

A. NILESH FERNANDO

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EDUCATION

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, CAMBRIDGE, MA, 2015
Ph.D. Public Policy (Fields: Labor and Development Economics)
Thesis: *“Land, Labor, and Technology: Essays in Development Economics”*

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD, OXFORD, UK, 2009
Graduate-level coursework in Mathematics and Economics

HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE, AMHERST, MA, 2007
B.A. Mathematics and Economics, Minor: Public Policy

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME, NOTRE DAME, IN, 2016-PRESENT
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics
Concurrent Assistant Professor, Keough School of Global Affairs

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY, EVANSTON, IL, 2019-2020
Visiting Scholar, Department of Economics

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, HARVARD UNIVERSITY, 2015-2016
Postdoctoral Fellow

AFFILIATIONS

PULTE INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT, 2019-PRESENT
Faculty Affiliate

VERITÉ RESEARCH, COLOMBO, SRI LANKA, 2017-PRESENT
Research Affiliate

KELLOGG INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, NOTRE DAME, IN, 2016-PRESENT
Faculty Affiliate

LIU INSTITUTE FOR ASIA AND ASIAN STUDIES, NOTRE DAME, IN, 2016-PRESENT
Faculty Affiliate

PRECISION AGRICULTURE FOR DEVELOPMENT, CAMBRIDGE, MA, 2015-PRESENT
Research Affiliate

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Research Assistant, Evidence for Policy Design, Harvard Kennedy School, 2014

Research Associate, Centre for Micro Finance/MIT-Poverty Action Lab, India, 2008-2009

Short-Term Consultant, Development Economics Research Group, World Bank, India, 2007

Research Associate, Harvard Business School, Cambridge, MA, 2007-2008

PUBLICATIONS

“Understanding Adverse Outcomes in Gulf Migration: Evidence from Administrative Data from Sri Lanka” with Alison Lodermeier, Forthcoming in *International Migration Review*

“Shackled to the Soil? Inherited Land, Birth Order, and Labor Mobility”, Forthcoming in *The Journal of Human Resources*, Volume 57, Issue 2, Spring 2022

“Seeking Treatment: The Impact of Mobile Extension on Information Exchange among Farmers”, Forthcoming in *The Journal of Development Economics*, Volume 153, November, 2021

“Mobile’izing Agricultural Advice: Technology Adoption, Diffusion and Sustainability”, with Shawn Cole (Harvard Business School), *The Economic Journal*, Volume 131, Issue 633, January 2021

“Field Comparisons of Incentive-Compatible Preference Elicitation Techniques”, with Shawn Cole, Daniel Stein, and Jeremy Tobacman, *The Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, Volume 172, April 2020

WORKING PAPERS

“Debiasing Discriminators: Evidence from the Introduction of Neutral Umpires”, with Siddharth Eapen George

“Regulation by Reputation? Quality Revelation of Labor Intermediaries in International Migration”, with Niharika Singh

“Hiring Frictions in Urban Labor Markets: Experimental Evidence from India”, with Niharika Singh, and Gabriel Tourek

“Agricultural Extension, Technology Adoption and Information Spillovers: Evidence from a Cluster Randomized Experiment” with Shawn Cole, Raissa Fabregas, and Hee Kwon Seo

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

ECON 30331 - Introduction to Econometrics, ND

ECON 70572 - Microeconomic Development II: Market Failures (PhD), ND

ECON 70562 - Advanced Topics in Economic Development (PhD), ND

ECON 33811 - Describing an Unequal World: Introduction to Development Economics, ND

ECON 43810 - Explaining an Unequal World: Empirical Methods in Development, ND

Exec Ed - Re-thinking Financial Inclusion: Smart Design for Policy and Practice, HKS, 2014

Economics 1393 - Poverty and Development, Department of Economics, Harvard University, 2014

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

Total Research Funding Raised: \$822,149

Department of Economics Teaching Award, University of Notre Dame (x3), 2017-18, 2018-19, 2020-21

Kellogg Institute, Research Grant, University of Notre Dame (x5), 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Provost's Resilience & Recovery Fund, University of Notre Dame, 2021
SGB Evidence Fund, International Growth Centre, 2020
Ford Family Grant, University of Notre Dame (x2), 2018, 2019
FRSP Regular Faculty Grant, Notre Dame Research, 2018
Research Grant, World Bank Research Group, 2015, 2018
ISLA, Small Grants, University of Notre Dame (x3), 2017, 2018, 2019
ISLA, Large Grant, University of Notre Dame, 2018
Luksburg Foundation Grant, University of Notre Dame, 2017
JPAL Urban Services Initiative, MIT, co-PI with N. Singh, & G. Tourek, 2016
Research Grant, Weiss Family Fund for Development, co-PI with Niharika Singh, 2015
Research Grant, Sustainability Science Program, Harvard Kennedy School, 2014
Sustainability Science Doctoral Fellowship, Harvard Kennedy School, 2013-2014
USAID-Development Innovation Ventures, co-PI with Shawn Cole, 2013
Norberg-Bohm Doctoral Fellowship, Harvard Kennedy School, 2012-2013
Agriculture Technology Adoption Initiative (ATAI), co-PI with Shawn Cole, 2012
Harvard Kennedy School Graduate Fellowship, 2010-2012
Full Tuition Grant, Hampshire College, 2003-2007

SEMINARS

2021-2022: Northwestern, World Bank/LISER Conference on Migration, UCSD, ISI-Delhi, Boston University*

2016-2021: Michigan, IUPUI, Amherst College, ND Mini-Conference, Development Day (Chicago), UIUC, PACDEV, Northwestern, Y-RISE, H2D2 (Michigan), NEUDC (Tufts), APPAM, ND-PUC Development Conference, Johns Hopkins (SAIS), PACDEV, NEUDC (MIT), NBER-Digitization (Stanford), MWIEDC (Wisconsin), Ministry of Planning (Sri Lanka), Verité Research (Sri Lanka)

*scheduled

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Seminars & Conferences: New Frontiers in Development Lecture Series (2019), ND-PUC Conference in Development Economics (Chile, 2018), Organizer of ND Development Lunch (2016-Present), Co-organized ND Mini-Conference in Development Economics (2017, 2018)

Referee Service: *Agricultural Economics*, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Economic Review*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *Environment and Development Economics*, *Journal of African Economies*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Development Effectiveness*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Politics*, *Quantitative Economics*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, USAID-DIV Proposal Review Panel (Agriculture/Development), External Reviewer for 3ie, *PLOS ONE*, *World Bank Economic Review*, *World Development*

OTHER

Languages: English, Sinhalese, Spanish (Basic), Hindi (Basic)

Citizenship: Sri Lanka, US Permanent Resident

Last updated: January 3, 2022