

Suman Seth
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Leeds University Business School
Maurice Keyworth Building
Leeds, LS2 9JT

Current Position

Lecturer in Economics, Leeds University Business School, University of Leeds, 2015-Present

Research Associate, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI), Department of International Development, University of Oxford, 2015-2017

Previous Positions

Senior Research Officer, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI), Department of International Development, University of Oxford, 2014-2015

Research Officer (Post Doctoral Position), Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI), Department of International Development, University of Oxford, 2010-2014

Education

Ph.D. in Economics, Vanderbilt University, USA, 2010
M.Phil. in Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India, 2004
M.Sc. in Economics, University of Calcutta, India, 2002
B.Sc. (Hons.) in Economics, University of Calcutta, India, 2000

Research Fields

Development Economics, Public Economics with emphasis on Distributional Analysis
Applied Microeconomics, Welfare Economics (Applied), Applied Microeconometrics

Professional Research Experience

Research Consultancy

Consultant (Economist), Asian Development Bank, 2012-13
Consultant (Short Term), Development Research Group, World Bank, 2011 and 2012
Consultant, Human Development Report for Latin America and the Caribbean, United Nations Development Programme, 2008

Other Research Experience

Researcher (affiliated), Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI), University of Oxford, 2008-2010

Research Assistant, Department of Economics, Vanderbilt University, 2008

Research Assistant, Owen Graduate School of Management, Vanderbilt University, 2005-06

Publications

Peer Reviewed Journals

Alkire S. and S. Seth (2015), Multidimensional Poverty Reduction in India Between 1999 and 2006: Where and How?, *World Development*, 72, p. 93-108.

Alkire S., J. M. Roche, S. Seth and A. Sumner (2015), Identifying the Poorest People and Groups: Strategies Using the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index, *Journal of International Development*, 27, 362–387 (invited submission).

Foster, J. E., M. McGillivray, and S. Seth (2013), Composite Indices: Rank Robustness, Statistical Association, and Redundancy, *Econometric Reviews*, 32 (1), p. 35-56.

Seth, S. (2013), A Class of Distribution and Association Sensitive Multidimensional Welfare Indices, *Journal of Economic Inequality*, 11 (2), p. 133-162 (Lead Article).

Alkire, S and S. Seth (2013), Selecting a Targeting Method to Identify BPL Households in India, *Social Indicators Research*, 112 (2), p. 417-446.

Seth, S. (2009), Inequality, Interactions, and Human Development, *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*, Vol. 10 (3), 375-396 (Motivated the Gender Inequality Index in UNDP's Human Development Report 2010).

Alkire S. and S. Seth (2008), Determining BPL Status: Some Methodological Improvements, *Indian Journal of Human Development*, 2 (3), 407-424.

Blumstein J., M. Cohen, and S. Seth (2008), Do Government Agencies Respond to Market Pressures? Evidence from Private Prisons, *Virginia Journal of Social Policy and the Law*, 15 (3), 446-477.

Other Research Publications

Alkire, S and S. Seth (2013), Identifying BPL Households: A Comparison of Methods, *Economic and Political Weekly*, XLVIII (2), 49-57.

Seth, S. (2009), Collecting capability data on the basis of existing surveys: The case of India, *Maitreyee*, 14, 7-10.

Books

Alkire S., J. E. Foster, S. Seth, M. E. Santos, J. M. Roche, and P. Ballon (2015), *Multidimensional Poverty: Measurement and Analysis*, Oxford University Press: Oxford.

Foster J. E., S. Seth, M. Lokshin, and Z. Sajaia (2013), *A Unified Approach to Measuring Poverty and Inequality: Theory and Practice*, The World Bank: Washington D.C.

Book Chapters

Seth, S. and A. Villar (2015), The Measurement of Human Development and Poverty in *Handbook of Research on Economic and Social Well-Being*, edited by Conchita D'Ambrosio, Edward Elgar Publishing Limited, *forthcoming*.

Seth, S. and A. Villar (2015), Human Development and Poverty: Empirical Findings in *Handbook of Research on Economic and Social Well-Being*, edited by Conchita D'Ambrosio, Edward Elgar Publishing Limited, *forthcoming*.

Completed Research Documents

Working Papers

Bag S., S. Seth and A. Gupta (2016). A Comparative Study of Living Conditions in Slums of Three Metro Cities in India. Working Paper No. 253, Centre for Development Economics, Delhi School of Economics.

Alkire, S. and S. Seth (2016). Identifying destitution through linked subsets of multidimensionally poor: An ordinal approach. *Working Paper 99*, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford.

Alkire S., J. M. Roche, S. Seth and A. Sumner (2014), Identifying the Poorest People and Groups: Strategies Using the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index, *Working Paper 78*, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford.

Seth, S. and S. Alkire (2014), Did Poverty Reduction Reach the Poorest of the Poor? Assessment Methods in the Counting Approach, *Working Paper 77*, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford.

S. Seth and S. Alkire (2014), Measuring and Decomposing Inequality among the Multidimensionally Poor using Ordinal Data: A Counting Approach, Working Paper 68, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford.

Alkire S. and S. Seth (2013), Multidimensional Poverty Reduction in India Between 1999 and 2006: Where and How?, *Working Paper 60*, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford.

Foster, J. E., M. McGillivray, and S. Seth (2012), Rank Robustness of Composite Indices: Dominance and Ambiguity, *Working Paper 26b*, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford.

Foster, J. E., M. McGillivray, and S. Seth (2009), Rank Robustness of Composite Indices, *Working Paper 26*, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford.

Alkire S. and S. Seth (2009), Measuring Multidimensional Poverty in India: A New Proposal, *Working Paper 15*, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford.

Policy Research Briefings

Alkire S., J. M. Roche, and S. Seth (2013), Multidimensional Poverty Index 2013, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford.

Alkire S. and S. Seth (2013), Multidimensional Poverty Reduction in India 1999-2006: Slower Progress for the Poorest Groups, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford. **Podcast:** <http://www.ophi.org.uk/multidimensional-poverty-index/mpi-interviews/>.

Alkire S., J. M. Roche, and S. Seth (2013), Identifying the 'Bottom Billion': Beyond National Averages, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford. **Podcast:** <http://www.ophi.org.uk/multidimensional-poverty-index/mpi-interviews/>.

Alkire S., J. M. Roche, M. E. Santos, and S. Seth (2011), Multidimensional Poverty Index 2011, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford.

Alkire S., J. M. Roche, M. E. Santos, and S. Seth (2011), Multidimensional Poverty Index 2011: Brief Methodological Note, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford.

Research in Progress

Research Papers

Seth S. and G. Yalonetzky (2014), Stochastic Dominance Rules for Parametric Families of Distributions, Stochastic dominance with parametric distributions.

Alkire S. and S. Seth (2014), Multidimensional Poverty and Inclusive Growth in India: An Analysis using Growth Elasticities, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative.

Alkire S., J. M. Roche, and S. Seth (2011), Sub-national Disparities in Multidimensional Poverty across Developing Countries, OPHI Research in Progress 32a, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford.

Seth S. (2011), What Determines the Redundancy of Composition of the HDI?

Alkire S., M. E. Santos, S. Seth, and G. Yalonetzky (2010), Is the Multidimensional Poverty Index robust to different weights?, OPHI Research in Progress 22a, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford.

M. E. Santos and S. Seth (2010), The Measurement of Multidimensional Poverty and Inter-temporal Poverty: The Same Toolkit?, *mimeo*

Seth S. and G. Yalonetzky (2010), Robustness Tests for Rankings and Multidimensional Association, *mimeo*.

Research Grants

Co-Principal Investigator, European Union Funded Project: NOPOOR, (Jointly with Dr. Sugata Bag, DSE), Exploring the dimensions and dynamics of Indian urban poverty, Centre for Development Economics (CDE), Delhi, 2012-2016. INR 5,000,000.

Asian Development Bank, Project: Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2011, 2012-13 (USD 9,792).

Kirk Dornbush Summer Research Award, Department of Economics, Vanderbilt University, Tennessee, USA 2007

Teaching Interest

Quantitative Development Economics
Distribution and Development
Measurement Theories and Applications in Multidimensional Welfare and Poverty
Microeconomics

Teaching Experience

University of Leeds (Module Leader)

Economic Development (LUBS3330)

University of Oxford

Economics of Developing Countries (jointly taught), BA in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE), Michaelmas 2014

Poverty and Human Development, MPhil in Development Studies, Hilary 2012, 2013 and 2014, and Michaelmas 2014 (Guest Lectures)

Course Leader, Vanderbilt University

Principles of Microeconomics (undergraduate), Summer 2008

Principles of Microeconomics (undergraduate), Summer 2009

Teaching Assistant, Vanderbilt University (Assisted in the following courses by holding regular office hours, review sessions, grading exams and assignments)

Inequality and Distribution (Undergraduate), 2009; Public Finance (Undergraduate), 2009; Microeconomic Theory (Master's program), 2007; Development Economics (Master's program), 2007; Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory (Undergraduate), 2007; Development Economics (Undergraduate), 2006; Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (Undergraduate), 2006; Urban Economics (Undergraduate), 2006; Macroeconomic Theory (Doctoral program), 2005

Executive Courses

➤ Technical Summer School on Multidimensional Poverty

Delivered at:

- Georgetown University, Washington D.C., USA Aug 2015
 - Department of International Development, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK Aug 2014
 - Institute of International Economic Policy, George Washington University, Washington D.C., USA Jul 2013
 - Institute of Economic & Social Research, Faculty of Economics, University of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia Aug 2012
 - Delft University of Technology, Delft, Netherlands, Aug 2011
 - University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan Sep 2010
 - Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, Lima, Peru Aug 2009
 - Institute for Human Development, New Delhi, India Aug 2008
- Training course on Multidimensional Poverty (attended by the members of the statistical offices and planning commission of Jordan), Columbia Global Centers | Middle East - Columbia University, Jordan, February 2012
- Human Development Course on “Concepts, Measurement and Policy Implications” (attended by the officials of various UNDP country offices), Oxford, UK March 2011
- 3rd NOPOOR Summer School, Measuring Poverty on a Multidisciplinary Basis, Paris-Dauphine University, Paris, France, June 26 – July 1

Fellowships, Honours, and Awards

Social Science Dissertation Fellowship, Vanderbilt University, Tennessee, USA 2009-2010

Wiebke Kuklys Prize 2008 for the best paper presented by a graduate student, Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA) Annual Conference, New Delhi, India 2008

Graduate Student Fellowship, Vanderbilt University, Tennessee, USA 2004-2009

International Conferences and Presentations

Economics Conferences

- The Society for the Study of Economic Inequality Conference, Luxemburg, July 2015
- Centre for the Study of African Economies Annual Conference, Oxford, UK, March 2015
- United Nations University – World Institute for Development Economics Research, Helsinki, Finland, September 2014
- International Meeting of the Society for Social Choice and Welfare, Boston, USA, June 2014
- Southern Economic Association Conference, Tampa, USA, November 2013
- The Society for the Study of Economic Inequality Conference, Bari, Italy, July 2013
- Centre for the Study of African Economies Annual Conference, Oxford, UK, March 2013
- International Meeting of the Society for Social Choice and Welfare, New Delhi, India, August 2012
- 31st International Association for Research in Income and Wealth General Conference, St. Gallen, Switzerland, August 2010
- International Meeting of the Society for Social Choice and Welfare, Moscow, Russia, July 2010
- Midwest International Economic Development Conference, Minneapolis, USA, May 2009
- American Economic Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, USA, January 2009
- Southern Economic Association Conference, Washington D.C., USA, November 2008
- International Meeting of the Society for Social Choice and Welfare, Montreal, Canada, June 2008

Other Conferences

- Development Studies Association Conference, Bath, UK, September 2015
- 27th annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE): “Inequality in the 21st Century”, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), July, 2015
- Development Studies Association Conference, Birmingham, UK, November 2013
- Development Studies Association Conference, London, UK, November 2012
- Human Development and Capability Association Conference, Jakarta, Indonesia, Sept. 2012
- South Asia in Transition, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, November 2011
- Human Development and Capability Association Conference, The Hague, Netherlands, Sept. 2011
- Human Development and Capability Association Conference, Amman, Jordan, Sept. 2010
- Human Development and Capability Association Conference, Lima, Peru, Sept. 2009

- Human Development and Capability Association Conference, New Delhi, India, Sept. 2008

Invited Presentations

- Centre for Global Development, University of Leeds, Leeds, November 2015 (*Keynote*)
- Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER), University of Essex, Colchester 2015
- Department of Economics, University of Sussex, Brighton 2015
- The Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE), London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), London, June 2015
- The Centre for Global Development, University of Leeds, Leeds 2015
- Center for Operations Research and Econometrics, Université catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium), June 2015
- South Asian Institute, University of Heidelberg, Germany, June 2015
- Rheinisch-Westfälisches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung, Essen, Germany, June 2015
- Department of Economics, University of Göttingen, Germany, June 2015
- Department of Economics, Leeds University Business School, Leeds, October 2014
- Department of Economics, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, July 2014
- Institute for Development Studies Kolkata, Kolkata, July 2014
- Economic Research Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, India, July 2014
- Department of International Development, The University of East Anglia, UK, May 2014
- Fourth Session of the Statistical Commission of Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC-StatCom), Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESERIC), Ankara, Turkey, April 2014
- Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo, Japan, March 2014, (Guest Speaker)
- Department of Economics, The University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK, February 2014
- Department of Economics, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA, November 2013 (Guest Lecture)
- The Annual Conference of the Royal Statistical Society, Session: Evidence and Measures of Progress in International Development, Newcastle, UK, September 2013
- Department of Economics, The University of Manchester, Manchester, UK, July 2013
- Centre for Global Development, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK, July 2013 [*keynote speech*]
- Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, Delhi, India, August 2012
- International Conference of the Economics of Ultra Poverty: Causes and Remedies, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University, Washington D.C., USA March 2012
- Workshop on Exploring and Exploiting Quality of Life Complexity: Epistemological, Methodological and Statistical Issues, Italian Association for Quality of Life Studies (AIQUAV), Florence, Italy, September 2011
- Administrative Training Institute, Government of West Bengal, Kolkata, India, August 2011
- Chair of Development Economics, University of Göttingen, Germany, November 2010

- Workshop on Measuring Well-being and Progress of Societies, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA), Beirut, Lebanon, November 2010
- Workshop on the Multidimensional Measurement of Wellbeing and Applications to Related Issues, George Washington University and UNDP, Washington D.C., USA, May 2010
- Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative Lunchtime Seminar Series (invited), University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, May 2009
- Brown-Bag Seminar, Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, UNDP, New York, USA, November 2008
- Workshop on Weighting in Multidimensional Poverty Measures, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford, UK, May 2008

In-House Presentations

- Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative Lunchtime Seminar Series, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, March 2015
- Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative Lunchtime Seminar Series, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, November 2014
- Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative Lunchtime Seminar Series, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, February 2014
- Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative Lunchtime Seminar Series, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, November 2013
- Multidimensional Poverty Peer Network Launch, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK June 2013, podcast: <http://www.ophi.org.uk/launch-of-multidimensional-poverty-peer-network-june/>
- Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative Lunchtime Seminar Series, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, January 2013
- Southeast Asia Seminar, Department of International Development, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, March 2012
- Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative Lunchtime Seminar Series, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, January 2012
- Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative Lunchtime Seminar Series, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, October 2011
- Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative Lunchtime Seminar Series, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK May 2011
- Social Science Dissertation Fellowship Presentation, Vanderbilt University, Tennessee, USA, April 2010
- Graduate Research Day, Vanderbilt University, Tennessee, USA, March 2009
- Inequality and Human Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, UNDP, Vanderbilt University, Tennessee, USA, January 2009
- Graduate Research Day, Vanderbilt University, Tennessee, USA, March 2008
- Graduate Research Day, Vanderbilt University, Tennessee, USA, March 2006

Econometric and Software Proficiency

Software proficiency: STATA, MATLAB, Latex (Scientific Workplace)
Econometric skills: Cross Section and Panel data analysis

Administrative Experience

Organized Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative lunchtime seminar series, for quantitative presentations by both internal and external speakers, University of Oxford,

- Hilary 2014, Michaelmas 2013, Hilary 2013, Michaelmas 2012, Hilary 2012, Michaelmas 2011

Organized Public Lectures with the Department of Economics, University of Oxford

- Professor Jacques Silber, June 2012
- Professor James Foster, April 2012

Professional Activities and Memberships

Referee

Canadian Journal of Economics, European Journal of Development Research, International Economic Review, Frontiers of Economics in China, Journal of African Economies, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Inequality, Journal of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Human Development and Capabilities, Journal of International Development, Journal of Public Economics, Review of Income and Wealth, World Bank Economic Review

Grant Review

National Science Foundation Grant Proposal

Discussant

Centre for the Study of African Economies Annual Conference, Oxford, March, 2015

Centre for the Study of African Economies Annual Conference, Oxford, March, 2013

Workshop on Multidimensional Poverty, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford, Oxford, June 2010

6th Midwest International Economic Development Conference, Minneapolis, May 2009

Workshop on the Robustness of Welfare Comparisons, Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford, Oxford, May 2008

Membership to Academic Societies

American Economic Association, The Society of Social Choice and Welfare, The Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), Development Studies Association (United Kingdom)

Other Memberships

Research Membership of the Common Room, Wolfson College, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, 2011- 2013