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Levy Economics Institute of Bard College Receives \$211,000 to Continue Study of Potential Impacts of Policies that Expand Care Services in Mexico

ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, NY —The Levy Institute has been awarded a \$211,000 contract by the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) and the Government of Mexico’s Instituto Nacional de las Mujeres for the second phase of a project examining the potential impact of policies expanding social care services in Mexico.

Institute scholars Rania Antonopoulos, Thomas Masterson, Ajit Zacharias, and Fernando Rios-Avila will model the effects of extended school days for school-age children and the provision of universal elder care. Their work will estimate the impacts of each of these potential policy interventions on the income, consumption, and time poverty of individuals and households in Mexico.

“There has been increased interest in the expansion of care services in Mexico as well as in other countries in recent years,” notes Masterson, “in part due to its potential to better enable women’s labor force engagement. With a better understanding of the multiple impacts of unlocking this potential labor, an expansion of the social provisioning of care could be promoted with an eye towards women’s economic empowerment, economic growth, and perhaps poverty reduction.”

This project, the first phase of which estimated the expansion of early childhood education, applies an analytical framework developed at the Institute: the Levy Institute Measure of Time and Income/Consumption Poverty (LIMTIP/LIMTCP).

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