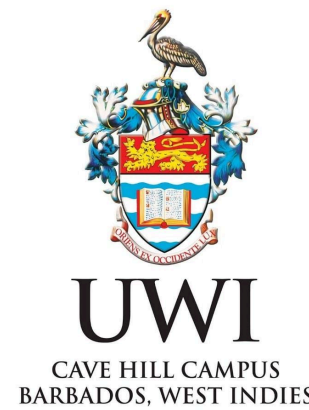


**RIDGE**  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR  
DEVELOPMENT, GROWTH  
AND ECONOMICS



# XXIII RIDGE FORUM

## 2026 RIDGE MAY FORUM

### 19th MEETING LACEA IMPACT EVALUATION NETWORK (IEN)

## PROGRAM

#### Organizing Committee

Adriana Camacho – CAF-Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean

Oscar Mitnik – Inter-American Development Bank

#### Academic Committee

Verónica Amarante - CAF-Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean

Adriana Camacho - CAF-Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean

Gustavo Canavire - World Bank

Oscar Mitnik - Inter-American Development Bank

Claudia Martinez - PUC Chile

Carlos Schmidt-Padilla - UC Berkeley

20-21 May, 2026

The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados

Day 1: May 20

Building Clico Centre for Teaching Excellence, Room LR9

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

Time allocation per paper: 30 minutes for presentation, 10 minutes for discussant and 5 minutes open to the floor for Q&A.

09:50-10:00 Openings remarks

▶ **SESSION 1: CRIME**

CHAIR

Grace Armijos-Bravo, Universidad de Especialidades Espíritu Santo

10:00-10:45

Drug tenancy thresholds, consumption, and newborn's health

Presenter: Grace Armijos-Bravo, Universidad de Especialidades Espíritu Santo

Discussant: Dario Toman, University of Torono

10:45-11:30

Improving Judicial Protection in Intimate Partner Violence Cases: The Role of Specialized Courts and Judges

Presenter: Dario Toman, University of Torono

Discussant: Grace Armijos-Bravo, Universidad de Especialidades Espíritu Santo

11:30-12:00

Coffee break

▶ **SESSION 2: EDUCATION I (JOINT WITH NETWORK ON INEQUALITY AND POVERTY)**

CHAIR

Dirk Foremny, Universitat de Barcelona & IEB

12:00-12:45

School Calendar, Academic Progression, and Agricultural Seasonality: Quasi-experimental Evidence from Rural Colombia

Presenter: Juan Muñoz-Morales, CNRS & IÉSEG School of Management

Discussant: Leopoldo Fergusson, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia

12:45-13:30

Lasting Effects of Retaking College Admission Exams

Presenter: Sebastian Gallegos, UAI Business School, Chile

Discussant: Dirk Foremny, Universitat de Barcelona & IEB

13:30-14:30

Lunch break

**▶ SESSION 3: LABOR (JOINT WITH NETWORK ON INEQUALITY AND POVERTY)**

CHAIR

Nicolás Campos Bljit, University of British Columbia

**14:30-15:15**

The impact of labor intermediation and training in high informality contexts. Evidence from Paraguay

**Presenter:** Nicolás Campos Bljit, University of British Columbia**Discussant:** Ramon Bertotto, Universidade de São Paulo**15:15-16:00**

Evaluating Unemployment Insurance in a Developing Economy: Evidence from Colombia

**Presenter:** Nicolás Guida-Johnson, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana**Discussant:** Nicolás Campos Bljit, University of British Columbia**16:00-16:40**

Coffee break

**16:40-18:10****▶ SESION 4: KEYNOTE LECTURE (joint with Health Economics Network and Network on Inequality and Poverty)****MENTAL HEALTH, POVERTY, AND ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR**

- Manuela Angelucci, University of Texas at Austin

## Day 2: May 21

## Building Clico Centre for Teaching Excellence, Room LR9

## ▶ SESSION 5: HEALTH

CHAIR:

Oscar Mitnik, Inter-American Development Bank

**10:00-10:45** Do Air Purifiers Improve Student Learning? Experimental Evidence from Colombia  
**Presenter:** Santiago Saavedra, Universidad del Rosario  
**Discussant:** Oscar Mitnik, Inter-American Development Bank

**10:45-11:30** The Effect of Depression on Income: Evidence from Colombia  
**Presenter:** Arlen Guarin, World Bank  
**Discussant:** Santiago Saavedra, Universidad del Rosario

**11:30-12:00** Coffee break

## ▶ SESSION 6: EDUCATION II

CHAIR:

Patricia Yanez-Pagans, IDB Invest

**12:00-12:45** (Un)Directed Financial Aid: Evidence from Brazilian Higher Education Student Loans  
**Presenter:** Ramon Bertotto, Universidade de São Paulo  
**Discussant:** Rogerio Santarrosa, Insper

**12:45-13:30** Remote tutoring in language: Evidence from Paraguay  
**Presenter:** David Granada Donato, Equilibrium BDC  
**Discussant:** Patricia Yanez-Pagans, IDB Invest

**13:30-14:30** Lunch break

## ▶ SESSION 7: FIRMS

CHAIR:

Arlen Guarin, World Bank

**14:30-15:15** Labor Safety and Inspections: Lessons from an RCT in Brazil  
**Presenter:** Rogerio Santarrosa, Insper  
**Discussant:** Manuel Urquidi, Inter-American Development Bank

**15:15-16:00** A Gender Impact Assessment of Covid-19 Government-backed Loans on MSMEs Liquidity and Earnings: Results from two RCTs  
**Presenter:** Patricia Yanez-Pagans, IDB Invest  
**Discussant:** Arlen Guarin, World Bank

## ▶ SESSION 8: NATURAL RESOURCES

CHAIR:

Nicolás Guida-Johnson, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana

**16:00-16:45** REDD+ Projects Work: Evidence from Afro-Colombian Communities  
**Presenter:** Carolina Castro, Universidad de los Andes  
**Discussant:** Sebastian Bernal, Inter-American Development Bank

**16:45-18:00** Direct and Spillover Effects of an Agricultural Technology Adoption Program: Evidence from Bolivia  
**Presenter:** Sebastian Bernal, Inter-American Development Bank  
**Discussant:** Nicolás Guida-Johnson, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana

**18:00-18:10** Closing remarks