

## YOON (YOONYOUNG) CHO

Senior Economist at the Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice, World Bank

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### *Brief Bio*

- Trained labor economist (Ph.D. in Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2005)
- Highly motivated professional with 20 years of experience in development
- Technical expertise in various areas of human development (HD), jobs, poverty and gender
- Striving to continue learning, growing, and innovating, with a recent focus on digital and green transformation
- Have led major analytical works including multiple jobs diagnostics and research projects as well as impact evaluations
- Have led or currently leading large-scale lending operations including the following recent projects:
  - Beneficiary FIRST Social Protection Project (US\$600m focusing on digital delivery of social protection);
  - Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (US\$750m, Philippines' flagship safety net program);
  - Punjab Human Capital Investment (US\$200m, multi sectoral, investment in early years, productive inclusion, and SP systems); and
  - Bangladesh Cash Transfer Modernization (US\$300m, results based, focusing on SP systems)
- Have managed large scale trust funds and donor relationship

### **EDUCATION**

- **University of Wisconsin-Madison**, Ph.D., Economics August, 2005
- **University of Wisconsin-Madison**, M.A., Economics August, 2002
- **Seoul National University**, B.A. (*summa cum laude*) Economics February, 2000

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- **World Bank**, Washington DC, USA, 2008 (September)-present
  - *Senior Economist (joined as a Young Professional and Senior Economist since 2015)*
  - *Field assignment in the Philippines, 2020-2023*
- **IZA (Research Institute of Labor)**, *Research Associate*, Bonn, Germany, 2013-present
- **Hitotsubashi University**, *Visiting Professor*, Tokyo, Japan, 2008
- **Korea Development Institute**, *Research Fellow*, Seoul, Korea, 2005-2008
- **Institute of Research on Poverty**, *Graduate Research Fellow*, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA, 2001-2005
- **World Bank**, *Poverty consultant*, Washington DC, USA, 2003

### **WORLD BANK ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTS**

#### **A. Country Specific Work**

##### ***Philippines:***

Lead, Beneficiary FIRST Social Protection Project (US\$600m), 2020-present

Lead, Second Social Welfare Development and Reform Project (US\$750m), 2019-2023

Lead, Philippine Jobs PASA (US\$390k Trust Funds and \$200k EFO, with R. Rodriguez), 2020-2023

Lead, Pantawid Social Protection Technical Assistance (US\$1.4m Trust Funds), 2020-2023

Co-Lead, COVID-19 High Frequency Monitoring (with S. Piza), 2020-2021

Co-Lead, Train More and Better (with R. Rodriguez) TA, 2023-present

Team member, Sustainable Recovery Development Policy Lending (with R. Van Dorn), 2022-present

Team member, COVID-19 Development Policy Lending (with R. Qian), 2020-2022

Team member, Philippine Economic Update (with K. Chua), 2020-present  
Team member, Philippine Multi Sectoral Nutrition Project (with N. Mbuya and R. Mutasa), 2020-present

***Pakistan:***

Focal point, Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice in Pakistan, 2017-2020  
Lead, Punjab Human Capital Investment Project (US\$200m, with S. Abbasi), 2017-2020  
Team member, Pakistan@100 Human Capital (with T. Fasih and S.A. Ahmed), 2017-2019  
Lead, Pakistan Jobs Diagnostic, 2018-2019  
Lead, Urban migration analytical work, 2017-2020  
Lead, Pakistan International Migration (A. Qureshi), 2016-2018  
Lead, Punjab Social Protection Reforms Support (with S. Abbasi), 2015-2018  
Team member, Skills and Employability for the Poor in Pakistan, (with T. Walker). 2013-14  
Team member, Recommendations for BISP's Waseela-e-Rozgar program. (with T. Walker). 2013-14  
Team member, Labor Market Analysis in the Country Economic Memorandum. (with D. Robalino). 2012

***Bangladesh:***

Lead, Cash Transfer Modernization Project (US\$300m, with A. Aziz), 2016-2019  
Co-Lead, Youth Employment Analytical Work (with S.A. Ahmed), 2017-2019  
Co-Lead, Bangladesh Jobs Diagnostic (with T. Farole), 2016-2018  
Lead, Jobs Technical Assistance, 2016-2018  
Team member, Jobs Development Policy Credit, 2018-2019  
Lead, Disability and Children at Risk Project (with A. Aziz), 2014-16  
Lead, Social Protection and Labor Review Technical Assistance, 2014-17  
Team member, Impact Evaluation: Safe Migration for Bangladeshi Workers, 2014-17  
Lead, Support to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (with M. Pagans), 2014-16

***Albania:***

Team member, Social Assistance Modernization Project, 2014-2015

***Mozambique, Malawi:***

Team member, Skills and Employability in Mozambique, 2013-14  
Team member, Impact Evaluation for the Apprenticeship training for vulnerable youth in Malawi (with M. Mobarak, Yale University). 2009-2012

***Malaysia:***

Team member, Technical Assistance to the minimum wage policy in Malaysia: Issues to consider before implementation. 2011

***Yemen, Egypt, Djibouti:***

Team member, Yemen's Schistosomiasis Project. 2008-2009  
Team member, Egyptian Health Sector Reform Project. 2008-2009  
Team member, Djibouti AIDS/HIV, Malaria and Tuberculosis Project. 2008-2009

**B. Global and Regional Level Work**

Lead, EAP report on Social Protection, 2023-present  
Lead, EAP Capacity Building: Demographic Change and Pension Systems in EAP, 2023-present  
Lead, EAP-SAR joint work on Job Matching in the International Labor Market: the Case of Korea's Employment Permit System (with S. Yi), 2018-2021  
Team Member, SAR Regional Report on International Migration, 2017-2019  
Lead, Self Employment and Small Scale Entrepreneurship, 2013-14  
Lead, Activation and Graduation Strategy: Improving Jobs and Earnings Opportunities. 2012-13

Lead Author, Africa's growth spurt, 2013; team member, Africa's regional study on "demographic dividend"  
Lead, Building Resilience and Opportunity: The Role of Labor and Social Assistance Policies (South-south learning), 2012  
Team member, Social Protection and Labor Strategy, 2012  
Team member, Skills and Employability, 2012  
Team member, Jobs Watch: Crisis Analysis, 2009-10  
Team member, Nutrition and Economic Growth in the MENA Region as a part of Regional Health Study. 2009  
Team member, Regional Work on Early Childhood Development in the MENA Region. 2009

### **C. Trust Fund and Award**

#### ***Window Manager***

- Department for International Development (DFID) TF: National Social Protection Program in Pakistan (US\$ 13m), 2017 – 2020
- DFID TF: Technical Assistance for Women's Economic Empowerment and Livelihoods (US\$ 4.5m), 2019 – 2020

#### ***Grantee***

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) TF: Pantawid SP TA and COVID-19 (US\$ 900k for the 1<sup>st</sup> phase, US\$ 600k for the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase), 2019 – present
- G2Px TF (Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation): Pantawid SP TA and COVID-19 (US\$ 500k for the 1<sup>st</sup> phase, US\$ 300k for the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase), 2019 – present
- Korea World Bank Partnership Facility (KWPF) TF: Philippine Jobs PASA (US\$ 390k), 2020 – present
- Korea Development Institute School of Public Policy EFO for Philippine jobs study (US\$ 200k), 2020 – 2021
- KWPF TF: Job matching in the international labor market (US\$ 800k), 2018 – 2022
- Rapid Social Response (RSR) TF: From Haven to Home: Urban safety nets for migrants (US\$ 450k), 2017 – 2020
- South Asia Food And Nutrition Security Initiative (SAFANSI) TF: Supporting Punjab Health and Nutrition focused conditional cash transfer support (US\$ 550k), 2017 – 2019
- KWPF: Bangladesh Safety Net Systems (US\$ 2.9m), 2017 – 2019
- KDI-LLI TF: Strengthening government to government (G2G) programs for safe and inclusive migration (US\$ 350k), 2016 – 2018
- Statistical Capacity Building Trust Fund (US\$ 383k) for Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2015
- Poverty and Social Impact Analysis Trust Fund (US\$ 90k) for Bangladesh Labor, 2015
- RSR Multi Donor Trust Fund (US\$ 400k) for the South South Learning Forum, 2012

#### ***Awards***

- EAP VPU Team Award, 2022
- EAP VPU Team Awards, 2021 (for SP emergency operation, PV high frequency monitoring survey)
- HD VPU Team Awards, 2013, 2020
- HD appreciation Award, 2019
- South Asia VPU Award, 2019

### **POLICY RESEARCH REPORTS, BOOK CHAPTERS, AND PAPERS**

[“The Effects of International Scrutiny on Manufacturing Workers: Evidence from the Rana Plaza collapse in Bangladesh”](#) (with L. Bossavie, R. Heath), *Journal of Development Economics*, 2023

[“Mental Health and COVID-19 Cash Transfers in the Philippines: the Importance of Existing Social Protection Programs”](#) (with Teresa Molina). Under review. World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 10669. 2023

- [“Philippine Jobs Report: Shaping a Better Future for the Filipino Workforce.”](#) (with Ruth Rodriguez). World Bank. March 2023.
- [“COVID-19 and Social Assistance: Lessons for Future Resilience”](#) (with Doug Johnson). World Bank. March 2022.
- [“Strengthening Adaptive Social Protection for Climate Change and Disasters”](#) (with Y. Kawasoe, R. Rodriguez, and M.L.Revilla). Background paper for a Philippine Climate Change Development Report (CCDR). World Bank. October 2022.
- [“How to Improve Worker-Firm Matching: Evidence from a Temporary Foreign Worker Market”](#) (with S. Lee), *Korea Economic Review*. July 2021.
- “Reducing Vaccine Hesitancy: Evidence from a Survey Experiment” (with C. Cruz, J. Labonne, K. Lim, S. Piza, B. Rivera). Using a High Frequency Monitoring Survey. Dec 2021.
- [“Optimizing Pantawid for Nutrition”](#) (with R. Rodriguez, Y. Kawasoe, J. Avarlos). 2020. *Social Protection Policy Note #21*, World Bank.
- “Gender Specific Impacts of COVID-19 on Employment in the Philippines” (with M. Dong, D. Margolis). Dec 2021.
- [“Monitoring Digital Financial Payments of Cash Transfers in the Philippines”](#) (with C. Cruz, K. Glynn-Broderick, R. Rouse, J. Labonne). *WB-IPA joint research*. Dec 2021.
- [“Jobs for Filipinos, Jobs for the Future”](#) (with R. Rodriguez and M.L.Revilla). Special Note on Jobs. Philippine Economic Update. Dec 2021.
- [“COVID-19 G2P Cash Transfer Payments Case Study on the Philippines”](#) (with R. Rodriguez, Y. Kawasoe, M. Valenzuela), May 2021.
- [“Philippine Basic Education System: Strengthening Effective Learning During the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond”](#) (with S. Piza, S. Kataoka), May 2021.
- [“The impact of the COVID-19 Crisis on Low Income Households in the Philippines: Impending Human Capital Crisis”](#) (with D. Johnson, R. Rodriguez, Y. Kawasoe, J. Avarlos). Household Panel and Economic (HOPE) Survey, Policy note #3. May 2021.
- [“The impact of the COVID-19 Crisis on Low Income Households in the Philippines: Deepening Distress Despite Rebounding Economy”](#) (with D. Johnson, R. Rodriguez, Y. Kawasoe, J. Avarlos). Household Panel and Economic (HOPE) Survey, Policy note #2. Jan 2021.
- [“Mitigating the Impact of COVID-19 on the Welfare of Low Income Households in the Philippines: the Role of Social Protection”](#) (with D. Johnson, R. Rodriguez, Y. Kawasoe, J. Avarlos). Household Panel and Economic (HOPE) Survey, Policy note #1. Dec 2020.
- [“Pakistan Jobs Diagnostic: Promoting Access to Quality Jobs”](#) (with Zaineb Majoka), *Jobs Series* No. 20. World Bank. 2020
- [“Employer and Employee Preferences for Worker Benefits: Evidence from a Matched Survey on the Bangladesh Informal Sector.”](#) (with K. Kumar, M. Mahmud, S. Nataraj), *IZA Discussion Paper 12064* World Bank. 2020
- [“Human Capital Investment in Pakistan”](#) (with T. Fasih, A. Ahmed) in *Pakistan@100: Shaping the Future* (Ed: Enrique Blanco Armas). 2019
- [“Bilateral Arrangement of Temporary Labor Migration: Lessons from Korea’s Employment Permit System,”](#) (with A. Denisova, S. Yi, and U. Khadka), World Bank. 2018
- [“Does Workfare Work Well: The Case of the Employment Generation Program for the Poorest in Bangladesh”](#) (with U. Ruthbah), *IZA Discussion Paper 11473*, Germany and Policy Research Working Paper 8395, World Bank. 2018
- “Migrant’s Journey for Better Opportunities: the Case of Pakistan” 2018 (with S. Yi, U. Khadka, A. Qureshi). 2018
- [“Bangladesh Jobs Diagnostic”](#) (with T. Farole, L. Bossavie), *Jobs Series* No. 9. World Bank, 2017
- [“Bangladesh Social Protection and Labor Review: Towards Smart Social Protection and Jobs for the Poor,”](#) Bangladesh Development Series. World Bank. 2016
- [“Supporting Self-employment and Small Scale Entrepreneurship: Potential Programs to Improve Livelihoods for Vulnerable Workers”](#) (with D. Robalino and S.Watson), *IZA Journal of Labor Policy*. Vol 5(1). 2016
- [“Entrepreneurship for the Poor in Developing Countries,”](#) *IZA World of Labor*, 167. 2015

- [“Entrepreneurship Programs in Developing Countries: A Meta Regression Analysis,”](#) (with M. Honorati), *Labour Economics*, vol 28. 2014
- [“Gender Differences of the Effects of Vocational Training: Constraints on Women and Drop-Out Behavior”](#) (PI with M. Mobarak), *IZA Discussion Paper 7408*, Germany. 2014
- [“Africa’s Recent Growth Spurt: the Source of Growth”](#) (with B. Tien). *Policy Research Working Paper 6862*, World Bank. 2014
- [“Entering or Leaving Self Employment: A Panel Data Analysis for 12 Developing Countries”](#) (with D. Robalino and J. Romero). *IZA Discussion Paper 9358*, Germany. 2014
- [“How Did the Great Recession Affect Different Types of Workers? Evidence from 17 Middle Income Countries”](#) (with D. Newhouse), *World Development*, vol 41. 2013
- [“Employer-Provided Training: Patterns and Incentives for Building Skills for Higher Productivity,”](#) (with Rita K. Almeida) in *The Right Skills for the Job?: Rethinking Effective Training Policies for Workers* (J. Behrman, D. Robalino, and R. Almeida eds.), World Bank Press. 2012
- [“How to Make the Most from a Demographic Dividend: Youth Development under a Rigid Labor Market: The case of Pakistan”](#) (with D. Robalino), *World Bank Policy Paper on Pakistan PK 14/12*, World Bank. 2012
- [“Labor Markets in Middle and Low Income Countries: Trends and Implications for Social Protection and Labor Policies”](#) (with D. Newhouse, D. Margolis, and D. Robalino), *Social Protection Discussion Paper 67613*, World Bank. 2012
- [“Informality and Protection from Health Shocks: Lessons from Yemen”](#), *Policy Research Working Paper 5746*, World Bank. 2011
- [“An Evaluation of a Pronatal Subsidy Program in Korea: A Quasi-Experimental Approach,”](#) in *Fertility and Public Policy: How to Reverse the Trend of Declining Fertility* (M. Werding and T. Noriyuki eds.), MIT Press, 2011
- [“An Evaluation of a Basic Subsidy Program for Infants,”](#) *KDI Journal of Public Policy*, Korea Development Institute, 29(3), (in Korean) 2008
- “A Review of Pro-natal Family Policies,” in *Social Policies at Crossroads*, (K. Seol, and H. Moon, eds.), Korea Development Institute Press, March, (in Korean) 2007
- [“SCHIP Expansion and Parental Coverage: An Evaluation of Wisconsin’s BadgerCare,”](#) *Journal of Health Economics*, 25(6), (with B. Wolfe, R. Haveman, and T. Kaplan) 2006

### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Referee for: *Economic Development and Cultural Change; Labour Economics; World Development; Journal of Economic Development; World Bank Economic Review; IZA World of Labor*