DANIEL M. SABET, Ph.D.

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Daniel has over 20 years of experience researching, evaluating, and supporting democracy, human rights, and governance (DRG) interventions globally. His current work at the United States Agency for International Development's DRG Bureau is focused on promoting the use of research evidence to inform DRG program design and developing and overseeing rigorous evaluations to test DRG impact. Prior to that, he led evaluation and research work at Social Impact on behalf of USAID, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, US State Department, and non-government organizations. He has also served as a visiting professor at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, a visiting fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, an adjunct professor at American University's School of International Service, and he founded a research center at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. Daniel has particular expertise on issues of public sector reform in diverse policy arenas, including policing, the energy sector, public financial management, and the civil service. Much of his work focuses on issues of corruption and the role of citizens and civil society in creating government accountability. He is the author of *Police Reform in Mexico*, *Nonprofits and their Networks*, and co-author of *Understanding Political Science Research Methods*. Daniel has a PhD in Political Science from Indiana University and is a former Fulbright Fellow.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance, USAID   **Washington DC**
Senior Learning Advisor (Full time)   *September 2020 - present*
- Managed over 40 research taskings under the global Learning Evaluation and Research II and III mechanisms, including impact evaluations, performance evaluations, developmental evaluations, assessments, evidence reviews, retrospectives, and topical research studies.
- Co-led a retrospective study on past USAID/DRG impact evaluation work, and based on its recommendations developed the Fostering Rigorous Evaluations in DRG (FRED) initiative. Through the initiative, promoted and supported the design and implementation of impact evaluations and rigorous performance evaluations among USAID missions, including Liberia, Indonesia, Armenia, Kosovo, Central America, Guinea, and Papua New Guinea.
- Co-led the Mission Use of Evidence Study (MUSE) study and based on study recommendations developed training materials to encourage evidence use, produced templates for evidence reviews, helped create the DRG Evidence Help Desk, and helped oversee evidence review development.
- Co-developed the Advancing Utilization and Dissemination for Research and Analysis (AUDRA) methodology for promoting and tracking dissemination and use of research work, including utilization briefings, management checklists, action planning tools, and follow-up protocols.
- Co-led the Addressing Learning and Evaluation Challenges (ALEC) initiative to develop and implement guidance on conducting short-term, qualitative research, along with accompanying tools, templates, and checklists.
- Led development of Evidence-to-Action (E2A) trainings on evidence use and design rigorous evaluations. Co-led development of an e-learning five module training on commissioning survey research. Delivered E2A trainings in Colombia, El Salvador, Mexico, and Washington D.C.

- Supported development, implementation, and use of the 2021-2023 and 2024-2026 DRG Learning Agenda on topics of corruption, democratic backsliding, and information integrity.
- Established and coordinated a public, monthly DRG Evidence and Learning Talk Series and coordinated an internal talk series known as the Tuesday Group.
- Provide backstopping support on issues of governance, anti-corruption, and civil society and in Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars   **Washington DC**
Fellow (Full time)   *September 2019 – August 2020*
- Aggregated and disseminated learning from previous evaluation work in Honduras, producing academic and policy publications, including articles on (1) auditing as a tool for government accountability, (2) the effect of public procurement corruption on competition, (3) corruption and ties to political party financing in Honduras, and (4) the effects of patronage on governance.

Social Impact, Inc.   **Washington DC**
Technical Director (Full time)   *October 2013 – September 2019*
- Provided technical expertise in evaluation and evaluation designs, including randomized controlled trials (RCTs), quasi-experimental research designs, and performance evaluations, and in diverse data collection methodologies, including enterprise surveys, surveys of public employees, household surveys, administrative data, audits, process mapping, focus group discussions, and qualitative interviewing. Served as principal investigator for several long-term evaluations, including MCC interventions in Malawi and Honduras.
- Chief of Party (COP) for USAID Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance – Learning, Evaluation, and Research (DRG-LER) (2013-2019). Provided overall technical and strategic guidance and management for governance-related evaluations across the globe, including five RCT impact evaluations, twelve performance evaluations, three DRG assessments, and additional research projects on four continents. Defined evaluation questions, selected appropriate methodologies, carried out or oversaw data collection, ensured high quality reports with actionable programmatic recommendations, developed evaluation briefs to facilitate utilization, and supported the Center's learning agenda.
- Responsible for recruiting, hiring and overseeing team members; procuring subcontractors; fostering teamwork; ensuring communication and coordination between teams, the DRG Center, relevant Missions, and implementers; and solving problems to achieve deliverables on time and within budget. Achieved average CPAR of 4.4 as COP.
- Senior Trainer for USAID and State Department evaluation training courses (2013-2015).
- Senior Technical Advisor for the USAID funded Evaluating Democracy Human Rights and Governance Effectiveness (EDGE) project (2013-2015).

Center for Enterprise and Society (CES), University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh   **Dhaka, Bangladesh**
Founding Director, Associate Professor (Full time)   *January 2012 – August 2013*
- Led survey and qualitative study testing the impact of social networks on the ability of Bangladeshi firms to overcome business and government related challenges. Led additional research projects including a natural experiment and survey of Dhaka pedestrians designed to test why some pedestrians respect traffic rules.
- Established the strategic direction of the Center. Oversaw Center hiring, budget, administration, and activities, including a talk series, current events news analysis series, publication series with

the Dhaka Tribune, and the CES blog. Participated on the faculty research committee and taught courses on research methods and public policy and reform.

- Developed and oversaw a comprehensive M&E program for the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, including surveys of current students, graduating students, alumni, and faculty to evaluate and explain variation in student satisfaction, performance evaluation, and job placement.

Evaluation Consultant *(Various, part time concurrent with full time work)*   *2011-2013*

- Led a mid-term impact evaluation For Tetra Tech ARD in Bangladesh involving a quasi-experimental design and surveys of citizens and government officials to evaluate USAID funded efforts to foster civic engagement, increase tax revenue, and improve service quality among local governments in Bangladesh. Explored the effects of partisanship and corruption on willingness to pay taxes.
- Reviewed and analyzed baseline survey data and developed a baseline report for The Asia Foundation in Bangladesh for a USAID-funded community-based policing initiative implemented by The Asia Foundation in Bangladesh using a quasi-experimental research design.
- Designed and conducted an interview, focus-group, administrative data, and document based performance evaluation of accountability mechanisms in the Mexican Federal Police for the Secretariat of Public Security (with Eric Olson). Examined internal affairs, vetting, and other accountability related mechanisms.

Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service   **Washington DC**
Visiting Assistant Professor (Full time)   *August 2007 – June 2011*

- Designed and completed a four-year research project on Mexican municipal police reform and citizen accountability involving interviews, focus groups, document investigation, and statistical analysis of survey data. The work entailed evaluations of reform efforts in four municipal police departments over a four-year period. Results were published as *Police Reform in Mexico: Informal Politics and the Challenge of Institutional Change* (Stanford University Press, 2012, Herbert Simon Book Award), in peer reviewed journals, Oxford Analytica briefs, and edited volumes.
- Supervised statistical education for 225 students each year in the School of Foreign Service's undergraduate and graduate programs. Co-authored a research methods textbook *Political Science Research Methods: The Challenge of Inference* (Routledge Press, 2013)*.* Also taught courses on Anti-Corruption Reform in the Developing World, Introduction to Comparative Politics, and Public Policy along the U.S.-Mexico Border.

Research Consultant *(Various, part time concurrent with full time work)*   *2007-2011*

- Published regular policy briefs on Mexico for Oxford Analytica's Daily Briefing Service.
- As a consultant with the Woodrow Wilson Center, conducted an evaluation of civic engagement in Mexico and a study of police reform in Mexico. Offered several presentations on these and related topics.
- For the National Intelligence Council served as a "reader" for the Mexico National Security Estimate.
- Conducted and presented research on topics including decentralization, political knowledge participation, accountability and corruption for Centra Technology.

National Strategy Information Center   **Washington DC**
Program Officer (Full time)   *July 2005-August 2007*

- Oversaw design and implementation of State Department funded programs with Mexican, Colombian, and Panamanian police forces designed to foster a police culture opposed to corruption and supportive of individual rights.
- Served as lead author on diverse culture of lawfulness curriculum ranging from 40-60 hours for different audiences, including cadets, active police, investigative police, and commanding officers.
- Oversaw design and implementation of monitoring and evaluation efforts for these initiatives involving classroom observation, focus groups, interviews, evaluations, and knowledge tests.
- Participated in a quasi-experimental, impact evaluation of INL funded culture of lawfulness educational programs on the knowledge, attitudes, and self-reported behavior of ninth grade students in Bogota and Medellin, Colombia.

University of California San Diego and Indiana University   **San Diego, CA**
Co-coordinator, doctoral candidate (Full time)   *July 2004-July 2005*

- Wrote dissertation, which was published as *Nonprofits and their Networks: Cleaning the Waters along Mexico's Northern Border* (Arizona University Press, 2008, Association of Borderlands Studies Book Award). This research explored how an autonomous civil society develops despite decades of political party cooption and was also published in peer reviewed journals and in edited volumes.
- Co-coordinated the Border Water Project, a binational academic initiative exploring transnational water challenges.

Colegio de la Frontera Norte   **Tijuana, Nogales Ciudad Juárez, Nuevo Laredo, México**
Fulbright-García Robles Fellow (Full time)   *August 2003-June 2004*

- Designed and implemented a qualitative controlled comparison of four municipalities exploring civil society response to environmental, public health, and water challenges in Mexico. Included assessments of civil society networks, public participation mechanisms, and local government capacity in each location.

Indiana University   **Bloomington, IN & Chihuahua, México**
Graduate student, Tinker Fellow (Full time)   *June 2002 - August 2003*

- Conducted an assessment of public participation mechanisms required by the Border Environmental Cooperation Committee for three infrastructure development projects in Northern Mexico.
- Taught course on international affairs in the post-September 11 environment.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. — Political Science, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, USA, 2005

B.A. — History, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA, 1998

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Books

Understanding Political Science Research: The Challenge of Inference. With Maryann Barakso and Brian F. Schaffner. New York: Routledge Press. 2013.

Police Reform in Mexico: Informal Politics and the Challenge of Institutional Change. Palo Alto: Stanford University Press, 2012. (Winner of the 2018 Herbert A. Simon Book Award.)

Sex Workers and their Children in Bangladesh: Addressing Risks and Vulnerabilities. Edited with Tawhid Rahman and Sate Ahmad. Dhaka: University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. 2012.

Nonprofits and their Networks: Cleaning the Waters along Mexico's Northern Border. Tucson: University of Arizona Press. 2008. (Winner of the Association of Borderland Studies' 2011 Silver Book Award.)

Journal Articles

Bidding Despite Corruption: Evidence from Honduras. *Journal of Public Procurement.* Vol. 21(4): 399-417. 2021.

Auditing as a Tool of Government Accountability? Exploring Divergent Causal Mechanisms through Three Honduran Cases. *Public Administration and Development.* Vol 40(4): 209-219. 2020.

"Entrepreneurial Satisfaction with Human Resource Performance: What Really Matters to Entrepreneurs?" With Mehdi Rageb. *Journal of Knowledge Globalization*. Vol. 9(1): 41-59. 2017.

"Informality, illegality, and criminality in Mexico's Border Communities." *Journal of Borderland Studies.* 2015.

"Governing Growth: Understanding Problems of Real Estate Development in Dhaka, Bangladesh." With Afsana Tazreen. *Journal of South Asian Development.* Vol. 10: 1-21. 2015

"Un problema de gobernanza municipal: El reto de la reforma policial en México." *Foro Internacional.* Vol. 53(2). 2013.

"Corruption or Security? Explaining Dissatisfaction with Mexico's Police." *Latin American Politics and Society.* Vol. 55(1): 22-45. 2013.

"Confrontation, Collusion, and Tolerance: The Relationship between Organized Crime and Law Enforcement in Tijuana." *The Mexican Law Review.* Vol. 2(2). 3-29. 2010.

"Dois passos à frente: liçoes de Chihuahua" *Revista Brasileira de Segurança Pública*. Vol. 4(6):66-87. 2010.

"Thickening Civil Society: Explaining the Development of Associational Life in Mexico." *Democratization.* Vol. 15(2): 410-432. 2008.

"Building Bridges: Binational Civil Society Cooperation and Water-Related Policy Problems." *The Journal of Environment and Development*. Vol. 14(4): 463-485. 2005.

Book Chapters and Reports

"When Corruption Funds the Political System: A Case Study of Honduras." Woodrow Wilson Center. 2020.

"Overcoming Red Tape in Bangladesh: Bribery, Government Contacts and Personal Ties." In Khurshed Alam ed. *Bangladesh: Economic, Political and Social Issues.* New York: Nova Science Publishers. 2018.

"Overcoming Business Challenges in Bangladesh: Summary Findings of the Overcoming Business Challenges Survey." With Ahmed S. Ishtiaque and Mehdi Rageb. University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. 2015.

"Co-Production and Oversight: Citizens and Their Police." In David Shirk, Eric L. Olson, and Duncan Wood eds. *Civic Engagement and Public Security in Mexico*. Washington D.C.: Woodrow Wilson Center. 2013.

"The Role of Citizens and Civil Society in Mexico's Security Crisis." In Tony Payan and Z. Anthony Kruszewski eds. *A War that Can't be Won: A Journey through the War on Drugs.* Arizona University Press. 2013.

"Legality, Legitimacy, and Consent: Sex Workers and their Children in Bangladesh." With Sate Ahmad. In Tawhid Rahman, Daniel Sabet, and Sate Ahmad, eds. *Sex Workers and their Children in Bangladesh: Addressing Risks and Vulnerabilities*. Dhaka: University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. 2012.

"El régimen disciplinario de la Policía Federal." With Eric Olson. *La conformación de un sistema integral para el desarrollo policial*. México D.F.: Secretaría de Seguridad Pública. 2012.

"Border Burden: Public Security in Mexican Border Communities and the Challenge of Polycentricity." In Harlan Koff ed. *Theorizing Borders through Analyses of Power Relationships.* Brussels: PIE/Peter Lang. 2012.

"Nonprofit Networks: Explaining Emergence, Effectiveness, and Density." In Freddy Mariñez and Cristina Zurbriggen eds. *Gestión de redes institucionales ¿Un nuevo modelo de gestión?* México: Noriega Editores. 2012

"¿Corrupción o Seguridad? Explicando la falta de confianza en la policía mexicana. *Cuadernos del ICESI.* No. 12. 2011.

"Police Reform in Mexico: Advances and Persistent Obstacles" In Eric L. Olson, David A. Shirk and Andrew Selee eds. *Shared Responsibility: U.S.-Mexico Policy Options for Confronting Organized Crime. Washington D.C.:* Woodrow Wilson Center. 2010.

"Two Steps Forward: Lessons from Chihuahua," In Robert A. Donnelly and David A. Shirk eds. *Police and Public Security*. San Diego: Transborder Institute. 2009.

"Program Evaluation in Public Security Policy: Culture of Lawfulness" with John Bailey, Ricardo Martínez, and Luís Felipe Mantilla. In Freddy Ramón Mariñez Navarro and Vidal Garza Cantú, editors. *Política pública y democracia en América Latina: Del análisis a la implementación.* Mexico City: Miguel Ángel Porrúa. 2009.

"The Border Bottleneck: Drug Trafficking and Incentives for Police Corruption." in Harlan Koff ed. *Deceiving (Dis)Appearances: Analyzing Current Developments in Europe and North America's Border Regions*. Brussels: PIE/Peter Lang. 2007.

Evaluation reports and practitioner studies

Addressing Learning and Evaluation Challenges (ALEC) Report. With Kate Marple-Cantrell and Luis A. Camacho. USAID. 2024.

DRG Mission Use of Evidence: Lessons from Evidence Utilization in USAID DRG Program Design. With Robert Gerstein and Aleta Starosta. USAID. 2022.

DRG Impact Evaluation Retrospective: Learning from Three Generations of Impact Evaluations. With Michael G. Findley and Aleta Starosta. USAID. 2020.

Evaluation of Secondary Prevention in the Community, Family, and Youth Resilience (CFYR) Program in St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, and Guyana: Endline Impact Evaluation Report. With Alberto Díaz-Cayeros, Stephanie Gimenez Stahlberg, Rachel Pizatella-Haswell, and Julia Kresky. USAID. 2020.

Honduras Threshold Program: Endline Evaluation Report. With Nick Livingston, Albert Pijuan, Lisette Anzoategui, Irma Romero, Tommie Thompson, and Jordan Sticklin. Social Impact. 2020.

Malawi Power Sector Reform Project: Endline Performance Evaluation Report. With Meredith Feenstra, Arvid Kruze, and Linda Chinangwa. Social Impact. 2019

Evaluation of Secondary Prevention in the Community, Family, and Youth Resilience Program in St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis and Guyana: Baseline Report. With Stephanie Gimenez Stahlberg, Alberto Díaz-Cayeros, Corinna Bordewieck, Jordan Robinson, Catherine Caligan, and Julia Kresky. USAID. 2019.

Yetu Initiative: Mid-Term Performance Evaluation. With Samir Panjwani, Susan Wilkinson, Patrick Ochieng, and Marcy Kelley. USAID. 2019.

Honduras Threshold Program: Interim Evaluation Report. With Nick Livingston, Albert Pijuan, Irma Romero, Andrew Carmona, and Braden Agpoon. Social Impact. 2019.

Malawi Power Sector Reform Project and Infrastructure Development Project Performance Evaluation: Enterprise Survey and Case Study Community Baseline Report. With Patricia Delaney, Meredith Feenstra, Billy Hoo, Stella Kalengamaliro, Olga Rostapshova, Sylvia Sun, and Michele Wehle. Social Impact. 2018

Power Sector Reform Project Volume 2: Midline Performance Evaluation Report. With Michele Wehle, Arvid Kruze, Stella Kalengamaliro and Olga Rostapshova. Social Impact. 2018.

Power Sector Reform Project Volume 1: Midline Process Evaluation Report. With Michele Wehle, Arvid Kruze, Stella Kalengamaliro, Marius Meijerink, and Olga Rostapshova. Social Impact. 2018.

Evaluation of Juvenile Justice Sector Reform Implementation in St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, and Guyana. With Dianne Williams, Lily Hoffman, Catherine Caligan and Meredith Feenstra. USAID. 2018.

Impact Evaluation of the 'Increasing Services for Survivors of Sexual Assault in South Africa' Program: Endline Impact Evaluation Report. With Jordan Robinson, Meredith Feenstra, Stephanie Stahlberg, and Olga Rostapshova. USAID. 2017.

Baseline Report: Honduras Threshold Country Program. With Nick Livingston, Albert Pijuan, Irma Romero, Andrew Carmona, Basab Dasgupta, and Braden Agpoon. Social Impact. 2017.

Process Evaluation and Performance Evaluation Baseline Report for the MCC Malawi Compact Power Sector Reform Project. With Michele Wehle, Arivd Kruze, Emily Gonzalez, Veronica Mazariegos, Stella Kalengamaliro, and Olga Rostapshova. Social Impact. 2017.

Performance Evaluation of the Elections and Political Processes Fund. With Katherine Vittum, Alison Miranda, Carrie Stefansky Huisman, Michele Wehle, Kelly Skeith, Molly Brune, Nathan Youngblood. USAID. 2017.

Impact and Performance Evaluation of Solidarity Center's Global Labor Program in Bangladesh. With Olga Rostapshova, Heather Goldsmith, Jordan Fulp, Emily Gonzales, S. Ishtiaque Ahmed, and Md. Harunur Rashid. USAID. 2016.

Networks and Information: An Impact Evaluation of Efforts to Increase Political Participation in Mozambique. With Pedro C. Vicente and Macartan Humphreys. USAID. May 2015.

Assessment of Human Trafficking in Artisanal Mining Towns in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. With Jocelyn Kelly, Natasha Greenberg, and Jordan Fulp. USAID. August 2014.

Strengthening Democratic Local Governance: Midline Evaluation Report. Strengthening Democratic Local Governance. Tetra Tech ARD. April 2013.

Strengthening the Rule of Law and Promoting a Culture of Lawfulness. Washington D.C.: National Strategy Information Center. Contributing and lead author to twelve, specially tailored, "rule of law education" curricula for a variety of Latin American police departments. 2005-2008.

AWARDS

- Meritorious Honor at USAID *(2024)*
- Woodrow Wilson Center Fellowship (*2019-2020*)
- Herbert Simon Book Award (*2018*)
- Association of Borderlands Studies Silver Book Award *(2011)*
- School of Foreign Service Faculty Research Grants (*2008/2009/2010/2011*).
- Bradley Fellowship *(2005-2007).*
- Fulbright García-Robles Fellowship *(2003-2004).*
- Association of Borderland Studies Best Graduate Student Paper Award *(2005).*
- Tinker Foundation Predissertation Research Award *(2002 and 2003).*
- Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis Fellowship *(2000).*

SKILLS

Languages: English (native); Spanish (fluent); Bangla (beginner)

Software: STATA, SPSS, Open Data Kit, SurveyCTO, Optimal Design, Full Microsoft Office Suite, Google Suite, Adobe