YUANHANG WANG

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Texas A&M University
College of Agriculture & Life Sciences
Department of Agricultural Economics

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Development Economics, applied microeconomics, climate change, poverty

EDUCATION

Texas A&M Univesity — College Station, TX
PhD in Agricultural Economics — 2020 - Present
Advisor: Kashi Kafle.

Texas A&M Univesity — College Station, TX
MS in Economics — 2018 - 2020

Rutgers University — New Brunswick, NJ
BA in Economics, minor in Statistics (Cum Laude) — 2017

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Texas A&M University Graduate Research Assistantship — 2022-2024
AAEA Trust Scholarship — 2022
Texas A&M University Graduate Teaching Assistantship — 2020-2022

WORK IN PROGRESS

"Weather shocks and migration among small-scale farmers in Uganda"
Kashi Kafle, Yuanhang Wang, Barnabas Kiiza.

"Remittance and Personal Security in Kyrgyzstan"
Yuanhang Wang, Kashi Kafle, and Shahriar Kibriya.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Remittance and Personal Security in Kyrgyzstan
Advisors: Kashi Kafle and Shahriar Kibriya. — Jan 2023 – Present

-Conducted literature reviews on remittance, regional conflict, and social security.
-Used the "Life in Kyrgyzstan" Study (LiK Study) data to study the interrelationship between remittance, security, and conflict.
-Used data from The Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) for crossvalidation.
-Wrote draft based on the updated results.

Weather shocks and migration among small-scale farmers in Uganda

Advisors: Kashi Kafle, Barnabas Kiiza Jan 2022 – Present

-Conducted literature reviews on migration and weather shocks.

-Used the Living Standard Measurement Study – Integrated Survey in Agriculture (LSMS-ISA) panel data from Uganda to study the interrelationship between migration, agriculture, and climate change.

-Gathered meteorological rainfall and temperature data from Copernicus ERA5-Land hourly data and merged it with LSMS-ISA household data using ArcGIS.

-Conducted two focused group discussions in Uganda. Designed the questionnaire. Collected data from interviewees and prepared the summary report.

Forecasting 2020 US Recession Probability with Multivariate Logistic Modele

Advisor: Li Gan 2020

-Conducted literature reviews on inversed spread terms and other financial market indicators.

-Constructed the static nonlinear model and neural network model to estimate the spread term forecasting probability of recessions in history.

-Yielded results with recession will occur in the third quarter of 2020 with the static nonlinear model; recession will occur in the first quarter of 2020 with the neural network model.

College Towns: Handle Data With Care

Mentors: Dennis W. Jansen 2019

-Conducted college town list based on restricted criteria using American Community Survey (ACS).

-Investigated the college town counties in aspects of house affordability, education level, age, ethnicity, and crime rate for report writing.

Published on Private Enterprise Research Center [Download the latest version here].

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching assistant, Department of Agricultural Economics

AGEC 430: Macroeconomics of Agriculture	Fall 2021
AGEC 434/634: Rural Financial Markets and Financial Planning	Sring 2021
AGEC 603: Land Economics	Sring 2021
AGEC 430: Macroeconomics of Agriculture	Fall 2020
AGEC 317: Economic Analysis for Agribusiness Management	Fall 2020

Teaching assistant, Department of Economics Spring 2020

ECON 312: Poverty, Inequality and Social Policy

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Zheshang Venture Capital LLC Hangzhou, China

Enterprise Risk Management Specialist 2018

-Supported necessary due diligence on deals and prepared industrial analysis reports.

-Supported risk management specialists with customer interviews, data collection, and basic evaluation.

-Discussed the due diligence results with the investment managers during the weekly meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

Weather shocks and migration among small-scale farmers in Uganda

Population Association of America, poster presentation Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA. April 2023

Himalayan Policy Research Conference, University of New Mexico, online presentation. July 2022

Remittances, perception of security, and incidence of violence in Kyrygzstan

FragileLives 2024, Berlin, Germany. Oct 2024

Life in Kyrgyzstan Conference, online presentation. Oct 2024

SKILLS

Programming

Proficient in: STATA, R, MATLAB.

Familiar with: SAS, ArcGIS, LS-DYNA, Python, LaTex, Photoshop.

LANGUAGES

Chinese (Native), English (advanced)

OTHER INTERESTS

Reading, shooting, motorcycle, car, history, library, cooking, movies, and road trip.

SELECTED PAPER ABSTRACTS

• "Remittance and Personal Security in Kyrgyzstan." With Kashi Kafle and Shahriar Kibriya. **(Job Market Paper)**
(HiCN selected paper 2024)

Remittance is a key component of the Kyrgyz economy; remittance constitutes 33% of the country's GDP in 2021. With a long history of ethnic conflicts, political riots, and domestic revolutions, migration is commonplace. Even though insecurity and instability are major drivers for migration, little is known about the relationship between remittance and security. We explore the relationship between remittance and personal security of left-behind household members using longitudinal data between 2010 and 2019. Data come from the Life in Kyrgyzstan survey which collects data from over 10,000 individuals and 2,000 households. We estimate the remittance-security relationship using an ordinal logistic fixed effect estimator. Remittance-receiving households are more likely to feel secure than non-migrant households. We construct an instrument variable with a generalized structural equation model to address the endogeneity of the remittance. Reverse causality, selection bias, and omitted variable bias are also discussed. Heterogeneity analysis shows that remittance is negatively related to the perceived security of poor, female-headed

households, and ethnic minority households. The findings highlight the importance of remittances on individual and household security in a context where insecurity-induced migration is common.

• "Weather shocks and migration among small-scale farmers in Uganda." With Kashi Kafle and Barnabas Kiiza.
(ICAE selected paper 2024)

Frequent and intense weather shocks can have profound implications on small-scale farmers in developing countries. In the absence of reliable and timely weather information, unprecedented weather shocks can influence farmers' decision-making. We take the case of Uganda to investigate the relationship between weather shocks and migration among smallholders. Using longitudinal data from a nationally representative integrated household and agricultural survey – Living Standard Measurement Study-Integrated Survey in Agriculture (LSMS-ISA) –, we examine if household-level weather shocks affect temporary migration. We use the two-way fixed effects estimator on household-level data from seven survey periods between 2009 and 2020. Results show that weather shocks reduce migration among poor households, and the relationship is more pronounced for smallholders. We also find that the relationship differs by the type of migration. Weather shocks reduce migration for employment and educational purposes, but migration for other reasons is not affected by weather shocks. We identify reduced agricultural productivity and low farm revenue as potential channels for the negative relationship between weather shocks and migration.

• "Short-term weather shock and farm-household level crop choice in Uganda."

I investigate how weather variability influences crop choices among Ugandan farmers using household-level panel data and regression techniques. I analyze the effects of average rainfall, temperature, deviation in growing degree days, and drought magnitude on crop planting decisions across seasons. In the first rainy season, decreased average rainfall and higher temperatures reduce the number of crop types planted, indicating farmers' cautious approach during drier and warmer periods. Conversely, increased crop diversity occurs with higher rainfall during the second rainy season. Quantile regression reveals consistent patterns across different quantiles of crop types. Crop-specific analyses show that in the first rainy season, increased rainfall boosts the share of cereal and root crops but decreases fruit and cash crops. Temperature variations influence crop shares differently across seasons, particularly affecting oil and cereal crops. Results indicate farmers adapt their planting decisions according to weather conditions, prioritizing staple food crops during dry spells but increasing crop diversity during favorable weather. Understanding these dynamics is critical for informing policies aimed at enhancing agricultural resilience and sustainability amidst changing climate.