## LAURA MORRIS

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Cambridge, MA 02138	Director: Nicole Tateosian	nicole_tateosian@hks.harvard	l.edu 61	7-495-1190						
Education	<ul> <li>Harvard University, USA Ph.D. Public Policy: Economics track, 2018 to 2024 (expected)</li> <li>Imperial College, UK M.Res (Distinction) in Business: Economics pathway, 2018</li> <li>London School of Economics/London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK M.Sc (Distinction) in Health Policy, Planning and Financing, 2012</li> <li>University of Oxford, UK</li> </ul>									
						B.A. (First class) in Philosophy, Politics and Economics, 2008				
						Fields	Development Economics Public Economics			
						References	Professor Rema Hanna Harvard Kennedy School rhanna.references@gmail.com	Professor Nathan Hendren Economics Department, MIT nhendren_jm@mit.edu	Harvard K	Anders Jensen Kennedy School ferences@gmail.com
						Fellowships & Awards	<ul> <li>Bok Teaching Certificate, Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, Harvard University, 2022</li> <li>Doctoral Fellowship, Harvard University, 2018-2020 and 2023-2024</li> <li>Brian Abel-Smith prize for outstanding overall performance in the MSc, London School of Economics, 2012</li> <li>College Warden's award for final exam performance, Wadham College, Oxford, 2008</li> </ul>			
	Teaching	<ul> <li>Advanced Quantitative Methods II: Econometric Methods, Harvard Kennedy School, teaching fellow for Professor Will Dobbie, 2023</li> <li>Data [Gov 50], Harvard College, teaching fellow for Professor Adeline Lo, 2022</li> <li>Machine Learning and Big Data Analytics, Harvard Kennedy School, teaching fellow for Professor Soroush Saghafian, 2021</li> <li>Political Economy of Globalization, Harvard College, teaching fellow for Professors Lawrence Summers, Robert Lawrence, 2020-2022</li> <li>American Economic Policy, Harvard College, teaching fellow for Professors Jeffrey Liebman, Lawrence Summers, 2020</li> </ul>								
Employment	<ul> <li>Imperial College (London, UK), Analyst (Health Economics) - Global Health and Development, 2016-2018</li> <li>National Institute of Health and Care Excellence (London, UK), Technical Analyst (Health Economics) – NICE International, 2014-2016</li> <li>National Primary Health Care Development Agency (Abuja, Nigeria) Gov. of Nigeria, Economist (Overseas Development Institute Fellow), 2012-2014</li> </ul>									
Research	Malcolm Wiener Center for Socia Will Dobbie, 2022-2023 LSE Health and Social Care, Lon Kavanos, 2011-2012 British Red Cross, Research Inter	don School of Economics, Reso								

## Job Market Paper "Impact evaluation, welfare comparisons and the value of public funds."

	Are we looking for the right outcomes when conducting impact evaluations? How can we extrapolate from individual causal effect and cost-effectiveness estimates to making judgements about which of the policies evaluated best support social well-being? In other words, how feasible are systematic welfare evaluations of common development policies using existing data? These questions should be simple to answer if sheer volume of evidence were the key: the field of development economics has led the `credibility revolution' in causal inference. Yet the accumulated evidence from program-specific impact evaluations is rarely used for systematic comparisons between policies and programs. Particularly in public finance, there have been few opportunities to translate this program evaluation evidence into welfare comparisons. I develop and adapt established public finance frameworks to develop general criteria for welfare comparisons, and take advantage of previously missed opportunities to conduct meta-research. I conduct a comparative welfare analysis of 40 policies implemented in low and middle-income countries since 1997, which were previously evaluated using experimental and quasi-experimental methods. In all geographic regions, marginal value of public funds point estimates are clustered between approximately 0 and 2. I also offer adaptations to the canonical MVPF approach to account for the particular public finance position of developing countries, and provide evidence on the fitness-for-purpose of current priorities in impact evaluations.
Publications	Okoli U, Morris L (corresponding author), Oshin A, Pate MA, Aigbe C and Muhammad A. Conditional cash transfer schemes in Nigeria: Potential gains for maternal and child health service uptake in a national pilot programme. BMC Pregnancy & Childbirth 14, 2014. doi:10.1186/s12884-014-0408-9
Papers in Progress	"Cost-effectiveness and health system strengthening." In progress. "Algorithmic fairness and targeting error weights." In progress.
Academic Service	<ul> <li>Student Convener, North East Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC) Conference, 2023</li> <li>Volunteer, Harvard Economics Diversity &amp; Inclusion Student Group; Graduate Women in Economics, 2019-2020</li> <li>Mentor, Harvard Kennedy School PhD peer mentorship program, 2019 to 2021</li> </ul>
Languages	English (native); Spanish, German (intermediate); Nigerian/West African Pidgin (basic)
Software skills	R, Stata (advanced); Matlab, NVivo, ArcGIS (basic)