

Rafaela Bastidas Ripalda

+1(202) 2776489 // (+593) 984002169

raafabastidasr@hotmail.com

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

EXPERIENCE

Inter-American Development Bank

Economics research and data Consultant

Washington DC, USA

July 2023 – current job

- Conducted research to improve budget allocation for development projects.
- Disseminated research findings through the publication of papers, technical notes and workshops.

Kin Analytics

Senior Consultant, Finance & Risk

Quito, Ecuador

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 based on clients' business model and their needs.

Ministry of Economics & Finance

Consultant for World Bank Project

Quito, Ecuador

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. Led a team of 4 analysts to reallocate around 3.2 million dollars to priority areas: education, health and others.

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

Short Term Consultant

Washington, United States (remote)

February 2020 – June 2020

- Built an integrated database using microdata for manufacturing companies.
- Applied 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)

Data Analyst

Quito, Ecuador

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

Jr. Economist

Quito, Ecuador

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

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