

# Juan Camilo Taborda Burgos, Ph.D.

✉ jctaborda@gmail.com | 🏠 www.jctaborda.com | 🌐 Juan C Taborda

## Summary

---

- Policy and evaluation expert with a Ph.D. in Development Economics and International Political Economy. Ability to coordinate, manage, articulate, and plan complex multi-actor development projects that incorporate rigorous evaluation methods
- Deep experience developing organizational research agendas to drive strategy, fundraising, field-building, and impact
- Experience working on development topics, financial inclusion, public innovation, data analysis, and knowledge management with private actors, governments, NGOs, cooperation agencies (e.g. USAID), and multilateral organizations
- Over 12 years experience working as a public servant and consultant in the supervision, formulation, and implementation of local urban and rural planning and development policies, and implementation of performance management and impact evaluation tools
- Background working and researching in economic development, financial inclusion, innovation, local development, poverty reduction, urban mobility, and data analysis using remote sensing techniques and econometric impact evaluation methods

## Professional Experience

---

### Root Capital

Cambridge, USA

DIRECTOR, IMPACT MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING (MEL)

August 2022 - Present

- Root Capital is a nonprofit that provides credit and capacity building to small and growing agricultural businesses in Africa, Latin America, and Southeast Asia. Its mission is to grow rural prosperity and build the resilience of farming families around the world.
- Lead Root Capital's impact MEL functions ensuring the organization generates impact data and insights for decision-making while remaining a leader in impact MEL practice for agricultural finance and capacity building
  - Collaborate across teams to develop and implement an impact MEL agenda that contributes to: 1) advancing Root Capital's learning agenda, 2) informing organizational strategy and programming, 3) integrating monitoring and evaluation practices, and 4) contributing to external communication related both to field building and fundraising
  - Lead and develop an expert team of 8 members committed to: 1) upholding and, where required, setting industry standards for impact MEL related to rural agribusiness finance and development; 2) providing top-quality service provision to internal and external stakeholders
  - Manage a portfolio of mixed methods impact evaluations, from design through implementation, analysis, and reporting

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

Boston, USA

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

March 2018 - August 2022

- FLPFI is a program that targets policymakers from the financial sector in developing and emerging markets, with the goal of providing them with the necessary skills to design, implement, and evaluate sound and innovative financial inclusion policies
- Led and co-facilitated in-person and online workshops for the FLPFI Fellowship or 8QM seminars for central bankers and financial regulators from more than 54 countries
  - Supported program development and FLPFI strategic planning and grant writing for increasing program reach
  - Designed the impact evaluation and public innovation modules for the program
  - Advised and supervised FLPFI grantees' applied research projects and evaluations of financial inclusion policies in more than ten countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America
  - Supervised drafting and revision of research design plans, pilot reports, and implementation reports for financial inclusion projects
  - Supervised 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

## **iMAP**

*Bogotá, Colombia*

### **CONTRACTOR - SENIOR DATA ANALYST**

*Sept. 2019 - Dec. 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

## **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

## **Education**

---

### **The Fletcher School, Tufts University**

*Boston, USA*

#### **PH.D. IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

*2018*

- Concentration: Development Economics & International Political Economy
- Awards: **Fulbright-Ecopetrol**, Awarded scholarship to pursue doctoral degree on regional development; **Colfuturo-Colciencias**, Awarded scholarship to pursue doctoral degree; **Tufts University Provost Fellow**, Awarded grant aimed at recognizing and retaining Tufts University best doctoral applicants

### **Hertie School of Governance**

*Berlin, Germany*

#### **MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY**

*2011*

- Concentration: Public Management

### **Los Andes University**

*Bogotá, Colombia*

#### **BACHELOR OF ARTS: POLITICAL SCIENCE**

*2009*

- Awards: **Kettering Foundation - Best Study in Democracy**, Awarded prize for best thesis

#### **BACHELOR OF LAWS (JD EQUIVALENT)**

*2008*

## **Skills**

---

### **Languages**

- English (Fluent)
- Spanish (Native)
- French (Intermediate)

### **Statistical Software**

- Stata
- R
- SPSS

### **Geospatial Analysis Software**

- ArcGIS
- QGIS
- GEODA Geospatial Analysis
- ENVI + IDL
- Google Earth Pro

### **Programming and Other Software**

- Python
- $\LaTeX$
- SurveyCTO
- Microsoft Office Package
- G-Suite
- KoboToolbox