PIERRE BACHAS

EMPLOYMENT		
The World Bank	Economist, Development Research Group (DECRG), Macro & Growth Unit	2017-
Princeton University	Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Economics and Julius-Rabinowitz Center for Public Policy & Finance (JRCPPF)	2016-17
EDUCATION		
University of California, Berkeley	Ph.D. in Economics	2010-16
Dissertation Title: Supervision:	"Tax Design Under Weak Enforcement" Professors Emmanuel Saez and Edward Miguel	
London School of Economics	MSc. Economics BSc. Economics	2009-10 2006-09

PUBLICATIONS:

"Corporate Taxation Under Weak Enforcement"

American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, November 2021, with Mauricio Soto

"How Debit Cards Enable the Poor to Save More"

Journal of Finance, March 2021, with Paul Gertler, Sean Higgins & Enrique Seira

"Size-Dependent Tax Enforcement and Compliance: Global Evidence and Aggregate Implications?" Journal of Development Economic, September 2019, with Roberto Fattal Jaef & Anders Jensen

"Digital Financial Services Go a Long Way: Transaction Costs and Financial Inclusion"

American Economic Association Papers and Proceedings, May 2018, with Paul Gertler, Sean Higgins & Enrique Seira

WORKING PAPERS:

"Informality, Consumption Taxes and Redistribution"
Revise & Resubmit, Review of Economic Studies with Lucie Gadenne & Anders Jensen

"The Impact of COVID-19 on Formal Firms: Micro Tax Data Simulations Across Countries" Revise & Resubmit, Journal of Public Economics. with Anne Brockmeyer, Roel Dom & Camille Semelet

"Globalization and Factor Income Taxation"

NBER Working Paper No 29819 with Matt Fisher-Post, Anders Jensen and Gabriel Zucman

"Towards a Cashless Economy? Evidence from the Elasticity of Cash Deposits of Mexican Firms" with Sean Higgins & Anders Jensen

"How to Target Enforcement at Scale? Evidence from Tax Audits in Senegal" with Anne Brockmeyer, Alipio Ferreira, Bassirou Sarr

"Effective Tax Rates and Firm Size" with Anne Brockmeyer & Camille Semelet

SELECTED POLICY WORK:

International Tax Data Lab (World Bank and IFS), co-founder

2019-

The ITD Lab compiles firm level tax data from 20 low and middle income countries and provides replicable codes for analysis of formal firms across countries. Tax return data is often the most recent data on formal firms, and the only panel, and thus, is useful for just in time fiscal policy analysis, to deepen analytical policy work on firms and their tax treatment across countries. The objective is to encourage the use of micro data, within MoF and TA in developing countries, international institutions and academia.

Work with Senegal's tax administration (TA):

2018-

Developed a risk-scoring method to select firms for audits, using data cross checks and recently digitized third-party data. Method has been adopted by the TA. Background paper on corporate and VAT taxes to inform the Medium-Term Revenue Strategy for Senegal.

Work with Poland's Ministry of Finance on progressive taxes on personal income:

Working with the MoF, assessed several policy options to increase the progressivity of the PIT. Conducted micro-simulations and measured the long-term impacts on incomes, employment and consumption through the lenses of CGE model.

"Tax Policy Options for Increasing Revenue" in North Macedonia Public Finance Review

2018

Report reviewing the design of the tax system in North Macedonia and policy options to increase fiscal space.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Conference organization:

"New Tax Instruments", Virtual "Taxing Personal Income and Wealth in Developing Countries", Virtual,

September 2021

September 2020

"The Value Added of Value-Added Taxes" in Developing Countries, Hosted at the World Bank,

May 2019

Refereeing activity: American Economic Review, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, AER Insights, Review of Economics and Statistics, AEJ Applied Economics, AEJ Economic Policy, Journal of Finance, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Development Economics, World Bank Economic Review.

SELECTED GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS:

Gobal Tax Program "Tax Policy Analysis to build capacity and improve equity"	2022
Umbrella Facility for Trade "Fiscal Externalities from Tariff Reforms in Rwanda"	2019
Knowledge for Change Trust Fund "Corporate Administrative Tax Data Across Countries"	2018
Economic Development and Institutions: "Audit Selection under Weak Fiscal Capacity"	2018
Journal of Development Economics Award for best thesis in Development Economics, UC Berkeley	2016
Best Paper Award, Oxford's Center for Business Taxation Doctoral Meeting	
Young Economist Award, International Institute for Public Finance (IIPF) conference	2013

INVITED SEMINARS AND PRESENTATIONS	
USC, UC Irvine, ESSEC	2022
Norwegian Business School, OECD, ESCP	
ASSA San Diego, NBER Public Finance, International Online PF seminar, Paris School of Economics, ENS Lyon	
Barcelona GSE Summer Forum, GWU, NTA, UC Berkeley, WB Tax conference, Zurich PF & Dev. Conference	
UC San Diego, Georgetown, EDI conference (UC Berkeley), NTA	
ASSA Chicago, U. Michigan, PSE, U. de Barcelona, FDIC, Zurich PF & Dev. Conference	2017
IADB Research, World Bank Research, Princeton, Pompeu Fabra, Toulouse School of Economics	
LMU Munich, Columbia, Zurich PF & Dev. Conference	
UC Berkeley, NTA Boston, Université Paris II, Institute for Fiscal Studies, NEUDC Brown, DevPec Stanford	2015
UC Berkeley, Oxford CBT Doctoral Meeting ZEW Manheim Public Finance Conference	

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) International Research Affiliate	2018-
Visiting Researcher Paris School of Economics	2020-2021
Visiting Researcher ITAM	Summer 2013
Short Term Consultant, The World Bank Social Protection Division	2013
Evaluation Coordinator, Innovations for Poverty Action, Kenya	Summer 2011,2012

OTHER INFORMATION:

Languages: French (native), Greek (native), English (fluent), Spanish (fluent)