mahniyazafar@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Lahore School of Economics (LSE), Pakistan

M.Phil. Economics 2015-2016
BSc. Economics and Finance 2011-2015

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Development Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Behavioural Economics, Gender

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Centre for Research in Economics and Business (CREB), Lahore School of Economics, Pakistan

Research Fellow
2016- present
Research Assistant
2014-2016

Lahore School of Economics, Pakistan

Teaching Fellow2018-presentTeaching Assistant2012-2017

PUBLICATIONS AND WORKING PAPERS

"Impact of Mother's Mass Media Exposure on Early Childhood Development: Urban vs Rural Analysis" (2025), BMC Health with Muhammad Afiq (The Urban Unit).

"Fostering Non-Cognitive Skills and Academic Performance: Experimental Evidence from Women's-only Colleges in Pakistan" (2022), **Journal of Asian Economics** with Mariyam Haroon (University of Chicago) and Farah Said (Lahore University of Management Sciences).

"Are Agricultural Markets in the Punjab Technically Efficient?" (2020), Lahore Journal of Economics with Naved Hamid (Lahore School of Economics) and Fatima Arshad.

"The Impact of School Facilities on Drop outs in Pakistan" (2019), **CREB Working Paper** with Farah Said (Lahore University of Management Sciences).

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Inspiring Female Micro-Entrepreneurs to Adopt Mobile Money: Evidence from Pakistan with Mansa Saxena (Northwestern University) and Essoyodou Marie Laure Pello Sode (University of Siena)

Shared Rides, Cleaner Skies: Reducing Smog via University Carpooling in Lahore with Fatima Jamil (Lahore School of Economics) and Eddy Zou (London School of Economics and Political Science)

RESEARCH ASSISTANT ON OTHER PROJECTS

2014-2016

"Are the poor so present biased?"-Rachel Cassidy (University of Oxford). Tasks included survey design, enumerator training, monitoring of fieldwork, data cleaning and consolidation.

"Repaying microcredit loans: A natural experiment on liability structure"- Mahreen Mehmood (University of Kent). The task was to collect data from 400 borrowers of the microfinance organisation Akhuwat to find out what reasons caused them to borrow, their experience with the organisation and whether they would be willing to re-borrow or not. (Summer 2014)

RESEARCH GRANTS

Lahore School Research Development Fund (\$5,000): The role of non-cognitive skills in improving academic 2019 performance (with Farah Said and Maryiam Haroon).

PEDL Matchmaking Grants (GBP 5000): Inspiring Female Micro-Entrepreneurs to Adopt Mobile Money: Evidence from Pakistan

HONORS AND AWARDS

Selected for PEDL Matchmaking Workshop at Oxford University

Graduate Major Merit Scholarship for M.Phil. Program Lahore School of Economics.

2025
2015-2016

THESIS SUPERVISION 2025

MS Thesis Supervision: Impact Of Mother's Mass Media Exposure On Early Childhood Development In Pakistan: Urban Vs. Rural Analysis with Afiq Khan.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

Fostering non-cognitive skills and academic performance: Experimental evidence from women's-only colleges

August 2022

in Pakistan-Singapore Economic Review Conference (SERC) 2022.

The role of non-cognitive skills in improving academic performance- 3rd International Conference On Applied September 2021

Development Economics 2021.

The Impact of School Facilities on Dropouts in Pakistan- 13th International Conference on Education August 2019

and Information Management (ICEIM-2019) Istanbul, Turkey.

Marketing, Price and Trade Reforms Needed for a More Diverse and Dynamic Agriculture- 14th International March 2018

Conference on Management of the Pakistan Economy.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE SEP

Lahore School of Economics, Pakistan

Teaching Fellow: 2018- present

Economic Development- ECO 621 (Graduate level), Microeconomics II- ECO 302 (Undergraduate level), International Finance-ECO 409 (Undergraduate level), International Trade-ECO 410 (Undergraduate level), Introduction to Microeconomics- ECO 101 (Undergraduate level), Mathematical Economics (Undergraduate level), Mathematics I- MTH 101 (Undergraduate level)

Teaching Assistant: 2012-2017

Mathematics II and III, Creative Writing, International Relations, Introduction to Microeconomics and Macroeconomics I (Undergraduate Courses); Econometrics, Applied Econometrics (MPhil Courses)

RESEARCH TOOLS

Languages: Urdu (native), English (fluent) and Punjabi (spoken) Applications: STATA, Microsoft Office