

Rafael López Valverde

My varied background in of public policy, data analysis and web development offers me a uniquely holistic perspective. Through these lenses I can see a project all the way from its conceptualization, through its practical realization of careful large scale data handling, to a suited communication through engaging graphical visualization, all while retaining an eye on every detail. My experience with politics but practical and academical has made me deeply aware of its shape and nature

Relevant Work Experience

Month.Year

Quality of Government Institute | Database Supervisor | Sweden

10.23-...

We track governmental quality worldwide through 400 million data points

- Research methods to scale current indicators across 100,000 European geographical units
- Explore AI tools to enhance the Institute's services
- Improve the user-friendliness of databases and visual products

Universidad de Los Andes | Digital Strategist | Colombia

02.23-10.23

The Inter-American Development Bank, the Colombian Government, and Universidad de los Andes collaborated to pilot the inclusion of a food waste section within the Colombian Government's Annual Service Survey

- Developed the digital strategy and oversaw a web app's creation for information collection
- Coordinated the implementation with Colombian authorities, IDB and university researchers

PaiP | Co-Founder | Bolivia

04.21-02.23

Data driven company providing advanced analytical support for the private sector in Bolivia

- Occasionally advising on data automatization and visualization
- Facilitated the adoption of modernized technological infrastructure and evidence-based decision-making processes. Supported 10 private sector companies ranging from financial services to transportation.

United Nations | Impact Analyst | Bolivia

07.22-10.22

UN implemented a multi-agency [peace-building program](#) for political reconciliation in Bolivia

- Led a team from UNDP, UNHCHR and UN-WOMEN to gather, organize and evaluate information to assess the program's impact
- Developed a framework to track and evaluate the program's progress over its second iteration
- Constructed a interactive web-based platform to communicate the results

Unternehmensberatung Diversity | Web developer | Germany

05.22-08.22

Unternehmensberatung Diversity offers technical assistance for German public servants on digital transformation

- Developed a web app for live streaming capacity-building events

Avina Foundation | Head COVID-19 Statistics and MEL | Latin America

05.20-03.21

Latin American foundation working in 30 countries across four continents, focusing on Climate Action, Democratic Innovation and Regenerative Economy

- Co-developed a tracker for [COVID-19 infections](#) and [vaccinations](#) across 20 Latin American countries. The trackers were featured by news media such as [Dutsche Welle](#) and [El País](#)
- Co-advised the Bolivian Electoral Body using [COVID-19 cycle simulations](#) to set the date for the 2020 national elections
- Developed the framework to evaluate Avina's \$2 million investment in civic organizations promoting democratic changes within the [Pulsante](#) program

United Nations Development Program | Political & Data Analyst | Bolivia **01.21-05.21**

UNDP convened a group of researchers to delve deeper into the outcomes of the 2020 Bolivian national election, eventually resulting in the publication of a book

- Translated the political campaigns into a quantitative analysis of the national election results, identifying the factors behind the outcomes
- Co-authored the chapter titled 'The Null Hypothesis'

USAID | Data Analyst | Bolivia **02.20-04.20**

USAID funded a web-based simulation of the Bolivian electoral system to enhance public understanding

- I led a team of developers to build a web-based simulator to enable users to construct various congressional compositions based on Bolivian electoral rules
- The simulator was broadly used by general population, newspapers and researchers

Presidential Campaign of [Carlos Mesa](#) | Main Data Strategist | Bolivia **01.19-11.19**

Former Bolivian President and presidential candidate for 2019 Bolivia's national election

- Developed voters segmentation based on historical electoral results to refine campaign advocacy and messaging targeting
- Responsible for statistically predicting the outcome of the election
- Provided input to the communication team based on AB testing

[Institute for Development of Freedom of Information](#) | Researcher | Georgia **09.18-01.19**

IFDI is a Georgian organization advancing democratic governance through the International Public Procurement Legislation Index

- Contributed to the [Bolivian Index](#) by assessing its public procurement legislation

[Avina Foundation](#) | Impact Analyst | Costa Rica **12.18-06.20**

The project aimed to prove that rural Costa Rican communities, by supplying water services among themselves, could do so more efficiently than through other methods

- Prepared the baseline for impact evaluation
- Designed a statistical model for impact evaluation with a statistically significant result

[La Paz' Municipal Public Transport Company](#) | Data Analyst | Bolivia **08.18-01.19**

Public transport company operating 162 buses in the city of La Paz, Bolivia. The project aimed to improve service efficiency through data automation

- Organized the complete history of bus operations by cleaning 53,000 datasets spanning 4 years of service operation and maintenance
- Designed a [simulation](#) of the bus routes to forecast areas for system improvement, resulting in an outline for potential daily reduction of delays

United Nations Development Program | Researcher | Bolivia **06.13-8.14**

UNDP aimed to assess if local governments were prepared to support Bolivia's radical territorial reform of 2009

- Presided over, researched, and co-wrote the thematic development report titled: ["Subnational Institutional Capacity Baseline"](#)
- Designed and implemented indicators to measure the institutional strength of local governments in response to Bolivia's new constitutional framework

Ministry of Autonomy | National Director | Bolivia **08.11-04.13**

Its role was to bolster the constitutional reform of 2009

- Led a team to promote tax collection and enhance legislative capacities in the intermediate tier of government, resulting in the enactment of 300 subnational laws
- Wrote a [guide](#) on the distribution of responsibilities among tiers of government
- Advised the Minister on political and technical matters, including during cabinet sessions

Main Education

Month.Year

- Master of Public Policy | Hertie School & NUS | Germany & Singapore 09.14-05.16
- Bsc. Political Science | Universidad Mayor de San Andrés | Bolivia 01.02-11.05

Additional Training

Month.Year

- Full Stack Developer | MITxPro 10.21-06.22
- Micro Master on Data, Economics, and Development Policy | MIT (3/5) 06.19-09.20
- Practitioner's course Local Governance | Universität Freiburg | Switzerland 03.13
- Training program, Local Development | JICA Tokyo Centre | Japan 03.10
- Training workshop on Applied Research Methods | Sussex University | U.K 07.08

Selected publications and visualizations

- [History of COVID-19 infections in one graph](#)
- [Why COVID-19 vaccination rates are different amongst Bolivian municipalities](#) (available in Spanish)
- [Population density of Sweden](#)
- [How close are you to your best possible life?](#)
- [Atoms, information, data and combinations](#) (available in Spanish)
- [Race against poverty](#) (available in Spanish)
- [New York Times replica](#)

Teaching experience

- Digital transformation | Master degree | [Escuela de la Productividad y Competitividad](#) | Bolivia | 2019 to 2023
- Introduction to Data Analysis | Bachelor degree | [Escuela de la Productividad y Competitividad](#) | Bolivia | 2020 to 2022

Programming languages

R, MERN Stack, Svelte and D3