

DANIEL M. SABET, Ph.D.

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SNF Agora Institute, Johns Hopkins University

Washington DC

Fellow (Part time)

July 2025 – July 2026

- Conducting mixed methods research on the impact of ending U.S. foreign aid for democratic elections and development of a free press.

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance, USAID

Washington DC

Senior Learning Advisor (Full time)

August 2020 – March 2025

- Managed over 40 research projects, including impact evaluations, performance evaluations, developmental evaluations, assessments, evidence reviews, and topical research studies.
- Increased the adoption of rigorous evaluation designs in eight USAID missions through an initiative to promote more robust evaluations.
- Strengthened the dissemination and use of internal research products through development of a systematic approach for promoting and tracking dissemination and use of all research work.
- Improved the quality of research reports through an initiative to develop and implement mandatory guidance for short-term, qualitative research, along with accompanying tools, templates, and checklists.
- Expanded the use of evidence in program design in seven missions through a project to encourage evidence-informed programming, including the creation of an Evidence Help Desk.
- Increased support for evidence-informed approaches through a training course for staff on evidence use and rigorous evaluation design. Reached over a hundred development professionals each month through two monthly evidence and learning talk series.

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

Washington DC

Fellow (Full time)

September 2019 – August 2020

- Produced three peer reviewed academic and policy publications on good governance issues, including auditing, public procurement, and combatting corruption and patronage.

Social Impact, Inc.

Washington DC

Technical Director, Chief of Party (Full time)

October 2013 – September 2019

- Served as principal investigator or chief of party for a wide range of evaluations for both USAID and the Millennium Challenge Corporation, including five randomized controlled trials, three longitudinal studies, twelve performance evaluations, three assessments, and additional research projects across Africa, Latin America, and Asia.
- Ensured high-quality deliverables within budget and timeline constraints across \$15 million worth of research contracts: average performance assessment from USAID of 4.4 out of 5.
- Received the highest participant evaluation scores as a senior trainer for USAID and State Department evaluation training courses.
- Reduced pain points in the research cycle through improved procedures for recruitment, hiring, and oversight of team members; procurement and oversight of subcontractors; communication and coordination between teams, funders, and implementers; and deliverable development.

Center for Enterprise and Society (CES), University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh Dhaka, Bangladesh
Founding Director, Associate Professor (Full time) January 2012 – August 2013

- Built evidence on how to overcome business, governance, and societal challenges through the founding and development of a new research center and research agenda.
- Established the strategic direction of the Center, oversaw Center hiring, budget, administration, and activities, including a talk series, current events news analysis series, and publication series.
- Taught courses on research methods and public policy and reform.
- Designed and implemented a university-wide monitoring and evaluation system to enhance student outcomes and faculty performance.

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

- Conducted extensive research on law enforcement reform in Latin America, culminating in the publication of *Police Reform in Mexico* (Stanford University Press, 2012).
- Designed and taught courses in research methodology, public policy, anti-corruption, and comparative politics, mentoring graduate and undergraduate students.

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

- Led design, curriculum development, and implementation of U.S. State Department funded programs with seven Mexican, Colombian, and Panamanian police forces designed to foster a police culture opposed to corruption and supportive of individual rights.
- Improved programming through application of a monitoring and evaluation system.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science (Comparative politics, public policy) Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, 2005

B.A., History (U.S. diplomatic history) Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, 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.)

Peer Reviewed 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: lições 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 Think Tank Studies**
- "The Impact of Ending U.S. International Media Assistance." With Susan Abbott. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. 2026.
- "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 Infrastructure Development Project Performance Evaluation: Final Endline Report. With Geetha Nagarajan, Corinna Bordewieck, Julia Kresky, Carly Farver Mphasa, Arvid Kruze, and Patricia Delaney. 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, Arvid 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

- SNF Agora Institute Fellowship (2025-2026)
- 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).

TEACHING

USAID Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance, Senior Learning Advisor

- Evidence-to-Action: Democracy, Human Rights and Governance Activity Design and Evaluation (32 hours) (2022-2024)
- Surveys for Study Commissioners, e-Learning course (4 hours) (2021)

American University, School of International Studies, Adjunct Professor

- Project Design, Monitoring, and Evaluation (2020)

Social Impact, Senior Impact Evaluation Advisor

- Evaluation for Evaluation Specialists (80 hours) USAID (2014)
- Evaluation for Project Managers (40 hours) USAID (2014)
- Evaluation Training (24 hours) United States Department of State (2014)

University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, Associate Professor

- Social Science Research Methods (2012)
- Introduction to Public Policy (2012, 2013)

Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service, Visiting Assistant Professor

- Quantitative Methods for International Politics (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011)
- Statistical and Analytical Skills (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011)
- Comparative Political Systems (2010)
- Politics and Public Policy along the U.S.-Mexico Border (2009, 2011)
- Corruption in the Developing World (2008, 2009)

Culture of Lawfulness Project, Curriculum Writer and Teacher Trainer

- The Rule of Law and a Culture of Lawfulness (2005-2007)

Indiana University, Instructor

- International Political Controversy (2003)

Indiana University, Associate Instructor

- Introduction to American Politics (2002)
- September 11: Before and After (2002)
- Constitutional Law, Indiana University (2001)

SKILLS

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

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