

# **PRELIMINARY SYLLABUS**

## **Development Economics**

### **CEMFI**

**Instructors:** Warn Lekfuangfu and Monica Martinez-Bravo

with Guest Lectures by Costas Meghir

Spring 2024

**Class meetings:** Wednesday 15h – 16.30h  
Friday 9.30 – 13h <sup>1</sup>

**Office hours:** By appointment

**Email:** mmb@cemfi.es

#### **Course Description:**

This course focuses on the understanding of the process of economic development. The central questions of the course are:

- 1) Why are some countries so much poorer than others?
- 2) What are the main barriers to the process of economic development?
- 3) What are the main barriers that prevent the poor from escaping from poverty?
- 4) Why do these barriers exist and persist?

The first part of the course (weeks 1 to 6) studies decision making by individuals and market failures as potential barriers to the process of economic development. The second part (weeks 7 to 10) of the course examines the role of institutions and political factors as determinants of underdevelopment. The purpose of the course is to give you a sense of the frontier research topics and a good command of the methodologies used in the field of Economic Development. The main emphasis will be in empirical and microeconomic studies, although some applied theory papers and macro analysis will also be discussed.

**Previous knowledge:** Students are assumed to be familiar with the basic concepts of econometrics, microeconomics, and macroeconomics. Some of the assignments will require the use of Stata. A Stata tutorial is available on the Intranet. This tutorial covers a few basic commands frequently used in Stata. If you still find it difficult to work with Stata you should talk to the Professor or Teaching Assistant.

**Teaching assistant:** The teaching assistant for this course is Sophie Nottmeyer [sophie.nottmeyer@cemfi.edu.es](mailto:sophie.nottmeyer@cemfi.edu.es). She will discuss assignment solutions during the first half of Friday's class on weeks when assignments are due.

**Grading:** The final grade will be based on assignments, participation, and exams according to the following weights:

Participation:	5 %
Assignments (7):	15 %

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<sup>1</sup> The regular schedule of the course will be modified during weeks 6 and 7. See the outline of the course below for more details.

Final Exam:

80 %

Final Exam: The final exam will be a closed book exam that will take place during the exam week.

Assignments: There will be 7 assignments. All of them have to be handed in, however only the top 6 grades will be used to compute the average. Students will work in teams of 2 people and hand in a common set of answers. The group submission of the first assignment will define the teams for the rest of the term. There will be two types of assignments: 5 of them will consist on problem sets and will require reading in detail a paper and answering questions about the reading. A few assignments will also require the replication of the empirical exercise of the paper. In addition to this, there will be 2 assignments consisting on writing a referee report on a research paper. Guidelines on writing these reports will be made available on the Intranet together with the research papers. Assignments are a central part of the course and provide fundamental training for exams. You should devote a substantial amount of time and effort to work on the assignments.

Submission Deadlines and Instructions:

- Regular problem sets are due 30 min before the class, led by the TA.
- Referee reports are due 24 hours before the class led by the TA. The TA will aggregate some of your answers and prepare the discussion for the Thursday lecture.
- Please submit PDFs with your answers to the assignments through the intranet.
- All members of the team need to submit the same document through the intranet (this is to ensure the system records that all students submitted answers).
- See the schedule part of this syllabus for specific deadlines by week.

Discussion of Assignment Solutions: On weeks when assignments are due, the first half of Friday's session will be typically devoted to discussing the assignment. Check the schedule on the next page from possible deviations from this schedule.

Participation: Students are expected to participate in class by asking questions and to contribute to the discussion during the assignment sessions. Attendance in all lectures is mandatory and will be a key component in the participation grade.

Readings: The reading list is intentionally long to give you an opportunity to dig deeper into the topics you find most interesting. Readings marked by \*\*\* are required, by \*\* are strongly recommended, by \* are recommended.

Course Material: All the readings, slides, handouts, assignments etc. will be uploaded in Intranet throughout the course. The only exception is slides of assignment sessions, which will not be made available. Please, do not share the course content with other people.

Books: There is no textbook for this course. However, several readings of the book *Poor Economics* (by Banerjee and Duflo) are strongly recommended.

**General Readings:**

Banerjee, Abhijit V. and Esther Duflo (2011) *Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty*. Public Affairs, First Edition, New York, NY. [BD henceforth.]

Bardhan, Pranab and Christopher Udry (1999). *Development Microeconomics*. Oxford University Press.

Acemoglu, Daron and James Robinson (2012) *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty*, Crown Publishers

## **[PRELIMINARY] OUTLINE OF LECTURES:**

### **Week 1: Global Trends in Growth, Inequality and Poverty**

Instructor: Monica Martinez-Bravo

### **Week 2: Health**

Assignment 1 due

Instructor: Warn Lekfuangfu, TA session: Sophie Nottmeyer

### **Week 3: Education**

Assignment 2 due

Instructor: Warn Lekfuangfu, TA session: Sophie Nottmeyer

### **Week 4: Land, Labor, Migration**

Assignment 3 due (referee report)

Instructor: Warn Lekfuangfu, TA session: Sophie Nottmeyer

### **Week 5: Credit Constraints, Entrepreneurship, and Banking**

Assignment 4 due

Instructor: Warn Lekfuangfu, TA session: Sophie Nottmeyer

### **Week 6: Technology Adoption**

Assignment 5 due on Friday

Instructor: Warn Lekfuangfu, TA session: Sophie Nottmeyer

### **Week 7: Welfare Programs, Early Childhood Development, Cash Transfers**

Instructor: Costas Meghir

### **Week 8: Institutions**

Instructor: Monica Martinez-Bravo

### **Week 9: Corruption & Public Finance \***

Assignment 6 due on Wednesday

Instructor: Monica Martinez-Bravo, TA session: Sophie Nottmeyer

**Week 10: Local Accountability**

Assignment 7 due on Wednesday

TA session and Review Session: Sophie Nottmeyer

## **Week 1: Introduction & Global Trends in Growth, Inequality and Poverty**

### Trends in Growth, Inequality and Poverty

\*\* Acemoglu, Daron (2009) *Introduction to Modern Economic Growth*. New Jersey: Princeton University Press. pp. 3 – 21, 90 – 96

\*\* Sala-i-Martin, Xavier (2006), “The World Distribution of Income: Falling Poverty and... Convergence, Period”, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 121(2), 351-397.

\*\* Chen, Shaohua and Martin Ravallion. 2010. “The Developing World is Poorer than we Thought, but no Less Successful in the Fight Against Poverty,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 125(4): 1577-1625.

\* Chen Shaohua and Martin Ravallion. 2012. “More Relatively-Poor People in a Less Absolutely-Poor World,” Policy Research Working Paper 6114, World Bank, Washington, DC.

\* Lakner, Christoph and Branko Milanovic. 2016. “Global Income Distribution: From the Fall of the Berlin Wall to the Great Recession,” *World Bank Econ Review*, 30 (2): 203-232.

\* Piketty, Thomas, Emmanuel Saez and Gabriel Zucman 2018. "Distributional National Accounts: Methods and Estimates for the United States", *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 133(2), 2018, 553-609.

Deaton, Angus, 2005 “Measuring poverty in a growing world (or measuring growth in a poor world)” *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, Vol. 87 No. 1.

Banerjee, Abhijit and Esther Duflo, 2020 “How Poverty Ends: The Many Paths to Progress—and Why They Might Not Continue” *Foreign Affairs*

Chandy, Laurence, “Counting the Poor” Brookings Institution and Development Initiatives, 2013.

Rodrik, Dani, (2011) “The Future of Economic Convergence” NBER Working Paper No. 17400.

Rodrik, Dani, (2013) “The Past, Present, and Future of Economic Growth” Global Citizen Foundation Working Paper.

Bairoch, Paul. 1982. “International Industrialization Levels from 1750 to 1980.” *Journal of European Economic History* 11(Fall): 269–310.

### The Economic Lives of the Poor

\* BD. Ch 10. “Politics, Policies”

\*\* Banerjee, Abhijit, and Esther Duflo (2006) "Economic Lives of the Poor." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 21, no. 1, 141-167.

\*\* Banerjee, Abhijit, and Esther Duflo (2008) "What is Middle Class About the Middle Classes Around the World?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 22, no. 4 3-28.

\* Banerjee, Abhijit V. and Esther Duflo (2005) “Growth Theory Through the Lens of Development.” In *Handbook of economic growth*, Aghion, Philippe and Steven Durlauf (editors). Elsevier. (Sections 1, 3, and 4)

\* Schilbach, Frank, Heather Schofield, and Sendhil Mullainathan. 2016. "The Psychological Lives of the Poor." *American Economic Review*, 106 (5): 435-40.

\* Michael Kremer, Gautam Rao, Frank Schilbach. 2019 “Behavioral development economics” in *Handbook of Behavioral Economics: Applications and Foundations*, North-Holland, Volume 2, Eds. B. Douglas Bernheim, Stefano DellaVigna, David Laibson.

## Week 2: HEALTH

\*\*\* [PROBLEM SET 1]: Miguel, Edward and Michael Kremer (2004) "Worms: Identifying Impacts on Education and Health in the Presence of Treatment Externalities", *Econometrica*, 72 (1), 159-217

### Effects of Health on Productivity

\*\* BD, Ch 3 (Low-Hanging Fruit for Better Global Health) and Ch 5 (Pak Sudarno's Big Family)

\* Bleakley, Hoyt. (2010) "Health, Human Capital, and Development", *Annual Reviews of Economics*, 2: 283--310.

\*\* Bleakley, Hoyt (2012) "Malaria Eradication in The Americas: A Retrospective Analysis of Childhood Exposure." *American Economic Journal*: Vol.2 No. 2.

Strauss, John (1986) "Does Better Nutrition Raise Farm Productivity?" *Journal of Political Economy*, 94: 297-320.

Dasgupta, Partha, and Debraj Ray. (1986) "Inequality as a Determinant of Malnutrition and Unemployment: Policy." *The Economic Journal* 97: 177-188.

Thomas, Duncan, et al. (2003) "Iron Deficiency and the Well-Being of Older Adults: Early Results from a Randomized Nutrition Intervention." Working Paper.

Jayachandran & Lleras Muney (2009) "Life Expectancy and Human Capital Investments: Evidence from Maternal Mortality Declines." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, February.

Qian, Nancy and Xin Meng (2009) "The Long Run Impact of Exposure to Famine on Survivors: Evidence from China's Great Famine NBER Working Paper w14917. [PDF](#)

Field, Erica, Omar Robles, and Maximo Torero. (2009) "Iodine Deficiency and Schooling Attainment in Tanzania." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*.

\*\* Acemoglu, Daron and Simon Johnson (2007), "Disease and Development: The Effect of Life Expectancy on Economic Growth," *Journal of Political Economy*, vol 115, no. 6.

Qian, Nancy and Nathan Nunn (2010) "The Columbian Exchange: a Historical Change in Food and Disease" *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 24 No. 2, Spring 2010.

### Health Seeking Behavior

\*\* Cohen, Jessica, and Pascaline Dupas (2010) "Free Distribution vs. Cost-Sharing: Evidence from a Malaria-Prevention Field Experiment in Kenya." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 125(1), pp.1-45.

\*\* Monica Martinez-Bravo, Andreas Stegmann (2022), "In Vaccines We Trust? The Effects of the CIA's Vaccine Ruse on Immunization in Pakistan", *Journal of the European Economic Association*, Volume 20, Issue 1, Pages 150–186.

Kremer, Michael and Edward Miguel (2007), "The Illusion of Sustainability," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 112(3): 1007-1065.

Kremer, Michael, and Alaka Hala. "Pricing and Access: Evidence from Randomized Evaluations in Education and Health." Brookings Global Economy and Development Conference, August 2008.

Duflo, Esther, Abhijit Banerjee, and Angus Deaton. "Wealth, Health, and Health Services in Rural Rajasthan." *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings* 94, no. 2 (2004): 326-

330.

Banerjee, Abhijit, Esther Duflo, Rachel Glennerster and Dhruva Kothari. "Improving Immunization Coverage in Rural India: A Clustered Randomized Controlled Evaluation of Immunization Campaigns With and Without Incentives." MIT, Cambridge, MA, 2008.

Dupas, Pascaline (2011) "Relative Risks and the Market for Sex: Teenage Pregnancy, HIV, and Partner Selection in Kenya." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 3 (1), pp. 1485-1538.

Kremer, Michael and Rachel Glennerster (2011) "Improving Health in Developing Countries: Evidence From Randomized Evaluations," in Mark V. Pauly, Thomas G. McGuire, and Pedro Pita Barros (eds) *Handbook of Health Economics*, Volume 2, North Holland: Elsevier.

Kuziemko, Iliyana and Seema Jayachandran (2011) "Why Do Mothers Breastfeed Girls Less Than Boys: Evidence and Implications for Child Health in India" *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, vol. 126 (3), pp. 1485-1538.

Marcella Alsan, Marianne Wanamaker, Tuskegee and the Health of Black Men, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 133, Issue 1, February 2018, Pages 407–455.

### **Week 3: Education**

\*\*\* **[PROBLEM SET 2]** Duflo, Esther (2001), "Schooling and Labor Market Consequences of School Construction in Indonesia: Evidence from an Unusual Policy Experiment" *American Economic Review*, Vol. 91 (4), pp 795-813.

\*\* BD. Ch 4 "Top of the Class"

### **Estimating Returns to Investment in Education**

George Psacharopoulos & Harry Anthony Patrinos, 2004. "Returns to investment in education: a further update," *Education Economics*, Taylor and Francis Journals, vol. 12(2), pages 111-134.

Griliches, Zvi (1977). "Estimating the Returns to Schooling: Some Econometric Problems." *Econometrica*, 45(1), p. 1-22.

Banerjee, Abhijit V. and Esther Duflo (2005) "Growth Theory Through the Lens of Development." In *Handbook of economic growth*, Aghion, Philippe and Steven Durlauf (editors). Elsevier. Section 2.

### **The Role of Perceptions of Returns to Schooling on Demand for Education**

Jensen, Robert. (2010) "The Perceived Return to Education and the Demand for Schooling." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*.

\*\* Dizon-Ross, Rebecca. 2019. "Parents' Beliefs about Their Children's Academic Ability: Implications for Educational Investments." *American Economic Review*, 109 (8): 2728-65.

### **Externalities & Effects of Education on Technology Adoption**

Duflo, Esther. "The Medium Run Effects of Educational Expansion: Evidence from a Large School Construction Program in Indonesia." *Journal of Development Economics* 74, no. 1 (2004): 163-197.

Foster, Andrew, and Mark Rosenzweig. "Technical Change and Human-Capital Returns and



Investments: Evidence from the Green Revolution." *American Economic Review* 84, no. 4 (1996): 931-953.

Rosenzweig, Mark R. (2010) "Microeconomic Approaches to Development: Schooling, Learning, and Growth," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 24 No. 3 pp. 17 - 32.

#### Provision of Education in Developing Countries

\*\* Esther Duflo, Rema Hanna and Stephen Ryan (2012) "Incentives Work: Getting Teachers to Come to School," *American Economic Review*, 104(4): 1241-1278.

Banerjee, Abhijit, and Esther Duflo. "Addressing Absence." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 20, no. 1 (2006): 117-132.

Kremer, Michael and Alaka Holla (2009) "Improving Education in the Developing World: What Have We Learned from Randomized Evaluations?" in Kenneth J. Arrow and Timothy F. Bresnahan, eds., *Annual Review of Economics*, Volume 1. Palo Alto, California: Annual Reviews.

Duflo, Esther, Pascaline Dupas and Michael Kremer. 2011. "Peer Effects and the Impacts of Tracking: Evidence from a Randomized Evaluation in Kenya," *American Economic Review*, 101 (5): 1739-74.

#### Week 4: Land & Labor

\*\*\* **[PROBLEM SET 3] Referee Report** on Imbert, Clement, Marlon Seror, Yifan Zhang, and Yanos Zylberberg. 2022. "Migrants and Firms: Evidence from China." *American Economic Review*, 112 (6): 1885-1914.

#### Labor Markets

\* Fields, Gary S. (2011) "Labor Market Analysis for Developing Countries" *Labour Economics* Vol 18 S16-S22.

\*\* Jayachandran, Seema. "Selling Labor Low: Wage Responses to Productivity Shocks in Developing Countries." *Journal of Political Economy* 114, no. 3 (2006): 538-575.

\*\* Mobarak, Ahmed Mushfiq and Mark Rosenzweig (2014) "Risk, Insurance and Wages in General Equilibrium," Unpublished.

\* Kaur, Supreet, Sendhil Mullainathan, Suanna Oh, and Frank Schilbach (2022) "Do Financial Concerns Make Workers Less Productive?" *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* (Conditionally Accepted)

Egger, Denis, Johannes Haushofer, Edward Miguel, Paul Niehaus, Michael Walker, (2022) "General equilibrium effects of cash transfers: experimental evidence from Kenya" *Econometrica*, 90(6)2603-2643.

#### Land

\* Besley, Timothy and Robin Burgess (2000) "Land Reform, Poverty Reduction, and Growth: Evidence from India" *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 115, No. 2, pp. 389-430

Field, Erica. "Entitled to Work: Urban Property Rights and Labor Supply in Peru." Unpublished paper, July 2003.

Field, Erica, and Maximo Torero. "Do Property Titles Increase Credit Access Among the Urban Poor? Evidence from a Nationwide Titling Program." Unpublished paper, January 2004.

### Migration

Munshi, Kaivan. "Networks in the Modern Economy: Mexican Migrants in the U.S. Labor Market." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 118, no. 2 (2003): 549-599.

Clemens, Michael (2011) "Economics and emigration: Trillion-dollar bills on the sidewalk?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 25 (3): 83–106.

Munshi, Kaivan, (2020) "Social Networks and Migration" *Annual Review of Economics* 12:1, 503-524.

McKenzie, David, John Gibson, and Steven Stillman, "How Important is Selection? Experimental Vs Non-experimental Measures of the Income Gains from Migration" *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 8(4): 913-45, 2010.

Costas Meghir, A Mushfiq Mobarak, Corina Mommaerts, Melanie Morten, (2022) "Migration and Informal Insurance: Evidence from a Randomized Controlled Trial and a Structural Model", *The Review of Economic Studies*, Volume 89, Issue 1, January 2022, Pages 452–480.

Yang, Dean (2008) "International Migration, Remittances, and Household Investment: Evidence from Philippine Migrants' Exchange Rate Shocks", *Economic Journal*, Vol. 118, April 2008, pp. 591-630.

Yang, Dean (2008) "Migrant Remittances", *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 25, No. 3, Summer 2011, pp. 129-152.

### **Week 5: Credit Constraints, Entrepreneurship, Banking**

\*\* [PROBLEM SET 4] Karlan, Dean and Jonathan Zinman (2007), "Observing Unobservables: Identifying Information Asymmetries with a Consumer Credit Field Experiment", Working Paper. (While this was published in *Econometrica* in 2009, I encourage you to read the slightly longer version still available on Karlan's website).

\* BD, Ch 7 (The Men from Kabul and the Eunuchs of India: The (Not So) Simple Economics of Lending to the Poor) and Ch 9 (Reluctant Entrepreneurs)

\* Banerjee, Abhijit V. and Esther Duflo (2005) "Growth Theory Through the Lens of Development." In *Handbook of economic growth*, Aghion, Philippe and Steven Durlauf (editors). Elsevier. Section 2.

### Stylized Facts

\*\* Aleem, Irfan. "Imperfect Information, Screening and the Costs of Informal Lending: A Study of a Rural Credit Market in Pakistan." *World Bank Economic Review* 3 (1990): 329-349.

### Theory

Hoff, Karla and Joseph Stiglitz (1997), "Moneylenders and Bankers: Price-Increasing Subsidies with Monopolistic Competition" *Journal of Development Economics*, 52, 429-62.

### Banking

\* Burgess, Robin, and Rohini Pande. "Do Rural Banks Matter? Evidence from the Indian Social Banking Experiment." *American Economic Review* 95, no. 3 (2005): 780-795.

Besley, Timothy (1995), "Savings, credit and insurance", in Hollis, Chenery and T.N. Srinivasan, editors, *Handbook of Development Economics*, Volume 3, Chapter 36, 2123-2207.

Cole, Shawn A. (2009) "Fixing Market Failures or Fixing Elections? Agricultural Credit in India." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*

\* Khwaja, Asim, and Atif Mian. "Do Lenders Favor Politically Connected Firms? Rent Provision in an Emerging Financial Market." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 120, no. 4 (2005): 1371-1411.

### Micro Finance

Yunus, Muhammad "Sacrificing Microcredit for Megaprofits" *New York Times Op-Ed* January 14th, 2011. (<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/15/opinion/15yunus.html>)

\*\* Banerjee, Abhijit, Esther Duflo, Rachel Glennerster and Cynthia Kinnan (2015), "The Miracle of Microfinance? Evidence from a Randomized Evaluation," *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 7(1): 22–53.

\*\* Banerjee, Abhijit, Dean Karlan, and Jonathan Zinman (2015) "Six Randomized Evaluations of Microcredit: Introduction and Further Steps" *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 7(1): 1-21.

Karlan, D. and J. Zinman (2010). Expanding credit access: Using randomized supply decisions to estimate the impacts. *Review of Financial Studies*, 23 (1): 433–64.

Ginè, X. and D. Karlan (2014). "Group versus Individual Liability: Short and Long Term Evidence from Philippine Microcredit Lending Groups" *Journal of Development Economics* 107:65-83.

### Demand Side of the markets for credit and saving

Ashraf, Nava, Dean Karlan, and Wesley Yin (2006), "Tying Odysseus to the Mast: Evidence from a Commitment Savings Product in the Philippines," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 121, No. 2: 635-672.

Banerjee, Abhijit, and Sendhil Mullainathan. "The Shape of Temptation: Implications for the Economic Lives of the Poor." Unpublished paper, September 2010. (PDF)

Besley, T., Coate, S., and Loury, G. "The Economics of Rotating Savings and Credit Associations." *American Economic Review* 83, no. 4 (1993):792-810.

Dupas, Pascaline and Jonathan Robinson (2013), "Savings Constraints and Microenterprise Development: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Kenya," *American Economic Review*, 5(1):163-192.

## Week 6: Technology Adoption

\*\*\* **[PROBLEM SET 5]** David Atkin, Azam Chaudhry, Shamyala Chaudry, Amit K. Khandelwal and Eric Verhoogen (2017) "Organizational Barriers to Technology Adoption: Evidence from Soccer-Ball Producers in Pakistan" *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 132, Issue 3, August 2017, Pages 1101–1164.

\* Suri, Tavneet, and Christopher Udry. 2022. "Agricultural Technology in Africa." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 36 (1): 33-56.

\*\* Conley, Timothy G., and Christopher R. Udry. 2010. "Learning about a New Technology: Pineapple in Ghana." *American Economic Review*, 100 (1): 35-69.

\*\* Duflo, Esther, Michael Kremer and Jonathan Robinson (2011), "Nudging Farmers to Use Fertilizer: Evidence from Kenya", *American Economic Review* 101 (6): 2350-2390.

\* Jensen, R. "The Digital Divide: Information (Technology), Market Performance and Welfare in the South Indian Fisheries Sector." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 122, no. 3 (2008): 879-924.

Duflo, Esther, Michael Kremer and Jonathan Robinson (2008), "How High are Rates of Return to Fertilizer? Evidence from Field Experiments in Kenya", *American Economic Review (Papers and Proceedings Issue)* 98 (2): 482-488.

Foster A.D. and M.R. Rosenzweig (1995), "Learning by Doing and Learning from Others: Human Capital and Technical Change in Agriculture," *Journal of Political Economy*, 103 (6), pp. 1176-1209.

Banerjee, Abhijit (1992), "A Simple Model of Herd Behavior," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 107 (3), pp. 797-817.

Kremer, Michael and Edward Miguel (2007), "The Illusion of Sustainability," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 112(3): 1007-1065.

## **Week 7: Welfare Programs, Early Childhood Development, Cash Transfers ?**

[Costas Meghir]

## **Week 8: Institutions**

[**PROBLEM SET 6**] Martinez-Bravo, Monica, Gerard Padró i Miquel, Nancy Qian, and Yang Yao. 2022. "The Rise and Fall of Local Elections in China." *American Economic Review*, 112 (9): 2921-58.

### General Issues / Theory

\* Acemoglu, Daron (2009) *Introduction to Modern Economic Growth*. New Jersey: Princeton University Press. Chapter 4, pp. 109 – 143.

\* Acemoglu, Daron (2005) Institutions as a Fundamental Cause of Long-run Growth. In *Handbook of economic growth*, eds. Aghion, Philippe and Steven Durlauf. Elsevier, Sections 1, 3, 5, and 6.

\*\* Acemoglu, Daron and James Robinson (2012) *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty*, Crown Publishers (Preface and Chapter 1)

\* Acemoglu, Daron (2003) "Why Not a Political Coase Theorem?" *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 31, 620-652.

Acemoglu, Daron (2006) "Modelling Inefficient Institutions," *Advances in Economic Theory* World Congress 2006,

Acemoglu, Daron and James A. Robinson (2006) "Economic Backwardness in Political Perspective," *American Political Science Review*, 100, pp. 115-131.

Acemoglu, Daron (2008) "Oligarchic vs. Democratic Societies," *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 6, pp 1-44.

Engerman, Stanley L. and Kenneth L. Sokoloff (1997) "Factor Endowments, Institutions, and Differential Paths of Growth among New World Economies," in S.H. Haber ed. *How Latin America Fell Behind*, Stanford University Press, Stanford CA.

La Porta, Rafael, Florencio Lopez-de-Silanes, Andrei Shleifer, and Robert W. Vishny (1998) "Law and Finance," *Journal of Political Economy*, 106, 1113-1155.

#### Empirical Evidence: Macro

\*\* Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson and James Robinson (2002) "Reversal of Fortune: Geography and Institutions in the Making of the Modern World Income Distribution," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 107, 1231-1294.

Acemoglu, Daron and Simon Johnson (2005) "Unbundling Institutions," *Journal of Political Economy*, 113, 949-995.

\*\* Jones, Benjamin F. and Benjamin A. Olken (2005) "Do Leaders Matter? National Leadership and Growth Since World War II," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 120, 835-864.

\* Persson, Torsten and Guido Tabellini (2003) *The Economic Effects of Constitutions: What Do the Data Say?* MIT Press, Cambridge.

\*\* Acemoglu, Daron (2005) "Constitutions, Politics and Economic Growth: Review Essay on Persson and Tabellini's *The Economic Effects of Constitutions*," *Journal of Economic Literature*, XLIII, 1025-1048.

Besley, Timothy and Masa Kudamatsu (2008) "Making Autocracy Work." In *Institutions and Economic Performance*, Elhanan Helpman (editor). Harvard University Press.

#### Empirical Evidence: Micro

\* Pande, Rohini and Christopher Udry (2005) "Institutions and Development: A View from Below," to appear in the *Proceedings of the 9th World Congress of the Econometric Society*, edited by Richard Blundell, W. Newey, and Torsten Persson

\*\* Udry, Christopher and Markus Goldstein (2008) "The Profits of Power: Land Rights and Agricultural Investment in Ghana," Vol 116 No 3, *Journal of Political Economy*

\* Nunn, Nathan (2008) "The Long Term Effects of Africa's Slave Trades," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 123, No. 1, pp 139-176.

Nunn, Nathan and Diego Puga "Ruggedness: The blessing of bad geography in Africa," *Review of Economics and Statistics* 94(1), February 2012: 20-36

Banerjee, Abhijit and Lakshmi Iyer (2005), "History, Institutions and Economic Performance: The Legacy of Colonial Land Tenure Systems in India." *American Economic Review*, 95, 1190-1213.

\*\*\* Dell, Melissa (2010) "The Persistent Effects of Peru's Mining Mita," *Econometrica*, Vol. 78, No. 6, 1863-1903.

Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson and James A. Robinson (2003) "An African Success Story: Botswana." In *Search of Prosperity*, Dani Rodrick eds., Princeton University Press.

## Weeks 9: Corruption & Public Finance

[PROBLEM SET 7] Referee Report on De la Sierra, Raul Sanchez, Kristof Titeca, Haoyang (Stan) Xie, Albert Malukisa Nkuku, and Aimable Amani Lameke (2022), "The Real State: Inside the Congo's Traffic Police Agency" *NBER Working Paper Series*, No. 30258.

### Corruption: Evidence and Efficiency Costs

\*\* Olken, Benjamin and Rohini Pande (2012) "Corruption in Developing Countries," *Annual Review of Economics* 4, pp. 479-505.

\* Banerjee, Abhijit, Rema Hanna, and Sendhil Mullainathan (2013), "Corruption." *Handbook of Organizational Economics*, Princeton University Press.

\*\* Olken, Benjamin A. "Monitoring Corruption: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Indonesia." *Journal of Political Economy* 115, no. 2 (2007): 200-249.

\* Olken, Benjamin and Barron, Patrick (2009), "The Simple Economics of Extortion: Evidence from Trucking in Aceh", *Journal of Political Economy* 117 (3), pp 417-452.

\* Fisman, Ray (2001) Estimating the Value of Political Connections, *American Economic Review*, 91, 1095-1102.

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