



# Rahul Lahoti

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## Education

- 2014–2017 **PhD**, *University of Goettingen, Germany.*  
**Summa Cum Laude**  
Thesis Committee Chair: Prof. Stephan Klasen
- 2006–2008 **Master of Public Administration**, *School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), New York.*
- 2001–2003 **Masters in Computer Science**, *University of California, San Diego.*
- 1997–2001 **Bachelor of Engineering (Honors) in Computer Science**, *Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani, India.*

## Academic Work Experience

- 2022– **Research Associate**, *UNU-WIDER.*
- 2021–2021 **Lecturer**, *University of Goettingen.*
- 2020–2021 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, *Nadel, ETH, Zurich.*
- 2019– **Visiting Faculty**, *Azim Premji University, Bengaluru, India.*
- 2017–2019 **Assistant Professor**, *Azim Premji University, Bengaluru, India, including 8 months parental leave.*
- 2010–2014 **Senior Research Associate**, *Center for Public Policy, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, India.*
- 2008–2009 **Research Associate**, *Center for Evaluation and Global Action, University of Berkeley, California.*

## Awards

- 2018 **Young Researcher Prize**, *German Economic Association Research Group on Development Economics and KfW Development Bank.*  
First Prize for doctoral thesis.
- 2018 **Florenz Sartorius Prize**, *University of Goettingen.*  
For outstanding doctoral thesis in the fields of business administration, information systems, and business education.
- 2014–2017 **Research Grant for Doctoral Candidates and Young Academics**, *German Academic Exchange Service DAAD.*

- 2008 **Taraknath Foundation Grant for Graduate Students**, *School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA)*, New York.
- 2008 **Research Fellowship**, *School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA)*, New York.
- 2001–2003 **Research Fellowship**, *University of California, San Diego*.

## Research Areas

Inequality, Gender, Poverty Measurement, Labor Economics, Political Economy, Development Economics

## Citations

[Google Citations](#) **Total:1289 h-index:17.**

## Papers Under Review

- [1] Chandan Jain et al. *Is economic development affected by the leaders' education levels?: Evidence from India (R&R: Journal of Comparative Economics)*. Tech. rep. World Institute for Development Economic Research (UNU-WIDER), 2022.
- [2] Mrinalini Jha and Rahul Lahoti. "Who was impacted and how? The COVID-19 pandemic and the long uneven recovery in India". In: *WIDER Working Paper 2022/105* (2022), pp. 1–55.
- [3] J.Y Suchitra, Hema Swaminathan, and Rahul Lahoti. *Gender and Decision Making: The Role of Self and Proxy Reporting in India*. Tech. rep.
- [4] S K Teeth-Baah et al. *Horizontal Inequality in Africa (R&R: Review of Income and Wealth)*. Tech. rep.

## Journal Papers

- [1] Isis Gaddis, Rahul Lahoti, and Hema Swaminathan. "Women's legal rights and gender gaps in property ownership in developing countries". In: *Population and Development Review* 48.2 (2022), pp. 331–377.
- [2] Surbhi Kesar et al. "Pandemic, Informality, and Vulnerability: Impact of COVID-19 on Livelihoods in India". In: *Canadian Journal of Development Studies* (2021).
- [3] Stephan Klasen and Rahul Lahoti. "How Serious is the Neglect of Intra-Household Inequality in Multi-dimensional Poverty Indices?" In: *Review of Income and Wealth* (2020).
- [4] Rahul Lahoti and Soham Sahoo. "Are Educated Leaders Good for Education? Evidence from India". In: *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* (2020).

- [5] Rahul Mukhopadhyay and Rahul Lahoti. "School Choice in Rural India: a Study of Perceptions and Realities in Four States". In: *Economic and Political Weekly (EPW)* (2019).
- [6] Stephan Klasen et al. "International Income Poverty Measurement: Which Way Now?" In: *Journal of Economic Inequality* 14.2 (2016). Also published as a chapter in the book *Measuring Poverty* by Edward Elgar Publishing Limited., pp. 199–225.
- [7] Rahul Lahoti, Arjun Jayadev, and Sanjay Reddy. "The Global Consumption and Income Project (GCIP): An Overview". In: *Journal of Globalization and Development* 7.1 (2016), pp. 61–108.
- [8] Rahul Lahoti and Hema Swaminathan. "Economic Development and Women's Labor Force Participation in India". In: *Feminist Economics* 22.2 (2016), pp. 168–195.
- [9] Sanjay Reddy and Rahul Lahoti. "\$1.90 a day- What Does it Say? The New International Poverty Line". In: *New Left Review* 97 (2016). Also published as a chapter in the book *Measuring Poverty* by Edward Elgar Publishing Limited., pp. 106–127.
- [10] Ramya M Vijaya, Rahul Lahoti, and Hema Swaminathan. "Moving from the Household to the Individual: Multidimensional Poverty Analysis". In: *World Development* 59 (2014), pp. 70–81.
- [11] Hema Swaminathan, Rahul Lahoti, and JY Suchitra. "Gender Asset and Wealth Gaps: Evidence from Karnataka". In: *Economic and Political Weekly* (2012), pp. 59–67.

## Selected Work in Progress

- [1] Rahul Lahoti. *Perceptions of Gender Inequality and Gender Norms in Developing Countries*. Tech. rep.
- [2] Rahul Lahoti, Rosa Abraham, and Hema Swaminathan. *Does who and how you ask questions impacts reporting of participation in labor force?* Tech. rep.
- [3] Deepti Sharma, Hema Swaminathan, and Rahul Lahoti. *Intra-household inequality in time spent on household and care activities*. Tech. rep.

## Policy Commentaries

- [1] Rahul Lahoti et al. "Hunger Grows as Indias Lockdown Kills Jobs". In: *India Forum* (2020).
- [2] Inayat Sabhikhi, Rahul Lahoti, and Rajendran Narayanan. "Digital India - Emperor's New Clothes of Shoddy Service Delivery". In: *India Forum* (2019).
- [3] Rahul Lahoti. "Development Will Not Cure Gender Inequality, Policy Will". In: *Economic and Political Weekly* 53.21 (2018).
- [4] Rahul Lahoti. "Questioning the Phenomenal Success of Aadhaar-linked Direct Benefit Transfers for LPG". In: *Economic and Political Weekly* 24 (2016).
- [5] Rahul Lahoti, JY Suchitra, and Hema Swaminathan. "Not in Her Name". In: *Economic and Political Weekly* 51.5 (2016), p. 17.

- [6] Rahul Lahoti, JY Suchitra, and Prodyumna Goutam. "A Rejoinder on LPG Subsidies". In: *Economic and Political Weekly* (2013), pp. 69–69.
- [7] Rahul Lahoti, Prodyumna Goutam, and JY Suchitra. "Subsidies for Whom? The Case of LPG in India". In: *Economic and Political Weekly* 47.44 (2012), pp. 16–18.

## Book Chapters

- [1] "Transitioning to No Poverty". In: *Transitioning to Sustainability Series*. Ed. by Isabel Gunther and Rahul Lahoti. MDPI Books, 2021.
- [2] Rahul Lahoti et al. "Hunger Grows as Indias Lockdown Kills Jobs". In: *India and the Pandemic. The First Year*. 2021.
- [3] Arjun Jayadev, Rahul Lahoti, and Sanjay Reddy. "Toward a Just Society: Joseph Stiglitz and Twenty-first Century Economics". In: John Wiley & Sons, 2018. Chap. The Middle Muddle: Conceptualizing and Measuring the Global Middle Class.
- [4] Stephan Klasen et al. "Economic Inequality and Social Progress\*". In: *Rethinking Society for the 21st Century: Report of the International Panel on Social Progress*. Ed. by IPSPEditor. Vol. 1. Cambridge University Press, 2018, 83—140.

## Working Papers

- [1] Deepti Goel, Rosa Abraham, and Rahul Lahoti. "Improving Survey Quality Using Paradata: Lessons from the India Working Survey". In: (2022).
- [2] Rahul Lahoti, Hema Swaminathan, and Rosa Abraham. *Is there a Childbirth Penalty for Women in Informal Labor Markets in Rural India?* WIDER Working Paper 128/2021. 2021.
- [3] Isis Gaddis, Rahul Lahoti, and Wenjie Li. *Gender Gaps in Property Ownership in Sub-Saharan Africa*. World Bank Policy Research Working Paper. 2018.
- [4] Rahul Lahoti and Stephan Klasen. *Measuring Individual Multi-dimensional Poverty across Six Countries*. Background paper for 2018 Poverty and Prosperity Report. 2018.
- [5] Stephan Klasen et al. *Inequality-Worldwide Trends and Current Debates*. Courant Research Centre: Poverty, Equity and Growth-Discussion Papers. 2016.
- [6] Arjun Jayadev, Rahul Lahoti, Sanjay G Reddy, et al. *Who Got What, Then and Now? A Fifty Year Overview from the Global Consumption and Income Project*. Courant Research Centre PEG. 2015.
- [7] Cheryl Doss et al. *Measuring Personal Wealth in Developing Countries: Interviewing Men and Women About Asset Values*. Gender Asset Gap Project Working Paper. 2013.
- [8] Hema Swaminathan, Rahul Lahoti, and Suchitra JY. *Women's Property, Mobility and Decision Making: Evidence from Rural Karnataka, India*. IFPRI Discussion Paper. 2012.
- [9] Hema Swaminathan, Rahul Lahoti, and Suchitra JY. *Individual Asset Holding Patterns: District Level Estimates from Karnataka*. Gender Asset Gap Project Working Paper. 2011.

- [10] Rahul Lahoti. *Compendium on Best Practices in Reducing Hunger and Food Insecurity*. Beyond the Midpoint: Accelerating Support for MDG Achievements, Bureau for Development Policy, UNDP. 2009.

## Reports

- [1] *State of Working India 2021*. Azim Premji University, 2021.
- [2] Hema Swaminathan, Suchitra J.Y., and Rahul Lahoti. *Karnataka Household Asset Survey: Measuring the Gender Asset Gap*. Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, MDG3 Fund for gender equality, 2011.
- [3] *The Gender Asset and Wealth gaps: Evidence from Ecuador, Ghana and Karnataka, India*. Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, MDG3 Fund for gender equality, 2011.

## Research Grants

- 2020 **Impact of COVID-19 on Labor Markets in India**,  
*Funder: Azim Premji University*,  
Role: Principal Investigator, \$33,000.  
with Center for Sustainable Employment.  
[Website](#) [Media Coverage](#)
- 2019-2020 **Impact of Caste, Religion and Gender on Labor Market Outcomes and Experiences in India**,  
*Funder: IWWAGE at IFMR*,  
Role: Principal Investigator, \$370,000.  
with Center for Sustainable Employment
- 2019-2020 **Use of Para-data to improve Survey Data Collection**,  
*Funder: National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)*,  
Role: Principal Investigator, \$29,000.  
with Rosa Abraham and Deepti Goel
- 2019-2020 **Dynamics of Women's Work in India**,  
*Funder: UNU-WIDER*,  
Role: Principal Investigator, \$5,000.  
with Hema Swaminathan and Rosa Abraham
- 2018 **Evaluation of Common Service Centers in Jharkhand, India**,  
*Funder: Azim Premji University*,  
Role: Principal Investigator, \$5,000.  
with Rajendran Narayanan and Inayat Sabhikhi  
[Website](#) [Media Coverage](#)
- 2015 **Inequality Worldwide Development and Trends**,  
*Funder: German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development*,  
Role: Co-Investigator, \$10,000.  
with Stephan Klasen, Sebastin Vollmer and Nathalie Scholl

## ■ Data Collection Projects

- August 2020–October 2020 **Longitudinal Phone Survey on Labor Markets in Rajasthan and Karnataka (First Round)**,  
Sample: 5600 respondents.
- April 2020– **Longitudinal Phone Survey on Impacts of COVID-19 Lock-downs in India**,  
Sample: 4950 respondents.
- Nov 2019–March 2020 **Field Survey on Social Discrimination in Employment in India**,  
Sample: 16000 respondents.
- June 2018 **Field Survey on Common Service Centers in Jharkhand, India**,  
Sample: 400 Households, Qualitative Interviews: 40 Entrepreneurs.
- June 2018 **Field Survey on School Choice in Four States in India**,  
Sample: 2464 Children; Qualitative Interviews: 50 Parents, 121 Headteachers.

## ■ Teaching Experience

- University of Goettingen Gender and Development (Summer 2021), Advanced Programming in Stata (Winter 2015, Summer 2016, Winter 2016). Teaching Assistant for Development Economics I (Winter 2015), Development Economics II (Summer 2015), Panel Data Econometrics (Summer 2016)
- Azim Premji University Quantative Analysis, Economic Policy Analysis , Gender and Development (2018-19)
- Columbia University Teaching Assistant for Macroeconomics and Policy Analysis (Winter 2007), Microeconomics and Policy Analysis (Summer 2008)
- University Of California, San Diego Teaching Assistant for Computer Architecture (Summer 2002)

## ■ Other Work Experience

- Feb 2017–July 2018 **Consultant**, *World Bank*.
- June 2016–Dec 2016 **Consultant**, *Global Economics Monitoring Unit, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA)*, New York.
- May 2009–November 2009 **Consultant**, *Bureau for Development Policy, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*, New York.
- March 2007 – June 2007 **Consultant**, *Tropical Agricultural Program, Earth Institute, Columbia University*, New York.
- May 2007–December 2007 **Research Consultant**, *Arete Consulting*, New York.

2003–2006 **Software Engineer**, *Microsoft*, Redmond, WA.

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## Referee Service

Demography, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Development Economics, World Development, Review of Income and Wealth, Journal of Globalization and Development, Journal of South Asian Development, Feminist Economics

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## Invited Blog Posts

- 2021 **Womens legal rights and gender gaps in property ownership**, *Ideas for India*.  
with Isis Gaddis and Hema Swaminathan
- 2021 **Women’s legal rights and gender gaps in property ownership in developing countries**, *Lets talk Development*, *World Bank*.  
with Isis Gaddis and Hema Swaminathan
- 2020 **School Choice in Rural India: Perception versus Reality**, *Ideas for India*.  
with Rahul Mukhopadhyay
- 2020 **Pandemic as a Lens: Identifying and Addressing Livelihood Vulnerabilities**, *Ideas for India*.  
with Rosa Abraham, Surbhi Kesar, Amit Basole and Paaritosh Nath
- 2018 **An Individual Look at Poverty, Across Multiple Dimensions**, *World Bank Blogs*.  
with Isis Gaddis and Stephan Klasen
- 2016 **How Serious is the Neglect of Intra-household Inequality in Poverty Measures in India?**, *Ideas for India*.  
with Stephan Klasen
- 2015 **1.90 Per Day: What Does it Say?**, *Institute of New Economic Thinking*.  
with Sanjay Reddy
- 2015 **Is Devil in the Details? Estimating Global Poverty**, *Institute of New Economic Thinking*.  
with Sanjay Reddy

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## Media Articles

- 2021 **What 2020 did to Indias Inequality**, *Live Mint*.  
with Amit Basole and Mrinalini Jha
- 2021 **The Budget does not help those facing hunger, unemployment and loss of educational opportunities**, *Frontline*.  
with Surbhi Kesar

- 2012 **Rightfully Hers, India Together.**  
with Hema Swaminathan and Suchitra J.Y.
- 2009 **Right to Food Act: Essential but Inadequate, The Hindu.**  
with Sanjay Reddy

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## Media Citations

- Various Media Outlets State of Working India, 2021
- Indian Media Covid Livelihoods survey, 2020
- The Economist The tricky work of measuring falling global poverty, 2015
- The Economist Household income inequality: ladders to climb, April 30th, 2016
- Business Standard What makes the Give it up Campaign Click, July 25th, 2015
- Live Mint Nearly Half of Indians Survived Less than Rs. 38 a Day in 2011-12, April 20th, 2016
- Bretton Woods Project The World Banks Updated International Poverty Line, a Case of Poor Measurement?, April 5th, 2016