Rafaela Bastidas Ripalda

raafabastidasr@hotmail.com
www.linkedin.com/in/rafaela-bastidas-ripalda-2898a7153

EXPERIENCE

Inter-American Development Bank   Washington DC, USA
Economics Consultant - SPD/SMO   July 2023 – current job
- Conducted research trough the use of econometric models, text analysis, and data modeling to analyze macroeconomic conditions of Latin American and the Caribbean to provide public policy recommendations.
- Disseminated research findings trough the publishment of papers, technical notes and workshops.

Kin Analytics   Quito, Ecuador
Senior Consultant, Finance & Risk   September 2022 – June 2023
- Developed code for data analytics for the clients' financial information and reporting. Deployed models and dashboards for risk assessment.
- Conducted quantitative and qualitative credit risk modeling and calculation of expected losses.
- Managed the production of deliverables using quantitative methods and data visualization tools, based on clients' business model and their needs.

Ministry of Economics & Finance   Quito, Ecuador
Consultant for World Bank Project   June 2020 – August 2021
- Developed code for extracting and cleaning data to identify and manage information to prioritize more than 120,000 health-related payments to face the health emergency.
- Built a statistical model for the projection of expenses for the 2021 General State Budget. Led technical workshops.
- Extracted insights from data to advise main authorities the necessity to improve the allocation of fiscal resources to reallocate budget to priority areas (education, health and social development).

Consultant for Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)   December 2019 – May 2020
- Constructed code and methodology to process and prioritize the payment of 10.8 million dollars to state providers.
- Collaborated in the development and application of a methodology to improve the identification of potential beneficiaries of social pensions.

World Bank   Washington, United States (remote)
Short Term Consultant   February 2020 – June 2020
- Built an integrated database using microdata for manufacturing companies.
- Applicated a monopolistic competition model to evaluate capital and labor distortions.
- Applied multinomial logistic regression to identify Ecuadorian determinants of productivity.
- Collaborated in the elaboration of a public policy note for the Ministry of Finance to boost Ecuador's manufacturing companies' productivity in approximately 7%.

National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC)   Quito, Ecuador
Data Analyst   April 2019 – December 2019
- Extracted labor demand information from non-traditional data sources.
- Developed a code to clean and merge national databases related to labor demand to identify gender gaps in salaries.
- Prepared and analyzed labor data to identify the determinants of efficiency of public spending in education.

Econlogic   Quito, Ecuador
Jr. Economist   July 2017 - April 2019
- Collaborated in research consultancies related to productivity for the World Bank, World Economic Forum, and Inter-American Development Bank.
- Conducted data analysis of productivity, competitiveness, and allocation of resources in Ecuadorian companies.
- Processed national databases and built statistical indicators of productivity.

EDUCATION

University College London (UCL)   London, UK
MSc Data Science, Department of Statistical Science
Dissertation: Topic modeling (NLP) in newspaper articles: an example from Brazil
Chevening Scholarship, British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK, Distinction

Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador (PUCE)   Quito, Ecuador
  BSc Economics, Specialization in Econometrics
  Dissertation: Modeling Total Factor Productivity (TFP) of formal and informal companies in Ecuador
  Academic Excellence Scholarship, Graduation score: 10/10

Université Grenoble Alpes   Grenoble, France (remote)
  BSc Economics and Management
  Cum laude

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)   Quito, Ecuador
Intern/ Research Assistant   June 2016 - February 2017

Macroeconomics Consistency Report (RCM)   Quito, Ecuador
Research Assistant   January 2016 - January 2017

PUBLICATIONS

- Acosta, N., Rodríguez, S., & Bastidas, R. (2020). The effect of increasing land value capture on the gross value added of the construction sector. *Applied Economics Letters*, 1-5.
- Bastidas, R., & Acosta, N. (2019). Misallocation and manufacturing TFP in Ecuador: formal, semi-formal and informal firms. *Journal of Economic Structures*, 8(1), 16.
- Bastidas, R., Boly, M., & Vijil, M. (2020). Analysis of the determinants of labor demand in Ecuador. *World Bank Working Paper*.

CERTIFICATES

- R Data analysis tools - INEC & UNICEF
- Data treatment, statistical modeling, and dynamic visualization - R Users Group Ecuador
- Statistical methods, econometric models, and data analysis using STATA- PUCE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- *Languages:* Spanish (*Native)*; English (*Advanced)*.
- *Skills:* **Python** (Numpy, Pandas, Scikit-learn, Keras, Spacy, Gensim, NLTK), **R Programming, STATA,** MongoDB, Information Retrieval, **Forecasting, Supervised Machine Learning** (linear and logistic regressions, decision trees), **Unsupervised Machine Learning** (k-means clustering, PCA), NLP, Topic Modeling, Text Analysis.
- *Other activities:* Statistics Society Member, UCL
     Co-founder of the Debate Club - School of Economics PUCE
     Founder of the "Economic Outlook" Project of Academic Events - School of Economics PUCE

SCHOLARSHIPS, ACADEMIC HONORS AND PRIZES

- Chevening Scholarship, British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom.
- Sports Merit Scholarship, Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador: member of the volleyball team of the province and the university; 7 consecutive semesters (2014-2018).
- Academic Excellence Scholarship, Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador: scholarship assigned to the top 1% students of the faculty; 3 consecutive semesters (2015-2017).
- Third Prize IV International Congress of Economics; Student Contest of Academic Articles; June 2018.
- Academic Recognition, Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador; Top average grades of the faculty (Economics School); 6 consecutive semesters (2014-2018).

REFERENCES

- Nicolás Acosta, hnacosta@puce.edu.ec, +(593) 98-754-6991
- Juan Carlos Palacios, palacios@merit.unu.edu, +(593) 99-285-811