

# Stefano Caria

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Manor Road, OX1 3UQ, UK

## *Employment*

**2025 - current** Professor, Department of Economics, University of Oxford  
**2022 - 2025** Professor, Department of Economics, University of Warwick.  
**2020 - 2022** Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Warwick.  
**2018 - 2020** Assistant Professor (Lecturer), Department of Economics,  
University of Bristol.  
**2014 - 2018** Postdoctoral Researcher (Departmental Lecturer), Department of  
International Development, University of Oxford.

## *Affiliations, fellowships and other positions*

**2018 - present** Research Affiliate, CEPR (development and labour).  
**2019 - present** Affiliate, J-PAL.  
**2019 - 2024** Trustee, Global Change Data Lab (main project: Our World in Data).  
**2020 - present** Lead Academic, IGC Ethiopia.  
**2020 - present** Affiliate, CAGE, University of Warwick.  
**2020 - present** Collaborator, Economics of Environment and Energy, STICERD.  
**2023 - 2026** Philip Leverhulme Prize  
**2023 - 2024** British Academy Innovation Fellow  
**2023 - 2025** Research Program co-Director (Firms), IGC  
**2023 - present** Co-editor, VOXDEV  
**2024 - present** Co-director Labor Sector, J-PAL  
**2024 - present** Associate Editor, Econometrica

## *Education*

**2011 - 2015** University of Oxford, D.Phil. in Economics.  
**2007 - 2009** University of Oxford, M.Phil. in Economics (Distinction, Best Thesis Prize).

**2003 - 2006** University of Oxford, B.A. in Politics, Philosophy and Economics (First Class).

*Research papers*

"Does the Risk of Poverty Reduce Happiness?". (with Paolo Falco)  
***Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 67.1 (2018): 1-28.**

"Expectations, Network Centrality and Public Good Contributions: Experimental Evidence from India". (with Marcel Fafchamps)  
***Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 167 (2019): 391-408.**

"Can People Share Information Efficiently?". (with Marcel Fafchamps)  
***The Economic Journal*, 130:631 (2020): 1966-1994.**

"The Selection of Talent: Experimental and Structural Evidence from Ethiopia". (with Girum Abebe and Esteban Ortiz-Ospina)  
***American Economic Review*, 116: 6 (2021): 1757-1806.**

"Anonymity or Distance? Job Search and Labour Market Exclusion in a Growing African City". (with Girum Abebe, Paolo Falco, Marcel Fafchamps, Simon Franklin and Simon Quinn)  
***Review of Economic Studies*, 88:3 (2021): 1279-1310.**

"Global Behaviors and Perceptions during the COVID-19 Pandemic" (Thiemo Fetzer, Marc Witte, Lukas Hensel, Jon Jachimowicz, Johannes Haushofer, Andriy Ivchenko, Stefano Caria, Elena Reutskaja, Christopher Roth, Stefano Fiorin, Margarita Gómez, Gordon Kraft-Todd, Friedrich Gotz, Erez Yoeli)  
***Journal of Behaviour & Organization*, 193 (2022): 473-496.**

"Searching with Friends". (with Simon Franklin and Marc Witte)  
***Journal of Labor Economics*, 41:4 (2023): 887-922.**

"Skeptical Employers Experimental Evidence on Biased Beliefs Constraining From Growth". (with Paolo Falco)  
***Review of Economics and Statistics*, 106:5 (2024): 1352-1368.**

"An Adaptive Field Experiment: Job Search Assistance for Refugees in Jordan". (with Grant Gordon, Max Kasy, Soha Osman, Simon Quinn, and Alex Teytelboym) 2023.  
***Journal of the European Economic Association*, 22:2 (2024): 781-836.**

"Village Social Structure and Labor Market Performance: Evidence from the Philippines". (with Julien Labonne) 2023.  
***Journal of Economic Behaviour & Organization*, 219 (2024): 371-380.**

"Job Fairs. Matching Firms and Unemployed Youth in a Field Experiment". (with Girum Abebe, Paolo Falco, Marcel Fafchamps, Simon Franklin, Simon Quinn and Forhad Shilpi) 2024.  
***Economic Journal*, 135:71 (2025): 2089-2121.**

"The Allocation of Incentives in Hierarchies" (with Erika Deserranno, Gianmarco Leon-Ciliotta, Philipp Kastrau) 2024.  
***Journal of Political Economy*, 133:8 (2025): 2506-2562.**

"Competition and Management Upgrading: Experimental Evidence from Ethiopia" (with Girum Abebe, Pascaline Dupas, Marcel Fafchamps and Tigabu Getahun) 2024.

"Mitigating the Consequences of Job Loss: Quasi-Experiment and Experimental Evidence from Ethiopia" (with Girum Abebe, Francois Gerard, and Lukas Hensel) 2024.

“The Barriers to Female Employment: Experimental Evidence from Egypt”. 2025  
with Bruno Crépon, Caroline Krafft and AbdelRahman Nagy.  
***R&R, Review of Economics and Statistics.***

“Designing Severance Insurance: Theory and Evidence from Ethiopia”  
with Girum Abebe, Lukas Hensel, Francois Gerard, Sara Spaziani  
***Conditionally accepted based on pre-results review, Journal of Development Economics.***

“Beliefs about climate change and migration intentions in Bangladesh”. 2024  
with Gharad Bryan, Robin Burgess and Jack Thiemel

“Urban Poverty Traps in Bangladesh.” 2024  
with Oriana Bandiera, Robin Burgess, Menna Bishop and Jack Thiemel

“Evaluating COVID-19 Public Health Messaging in Italy: Self-Reported Compliance and Growing Mental Health Concerns.” (with Soubhik Barari, Antonio Davola, Paolo Falco, Stefano Fiorin, Andriy Ivchenko, Jon Jachimowicz, Gary King, Gordon Kraft-Todd, Alice Ledda, Mary MacLennan, Lucian Mutoi, Claudio Pagani, Elena Reutskaja, Christopher Roth, and Federico Raimondi Slepoy)

### *Ongoing fieldwork*

Adaptation to climate change for the ultra-poor in Bangladesh.  
with Oriana Bandiera, Gharad Bryan, Robin Burgess and Jack Thiemel

Matching on additionality  
with Lukas Hensel, Marc Witte and Tigabu Getahun.

### Policy papers and Reviews

Innovation, Growth and the Environment. IGC White Paper on Sustainable Growth (with Robin Burgess, Tim Dobermann, Allegra Saggese)

VoxDev Literature Review. Barriers to Search and Hiring in Urban Labor Markets (senior editor with Kate Orkin)

### *Research grants*

|             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>2024</b> | Stone Centre “Expanding Job-Loss Insurance in Ethiopia”. 50,000£.                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>2023</b> | IGC “The Labor Market and Welfare implications of Job-Loss Insurance in Ethiopia” 100,000£.                                                                                                                        |
| <b>2022</b> | J-PAL “The Welfare and Labor Market Effects of Job Displacement Insurance” (with Girum Abebe, Francois Gerard, Lukas Hensel) 125,000£.                                                                             |
| <b>2022</b> | J-PAL “Climate Resilience and Graduation: Evidence from Bangladesh” (with Oriana Bandiera, Gharad Bryan and Robin Burgess). 330,000£.                                                                              |
| <b>2020</b> | DfiD-IZA “The Impact of Subsidized Access to Nurseries and Employment Services on Mothers’ Labor Market Outcomes and Child Development in Egypt” (with Bruno Crépon, Caroline Krafft, AbdelRahman Nagy). 380,000£. |

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| <b>2020</b> | DfID-IZA “Can Temporary Financial Incentives for Industrial Workers Lead to Long-Term Retention and a Better Allocation of Talent” (with Girum Abebe, Stefan Dercon and Lukas Hensel) 225,000£.               |
| <b>2020</b> | J-PAL “Evaluating the Impacts of a Comprehensive Youth Employment Program at Scale: A Pilot Study” (with Girum Abebe, Bruno Crépon, Simon Franklin and Christian Meyer) 50,000£.                              |
| <b>2020</b> | PEDL “Why do African firms underinvest in management training? Experimental evidence from middle and large Ethiopian firms” (with Girum Abebe, Pascaline Dupas, Deivy Houeix and Marcel Fafchamps). 430,000£. |
| <b>2020</b> | CEGA “Quantifying the benefits of targeting an employment program” (with Max Kasy, Simon Quinn, Soha Shami, Alex Teytelboym). 40,000£.                                                                        |
| <b>2019</b> | MNA Gender Innovation Lab “Assessing the Impacts of Providing Access to Nurseries on Female Labor Force Participation in Egypt” (with Bruno Crépon, Caroline Krafft, AbdelRahman Nagy).130,000£.              |
| <b>2017</b> | IGC and Oxford Martin School, “Understanding Industrial Parks” (with Girum Abebe, Stefan Dercon and Simon Quinn). 275,000£.                                                                                   |
| <b>2016</b> | John Fell Fund, “An Experimental Study of the Demand for Information among Firm Managers in Ethiopia”. 7,500£.                                                                                                |
| <b>2015</b> | IGC, “Do Managers use financial incentives effectively? Evidence from a field experiment in urban Ethiopia” (with Girum Abebe). 95,000£.                                                                      |
| <b>2014</b> | DfID-IZA and IGC, “Assisting Job Search in Low-Employment Communities” (with Girum Abebe, Paolo Falco, Marcel Fafchamps Simon Franklin, Simon Quinn). 300,000£.                                               |

### *Lecturing and supervision*

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>2025 - current</b> | Lecturer, Development Economics 1, MPhil in Economics, University of Oxford                     |
| <b>2025 - current</b> | Lecturer, Microeconomic theory, MSc in Economics for Development, University of Oxford          |
| <b>2021- 2022</b>     | <i>Lecturer</i> , Applied Microeconomics, BSc in Economics, University of Warwick.              |
| <b>2020 - 2022</b>    | <i>Lecturer</i> , Applied Microeconomics, MSc in Economics, University of Warwick.              |
| <b>2019 - 2020</b>    | <i>Lecturer</i> , Behavioral Economics, BSc in Economics, University of Bristol.                |
| <b>2018 - 2020</b>    | <i>Lecturer</i> , Policy Experiments, MSc in Economics, University of Bristol.                  |
| <b>2014 - 2018</b>    | <i>Lecturer</i> , Applied Econometrics, MSc in Economics for Development, University of Oxford. |
| <b>2015 - 2016</b>    | <i>Lecturer</i> , Development Economics, M.Phil. in Economics, University of Oxford.            |
| <b>2014 - 2022</b>    | <i>Graduate thesis supervisor at Oxford, Bristol, and Warwick</i>                               |

### *Seminars and conference presentations*

2025: Chicago, Bologna, Geneva, CREST, Zurich, CEPR, Bristol.

2024: African Econometric Society (Abidjan), Bergen, Cologne, Innsbruck, Royal Holloway, SED Conference (Barcelona), LISER.

2023: Princeton, Yale, NYU, Duke, Pittsburgh. CEPR conference on organisations and development (LSE).

2022: Stanford, Michigan, Notre Dame Bocconi Leap Workshop, Barcelona GES Summer Forum (Organizational Economics), RIDGE, Trinity College Dublin, Nottingham, Alicante, Milan Statale, ASSA, Cagliari, CEPR (work presented by co-author).

2021: Oxford, NUS, CEPR/LEAP Workshop in Development Economics, Barcelona GSE Summer Forum (Advances in Micro Development), KCL/EBRD Workshop on the Economics and Politics of Migration, CEGA/IPA Webinar on Forced Displacement, NBER SI Development (work presented by co-author), BREAD (work presented by co-author).

2020: CREST, IZA, Firms, Markets and Development Webinar, Institute of Management Bangalore, Utah Winter Organizational Economics Conference.

2019: LSE (Capabilities, Competition and Innovation Seminar and Labour Workshop), Stockholm School of Economics, Munich, Amsterdam (Tinbergen Institute), CEPR/IGC/ILO/GSEM Conference on Labour Markets in Developing Countries (University of Geneva), Conference on "Forced Displacement, Asylum Seekers and Refugees" (Queen Mary University), CSAE conference, Milano Bicocca workshop on "Challenges and Opportunities for Policy Making in Africa", Southampton Workshop on Applied Economics.

2018: Warwick, NBER Summer Institute, BREAD/CEPR/LSE/TCD Development Workshop (LSE), EALE (Lyon), Bristol Workshop, Ohlstadt Workshop, Cologne, IZA/WB conference on Jobs and Development, NEUDC (Cornell), JM: Cornell Dyson, Virginia Darden, McGill, Toulouse, Sciences Po, CREST, Paris School of Economics, Bristol, Essex, Royal Holloway, Bologna, Tilburg, Utrecht, CERGE-IE, Javeriana.

2017: NEUDC (Tufts), IGC/CEPR Labour Conference (LSE), IFS (London), Queen Mary University, Nottingham University, Impact Evaluation Conference (University of Mannheim), OxDev, Reading University, SEEDEC (University of East Anglia), OECD, Royal Economic Society (Bristol University), Ethiopian Economic Association Conference, CSAE conference, SAEe (Barcelona), Econometric Society Winter Meetings (Barcelona).

2016: NEUDC (MIT), Annual World Bank Conference on Africa, Clermont-Ferrand (Workshop on "Learning for adoption" organized by Alain de Janvry and Elisabeth Sadoulet), NIBS (Nottingham), LACEA-LAMES, Ethiopian Economic Association Conference, OxDev, CSAE conference.

2015: NEUDC (Brown), SEEDEC Conference (CERGE-EI, Prague), DIW (Berlin), Wageningen University, CSAE conference; GSE Summer Forum Barcelona, Royal Economic Society (Manchester).

### *Refereeing*

American Economic Review, Econometrica, Journal of Political Economy, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, American Economic Review: Insights, Journal of the European Economic Association, American Economic Journal: Applied, Review of Economics and Statistics, Economic Journal, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, Labor Economics, Economica, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Journal of African Economics, Oxford Development Studies, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Journal of Experimental Political Science.

### *Honors and scholarships*

+3 ESRC full award studentship to pursue doctoral studies.

George Webb Medley Prize 2009 for the best M.Phil. Thesis.

### *Languages*

English, Italian, Spanish, Amharic (basic).

**Last updated: November 2025**