

A close-up photograph of a fountain pen nib, likely gold, positioned diagonally across the upper half of the frame. Below the pen, a stack of seven smooth, dark grey stones is balanced vertically on a larger, flat stone base. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue and white.

The Research Department



The Research Department

Inter-American Development Bank

The Research Department (RES) generates new ideas to enrich the knowledge base that supports the policy agenda of the Bank and its member countries for achieving sustainable and equitable development in the region. To maximize the impact of its research, RES carries out activities that serve as inputs to Bank departments, governments, the academic community and public opinion in the region. RES advises management on economic and development issues, conducts research and analysis on macro- and microeconomic trends, and oversees development of the Bank's quantitative and analytical databases.

Our Greatest Asset: People

The quality of the research performed in the department is assured by the quality of its researchers and the inspiration and direction of its manager, the Chief Economist of the Inter-American Development Bank. The Research Department has been headed up by leaders in the field:

Ricardo Hausmann: 1994–2000

Guillermo Calvo: 2001–2006

Santiago Levy: 2007–2008

Eduardo Lora: 2008–2012

The present manager of the department is:

José Juan Ruiz Gómez

RES boasts a team of researchers with excellent academic credentials, superior research and policymaking experience, and expertise in different areas.

Meet our staff:

Samuel Berlinski

César P. Bouillon

Matias Busso

Julián Caballero

Eduardo Cavallo

Julián Cristia

Eduardo Fernández-Arias

Andrés Fernández Martin

Luca Flabbi

Verónica Frisancho

Fabiana Machado

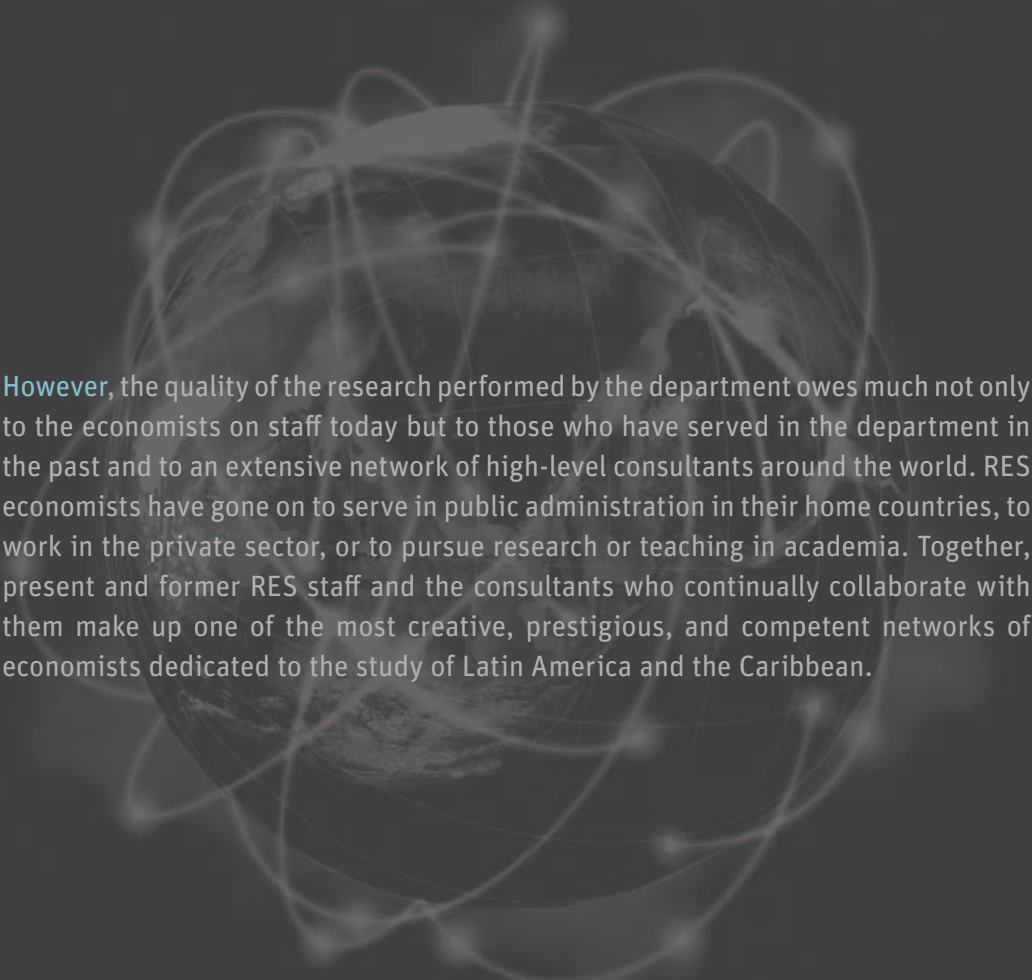
Sebastián Miller

Andrew Powell

Alessandro Rebucci

Carlos Scartascini

Ernesto Stein



However, the quality of the research performed by the department owes much not only to the economists on staff today but to those who have served in the department in the past and to an extensive network of high-level consultants around the world. RES economists have gone on to serve in public administration in their home countries, to work in the private sector, or to pursue research or teaching in academia. Together, present and former RES staff and the consultants who continually collaborate with them make up one of the most creative, prestigious, and competent networks of economists dedicated to the study of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Former RES staff:

Mariana Alfonso	Arturo Galindo	Andrés Rodríguez-Clare
Marina Bassi	Michael Gavin	Liliana Rojas-Suarez
Paulo Bastos	Alejandro Gaviria	William Savedoff
Juan Blyde	Alejandro Izquierdo	Emmanuel Skoufias
Eduardo Borensztein	Juan Luis Londoño	Antonio Spilimbergo
Alberto Carrasquilla	Gustavo Marquez Mosconi	Miguel Szekely
Luis Catao	Stephen Meardon	Leslie Stone
Eduardo Cavallo	Alejandro Micco	Ernesto Talvi
Alberto Chong	Hugo Ñopo	Glenn Westley
Kevin Cowan	Carmen Pagés	
Suzanne Duryea	Ugo Panizza	

Consultants who have collaborated with RES include:

Harold Aldreman	John Luke Gallup	Pablo Andrés Neumeyer
Alberto Alesina	Oded Galor	Marco Pagano
Orazio Attanasio	Paul Gertler	Roberto Perotti
Eric Bartelsman	John Haltiwanger	Guillermo Perry
Jere R. Behrman	James Heckman	Adam Przeworski
Nancy Birdsall	Chang-tai Hsieh	Martín Ravallion
Richard Blundell	Hugo Hopenhayn	Carmen Reinhart
Ricardo Caballero	Dean Karlan	Diego Restuccia
Mauricio Cárdenas	Pete Klenow	Dani Rodrik
Rafael Di Tella	Adriana Kugler	James Tybout
Barry Eichengreen	Robert LaLonde	Martín Valdivia
Robert Fogel	David Levine	Bernard van Praag
Jeffrey Frankel	Toss Levine	Andrés Velasco
Sebastián Galiani	Nora Lustig	

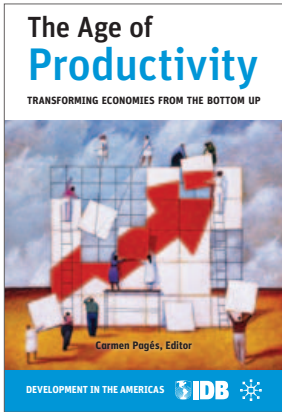
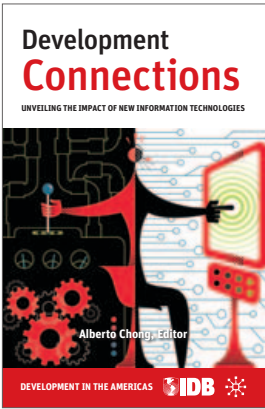
Publications

IDB Flagship Publication: Development in the Americas

Development in the Americas (DIA) is the flagship publication series of the Inter-American Development Bank. Produced annually, this book compiles the results of research conducted over a span of two to three years. Each edition focuses on a topic that is regional in scope and importance and is approached from a comparative perspective. DIA topics have covered such far-flung issues as debt, productivity, social exclusion, the policymaking process, quality of life, and information and communication technologies. Under the direction of the IDB Chief Economist, a team of researchers from throughout the Bank uses cutting edge methodologies and practices to produce a quality document on the vanguard of research on the region. The DIA represents a valuable input for IDB operations, a crucial resource for regional policymakers, and a key element in the Bank’s efforts to position itself as a leading producer of knowledge on Latin America and the Caribbean.

In addition to the DIA, RES produces about 50 working papers annually for the IDB’s peer-reviewed working paper series, an annual macroeconomic report, policy briefs, technical notes and a widely circulated newsletter, IDEA (Ideas for Development in the Americas).

RES researchers are also encouraged to pursue their own research interests and disseminate their findings in numerous scholarly outlets. This not only allows RES economists to enhance their personal profiles but helps contribute to the IDB’s image as a Knowledge Bank and as the premier source of information on Latin America and the Caribbean. The work of RES researchers has appeared in books published by commercial and academic publishers such as Palgrave MacMillan, Harvard University Press, Johns Hopkins University Press, Chicago University Press, Stanford University Press, and MIT University Press as well as in many prestigious academic journals.

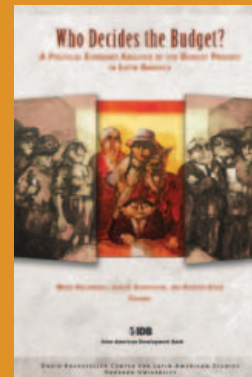
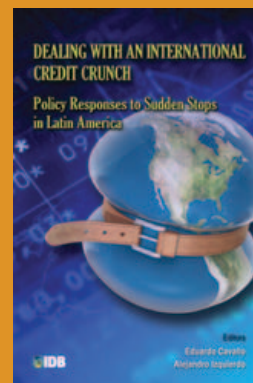
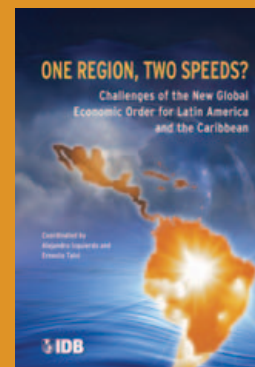
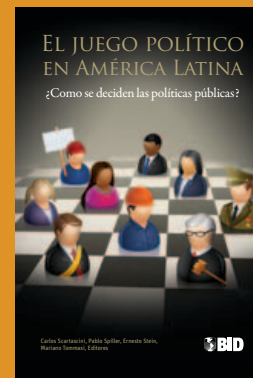
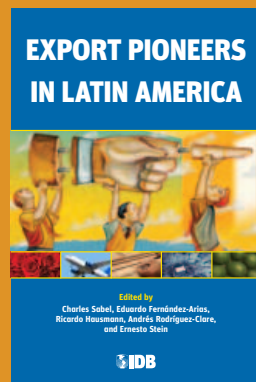


Some of the journals that have published RES authors are listed below:

American Economic Review	Journal of Development Studies
Applied Economics Letters	Journal of Economic Growth
Applied Financial Economics	Journal of Economic Policy Reform
Canadian Journal of Economics	Journal of European Economic Association
Ecological Economics	Journal of Health Economics
Economic Analysis Review	Journal of Human Resources
Economía	Journal of International Economics
Economic Inquiry	Journal of International Agricultural Trade and Development
Economica	Journal of International Money and Finance
Economics of Governance	Journal of Macroeconomics
Economic Policy	Journal of Money, Credit and Banking
Economics and Politics	Journal of Policy Reform
Economic Development and Cultural Change	Journal of Public Economics
Economics Letters	Journal of Socio-Economics
Emerging Markets Review	Labour Economics
Environment and Development Economics	Public Choice
European Economic Review	Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance
Journal of Applied Economics	Review of World Economics
Journal of Comparative Economics	Review of Economics and Statistics
Journal of Conflict Resolution	Review of Income and Wealth
Journal of Development Economics	Revista de Análisis Económico
Journal of Development Effectiveness	World Development



Books: The Research Department publishes edited volumes based on the research performed through the Latin American and Caribbean Research Network, books spun off from its annual flagship publication, as well as other topics pursued by its team of economic researchers. Many of these books have been published through the Latin American Development Forum, a consortium made up of the Brookings Institution, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Inter-American Development Bank, and the World Bank. Others are published through the Bank's agreements with a number of commercial publishers.



Resources

RES economists enjoy access to a wide variety of both human and capital resources.

Seminar Series: RES sponsors various types of seminars ranging from an informal internal seminar where researchers can share findings of their ongoing research, a Brown Bag series where scholars from the most prestigious universities present their research to RES staff, to Policy Seminars that host prominent speakers from around the globe. Recent speakers have included Carmen Reinhart, Raghuram Rajan, Stephen Cecchetti, Giovanni Majnoni, Augusto de la Torre, Jonathan Ostry, and Stanley Fischer. RES also convenes an annual Development Challenges and Policies Seminar featuring prominent speakers such as Philippe Aghion (Harvard University), Michael Greenstone (MIT), Nicholas Bloom (Stanford University) and Hoyt Bleakley (University of Chicago). Finally, RES hosts the DC Political Economy and Comparative Politics Seminar, a forum for discussing ongoing research in comparative politics and political economy with experts (both political scientists and economists) working in the DC area in order to foster synergies and collaboration.

Databases: Economists have at their disposal a number of databases, including the Latin America and Caribbean Macro Watch Data Tool (LMW). The LMW puts the material behind the macroeconomic analysis carried out by the IDB Research Department at the fingertips of a broad range of users. The database collects information from public sources (mostly web based) in IDB's 26 borrowing member countries and adds to it a set of useful indicators that allows for better monitoring of macroeconomic conditions. The database spans the period 1990–2011, and contains information at annual, quarterly, monthly and sometimes daily frequencies, based on data availability. The complete dataset includes more than 1,200,000 records, contained in 9,312 series that can be readily accessed over the internet. In addition, RES has access to a plethora of data from the region given its close connections with governments. Consequently, researchers have access to all household surveys in the region, many firm surveys, population and economic censuses, among others.

Networks: In addition to the rich network of past and present RES staff as well as an extensive consultant base, RES sponsors other more formal networks that bring the department closer to universities and research centers in the region and policymakers throughout the world.

Latin American and Caribbean Research Network: Created in 1991, this network of nearly 350 research institutes and 500 experts in economic and social development has proven to be an effective vehicle for financing quality research to enrich the public policy debate in Latin America and the Caribbean. The objectives of the Network are to leverage the Research Department's research capabilities, to improve the quality of research performed in the region, and to contribute to the development policy agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through a competitive bidding process, it provides grant funding to leading Latin America research centers to conduct studies on the economic and social issues of greatest concern to the region today.

Network of Central Banks and Finance Ministries: This network is a discussion group whose permanent members include the Chief Economists of the Central Banks and Finance Ministries of Latin America and the Caribbean. The purpose of the group is to promote a high-level policy discussion on macroeconomic and financial issues and collegial bonds among policymakers from Central Banks and Finance Ministries. The network also fosters interaction between IDB researchers and the region's policymakers, thereby helping RES set its research agenda and focus its policy advice on relevant concerns. The main activities are biannual workshops held at IDB headquarters in Washington.

The Studies and Publications Committee (SPC), aims to strengthen the IDB's capacity to prepare quality studies that will ultimately enhance the effectiveness and relevance of Bank operations in Latin American and Caribbean countries. RES serves as the secretariat for this Committee, which capitalizes on expertise within the Bank supplemented by external consultants when necessary, to assure analytically sound studies in both the macroeconomic and sectoral spheres to guide its medium- and long-term operational work. The Committee also serves as the executor of the Bank's Publications Protocol, which is designed to assure that the Bank's publications are of the highest technical, analytical and editorial quality. It evaluates all book proposals and oversees the peer review process for all working papers and books published by the Bank.

Research Fellows Program: RES offers two-year assignments as research assistants (RA) to promising young economists who plan to eventually pursue a doctorate. The RAs work side by side with RES economists on their research, providing valuable support while gaining inestimable experience. The program is competitive and all RAs are well qualified to perform a wide range of research activities for RES staff.

Funding for Research: RES economists have access to internal and external sources of financing for their research. These resources have allowed them to finance extensive field experiments, data collection efforts, and facilitated interaction among researchers.

Administrative and Dissemination Support: RES economists are supported in their work by a team of staff members specialized in administrative functions such as contracts, budget and travel as well as a dissemination unit focused on editorial, marketing, and technical issues. This support ensures efficient office management and extensive dissemination of research findings.

The Research Department

