

Neili Carolina Bermúdez Plaza

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EDUCATION

Université de Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland

February 2025 – Present

- **PhD in the Humanities and Social Sciences of Medicine and Health**

- *Dissertation: Gender Inequalities in Health and Human Capital Across the Life Course: Three cross-national studies in low- and middle-income countries. PhD advisor Prof. Mauricio Avendano*

Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia

March 2017

- **Master's degree in Public Policy**

- *Research project: Factors Associated with the Quality of School Management Practices: Empirical analysis for Colombia*
- *Teaching Assistant: Health Economics and Economic Analysis of Public Policies*

Universidad Icesi, Cali, Colombia

August 2013

- **Bachelor's degree in Economics and International Business**

- *Research Assistant: Consultancy projects at the Centre for Research in Economics and Finance (CIENFI)*
- *Teaching Assistant: Microeconomics and Market Research Analysis*

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Gender Inequalities, Public Health, Quantitative analysis and impact evaluation, Life-Course Perspective, Digital Health Transformation, Labor Market

RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Inter-American Development Bank, Washington D.C., USA

June 2023 – Present

Social Protection and Labor Market Division Consultant

- Support the setting up and carried out data analysis to develop a choice questionnaire aimed at understanding the behavioural response and trusty levels in public health information disseminated by international and national authorities to achieve adherence to contact tracing apps in 10 Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Provide technical as research assistant to support the design of conditional and unconditional cash transfers in vulnerable communities for children, women head of households, and elders in LAC countries
- Conduct literature review related to coping strategies and mechanisms used by vulnerable households due to shocks (i.e. COVID-19, violence, and climate events) to support the dissemination of best practices and lessons learned in the region.

Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia

Feb 2015 – Nov 2016

Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant

- Conducted literature review, structured interviews, focus groups, fieldwork supervision, and data analysis to examine management practices of public-school principals in adverse contexts in Colombia through the analysis of 300+ surveys.
- Supported discussion sections and tutorials of 20+ graduate students at the School of Government in two coursework: Health Economics and Economic Analysis of Public Policies. Planned lessons and activities, graded reports, and provided comments.
- Supported Principal Investigators in managing and drafting grant proposals for funding competitions from the National Ministry of Education and the Administrative Department of Science, Technology, and Innovation.

Lumni Research S.A., Bogotá, Colombia

March 2014 – June 2015

Junior Researcher

- Facilitated literature review and data analysis related to labour and educational markets in Latin America (Mexico, Colombia, Peru, and Chile) to elaborate forecasting models of graduates in different disciplines.
- Provide technical inputs to elaborate reports related to the high school system education and the labour market in the region.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

International Finance Corporation, Washington D.C., USA

February 2022 – June 2023

External Consultant, Digital Health Transformation

- Assessed baseline surveys, data analysis, interviews, and workshops to develop roadmaps for digital transformation of companies in the life sciences industry in emerging markets.
- Advised and developed digital transformation initiatives for companies in the life sciences industry in Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Kenya, Nigeria, and Pakistan as part of consulting activities aimed at optimizing the delivery of healthcare services.

Pan-American Health Organization, Washington D.C., USA

September 2021 – December 2022

International Consultant, Information Systems and Digital Health

- Co-led the execution of focus groups and the creation of a baseline questionnaire to examine the maturity level of national healthcare systems and healthcare practices among Member States in The Americas.
- Supported the development of Public-Private Partnerships to identify and strengthen gaps related to leadership, organizational structure, and management practices in healthcare systems of The Americas.

Inter-American Development Bank, Bogotá, Colombia

September 2018 – September 2019

Social Protection and Health Division Consultant, Country Office

- Conducted literature review and health data analysis to create innovative strategies to improve healthcare services for vulnerable Venezuelan families in Colombia.
- Supported the fieldwork supervision of public health projects aimed to reduce malaria cases in the Pacific Coast of Colombia conducting independent policy discussions with multi-disciplinary stakeholders, national and local authorities, external donors, and other multilateral organizations. Managed an annual budget of US\$3,000,000.
- Collaborated with team leaders and senior advisors in managing the document clearance process, drafted written policy-related documents, prepared donor reports, and developed high-level graphics and PowerPoint presentations.

Colombian Fund for High-Cost Diseases, Bogotá, Colombia

March 2017 – March 2018

Junior Health Economist

- Computed data analysis and data fusion of large data sets related to HIV, Cancer, Chronic-kidney disease, and Haemophilia from medical records to analyse healthcare outcomes of high-cost patients in Colombia. Regularly prepared executive presentations, semi-annual reports, and policy briefs to inform health insurers and the National Ministry of Health.
- Collaborated with nurser, nutritionists, and physicians to conduct an ex-post risk analysis based on health records of patients with high-cost diseases in Colombia.

HONOURS & GRANTS

Swiss School of Public Health (SSPH+), Lugano, Switzerland

2022

- Swiss Plexus scholarship to attend on-site the SSPH+ Lugano Summer School in Public Health Policy, Economics, and Management 2022:
 - *Promoting healthy behaviours through multi-level approaches*
 - *Strategic public health policy and planning in times of uncertainty*

Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia

2015 – 2017

- Scholarship to pursue a Master's degree in Public Policy (Beca "Escuela de Gobierno")

Universidad Icesi, Cali, Colombia

- Grant to cover an academic trip to Peru

2012

- Scholarship to pursue a bachelor's degree (Beca "Gases de Occidente S.A.")

2008 - 2013

POLICY WRITINGS

- Building Adaptative Social Protection Systems in Latin America and the Caribbean, Inter-American Development Bank, (Co-authored with Ofir Marer, Alexandre Bagolle, and Luis Tejerina), August 2024. <http://dx.doi.org/10.18235/0013253>
- Blog Gente Saludable, Inter-American Development Bank. ¿Qué tienen en común las palomitas o los buñuelos con los estándares de interoperabilidad en salud? [In Spanish], August 2021 <https://blogs.iadb.org/salud/es/interoperabilidad-salud/>
- Indicadores de gestión de riesgo en pacientes con artritis reumatoide en Colombia. Cuenta de Alto Costo. [In Spanish], Mayo 2018. https://cuentadealtocosto.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/indicadores_de_gestion_de_riesgo_artritis_reumatoide.pdf
- Value in Health, Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation Facilities: Geographic Access in Colombia. (Co-authored with Uribe-Parra et al.). [Poster presented at ISPOR], October 2017 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2017.08.2605>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Speaker at the Management International Conference, Monastier di Treviso – Italy, May 2017 <http://www.hippocampus.si/ISBN/978-961-7023-12-1/69.pdf>

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Statistical Packages

Stata, R, NVivo, LaTeX, and Microsoft Office Suite

Online training

JPAL101x: Evaluating Social Programs, MITx on edX, August 2020

Languages

Spanish (native), English (fluent), Portuguese & French (basic)

Interests:

PADI Open Water Scuba Diver, Cycling, Running, Reading, Photography