

The Center for Global Development

September 20, 2024

Dear Hiring Committee Members,

I am writing to express my interest in the Senior Fellow position at the Center for Global Development (CGD). With a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and extensive experience in development economics, I focus on gender disparities and the impacts of conflict in developing economies. I am passionate about leveraging rigorous research to inform policies that foster inclusive development, aligning closely with CGD's mission.

My job market paper, "Effects of Military Bases on Women in Colombia," co-authored with Felipe Parra, employs a robust causal identification strategy to analyze the unintended consequences of military interventions. Using an event-study approach, we identify the causal effects of military base presence on sexual violence, finding a 72% increase in cases over 15 years. This work provides critical insights into the broader social impacts of state security policies. In another project, "Understanding the Constraints in Hiring Women," I investigate how gender norms influence employers' decisions in Pakistan's garment sector. My research aims to inform scalable solutions that promote female labor force participation.

I am deeply committed to translating complex research into actionable insights for policymakers and broader audiences. I have contributed to the IGC blog and policy briefs and mentored under-represented groups in economics, such as through the Graduate Applications International Network (GAIN), where I guided students from Africa through the graduate admission process. I have also mentored female Japanese students pursuing Ph.D. degrees, supporting their academic and professional growth. My commitment to diversity and inclusion is evident in my teaching, where I strive to create a welcoming and inclusive environment for all students.

I am drawn to CGD's dedication to evidence-based research and policy engagement. I am confident that my expertise in development economics, combined with my leadership in research and mentorship, will allow me to contribute effectively to CGD's work in global health, sustainable development finance, and beyond.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to CGD's impactful research and policy efforts.

Sincerely,



Sakina Shibuya