Alishuba Philip

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Academic Appointment

2026 – 2028 Postdoctoral Fellow, **University of California, Berkeley**

Education

2020 – 2026 Ph.D. in Economics, **University of Zurich**
2024 – 2025 Visiting Ph.D. Student, **Imperial College London**
2017 – 2019 M.Sc. in Economics, **Indira Gandhi Insitute of Development Research, Mumbai**
2014 – 2017 B.A. (Honours) in Economics, **St. Stephen's College, Delhi University**

Working Paper

Slum Redevelopments and Evictions in a Developing Megacity

Abstract. Slum redevelopment policies are widely used to curb slum growth and regenerate urban neighbourhoods. I study the short- and medium-term effects of slum clearance and redevelopment on incumbent slum residents in Mumbai by assembling a novel residential mobility panel that tracks ∼10 million residents of the city as they move across neighbourhoods over 15 years by digitising and matching electoral roll records. Exploiting variation in the timing of redevelopment approvals across slums, I use a staggered difference-in-differences design to estimate these effects. Slum residents who are entitled to in-situ compensation — ownership of an apartment in the redeveloped neighbourhood — are persistently displaced from the neighbourhood. Redevelopment approvals increase the probability of living in formal housing by 6 p.p., but the effect on the probability of living in other slums is four times as large, shifting slum residents across slum neighbourhoods more than out of slum living. Using digitised project records and high-resolution daytime satellite data, I document substantial non-completion after slum clearance and large lags between slum clearance and completion of units for slum residents. A key feature of the policy design is the timing mismatch between displacement and compensation: residents are cleared before receiving replacement housing, which is delivered only when units are built on the cleared site. Transitions out of slum living are 250% as large in completed projects and largest where completion occurs soon after clearance. For every individual housed in formal housing on site, an estimated 9.5 incumbent residents entitled to own an apartment in the redeveloped slum are displaced to slums elsewhere, undermining the broader goal of curbing slum growth in the city.

Conferences and Seminars (*scheduled)

2026 Urban Economics Association North American Meeting*, Chicago Fed · EEA-ESEM, University College Dublin · NBER Real Estate and Urban Economics SI · Urban Economics Association European Meeting, CREI Barcelona · 10th Urbanisation and Development Conference, World Bank and John Hopkins · PacDev, UC Davis
2025 NEUDC Conference, Tufts · CEPR Paris Symposium (poster) · Imperial College Internal Seminar · UZH Development Lunch (x2)
2022–2024 UZH Development Lunch (x2) · Land Policy and Economic Development Workshop, UZH

Teaching Experience and Thesis Supervision

	Teaching Assistant, University of Zurich
2023	Global Policy Analysis: Poverty, Development and Growth (BA) *Instructor: Dina Pomeranz*
2022, 2023	Labour Markets, Inequality and the Welfare State (BA) *Instructor: Josef Zweimuller*
2021, 2022	Advanced Microeconomics I (MA) *Instructor: Roberto Weber*
2021, 2022	Behavioural Theory (MA) (grading only) *Instructor: Jakub Steiner*
2023, 2024	**Thesis Supervision, University of Zurich** Noah Zurfluh (BA), Aleksandra Marcinkowska (BA)
2019 - 2020	**Teaching Fellow, Ashoka University, Sonipat** **Courses**: Microeconomics II (MA), Microeconomics II (BA), Economic Ideas from Smith to Sen (BA)

Research Grants and Fellowships

2026 –	**Swiss National Science Foundation Postdoc. Mobility Grant**	131,000 CHF
2025 – 2026	**URPP Equality of Opportunity**, Full Project Grant	25,000 CHF
2024 – 2025	**Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics**, Pilot Grant	$15,000
2024 – 2025	**UZH Doc. Mobility Fellowship**	35,145 CHF
2024 – 2026	**UZH Director's Grant** (x2)	10,000 CHF
2023 – 2025	**Swiss Re Fund for Research in Development Economics** Grant (x2)	10,000 CHF
2016 – 2017	**Goutham Krishna Research Fellowship**, St. Stephen's College (co-PI)	

Selected Scholarships and Awards

2023 - 2026	**University Research Priority Program Equality of Opportunity Scholarship**, University of Zurich
2019	**Chancellor's Gold Medal**, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai
2017	**Rajpal Memorial Prize**, St. Stephen's College, Delhi
2017	**George K. George Kollamkulam Memorial Prize**, St. Stephen's College, Delhi
2014 – 2017	**St. Stephen's - Tiara Special Opportunity Scholarship**, St. Stephen's College, Delhi

References

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