

Biography of Christopher Woodruff

Christopher Woodruff is Professor of Development Economics at the University of Oxford and Scientific Coordinator for the Private Enterprise Development in Low Income Countries (PEDL) program. Prior to joining Oxford, Woodruff was Professor of Economics at the University of Warwick and at UC San Diego.

Professor Woodruff directs the Firm Capabilities group at the International Growth Centre. He is a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), a Research Fellow at the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), and a Senior Fellow of the Bureau of Research on Economic Analysis and Development (BREAD). He is on the editorial board of the Journal of Development Economics, and the World Bank Economic Review.

His research is in the area of the microeconomics of firm productivity in developing countries, where he has pioneered the use of field experiments in understanding enterprise dynamics. His recent work measures the rate of return to capital investments in microenterprises, the effect of bringing informal firms into the formal sector, and constraints on promotion of women into management roles in the Bangladeshi garment sector. Geographically, his research spans a broad area of the developing world, including Bangladesh, Mexico, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Ghana and Eastern Europe.

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