

Chiman Cheung

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EDUCATION	University of California, Berkeley Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics – <i>Designated Emphasis in Political Economy</i>	Expected May 2026
	University of Cambridge M.Phil. in Economics	2015 – 2016
	University of Warwick B.Sc. in Economics	2012 – 2015
VISITING POSITION	Visiting Researcher Institute for Economic Development, Boston University (Host: Dilip Mookherjee)	2018 – 2019
PUBLICATION	Digital Payments Francis Annan, Chiman Cheung, Xavier Giné <i>Oxford Review of Economic Policy</i> , 2024, 40(1): 118–228.	
WORKING PAPERS	Information and Collective Will Against Environmental Harms: Experimental Evidence from Ghana's Galamsey (JMP) Chiman Cheung Funded by JPAL Governance Initiative (\$46,772), Weiss (\$45,872), IGC (GBP 20,000), CEGA (\$19,208). Abstract: Information can spur community collective action against environmental harms, but its effectiveness depends on how it is delivered and by whom. Local leaders can legitimize and transmit new information, or distort and suppress it when incentives misalign. We study these trade-offs in the context of artisanal and small-scale gold mining (<i>galamsey</i>) in Ghana. In a cluster randomized controlled trial across 99 <i>galamsey</i> communities, stratified by leader conflicts of interest, we screened a documentary on mercury's health risks either privately to leaders (traditional local chiefs) or publicly to both leaders and community members. Leader-only screenings improved health-risk learning among chiefs but had no detectable effects on community learning, preferences for local mining rules, or collective action participation. Public screenings, in contrast, increased community learning and participation, as reflected in higher sign-ups for regular assembly meetings and more frequent community discussion of <i>galamsey</i> . When paired with non-conflicted leaders, public screenings shifted community preferences toward stricter mining bylaws, whereas under conflicted leaders, they instead polarized these preferences. Together, the results suggest that building consensus and mobilizing community collective action requires both an informed public and non-conflicted leadership; neither alone is sufficient.	
	Political Economy of Information Disclosure: Evidence from Indian Rural Road Quality Audits Chiman Cheung <i>Sidney Hoos Award for the Best Second Year Paper</i>	
IN PROGRESS	Eliciting and Utilizing Willingness to Accept Information: Evidence from Mining Communities in Ghana Chiman Cheung, Ei Thandar Myint Funded by Weiss (\$44,305), CEGA (\$4,995).	
	Digital Innovation in Ghana – Interventions Targeted at Addressing Leakage (DIGITAL) Francis Annan, Patrick Asuming, Stefano Carattini, Chiman Cheung, Justice Mensah Funded by JPAL King Climate Action Initiative (\$200,054).	
	Internet Access in Post-Conflict Recovery: Experimental Evidence from Liberated Areas in Myanmar Chiman Cheung, Ei Thandar Myint Funded by Weiss (\$14,462), CEGA (\$5,000).	

A Comprehensive Accounting of the Health Costs of Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Ghana
 Chiman Cheung
 Data secured through partnership with the Ghana Health Service.

HONORS	2025 – 2026	Giannini Foundation for Agricultural Economics Mini-grant	\$20,000
	2024	Andrew and Mary Thompson Rocca Fellowship, Center for African Studies	\$10,000
	2024	Lau Graduate Fellowship in Climate Equity	\$10,000
	2023 – 2024	Network for a New Political Economy (N2PE) Research Grant (3×)	\$15,000
	2022 – 2023	Law, Economics, and Politics Center Research Fellowship	\$9,000
	2020 – 2022	Various Internal Grants, UC Berkeley (6×)	\$17,000
	2012 – 2015	C.H. Chan Overseas Full Scholarship	\$116,000
EMPLOYMENT	Research Assistant to Francis Annan, UC Berkeley	2023 – 2025	
	Research Assistant to Ernesto Dal Bó and Frederico Finan, UC Berkeley	2021	
	Research Assistant to Albert Park and Abhiroop Mukherjee, HKUST	2017 – 2018	
	Research Assistant to Xiaobo Zhang, Peking University	2016 – 2017	
TEACHING	Data and Decisions (MBA)	2025	
	Intermediate Microeconomics with Applications to Sustainability (4×)	2022 – 2025	
	Environmental Economics	2024	
	Introduction to Economics	2021	
	Natural Resource Economics	2020	
SERVICES	Referee: American Journal of Agricultural Economics		
	CEGA Peer Mentor for Aja Fatou Senghore (University of The Gambia)	2024	
	Pre-Doc Mentoring at Economists for Equity at Berkeley (BEE)	2023	
	Graduate Student Mentor, Social Sciences Research Pathways, IRLE	2022	
	Organizer, Development and Political Economics Student Conference (Berkeley & Stanford)	2022	
PRESENTATION	NEUDC; UC Davis; Stanford Environmental and Energy Economics Festival	Scheduled	
	CEGA Working Group in African Political Economy Annual Meeting (University of Ghana)	2024	
SKILLS	Proficient: Stata, R Competent: Python, QGIS		
LANGUAGES	Cantonese (native), English (fluent), Mandarin (fluent)		
CITIZENSHIP	Hong Kong SAR, China		
REFERENCES	Ernesto Dal Bó UC Berkeley edalbo@berkeley.edu +1 (510) 643-1606	Francis Annan UC Berkeley fannan@berkeley.edu +1 (917) 971-8455	Frederico Finan UC Berkeley ffinan@berkeley.edu +1 (510) 642-7284