

ANAKA AIYAR

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, *Department of Community Development and Applied Economics* 2023 - Current
University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

Assistant Professor, *Department of Economics* 2020 - 2023
University of Nevada, Reno, NV

Post Doctoral Associate, *Tata-Cornell Institute for Agriculture and Nutrition* 2016 - 2020
Dyson School of Applied Economics & Management
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics 2016
University of California, Riverside, Riverside, CA

M.A. in Economics 2013
University of California, Riverside, Riverside, CA

M.Sc. in Economics 2006
Madras School of Economics, Anna University, Chennai, India

B.A. Economics (Hons) 2004
Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi University, New Delhi, India

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Food Systems, Applied Microeconomics, Health Economics, Development Economics

PUBLICATIONS (PEER REVIEWED)

Purushotham, **A.**, **Aiyar**, A., & von Cramon-Taubadel, S. (2023). Processed foods, socio-economic status, and peri-urban obesity in India. *Food Policy*, 117, 102450.

Wesselbaum, D., Smith, M. D., Barrett, C. B., & **Aiyar**, **A.** (2023). A food insecurity Kuznets Curve?. *World Development*, 165, 106189.

Aiyar, **Anaka**, Sunaina Dhingra & Prabhu Pingali. "Transitioning to an Obese India: Demographic and Structural Determinants of the Rapid Rise in Overweight Incidence", *Economics & Human Biology*, 43 (2021): 101041

Aiyar, **A.**, Rahman, A., & Pingali, P. (2021). India's rural transformation and rising obesity burden. *World Development*, 138, 105258.

Aiyar, **A.**, & Cummins, J. R. (2021). An age profile perspective on two puzzles in global child health: The Indian Enigma economic growth. *Journal of Development Economics*, 148, 102569.

Aiyar, **Anaka**, "Unintended consequences of targeted health insurance on intra-household resource allocations." *Journal of Development Studies*, 57-3 (2021): 502-518

Aiyar, Anaka, and Prabhu Pingali. “Pandemics and Food Systems: Towards a proactive food safety approach to disease prevention & management.” *Food Security* (2020): 1-8

Aiyar, Anaka, and Srinivas Venugopal. “A Macromarketing Approach to Addressing the Ethical Challenge of Market Inclusion in Base of the Pyramid Markets.” *Journal of Business Ethics*, 164 (2020): 243–260

Pingali, Prabhu, and **Anaka Aiyar**. “Diversity in Development – Inter-state Differences in the India Growth Story” *World Food Policy Journal* 4-2 (2018): 57-78

Pingali, Prabhu, and **Anaka Aiyar**. “Food, Agriculture, and Nutrition Policy: Looking Ahead to 2050.” *Agriculture and Food Systems to 2050*, edited by Prabhu Pinagli & Rachid Serraj. World Scientific Publishing, (2018): Chapter 18

Agarwal, Neha, **Anaka Aiyar**, Arpita Bhattacharjee, Joseph Cummins, Christian Gunadi, Deepak Singhania, Matthew Taylor, and Evan Wigton-Jones. “Month of birth and child height in 40 countries.” *Economics Letters* 157 (2017): 10-13.

Kathuria, Vinish, and **Anaka Aiyar**. “Link between Exporting and Productivity: Firm Level analysis for Indian Chemical Industry.” *Science, Technology and Society* 16-3 (2011): 309-331.

BOOKS

Pingali, Prabhu, **Anaka Aiyar**, Mathew Abraham & Andaleeb Rahman (2019), *Transforming Food Systems for a Rising India*, Open Access: Palgrave Studies in Agricultural Economics and Food Policy, Palgrave Macmillan [120,000+ Downloads](#)

WORKING PAPERS

The effectiveness of insurance in improving child health: A study from India, with *Naveen Sunder*, (*Under review*)

Caste Differences in Child Growth: Disentangling Endowment and Investment Effects, (with *Joseph R Cummins, Jingyan Guo, Neha Agarwal, Vaishali Jain, & Andrew Bergmann*) (*Under review*)

Crafting Climate Resilience Solutions for Nature-Dependent Subsistence Communities: A Dignity-Centric View, with *Srinivas Venugopal & Sarthak Mohapatra* (*Under review*)

Impacts of Health Insurance on Child Nutrition: Evidence from India, with *Katehrine Lacy & Dilek Uz* (*Under review*)

(Papers can be made available on request)

WORK IN PROGRESS

The effectiveness of insurance in increasing access to preventative care: A study from India, (with *Srinivas Venugopal*)

Locked down and isolated: How loss of access to markets impacted food security among indigenous communities during the covid19 pandemic, (with *Srinivas Venugopal*)

Non-communicable diseases and socio-cultural perceptions of obesity in urban areas: A bottom-up view of how diets and health are related in India, (with *Athi Karthick V, Arun Sreekumar, Srinivas Venugopal, Suruchi Singh, Vidya Vemireddy*)

REPORTS

Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojna (A Study of Karnataka), (with *Prakhya Bhat, Nehal Jain, Jyotsna Jha, Shreekanth Mahendiran, Kavitha Narayanan, Varun Sharma*), *Global Development Network*, (2013)

Review of Processes and Institutional Mechanisms of Programme Implementation and Service Delivery, *Government of Karnataka*, 2013

Analysis of Health Expenditures by the Government of Karnataka (with *Achala Yaareseme*), *Centre for Budget & Policy Studies*, (2010)

Case Study: Connecting Rural India with Broadband Wireless, (*with Ashok Jhunjhunwala*), *International Telecommunication Union, Development (ITU-D)*, 2010

Reproductive and Child Health Services - How much do they cost? A Preliminary Analysis of 2 districts in Karnataka, (*with Poornima Vyasulu*), *Centre for Budget & Policy Studies*, (2007)

AWARDS AND HONORS

Postdoc Achievement Award for Excellence in Leadership, Cornell University	2019
Dissertation Year Fellowship, UC, Riverside	2016
Travel Grant, Department of Economics, UC, Riverside	2014 & 2015
Graduate Student Travel Grant, Graduate Student Association, UC, Riverside	2014
Grant in Aid, Taraknath Das Foundation, Columbia University	2013
Dean's Distinguished Fellowship Award, UC, Riverside	2011 to 2016
Merit Scholarship, Madras School of Economics, Anna University	2005 & 2006

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Seminars:

2023: University of Vermont, Burlington; University of California, Riverside

2022: Indian Institute of Technology - Gandhinagar

2021: Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (Health Seminar); University of Massachusetts Boston; University of Nevada, Las Vegas;

2020: Dyson School of Applied Economics & Management and Tata-Cornell Institute for Agriculture and Nutrition (TCI) Seminar series (Cornell University); University of Vermont, Burlington; Indian Institute of Management (Ahmedabad); Madras School of Economics; Indian Institute of Technology (Kanpur); University of Nevada, Reno; University of Auckland, New Zealand; USAID brown bag seminar - Pandemics & Food Systems

2019: Indian Institute of Management (Bengaluru, Udaipur, Ahmedabad); International Food Policy Research Institute (Washington DC)

2018: Madras School of Economics, Chennai; Institute of Management, Udaipur; India. St. Michael's College of Vermont

2017: University of Vermont, Burlington

2016-2019: Tata-Cornell Institute for Agriculture and Nutrition (TCI) Seminar series (Cornell University)

2016: University of California, Riverside, University of Southern California (Brown bag),

Conference Presentations:

2023: TCI 10th Anniversary Conference (Cornell University, Ithaca, NY), Transformative Consumer Research (London, UK), Annual meeting of the American Society of Health Economists (St Louis, MO), Southern Economics Association Annual Conference (*scheduled*)

2022: Agricultural and Applied Economics Association's Annual Conference (Panel Session: Leveraging Gender in Food Systems Transformations in South Asia); Southern Economics Association Annual Conference

2021: 3rd UNR College of Business-SGH Warsaw School of Economics Joint Symposium; International Health Economics Association Annual Conference; The annual conference of the Southern Economic Association

2020: Agricultural and Applied Economics Association 2019: Winter School of the Delhi School of Economics; Plenary session of ReSAKSS-Asia International Conference in Yangon, International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington D.C, Centre for Budget & Policy Studies (CBPS) and Society for Community Health Awareness Research and Action (SOCHARA), Bengaluru, India, Annual meetings of the American Society of Health Economists

2018: Indian 14th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, ISI Delhi; Eastern Economic Association Annual Conference

2017: North Eastern Universities Development Conference

2015: Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, 90th Annual Western Economic Association International Conference

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor:

University of Vermont, Burlington - US Food Policy and Politics

University of Nevada, Reno - Health Economics, Principles of Statistics (II),

University of Nevada, Reno - Applied Econometrics (Graduate level)

Instructor:

University of California, Riverside - International Trade, Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory

Teaching Assistant:

University of California, Riverside - Introduction to Econometrics, Introduction to Statistics, Introduction to Macroeconomics, Introduction to Microeconomics, Macroeconomic Theory

GRADUATE ADVISING

University of Nevada, Reno

Dissertation Committee Member: Aina Katsikas, Rachel Flanigan

SERVICE

Discipline Level

Discipline-wide DEI Award:

Discipline Level Award for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion: Sub-Committee Member within the Committee on Women in Agricultural Economics (CWAE) 2021 - current

Reviewer:

World Bank Economic Review, Agricultural Economics, Journal of Consumer Affairs, Biological Conservation, Global Food Security, Socio-Economic Planning Services, World Development, Data-in-Brief, Journal of Health Economics, Sustainability Science, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Food Policy, Journal of Labor Research, Applied Economics Letters, Applied Economics Perspectives & Policy, Journal of Asian & African Studies, Economic Analysis & Policy

Conference Reviewer:

American Society of Health Economists, Annual Conference (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022), North East Universities Development Conference (2018)

Conference Session Organizer:

Southern Economics Association 2022, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Conference 2022 , Southern Economics Association 2021 (co-organizer with Todd Sorensen)

Conference Session Chair:

Transformative Consumer Research 2023 (London, UK), American Society of Health Economics 2023 , Southern Economics Association 2022, Southern Economics Association 2021, Annual Conference of the American Society of Health Economics 2021, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Conference 2020, 90th Annual Western Economic Association International Conference (2015)

Conference Discussant:

American Society of Health Economics 2023 , Southern Economics Association 2022 , Annual Conference of the American Society of Health Economics 2021, Eastern Economic Association Conference, Boston (2018), North Eastern Universities Development Conference - Tufts University (2017); Southern Economic Association 2015 Annual Meeting; UC Riverside; 90th Annual Western Economic Association International Conference (2015)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Associate: Center for Budget & Policy Studies	2009 - 2011
Manager (Social Research): IITM's Rural Technology & Business Incubator	2007 - 2009
Senior Research Analyst: ICRA's Management and Consulting Service	2006

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Economic Association, American Society of Health Economists, Agricultural & Applied Economics Association, International Health Economics Association, International Association For Feminist Economics (IAFFE), Southern Economic Association

RESEARCH GRANTS

Preferences Or Access: The Effects Of Broadband Internet On Rural Health Outcomes, USDA-NIFA-AFRI (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2027)(\$649,988.00), CoPI Anaka Aiyar with PI Sankar Mukhopadhyay, CoPI Katherine Lacy

“Eew! These people eat rats and cats”: The Systematic Exclusion of Tribal Consumers in Subsistence Marketplaces, ACR Grant, Transformative Consumer Research (2021-2022), (CoPI - Srinivas Venugopal, \$1,500)

Enhancing Community Resilience and Food Security in Remote Forest Villages in Light of the COVID-19 Pandemic (2020-2022), (CoPI - Varun Goswami & Srinivas Venugopal, \$65,000)

Strengthening Institutions to improve Public Expenditure Accountability – Global Development Network, 2010-2011, (Principal Investigator - Jyotsna Jha, Co-PI – Anaka Aiyar, Subhashansha Bakshi & Sandeep MS, £3000)

Review of Processes and Institutional Mechanisms of Programme Implementation and Service Delivery – Government of Karnataka, 2010-2011, (Principal Investigator – Dr. Vinod Vyasulu, Co-PI – Harini Rajesh, CBPS Team, \$12000)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Effective Teaching Practices Certificate Program: Association Of College And University Educators (ACUE), 2021-2022

CeMENT Workshop: Committee on Women's Status in the Economics Profession (CSWEP), 2022

Data Analytics Certificate Program: Cornell University (e-Cornell), 2020

GENERAL INTEREST WRITING

Pandemics and Food Systems – Towards a Proactive Food Safety Approach to Disease Prevention & Management [Read Here](#)

Rising obesity in rural India, under the growing urban shadow [Read Here](#)

Migration Mess: Using a Food Systems Lens to Understand India's Migrant Crisis after COVID-19 [Read Here](#)

Tackling India's Food Systems Challenges in the Era of Climate Change [Read Here](#)

Examining the Indian nutrition transition: Reducing the risks for obesity by 2050 [Read Here](#)

Promoting equitable growth for 2050 [Read Here](#)

Gender Recap in Light of #MeToo [Read Here](#)

The Incentive Mechanisms of the Rashtriya Swastha Bima Yojana (RSBY) – are they geared for service delivery? The Case of Karnataka [Read Here](#)

The Elephant in the Insurance Controversy Room [Read Here](#)

Mother's Day, a Reflection [Read Here](#)

MEDIA MENTIONS

Alumna Uses Research to Tackle Health Disparities	Read Here
TCI at 5: Five years of the Tata-Cornell Institute	See Here
Study: Causes of obesity in India depend on gender, age and where you live	Read Here
Health Insurance and Infant Mortality: Evidence from India	Listen Here
What's next on India's Plate?	
Opportunities and challenges for creating an equitable food system by 2050	See Here
Rising obesity in rural India, under the growing urban shadow	See Here
Indian diet changed, but not for the better, say expert	Read Here
What is on India's plate? Both undernutrition and obesity	Read Here
It takes a Village	Read Here
Book Launch: Coverage by Cornell Media	Read Here
Book Launch Event: International Food Policy Research Institute	See Here
Transforming Food Systems for a Rising India	See Here
Interstate differences in the Indian Growth Story	See Here
Must- and Should-Reads: September 14, 2017, By Brad DeLong	Read Here
Paying to be Treated Well, By Arathi Mohan	Read Here
Up Goes the Economy, Down Slips Healthcare, Special Correspondent	Read Here