

# Paul J. Strasberg

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## Career Summary

Applied economist with progressively greater responsibility in conducting social science impact evaluations across a range of fields over more than two decades of professional experience. Areas of experience and expertise include (a) assessment of compliance with Fair Lending provisions of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act and the Fair Housing Act; (b) design and implementation of experimental- and quasi-experimental impact evaluations to inform policymakers and Congress about the effectiveness of public programs in the areas of nutrition, K-12 education and agricultural productivity. Graduate education includes a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics and a Masters of Public Affairs.

## Professional Experience

### **ADI Compliance Consulting, Inc. 2009-Present**

*Senior Economist, Fair Lending Services*

As a leader of ADI's Analytics Group, Paul assists financial institutions and other private sector clients through econometric and other statistical analyses associated with impact evaluations. Recent examples of this work relate to Fair Lending and impact evaluations, as described below.

- ∴ **Fair Lending:** Paul is responsible for the design and implementation of statistical models that assess the extent to which groups protected under Federal law may have experienced disparate treatment or disparate impact for a range of lending outcomes, including underwriting decisions, loan pricing and the use of pricing exceptions in loan pricing. Paul works closely with leaders at client firms to understand their business environment and customer base and to tailor technical solutions to their circumstances. Paul represents and advises clients with respect to Federal and State regulatory and enforcement agencies with oversight responsibility.

Note: Paul began full-time employment at ADI in 2011 and worked as a consultant to ADI in Fair Lending in 2009 and 2010.

- ∴ **United States Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agriculture Service, 2009-11**

*Program Manager, Caucasus Agricultural Development Initiative*

- **Management of International Development Assistance:** Paul managed a program funded by the US Dept. of State under the Freedom Support Act of 1992 with a \$7 million annual budget to promote the transition of the Georgian and Armenian agricultural sectors toward a market-based framework. As Program Manager, Paul designed and implemented a



system to evaluate the effectiveness of USDA programming through cost reimbursable and cooperative agreements with a range of U.S. Land Grant Universities, Georgian- and Armenian-based partners, other Federal Agencies (e.g., National Agricultural Statistics Service, Millenium Challenge Corporation and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)).

∴ **United States Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, 2005-09**

*Education Research Analyst, National Center for Education Evaluation*

- **Evaluation of Effectiveness of Federally Funded Initiatives in Education:** As a Project Officer, Paul led large scale, multi-year experimental evaluations of the impact of targeted school- and classroom-level interventions in: (a) adolescent literacy to determine the impact on student reading and teacher adoption outcomes; (b) substance abuse prevention through Mandatory Random Student Drug Testing to determine the impact on high school student use of alcohol, tobacco and other substances. Paul also led the design and implementation of an evaluation of Federally-supported Comprehensive Technical Assistance Centers to provide support to State Education Agencies in the implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act.

∴ **United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), 1999-2005**

*Social Science Research Analyst, Office of Analysis, Nutrition and Evaluation*

- **Evaluation of the Effectiveness and Efficiency of Child Nutrition Programs:** Paul led a body of work that resulted in 10 published studies that assessed the effectiveness of the system by which families are reviewed and approved for free or reduced price school meals under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the School Breakfast Program. Paul served as Project Officer for an influential quasi-experimental study of the NSLP Application / Verification Pilot Projects and presented findings to Congressional staff and leading interest groups, whereby the results from this study provided the foundation for regulatory changes adopted by Congress in the 2004 Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act. Paul served as FNS Advisor to the Economic Research Service of USDA to coordinate joint implementation of related impact evaluation activities.

∴ **University of Wisconsin, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, 1998-99**

*Associate Researcher and Economist, The Land Tenure Center*

- **Evaluation of Land Tenure in Enhancing Agricultural Productivity and Food Security:** Paul led the design and implementation of a series of studies under a USAID cooperative agreement of large scale, survey-based studies of the relationship between smallholder land/tree tenure issues and agricultural commercialization in Mozambique. Paul often presented results and interpretation of findings to key Mozambican, World Bank and USAID policy officials to inform the ongoing Land Law Reform dialogue.

– **Michigan State University, Department of Agricultural Economics, 1994-98**

*Assistant Professor and Coordinator, Socio-Economic Studies in Mozambique*

- ∴ Paul led a four year evaluation of the role of agricultural commercialization through smallholder cotton on household income, caloric availability and agricultural productivity in the Cotton Belt of Northern Mozambique. Paul served as Economic Advisor to the Ministry of Agriculture and USAID officials, supporting their goals of economic recovery in post-war Mozambique.
- ∴ Paul developed and taught quantitative methods courses on the design of economic studies analyzing household-level agricultural survey data for host country national mid-level professionals
- ∴ Paul supervised a staff of 35 responsible for data collection and relationship-building with 21 communities across two provinces in northern Mozambique.

## **Education**

- 1997 – Ph.D., Agricultural Economics; Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan
- 1990 – Masters of Public Affairs; Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin
- 1986 – Bachelor of Arts, Political Science; Indiana University; Bloomington, Indiana