

# Raoul van Maarseveen (Uppsala University)

Published on April 15, 2022 – Updated on April 15, 2022

Date

Le 20 April 2022 De 17:30 à 18:30

Informations complémentaires :5.30 pm CET

Webinar: The Economics of Migration. The effect of urban migration on educational attainment: evidence from Africa.

## The effect of urban migration on educational attainment: evidence from Africa

### ABSTRACT

Does urban migration in developing countries improve the opportunities available to children? And does childhood urban exposure increase educational attainment? Using census data for 14 African countries combined with an age-at-move design, I show that childhood exposure to cities significantly raises primary school completion, school attendance, and literacy rates. The increase in educational attainment is robust to the inclusion of household fixed effects, visible in all subgroups and countries, and particularly large for girls. The paper thus provides evidence of a channel through which urban migration can stimulate economic growth in developing countries, even in the absence of structural transformation.

[Read the paper](https://drive.google.com/file/d/14CfR91479WQpEe2ODS7H4eDbX_6Y2rdJ/view)(https://drive.google.com/file/d/14CfR91479WQpEe2ODS7H4eDbX\_6Y2rdJ/view)

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