

Sofia Badini

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Education

2021 – present Ph.D. Environmental Economics
Chair of Environmental Economics and Natural Resources
Wageningen University, The Netherlands
2018 – 2021 MSc. Economics (*sehr gut*)
University of Bonn, Germany
Winter 2017 Visiting student
Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands
2015 – 2018 BSc. Economics and Finance (*cum laude*)
University of Bologna, Italy

Working Papers

Information frictions, overconfidence, and learning:
Experimental evidence from a floodplain

I use an online experiment to study whether offering information to floodplain residents is sufficient to change their perceived risk exposure and demand for insurance. The participants are offered information on the flood risk profile at their address and on the rules over compensation of flood damages. I find that respondents tend to misperceive their risk category according to publicly available flood maps, but express high levels of confidence in their guesses. When not prompted to engage with the information they are offered, one third of them read nothing. Respondents who are asked to read information on their risk profile tend to stop reading any further and report a lower willingness-to-pay for insurance. However, this effect does not seem to be driven by respondents learning more from the information they are provided with, at least based on how they update their beliefs. Instead, I find suggestive evidence of backlash to information among residents of high risk areas and individuals who initially underestimated their risk category.

Work in Progress

Erratic adaptation to flood risk in information-rich, high-income communities
(with Anna Abatayo and Andries Richter)

More frequent and intensive flooding events require effective household adaptation measures. Here, we investigate how household adaptation measures relate to objective, expected household damages in the South of the Netherlands. By combining publicly available flood maps, a national hydraulic model, and a large-scale survey, our study reveals a mismatch in spatial patterns of flood risk and adaptation at the household level, emphasizing inequalities in both exposure and adaptation strategies. Further, the study explores the determinants of household adaptation, recognizing the potential amplification of climate-driven inequalities.

Employment History

- 2020 – 2021* Institute for Applied Microeconomics, Bonn
Research Assistant at [Covid-19 Impact Lab](#), developer of the [Covid Impact Lab Data Explorer](#)
- 2019 – 2021* briq Institute on Behavior and Inequality, Bonn
Research Assistant
- Winter 2019* United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Bonn
Intern at Adaptation Programme – Impacts, Vulnerability and Risks

Teaching Experience

- 2021 – 2024* Climate Governance (MSc.), tutor and guest lecturer
Wageningen University

Grants

- 2021* SurveyCTO Data Collection Research Grant, honourable mention

Conferences and Seminars

- 2024* (*including scheduled*) LSE Environment Camp, Monte Verità Conference on Sustainable Resource Use and Economic Dynamics (SURED), 29th Annual Conference of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE)
- 2023* Wageningen University EconMonday seminar, Wageningen University Development Economics seminar, Dutch Environmental and Resource Economists (DEARE) Day, Young Economists' Meeting, 24th Annual BIOECON Conference
- 2022* Wageningen University EconMonday seminar, Wageningen University Development Economics seminar, EAERE Summer School

Professional Activities

- 2021 – present* PhD representative
Chair of Environmental Economics and Natural Resources
Wageningen University
- 2020 – 2021* Contributor of *respy*
[respy](#) is an open source framework written in Python for the simulation and estimation of some finite-horizon discrete choice dynamic programming models.

Other Information

- Languages* Italian (native), English (fluent), German (basic)
- Programming* Python, *R*, \LaTeX , Google Earth Engine