

Akito Kamei

CONTACT INFORMATION	Augusto Rodin No. 498, Col. Insurgentes Mixcoac, CP 03920 Alc. Universidad Panamericana Benito Juárez, Ciudad de México	akamei@up.edu.mx https://sites.google.com/view/akitokamei/home/
CURRENT APPOINTMENTS	Full-time Professor Universidad Panamericana, School of Governance and Economics	2025-Present
PRIOR ACADEMIC POSITION	Postdoctoral Scholar, University of Chicago, Department of Economics Lead Researcher at the Development Innovation Lab Advisor: Michael Kremer	2021-2025
EDUCATION	Ph.D., Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign M.S., Economics, University of Tokyo B.A., Liberal Arts, International Christian University (Tokyo) Exchange Program, Economics, University of California, Berkeley	2021 2014 2012 2011
FIELDS OF INTEREST	Primary Development Economics, Human Capital Investment, Global Health Secondary Impact Evaluation, Climate Economics	
PUBLICATIONS IN ECONOMICS JOURNALS	<p>Kamei, Akito. 2025 “Son Preference and its Impact on Family Size and Domestic Violence Against Mothers in South Asia.” <i>The Journal of Development Studies</i> 1-20.</p> <p>Kamei, Akito, and Shohei Nakamura. 2022. “Urban Agglomerations and Wage and Self-employment Jobs in Ethiopia.” <i>The Journal of Development Studies</i>, 58, no. 9 (2022): 1693-1710.</p> <p>Arends-Kuenning, Mary, Marcos Garcias, Akito Kamei, Pery Francisco Assis Shikida, and Gisele Esser Romani. 2022. “Factors Associated with Harvest and Postharvest Loss among Soybean Farmers in Western Paraná State, Brazil.” <i>Food Policy</i>, 112, 102363.</p> <p>Arends-Kuenning, Mary, Akito Kamei, Marcos Garcias, Gisele Esser Romani, and Pery Francisco Assis Shikida. 2021. “Gender, Education, and Farm Succession in Western Paraná State, Brazil” <i>Land Use Policy</i>, 107, 105453.</p> <p>Kamei, Akito. 2018. “Parental Absence and Agency: The Household Characteristics of Hazardous Forms of Child Labour in Nepal.” <i>Journal of International Development</i>, 30 (7), 1116-1141.</p>	
PUBLICATIONS IN HEALTH AND EDUCATION JOURNALS	<p>Kamei, Akito, Ryoko Sato, and Rebecca Thornton. 2023. “Factors Associated with Knowledge and Use of Home Pregnancy Test Kits in Uganda.” <i>PLOS Global Health</i>, 3(7): e0002165.</p> <p>Kamei, Akito, Ryoko Sato, and Rebecca Thornton. 2021. “Effect of Pregnancy Tests on Demand for Family Planning: Evidence from a Randomized Controlled Trial in Uganda.” <i>Reproductive Health</i>, 18, 231.</p> <p>Conto, Carolina Alban, Spogmai Akseer, Thomas Dreesen, Akito Kamei, Suguru Mizunoya, and Annika Rigole. 2021. “Potential Effects of COVID-19 School Closures on Foundational Skills and Country Responses for Mitigating Learning Loss.” <i>International Journal of Educational Development</i>, 87, 102434.</p>	

WORKING PAPERS	Boo, Florencia Lopez, Jane Leer, and Akito Kamei. “ Community Monitoring Improves Public Service Provision at Scale: Experimental Evidence from a Child Development Program in Nicaragua .” <i>Revision requested from The World Bank Economic Review</i> .
	Kamei, Akito. “Steps Backward? Lowering the Minimum Age for Child Labor in Bolivia.” <i>Revision requested from World Bank Economic Review</i> .
	Kamei, Akito, Michael Kremer, and Pablo Peña. The Impact of Large-Scale Free Prescription Glasses Distribution on the Academic Achievement of Children.
	Who Walks for Water? Water Consumption and Labor Supply Response to Rainfall Scarcity in Uganda.
	Kamei, Akito, Rebecca Thornton, and Dirgha Ghimire. “The Dynamic Relationship between Migration, Family Planning, and Fertility in Nepal.”
WORK IN PROGRESS	Water Treatment and E. Coli in Drinking Water: Household Responses to (Invisible) Water Quality Risks, with Sujey Soori.
	In-line chlorination for drinking water in rural Odisha, India: A pilot randomized controlled trial, with Jeremy Lowe, Vaishnavi Prathap, Akito Kamei, Sidhartha Giri, Krushna Sahoo, Michael Kremer, Elisa Maffioli, and Amy Pickering.
	Air Conditioning and Learning Outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa.
	Dehydration and Labor Productivity.
	Resolution of Uncertainty and Demand for Pregnancy Testing, with Rebecca Thornton.
POLICY REPORTS AND POPULAR PRESS	Push and Pull Factors for (Early) Marriage, Bangladesh Integrated Household Survey Questionnaire (BIHS), with Mary Arends-Kuenning and Abigail Stocker.
	Resource or Irritation? The Effect of Weather Shocks on Intimate Partner Violence in India.
	Assessing the Multidimensional Burden of Uterine Fibroids Among Ghanaian Women, with Obianuju Sandra Madueke-Laveaux, Bhuchitra Singh, and Elizabeth Pinto-Korasare.
	Brossard, Matt, Manuel Cardoso, Akito Kamei, Sakshi Mishra, Suguru Mizunoya, and Nicolas Reuge. 2020. “ Parental Engagement in Children’s Learning .” Innocenti Research Briefs no. 2020-09, UNICEF Office of Research - Innocenti, Florence.
	Dreesen, Thomas, Spogmai Akseer, Matt Brossard, Pragya Dewan, Juan-Pablo Giraldo, Akito Kamei, Suguru Mizunoya, and Javier Santiago Ortiz. 2020. “ Promising Practices for Equitable Remote Learning: Emerging Lessons from COVID-19 Education Responses in 127 Countries .” Innocenti Research Briefs no. 2020-10, UNICEF Office of Research - Innocenti, Florence.
	Kamei, Akito, and Rajendra Ghimire. 2017. “ Labor-Saving Farm Technology in Nepal .” Policy Brief 9. Institute for Social and Environmental Research-Nepal.
	Kamei, Akito, and Indra Chaudhary. 2017. “ Facilitating Local Nepali Investment Opportunities using Remittance .” Policy Brief 10. Institute for Social and Environmental Research-Nepal.
	Dreesen, Thomas, Matt Brossard, Spogmai Akseer, Akito Kamei, Javier Santiago Ortiz, Pragya Dewan, Juan-Pablo Giraldo, and Suguru Mizunoya. 2020. “ Lessons from COVID-19: Getting

[Remote Learning Right](#)” Blog series targeted toward exploring the impact of COVID-19 on education. UNICEF. 13 May. 2020.

Kamei, Akito. 2018. “[Where do Children Working in Hazardous Environments Come From?](#)” Primeros Pasos, Early Childhood Development. Inter-American Development Bank. 27 Aug. 2018.

GRANTS

GiveWell \$1,800,000 2023
with Michael Kremer, Pascaline Dupas, and Elisa Maffioli for “Water Treatment Study.”

J-PAL Innovation in Government Initiative \$189,108 2022
with Michael Kremer, Pascaline Dupas, and Elisa Maffioli for “Scaling Up Coupons for Safe Water Treatment in Kenya.”

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

UNICEF Office of Research - Innocenti 3/2020-7/2021
Education Research Consultant
Akeli project, evidence generation on the use of a digital language learning platform.
Research about educational response to the COVID-19 crisis.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 2/2017-2/2019
Research Assistant to Prof. Rebecca Thornton, Project Manager in Uganda
Primary data collection (sampling, treatment assignment, programming of ODK survey for tablet data collection, monitoring of quality data quality, etc.) and management (logistics, strategy for efficient ways to reach the community, training of enumerators, etc.).

The World Bank 9/2018-12/2018
Short-Term Consultant, Poverty, and Equity Global Practice
Research on urban poverty in relationship with city size and labor market outcomes.
Contribution to a chapter of the Ethiopian Poverty Assessment Report 2020.

Inter-American Development Bank 6/2018-8/2018
Research Intern, Social Protection and Health Division
Impact evaluation of Nicaraguan early childhood development projects.

Institute for Social and Environmental Research, Nepal 6/2016-8/2016
Policy Communication Fellow, joint with Michigan Population Studies Center
Publication of policy briefs for Nepali policymakers by translating technical academic findings into easy-to-read policy briefs.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 8/2015-8/2016
Research Assistant to Prof. Katherine Baylis, Mary Arends-Kuenning
The Data Infrastructure Project: Created a comprehensive catalog of available datasets.

Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), Mexico 6/2015-8/2015
Research Assistant to Prof. Kensuke Teshima
Contribution to Dell, M., Feigenberg, B., and Teshima, K. (2019). The violent consequences of trade-induced worker displacement in Mexico. American Economic Review: Insights, 1(1), 43-58.

Japan Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry (RIETI) 4/2012-3/2014
Research Assistant to Prof. Yasuyuki Sawada and Prof. Tatsuo Hatta
Contribution to Sawada, Y., Nakata, H., and Sekiguchi, K. (2014). Natural disasters, land price, and location of firms: Evidence from Thailand. RIETI Discussion Papers.

Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Santiago, Chile
Research Intern

12/2011-1/2012

Trade data analysis of Economic Partner Agreement (EPA).

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

2025

Research Seminar, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León

2024

Yale Research Initiative on Innovation and Scale (Y-RISE) 2024 Conference, Research Seminar at the Development Innovation Lab at the University of Chicago (Chicago), Applied Microeconomics Seminar at The University of São Paulo (Brazil), 2030 IN SIGHT (Mexico City), International Policy and Development Workshop (Illinois)

2023

Population Association of America, Annual Meeting 2023 (Louisiana)

2021

Population Association of America, Annual Meeting 2021 (Online)

2020

2nd IUSSP Population, Poverty and Inequality (Online), North East Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC) (Online), Midwest Economic Association Annual Meeting (Illinois), Midwest International Economic Development Conference (Online), Center for the Study of African Economies (Oxford, accepted), Population Association of Annual Meeting 2020 (Online)

2019

Population Health Science Research Workshop, Boston University School of Public Health (Pennsylvania), Illinois Economics Association 49th Annual Meetings (Illinois), International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE) at AEA/ASSA Annual Meeting (Atlanta)

2018

Society of Economics of the Household (Paris), H2D2, Informal Interdisciplinary Seminar Series in Health, History, Demography and Development (Michigan), Population Association of Annual Meeting (Colorado), Midwest Economic Association Annual Meeting (Illinois)

2017

Eighth Bolivian Conference on Development Economics (Cochabamba, Bolivia), Population Health Science Research Workshop (Boston), Illinois Economics Association 47th Annual Meetings (DePaul)

REFEREE SERVICE

Journal

Journal of Development Economics

Applied Economics/Letters

World Development

Journal of Development Studies

Journal of International Development

PLOS Global Public Health

Geography Compass

African Educational Research Journal

Journal of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association

Conference

Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meetings, 2022

Midwest International Economic Development Conference (MWIEDC), 2025

TEACHING AND MENTORING

Universidad Panamericana

Fundamentals of Econometrics, 2025

Selected Topics in Economic Development, 2025

University of Chicago

Research Professional Mentorship Program, 2024
Mentor for Funmilayo Ajayi, Development Innovation Lab

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Certificate in Foundations of Teaching from Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning

ACE 251 The World Food Economy
Teachers Ranked as Excellent, Student evaluations ([link](#)).
Teaching Assistant for Prof. Hope Michelson, Fall 2020 (Online)
Teaching Assistant for Prof. Hope Michelson, Spring 2020 (Online)
Teaching Assistant for Prof. Craig Gundersen, Fall 2019 (In-person and Online)
Teaching Assistant for Prof. Hope Michelson, Spring 2019
Teaching Assistant for Prof. Eduardo L.G. Rios-Neto, Fall 2016

ACE 592: Big Data in Applied Microeconomics (Ph.D. level)
Support in course designing Prof. Peter Christensen, Fall 2015

International Christian University
Undergraduate Macroeconomics, 2014

LANGUAGE English (Fluent), Spanish (Advanced), Japanese (Native)

REFERENCES

Michael Kremer

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Rebecca Thornton

Professor
Baylor University
Dept. of Economics
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Email: rebecca_thornton@baylor.edu

Mary Arends-Kuenning

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University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Economics
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