

Marco Santacroce

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Family Sociology, Social Stratification, Social Mobility, Birth Order Effects, Education, Micro-Econometrics

EDUCATION

- 2021 - 2025 **European University Institute**, Florence, Italy
PhD Political and Social Sciences
Advisor: Prof. Juho Härkönen
- 2013 - 2014 **University of Cambridge**, Cambridge, UK
MPhil Development Studies, Pass with Merit
Advisor: Dr. Ha-Joon Chang
- 2010 - 2013 **University of Sussex**, Brighton, UK
BA Economics, First Class with Honours (Rank: 1st)
Advisor: Prof. Pedro Rosa Dias

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2018 - 2021 **World Bank**, Washington, DC, USA
Consultant
- 2019 **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**, Geneva, Switzerland
Consultant
- 2019 **United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization**, Maputo, Mozambique
Consultant
- 2019 **United Nations International Fund for Agriculture**, Bissau, Guinea-Bissau
Consultant
- 2015 - 2018 **International Food Policy Research Institute**, Washington, DC, USA
Research Analyst
- 2014 - 2015 **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**, Amman, Jordan
Consultant
- 2012 **United Nations World Food Programme**, Rome, Italy
Intern
- 2011 - 2013 **University of Sussex**, Brighton, UK
Teaching Assistant

TRAINING

Georgetown University Masterclasses

2018	Panel Data Econometrics	Prof. Jeffrey Wooldridge	Michigan State University
2017	Survey Design and Analysis	Prof. Michael Bailey	Georgetown University
2017	Program Evaluation	Prof. Matias Cattaneo	Princeton University
2016	Discrete Choice Modeling	Prof. William Greene	New York University

Online Courses

2017	Panel Data using Stata	StataCorp NetCourse 471
2017	Writing Your Own Stata Commands	StataCorp NetCourse 152
2017	Health in Humanitarian Crises	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

SKILLS

Software	STATA, R, SurveyBe, SurveyCTO, Microsoft Office
Language	English, French, Italian (fluent); Spanish (intermediate); German, Portuguese (beginner)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- Journal of Nutrition [2020](#), [2018](#), [2017](#)
- Journal of Global Food Security [2020](#)
- Journal of Maternal & Child Nutrition [2019](#)
- Trials [2017](#)

Books

- World Bank [2016](#)

Policy Research Working Papers

- World Bank [2020](#), [2019](#)
- IFPRI [2018](#)

Stata Software

- Screen [2017](#)

Consultancy Reports

- World Bank [2019](#)
- IFAD [2019a](#), [2019b](#), [2019c](#)
- UNHCR [2015](#), [2014](#)

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Personal Statement

Consultant and PhD candidate with work experience in the Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa, and Latin America. My fields of interest are poverty, education, and nutrition, and my areas of technical expertise are econometrics, impact evaluations, and data analysis. I am experienced at working with large databases and publishing research in academic journals, books, and reports. I enjoy finding ways to clearly articulate complex concepts and problems, as well as offering possible policy solutions. A national of Italy, I am trilingual and have lived in 4 continents, including 10 years in sub-Saharan Africa.

Education

European University Institute | Florence, Italy | Sept. 2021 - June 2025 (expected)

Doctor of Philosophy in Political and Social Sciences

- Advisor: Prof. Juho Härkönen
- Relevant Modules: Quantitative Analysis; Qualitative Analysis; Panel Data; Mediation Analysis; Causal Inference; Social Demography; Sociology of Luck; Analytical Social Science Theory; Research Design

University of Cambridge | Cambridge, UK | Sept. 2013 - June 2014

Master of Philosophy in Development Studies (Pass with Merit)

- Advisor: Dr. Ha-Joon Chang
- Relevant Modules: Econometrics (Distinction); Philosophical Issues in Economics (Distinction); Development Economics (2:1); Globalization, Business & Development (2:1)

University of Sussex | Brighton, UK | Sept. 2010 - June 2013

Bachelor of Arts in Economics (First Class with Honours, Rank: 1st)

- Advisor: Prof. Pedro Rosa Dias
 - Relevant Modules: Applied Econometrics (1st); Econometrics (1st); Statistics (1st); Microeconomics (1st); Macroeconomics (1st); Labour Economics (1st); Money & Banking (1st); Applied Economics Dissertation (1st)
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Professional Experience

World Bank | Washington DC, USA | Sept. 2018 - Aug. 2021

Consultant (Poverty and Equity Global Practice)

- Comoros Poverty Assessment: contribute to the analytical work and report write-up on non-monetary poverty, education, labor market outcomes, multidimensional poverty, and human opportunity index.
- Brazil Monitoring and Evaluation: harmonize yearly, quarterly and monthly data sets covering labor market trends to contribute to the analytical work and report write-up on the impact of Covid-19 on labor market indicators.
- Haiti Mobile High Frequency Survey: questionnaire development, data analysis, and report write-up on the effects of Covid-19 and natural disasters on the welfare of Haitians.
- Mashreq Forced Displacement: determine barriers to economic self-sufficiency and access to basic services, assess the impact on migration influxes on host communities, and inform priorities of policy strategy in future forced displacement crises.
- Jordan Fiscal Review: simulate the distributional progressivity or regressivity of changes in electricity tariff blocks (kWh), examine equity aspects of Jordan's fiscal policy and the aggregate impact of fiscal components (taxes, subsidies, transfers).
- Djibouti Poverty Assessment: contribute to the analytical work and report write-up on human capital index, proxy means testing, multidimensional poverty, and distributional welfare simulations of changes in market concentration.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) | Sub-Saharan Africa | Oct. 2019 - Dec. 2019

Senior Consultant (Africa Bureau)

- Advised senior management on initiatives to enhance refugee self-reliance pertinent to the Global Compact on Refugees. Identified development priorities, implementing partners and developed a diagnostic tool for self-reliance initiatives in different African refugee contexts. Provided technical expertise and recommendations on targeting and data management.

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) | Maputo, Mozambique | Mar. 2019 - July 2019

Consultant (Mozambique Country Office)

- Responsible for all components of a study evaluating the impact of FAO's agricultural subsidy e-voucher program on beneficiaries (farmers) and the private sector (suppliers, agro-dealers, and retailers). Study components: (i) protocol, methodology, sampling (ii) developing data questionnaires, (iii) data analysis, (iv) program evaluation, (v) final report.

United Nations International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) | Bissau, Guinea-Bissau | Jan. 2019- June 2019

Consultant (West Africa Division)

- Responsible for determining IFAD's targeting of USD 66M country intervention based on poverty, vulnerability, food insecurity and market assessments. Part of a team of consultants developing IFAD's country strategy program.

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) | Washington DC, USA | Sept. 2015 - Aug. 2018

Research Analyst (Poverty, Health & Nutrition Division)

- Conducted quantitative research on sub-Saharan Africa focusing on impact assessments and program evaluations using experimental (RCT) and quasi-experimental (PSM) designs, as well as cleaning, processing, and analyzing large databases, training local enumerators, and conducting extensive field work.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) | Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon | June 2014 - July 2015
Consultant (MENA Regional Office)

- Responsible for poverty assessments, welfare modeling, proxy means testing (PMT), and vulnerability analyses of Syrian refugees in Jordan, Egypt and Lebanon in order to develop multi-sectoral socio-economic predictive models to enhance operational cost-efficiencies by prioritizing and tailoring assistance to the beneficiaries' actual needs.

United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) | Rome, Italy | July 2012 - Aug. 2012
Intern (Policy and Programme Division)

- Conducted data analysis to investigate the impact of food price volatility on the food security of households in Burundi.

University of Sussex | Brighton, UK | Sept. 2011 - June 2013
Teaching Assistant (Faculty of Economics)

- Appointed on academic merit I held lectures in economics and seminars in econometrics for over 200 undergraduates.

Training Courses

Georgetown University Masterclass (sponsored by IFPRI)

4. Panel Data Econometrics	Prof. Jeffrey Wooldridge	Michigan State University	May 2018
3. Survey Design and Analysis	Prof. Michael Bailey	Georgetown University	June 2017
2. Program Evaluation	Prof. Matias Cattaneo	Princeton University	April 2017
1. Discrete Choice Modeling	Prof. William Greene	New York University	May 2016

Online Courses (sponsored by IFPRI)

3. Introduction to Panel Data using STATA	StataCorp NetCourse 471	Aug. 2017
2. Writing Your Own STATA Commands	StataCorp NetCourse 152	Sept. 2017
1. Health in Humanitarian Crises	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine	Feb. 2017

Research Grants

6. Conference accommodation grant ECSR-CCA	Unknown amount	Turin, Italy	2022
5. PhD Scholarship EUI Grant Authority	Approx. 16,380 Euro	Florence, Italy	2024-2025
4. PhD Scholarship Italian Grant Authority MAECI	Approx. 50,400 Euro	Florence, Italy	2021-2024
3. Conference travel grant ANH Academy Week	Approx. 1750 USD	Accra, Ghana	2018
2. Masterclass Georgetown University	950 USD x 4 = 3800 USD	Washington DC, USA	2016-2018
1. IFPRI Research Analyst Development Fund	500 USD x 2 = 1000 USD	Washington DC, USA	2017-2018

Skills

Software: STATA (proficient), R (intermediate); SurveyBe & SurveyCTO (intermediate); Microsoft Office (proficient)

Languages: English, French & Italian (fluent); Spanish (intermediate); German & Portuguese (beginner)

Interests: Wine (WSET Level 2 Diploma with Distinction), Music, Literature, Photography, Painting, Cooking

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

6. Gelli, A., Nguyen, P., **Santacroce, M.**, Twalibu, A., Margolies, A., and Katundu, M. **2020.** [A Community-Based Early Childhood Development Center Platform Promoting Diversified Diets and Food Production Improves the Mean Probability Adequacy of Intake of Pre-Schoolers in Malawi: A Cluster Randomized Trial.](#) *Journal of Nutrition*, 149(11).
5. Gelli, A., Donovan, J., Margolies, A., Aberman, N., **Santacroce, M.**, Chirwa, E., Henson, S., and Hawkes, C. **2020.** [Value Chains to Improve Diets: Diagnostics to Support Intervention Design in Malawi.](#) *Journal of Global Food Security.*
4. Gelli, A., Headey, D., Becquey, E., Ganaba, R., Huybregts, L., Pedehombga, A., **Santacroce, M.**, and Verhoef, H. **2019.** [Poultry Husbandry, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Practices, and Child Anthropometry in Rural Burkina Faso.](#) *Journal of Maternal & Child Nutrition.*
3. Gelli, A., Margolies, A., **Santacroce, M.**, Roschnik, N., Twalibu, A., Katundu, M., Moestue, H., Alderman, H., and Ruel, M. **2018.** [Using a Community-Base Early Childhood Development Center as a Platform to Promote Production and Consumption Diversity Improves Children's Diets and Reduces Stunting in Malawi: A Cluster Randomized Trial.](#) *Journal of Nutrition*, 148(10).
2. Gelli, A., Margolies, A., **Santacroce, M.**, Sproule, K., Theis, S., Roschnik, N., Twalibu, A., Chidalengwa, G., Cooper, A., Moorhead, T., Gladstone, M., Kariger, P., and Kutundu, M. **2017.** [Improving Child Nutrition and Development Through Community Based Childcare Centers in Malawi - the NEEP IE study: Study Protocol for a Randomized Controlled Trial.](#) *Trials Journal*, 18(1).
1. Gelli, A., Aberman, N.L., Margolies, A., **Santacroce, M.**, Baulch, B., and Chirwa, E. **2017.** [Lean Season Food Transfers Affect Children's Diets and Household Food Security: Evidence from a Quasi-Experiment in Malawi.](#) *Journal of Nutrition*, 147(5).

Books

1. Verme, P., Gigliarano, C., Wieser, C., Hedlund, K., Petzoldt, M., and **Santacroce, M.** **2016.** [The Welfare of Syrian Refugees: Evidence from Jordan and Lebanon.](#) Washington, DC: World Bank. ISBN-13: 978-1464807701.

Stata

1. **Santacroce, M.** **2017.** [Screen: STATA Command to Quickly Identify Possible Outliers Based on the Interquartile Range, Percentile or Standard Deviation.](#) Statistical Software Components, Boston College Department of Economics.

Policy Research Working Papers

3. Lara Ibarra, G., Mendiratta, V., Moubarak, A., Van Dyke, J., and **Santacroce, M. 2020.** [Expansion of Djibouti's National Family Solidarity Program: Understanding Targeting Performance of the Updated Proxy Means Test Formula.](#) World Bank Social Protection & Jobs Discussion Paper 2006.
2. Decoster, X., Lara Ibarra, G., Mendiratta, V., and **Santacroce, M. 2019.** [Welfare Effects of Introducing Competition in the Telecom Sector in Djibouti.](#) World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 8850.
1. Gelli, A., Donovan, J., Margolies, A., Aberman, N., **Santacroce, M.**, Chirwa, E., Henson, S., and Hawkes, C. **2018.** [The Role of Food Systems and Value Chains to Improve Diets in Low Income Settings: Diagnostics to Support Intervention Design in Malawi.](#) IFPRI Discussion Paper 1732.

Consultancy Reports

6. **World Bank. 2019.** [Challenges to Inclusive Growth: A Poverty and Equity Assessment of Djibouti.](#) World Bank Group, Washington, DC.
5. **IFAD. 2019.** [Guinea-Bissau Agricultural Development: Family Farming Diversification, Integrated Markets, Nutrition and Climate Resilience Project.](#) United Nations International Fund for Agricultural Development, Rome, Italy.
4. **IFAD. 2019.** [Guinea-Bissau: REDE Project Design Report.](#) United Nations International Fund for Agricultural Development, Rome, Italy.
3. **IFAD. 2019.** [Guinea-Bissau: Country Strategy Note \(April 2019 – April 2021\).](#) United Nations International Fund for Agricultural Development, Rome, Italy.
2. **UNHCR. 2015.** [Vulnerability Assessment Framework - Baseline Survey.](#) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Amman, Jordan.
1. **UNHCR. 2014.** [Living in the Shadows - Home Visits Report.](#) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Amman, Jordan.

Conferences

3. **2022.** Collegio Carlo Alberto, ECSR, NASP Spring School 2022 on Geography, Mobility, and Social Stratification (Turin, Italy). Presentation: "Does Birth Order Trump All? A Within-Between Estimation."
2. **2022.** Young Demographers Conference (Prague, Czech Republic). Poster Presentation: "Sibling Educational Spillovers and Its Moderators."
1. **2018.** Agriculture, Nutrition & Health Academy Conference (Accra, Ghana). Panelist in the Plenary Session for Program Evaluations and Operational Research: "Comparing Short and Medium-Term Effects of Food Transfers and Behavioral Change Communication-Based Strategies in Malawi."

Reports (Internal)

8. **Santacroce, M. 2019.** [Self-Reliance: Going Beyond the Dependency on Humanitarian Aid.](#) UNHCR, Geneva, Switzerland. Consultancy Report.
7. **Santacroce, M. 2019.** [Impact Evaluation of FAO's E-Voucher Program in Mozambique.](#) FAO, Maputo, Mozambique. Consultancy Report.
6. **IFPRI. 2017.** [Improving Diets and Nutrition Through an Integrated Poultry Value Chain and Nutrition Intervention \(SELEVER\) in Burkina Faso: Rationale, Study Design and Baseline Survey Findings.](#) IFPRI, Washington, DC.
5. **IFPRI. 2016.** [Framework and Diagnostics to Improve the Identification, Design and Evaluation of Value Chains for Nutrition Interventions for WFP in Malawi.](#) IFPRI, Washington, DC.
4. **IFPRI. 2016.** [Community Participation and the Links Between Agriculture, Nutrition and Early Childhood Development in Malawi: Report on the Baseline Survey of a Randomized Field Experiment of a Pre-School Feeding in Malawi.](#) IFPRI, Washington, DC.
3. **IFPRI. 2015.** [Improving the Nutrient Profile and Value Addition of Food Assistance in Malawi.](#) IFPRI, Washington, DC.
2. **Santacroce, M. 2014.** [The Vulnerability Targeting Model in Jordan: An Econometric Study of the Economic Vulnerability of Syrian Refugees in Jordan.](#) UNHCR, Amman, Jordan. Consultancy Report.
1. **Santacroce, M. 2012.** [Burundi: Food Security and Commodity Price Report.](#) WFP, Rome, Italy. Internship Report.

Presentations

11. **IFAD.** "Mission de Conception : Séance de Travail de l' Équipe Conjointe – Ciblage Géographique, Pauvreté, et Vulnérabilité." Ministère de l'Agriculture de Guinée-Bissau (Jan. 2019).
10. **World Bank.** "Djibouti PMT : Discussions Sur La Mise à Jour Des Modèles d'Approximation des Moyens (PMT) Avec Les Données de l'EDAM 2017." World Bank Group + Government, Djibouti City, Republic of Djibouti (Oct. 2018).
9. **IFPRI.** "Comparing Short and Medium-Term Effects of Food Transfers and a Behavioral Change Intervention in Malawi." Brown Bag Seminar, IFPRI, Washington, DC (Apr. 2018).
8. **IFPRI.** "Programming in Stata for Research: Essential Guide to Stata's Most Useful Commands." IFPRI, Washington, DC (Feb. 2018).
7. **WHO.** "The Vulnerability Assessment Framework for WHO's Targeted Health Assistance." WHO, Amman, Jordan (Apr. 2015).
6. **UNHCR.** "Egypt PMT Model: An Econometric Study of the Socio-Economic Vulnerability of Syrian Refugees in Egypt." UNHCR, Cairo, Egypt (Mar. 2015).
5. **UNHCR.** "UNHCR MENA Regional Workshop: Vulnerability Assessment Framework Methodologies Developed for Jordan." Amman, Jordan (Feb. 2015).
4. **UNHCR.** "Case-Based Data vs. Household-Based Data for a More Efficient Use and Distribution of Scarce Resources." VAF Steering Committee hosted by UNHCR, Amman, Jordan (Dec. 2014).
3. **UNHCR.** "The Vulnerability Assessment Framework for Basic Needs Assessment." UNHCR, Mafraq, Jordan. (Sep. 2014).
2. **UNHCR.** "Vulnerability Targeting Model: Study Protocol and Rationale." UNHCR. Amman, Jordan (Aug. 2014).
1. **UNHCR.** "The Vulnerability Assessment Framework - Update" VAF Steering Committee hosted by UNHCR, Amman, Jordan (every fortnight from July 2014 to May 2015).

Newspaper

1. **Santacroce, M. 2012.** [Italians Forgo More Than a Cappuccino](#). Financial Times.

Translations

1. [Napoli Film Festival of Human Rights](#) (Festival del Cinema dei Diritti Umani di Napoli). **2019**. Die Bombe. Short Film.

Further Research

3. Verme, P., Gigliarano, C., Wieser, C., Hedlund, K., Petzoldt, M., and **Santacroce, M. 2016.** [Appendixes for The Welfare of Syrian Refugees: Evidence from Jordan and Lebanon](#). Washington, DC: World Bank.
2. **Santacroce, M. 2013.** Has Economic Growth, Education and Female Labour Market Participation Caused a Reversal in Total Fertility Rates? A Re-Examination of the Conventional Wisdom and Evidence of Fertility Trends. Thesis BA Economics, University of Sussex.
1. **Santacroce, M. 2010.** Maize, Pellagra and the Psychiatric Hospital of San Servolo: The Fallacy of Post Hoc Ergo Propter Hoc. Thesis Upper Secondary School Diploma.