

## Manétt Rocío Vargas García

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### EDUCATION

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**Master in Public Affairs (M.P.A.), PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, U.S.A.**  
August 2002 – June 2004

**B.A. in Economics, INSTITUTO TECNOLÓGICO AUTÓNOMO DE MÉXICO (ITAM), Mexico**  
Graduated with honors, 1996-2001

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**Professor, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), Academic Department of Economics**  
Mexico City August 2007 - up to date

- Courses: Development Economics and Microeconomics (B.A. in Economics). Health Economics; Welfare and Social Policy; Social Program Evaluation; Developing Economies Seminary (Master's in Economics); Social Programs and Regulation (Master's in Public Policy).
- Thesis advisor and counselor at B.A. and Master's levels.

**Partner and main researcher, Que Funciona para el Desarrollo A.C. (QFD), a non-profit academic organization devoted to the design and implementation of experimental impact evaluations of social programs and initiatives.**

Mexico City May 2015 – up to date

- Implementation of Randomized Control Trial of Prospera Digital: pilot two-way SMS-program (m-health) focused on maternal and child care for selected beneficiaries of the Prospera Program; among other projects.
- Participation in design of financial inclusion program linked to Prospera Digital.
- Implementation of Qualitative Evaluation of MIDO Embarazo for Carlos Slim Foundation.
- Development of proposals for design and evaluation of social interventions for Carlos Slim Foundation, Femexfut among others.

**Senior consultant, advisor and researcher (health policy, economic and social development, social program evaluation, among other topics)**

Mexico D.F. October 2009 – up to date

- Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS): External senior advisor on health national reform process and health policy issues. October 2013- November 2014.
- Carlos Slim Foundation (Health Institute): Coordinator of the documentation, research and assessment processes for the *Amanece* (Maternal and Child Mortality reduction strategy) and *Casalud* (Chronic Conditions strategy) strategies of the Foundation. January 2012 – March 2015.
- Ministry of Health:
  - Main researcher for the project: "Incentives' design to promote health prevention in the Mexican System for Social Protection in Health", with CIDE. June-December 2012.
  - Research coordinator for the project: "Current state of the Mexican Health System" in preparation for the government transition process. March-August 2012.
  - Main researcher for the project: "Analysis of the incentive scheme of the Seguro Popular Program: Proposals to improve its impact on its affiliates' welfare". August-December 2011.

- Research coordinator and senior researcher for the project: “Evolution of the Mexican System for Social Protection in Health” with Spectron Desarrollo S.C (development consulting firm). August-December 2010.
- Ministry of Education: Research coordinator for the project: “Impact evaluation design for the Higher Education National Scholarships’ Program (PRONABES), with Spectron Desarrollo S.C. August-December 2011.
- Inter-American Development Bank (IADB): Research coordinator for the project: “Integral System for Monitoring, Evaluating and Planning Social Expenditure”. Design of conceptual framework and implementation of pilot project in Peru and El Salvador, with Spectron Desarrollo S.C. May 2010-June 2011.
- Inter-American Dialogue (IAD): Research analyst for the project: “Mexico’s Commitment to Equity, Technical Report on Social and Redistributive Spending”, with CIDE. May-August 2010.
- Social Development Ministry: Research coordinator for the project: “Report 2007-2009: A better Mexico for its children and youth”, showing the progress of the UN Millennium Development Goals related to children’s and youth’s welfare. October 2009- May 2010.

**General Director of Oportunidades Program, National Commission for Social Protection in Health, Ministry of Health**

Mexico D.F.

Jan 2007 – Jun 2009

- Federal coordinator of the Health and Nutrition Component of the Program (main anti-poverty program in the country, covering 25% of the Mexican population).

**Research Manager, The Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS), Harvard University**

Cambridge, MA

Feb 2005 – Dec 2006

- Coordinator of the Harvard University research team in charge of the Mexican System for Social Protection in Health (Seguro Popular) impact evaluation; first experimental impact evaluation of the health system reform implemented in Mexico in 2004.

**Research Assistant, Center for Basic Research in the Social Sciences (CBRSS), Harvard University**

Cambridge, MA

Sept 2004 – Feb 2005

- Research assistant/analyst on social development public policy and microfinance programs’ impact evaluation, among other topics.

**Intern, FINCA Perú**

Lima, Peru

Jun 2003 – Aug 2003

- Internship focused in providing analysis and recommendations aiming to improve administrative efficiency of this microfinance program that provides microcredits to poor women in the main regions of Peru.

**Economic Advisor, Miguel Estrada Iturbide Foundation, Chamber of Deputies**

Mexico D.F.

Aug 2001 – Aug 2002

- Advisor to deputies on topics of economic and social reform and public policy.

**Economic Analyst, Economic Research General Office, Mexican Central Bank**

Mexico D.F.

Aug 2000 – Aug 2001

- Junior researcher on the evolution of macroeconomic variables and advisor for the Central Bank Governor and Board.

## PUBLICATIONS

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- “Fidelity of Implementation of Prospera Digital: Evaluation of a Multi-Site mHealth Intervention Aimed at Improving Maternal Health Outcomes in Mexico,” Current Developments in Nutrition, Volume 3, Issue 10 Gaitán, P., De la Cerda, S., Pérez, C., Aguilar, A., Vargas, M., Vilar-Compte, M., (2019). (Coauthors: Pablo Gaitán, Selene de la Cerda, Arturo Aguilar, Mireya Vilar-Compte).
- “The power of information and motivation on maternal and child health knowledge: an application with ad-hoc SMS in Mexico’s Prospera program,” mimeo. (2018). (Coauthor: Arturo Aguilar).
- “Evolution of the System for Social Protection in Health” (Coauthors: Salomón Chertorivski Woldenberg, José Francisco Caballero García, Luis Rubalcava Peñafiel and Viridiana Reyes Peraza). CIDE, 2016. In Spanish.
- “Public policy for the poor? A randomized assessment of the Mexican universal health insurance programme,” The Lancet 373 (2009), 1447-54. (Coauthors: Gary King, Emmanuela Gakidou, Kosuke Imai, Jason Lakin, Ryan T Moore, Clayton Nall, Nirmala Ravishankar, Martha María Téllez Rojo, Juan Eugenio Hernández Ávila, Mauricio Hernández Ávila, Héctor Hernández Llamas).
- “A Politically Robust Experimental Design for Public Policy Evaluation, with Application to the Mexican Universal Health Insurance Program,” Journal of Policy Analysis and Management Vol. 26 No. 3 (2007), 479–506. (coauthors: Gary King, Emmanuela Gakidou, Nirmala Ravishankar, Ryan T. Moore, Jason Lakin, Martha María Téllez Rojo, Mauricio Hernández Ávila, Juan Eugenio Hernández Ávila, Héctor Hernández Llamas).
- “Wage Differentials: the case of Unions in Mexico,” La Gaceta de Economía, ITAM 19 (2004). In Spanish.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES AND SKILLS

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- Speaker in International Forums as Mexico’s representative, such as:
  - Regional Technical Conference: Towards Child Malnutrition Eradication in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago de Chile, May 2008);
  - II International Seminar on Cash Transfer Programs and Chronic Undernutrition (FAO, Santiago de Chile, December 2007);
  - Organization of the Mexican Team that participated on Strategic Problem Solving in Global Health Seminar (Yale University, May 2009); among others.
- Speaker in National Forums, such as:
  - From digital health to maternal health, lessons learned, LXXIII Annual Public Health Reunion, Mexican Society of Public Health (November 2019);
  - Health and Prevention in Mexico, Coparmex Health Forum-Think Tank (June 2018);
  - Economics of Vaccination, Public Policy and Economics of Vaccination Seminar, The Aspen Institute Mexico, ITAM (August 2017);
  - The Mexican Health System. Ex-itam web-seminars, ITAM. (March 2015);
  - Social Commitment Seminar, ITAM. Moderator (September 2014);
  - National Forum for Workers’ Nutrition Rights (February 2008);
  - Evaluation of Oportunidades Program seminars and meetings (2007-2009);
  - National Meetings of Oportunidades Program (2007-2009);
  - National Meetings of the System for Social Protection in Health –Seguro Popular (2007- up to date); among others.
- Banamex National Economics Award, Special Mention, 2002.
- IX Ex-ITAM Award, first place for best thesis, 2004.

- Princeton University Full Scholarship, 2002-2004.
- Certificate in Teaching English as a Foreign Language to Children (with commendation), Anglo-Mexican Cultural Institute. 1996.
- Participant of Children's International Summer Villages (C.I.S.V.) camps and seminars.
- English (100% oral and written),