

# Juan C. Taborda Burgos, Ph.D.

Calle 92 #17-31 Bogotá D.C., 110221, Colombia

☎ (+57) 312-795-6085 | ✉ jctaborda@gmail.com | 🏠 www.jctaborda.com | 🌐 Juan C Taborda

## Education

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### The Fletcher School at Tufts University

Medford, MA

PH.D. IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

2018

- Concentration: Development Economics & International Political Economy

### Hertie School of Governance

Berlin, Germany

MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY

2011

- Concentration: Public Management

### Los Andes University

Bogota, Colombia

BACHELOR OF ARTS

2009

- Major: Political Science
- Concentration: Colombian Politics & International Relations

### Los Andes University

Bogota, Colombia

LAW DEGREE

2008

- Concentration: Public Law
- Minors: Economics & History

### Other Training

ICPSR SUMMER PROGRAM IN QUANTITATIVE METHODS

2017

- University of Michigan

IQMR SUMMER PROGRAM IN QUALITATIVE AND MULTI-METHOD RESEARCH

2016

- Syracuse University

## Experience

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### Root Capital

Cambridge, USA

DIRECTOR IMPACT EVALUATION

August 2022 - Present

- Lead Root Capital's Impact MEL functions, spearheading data-driven decision-making and solidifying our position as a leader in M&E for agricultural finance.
  - Manage a team overseeing a monitoring system that in 2023 alone assessed the impact for 490+ clients across 17 countries, facilitating \$111 million in loans and 14+ advisory services.
  - Quantified results of our MEL practices show that in 2023, our clients were able to reach 500,000+ producers, with 91% of active loans filling critical gaps unmet by commercial lenders
- Lead collaborative development and implementation of Root Capital's impact MEL agenda, informing organizational strategy and programming, streamlining M&E practices, and contributing to field-building and fundraising communications.
  - Directed 10+ rigorous impact evaluations, validating assumptions behind our theory of change or assessing our impact.
  - For example, a 2023 Chiapas study estimated a 24.5% average annual revenue increase for Root Capital-affiliated farmers compared to non-affiliated counterparts.
- Lead, develop, and provide technical oversight to an expert team (8 members in three countries) committed to upholding and, where required, setting industry standards for impact MEL related to rural agribusiness finance and development, and to top quality service provision to internal and external actors.

### Fletcher Leadership Program for Financial Inclusion, The Fletcher School

Boston, USA

INSTRUCTOR AND SPECIAL ADVISOR FOR PUBLIC INNOVATION, RESEARCH, AND EVALUATION

March 2018 - Present

- Lead and co-facilitate in-person and online workshops for the FLPFI Fellowship or 8QM seminars for central bankers and financial regulators from more than 47 countries
- Support program development and FLPFI strategic planning and grant writing for increasing program reach
- Assist in the design of impact evaluation and public innovation modules for the program
- Advise and supervise FLPFI grantees on financial inclusion research projects in more than eight countries in Africa and Latin America
- Supervise drafting and revision of research design plans, pilot reports, and implementation reports for financial inclusion projects
- Supervise local staffing processes for teams performing impact evaluations or exploratory studies on financial inclusion programs

## **Colombian Attorney General's Office**

*Bogotá, Colombia*

HEAD OF EXPERIMENTATION AND RESEARCH - PROCURALAB (PUBLIC INNOVATION LAB)

*July 2020 - Jan. 2021*

- Supported the implementation of two public innovation pilots that aimed to improve the reporting of the Transparency and Access to Information Index and combat xenophobic attitudes of public servants
- Co-led the team that participated in Catalysts for Innovation (MinTIC and UNDP sponsored competition), receiving a special mention for the prototype developed to facilitate citizens' access and use of transparency data
- Directed teams of researchers for three applied studies on the following projects: i) Xenophobia, discrimination, and the State, ii) COVID-19 and public servants remote working; and iii) Improving citizens perceptions of judicial decisions
- Supervised contract PGN-BID-043-2020 with funds from multilateral banks to implement and improve the knowledge management and innovation model for the Attorney General's Office, and build the capacity for its appropriation
- Designed and implemented surveys, evaluations, and data analyses for various processes of the Attorney General's Office
- Led training sessions or workshops on innovation, knowledge management, and public management to public servants

## **Introduction to Quantitative Methods and Data Analysis & Public Innovation Courses, Universidad Sergio Arboleda**

*Bogotá, Colombia*

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD - MASTERS AND UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

*Jan. 2019 - July 2020*

- Professor of graduate and undergraduate level courses on public innovation & quantitative methods and data analyses
- Develop syllabus and course content, including exams and final projects, with a mix of academic and practitioner literature

## **iMMAP**

*Bogotá, Colombia*

CONTRACTOR - SENIOR DATA ANALYST

*Sept. 2019 - Dic. 2019*

- Led the data analysis team, consisting of three analysts, in generating data products, including dashboards and info-graphics, to inform policy-making in response to the Venezuelan migrant crisis
- Supported UN System agencies and other NGOs in providing accurate, relevant, and timely data, contributing to the humanitarian community's response to the Venezuelan crisis
- Acted as contact point for the Food Security and Nutrition Cluster and the GTMI (information and data management workgroup), coordinating the data needs of over ten national and international institutions
- As data team lead, promoted the use of innovative technological solutions to procure and generate data, such as remote sensing techniques, machine learning models, or data collection through a gig economy-based model

## **Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA)**

*Bogotá, Colombia*

EXTERNAL CONSULTANT - IMPACT EVALUATION DESIGN & PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

*Jan. 2019 - April 2019*

- Advised on the development of impact evaluation and monitoring projects, including potential partners identification
- Developed project proposals for each partner, including identification of institutional agendas, relevant actors, available data, and all required information to initiate an evaluation project
- Identified possible funding alternatives and strategic interests of donors to develop evaluation projects

## **Seamos Democracia Digital**

*Bogotá, Colombia*

EXTERNAL CONSULTANT - IMPACT EVALUATION & PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT TOOLS

*Jan. 2019 - March 2019*

- Proposed a theory of change and the implementation of performance management and monitoring and evaluation tools to improve performance and social impact
- Assisted in the implementation of methodologies to introduce performance management and rigorous evaluation of digital and analog civic participation platforms

## **Tufts University – The Fletcher School, Econometric Impact Evaluation**

*Medford, MA*

ECONOMETRIC IMPACT EVALUATION CO-TEACHING FELLOW & TEACHING ASSISTANT FOR PROFESSOR J. AKER, PH.D.

*Fall 2021, Spring & Fall 2017*

- As GIFT Co-teaching Fellow lectured three sessions and contributed in the designing, delivering, and evaluation of the course
- Taught laboratory sessions to assist with problem sets and Stata assignments
- Helped students clarify their concepts and correctly apply methods to complete their assignments
- Held weekly office hours for Stata consultations and learning of Stata coding

## **Tufts University – Experimental College, Latin America: Development & Policy-Making**

*Medford, MA*

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD

*Spring 2017*

- Instructor of record for Undergraduate level course teaching on Latin America development policies and policy-making process
- Develop syllabus and course content, including exams and final projects, with a mix of academic and practitioner literature

### **Tufts University – Community Health, Quantitative Research Methods using Stata**

Medford, MA

QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS TEACHING ASSISTANT FOR PROFESSOR A. ACEVEDO, PH.D.

Fall 2017

- Lectured two sessions and contributed in the designing, delivering, and evaluation of the course
- Held weekly office hours and review sessions to discuss students' assignments and final projects

### **Tufts University – Sociology Department, Quantitative Research Methods**

Medford, MA

QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS TEACHING ASSISTANT FOR PROFESSOR J. WEINBERG J.D., PH.D.

Fall 2016

- Taught laboratory sessions for 18 students each week
- Assisted teacher with classroom instruction, exams, record-keeping, and other miscellaneous projects
- Held weekly office hours and review sessions before exams

### **Tufts University – Fletcher School Ginn Library**

Medford, MA

INSTRUCTOR FOR STATA & L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X WORKSHOPS

Sept. 2016 - June 2018

- Teach workshops introducing students to Stata and its basic commands to perform statistical analysis
- Teach workshops introducing students to L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X and its basic environments and document classes
- Help students in one-on-one sessions to troubleshoot their questions about Stata and their own research projects
- Design workshops, agenda, workshop code, and tools to assess learning outcomes

### **Tufts University – Geospatial Technology Services & Tisch Library**

Medford, MA

GEOSPATIAL TECHNICIAN & DATA-LAB ASSISTANT

May 2015 - July 2018

- Provide GIS (ArcGIS, QGIS, Geoda, Google Earth Pro, Envi +IDL) and statistical software consultations (Stata, R, Python) to Tufts students and faculty
- Perform geospatial analyses, statistical analyses, and other informational techniques on geographical data

### **Colombian National Planning Department (DNP)**

Bogotá, Colombia

ADVISOR LEVEL 3/3 - TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT & STRATEGIC PLANNING ADVISOR

Oct. 2011 - July 2014

- Served on project teams working with international partners including the OECD and the World Bank
- Led the team working on territorial studies responsible for producing reports and policy papers
- Co-drafted and supervised the implementation of territorial planning and development policies with a focus on rural territories
- Coordinated with national and regional entities to produce policy advice, reports or regional analyses, and evaluated and drafted legal and public policy documents for decision making and policy implementation
- Provided technical and methodological assistance to strengthen the capabilities of local governments

### **Los Andes University – AECOM – USAID**

Bogota, Colombia

EXTERNAL CONSULTANT

June 2013 - Sept. 2013

- Researched and drafted guidelines to help with the implementation and operation of the Colombian Restorative Justice System
- Introduced criterion and methodologies to characterize territorial entities, enabling the drafting of differential public policies that respond to the endogenous attributes of each region

### **Hertie School of Governance**

Berlin, Germany

RESEARCH ASSISTANT FOR PROFESSOR M. HALLERBERG, PH.D.

May 2010 - June 2011

- Assisted project related to Political Systems, Institutional Design and Fiscal Policies in Latin America between 1986 and 2010, funded by the Inter-American Development Bank
- Elaborated, coded, and cleaned databases both in Excel and Stata for research projects

## **Grants, Scholarships, & Awards**

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2017	<b>Hitachi Center for Technology and International Affairs for Graduate Student Research</b> , Awarded grant to conduct Quantitative Methods training and dissertation research	Medford, MA
2017	<b>Fletcher Educational Enrichment Fund</b> , Awarded grant to conduct Quantitative Methods training and dissertation research	Medford, MA
2017	<b>Tufts Graduate Institute for Teaching</b> , Awarded grant to provide training for students seeking university-level academic careers	Medford, MA
2016	<b>Robyn Gittleman Teaching Fellow</b> , Awarded grant to provide training for graduate students developing teaching skills	Medford, MA
2016	<b>Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research</b> , Awarded grant to participate in the summer session training in sophisticated qualitative research designs	Syracuse, NY
2014-2015	<b>Tufts University Provost Fellow</b> , Awarded grant aimed at recognizing and retaining Tufts University best doctoral applicants	Medford, MA
2014	<b>Colfuturo – Colciencias</b> , Awarded scholarship to pursue doctoral degree in the U.S.	Bogota, Colombia
2013	<b>Fulbright – Ecopetrol</b> , Awarded scholarship to pursue doctoral degree focusing on Regional Development Studies in the U.S.	Bogota, Colombia
2009	<b>International Institute of Human Rights</b> , Scholarship to attend the 40th session	Strasbourg, France
2009	<b>Kettering Foundation – Best Study in Democracy</b> , Awarded prize for best thesis	Bogota, Colombia

## Publications

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Taborda J.C. et al. “*Evaluating How Root Capital’s Client Businesses Impact Smallholder Livelihoods: Coffee Cooperatives in Chiapas, Mexico.*” Root Capital Working Paper

Taborda J.C. & Busto (2023) “*East Africa Digital Business Intelligence and Talent Partnership Program Evaluation.*” Root Capital Working Paper

Taborda J.C. & Busto (2023) “*Evaluation of a Mobile-based Agronomic Extension Services Program for Coffee Farmers in Rwanda – Phase 2.*” Root Capital Working Paper

Taborda J.C. et al. “*Discriminación en silencio: Percepciones de migrantes venezolanos sobre la discriminación en Colombia.*” Revista Desarrollo y Sociedad. Desarro. soc. · School of Economics · CEDE · ISSN 0120-3584 | eISSN 1900-7760

Taborda J.C. et al. (2020) “*COVID-19 y trabajo remoto.*” Instituto de Estudios del Ministerio Público. Documento de trabajo ProcuraLAB

Taborda J.C. et al. (2020) “*Percepciones de la ciudadanía a las decisiones de la Corte Constitucional.*” Instituto de Estudios del Ministerio Público. Documento de trabajo ProcuraLAB

Taborda J.C. (2020) “*El reto de innovar con ética en el sector público*” En: Carrillo Fierro Vox Ética ISBN 978-958-734-273-4

Taborda J.C. (2020) “*Gestión del conocimiento para la innovación pública.*” Innova. Edición 32.

Taborda, J. C. (2018). “*Evaluating Decentralization Reform and its Links to Economic Development and Improved Public Service Provision*” Ph.D. Dissertation - The Fletcher School

Taborda, J. C. (2016, October 7). “*Was the Colombian plebiscite result foreseeable?*”

Castrellón, M., Taborda Burgos, J. C. y Vargas Gómez, J. (2015). “*Los retos de los comités territoriales de justicia transicional en la implementación de la Ley de Víctimas.*” Revista de Derecho Público, 34. Universidad de los Andes (Colombia). ISSN1909-7778

Aguilar, C. et. al. (2015) “*Tipologías Municipales de Colombia: Herramienta para la consolidación de regiones desarrolladas.*” Boletín Regional, Urbano y Ambiental. IPEA . – n. 1– Brasilia. ISSN: 2177-1847

Taborda, J.C. (2011) “*What matters for Education: The effect of Performance Management, Fiscal and Budget policy reforms in PISA.*” MPP Master Thesis.

Bermúdez, F., & Taborda, J. C. (2009). “*Los estados de excepción en Colombia: ¿Un diseño institucional adecuado para el balance de poderes?*” Documento CESO N 164. Bogotá: Ediciones Uniandes. ISSN: 1657-4508

