LARTEY Abraham

Contact
Information

Fundamentos del Análisis Económico (FAE)
Universidad de Alicante
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FIELDS OF

International Economics, Environmental & Natural Resource Economics, Empirical Development

Interest Macroeconomics

EDUCATION University of Alicante, Spain

PhD Economics 10/2018 –present

Advisors: Prof. Fidel Pérez Sebastián and Prof. Pedro Albarran Pérez

MSc Quantitative Economics 2016-2018

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology(KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana

MSc Economics 2014-2015 B.Sc. Agriculture (First Class Honors) 2009-2013

TEACHING EXPERIENCE University of Alicante, Spain

Macroeconomics III, Graduate course in English (TA), Spring 2019–Spring 2021
Mathematics I, Undergraduate course in English (TA), Fall 2018–Fall 2020

KNUST(2013/2014 academic year)

Production Economics, Undergraduate course in English (TA) Agricultural Policy, Undergraduate course in English (TA)

Agricultural & Trade Policies in Developing Countries, Undergraduate course in English (TA)

Professional & Research Experience

Africa Fellow, The World Bank 01/2021 - 06/2021PhD Intern, International Monetary Fund 06/2020 - 09/2020Research Assistant, Africa Centre for Energy Policy 03/2016 - 08/2016Research Associate, Energy Media Group(EMG). 11/2015 - 02/2016Student Researcher, Wageningen University and Research Centre 01/2014 - 12/2014

Honors/Awards/ Grants Care Work and the Economy (CWE-GAM) Summer Fellowship

World Bank Group Africa Fellowship

DRAC Mobility Scholarship, University of Alicante

Santiago Grisolia Predoctoral Fellowship, Generalitat Valencia,

Department of Economics Scholarship, University of Alicante, Spain

Award of Excellence, Best performing student of Msc Economics KNUST, Ghana

2018

PUBLICATIONS

Ackah, I., Lartey, A., Acheampong, T., Kyem, E & Ketemepi, G (2020). Between altruism and self-aggrandisement: Transparency, accountability and politics in Ghana's oil and gas sector. Energy Research & Social Science

Alabi, O., Ackah, I., & Lartey, A. (2017). Re-visiting the renewable energy-economic growth nexus: Empirical evidence from African OPEC countries. *International Journal of Energy Sector Management*, 11(3), 387-403.

Ackah, I., Alabi, O., & Lartey, A. (2016). Analysing the efficiency of renewable energy consumption among oil—producing African countries. *OPEC Energy Review*, 40(3), 316-334. Ingram, V. J., Yago-Quattara, E. L., Lartey, A., Mogre, D., Wijnands, J., & van den Berg, J. (2015). *Gender dynamics in cashew and shea value chains from Ghana and Burkina Faso.*, LEI Wageningen UR (University & Research centre), LEI Report 2015-039. 60 pp.; 5 fig.; 16 tab.; 178 ref.

WORKING PAPERS

Intensive and Extensive Margin of manufacturing exports: impact of commodity windfalls" (Job market paper)

I exploit the exogenous variation in the windfalls generated by the increase in prices of all major commodities during the early 2000s to assess the impact of commodity windfalls on the intensive and margin of manufacturing exports. I found that the windfalls had a negative effect on both the intensive and extensive margins of the more exportable manufacturing products relative to the less exportable manufacturing products. However, the negative impact observed on aggregate at the extensive margin is largely driven by new exporters while that of the intensive margin is driven by incumbent exporters. The result underscores the fact all exporters are not alike, and the effects differ depending on the type of exporter. I also found that commodity windfalls increase the wages and decreases the labor productivity of the highly exportable manufacturing products relative to low-exportable manufacturing products. This implies that commodity windfalls increase the cost of exporting and only the most productive firms can enter the market. Also, public expenditure experienced a significant boost during the boom era. However standard policy prescriptions such as expenditure rules are effective in dampening the effects of commodity windfalls at the extensive margin but not at the intensive margin. Natural resource funds on the other hand do not play any significant role in dampening the negative effects at both margins.

Do Natural Resources make Countries Poor at Taxation?

I exploit the exogenous variation in the timing of giant oil and gas discoveries to estimate the causal impact of natural resources on taxation. It has often been argued that countries that produce natural resources mobilize less non-resource tax revenues than other countries. The timing of giant oil discoveries is arguably exogenous and thus renders them appealing to empirically examine this argument. This allows one to examine the performance of non-resource tax revenue effort before and immediately after discovery as well as the period corresponding to the inflow of revenues from the production. We do find that non-resource tax revenues tend to increase for the first two years after a discovery. When we disaggregate non-resource tax revenues into direct and indirect components, we do find that non-resource indirect tax revenues tend to increase in both the preproduction and production periods. Further analysis shows that non-resource tax revenues experience an increase in non-high-income countries while the positive effect on indirect tax revenues in both the pre-production and production is present (absent) only in non-high income (high income) countries. This effect is largely driven by an increase in the consumption of goods and services. The results suggest that the abundance of natural resources might not be a reason why some of these countries mobilize less non-resource tax revenues.

Chinese Development Finance and Agricultural Productivity: Evidence from Tanzania

Improvement in agricultural productivity plays a key role in the process of economic development. Investment in critical infrastructure has been documented in the literature as one of the pathways to boost agricultural productivity. In this paper, I investigated whether foreign aid aimed at economic and social infrastructure can help improve agriculture productivity in Tanzania. I combined household panel data with rich farm level information with geocoded Chinese development projects. I then exploit the within village level variation in the total number of Chinese financed development projects in a panel fixed effects model to examine their effects on agricultural productivity. I find a positive effect on agricultural productivity in villages that are located within 25km of these projects. This is largely driven by economic

infrastructure. The results are robust to alternative definitions of Chinese financed development projects. I also found that the mechanisms driving the results are commercialization and access to improved seeds. This suggests that these projects connect farmers to input and output markets.

Selected works in Progress

Natural resource contracts in Africa (with Flavien Moreau and Antoine Arnoud)

Tax Structures and Renewable Energy Consumption

Weather variability and access to finance by Small & Medium Scale Enterprises(SMEs)

Food standards, trade and welfare in Senegalese agrifood firms (with Dela-Dem Doe Fiankor)

Seminars / Conferences / Workshops

2021: International Conference in Development Economics, World Bank Africa Fellowship BBL, Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society, 9th Annual Conference of the Italian Asso-

ciation of Environmental and Resource Economists

2020: CSAE Conference 2020(cancelled due to COVID), 8th PhD Student Workshop on In-

dustrial and Public Economics (WIPE)

2019: 1st Spanish Economic Association PhD School, 41st Annual Meeting of the Association

of Southern European Economic Theorists

Professional Membership

European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE)

Italian Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (IAERE)

Urban Economics Association The Econometric Society

Review

African Development Review(3x), Sustainability(1x), International Journal of Energy Sector Assignment

Management(2x), OPEC Energy Review(1x)

Computer Skills

R, Python, MATLAB, STATA, SPSS, Eviews, Git, GitHub, LaTex, Microsoft Suite, GIS(R, ArcGIS

and QGIS)

References

Fidel Pérez Sebastián

Professor of Economics

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fidel.perez@ua.es

Flavien Moreau

Economist

International Monetary Fund

IMF, 700 19th St NW, Washington, DC 20431 FMoreau@imf.org

Pedro Albarran Pérez

Associate Professor of Economics

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