

MARAKUJA asbl.



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MARAKUJA KIVU RESEARCH specializes in collecting data in challenging areas of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes. We have experience in data collection in conflict zones where armed groups are active, mining zones, but also in urban areas as well as administrative data.

Our organization gathers young Congolese researchers which were selected for their talent and trustworthiness, and continuously trained to the standards of international cutting edge research, following a 7 year long process since 2010, and work together with international University Professors from Harvard and Berkeley to deliver high quality work but also to built sustainable local capacity for the future in the area of data collection but also of high quality work in international organizations.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Director and Founder	Raul Sanchez de la Sierra	Assistant Professor University of California Haas School of Business Harvard Academy Scholar CIFAR Azrieli Scholar JPAL CVI CEGA
Director of Operations and Finance	Aimable Amani Lameke	Institut Supérieur et Technique Médical de Bukavu
Deputy Director	Gauthier Marchais	Doctoral Student LSE
External Relations	Adama Kabore	M.Sc. Economics at the African School of Economics Former IPA and World Bank field coordinator, and UC Berkeley Research Assistant

PROJECT COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT

Projects Coordinator	Adama Kabore	M.S. African School of Economics
Project manager	Christian Polepole Bazuzi	B.A. Regional Planning
Project manager	Aimable Amani Lameke	M.S. in Nutrition
Project manager	Desire Cizungu	M.S. in History
Project manager	Lewis Dunia Butinda	

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS PAST AND PRESENT

University of California, Berkeley

Center for Effective Global Action (University of California, Berkeley)

Harvard University

Columbia University

Antwerp University

Institute of Development Studies, Sussex

International Center for Taxation and Development

International Growth Center

New York University

University of Pittsburgh

University of Toronto

German Institute for Global and Area studies

Apple, BMW, Samsung, Sony

Women for Women International

Eurasian Resource Group

INDIVIDUAL PARTNERS PAST AND PRESENT

Raul Sanchez de la Sierra, Harvard Academy Scholar, PhD Economics

Gauthier Marchais, IDS, PhD Development Studies

Camille Strauss-Kahn, Columbia University, MPhil Political Science

Grant Gordon, International Rescue Committee, PhD Political Science

Nathan Nunn, Professor of Economics at Harvard University, PhD Economics

Wilson Prichard, Professor at the Munk School of Global Affairs, PhD Political Science

Cyrus Samii, Professor of Political Science at New York University, PhD Political Science

Laura Paler, Professor of Political Science at Pittsburgh University, PhD Political Science

Kristof Titeca, Professor of Development at Antwerp University, PhD Political Science

Vanessa Van den Boogart, PhD student at the University of Toronto

Susan Bartels, MP, MPhD, Department of Emergency Medicine, Queens University

Soeren Henn, PhD student at Harvard University

Stephan Hilpert, PhD in Filming at Cambridge University

SELECTED PROJECTS

Mining and community development

Budget	281,000 US dollars
Funders	Eurasian Research Group - Africa
Investigators	Jose Diemel
Description	This project sought to assess the impact of mining operations and development interventions in Eastern Congo
Provinces Covered	North Kivu and Katanga, Eastern Congo
Publications	Writing ongoing

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) 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

Private sector development in conflict, South and North Kivu (2015 - 2017)

Budget	520,000 US dollars
Funders	International Centre for Taxation and Development Private Sector Development in Low income countries (PEDL)
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, Eastern Congo

Child Labor in the Electronics Supply Chain

Budget	450,000 US dollars
Funders	Electronic companies
Academic Partners	University of California at Berkeley Center for Effective Global Action
Investigators	Raul Sanchez de la Sierra Benjamin Krause
Description	This project mapped 150 mining communities of the cobalt supply chain in the area of Katanga to understand the extent, forms, and causes of child labor..
Provinces Covered	Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo
Publications	Final report can be found here: http://escholarship.org/uc/item/17m9g4wm

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.
Provinces Covered	Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo
Publications	Writing ongoing

Impact Evaluation of Project “Fonds pour la Consultation de la Paix”

Budget	112,000 US dollars
Funders	German Institute for Global and Area studies
Academic Partners	London School of Economics German Institute for Global and Area studies
Investigators	Eva Wegner Miquel Pellicer
Description	This project sought to evaluate the impact of a development project initiative called Fonds pour la Consultation de la Paix
Provinces Covered	North Kivu and South Kivu, Eastern Congo
Publications	Writing ongoing

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. *He who takes the weapon becomes other: A study of participation in armed groups in South Kivu, D.R.C.* Doctoral Dissertation, submitted at the London School of Economics and Political Science, January 2016.

Ethnic Trust and Formal Contracts (2012-2013) and 2017

Budget	40,000 US dollars
Funders	Russell Sage Foundation Private Enterprise Development in Low Income Countries
Academic Partners	Columbia University and UC Berkeley
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.
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	Social engineering in the tropics Reflections on pre-analysis plans Social and economic impacts of Tuungane CDD

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

THE ORGANIZATION MEMBERS

DIRECTOR and FOUNDER

Raul Sanchez de la Sierra

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



DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND FINANCIAL AUDIT

Gauthier Marchais

Ph.D in Development Studies, London School of Economics (2016)
Institute of Development Studies

M.Sc. Sciences Po Paris, 2008



Gauthier Marchais



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.

PROJECTS COORDINATOR, CAPACITY BUILDING and EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Adama Kabore

M.Sc. Economics, African School of Economics (Benin)

Former IPA field coordinator

World Bank impact evaluation field coordinator

UC Berkeley Research Assistant



Bio: Native of Burkina Faso, Adama is the central note of Marakuja for international relations, and the eye of scientific quality in the field. In addition to his training at the African School of Economics under Princeton Professor Leonard Wantchekon, Adama has worked as field coordinator for Initiative for Poverty Action in Burkina Faso, at the World Bank in Burundi, Nigeria, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In addition, Adama has worked as a field coordinator for University of California, Berkeley research teams in the Katanga region studying child labor, and currently coordinates Marakuja projects and is field coordinator for Professor Raul Sanchez de la Sierra for his projects on armed groups and state failure in Eastern DRC.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCE **Project Manager**

Aimable Amani Lameke

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.

