

## MARAKUJA asbl.



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**MARAKUJA KIVU RESEARCH** was born to address a specific challenge: Collecting high quality quantitative and qualitative data in areas of active armed conflict. Over the past few years, international organizations have become increasingly interested in understanding social processes in failed states. However, to date, there is almost no capacity of data collection in such high-risk, highly violent, informal environments that often lack the backing of contractual obligations to discipline organizational behavior. Drawing on strong relationships built since 2009, a large network of both committed and trustworthy individuals that have been carefully screened, Marakuja fills this gap in the research and aid industries, while also providing stable employment and trainings to otherwise marginalized, yet highly talented and motivated youth.



**MARAKUJA KIVU RESEARCH** gathers young Congolese researchers and surveyors from the Kivus, and internationally renowned University **Scholars** from Harvard, Berkeley and the London School of Economics, to address this challenge. Our name stands from **Multidisciplinary Association for Research and Advocacy in the Kivus** by **United Junior Academics**.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>Director</b>	<a href="#"><u>Raul Sanchez de la Sierra</u></a>	Assistant Professor University of California Haas School of Business
<b>Director of Operations and Finance</b>	Aimable Amani Lameke	Institut Supérieur et Technique Medical de Bukavu
<b>Deputy Director</b>	Soeren Henn	Doctoral Candidate Harvard University
<b>Deputy Director</b>	Gauthier Marchais	Doctoral Student LSE
<b>Project supervisor</b>	Christian Polepole Bazuzi	B.A. Regional Planning
<b>Project supervisor</b>	Desire Cizungu	M.S. in History
<b>Project supervisor</b>	Lewis Dunia Butinda	

# CURRENT ONGOING PROJECTS

## Armed Groups in Eastern Congo II (2015- )

Budget	130,000 US dollars
Funders	International Center for Taxation and Development
Academic Partners	Harvard University University of California at Berkeley
Investigators	Raul Sanchez de la Sierra (PI) Soeren Henn Gauthier Marchais
Project description	This project is a continuation of Armed Groups in Eastern Congo I, which extends the data collection to the province of North Kivu and reconstitutes the economic, social and political history of 100 villages in several territories of this province. The project significantly expands the research and methods developed in the first round, in particular by looking collecting fine grained data on armed group governance, and using tools to collect high frequency data.
Provinces Covered	North Kivu (maybe territories?)

## Taxation in the D.R.C (2015 - )

Budget	637,000 US dollars
Funders	Department for International Development (DFID UK) – DRC office
Academic Partners	Harvard University New York University University of Toronto Pittsburgh University
Investigators	Raul Sanchez de la Sierra (PI) Wilson Pritchard Laura Paler Cyrus Samii
Project description	This project seeks to collect fine grained data on the ‘real’ fiscal burden on civilian populations in the DRC - <b>EXTEND</b>

## Private sector development in conflict, South and North Kivu ( 2015 - )

Budget	297,000 US dollars
Funders	International Centre for Taxation and Development
Academic Partners	Harvard University University of California at Berkeley
Investigators	Raul Sanchez de la Sierra
Project Description	This project seeks to ascertain the constraints to private sector development in settings of protected armed conflict, by looking in particular at the beer industry and trade.
Provinces Covered	South Kivu, North Kivu

## COMPLETED PROJECTS

### Police Administration in the D.R.C (2015)

Budget	152,000 US dollars
Funders	Private Enterprise Development in Low Income Countries International Growth Centre
Academic Partners	Harvard University University of California at Berkeley University of Antwerp
Investigators	Raul Sanchez de la Sierra Kristof Titeca
Description	This project sought to uncover the 'real' economy of corruption and rents in state administrations of weak states, by looking at the police in the town of Kinshasa. It comprised novel methods of data collection on rents of police activity. EXTEND
Provinces Covered	Kinshasa
Publications	

## Armed Groups I (2012-2013)

Budget	120,000 US dollars
Funders	National Science Foundation Private Enterprise Development in Low Income Countries IPRAF Earth Institute, Columbia University Centre for the Study of Development Strategies AC4
Academic Partner	Columbia University
Investigators	Raul Sanchez de la Sierra Gauthier Marchais
Description	This project reconstitutes the economic, social and political history of 140 villages in several territories of the province of South Kivu, using recall data to create panel datasets. The project explored in particular the history of taxation in these villages, as well as the history of armed group presence and participation in these groups.
Provinces Covered	South Kivu
Research output	Sanchez de la Sierra, Raul, 2015. 'On the Origins of States: Stationary Bandits and Taxation in eastern Congo'  Sanchez de la Sierra, Raul, 2015. 'Dis-organizing violence: On the ends of the state, stationary bandits and the time-horizon'.  Marchais, Gauthier, 2016. <i>He who takes the weapon becomes other: A study of participation in armed groups in South Kivu, D.R.C.</i> Doctoral Dissertation, submitted at the London School of Economics and Political Science, January 2016.

## Ethnic Trust and Formal Contracts (2012-2013)

Budget	30,000 US dollars
Funders	Russell Sage Foundation Private Enterprise Development in Low Income Countries
Academic Partners	Columbia University
Investigators	Raul Sanchez de la Sierra
Description	This project sought to evaluate the impact of ethnic trust and distrust on the propensity to engage in economic activity and enforce contracts. EXTEND
Provinces Covered	South Kivu
Publications	Sanchez de la Sierra, Raul. 2015. 'Ethnic State Capacity and Contract Enforceability'

## Impact Evaluation of Randomized Experiment on Community Driven Development 2010-2012 \*

Budget	3 millions US Dollars
Funders	Department for International Development (DFID) - UK
Academic Partners	Columbia University
Institutional Partners	Department for International Development (DFID) The International Rescue Committee (IRC)
Investigators	Macartan Humphreys (PI) Raul Sanchez de la Sierra Peter Van Der Windt
Provinces Covered	South Kivu Haut Katanga Maniema Tanganyika (district)
Research Output	<a href="#">Social engineering in the tropics</a> <a href="#">Reflections on pre-analysis plans</a> <a href="#">Social and economic impacts of Tuungane CDD</a>

\*indicates projects completed by Marakuja members before Marakuja had legal status

# INDIVIDUAL PROFILES

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## **Aimable Amani Lameke**

### **DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCE**

**Bio:** Aimable is a native of Uvira, Sud Kivu. After completing his MS, Aimable worked for international aid organizations and received training by our former Columbia University team in data collection techniques. Upon completing the Columbia led evaluation, Aimable worked for ACRA in Uvira, and then became the national coordinator of Marakuja projects spanning North Kivu, Kinshasa, Sud Kivu, and Kasai Oriental.

Aimable has managed the most challenging projects that Marakuja has so far implemented, and has acted as scientific coordinator, national coordinator for most of the projects. He currently is the Director of operations, and Finance, at the Marakuja organization.

Aimable earned a MS in Nutrition at the Institut Supérieur Technique Medical de Bukavu, and has been country coordinator for a large number of projects since 2009, from Kinshasa, Bukavu, and Goma.



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## Soeren Henn

### DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Ph.D Candidate, Department of Government,  
Harvard University

**Bio:** Soeren is a Ph.D. student in the Political Economy and Government program at Harvard University. His main research interests are in the political economy of development and conflict as well as public finance of developing countries, with a focus on African politics and state formation. What strategies can governments use to promote development in areas with little state presence? How do armed groups govern, tax, and provide public services? What role do they play during elections? These are some of the questions Soeren is working on.



Soeren is also interested in public and labor economics of developed countries, especially the broader topic of inequality, the role of neighborhoods and inter-generational relations.

Soeren earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Politics with a secondary field in Economics from Essex University in 2013.

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## Gauthier Marchais

### DEPUTY DIRECTOR

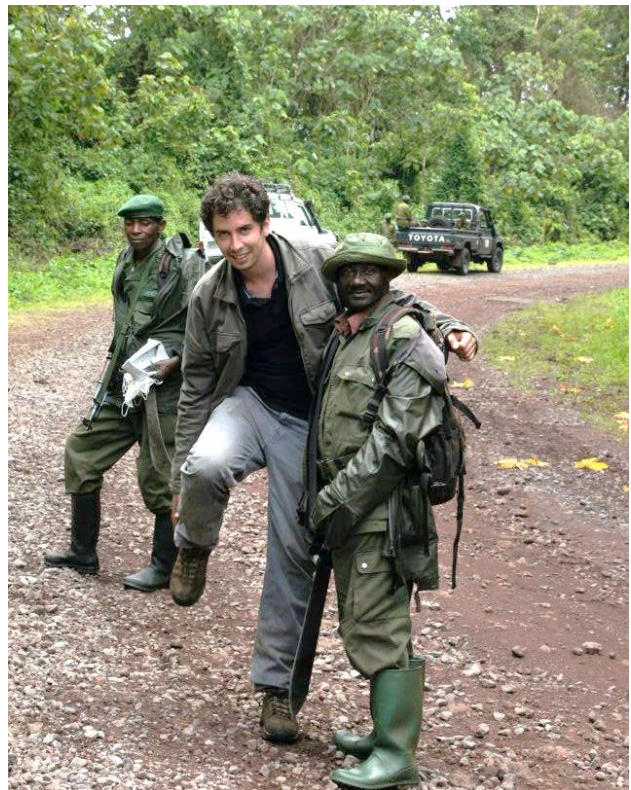
Ph.D Candidate, Department of International Development, London School of Economics and Political Science 2016

M.Sc. Sciences Po Paris, 2008

**Bio:** Gauthier is a Ph.D. student in Development studies at the London School of Economics. His main research interests are in the political economy of development and conflict. He is a specialist in African history, with a focus on the Great Lakes region, and has many years of fieldwork in his portfolio, including long periods in the DRC, Beni, Mali, and Senegal. His dissertation studies the determinants of participation into armed groups in Eastern Congo and uses qualitative and quantitative data to understand what drives participation.

Gauthier is also interested in development and growth.

Gauthier earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and a Master in Economics in Sciences-Po Paris.



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## Raul Sanchez de la Sierra

### DIRECTOR and FOUNDER

Assistant Professor, Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley

Academy Scholar, Harvard University

Ph.D Economics, Columbia University, 2014

**Bio:** Raul is an assistant professor at UC Berkeley, Haas School of Business and academy scholar at Harvard University. Raul has worked in various impact evaluations of development aid in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and led data collection projects around armed groups in Eastern Congo.

Raul earned a PhD in Economics from Columbia University in 2014, and prior to joining UC Berkeley was Academy scholar at Harvard University. Prior to Columbia, Raul obtained a Master in Economics of Development from Sciences-Po, a bachelor in Economics from University Carlos III Madrid and Ludwig-Maximilians Universitaet Munich.

Raul has worked for UNDP in NYC, UN ECLAC in Chile, the French Development Agency in Paris, and collaborated with International Rescue Committee leading the evaluation of a development project in 3 provinces of Eastern DRC.

His research and work can be accessed at [raulsanchezdelasierra.com](http://raulsanchezdelasierra.com)

