# María Villalpando

Berkeley, California, USA mariavillalpando@berkeley.edu

**EDUCATION** University of California, Berkeley Berkeley, U.S

Energy and Resources PhD student, Collage of Natural Resources

present

 Current Research: Rural Development, Gender Studies, Agroecology Master of Development Practice, Goldman School of Public Policy

Aug 2020-May 2022

National Autonomous University of Mexico (U.N.A.M)

Mexico City, Mexico

B.S. in Sociology (9.6/10) 2014-2017

· Advisor: Prof. María Cristina Bayón

College of Mexico (Colegio de México)

Mexico City, Mexico

Diploma in "Inequality in Mexico"

Oct-Nov 2017

• Taught by Prof. Gerardo Esquivel, Under-Secretary of the Mexican Ministry of Finance.

Institut d'études Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po)

Paris, France

Exchange program

Jan-Jun 2017

RESEARCH AND **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE** 

Center for Research on Environmental Geography (C.I.G.A.)

Morelia, Mexico

Research Consultant University of California, Berkeley Oct 2021-present

Graduate Student Instructor, Interdisciplinary Social Sciences

Berkeley, U.S Aug 2020-present

Introduction to Development Studies, Prof. Michael Watts (Spring 21)

• Introduction to Global Studies, Prof. Darren Zook (Spring 20, Spring 22)

Seed Savers Network Kenya

Nakuru, Kenya

Research Intern

Jun 2021-Aug 2021

- Exploratory research on farmer-to-farmer education for the dissemination of seed saving practices.
- Proposal for a nixtamalization technology transfer program using the Farmer-to-Farmer education model. Proposal is currently under review for implementation by C.I.M.M.Y.T. and Kenya Agriculture Research Institute (K.A.R.I.).

#### **GlobalGiving**

**Washington D.C- Mexico City** 

Mexico Partnerships Consultant

Jan 2018-Jun 2020

- Opened GlobalGiving's (G.G.) first office in Mexico and led a team of seven.
- Administered \$3.5M+ in grants and guided GG's Mexico 2017 Earthquake Fund to support 20 Mexican grassroots nonprofits doing long-term recovery efforts, particularly in rural Chiapas and Oaxaca.
- · Designed and led the first "participatory grantmaking" pilot leveraging G.G.'s Disaster Recovery Network in Mexico

## **Cuartilla Editorial Services**

Mexico City, Mexico

Associate Writer

Jan 2016-2019

Writing articles on-demand to showcase Mexican culture and urban life in Mexico City.

## Leo XIII Foundation

Chiapas, Mexico

Facilitator - Rural Saving Groups Program

Jun 2016-Aug 2016

- · Managed the Rural Saving Groups Program in ten indigenous communities following solidarity schemes.
- · Assisted in managing the financial aid granted to five indigenous communities for investment in agricultural projects chosen collectively by community leaders.

#### **Global Vision International**

Quepos, Costa Rica Feb 2013-June 2013

Manager - Quepos Volunteer Program

 Managed Global Vision International's (G.V.I.) teaching program dedicated to support a rural multi-grade primary school in a Nicaraguan migrant community.

#### Main Lecturer - Fiji Volunteer Program

Nanuya Lai Lai, Fiji Oct 2012-Dec 2012

• Taught a full Math and English class at Ratu Meli Memorial School - 8th Grade.

Luang Prabang, Laos

Teacher - Laos Volunteer Program

Taught two intermediate English as a Foreign Language classes to Novice Buddhist Monks. Aug 2012-Oct 2012

#### Ashoka Mexico

Mexico City, Mexico

Intern - Economic Citizenship Program

Feb 2012

 Supported the analysis of Ashoka's award program to improve the livelihood of rubbish scavenger communities in the outskirts of Mexico City.

#### PRESENTATIONS

#### Grupo de Institutos, Fundações e Empresas do Brazil (G.I.F.E.)

Sao Paulo, Brazil

Speaker - International Seminar: Civic Space and Strengthening Civil Society.

Oct 2019

· Presented at the "Conditions for funding and the economic sustainability of Civil Society" panel.

#### Mexican Sociology Congress (M.S.C.)

Mexico City, Mexico

Speaker - "Inequality and Racism" roundtable of the yearly M.S.C. meeting.

Sep 2019

• Presented my honor's thesis research findings on the social representations of poverty in Mexico.

## Stanford Center on Philantrophy and Civil society (P.A.C.S.)

Virtual Roundtable

Speaker - Predict-a-palooza: Civil Society Forecast 2019

Jan 2019

- Shared my predictions on emerging trends in philantrophy, technology, and data governance.
- Presented at the round-table moderated by Lucy Bernholz, director of the Digital Civil Society Lab at Stanford P.A.C.S.

## GRANTS & AWARDS

#### **UC Berkeley Center on Contemporary India**

Berkeley, CA

Rapid Research Grant

2021

Community seed banks for sustainable rural livelihoods in Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary.

#### **UC Berkeley Institute for South Asia Studies**

Berkeley, CA

Bhattacharya Graduate Fellowship

2021

Faculty of Political and Social Sciences, U.N.A.M

Paris, France Feb 2019

Honorific Mention Thesis

Mexican Institute for Competitivity (I.M.C.O.)

Mexico City, Mexico

First Place - Urban development contest "Less Parking Places, More City".

Feb 2017

- Multidisciplinary contest led by the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (I.T.D.P.) and the Mexican Institute for Competitivity (I.M.C.O.) to present proposals for modifying the use of parking space along the Reforma Avenue, one of Mexico City's most iconic avenues.
- The media coverage of this contest and the winning projects led to the modification of Mexico City's law on July 2017 which fine tuned the number of parking spaces that can be built in public and private buildings in Mexico City.

#### **Institut d'études politiques de Paris (Sciences Po)**

Mexico City, Mexico

Excellency Scholarship for Full Tuition of an Exchange Program.

Jan 2017

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

- 1) M. Villalpando, "The paradox of being a woman in Baringo", *Berkeley Public Policy Journal*, November, 2021.
- 2) M. Villalpando, "How Do We Understand Poverty? Social Representations of Poverty in Relation to Mexico's Middle Class", *Berkeley Public Policy Journal*, January, 2021.
- 3) M. Villalpando, "Power To The People: How Participatory Grantmaking Fostered Post-Disaster Resilience", *GlobalGiving Learn*, April, 2020.
- 4) M. Villalpando, "Our City Inside the City: Social Problems Inside the Campus", *Celebrating our World Heritage: University City, U.N.A.M.*, April, 2018.
- 5) M. Villalpando, "Spiritual Foods", Hoja Santa Magazine, April, 2016.
- 6) M. Villalpando, "La Anfora Factory in Central Mexico", Hoja Santa Magazine, June, 2016.

#### **LANGUAGES**

**English**: Advanced proficiency. **French**: Advanced competency. **Spanish**: Native language.

## REFERENCES

# Youjin Chung, Ph.D.

Professor at the Energy and Resources Group UC Berkeley youjin@berkeley.edu

# George Scharffenberger, M.S.

Master of Development Practice Program Director UC Berkeley scharffenberger@berkeley.edu

# Isha Ray, Ph.D.

Professor at the Energy and Resources Group UC Berkeley isharay@berkeley.edu

## María Cristina Bayon, Ph.D.

Professor of Sociology Social Sciences Research Institute (U.N.A.M.) cristina.bayon@sociales.unam.mx