

## **MARCEL FAFCHAMPS**

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### **Current and past positions**

Stanford University, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies 11/13-12/25  
Satre Family Senior Fellow at the Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law.  
Courtesy Professor, Department of Economics.

Oxford University, Department of Economics and Mansfield College 7/99-10/13  
Professor in the Department of Economics. Professorial Fellow at Mansfield College.  
Deputy Director then Co-Director of the Centre for the Study of African Economies.

Université d'Auvergne, CERDI 4/00-4/13  
Professeur invité.

The World Bank, DECRG 7/98-7/99  
Visiting Research Fellow

Stanford University, Department of Economics 9/96-6/99  
Assistant Professor. On sabbatical leave from 9/98 until 6/99.

Stanford University, Food Research Institute 9/89-8/96  
Assistant Professor

University of Chicago, Department of Economics 1/95-3/95  
Visiting Assistant Professor

University of California, Berkeley, Dept of Agricultural and Resource Economics  
Research Assistant and Teaching Assistant 1/86-1/88; 10/88-8/89

Economics Department, ICRISAT, Hyderabad, India 1/88-9/88  
Research Scholar

International Labor Organization, Jobs and Skills Programme for Africa, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
Associate Expert then Expert 1/81-12/85

### **Education**

Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley. 1989

Licencié in Economics (Grande Distinction), Institut des Sciences Economiques, Catholic University of Louvain. 1980

Licencié in Law (Distinction), Faculty of Law, Catholic University of Louvain. 1978

## **Publications**

### **1. Books**

Marcel Fafchamps, *Market Institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa: Theory and Evidence*, MIT Press, 2004

Marcel Fafchamps, *Rural Poverty, Risk, and Development*, Elgar Press, 2003

### **2. Articles published or accepted for publication in refereed journals**

Marcel Fafchamps and Fadela Sadou Zouleya, “Social Observability and Demand for Transfers: Experimental Evidence from a Low Income Population”, *Journal of Public Economics*, 2026 (forthcoming)

Margherita Comola and Marcel Fafchamps, “Experimental Evidence on Covert Bargaining Markets”, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 2026 (forthcoming)

Marcel Fafchamps, Asadul Islam, Debayan Pakrashi and Denni Tommasi, “Diffusion in Social Networks: Experimental Evidence on Information Sharing vs Persuasion”, *Journal of Development Economics*, 2026, 179, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2025.103686>

Marcel Fafchamps and Aditya Shrinivas, “Intertemporal Risk Pooling in Village Economies”, *Journal of Development Economics*, 2026, 179, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2025.103686>

Elwyn Davies and Marcel Fafchamps, “Material Incentives and Effort Choice: Evidence from an Online Experiment Across Countries”, *Games and Economic Behavior*, 2025, 154: 175-199, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geb.2025.08.015>.

Mehrab Bakhtiar, Marcel Fafchamps, Markus Goldstein, Kenneth Leonard, and Sreelakshmi Papineni, “Women’s Empowerment and the Intrinsic Demand for Agency: Experimental Evidence from Nigeria”, *Economic Journal*, July 2025, 135(669): 1536-1574. [doi.org/10.1093/ej/ueae117](https://doi.org/10.1093/ej/ueae117)

Girum Abebe, Stefano Caria, Marcel Fafchamps, Paolo Falco, Simon Franklin, Simon Quinn, and Forhad Shilpi, “Matching Frictions and Distorted Beliefs: Evidence from a Job Fair Experiment”, *Economic Journal*, April 2025, doi:10.1093/ej/ueaf026

Bet Caeyers and Marcel Fafchamps, “Exclusion Bias in the Estimation of Peer Effects”, *Journal of Human Resources*, November 07, 2024, 1120-11337R2; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3368/jhr.1120-11337R2>

Uzma Afzal, Giovanna d’Adda, Marcel Fafchamps, Simon Quinn, and Farah Said, “Demand for Commitment in Credit and Savings Contracts: A Field Experiment”, *Economic Journal*, November 2024, 134(664): Pages 3063–3095, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ej/ueae053>

Pascaline Dupas, Marcel Fafchamps, and Eva Lestant, “Panel Data Evidence on the Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Livelihoods in Urban Côte d’Ivoire”, *PLoS ONE*, 18(2): e0277559, February 2023

Catia Batista, Marcel Fafchamps and Pedro Vicente, “Keep It Simple: A Field Experiment in Information Sharing in Social Networks”, *World Bank Economic Review*, 36(4): 857-88, November 2022

James Chu and Marcel Fafchamps, “Labor Conflict within Foreign, Domestic, and Chinese-Owned Manufacturing Firms in Ethiopia”, *World Development*, 159: 106037, November 2022

Marcel Fafchamps, Måns Söderbom, and Monique van den Boogaart, "Adoption with Social Learning and Network Externalities", *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*, 84(6): 1259-82, December 2022

Uzma Afzal, Giovanna d'Adda, Marcel Fafchamps, and Farah Said, "Intrahousehold Consumption Allocation and Demand for Agency: A Triple Experimental Investigation", *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 14(3): 400-44, July 2022

Elwyn Davies and Marcel Fafchamps, "When No Bad Deed Goes Punished: Relational Contracting in Ghana versus the UK", *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 191: 714-37, November 2021

Marcel Fafchamps and Forhad Shilpi, "The Evolution of Built-up Areas in Ghana since 1975", *PLoS ONE*, 16(5): e0250847, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0250847>

Marcel Fafchamps, Asad Islam, Abdul Malek, and Debayan Pakrashi, "Mobilizing P2P Diffusion for New Agricultural Practices: Experimental Evidence from Bangladesh", *World Bank Economic Review*, 34(4): 1076-101, November 2021 <https://academic.oup.com/wber/article-abstract/35/4/1076/6274224>

Girum Abebe, Stefano Caria, Marcel Fafchamps, Paolo Falco, Simon Franklin, and Simon Quinn, "Anonymity or Distance? Removing Obstacles to Youth Employment in Urban Ethiopia", *Review of Economic Studies*, 88(3): 1279-1310, 2021

Rachel Cassidy and Marcel Fafchamps, "Banker My Neighbor: Matching and Financial Intermediation in Savings Groups", *Journal of Development Economics*, 145, 102460, 2020

Stefano Caria and Marcel Fafchamps, "Can People Form Links to Efficiently Access Information?" *Economic Journal*, October 2020, 631: 1966-94 <https://doi.org/10.1093/ej/ueaa064>

Marcel Fafchamps, Asad Islam, Abdul Malek, and Debayan Pakrashi, "Can Referral Improve Targeting? Evidence from a Vocational Training Experiment", *Journal of Development Economics*, 144.102436, 2020

Marcel Fafchamps and Julien Labonne, "Family Networks and Distributive Politics", *Journal of the European Economic Association*, August 2020, 18(4): 1697-725 <https://doi.org/10.1093/jeaa/jvz023>

Marcel Fafchamps, Ana Vaz and Pedro Vicente, "Voting and Peer Effects: Evidence from a Randomized Controlled Trial", *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, January 2020, 68(2): 567-606

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Marcel Fafchamps and Ruth Hill, "Redistribution and Group Participation: Comparative Experimental Evidence from Africa and the UK", *World Bank Economic Review*, October 2019, 33(3): 717-35

Ulrik Beck, Benedikte Bjerger and Marcel Fafchamps, "The Role of Social Ties in Factor Allocation", *World Bank Economic Review*, October 2019, 33(3): 598-621

- Michele Belot and Marcel Fafchamps, "Are People Equally Other-Regarding When Picking a Partner vs. Choosing an Allocation?" *Southern Economic Journal*, 2018, 84(4): 1088-108
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- Marcel Fafchamps and Simon Quinn, "Networks and Manufacturing Firms in Africa: Results from a Randomized Field Experiment", *World Bank Economic Review*, 2018, 32(3): 656-75, October
- Marcel Fafchamps and Di Mo, "Peer Effect Heterogeneity in Computer Assisted Learning: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment", *Experimental Economics*, 2018, 21(2): 355-82, June.
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- Marcel Fafchamps and Chris Woodruff, "Identifying Gazelles: Expert Panels vs. Surveys as a Means to Identify Firms with Rapid Growth Potential", *World Bank Economic Review*, 2017, 31(3): 670-86.
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- Marcel Fafchamps and Julien Labonne, "Do Politicians' Relatives Get Better Jobs? Evidence from Municipal Elections", *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization*, 2017, 33(2): 268-300.
- Marcel Fafchamps and Said El Hamine, "Firm Productivity, Wages, and Agglomeration Externalities", *Research in Economics*, 2017, 71: 291-305.
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Marcel Fafchamps and Forhad Shilpi, "Determinants of the Choice of Migration Destination", *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*, 75(3): 388-409, 2013

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Marcel Fafchamps and Bart Minten, "Impact of SMS-Based Agricultural Information on Indian Farmers", *World Bank Economic Review*, 26(3): 383-414, 2012

Marcel Fafchamps and Jean-Louis Arcand, "Matching in Community Based Organizations", *Journal of Development Economics*, 98(2): 203-19, July 2012

Marcel Fafchamps, "Development, Agglomeration, and the Organization of Work", *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 42(3): 459-472, 2012; "Reprint of Development, Agglomeration, and the Organization of Work", *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 42(5): 765-78, 2012

Marcel Fafchamps and Eliana La Ferrara, "Self-Help Groups and Mutual Assistance: Evidence from Kenyan Slums", *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 60(4): 707-34, July 2012

Abigail Barr, Marleen Dekker, and Marcel Fafchamps, "Who Shares Risk with Whom under Different Enforcement Mechanisms?", *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 60(4): 677-706, July 2012

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Marcel Fafchamps, "Randomised Controlled Trials or Structural Models (or Both... or Neither...)" *Journal of African Economies*, 20: 596-599, 2011

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Marcel Fafchamps and Trudy Owens, "The Determinants of NGO Funding in Africa", *World Bank Economic Review*, Vol. 23(2): 295-321. 2009

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Marcel Fafchamps and Bart Minten, "Insecurity and Welfare", *Journal of Development Studies*, 45(6): 831-63, July 2009

Marcel Fafchamps and Forhad Shilpi, "Subjective Welfare, Isolation, and Relative Consumption", *Journal of Development Economics*, 86(1): 43-60, April 2008

Marcel Fafchamps, Ruth Vargas Hill and Bart Minten, "Quality Control in Non-Staple Food Markets: Evidence from India", *Agricultural Economics*, 38(3): 251-66, May 2008

Marcel Fafchamps and Ruth Vargas Hill, "Price Transmission and Trader Entry in Domestic Commodity Markets", *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 56(4): 729-66, Jul 2008

Marcel Fafchamps, Said El Hamine and Albert Zeufack, "Learning to Export: Evidence from Moroccan Manufacturing", *Journal of African Economies*, March 2008; 17: 305 - 355

Marcel Fafchamps and Flore Gubert, "Contingent Loan Repayment in the Philippines", *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 55(4): 633-67, July 2007

Marcel Fafchamps and Flore Gubert, "The Formation of Risk-Sharing Networks", *Journal of Development Economics*, 83(2): 326-50, July 2007

Marcel Fafchamps and Bart Minten, "Public Service Provision, User Fees, and Political Turmoil", *Journal of African Economies*, 16(3): 485-518, June 2007

Marcel Fafchamps and Flore Gubert, "Risk Sharing and Network Formation", *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*, 97(2): 75-79, May 2007

Marcel Fafchamps and Mans Söderbom, "Wages and Labor Management in African Manufacturing", *Journal of Human Resources*, 41(2): 346-79, Spring 2006

Marcel Fafchamps and Eleni Gabre-Madhin, "Agricultural Markets in Benin and Malawi", *African Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, 1(1): 67-85, December 2006

Klaus Desmet and Marcel Fafchamps, "Employment Concentration across US Counties", *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 36(4): 482-509, July 2006

Marcel Fafchamps and Jackline Wahba, "Child Labor, Urban Proximity, and Household Composition", *Journal of Development Economics*, 79(2): 374-97, April 2006

Abigail Barr and Marcel Fafchamps, "A Client-Community Assessment of the NGO Sector in Uganda", *Journal of Development Studies*, 42(4): 611-39, May 2006

Marcel Fafchamps and John Pender, "Land Lease Markets and Agricultural Efficiency: Theory and Evidence from Ethiopia", *Journal of African Economies*, 15(2): 251-84, June 2006

Marcel Fafchamps and Bart Minten, "Crime, Transitory Poverty, and Isolation: Evidence from Madagascar", *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 54(3): 579-604, April 2006

Marcel Fafchamps, "Development and Social Capital", *Journal of Development Studies*, 42(7): 1180-98, October 2006

Marcel Fafchamps, "Les Institutions de Marché en Afrique Sub-Saharienne", *L'Actualité Economique/Revue d'Analyse Economique*, 81(4): 595-616, December 2005

Arne Bigsten, Paul Collier, Stefan Dercon, Marcel Fafchamps, Bernard Gauthier, Jan Willem Gunning, Anders Isaksson, Abena Odure, Remco Oostendorp, Cathy Patillo, Mans Söderbom, Francis Teal, and Albert Zeufack, "Adjustment Costs, Irreversibility, and Investment Patterns in Africa's Manufacturing

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Marcel Fafchamps, Eleni Gabre-Madhin and Bart Minten, "Increasing Returns and Market Efficiency in Agricultural Trade", *Journal of Development Economics*, 78(2): 406-42, December 2005

Marcel Fafchamps and Ruth Vargas Hill, "Selling at the Farm-Gate or Travelling to Market", *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 87(3): 717-34, August 2005

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Marcel Fafchamps and Christine Moser, "Crime, Isolation, and Law Enforcement", *Journal of African Economies*, 12(4): 625-71, 2003

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- Marcel Fafchamps, "Networks, Communities, and Markets in Sub-Saharan Africa: Implications for Firm Growth and Investment", *Journal of African Economies*, 10(Supplement 2): 109-142, September 2001
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### **3. Book Reviews**

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Girum Abebe, Marcel Fafchamps, Michael Koelle, and Simon Quinn, "Learning Management through Matching: A Field Experiment Using Mechanism Design"

Marcel Fafchamps and Simon Hess, "Altruism and the Topology of Transfer Networks"

Francesco Cordaro, Marcel Fafchamps, Colin Mayer, Muhammad Meki, Simon Quinn and Kate Roll, "Finance and Mutuality: Experimental Evidence on Credit with Performance-Contingent Repayment"

Pascaline Dupas, Marcel Fafchamps, and Deivy Houeix, "Eliciting Material Welfare Rankings from Urban or Rural Neighbors: Methodology and Empirical Evidence"

Martin Chegere, Marcel Fafchamps and Paolo Falco, "Strategic Reasoning and Perspective Taking"

Girum Abebe, Marcel Fafchamps, Michael Koelle, Simon Quinn, and Tom Schwantje, "Management Style Under the Spotlight: Evidence from Studio Recordings"

Girum Abebe, Stefano Caria, Pascaline Dupas, Marcel Fafchamps and Tigabu Getahun, "Competition and Management Upgrading: Experimental Evidence from Ethiopia"

## **Other Media Publications**

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### **Affiliations and Honors**

Affiliated Professor, J-Pal  
Research Associate, NBER  
Affiliate, CEGA  
Research Fellow, IZA  
Senior Fellow, BREAD  
Research Fellow, CEPR, London

Visiting Scholar, Department of Economics, Stanford University, January-June 2012  
Visiting Scholar, Department of Economics, Harvard University, September 2005-June 2006  
Associate Researcher of the International Food Policy Research Institute (2002-5)

Fellow of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, August 2018  
Outstanding Ph.D. Thesis Award, American Agricultural Economists Association, 1990.

### **Referee and Editorial Work**

I served as Editor in Chief of *Economic Development and Cultural Change* between November 2013 and October 2023. Before that, I served as Chief Editor of the *Journal of African Economies* from 2001 until 2013. I have also served as associate editor for the *Economic Journal*, the *Journal of Development Economics*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, and the *Revue d'Economie du Développement*. I have refereed for numerous professional journals in economics.

### **Languages**

French is my mother tongue. I have been working in English for over 40 years. I have some knowledge of Spanish and Italian.