

Institute of Development Studies
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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: PhD Researcher, Institute of Development Studies

NATIONALITY: Mexican, American

LANGUAGES: Spanish (native), English (fluent)

THEMATIC EXPERTISE: Economic Development, Technology and Innovation, Green Economic Transformations, Industrial Policy

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE: Latin America

OVERVIEW

Jose is currently a PhD researcher at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) and collaborates on a range of ESRC and FCDO funded projects with the Business, Markets, and States cluster at IDS, as well as other independent research projects. He is broadly interested in finding alternative roads to economic development that lead to more egalitarian, pro-poor, and sustainable outcomes in emerging economies. He is currently co-researcher on an independent project looking at Leontief multiplier effects as a potential source of “bottom-up” economic development. Furthermore, he works with Dr. Anabel Marin looking at how natural resource sectors can be used as a platform for structural change and sustainable development in Latin America.

Jose is also interested in how Latin American countries can navigate the green transition and promote an economic and ecological transformation across the region. Following this broad question, his PhD project is looking at the co-evolution of industrial and institutional capabilities to innovate in the cement industry in Mexico. In particular, he is looking at Cemex, one of the most technologically advanced cement manufacturers in the world and one of the first to introduce low-carbon cement into the global market. Through this project, Jose hopes to begin unpacking the firm-level and institutional capabilities available and necessary for low-carbon innovations in emerging economies, as well as the historical process of learning, interaction, and (mis)alignment that the accumulation of these capabilities entail.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

2024 – Ongoing	Ph.D. Development Studies Institute of Development Studies, Brighton, United Kingdom
2022 – 2023	M.A. Development Studies Institute of Development Studies, Brighton, United Kingdom
2016 – 2020	B.Sc. Sociology; minor in Economics Texas A&M University, College Station, United States

RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

2023 – PRESENT	Research Officer (contract), Institute of Development Studies, United Kingdom
2021 – 2022	Refugee Resettlement Team Lead, Catholic Charities, United States

AFFILIATIONS

Member, Development Studies Association, United Kingdom

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

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| 2024 | Research Officer (contract), Institute of Development Studies, United Kingdom
ESRC – CITP funded project on trade and environmental regulatory stringency. |
| 2024 | Research Officer (contract), Institute of Development Studies, United Kingdom
FCDO-funded project on drivers of responsible business conduct in low and middle-income countries. |
| 2024 | Research Officer (contract), Institute of Development Studies, United Kingdom
ESRC-funded project on innovation capabilities for vaccines. |
| 2023 | Consultant, Independent, Remote
Independent consultancy (with Dr. Anabel Marin) for the UN Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC) on strategies for lithium industrialisation in Argentina. |
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SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

Journal Articles

2024. Cohn, Samuel, Jose Morales, Madison Poe, Yilin Li, and Bryson Basset. "[Why Economic Growth Stimulates More Growth in Some Countries Rather than Others?](#)". *Sociology of Development*. Vol. 10 (2). ([free copy](#))
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SELECTED CONFERENCES

2024. "Expanding Backward Linkages to Natural Resource Industries: The Role of Technological and Non-Technological Capabilities". Upcoming at 8va Conferencia de la Red de Economía de la Innovación y el Emprendimiento de América Latina y el Caribe (RIE), Montevideo, Uruguay, 2024. (With Anabel Marín).
2023. "How Does a Nation Get a High Leontief Multiplier? Backward Linkages Help – But Putting Money in the Hands of Workers Matters". Development Studies Association Annual Conference, Reading, UK. (With Samuel Cohn and Madison Poe).
2022. "Why Countries Grow More from Growth: The Political Economy of Leontief Multipliers". VI International Conference of Development Studies (CIED), Barcelona, Spain. (With Samuel Cohn, Madison Poe, and Yilin Li).
2021. "Linkage-Based Growth: Multipliers as a New Strategy and the Sociology Behind their Global Variation". American Sociological Association Section on Development Annual Conference (virtual). (With Samuel Cohn, Bryson Basset, and Madison Poe).
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AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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| 2024 | CONAHCYT Doctoral Scholarship, National Council of Humanities, Science and Technology, Mexico. Full scholarship for 4-year doctoral degree at the Institute of Development Studies, UK. |
| 2020 | G. Rollie White Scholarship for Academic Excellence, Texas A&M University, USA. \$2000 university-wide scholarship to reward academic excellence. |
| 2020 | Walter Sumner and Annie Mae Anderson Scholarship for Academic Performance. College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University, USA. \$1500 scholarship for high academic performance. |