic Journal](#), vol. 128, n. 612 (2018), pp. 609–639.
- [9] Demand Drops and Innovation Investments: Evidence from the Great Recession in Spain (with P. Mendi), [Research Policy](#), vol. 47, n. 7 (2018), pp. 1321–1333.
- [10] Do Public Health Interventions Crowd Out Private Health Investments? Malaria Control Policies in Eritrea (with P. Carneiro, A. Locatelli, T. Ghebremeskel and J. Keating), [Labour Economics](#), vol. 45 (2017), pp. 107—115.

WORKING PAPERS AND PRE-PRINTS

- [1] From Sea to Shore: The Impact of Ocean Acidification on Child Health (with I. Kim Taveras) – [Latest draft](#) – *Conditionally accepted at the [Journal of the European Economic Association](#)*
- [2] Can Subsidized Employment Tackle Long-Term Unemployment? Experimental Evidence from Macedonia (with P. Carneiro, F. Tagliati and Y. Xia) – [Latest draft](#) – [CEPR DP15192](#) – *Revision requested at the [Journal of Development Economics](#)*
- [3] Broadcasting Equality: Media Narratives and the Rise of Civil Rights (with P. Atwell, J.F. Gomes, G. Musillo and Y. Schenk) – [Latest draft](#)
- [4] Public Service Delivery and Free Riding: Experimental Evidence from India (with B. Augsburg, A. Bancalari and M. Ghatak) – [Latest draft](#) – [CEPR DP16284](#) – [IFS W22/16](#) – *Submitted*
- [5] Windows of Peace: the Effect of Ceasefires on Economic Recovery (with M. Mareending, G. Vysotskaya) – [Latest draft](#) – [WIDER Working Paper 2023/35](#)
- [6] Intra-household resource control, subjective expectations and human capital investment – [NCID WP 03/2015](#)

MEDIA COVERAGE

Articles in press or online media

Crucial days for the future of fisheries (Dias crucias para o futuro da pesca), [Forbes África Lusófona](#), January 2022.

Incentivising quality of public infrastructure excludes users and worsens public health, [VoxEu](#) and [VoxDev](#), 2021.

Harming the ocean impacts children in low- and middle-income countries, [VoxEu](#), 2021.

COVID-19: Debunking fake news among slum-dwellers, [Ideas for India](#), 2021.

COVID-19 and the willingness to vaccinate: Evidence from India, [IGC](#) – [Ideas for India](#), 2020.

Challenges of adopting coronavirus precautions in low-income countries, [IFS Observation](#), 2020.

Natural resource discoveries: information campaigns for local communities, [GlobalDev](#), 2019.

Safe toilets are important—so why don't people use them?, [IFS Observation](#), 2018.

Are women's empowerment programs failing—or are we measuring wrong?, [Apolitical](#), 2018.

Targeted transfers and the assessment of women's empowerment, [VoxEu](#), 2016.

Press articles covering my work

[El Pais](#) [1](#) [2](#) [3](#), [World Bank Development Impact](#), [El Diario Exterior](#), [The Times of India](#), [The Hindustan Times](#), [Expresso](#).

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2025-26 **FCT (Portugal)** - Family planning on mass media – €49,925 (PI)
- 2023-24 **STEG Large Research Grant** - On the political economy of urbanization – £69,288 (PI)
- 2023-24 **IGC** - A natural and two field experiments around the 2023 local elections in Mozambique – £59,674 (Co-PI)
- 2022-27 **ERC Starting Grant** - GLOBCOADEV – The global impact of coastal water contamination on economic development – €1,371,000 (PI)
- 2022-23 **Weiss Fund** - Short- and long-run effects of mass media on family planning: evidence from radio campaigns in Malawi – US\$15,000 (PI)
- 2021-22 **UNU-WIDER** - Measuring the effect of ceasefire agreements – US\$10,000 (PI)
- 2021-23 **FCT (Portugal)** - Integrating rural migrants into cities – €250,000 (Co-PI)
- 2021-22 **IGC** - A Field Experiment on Integrating Rural Migrants in Cities - Mapping the City of Quelimane – £20,000 (Co-I)
- 2020-21 **IGC** - [Countering Islamic radicalization in Northern Mozambique](#) – £30,000 (Co-PI)
- 2020 **IGC** - [Coping with COVID-19 measures in informal settlements](#) – £16,348 (Co-PI)
- 2020 **Global Challenges Research Fund** - Combating fake news in informal settlements – £10,000 (Co-I)
- 2018-19 **IGC** - Agricultural risk in Mozambique – £7,151 (PI)
- 2017-19 **Ramon Areces Foundation (Spain)** - Radio messaging and armed group behaviour – €36,000 (PI)
- 2017 **Economic and Social Research Council (UK)** - Sanitation financing and revenue models in reuse waste – £10,000 (Co-PI)
- 2016-17 **3ie Thematic Window** - [Learning from a publicly-subsidized agricultural insurance](#) – US\$63,000 (PI)
- 2016-20 **3ie Development Priorities Window** - [Community toilet use in slums](#) – US\$530,000 (PI)
- 2015-17 **IGC** - [Behavioural measurements of local elite behaviour in Mozambique](#) – £61,000 (Co-PI)
- 2015-17 **Ramon Areces Foundation (Spain)** - Parental expectations of returns to schooling in developing countries – €36,000 (PI)
- 2015-18 **3ie T&A Initiative** - [On the mechanics of the political resource curse](#) – US\$499,000 (Co-PI)
- 2015-17 **Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (Spain)** - Grant number “ECO2014-55236-R” – €25,000 (Co-I)
- 2014-15 **3ie T&A Initiative** - Designing transparency and accountability interventions in Kenya and Mozambique – US\$30,000 (PI)
- 2013-15 **3ie Open Window** - [Evaluating alternative CCT modalities in Macedonia](#) – US\$670,000 (Co-I)
- 2009-11 **European Social Fund / Italian Ministry of Labour** - Scholarship for Doctoral Studies
- 2007-08 **University College London, W.M. Gorman** Scholarship

PRIZES

- 2022 **World Bank Economic Review** - *Excellence in Refereeing Award*
- 2019 **Ford School of Public Policy - University of Michigan** - *Eckstein Prize*
(joint with P.Atwell and J.Gomes)
- 2014 **European Association of Labour Economists** - *Young Labour Economist Prize*

INVITED SEMINARS

2023: University of Cambridge, University of Essex, Royal Holloway London, King's College. **2022:** Collegio Carlo Alberto. **2021:** Asian Development Bank Institute, World Bank (Infrastructure Master Class). **2020:** UCLouvain, Complutense University of Madrid. **2019:** University of Southampton, Nova School of Business and Economics, 3ie Delhi Evidence Week. **2018:** World Bank, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, University of Bergen, Chr. Michelsen Institute. **2017:** University of Bergen, Institute for Fiscal Studies. **2016:** Paris School of Economics, Institute of Development Studies (Sussex), University of Alicante, RAND Europe. **2015:** Nova School of Business and Economics, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Universidad Publica de Navarra, University of the Balearic Islands, Strathmore Business School. **2014:** Uppsala University, CERGE-EI, RAND Europe, University of Navarra, CEP-LSE.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

2024: 21st Midwest International Economic Development Conference (University of Chicago). **2023:** Barcelona GSE Summer Forum (Development). **2022:** NBER SI (National Security, Urban Economics), IEA-UNDP-WB Conference on "Understanding the gender and climate change nexus", Royal Holloway/Queen Mary Workshop on "The Political Economy of Conflict", UNU-WIDER conference, Barcelona GSE Summer Forum (Child health), 9th IZA Workshop: Environment, Health and Labor Markets, Bocconi LEAP conference, NOVAFRICA conference. **2021:** 6th Zurich Conference on Public Finance in Developing Countries, NEUDC (Boston University), EADI-ISS (Erasmus University), ICDE (Bordeaux). **2020:** BREAD/CEPR/STICERD/TCD conference, NEUDC (Dartmouth College). **2019:** CSAE Annual Conference, Barcelona GSE Summer Forum. **2018:** RES Annual Meeting (Sussex), CSAE Annual Conference, NEUDC (Cornell University), Lisbon Meeting on Economics and Political Science. **2017:** SEHO Annual Meeting (San Diego), NEUDC (Tufts University), SAEe (Pompeu Fabra University). **2016:** EARIE Annual Conference (Lisbon), Antigua Experimental Economics Workshop, IFAD Workshop on Impact Evaluation (Rome). **2015:** AEA/ASSA (Boston), NEUDC (Brown University), EEA Annual Conference (Mannheim), Applied Microeconometrics Workshop (Alicante), IESE (Madrid), COSME Gender Economics Workshop (Madrid), MiSoC Family Economics Workshop (University of Essex), IDEAS - UNDP Conference on National Evaluation Capacities (Bangkok), SEEDEC (Prague), Brucchi Luchino Workshop (Bergamo). **2011-14:** EALE Annual Meeting (Ljubljana), Collegio Carlo Alberto Workshop, Tinbergen Institute Workshop, ADB-3ie Conference (Manila), PacDev (UCLA), RES Postgraduate Meeting (UCL), World Bank Africa Region - Impact Evaluation Workshop (Dakar), UCL ENTER Jamboree.

POLICY REPORTS

- [1] *Community Toilet Use in Indian Slums: willingness-to-pay and the role of informational and supply side constraints* (with B. Augsburg, A. Bancalari and B. Trivedi), [Impact Evaluation Report 113](#), 3ie International Initiative for Impact Evaluation, 2020.
- [2] *Learning from a Publicly Subsidised Agricultural Insurance: Evidence from Bolivia* (with S. Daga, C.G. Machicado, R. Nogales, B. Branisa, J.F. Gomes, G. Montresor, I. Kim Taveras), [Process Evaluation Report](#), 3ie International Initiative for Impact Evaluation, 2020.

- [3] *Managing agricultural risk in Mozambique* (with J. Gomes, I. Kim Taveras), [Final Report F-36421-MOZ-1](#), International Growth Center, 2019.
- [4] *Using information to break the political resource curse in natural gas management in Mozambique* (with A.I. Costa, A. Coutts, P. Vicente and I. Vilela), [Impact Evaluation Report 93](#), 3ie International Initiative for Impact Evaluation, 2019.
- [5] *On the mechanics of the political resource curse - Final Report* (with A. Coutts, P. Vicente, I. Vilela), [Final Report S-89330-MOZ-1](#), International Growth Center, 2018.
- [6] *Impact Evaluation of the Conditional Cash Transfer Program for Secondary School Attendance in Macedonia* (with P. Carneiro), [Impact Evaluation Report 69](#), 3ie International Initiative for Impact Evaluation, 2018.
- [7] *Understanding Low Take-Up of Employment Subsidies in Macedonia Lessons from a Survey of Potential Beneficiaries and Firms* (with P. Carneiro and F. Tagliati), Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Republic of Macedonia, 2014.
- [8] *Impact Evaluation of the Conditional Cash Transfer Program for Secondary School Attendance in Macedonia: Results from the First Follow-Up* (with P. Carneiro), Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Republic of Macedonia, 2013.
- [9] *Evaluation of Conditional Cash Transfers for Secondary School Attendance in Macedonia: Baseline Report 2010-11* (with P. Carneiro), Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Republic of Macedonia, 2011.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2021-.. Microeconometrics (graduate), NOVA SBE
 2015-.. Microeconometrics (graduate), UNIVERSITY OF NAVARRA
 2019-24 Development Economics (PhD), NOVA SBE
 2019-23 Global Economics (undergraduate), NOVA SBE
 08/2018 Policy Evaluation (for practitioners), INSTITUTO DESARROLLO PARAGUAY
 2017-18 Development Economics (graduate), NOVA SBE
 2016-17 Development Economics (graduate), STRATHMORE BUSINESS SCHOOL
 2015-16 Development Economics (graduate), UNIVERSITY OF NAVARRA
 2009-14 Econometrics for Macroeconomics (Undergraduate), UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON
 2009-10 International Trade (undergraduate), UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON
 2007-09 Economic Policy Analysis (undergraduate), UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON
 01/2012 Policy Evaluation (for practitioners), UNIVERSITY AMERICAN COLLEGE SKOPJE

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2016-.. Evaluation Consultant, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, MACEDONIA
 2016-18 Evaluation Consultant, YOUTH READY PROGRAM, EL SALVADOR AND HONDURAS
 2012-15 Survey Specialist, *STEP Skills Measurement* program, THE WORLD BANK
 2009-14 Evaluation Consultant, MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL POLICY, MACEDONIA
 2006-07 Analyst, PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS ADVISORY ITALY

PAST VISITING POSITIONS

2017-18 NOVA SBE
 Fall 2016 LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
 July 2016 STRATHMORE BUSINESS SCHOOL

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Journal referee - General interest: *American Economic Review, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Economic Journal, AER: Insights, European Economic Review, Journal of Politics.*

Journal referee - Field: *Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, World Development, Economic Development and Cultural Change, World Bank Economic Review, Labour Economics, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, The Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Review of Economics of the Household, International Economic Review, Tropical Medicine and International Health, Science of Total Environment, Journal of WASH for Development, Latin American Research Review, Agricultural Economics, Bulletin of the World Health Organization, Fiscal Studies, Experimental Economics, Health Economics.*

Grant application evaluator: National Science Foundation (US), Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (Portugal).

Report referee: *RAND Europe, 3ie Evaluation Report Series.*

PhD theses committees: Rute Caeiro (Nova SBE), Juan Pablo Posada Aparicio (University of Western Australia), Stefan Leeffer (Nova SBE), Matilde Gracio (Nova SBE), Mattia Fracchia (Nova SBE).

Seminar/conference organizer: CEPR Development Economics Symposium (April 2025, Lisbon – Portugal), NCID Research Workshop (2015–17 and 2019, Madrid – Spain), Workshop on Agricultural Risk and Insurance in Bolivia (2017, La Paz – Bolivia), WASTE-IFS Workshop on Sanitation finance and re-use (2017, The Hague – Netherlands), NCID Weekly Seminar on Development Economics (2014–15).

Other service:

Nova SBE: member of the ethics committee (2021–22)

University of Navarra: member of the hiring committee for NCID (2014–18) and for the School of Economics (2015–18), member of the Internal Evaluation Committee of the Institute for Culture and Society (2018)

COMPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Professional Affiliation: American Economic Association.

Languages: Italian (mother tongue), English (advanced), French (advanced), Spanish (advanced), Portuguese (beginner).

Last update: November 2024