



# XXIII RIDGE FORUM

## 2026 RIDGE MAY FORUM

### HUMANS LACEA Migration Network

#### PROGRAM

##### Scientific Committee

Antonella Bandiera, ITAM

Dany Bahar, Center for Global Development

José Bucheli, University of Texas at El Paso

Ana María Ibáñez, Interamerican Development Bank

Andrés Moya, Universidad de los Andes

Santiago Pérez, University of California at Davis

Sandra Rozo, World Bank

Cynthia Van der Werf, Interamerican Development Bank

Andrea Velásquez, University of Colorado at Denver

##### Organizing Committee

Antonella Bandiera, ITAM

Ana María Ibáñez, Interamerican Development Bank

Sandra Rozo, World Bank



May 21-22, 2026

The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados

Day 1: May 21

Room: TBC

**NOTICE: All times are in Barbados Time (UTC-4)**

25 minutes for presentation, 10 minutes for discussant, and 10 minutes open to the floor for Q&A.

09:50-10:00	Opening Remarks
10:00-10:45	<p>▶ <b>SESSION 1: VENEZUELAN MIGRATION — ECONOMIC IMPACTS</b></p> <p>Short-Term Cash, Long-Term Gains: Evidence from the Venezuelan Migration Crisis in Colombia  <b>Presenter: Pablo Celhay, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile</b></p>
10:45-11:30	<p>Migration, Market Power, and Firms  <b>Presenter: Leonardo Peñaloza-Pacheco, Cornell University</b></p>
11:30-12:00	Coffee break
12:00-12:45	<p>▶ <b>SESSION 2: FORCED DISPLACEMENT AND WELL-BEING</b></p> <p>Forcibly Displaced Childhoods: Longitudinal Evidence from Displaced Youth in Colombia  <b>Presenter: Sandra Roza, World Bank</b></p>
12:45-13:30	<p>Small Boats, Big Impacts: The Ripple Effects of Irregular Migration  <b>Presenter: Apurav Bhatiya, University of Birmingham</b></p>
13:30-14:30	Lunch break
14:30-15:15	<p>▶ <b>SESSION 3: MIGRATION POLICIES AND BORDERS</b></p> <p>Bordering on Effectiveness: The Uneven Impact of Visa Policies  <b>Presenter: Renan Marques, Duke University</b></p>
15:15-16:00	<p>Citizenship Policy and the Spread of Communicable Diseases: Evidence from the Dominican Republic  <b>Presenter: Fabiola Alba-Vivar, Wake Forest University</b></p>

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

- 16:30-18:00
- ▶ KEYNOTE SPEECH
    - Mushfiq Mobarak, Yale University

## Day 2: May 22

Room: TBC

10:00-10:45 ▶ SESSION 4: LABOR MARKETS AND MIGRATION

Remittance Declines and Labor Market Responses of Older Adults

Presenter: Emily Conover, Hamilton College

- 10:45-11:30
- The Impact of Title Recognition: Evidence from Venezuelan Health Professionals in Peru
- Presenter: Javier Torres, Universidad del Pacifico

11:30-12:00 Coffee break

12:00-12:45 ▶ SESSION 5: EDUCATION AND CHILDREN

The Impact of Placement Exams on Refugee Children's School Enrollment

Presenter: Carlos Brito, University of California, Davis

- 12:45-13:30
- Schools for Everyone: Social Cohesion in Contexts of High Human Mobility
- Presenter: Felipe Ruiz, Inter-American Development Bank

13:30-14:30 Lunch break

14:30-15:15 ▶ SESSION 6: MIGRATION HISTORY AND REINTEGRATION

The Short- and Long-Run Effects of Transportation Infrastructure on International Migration

Presenter: David Escamilla-Guerrero, University of St Andrews

- 15:15-16:00
- From Return to Reintegration
- Presenter: Cynthia van der Werf, Interamerican Development Bank

16:00-16:30 Coffee break