

Joost J. de Laat

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Department of Economics
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Education

PhD in Economics	Brown University, Rhode Island, USA	2005
M.A. in Economics	Brown University, Rhode Island, USA	2000
Bachelor of Arts	St. Lawrence University, New York, USA	1998
	St. Lawrence University Kenya Semester Program	Spring 1997
Secondary School	Stedelijk Gymnasium, Amersfoort, Netherlands	1994

Research Interests

Development Economics, Population and Family Economics, Labor Economics, Public Policy, Applied Microeconomic, Survey Methods

Research-in-Progress

“Property And Poverty: Maasai Transitions From Collective To Private Land Holding In Kenya,” 2007-2009. Funded by SSHRC Team Grant. Collaborative interdisciplinary research with investigators at UQAM and McGill University

“Expanding Rural Electrification through Private-Cooperative Partnerships: a randomized evaluation” 2007-2008. Funded by the Foundation for Sustainable Enterprise Development (FSED) through IDRC Canada, Northwater Foundation, Stichting Diorapthe, and French Embassy. Collaborative research with investigators at UQAM and the Institute for Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Nairobi.

“Assessing Strategies to Make Rural Water Provision Sustainable: the Relative Effectiveness of Public Water Facilities and Private Mixed-Use Water Infrastructure,” 2007-2009. Funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Collaborative research with investigators at Georgetown University, Harvard University, UQAM, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

“Determinants of Labor Market Choices by Ethiopian Healthworkers,” 2006-2007. Funded by the World Bank. Collaborative research with investigators at Georgetown University and UQAM.

Research Papers

de Laat, J. , *“Divided Loyalties: Migrants, Moral Hazard and Costly Spousal Monitoring”* Working Paper (submitted), October 2007

de Laat, J., M.. Kremer, and C. Vermeersch, *“Local Participation and Teacher Incentives: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment”*, Working Paper, October 2007

Archambault, C. and J. de Laat, “*Risky Business: The Role of Urban (Dis) Amenities and Conjugal Betrayal in Migration to Kenya’s Urban Slums*” Working Paper, July 2007

de Laat, J., and A. Sevilla-Sanz, “*Working Women, Husband’s Home Time, and Lowest-Low Fertility*,” January 2007 (submitted)

de Laat, J. and E. Vegas, “*Do Differences in Teacher Contracts Affect Student Performance? Evidence from Togo*,” World Development Report 2004 Background Paper, 2005

Data

de Laat, J., “Nairobi Informal Settlement Survey 2004” (NISS), Brown University and the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), Nairobi, 2003-2004

Professional Experience

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Université du Québec à Montréal, 2006- Present

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Economics, Harvard University, 2005 - 2006

Short-Term Consultant, The World Bank and Michael Kremer (Harvard University), Busia, Kenya, 2004, 2005, 2006

Provided technical expertise and research assistance for Michael Kremer on randomized educational evaluations. Liaised between researchers, The World Bank, Ministry of Education

Researcher, African Population and Health Research Center and Brown University, Kenya 2003-04
Designed and collected a detailed livelihood survey of 1800 households in two Nairobi informal settlements, *Korogocho* and *Viwandani*.

Short-Term Consultant, The World Bank, Washington DC, USA, 2002

Provided research assistance to Elizabeth King and Emiliana Vegas (DECRG) for a cross-country project on teacher characteristics and quality of education, and co-authored research on the relationship between teacher contracts and student performance in Togo.

Consultant (unpaid), African Population and Health Research Center, Nairobi, Kenya, 2001

Provided assistance to the Nairobi Slum Urban Surveillance Project.

Research Assistant, Professor A. Foster, Department of Economics, Brown University, 2000-01

Performed quantitative deforestation GIS analysis using satellite images of 200 Indian villages.

Consultant (unpaid), The Mountain Institute, Makalu Barun Cons..Program, Nepal, 1999

Analyzed land-use and indigenous property rights of transhumant households in the Makalu Barun Conservation Area.

Consultant (unpaid), Drought Preparedness Intervention and Recovery Programme, Kenya, 1998

Evaluated a livestock drought recovery project and analyzed livestock marketing among the Boran pastoralists of north-eastern Kenya.

Thomas J. Watson Fellowship Research, Kenya, India, Nepal, Mexico, Norway, 1998-99
Year long independent research project on “*Pastoral Management of Common Lands*”

Honors Thesis, “*Microfinance Institutions: Toward Financial Sustainability*,” St. Law. Un., 1997-98

Intern, Family Finance Building Society, Murang’a, Kenya, 1997
Conducted research on the private provision of micro-credit to Kenyan smallholder tea farmers.

Fellowships

Population Council Dissertation Fellowship, USA	2003-04
Social Science Research Council Fellowship in Applied Economics, USA	2002-03
Brown University First-Year Fellowship, USA	1999-00
Thomas J. Watson Fellowship, Watson Foundation, USA	1998-99
St. Lawrence University Scholarship, USA	1994-98

Honors and Awards

Ritichie Reed Award, Population Council, New York	2003
Watson Institute for International Studies Travel Grant, Brown University	2002
PSTC Mellon Foundation Travel Grant, Brown University	2001
Social Science Research Council Summer Workshop in Applied Economics	2000
Summa cum Laude with Honors in Economics, St. Lawrence University	1998
Phi Beta Kappa	1998
Robert Consler Business Leadership Award, St. Lawrence University	1998
Wall Street Journal Student Achievement Award, St. Lawrence University	1997

Teaching Experience

Cross-Disciplinary Approaches to Development, University College Utrecht (UCU)	2007
Graduate Labor Economics, University of Quebec at Montreal (UQAM)	2007
Advanced Undergraduate Econometrics, University of Quebec at Montreal (UQAM)	2007
Society and Culture of East Africa, McGill University - Canadian Field Studies Program Kenya, Kenya	2005, 2006
Sheridan Center Teaching Certificate, Brown University	2002
Labor Economics, Managerial Economics, Teaching Assistant, Brown University	2001-02
Public Sector Economics, Environmental Economics, and Intro. Microeconomics, Teaching Assistant, St. Lawrence University	

Presentations

Population Association of America, Annual Meeting (2007), Université du Québec à Montréal (2006), Université de Montréal (2006), McMaster University (2006), Brown University (2005), NEUDC Development Conference (2005), Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST), Kenya (2004), Ministry of Health, Kenya (2004), African Economic Research Council (AERC), Kenya (2004) Population Association of America, Annual Meeting (2004) SSRC

Fellows Conference (2003) Population Association of America, Annual Meeting (2003) World Bank Economic Forum (2003), Watson Foundation Fellows Conference (1999)

Language Skills

English	Excellent speaking, reading, and writing
Dutch	Excellent speaking, reading, and writing (native tongue)
French	Excellent speaking, reading, and writing
Swahili	Very good speaking, reading, and writing
German	Fair speaking and writing, good reading
Spanish	Fair speaking and writing, good reading

Computing Skills

Stata, Matlab, Maple, Idrisi (GIS), Scientific Workplace, Word, Excel, Access

International Experience (Agricultural, Pastoral Arid Lands, and Urban Slum)

Kenya (10 years), Tanzania, India, Mexico, Nepal

Miscellaneous

International Network on Private Sector Development, founding member	2007
Africa SOMA, non-profit 501c3 organizations supporting education initiatives for marginalized African youth, co-founder and board member	2005-2007
Green Power NGO, non-profit organization undertaking rural community based electrification in Kenya, advisor (pro bono)	
Elangata Wuas Maasai Ecosystem Mng. Program and Primary School (Kenya), Volunteer	2004 - 05
Economics Honory Society, St. Lawrence University, President	1997 - 98