# Muhammad Zia Mehmood

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EDUCATION

## University of California, Berkeley - Haas School of Business

Ph.D. in Business and Public Policy

M.S. in Business Administration

2018 - 2020

Graduate Certificate in Applied Data Science

2021

Harvard University - John F. Kennedy School of Government

Master of Public Policy 2014 - 2016

Lahore University of Management Sciences

B.Sc. (honors) in Economics 2007 - 2011

Research Fields Applied Microeconomics, Development Economics, Political Economy, Experimental Economics

SELECTED
RESEARCH PAPERS

"Short Messages Fall Short for Micro-Entrepreneurs: Experimental Evidence from Kenya" (Job Market Paper)

I use a field experiment with 4,700 micro-entrepreneurs in Kenya to study the short and longer run impact of phone-based business management trainings on business practices and outcomes, and estimate the demand for such trainings among targeted beneficiaries.

"Command and Can't Control: Assessing Centralized Accountability in the Public Sector" (with Saad Gulzar, Dan Rogger and Juan Felipe Ladino)

We study the efficacy of a technology-based top-down centralized accountability system implemented at scale in the Education Department of Punjab, Pakistan, using high frequency monitoring data for over 50,000 public schools.

SELECTED
RESEARCH IN
PROGRESS

"The Political Economy of Environmental Protection: Evidence from India"

(with Suraj Nair and Juan Felipe Ladino)

We use ground sensor and satellite-based measures of air quality to study political interference in enforcement of a ban on fire-crackers during the festival of Diwali in India.

"Weather and Bureaucratic Effort"

(with Saad Gulzar, Dan Rogger and Juan Felipe Ladino)

We examine the link between weather conditions and bureaucrat effort, and its implications for service delivery in the public education bureaucracy of Punjab, Pakistan.

"Accounting for Accounting: Book-keeping Lessons from Nigeria"

(with Abiola Oyebanjo and Anne Krahn)

We seek to explore behavioral drivers behind persistence of poor business practices among micro-entrepreneurs, via a field experiment in Lagos, Nigeria.

#### EXPERIENCE

# Princeton University

 ${\rm Oct}\ 2024$  - present

Research Fellow

Collaborating with researchers at the World Bank, Princeton University, and Stockholm University to study the effect of weather/temperature on bureaucratic effort in the context of public education delivery in Pakistan.

# World Bank - Development Impact Evaluation (DIME)

Jan 2017 - June 2018

Research Consultant

Worked with researchers at Stanford University, Stockholm University, and the Education Department of Punjab, Pakistan, to design and implement research on technology-based accountability programs in the education sector bureaucracy.

World Bank Pakistan - Health, Nutrition and Population

Nov 2016 - Jan 2017

Research Consultant

Liaised with public health experts at the World Bank, UN organizations, USAID, GIZ, JICA, and health officials in the Government of Pakistan, to create a mapping of all technical assistance being provided in the country in the space of immunizations.

### Harvard University - Center for International Development

Sep 2014 - May 2016

Research Fellow - Evidence for Policy Design (EPoD)

Collaborated with researchers at Harvard University to design, implement, and evaluate a smartphone-based reporting system for frontline health workers in Pakistan.

#### Lahore University of Management Sciences

Aug 2011 - July 2014

Research Assistant

Managed field experiments exploring the potential of information communication technologies to address monitoring and accountability gaps in the public sector in Pakistan

#### Teaching

### University of California, Berkeley - Haas School of Business

Graduate Student Instructor

2020 - 2023

Economic Analyses for Business Decisions (MBA level)
Recipient of the Cheit Award for Excellence in Teaching

#### University of California, Berkeley - Department of Economics

Primary Instructor

Summer 2022

Principles of Economics (Undergraduate level)

Selected
Grants,
$Fellows \\ Hips$
AND AWARDS

The International Growth Centre (£20,000)	2022
Institute for Business Innovation Research Grants (\$22,800)	2020, 2021 & 2022
IPA Human Trafficking Research Initiative (\$16,700)	2022
Center for African Studies Rocca Dissertation Fellowship (\$16,000)	2022 & 2023
PEDL Small Research Grant (£6,500)	2022
CEGA Development Economics Challenge Award (\$7,000)	2023
University of Chicago Price Theory Summer Camp (selected participant)	2022
PEDL Young Scholar Matchmaking Workshop (selected participant)	2022
SurveyCTO Data Collection Research Grant	2021 & 2022
UC Berkeley, Haas School of Business PhD Fellowship	2018 - 2023
Ash Center for Democratic Governance & Innovation Research Grant	2015
Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy Winter Research Grant	2015
Fulbright Scholarship for MPP at Harvard Kennedy School	2014 - 2016

# SERVICE AND MENTORSHIP

#### Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA)

Fall 2022 & Spring 2023

Peer Mentor to CEGA EASST Fellows

Economists for Equity at Berkeley (BEE)

2021 - 2022

Leadership Board - Undergraduate student mentoring & tutoring

## U.C. Berkeley Business and Public Policy Seminar

2019 - 2020

Co-Coordinator

### LANGUAGES

English (fluent), Urdu (native), Punjabi (native), Hindi (fluent - verbal only)

#### References

#### Edward Miguel (Co-Chair of Committee)

Frederico Finan (Co-Chair of Committee) Professor of Economics

Associate Professor of Business Administration

Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
University of California Berkeley
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#### **Steve Tadelis**

#### Guo Xu

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