Rajdev Kaur Brar

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Education

PhD, Agricultural and Resource Economics- University of California, Berkeley — 2022-present
MA, Economics (Concentration in Development Studies)- McGill University — 2014-2016
BA, Economics and International Development Studies (double major)- McGill University — 2011-2014

Publications

"Resisting social conformity pressure: Impact of a gender norms intervention for adolescents in Somalia" (with Niklas Buehren, Sreelakshmi Papineni, Munshi Sulaiman). *Journal of Development Economics*, 2026.

Work in progress

"Information search among high school students in India" (with Rubina Hundal)
"Testing a budgeting intervention to address seasonal hunger" (with Kelsey Jack, Supreet Kaur, Nicholas Swanson)
"Bundled agricultural services for farmers in Egypt" (with Amira El-Shal, Jeremy Magruder)
"Household-level impacts of increasing women's financial control in Côte d'Ivoire" (with Aletheia Donald)

Research experience

Research Assistant to Kelsey Jack, Supreet Kaur — Berkeley, USA
UC Berkeley- Department of Economics — 2024-present

Research Assistant for Jeremy Magruder, Brian Wright — Berkeley, USA
UC Berkeley- Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics — 2023-present

Research Analyst for Niklas Buehren, Sreelakshmi Papineni, Laura Chioda — Washington, DC, USA
The World Bank- Africa Gender Innovation Lab — 2019-2025
The World Bank- Office of Vice President: Equitable Growth, Finance, Institutions — 2018-9

Research Associate for Esther Duflo, Abhijit Banerjee, Arun Chandrasekhar, John Floretta, Matthew Jackson, Harini Kannan, Anna Schrimpf, Maheshwor Shrestha — New Delhi, India
The Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) South Asia — 2016-8

Teaching experience

Graduate Student Instructor, UC Berkeley: Economic Development (Marco Gonzalez-Navarro) — 2023
Reader, UC Berkeley: Economic Development (Marco Gonzalez-Navarro), Econometrics (Sofia Villas-Boas) — 2022-3
Teaching Assistant, McGill University: Int'l Trade (William Watson), Macroeconomics (Eesha Sen-Choudhury) — 2014-5

Research grants | Total amount: 365,792 USD

J-PAL Learning for All Initiative- with Rubina Hundal	51,740 USD	2026
Weiss Fund Pilot Grant- with Rubina Hundal (x2)	20,337 USD	2024,6
GiveWell Revealed Preferences Grant- with Wilson King	55,610 USD	2026
Digital Agricultural Innovations & Services Initiative- with Amira El-Shal, Jeremy Magruder	74,847 USD	2025
Solutions & Advancements through Research in Water & Air- with Aprajit Mahajan, Piyush Gandhi	45,000 USD	2025
Hub of Advance Policy Innovation for the Environment- with Amira El-Shal, Jeremy Magruder	74,946 USD	2025
Solutions and Advancements through Research in Water and Air- with Aprajit Mahajan	30,000 USD	2024
Weiss Fund Travel and Exploratory Grant- with Jeremy Magruder	5,000 USD	2023
Travel grants: Berkeley-Portugal Conference Fund; ARE Department (x2); CEGA DevEcon Challenge	8,312 USD	2023-6

Conferences and presentations

ASSA 2027 Annual Meeting (scheduled) — 2027
Cornell University- The Northeastern Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC) (scheduled) — 2026
KDI School-World Bank DECDI: 7th Development Impact Conference — 2026
Nova SBE- NOVAFRICA Conference on Economic Development — 2026
Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) EdDev Community Group — 2026
UC Berkeley- Development Lunch Seminar (x2), Department Development Workshop (x2) — 2025, 2026
Stanford University- Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev) — 2024
The World Bank- Africa Gender Innovation Lab Team Seminar (x3) — 2021, 2022

Other writing

[World Bank Policy Brief] "Engaging men for women's economic empowerment: Overview of the evidence". *World Bank Africa Gender Innovation* Lab, 2023. (with Rachael Pierotti, Clara Delavallade)

[World Bank Blog] "Understanding the dynamics of gender norms in Somalia: A behavioral approach". *World Bank Blog: Let's Talk Development*, 2023. (with Niklas Buehren, Sreelakshmi Papineni, Munshi Sulaiman).

Skills

Software: Stata, R, SurveyCTO (ODK), LaTeX, Tableau, ArcGIS (basic), Python (basic)
Languages: English (native), Panjabi (native), Hindi (fluent)