

BERT LENAERTS

SUMMARY

Highly motivated young professional with an engineering degree in bioeconomics and biogeography, currently working as a PhD researcher in economic geography and data science.

CONTACT INFO

Address

Gouverneur Verwilghensingel 97 Apt. 6
3500 Hasselt
Limburg, Belgium

Phone

(+32) 458 74 51 31

Email

bert.lenaerts@uhasselt.be

WWW

bertlenaerts.github.io

KEY SKILLS

Data Analysis

R

Foreign experience

LANGUAGES

English (Full Professional)

Dutch (Native or Bilingual)

French (Limited Working)

HONORS-AWARDS

Fulbright Scholar UHasselt-MIT

IRRI Certificate of Appreciation

PUBLICATIONS

[Google Scholar profile](#)

[ResearchGate profile](#)

EXPERIENCE

European Commission, Brussels, Belgium

Blue Book Trainee

Fall 2019–2020

Internship at DG MOVE

Hasselt University, Hasselt, Belgium

PhD Researcher

2017–2022

My research focuses on (1) quantifying the connectivity of the global air transport network; and (2) estimating the economic benefits associated with (market) access as generated through the air transport network.

Fulbright Association, Brussels, Belgium

Fulbright Scholar UHasselt-MIT

Fall 2018–2019

Fulbright Belgium grants Scholarship Programs to conduct (pre-)doctoral research and post-doctoral research at an accredited U.S. institution. Its goal is to improve intercultural relations, cultural diplomacy, and intercultural competence. Under the Fulbright Program, I visited MIT for the Fall semester to conduct research on aviation.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston

Visiting Scholar

Fall 2018–2019

During my research stay, I empirically investigate the effects of air transport on macroeconomic indicators (i.e. employment) using instrumented spatial panel models through the use of a newly established accessibility metric developed at MIT.

International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Los Baños, Philippines

Research Scholar

Summer 2016

Analysis of the factors influencing gendered intra-household decision-making power and performance in designing optimal product profiles (breeding lines) through a fractional regression.

MS Research Scholar

Summer 2015

Firstly, an ex-ante economic impact assessment of a new breeding method called Rapid Generation Advance through modelling and literature study. Secondly, development of an online survey platform to reach breeders from across the world and subsequent analysis of adoption and willingness to adopt through a combined triple-double hurdle model.

Vlajo Small Business Projects, Leuven, Belgium

Entrepreneur

October 2014–June 2015

Through Vlajo SBP trial companies are launched in colleges and universities in Flanders. It enables students to form a tangible image of different aspects of entrepreneurship and starting your own business during their studies. Especially an attitude towards entrepreneurial behaviour is developed.

Arba Minch University, Arba Minch, Ethiopia

University of Leuven field course

November 2014

Applied field study to learn how to integrate and apply knowledge on agro- and ecosystems in the tropics, biodiversity, tropical soils and agricultural economics to characterize (sub)tropical agro- and ecosystems and better understand constraints and options for natural resources management.

EDUCATION

Hasselt University, Hasselt, Belgium

Program: PhD Program in Applied Economics, Doctoral School of Behavioural Sciences & Humanities 2017–2022

Thesis: Global Air Transport Connectivity: Quantification and Impact Analysis 2017–2022

Commission for Educational Exchange between the U.S., Belgium and Luxembourg, Brussels, Belgium

Program: Fulbright Student Researcher, Fulbright Belgium 2018–2019

University of Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

Program: Interuniversity Student in Econometrics and Quantitative Economics 2017–2018

Master of Science (magna cum laude) in Policy Economics 2017–2016

Master of Science (magna cum laude) in Agro- and Ecosystems 2016–2014

Engineering with major in Economics

Bachelor of Science (cum laude): Engineering in the Biosciences 2014–2011

Thesis: Environmental lessons of NAFTA for TTIP 2017–2016

Economics of shorter breeding cycles in rice breeding 2016–2015

SKILLS

Data Analysis

Experience with data wrangling, data visualisation, data mining and statistical data analysis

Extensive knowledge of quantitative economics, specifically (spatial) panel and time series econometrics.

Excellent working experience in Stata, R, SQL and Windows Office Excel

Moderate working experience in MATLAB, Python and Visual Basic for Applications (VBA)

Interpersonal Skills

University Teaching

Teacher Training

General

Open to new cultures and traditions

Team player

Independent

TRAINING

Online coding and programming courses

Spatial Econometrics Advanced Institute (summer school)–SEA, Rome

Management and leadership program 'Leadership in a Globalizing Context'–KU Leuven

PUBLICATIONS

- Collard, B.C.Y., Beredo, J.C., Lenaerts, B., Mendoza, R., Santelices, R., Lopena, V., Verdeprado, H., Raghavan, C., Gregorio, G.B., Vial, L., Demont, M., Biswas, P.S., Iftekharrudaula, K.M., Rahman, M.A., Cobb, J.N., Islam, M.R., 2017. Revisiting rice breeding methods – evaluating the use of rapid generation advance (RGA) for routine rice breeding. *Plant Production Science* 20, 337–352. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1343943X.2017.1391705>
- Lenaerts, B., Allroggen, F., Malina, R., 2019a. Measuring the quality of air transport networks – A topology of connectivity and accessibility metrics, in: *Handbook on Air Transport and Regional Development* (under Review).
- Lenaerts, B., Collard, B.C., de Mey, Y., Demont, M., 2019b. Global survey data on rice breeders' characteristics and willingness to adopt alternative breeding methods. *Data in Brief* 23, 103782. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2019.103782>
- Lenaerts, B., Collard, B.C., Demont, M., 2019c. Improving global food security through accelerated plant breeding. *Plant Science* 287, 110207. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.plantsci.2019.110207>
- Lenaerts, B., Collard, B.C.Y., Demont, M., 2018a. Global survey of rice breeders to investigate characteristics and willingness to adopt alternative breeding methods. *Agriculture & Food Security* 7, 15. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40066-018-0191-3>
- Lenaerts, B., de Mey, Y., Demont, M., 2019d. Revisiting multi-stage models for upstream technology adoption, Advanced draft. International Rice Research Institute.
- Lenaerts, B., de Mey, Y., Demont, M., 2018b. Global impact of accelerated plant breeding: Evidence from a meta-analysis on rice breeding. *PloS one* 13, 21. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0199016>