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Mathilde Col

Research Interests

Development Economics, Bilingual Education, Economic History, Education Policy.

Education

PhD in Economics	University of Bordeaux	2022-2025
Advisors: Tanguy Bernard (BSE), Denis Cogneau (PSE) Thesis: “Local vs European languages in post-colonial African education systems”		
Master in Economics	Paris School of Economics	2017-2019
M.Sc. Public Policy and Development (17/20) Thesis: “Assessing donors’ responsibility: The impact of corruption in humanitarian aid sector allocation”		
Bachelor in Economics	Paris-Dauphine University and PSL	2016-2017
Preparatory class (B/L)	Sainte Marie de Neuilly (FR)	2014-2016

Research Experience

Short-term Consultant	World Bank	2019-2021, 2024
Pre-doc Research Assistant	Paris School of Economics	2022
Prof. Denis Cogneau (PSE) and Prof. Yannick Dupraz (AMSE) Building a dataset on firms and on trade in the French colonies during the colonization		
Field Research Assistant (based in Cameroon)	LEAP - Cattolica University	2021
Prof. Lucia Corno (Cattolica) Development of survey instruments and randomization tools Baseline data collection for an RCT on breast ironing including 3450 households Training and supervision of 30 enumerators		
Field Coordinator (based in Madagascar)	World Bank	2019-2021
Emanuela Galasso (WB) Data management of an RCT integrating an early childhood component into the nutrition government program Development and piloting of the instruments, monitoring of the intervention Coordination between stakeholders (government, research team, consultants, etc.)		
Research Assistant	Paris School of Economics	2019
Prof. Antoine Bozio (PSE, IPP): Qualitative data collection with homeless people Prof. Jérôme Bourdieu (PSE) and Prof. Lionel Ketzenbaum (PSE): Data cleaning and analysis		

Intern (based in Madagascar)

French Research Institute (IRD)

2018

Process evaluation (qualitative study) of a WFP project

Publications

Hemlock, C., Galasso, E., Weber, A., Randriamiarisoa, T., **Col, M.**, Dieci, M., Ratsifandrihamanana, L., Fernald, L. Integrating early child development into an existing health and nutrition program: evidence from a cluster-randomized controlled trial. BMC Public Health 24, 2583 (2024). [Link](#)

Galasso, E., Ratsifandrihamanana, L., Weber, A., Hemlock, C., **Col, M.**, Dieci, M., Rakotomalala, N., Rambeloson, V., Fernald, L. Integrating early stimulation and play at scale: study protocol for “MAHAY Mikolo”, a multi-arm cluster-randomized controlled trial. BMC Public Health 22, 265 (2022) [Link](#)

Working Papers

“N m'a faamu”, Boosting Learning Through Bilingual Education. Evidence from Mali [\[pdf\]](#)

Unveiling the global determinants and effects of bilingual education policies in Africa [\[pdf\]](#)

Grants

IGC Small Project Facility (with Juliette Crespín-Boucaud and Vasco Magona Sande)	19.959 £	2025
J-PAL Learning for All Initiative (with Luc Behaghel, Simon Briole and Quentin Daviot)	220.000 €	2024
UBGRS Mobility grant	7.000 €	2024
MESRI grant (PhD scholarship)	96.000 €	2022-2025

Skills & Training

- Programming Software: R, Stata, QGIS
- CAPI Software: Survey Solutions, SurveyCTO, RCS, KoboToolBox
- Protecting Human Research Participants Certificate, 2021
- MOOC Evaluating Social Programs (J-PAL & MIT), 2020