

Michael Walton Curriculum Vitae

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I have worked as a development economist for over four decades and have lived in four continents. For the past 20 years this has increasingly involved working with the next generation, through teaching and field work. Throughout this time, my central interest has been as a bridge between the worlds of ideas and practice. I have undertaken empirical research, involving primary data collection, using both quantitative and qualitative techniques; and I like to engage with other disciplines, especially politics and anthropology. For the past nine years I have also been working with grassroots organizations, in India, Latin America and the US, through [IMAGO Global Grassroots](#), seeking to help these organizations scale their innovations and practices. I am also a dancer, and continue to take modern dance classes as an integral part of my life.

Education and Training

B.A. in Philosophy and Economics (First Class Honours). 1975. Oxford University

M. Phil. in Economics. 1977. Oxford University

Various group and leadership training: Executive Development at the Harvard Business School (2000); the Leicester Conference on Group Relations, 2010, the Tavistock Institute; and Leadership for Collective Intelligence, 2011-12, Dialogos.

Work experience

2014-present. IMAGO Global Grassroots. Director for Economic Development, Research and Strategy. IMAGO Global Grassroots

2023-present. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. Senior Lecturer Emeritus, teaching elective course on scaling up, and on-line course.

2004-2023. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. Senior Lecturer in Public Policy. Teaching core courses in the Masters in Public Administration in International Development (MPA-ID), with a focus on bridging from theory to policy applications; professor for on-line credentialed course on Policy Design and Delivery (since 2019)

2007-present. Centre for Policy Research, Delhi, Senior Visiting Fellow.

2008-2009. V.K.R.V. Rao Chair Professor, Institute of Social and Economic Change, Bangalore.

2007- 2008. Visiting Professor, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi.

1980-2004 at the World Bank, including: co-author of four World Development Reports (leading two); Chief Economist, Human Development Network (1999-2000); Director, Poverty Reduction (1997-2000); Chief Economist East Asia and Pacific Region (1995-97); country work on many places, including on Indonesia, South Africa, Brazil, Mexico, Palestine and Zimbabwe.

1977-79 Planning officer, Central Planning and Development Office, Government of Lesotho (as an Overseas Development Institute fellow), reporting to the Permanent Secretary for Planning and Development.

Ongoing research includes Principal Investigator on two major Gates Foundation-funded mixed method adaptive evaluation projects in India, on women’s collective enterprises and the convergence of rural development programs, and collaborative research with CAEd (Center for Public Policies and Assessment of Education) at the Federal University of Juiz de Fora on learning recovery programs with the Municipality of Recife.

Selected published papers and book chapters:

- “Adaptive evaluation for innovation and scaling” 2023 (with Siddhant Gokhale) *Harvard Advanced Leadership Initiative Social Impact Review*.
- “Big potential, big risks? Indian capitalism, economic reform and populism in the BJP era.” 2020 (with Rohit Chandra) *India Review*, 19(2), 176-205.
- “An Indian Gilded Age? Continuity and Change in the Political Economy of India’s Development.” 2020. In Liz Chatterjee and Matthew McCartney, eds *Class and Conflict: Revisiting Pranab Bardhan’s Political Economy of India*. 224-255. Oxford University Press.
- “Cabal City: Urban Regimes and Accumulation without Development”. 2019 (with Patrick Heller and Partha Mukhopadhyay), in Christophe Jaffrelot, Atul Kohli and Kanta Murali eds. *Business and Politics in India*. Oxford University Press. New York.
- “Functional-Dysfunction: Mumbai’s Political Economy of Rent-Sharing.” 2017 (with Shahana Chattaraj). *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*, 33(3), 438-456
- “From Proof of Concept to Scalable Policies: Challenges and Solutions, with an Application.” 2017 (with Abhijit Banerjee, Rukmini Banerji, James Berry, Esther Duflo, Harini Kannan, Shobhini Mukerji and Marc Shotland). *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 31.4: 73-102.
- "Political Leadership and the Urban Poor." 2015. (with Veena Das). *Current Anthropology*. 56(S11), S44-S54
- "Can Civil Society Overcome Government Failure in Africa?" 2014 (with Shantayanan Devarajan and Stuti Khemani). *The World Bank Research Observer* 29.1: 20-47.
- “Can a Social Democratic Resolution Resolve Issues of Inequality and Growth for India?” 2013. In Khilnani, Sunil and Manmohan Malhoutra. 2013. *An Indian Social Democracy: Integrating Markets Democracy and Social Justice*. New Delhi: Academic Foundation.
- “Where Do India’s Billionaires Get Their Wealth?” 2012 (with Aditi Gandhi). *Economic and Political Weekly* 47(40): 10-14..
- “Learning the Right Lessons: Measurement, experimentation and the need to turn India’s Right to Education Act upside down.” 2012 (with Shobhini Mukerji). In IDFC Foundation, *India Infrastructure Report 2012: Private Sector in Education*. New Delhi.
- “Culture matters for poverty, but not because of a culture of poverty: notes on analytics and policy.” 2011. In Jean-Phillipe and Robert Peccoud eds. *Culture, Institutions and Development: New Insights on an Old Debate*. Routledge.

Books:

- No Growth without Equity? Inequality, Interests and Competition in Mexico*. 2009. (co-edited with Santiago Levy). Palgrave Macmillan and the World Bank.
- World Development Report 2005/06 – *Equity and Development*. Co-Director. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Culture and Public Action*. 2004 (co-edited with Vijayendra Rao). Stanford University Press.
- Inequality in Latin America : Breaking with History?* 2004 (with David De Ferranti, Guillermo Perry, Francisco Ferreira.) Washington, DC: World Bank
- Poverty in Mexico: Conditions, Trends and Government Strategy*. 2003. (Team Leader and principal

author). Washington DC and Mexico City: The World Bank.
Brazil: Strategies for Poverty Reduction in Ceará - The Challenge of Inclusive Modernization. 2003. The World Bank. Team leader and principal author.
 World Development Report 1995: *Workers in an Integrating World.* Director. New York: Oxford University Press.
 World Development Report 1990: *Poverty.* Washington DC: Oxford University Press. Deputy team leader and chapter author.

Recent working papers:

"Inequality in Chile: Perceptions and Patterns." 2023 (with Ignacia Lecaros, Daniela Paz Cruzat, Ricardo Pommer Muñoz and Pablo Tillan.) *Center for International Development at Harvard University Faculty Working Paper No. 436*

"How Pratham Learns While Scaling: A Case Study of Adaptive Design and Evaluation." 2023 (with Jossie Fahsbender and Siddhant Gokhale. *Center for International Development at Harvard University Faculty.* Faculty Working Paper No. 438

"Adaptive Evaluation: A Complexity-Based Approach to Systematic Learning for Innovation and Scaling in Development." 2023 (with Siddhant Gokhale.) *Center for International Development at Harvard University Faculty Working Paper No. 428*

"Seeing like a State or Seeing the State? A Qualitative Study of a Government Program to Support Women's Self-Help Groups in Madhya Pradesh, India." 2021. (with Arundhita Bhanjdeo, Nivedita Narain and Surili Sheth). Working paper

"Public Information is an Incentive for Politicians: Experimental Evidence from Delhi Elections." 2020 (with Abhijit Banerjee, Nils T. Enevoldsen, Rohini Pande) *National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper, 26925.*,

"Values and Value Chains: the Intersection of Grassroots Mobilization and Enterprise Development in India", (with Surili Sheth). Paper presented at the Harvard Kennedy School Conference on Social Innovation. April 2018

"Rights, Accountability and Citizenship: Examining India's Emerging Welfare State". 2014 (with Yamini Aiyar). Social Accountability Initiative Working Paper, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi

"Ideas, Interests and the Politics of Development Change in India: Capitalism, Inclusion and the State." 2014 (with Pratap Bhanu Mehta). Manchester University, Effective States and Inclusive Development Working Paper # 36.

"Institutions, Incentives and Service Provision: Bringing Politics Back In." 2013 (with Brian Levy). Manchester University, Effective States and Inclusive Development Working Paper #18.

"Delhi's Slum-Dwellers: Deprivation, Preferences and Political Engagement among the Urban Poor." 2011 (with Abhijit Banerjee, Rohini Pande, Yashas Vaidya and Jeff Weaver) In International Growth Centre Conference proceedings (Growth Week 2011).

Published Teaching Cases in the Harvard Kennedy School Case series:

Integrating Systems at Scale: Coordinating Health Care in Houston. 2023. Case #2271.0 (Authored with Michelle Fakler).

Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator: A Model for Reducing Unemployment in South Africa 2023 Case #2254.0 Laura Winig (author) Patricia Garcia-Rios (video), faculty supervisor with Eliana Carranza

Pratham: The Challenge of Converting Schooling to Learning in India. 2020. Case #2196.0 Author Anjani Datla, Patricia Garcia-Rios (video) Faculty supervisor with Isabel Guerrero

In the Cold Light of Day: A Case Study of Argentina's 2001-2002 Economic Crisis. 2017. Case #2086.0 Authored with Eduardo Levy Yeyati, Nicolás Ajzenman, Pilar Tavella.