

# Beyond boundaries

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Propositions accompanying the PhD dissertation  
**Beyond Boundaries: Integrating Refugees and Consolidating Farmland.**  
**Essays in Experimental and Development Economics**

by Mariajose Silva Vargas

1. The integration of disadvantaged workers, such as immigrants and refugees, into host-country labor markets and society is a pressing global question (Chapter 1 and Chapter 2).
2. Enhancing social cohesion between refugees and locals is achievable through workplace contact (Chapter 1).
3. Exposing local firms to skilled refugee workers for a week significantly increases their willingness to hire refugees in the future (Chapter 2).
4. The misallocation and fragmentation of land in low-income countries' agriculture can be addressed through carefully designed trading rules (Chapter 3).
5. Development economics research is crucial for poverty reduction as it examines the factors influencing poverty and informs evidence-based policies to foster sustainable growth.
6. Ethics in empirical research is indispensable for safeguarding the dignity and well-being of participants and also contributes to the credibility and reliability of the research outcomes.
7. Supporting policies that enable refugees to access employment opportunities can significantly aid their integration process, while at the same time boosting the economic and social prosperity of local businesses.
8. "Economics is too important to be left to economists."

- Abhijit V. Banerjee and Esther Duflo