# Mahesh Karra

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## **Current Appointments and Affiliations**

2017 - Present	Assistant Professor of Global Development Policy, Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies
	Associate Director, Human Capital Initiative, BU Global Development Policy Center
	Faculty Affiliate, Institute for Economic Development
	Faculty Affiliate, African Studies Center
	Faculty Affiliate, Center for the Study of Asia
	Faculty Affiliate, Center for Latin American Studies
2022 - Present	Faculty Affiliate, Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases Policy & Research
2022 - Present	Faculty Associate, Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future
2022 - Present	Faculty Affiliate, Institute for Global Sustainability
2020 - Present	Director, Program on Women's Empowerment Research, BU Global Development Policy Center
	Core Faculty, Rising Powers Initiative, Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future
2023 - Present	Co-Editor, Studies in Family Planning

# **Past Appointments and Affiliations**

2018 - 2021	Junior Faculty Fellow, Rafik B. Hariri Institute for Computing, Boston University
2017 - 2022	Visiting Scientist, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
2020 - 2022	Visiting Scholar, Sabbatical Laureate, Max Planck Institute of Demographic Research

### **Education**

2012 - 2017	Harvard University Sc.D. Global Health Economics
2010 - 2011	Barcelona Graduate School of Economics M.Sc. Economics
2005 - 2008	McGill University B.A. Economics, Hispanic Studies (Joint Honours)

## **Work Experience and External Service**

2016 - Present	Research Associate / Principal Investigator, Innovations for Poverty Action, Malawi
2023 - Present	Consultant, MaxMind
2021 - 2022	Senior Research Adviser, Howard Delafield International
2013 - 2015, 2020	Short Term Consultant, The World Bank
2018 - 2019	Consultant, ideas42
2017	Consultant, Population Council
2017	Consultant, Demographic Dividend, Population Reference Bureau / Packard Foundation
	Member, National Academies of Sciences Working Group, Recent Trends in Fertility in Sub-Saharan
2015 - 2016	Africa
2015 - 2016	Member, World Health Organization Technical Working Group, Financing Family Planning

2012 - 2017	<b>Graduate Affiliate</b> , Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies
2013 - 2017	Graduate Affiliate, Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS)
2014 - 2016	Consultant, The World Health Organization
2013 - 2014	Research Assistant, Harvard Kennedy School WAPP Program
2013 - 2014	Research Assistant, Harvard Business School, Professor Nava Ashraf
2011 - 2012	Population Policy Analyst, Population Reference Bureau
2009 - 2010	Economic Analyst/Social Scientist, The Futures Group International

# **Teaching Experience**

## At Boston University:

2023 - 2024	IR295, Quantitative Methods for Global Policy
2018 - 2022	IR500/480/680, Political Economy of Human Development
2018 - 2024	IR602, Quantitative Analysis for International Affairs
2017 - 2022	IR603, Economics for Global Policy
2018	IR700, Topics in International Health and Development
2020	EC522, Development Strategy

## Previous Teaching Experience:

2013 - 2014	Teaching Fellow, Global Health Economics: Harvard College, Professor Guenther Fink
2011 - 2012	Private Tutor: Georgetown University, George Washington University
2008 - 2009	Upper and Middle School Teacher: Lake Ridge Academy

## **Peer-Reviewed Publications**

Forthcoming, Safety Science.  Karra, M.* and D. Canning*. Adjusting Injectable Contraceptive Use for Months Since the Last Injection. Forthcoming, Studies in Family Planning.  Canning, D.* and M. Karra*. "Unwanted Family Planning: Prevalence Estimates for 56 Countries." Studies in Family Planning, Special Issue on Measurement and Indicators in Family Planning and Reproductive Health. DOI: 10.1111/sifp.12230.  Cheng, Z.**, M. Karra, M. Guo**, V. Patel, and D. Canning. "Exploring the Relationship Between Anemia and Postpartum Depression: Evidence from Malawi." International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health 20(4): 3178. DOI: 10.3390/ijerph20043178.  Karra, M., D. Maggio**, M. Guo**, B. Ngwira, and D. Canning. "The Causal Effect of a Family Planning Intervention on Women's Contraceptive Use and Birth Spacing." Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 119 (22): e2200279119. https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2200279119.  Karra, M. *Measurement of Unmet Need for Contraception: A Counterfactual Approach." Studies in Family Planning 53 (4): 657-680. DOI: 10.1111/sifp.12216.  Anukriti, S.*, C. Herrera-Almanza*, M. Karra*, and R. Valdebenito*. "Convincing the Mummy-ji: Improving Mother-in-Law Approval of Family Planning in India." AEA Papers and Proceedings 112 (May): 568-72. https://doi.org/10.1257/pandp.20221122.  Karra, M. and K. Zhang**. "User-Centered Counseling and Male Involvement in Contraceptive Decision-Making: Protocol for a Randomized Controlled Trial." JMIR Research Protocols 10(4): e24884. DOI: 10.2196/24884.  de Silva, R., S. Huber-Krum, A. Samarasekera, M. Karra, E. Pearson, H. Senanayake, D. Canning, and I. Shah. "Provider perspectives in implementing the Postpartum Intrauterine Device Initiative in Sri Lanka: A qualitative study." BMJ Sexual and Reproductive Health. DOI: 10.1136/bmjsrh-2020-200876.  Anukriti, S.*, C. Herrera-Almanza*, P. K. Pathak*, and M. Karra*. "Curse of the Mummy-ji: The Influence of Mothers-in-law on Women in India." American Journal of Agricultural Economics. 1	2024	Meng, S., N. Halim, M. Karra, and P. Mozumder. Understanding Household Evacuation Preferences during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Puerto Rico. SSRN working paper DOI: 10.2139/ssrn.4011468.
<ul> <li>Karra, M.* and D. Canning*. Adjusting Injectable Contraceptive Use for Months Since the Last Injection. Forthcoming, Studies in Family Planning.</li> <li>Canning, D.* and M. Karra*. "Unwanted Family Planning: Prevalence Estimates for 56 Countries." Studies in Family Planning, Special Issue on Measurement and Indicators in Family Planning and Reproductive Health. DOI: 10.1111/sifp.12230.</li> <li>Cheng, Z.**, M. Karra, M. Guo**, V. Patel, and D. Canning. "Exploring the Relationship Between Anemia and Postpartum Depression: Evidence from Malawi." International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health 20(4): 3178. DOI: 10.3390/jierph20043178.</li> <li>Karra, M., D. Maggio**, M. Guo**, B. Ngwira, and D. Canning. "The Causal Effect of a Family Planning Intervention on Women's Contraceptive Use and Birth Spacing." Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 119 (22): e2200279119. https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2200279119.</li> <li>Karra, M. "Measurement of Unmet Need for Contraception: A Counterfactual Approach." Studies in Family Planning 53 (4): 657-680. DOI: 10.1111/sitp.12216.</li> <li>Anukriti, S.*, C. Herrera-Almanza*, M. Karra*, and R. Valdebenito*. "Convincing the Mummy-ji: Improving Mother-in-Law Approval of Family Planning in India." AEA Papers and Proceedings 112 (May): 568-72. https://doi.org/10.1257/pandp.20221122.</li> <li>Karra, M. and K. Zhang**. "User-Centered Counseling and Male Involvement in Contraceptive Decision-Making: Protocol for a Randomized Controlled Trial." JMIR Research Protocols 10(4): e24884. DOI: 10.2196/24884.</li> <li>de Silva, R., S. Huber-Krum, A. Samarasekera, M. Karra, E. Pearson, H. Senanayake, D. Canning, and I. Shah. "Provider perspectives in implementing the Postpartum Intrauterine Device Initiative in Sri Lanka: A qualitative study." BMJ Sexual and Reproductive Health. DOI: 10.1136/bmjsrh-2020-200876.</li> <li>Anukriti, S.*, C. Herrera-Almanza*, P. K. Pathak*, and M. Karra*. "Curse of the Mummy-ji: The Influence of M</li></ul>		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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2020	<b>Karra</b> , M. and E. Sandoe**. "A Polling Experiment on Public Opinion on the Future Expansion of
2020	Medicare and Medicaid." Health Services Research. 55(4): 578-586. https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-
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2020	Pearson, E., L. Senderowicz, E. Pradhan, J. Francis, P. Muyangizi, I. Shah, D. Canning, M. Karra, N. Ulenga, T. Baernighausen. "Effect of a Postpartum Family Planning Intervention on Postpartum Interuterine Device Counseling and Choice: Evidence from a Cluster-Randomized Trial in Tanzania." <i>BMC Women's Health</i> . 20(1): 102. DOI:10.1186/s12905-020-00956-0.
2020	Miller, R. and M. Karra. "Birth Spacing and Child Health Trajectories." <i>Population and Development Review.</i> 46(2): 347-371. DOI: 10.1111/padr.12335.
2019	Karra, M., E. Pearson, E. Pradhan, R. de Silva, A. Samarasekera, D. Canning, I. Shah, D. Weerasekera, H.
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2019	<b>Karra, M.</b> , and G. Fink. "Long Run Height and Education Implications of Early Life Growth Faltering: A Synthetic Panel Analysis of 425 Birth Cohorts in 21 Low- and Middle-Income Countries." <i>BMC Public Health</i> . 19(1): 876. DOI: 10.1186/s12889-019-7203-5.
2019	Goyal, N.**, M. Karra, and D. Canning. "Early-Life Exposure to Ambient Fine Particulate Air Pollution
	and Infant Mortality: Pooled Evidence from 43 Low- and Middle-Income Countries." International
	Journal of Epidemiology. 48(4): 1125-1141. DOI: 10.1093/ije/dyz090.
2019	Sripad, P.*, M. Karra*, C. Warren, and M. Hindin. "Assessing the role of women's autonomy and acceptability of intimate partner violence in maternal health-care utilization in 63 low- and middle-income countries." <i>International Journal of Epidemiology.</i> 48(5): 1580-1592. DOI: 10.1093/ije/dyy299/5309028.
2018	<b>Karra, M.</b> , E. Pearson, D. Canning, I. Shah, R. de Silva, and A. Samarasekera. "Ethnolinguistic Concordance and the Receipt of Postpartum IUD (PPIUD) Counseling Services in Sri Lanka." <i>International Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health</i> . 44(4): 133-145. DOI: 10.1363/44e6918.
2018	Haber, N., E.R. Smith, K. Andrews, R. Audy, W. Bell, A.T. Brennan, A. Breskin, J. Kane, M. Karra, E. McClure, E. Moscoe, E.A. Suarez. "Causal language and strength of inference in academic and media articles shared in social media (CLAIMS): A systematic review." <i>PLOS One.</i> 13(5):e0196346. DOI:
2010	10.1371/journal.pone.0196346.
2018	Finlay, J., Y. Efevbera, J. Ndikubagenzi, M. Karra, D. Canning. "Reframing the Measurement of Women's Work in the Sub-Saharan African Context." <i>Work, Employment and Society.</i> 33(3): 518-528. DOI: 10.1177/0950017018774245.
2017	Karra, M., D. Canning, S. Foster, I. Shah, H. Senanayake, U.D.P. Ratnasiri. "Location and Content of
	Counselling and Acceptance of Postpartum IUD in Sri Lanka." <i>Reproductive Health.</i> 14(1): 42. DOI: 10.1186/s12978-017-0304-7.
2017	Karra, M., S.V. Subramanian, and G. Fink. "Height among Healthy Children in Low- and Middle-
	Income Countries: An Assessment." <i>The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition</i> . 105(1): 121–126. DOI:
2015	10.3945/ajcn.116.136705.
2017	<b>Karra, M.*</b> , D. Canning*, and J. Wilde*. "The Effect of Fertility Decline on Economic Growth in Africa: A Macrosimulation Model." <i>Population and Development Review.</i> 43(S1): 237-263. DOI: 10.1111/padr.12009.
	Top Downloaded Article, Population and Development Review, 2017-2018
2016	Karra, M., D. Canning, J. Hu, M. Ali, C. Lissner. "Community-Based Financing of Family Planning in Developing Countries: A Systematic Review." <i>Studies in Family Planning</i> . 47(4): 325–339. DOI:

Canning, D., I. Shah, E. Pearson, E. Pradhan, M. Karra, L. Senderowicz, T. Baernighausen, D. Spiegelman, A. Langer. "Institutionalizing postpartum intrauterine device services in Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and Nepal: Study protocol for a cluster-randomized stepped wedge trial." BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth. 16: 362–373. DOI: 10.1186/s12884-016-1160-0.
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<sup>\*</sup> Denotes joint first authorship / equal authorship.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Denotes student author.

### **Book Chapters**

2015

"Economic Effects of the Demographic Dividend" (with D. Canning, J. Wilde, D. L. Newhouse, P. Eloundou-Enyegue, Y. Cho, B. Tien, D. Robalino, and C. Wolff), in *Africa's Demographic Transition: Dividend or Disaster?* Eds. Canning, D., S. Raja, and A. S. Yazbeck, Africa Development Forum Series. Washington, DC: World Bank. doi:10.1596/978-1-4648-0489-2.

### **Replication Datasets**

2022	<b>Karra, M.</b> and D. Canning. "Replication Data for: 'The causal effect of a family planning intervention on women's contraceptive use and birth spacing." https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/KNNYZN. Harvard
	Dataverse, V1.
2022	Anukriti, S., C. Herrera-Almanza, M. Karra, and R. Valdebenito. "Data and Code for: 'Convincing the
	Mummy-ji: Improving Mother-in-Law Approval of Family Planning in India." Nashville, TN: American
	Economic Association. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research.
	https://doi.org/10.3886/E169141V1.
2022	Karra, M., D. Canning, and R. Sato. "Replication Data for: 'Adding measurement error to location
	data to protect subject confidentiality while allowing for consistent estimation of exposure effects."
	https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/VHBLVA. Harvard Dataverse, V1.
2022	Karra, M., S Anukriti, C. Herrera Almanza, and P. K. Pathak. "Replication Data for: 'Curse of the
	Mummy-ji: The Influence of Mothers-in-Law on Women in India." https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/XLYVU3.
	Harvard Dataverse, V1.

### **Primary Field Research Datasets**

Ethiopia Women's Transport Study (Quantitative, Qualitative, Process Evaluation, Administrative) Malawi Family Planning Study (Qualitative, Quantitative, Process Evaluation, Administrative) Malawi Behavioral Biases Study (Qualitative, Quantitative, Process Evaluation, Administrative) Malawi Print Shop Study (Pilot, Administrative)

Jaunpur Social Networks Study (Qualitative, Quantitative, Process Evaluation, Administrative) Burundi Family Planning Study (Qualitative)

Immediate Postpartum IUD Study (Qualitative, Quantitative, Process Evaluation)

Willows Impact Evaluation Study

## **Working Papers / In Progress**

2023

Wilde, J. and M. Karra. Twenty-Five Years of the Demographic Dividend: A Critical Reflection and Beyond. (Manuscript draft in preparation for the Population and Development Review 50th Anniversary Special Issue).

Maggio, D.\*\*, **M. Karra**, and D. Canning. *Family Planning and Children's Human Capital: Experimental Evidence from Urban Malawi* (HCI Working Paper. Revise and resubmit at *Demography*).

**Karra, M.**, D. Maggio\*\*, and D. Canning. *Family Planning and Female Labor Supply: Experimental Evidence from Malawi* (Working paper, under review at *American Economic Review: Insights.*).

**Karra, M.\*** and S. Mako\*. *Exploring the Effect of the Iraq War on Women's Health Care Seeking Behavior and Well-Being* (Manuscript draft in preparation for submission to *Social Science and Medicine*).

**Karra, M.** and K. Zhang\*\*. *User-Centered Counseling in Contraceptive Decision-Making: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Urban Malawi* (HCI Working Paper, Revise and resubmit at *Demography*).

**Karra, M.\*** and J. Wilde\*. *Economic Foundations of Contraceptive Transitions: Theories and a Review of the Evidence.* (IZA Discussion Paper No. 15889. Revise and resubmit, *Population and Development Review* IUSSP Panel on Contraceptive Transition Theories).

Cunningham, W.\*, M. Del Bono\*, S. Gupta\*, M. Karra\*, and J. Wilde\*. *Liberian Women Count: Evidence from a Macrosimulation of the Gender Dividend* (World Bank Policy Research Paper 10425.).

Anukriti, S.\*, C. Herrera-Almanza\*, and M. Karra\*. Bring a Friend: Strengthening Women's Social Networks and Reproductive Autonomy in India (World Bank Policy Research Paper 10107. IZA Discussion Paper No. 15381. Under review at the Journal of the European Economic Association).

Canning, D.\* and M. Karra\*. Unwanted Family Planning including Unwanted Sterilization: Prevalence

Estimates for India (Under review at Studies in Family Planning).

**Karra, M.\*** and D. Canning\*. *Hormonal Contraception and Hemoglobin Levels in Urban Malawi: A Longitudinal Analysis* (Revise and resubmit at *BMC Reproductive Health*).

Liddie, J.M., M.A. Bind, M. Karra, and E.M. Sunderland. PFAS Contamination of Community Water Systems and COVID-19 Mortality: Evidence from Two Drinking Water Monitoring Datasets (Submitted to Environmental Science & Technology Letters.).

Gausman, J., K. Barker, M. Karra, and A. Langer. "Chapter 12: Sexual and Reproductive Health." *The Handbook of Health Behavior Change, 6th Edition.* (Submitted).

Cardona, C., K. Zhang, P. Anglewicz, and M. Karra. Attribute-Method Contraceptive Concordance: Cross-Sectional and Panel Evidence from Urban Malawi. (In progress).

**Karra, M.** "Supply-Side Versus Demand-Side Unmet Need: Implications for Family Planning Programs": A Comment (Submitted to Population and Development Review).

Liu, Y.\*\*, L. Were. and M. Karra. A Comparison of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Western Medicine in the Management of Chronic Conditions in China (In progress).

Radin, M.\*\*, M. Karra, S. Mapila, N. Madise, and B. Wong. *A cost-benefit analysis of a post-partum family planning intervention in Malawi* (Working paper. In preparation for submission.).

Karra, M., M. Hernandez, K. Brennan\*\*, and M. McConnell. Supply-Side Innovations to Increase Equitable Access to Digital Financial Services: Experimental Evidence from Mozambique (HCI Working Paper).

Canning, D., M. Karra, R. Dayalu, M. Guo\*\*, and D.E. Bloom. *The association between age, COVID-19 symptoms, and social distancing behavior in the United States* (MedRxiv working paper, revise and resubmit at *PLOS One*).

Wilde, J. and M. Karra. Savings and the Demographic Dividend (Working paper. In preparation for the *Population and Development Review* 50th Anniversary Special Issue).

Karra, M. and R. Brulé. Examining the Association between Women's Political Participation, Health Care-Seeking, and Well-Being: Evidence from 63 Low- and Middle-Income Countries (In progress).

\* Authors listed alphabetically / equal authorship.

## Policy Briefs, Technical Reports, Blog Posts, and Op-Eds

2023	Arbuzova, A.**, T. Getahun, A. A. Malik, and M. Karra. Gendered Differences in Mobility and the
	Demand for Transport in Ethiopia. International Growth Centre (IGC) Policy Brief.
2023	Arbuzova, A.**, T. Getahun, A. A. Malik, and M. Karra. Need a Ride? Understanding Gender Differences
	in the Demand for Travel in Urban Ethiopia. International Growth Centre (IGC) Blog Post.
2023	Karra, M. Around the Halls: Maternal and Child Health: Developments and Setbacks in 2022. BU Human
	Capital Initiative Blog Post.
2022	Maggio, D.**, M. Karra, and D. Canning. Access to Family Planning Services Improves Child Growth
	Patterns and Cognitive Development Findings from the Malawi Family Planning Study (MFPS). BU Global
	Development Policy Center Brief.
2022	Karra, M., L. Aquino**, A. Arbuzova**, and Y. Kurt**. Around the Halls: Human Capital Initiative
	Summer 2022 Fieldwork. BU Human Capital Initiative Blog Post.
2022	Karra, M. Around the Halls: The State of Human Capital Development After Two Years of COVID-19,
	Maternal and Child Health. BU Human Capital Initiative Blog Post.
2021	Karra, M., D. Canning, D. Maggio**, M. Guo**, and B. Ngwira. Increased Access to Postpartum Family
	Planning Services Encourages Modern Contraceptive Use and Healthy Birth Spacing: Findings from the
	Malawi Family Planning Study (MFPS). BU Global Development Center Policy Brief.

That Really Matters Blog Post. **Karra, M.** and K. Zhang\*\*. *Understanding Women's Preferences for and Use of Family Planning in Urban Malawi*. BU Global Development Center Policy Brief.

**Karra, M.** "Devising Ways to Measure Unmet Need in Family Planning: A Thought Experiment." *BU Global Development Policy Center.* Blog Post. 2 August 2021. https://www.bu.edu/gdp/2021/08/02/devisingways-to-measure-unmet-need-in-family-planning-a-thought-experiment.

Maggio, D.\*\*., M. Karra, D. Canning, M. Guo\*\*, and B. Ngwira. Increased Access to Postpartum Family

Planning Services Encourages Modern Contraceptive Use and Healthy Inter-Birth Intervals. Economics

Zhang, K.\*\* and M. Karra. "Tailored couples counseling helps Malawian women choose contraceptives." BU Rafik B. Hariri Institute. Blog Post. 25 May 2021. https://www.bu.edu/hic/2021/05/25/tailored-couples-counseling-helps-malawian-women-choose-contraceptives.

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2021	<b>Karra, M.</b> "Prioritising maternal and child health in the COVID-19 era." <i>Open Access Government</i> . Blog Post. 14 April 2021. https://www.openaccessgovernment.org/maternal-and-child-health-2/108570.
2021	Radin, M. and M. Karra. A Cost-Benefit Analysis of Postpartum Family Planning Counseling in Malawi.
2019	Kohler, H. P. and M. Karra. <i>The Benefits and Costs of Scaling up Family Planning in Africa</i> . Copenhagen, Denmark: Copenhagen Consensus Center Policy Brief.
	Media Coverage: The Economist (November 2019)
2013	Belohlav, K. and M. Karra. <i>Household Decisionmaking and Contraceptive Use in Zambia</i> . Washington, DC: PopPov Network Policy Brief, Population Reference Bureau.
2012	Karra, M. and M. Lee. <i>The Economics of Reproductive Health in Accra, Ghana</i> . Washington, DC: PopPov Network Policy Brief, Population Reference Bureau.
2012	<b>Karra, M.</b> and J. Gribble. <i>Costs of Induced Abortion and Cost-Effectiveness of Universal Access to Modern Contraceptives in Uganda</i> . Washington, DC: PopPov Network Policy Brief, Population Reference Bureau.
2012	Karra, M. and M. Lee. <i>The Effects of an Economic Crisis on Contraceptive Use.</i> Washington, DC: PopPov Network Policy Brief, Population Reference Bureau.
2012	Karra, M. and M. Lee. Human Capital Consequences of Teenage Childbearing in South Africa. Washington, DC: PopPov Network Policy Brief, Population Reference Bureau.
2010	Foreit, K., M. Karra, and T. Pandit-Rajani. <i>Disentangling the Effects of Poverty and Place of Residence for Strategic Planning</i> . Washington, DC: Futures Group, Health Policy Initiative, Task Order 1.
2010	<b>Karra</b> , M., S. Sharma, and M. Vargas. <i>Fostering Public-Private Partnerships to Reduce Health Inequities in Peru</i> . Washington, DC: Futures Group, Health Policy Initiative, Task Order 1.
2009	Sharma, S. and M. Karra. Effective Policy Approaches to Address Inequities in Health: Examples from Jordan and Egypt. IUSSP Health Equity Conference Paper, November 2–4.

# Ongoing Research

2022	<b>Karra, M.</b> , A. Malik, A. Arbuzova**, and T. Getahun. <i>Gendered Differences in Mobility and the Demand for Transport: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Urban Ethiopia.</i>
2021	Ahumada Paras, A.*, M. Fiszbein*, N. Guida-Johnson*, and M. Karra*. Poverty, Human Capital, and Unemployment.
2020	Karra, M., Y. Kurt**, and K. Zhang**. Exploring User-Centered Counseling and Male Involvement in Contraceptive Decision-Making: Long-Term Evidence from a Field Experiment in Urban Malawi.  Karra, M., L. Aquino**, T. Gautier**, and D. Mookherjee. "Can I get that in writing?" Lessons from a Contracting Field Experiment in Urban Malawi.  Karra, M. and R. Brulé. Global Evidence on the Role of Women's Political Participation on Women's Empowerment and Well-Being.
2018	Anukriti, S.*, C. Herrera-Almanza*, and M. Karra*. The causal impact of social networks on young women's reproductive health, fertility, and well-being: Evidence from a field experiment in rural India.
2017	Karra, M., H. Leslie, M. Kruk, and D. Canning. Assessing the Relationship between Service Provision Quality, Family Planning Use, and Fertility Intentions in Malawi.
2014	Shah, I., D. Canning, T. Baernighausen, et al. Studying the impact and performance of institutionalizing immediate postpartum IUD services as a routine part of antenatal counselling and delivery room services in Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and Nepal.

# Fieldwork

2021 - Present	Ethiopia Women's Transport Study, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2021 11030111	Collaboration with EconInsight Center for Development Research, Ethiopia Ministry of Transport,
	Addis Ababa City Roads Authority, International Growth Centre (IGC).
2016 - Present	Malawi Family Planning Study, Lilongwe, Malawi
	Collaboration with Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), Malawi Reproductive Health Directorate
	(RHD) and Population Services International (PSI Malawi).
2019 - Present	Malawi Behavioral Biases Study, Lilongwe, Malawi
	Collaboration with Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) Malawi, Malawi Reproductive Health Direc-
	torate (RHD) and Population Services International (PSI Malawi).
2019 - Present	Malawi Print Shop Study, Lilongwe, Malawi
2010 2020 2022	Collaboration with Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) Malawi, Malawi Stationery Association.
2018 - 2020, 2022 -	Jaunpur Social Networks Study, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, India
Present	

	Collaboration with Delhi School of Economics, Boston College, Northeastern University, and Outline
	India.
2014 - 2020	Immediate Postpartum IUD (PPIUD) Study, Sri Lanka, Nepal
	Collaboration with Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (SLCOG) in Sri Lanka and
	Center for Research on Environment Health and Population Activities (CREHPA) in Nepal.
2018 - 2020	Willows Reproductive Health Study, Turkey, Pakistan, Tanzania, Ghana
2013 - 2015	Burundi Family Planning Study, Bujumbura, Burundi
	Collaboration with Health Systems and Development Consult (HSD Consult), Burundi Ministry of
	Health (MOH), National Program of Reproductive Health (PNSR), and Population Services Interna-

# Individual Grants, Fellowships, Honors

tional (PSI Burundi).

2024 - 2025	Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship, <i>Göttingen</i> , <i>Germany</i>
2020 - 2022	Max Planck Sabbatical Award Laureate (EUR €150,000)
2017 - 2018	Boston University Blended Learning Challenge (BLC) Teaching Fellowship (USD \$5,000)
2015	Clarence James and Sarah Bradley Gamble Endowment Scholarship (\$5,000)
2015	Uwe Brinkmann Memorial Travel Fellowship (USD \$2,500)
2015, 2016	Harvard Center for African Studies Summer Grant (USD \$5,000 x 2)
2014 - 2015	Dillon Family Fellowship (USD \$10,000)
2014	Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS) Research Grant (USD \$3,000)
2013, 2014	Harvard Center for African Studies J-Term Grant (USD \$4,000 x 2)
2013 - 2014	Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies Seed Grant (USD \$10,000)
2013	Michael von Clemm Traveling Fellowship, Bujumbura, Burundi (USD \$1,500)
2012 - 2014	John F. and Virginia B. Taplin Fellowship (Tuition, 2 years)

## **Funded Research**

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2022 2025	Randomised Controlled Trials of Marie Stopes International's Public Service Strengthening (PSS) and
2023 - 2025	Outreach in Northern Nigeria and DRC
	Role: Co-Principal Investigator
	Funders: MaxMind and Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF)
2022 2025	Prime Award: USD \$3,000,000, Sub-Award to BU: USD \$87,521.90
2023 - 2025	The Program on Women's Empowerment Research (POWER) Africa Consortium
	Role: Principal Investigator Funder: The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
2022 P	Amount: USD \$1,000,000
2023 - Present	BU & Scope 3 Emissions: Measuring Water Consumption Levels
	Role: Co-Principal Investigator Funder: BU Campus Climate Lab
	Amount: USD \$4,250 (Summer 2023), \$2,376 (Fall 2023)
	Gendered Differences in Mobility and the Demand for Transport: Evidence from a Field Experiment
2022 - 2023	in Urban Ethiopia
2022 - 2023	Role: Principal Investigator
	Funder: International Growth Centre (IGC)
	Amount: GBP £18,400
	Funder: BU Initiative on Cities (IOC)
	Amount: USD \$9,100
	Funder: Pardee School Faculty Research Grant
	Amount: USD \$9,225
	Networks and Global Health: Longer-Term Evidence of Women's Social Networks, Reproductive
2021 - 2025	Health, and Well-Being in Rural India
2021 - 2023	Role: Co-Principal Investigator
	Funder: World Bank
	Amount: USD \$100,000 (2021 - 2023), USD \$100,000 (2023 - 2025)
	Understanding Low-Income Traps: The Long-term Effects of Poverty on Human Capital and Devel-
2021 - 2022	opment
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Role: Co-Principal Investigator Funder: BU Global Development Policy Center Amount: USD \$15,000 The Impact of Gendered Transport on Women's Empowerment, Mobility, and Market Access: Evidence from a Field Experiment 2020 - 2022 Role: Principal Investigator Funder: Max Planck Institute of Demographic Research (MPIDR) Amount: EUR €150,000 Networks and Global Health: Experimental Evidence of Women's Social Networks, Reproductive Health, and Well-Being in Rural India 2020 - 2022 Role: Principal Investigator Funder: BU Global Programs and BU Foundation-India (BUFI) Amount: USD \$29,500 The Program on Women's Empowerment Research (POWER) 2020 - 2023 Role: Principal Investigator Funder: The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Amount: USD \$500,000 "Can I get that in writing?" Lessons from a Contracting Field Experiment in Urban Malawi 2019 - 2020 Role: Principal Investigator Funder: BU Hariri Institute of Computing Amount: USD \$29,912 Women's Decision-Making and Empowerment in Reproductive Health: Experimental Evidence from Malawi and India 2018 - 2020 Role: Principal Investigator Funder: The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Amount: USD \$100,000 The Impact of a Comprehensive Family Planning Intervention in Malawi: Evidence from a Random-2017 - 2019 ized Controlled Trial Role: Co-Principal Investigator Funder: The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Amount: USD \$275,000 Examining the impact of social networks on young women's reproductive health, fertility, and wellbeing: Evidence from a field experiment in rural India 2017 - 2019 Role: Co-Principal Investigator Funder: Northeastern University Tier-1 Grant Amount: USD \$47,280 The Impact of Family Planning Interventions in Africa: Evidence from Two Randomized Trials 2014 - 2017 Role: Co-Investigator Funder: The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Amount: USD \$675,000

#### Other Funding

2018 - 2024 Boston University Human Capital Initiative

Role: Associate Director

Funder: Boston University Global Development Policy Center

Amount: USD \$150,000 (2018-2019), \$175,000 (2019-2021), \$100,000 (2021-2022), \$75,000 (2022-

2023), \$130,000 (2023-2024)

#### **Conference Presentations**

2024	Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2024, Columbus, OH
	9th UAPS African Population Conference, Lilongwe, Malawi
	African Transport Research Conference 2024, Cape Town, South Africa
2023	Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2023, New Orleans, LA
	15th World Congress of the International Health Economics Association, Cape Town, South Africa
	2023 American Society of Health Economists (ASHEcon) Annual Meeting, St. Louis, MO

16th AFD-World Bank International Conference on Migration and Development, Boston MA		20th Midwest International Economic Development Conference, Houston, TX
2012 Conference on Behavioral Economics and Development, Stanford University, Stanford CA Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference, Chicago, IL (virtual) Eastern Economic Association (EEA) Annual Conference, Chicago, IL (virtual) 2022 American Society of Health Economists (ASHEcon) Annual Meeting (Presenter, Session Chair, Discussant), Austin, TX 3rd Brazilian Meeting on Family and Gender Economics, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (virtual) 2022 International Conference on Family Planning, Pattaya City, Thailand Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2021, St. Louis, MO (virtual) 14th World Congress of the International Health Economics, Association, Boston, MA (virtual) Northeast Universities Development Consortium Conference 2021, Boston, MA (virtual) 2021 IUSSP International Population Conference (IPC2021), Hyderabad, India (virtual) 2021 IUSSP International Population Conference (IPC2021), Hyderabad, India (virtual) 2022 Boston Mall Health Forum 2021 (virtual) Global Digital Health Forum 2021 (virtual) Global Digital Health Forum 2021 (virtual) Global Digital Health Forum 2021 (virtual) Population Association of America Annual Meeting, 2020, Washington, DC (virtual) Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference, Paris, France (virtual) Eastern Economic Association (EEA) Annual Conference, Roston, MA (virtual) Eastern Economic Association (EEA) Annual Conference, Roston, MA (virtual) Eastern Economic Association (EEA) Annual Conference, Ann Arbor, MI 13th World Conference on Economic Growth and Development, New Delhi, India 8th UAPS African Population Conference, Kampala, Uganda 1USSP Population, Poverty and Inequality Research Conference, Ann Arbor, MI 13th World Congress of the International Health Economics Association, Basel, Switzerland Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2019 (Presenter and Session Chair), Austin, TX 11th International Conference on Family Planning (Presenter and Workshop Lead), Kigali, Rwanda Population Association of America Annual		16th AFD-World Bank International Conference on Migration and Development, Boston MA
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Harvard Latin American Relations Conference, Cambridge, MA	2013	
2012 Sixth Annual PopPov Conference, Accra, Ghana	2012	
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# Workshops, Meetings, and Invited Seminars

	University of Göttingen Center for Modern Indian Studies (CeMIS) Winter Colloquium (Invited),
2024	Göttingen, Germany
	IUSSP Family Planning Measurement Expert Meeting (Invited), Mombasa, Kenya
2023	University of Wisconsin-Madison, Center for Demography and Ecology (Invited), Madison, WI
	Donald J. Bogue Demography Workshop at the University of Chicago (Invited), Chicago, IL
	USAID Population and Reproductive Health Seminar (Invited), Washington, DC
	BU Human Capital Initiative (HCI) Research Symposium, Boston, MA
	BU CAS Open House Guest Lecture, Boston, MA

IUSSP Webinar: New Directions and Frameworks for Family Planning Measurement (virtual) Pardee Center Graduate Summer Fellows Mentoring Session, Boston, MA BU School of Public Health Global Health Seminar, Boston, MA Population Reference Bureau Demography Talk Seminar (Keynote), Washington, DC 2022 Max Planck Society Sabbatical Laureate Speaker Series (Keynote), Berlin, Germany Nanyang Technological University Economics Department Seminar (Invited), Singapore (virtual) 2021 International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) Research Seminar, Boston, MA (virtual) CSIS Congressional Foresight Series, Demographics and Security, Boston, MA (virtual) BosMUNXX Conference, Boston, MA (virtual) Rhodes College Guest Lecture, INTS222: Global Health Politics, Boston, MA (virtual) Guest Lecture, Epsilon Consulting and Development, Boston, MA (virtual) Health Economics Seminar, Erasmus University Rotterdam (Invited), Rotterdam, Netherlands (virtual) Rising Powers Initiative Panel, "Demographic Trends and the Making of a Superpower", Boston, MA (virtual) Pardee School of Global Studies Book Event, "Interpreting Politics", Boston, MA (virtual) 2020 Perspectives from India: Gender Equity in Women's Health Webinar, Boston, MA (virtual) Equity in Family Planning Strategic Planning Guide Meeting, Boston, MA (virtual) IUSSP Panel Meeting, "Couples and Reproductive Health", Boston, MA (virtual) IUSSP Panel Meeting, "Contraceptive Transition Theories", Boston, MA (virtual) PardeeWorks Careers in International Development Panel (Moderator), Boston, MA 2019 Labor Productivity and Fertility – Using the Canning-Karra-Wilde Model Workshop (Invited), Kampala, Uganda BU Questrom School of Business Executive MBA Lecture, Boston, MA Willows Reproductive Health Speaker Series, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA BU Institute for Economic Development Seminar, Boston, MA JSNS Delhi School of Economics Works-in-Progress Seminar, New Delhi, India Malawi Ministry of Health (MOH) and Reproductive Health Dissemination Seminar (Invited), Lilongwe, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) Research Seminar (Invited), Lilongwe, Malawi World Bank Brown Bag Seminar, Lilongwe, Malawi BU Undergraduate Economics Association Seminar, Boston, MA "Social Statistics and Population Dynamics" Seminar Series (Invited), McGill University, Montreal, Ouebec Willows Reproductive Health Speaker Series, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA 2018 Boston University UROP Research Workshop, Boston, MA ideas42 Invited Speaker Series, New York, NY PRB Expert Consultation: The Four Dividends, Washington, DC Pardee School 7th Annual Student Conference on Advancing Human Progress, Boston, MA Willows Reproductive Health Speaker Series, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA Pardee Graduate Council Simulation - Improving International Access to Healthcare, Boston, MA 2017 Second Annual Population Health Science Research Workshop (PHS2017), Boston, MA Workshop on the Demographic Dividend in DRC (Invited), Kinshasa, DRC PRB-CREFAT Workshop - Modeling the Demographic Dividend (Invited), Washington, DC 2016 WHO Technical Meeting, Financing Family Planning, Boston, MA 2015 National Academy of Sciences Workshop on Recent Trends in Fertility in Sub-Saharan Africa, Washington, DC WHO Technical Meeting, Financing Family Planning, Geneva, Switzerland WHO Technical Meeting, Financing Family Planning, Washington, DC UNC CSPro Data Entry and CAPI Workshop, Chapel Hill, NC

#### **Referee Activities**

European Journal of Health Economics Journal of Development Economics World Development Studies in Family Planning The Lancet Social Science and Medicine Population Horizons Economics of Transition

PLOS One Trials BMJ Open

Reproductive Health

International Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health

Population Health Metrics Population Studies Implementation Science Science Advances Demography

Journal of Adolescent Health Journal of Economic Growth

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

#### **Professional Affiliations**

American Economic Association (AEA)

European Association for Population Studies (EAPS) American Political Science Association (APSA) American Society of Health Economists (ASHEcon) International Health Economics Association (iHEA)

Population Association of America (PAA)

Population and Poverty (PopPov) Research Network

International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP)

Junior Fellow, Society of Family Planning (SFP)
Union for African Population Studies (UAPS)

American Society for Nutrition (ASN)

American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies (AISLS)

#### **Professional Activities**

#### Service:

2023 - Present	Co-Editor, Studies in Family Planning
2021	Member, Editor Search Committee, Population and Development Review
2020 - 2022	Member, Editorial Committee, Studies in Family Planning
2020 - 2021	Member, Editorial Advisory Committee, International Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health
2017 - Present	Co-Chair, Pardee Research Seminar Series
2018 - Present	Member, Pardee School General Education Committee
2020 - Present	Member, Pardee School Academic Council
2018 - Present	Member, Pardee Periodical Faculty Advisory Board
2018 - 2019	Member, Pardee School Faculty Search Committee
2019 - Present	Member, BU UROP Faculty Advisory Committee
2019 - 2021	Member, BU University Council
2019 - Present	Member, Pardee School M.A. Program Assessment Review Committee
2019 - Present	Member, Pardee School MGP Curriculum Reform Committee
2022 - Present	Member, Assessing Advising Subcommittee, BU Office of the Provost
2022 - Present	Member, BU Africa Studies Center Internship Program Committee
2017 - 2022	Spanish Language Examiner, Pardee School
2017 - Present	M.A. Admissions Review, Pardee School
2019 - 2020, 2022	Faculty Mentor, Pardee Graduate Council
2019 - 2021	Faculty Mentor, Sigma Xi Undergraduate Research Honor Society

### **Doctoral Committees:**

2017 - 2018	Zahra Akbari, University of South Florida
2020 - 2024	Dan Maggio, Cornell University
	First Placement: Assistant Professor of Economics, Rutgers University
2018 - 2022	Kexin Zhang, Boston University
	First Placement: Assistant Professor of Economics, Renmin University of China
2021 - 2023	Yunus Kurt, Boston University
	First Placement: Associate, Analysis Group

## Undergraduate Thesis Committees:

2018	Terrens Muradzikwa, Harvard College
	Recipient of Rhodes Scholarship, Thomas T. Hoopes Prize for outstanding undergraduate thesis
2019	Carolyn Hoffman
	Recipient of CAS Honors Research Travel Award, UROP Travel Award (Fall 2018)
2020	Yuchen Liu
	Second Mentor at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (Fall 2021)
2022	Hannah Patterson
2023	Charlotte Greenhill
	Recipient of the Pardee School Undergraduate Academic Excellence Award

### Master's Thesis Committees:

2018	Xiaoyun Luo
	Xiao Sun
2019	Federico Pisani (Chair)
	Kuo Wang (Chair)
	Yue Wu
	Temur Hannan
	Salah Uddin
	Molly Joyce
2020	Amelia Dangerfield
	Sean Marquis
	Mary Rezk (Chair)
2022	Mariana Cabrera Figueroa
	Sultan Alqahtani
	Madison Dudley
2023	Greta Pais Marden Nanon (Chair)
	Recipient of the Carol A. Chandler Citizenship Award
	Samuel Banker (J.D. / M.A.) (Chair)
	Lysbet Jones

## Undergraduate Research Advisor or Mentor:

2017 - 2019	Shreyans Kothari
	Recipient of UROP Award (Summer 2018, Fall 2018)
	Anamika Sinha
	Recipient of UROP Award (Summer 2018, Fall 2018)
2017 - 2021	Prachi Aneja
	Recipient of UROP Award (Spring 2019, Summer 2019, Fall 2019)
2018	Xiao Chen
2019 - 2021	Sarah Safi
	Recipient of UROP Travel Award (Summer 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020)
	Avantika Tandon
	Recipient of UROP Travel Award (Summer 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020)
	Madison Calvert
	Recipient of FLAS Scholarship (Spring 2020)
2020	Lexie van Waes

Maneesha Khalae

Jackson Moore-Otto 2022 - 2023 Vishal Venkatesh

> Alexa Andanar Maecey Niksch Wentao Chen Ananya Agarwal

Recipient of UROP Travel Award (Summer 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024)

Zheyuan Lin

Graduate Research Advisor or Mentor (Masters):

2017 Sarah Dymecki

Dina Wyler Sarah Ritterspach Jacob Howe Xinyi Min Kuo Wang Zach Crawford Federico Pisani

Recipient of GDP Center "Summer in the Field" Travel Award (Summer 2018)

2018 Amelia Dangerfield

Recipient of GDP Center "Summer in the Field" Travel Award (Summer 2019)

Leah Eyob Mary Rezk

Recipient of Pardee School Graduate Travel Grant (Fall 2019)

Dan Maggio (M.A. Economics) Dixita Gupta (M.A. Economics)

Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2019)

Sakshi Goel (M.A. Economics)

Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2019)

2019 Maria Santarelli

Ashini Patel Charles (CJ) Ray Samantha Miller

Hyun Soo Suh (M.A. Economics)

Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2020)

Tanya Mishra (M.A. Economics)

Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2020)

2020 Nikhil Kumar (M.A. Economics)

Kareena Satia (M.A. Economics) Manav Sinha (M.A. Economics) Danielle Aron (M.A. Economics) José Ramos Morales (M.A. Economics) Jonathan Shaheen (M.A. Economics) Jeremy Schneider (M.A. Economics)

Anastasia Demidova

Swareena Jones (M.A. Economics) Supriya Ukey (M.A. Economics) Trevor Bergqvist (M.A. Economics)

Christina Meyer (Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health) Lisette Martinez (Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health)

Vidhu Priya Mukundan

Selin Yanik Koc Atibhi Sharma

2022 Greta Pais Marden Nanon

2021

Recipient of the Carol A. Chandler Citizenship Award

Laura Gormley

Recipient of Pardee School Graduate Academic Excellence Award

Angel Guzman

Luke Detore
2023 Amaury Heintz

Samuel Banker (J.D. / M.A.)

Rachel Hull

Recipient of BU Campus Climate Lab Research Grant

Victoria Bien-Aime Manpreet Singh

Recipient of BU Campus Climate Lab Research Grant

Yijing Wu Jingwei Zhao Lydia Barski Emily Johnson

#### Graduate Research Advisor or Mentor (Doctoral):

2017 Fatima Aqeel (Economics, BU)2018 Kexin Zhang (Economics, BU)

Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2019)

Recipient of Hariri Institute Graduate Student Fellowship (Fall 2019)

Thomas Pearson (Economics, BU)

Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2019)

Thomas Gautier (Economics, BU)

Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2019, Summer 2020)

2022 Anastasiia Arbuzova (Economics, BU)

Recipient of IGC Graduate Student Fellowship (2022 - 2023)

Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2023)

Recipient of GDP Center "Summer in the Field" Travel Award (Summer 2023)

Yunus Kurt (Economics, BU)

Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2022)

Laura Aquino Arriaga (Economics, BU)

Recipient of Manuel Abdala Research Grant (Summer 2022, Summer 2023) Recipient of GDP Center "Summer in the Field" Travel Award (Summer 2023) Patrick Baxter (Economics and Public Policy, George Mason University)

## **Programming and Technical Skills**

Programming Languages: Java, C++, HTML, CSS, JavaScript

Mathematics and Statistical Software: Maple, Matlab, Mathematica, DataLyser, Stata, SAS, SPSS, R Other Skills: Microsoft Office suite, Lagard applications (Lagard, Lyx), CSPro, ArcGIS, QGIS, CommCare, Atlas.ti, NVivo, SurveyCTO, ODK, Survey Solutions, Adobe suite (Photoshop, Dreamweaver, Fireworks)

#### Languages

English, Spanish, French, Telugu, Hindi, Arabic

#### **Personal**

#### Citizenship

**United States** 

Overseas Citizen of India (OCI)