

Colette Salemi

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Research interests

Applied environmental and development microeconomics

Employment

University of Victoria Victoria, B.C., Canada
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics 2022 – present

Education

University of Minnesota St. Paul, MN
PhD in Applied Economics 2022
Dissertation title: *Three essays on forced displacement*

University of Chicago Chicago, IL
MA in Public Policy 2016
MA in Middle Eastern Studies 2015

Williams College Williamstown, MA
BA in Political Science 2010

Publications

Dampha, Nfamara, **Colette Salemi**, Stephen Polasky, Amare Gebre Egziabher, and Wendy Rappeport (2025). Refugees and Host Communities' Vulnerability to Climate and Disaster Risks in Rwanda. *Frontiers in Climate* 7.

Bousquet, Julie, Anna Gasten, Mark Marvin Kadigo, Jean-François Maystadt, & **Colette Salemi** (2025). Does perceived labor market competition increase prejudice between refugees and their local hosts? Evidence from Uganda and Ethiopia. *Journal of Development Economics*, 175.

Bell, Chris, Ekaterina Rhodes, Zoe Long, & **Colette Salemi** (2025). Do economic trade-offs matter in climate policy support? Survey evidence from the United Kingdom and Australia. *Energy Policy*, 197.

Johnson, Justin A., Uris Lantz Baldoz, Erwin Corong, Thomas Hertel, Stephen Polasky, Raffaello Cervigni, Toby Roxburgh, Giovanni Ruta, **Colette Salemi**, & Sumil Thakrar (2023). Investing in nature can improve equity and economic returns. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 120(27).

Assaad, Ragui, Caroline Krafft, & **Colette Salemi** (2022). Socioeconomic Status and the Changing School- to-Work Transitions in Egypt, Jordan, and Tunisia. *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, 76(4).

Johnson, Justin A. & **Colette Salemi** (2022). Agents on a Landscape: Simulating spatial and temporal interactions in economic and ecological systems. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, 524.

Dampha, Nfamara, **Colette Salemi**, Wendy Rappeport, Stephen Polasky, & Amare Gebre Egziabher (2022). Climate Resilience Development in Rwanda: Evaluating Refugees and Host Populations' Vulnerability to Climate-Induced Risks. *Forced Migration Review* (69).

Salemi, Colette (2021). Refugee Camps and Deforestation in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Journal of Development Economics* 152.

Bloem, Jeffrey R., & **Salemi, Colette** (2021). COVID-19 and Conflict. *World Development* 140.

Pellicer, Miquel, Ragui Assaad, Caroline Krafft, & **Colette Salemi** (2020). Grievances or skills? The effect of education on youth attitudes and political participation in Egypt and Tunisia. *International Political Science Review*, 43(2)

Working papers

Anti, Sebastian, **Colette Salemi**, Jonathan Rigberg, Johannes Hoogeveen, and Karishma Silva (2025). A new expanded dataset to study refugee camps in sub-Saharan Africa. *Under Review at World Bank Economic Review*

Fall, Cheikh, Amy Damon, & **Colette Salemi** (2025). Farmers' Responses to Desert Locust Swarms. *Under review at American Journal of Agricultural Economics*

Colette Salemi (2025). Rohingya Refugee Camps and Land Cover Change in Bangladesh. *Under review at Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*

Anti, Sebastian & **Colette Salemi** (2022). Hungry Hosts? Refugee Camps and Host Community Child Nutrition in sub-Saharan Africa.

Demandre, Obleo, C. Austin Davis, and **Colette Salemi** (2025). Greenspace and Rohingya Refugee Mental Health in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

Rizk, Reham, & **Colette Salemi** (2020). Children of War: Conflict and Child Welfare in Iraq. ERF Working Paper Series, no. 1439.

Permanent working papers

Anti, Sebastian, **Colette Salemi**, & Kaitlyn Wilson (2020). Introducing the African Refugee Dataset 1999-2016.

Dampha, Nfamara, **Colette Salemi**, & Stephen Polasky (2022). Rohingya refugee camps and forest loss in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh: an inquiry using remote sensing and econometric approaches. World Bank Working Paper #9948.

Salemi, Colette, Jay Bowman, & Jennifer Compton (2018). Services for Syrian Refugee Children and Youth in Jordan: Forced Displacement, Foreign Aid, and Vulnerability. Economic Research Forum Working Paper Series, no. 1188.

Book chapters

Assaad, Ragui, Abdelaziz AlSharawy, & **Colette Salemi** (2021). Is the Egyptian Economy Creating Good Jobs? Job Creation and Economic Vulnerability from 1998 to 2018. In: *The Egyptian Labor Market: A Focus on Gender and Economic Vulnerability*. Oxford University Press.

Krafft, Caroline, Maia Sieverding, **Colette Salemi**, & Caitlyn Keo (2018). Syrian Refugees in Jordan: Demographics, Livelihoods, Education, and Health. In *The Jordanian Labor Market: Between Fragility and Resilience*. Oxford University Press.

Assaad, Ragui & **Colette Salemi** (2018). The Structure and Evolution of Employment from 2010 to 2016 in Jordan. In: *The Jordanian Labor Market: Between Fragility and Resilience*. Oxford University Press.

Rizk, Reham, & **Colette Salemi** (2018). "Own Account Workers in Jordan: Profile and Work Characteristics." In: *The Jordanian Labor Market: Between Fragility and Resilience*. Oxford University Press.

Popular press

Julie Bousquet, Anna Gasten, Mark Marvin Kadigo, Jean-Francois Maystadt, & **Colette Salemi** (2025). How do labour market fears shape attitudes towards refugees? *VoxDev* (June 16th).

Colette Salemi & Ragui Assaad. (2021). Partnering with organizations in an international context: lessons from NGO workers in East Africa. *Open Global Rights* (February 12th)

Colette Salemi. (2020) Does covid-19 raise the risk of violent conflict? Not everywhere. *The Washington Post Monkey Cage* (October 15th).

Research grants

Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)

Insight Development Grant July 2023
Title: *Firewood and deforestation: A study of the clean cookstove sector and the effect of clean cookstoves on forests*
Role: Principal investigator
Co-PI's: Sebastian Anti and Abubakr Ayesh
Amount: \$70,472 CAD

The International Growth Centre

Small Projects Facility Funding April 2025
Title: *The Impact of Improved Cookstoves on Forest Cover in Rwanda*
Role: Principal investigator
Co-PI's: Sebastian Anti and Abubakr Ayesh
Amount: £16,119.51 GBP

Courses taught

University of Victoria 2022—present
ECON 381/ES 312: Environmental Economics
ECON 499: Honours Seminar

University of Minnesota 2017—2022

PA 5501: Theories and Policies of Development
APEC 1101: Principles of Microeconomics
PA 5021: Microeconomics for Policy Analysis
PA 5503: Economics of Development

Invited talks

2025: University of Sydney Social Conflict and Political Economy Workshop, Simon Fraser University (scheduled), University of Utah (scheduled)

2024: Ostrom Workshop Colloquium, University of Indiana

2023: IFPRI Applied Microeconomics and Development Seminar, Wilfred Laurier University, Syracuse University

2022: Bowdoin College; Georgia Institute of Technology; University of Alaska Anchorage; University of British Columbia Faculty of Food and Land Systems

Conference & workshop presentations

“Rohingya refugee camps and land cover change in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh”, Presented at: Australasian Development Economics Workshop, **June 5th, 2025**

”Does perceived labor market competition increase prejudice between refugees and their local hosts? Evidence from Uganda and Ethiopia” Presented at: Joint Data Center for Forced Displacement Third Research Conference on Forced Displacement, **September 20th, 2024**

“Rohingya refugee camps and land cover change in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh”, Presented at: Canadian Economics Association Annual Meeting, **June 2nd, 2023**; Canadian Agricultural Economics Society Annual Meeting, **July 19th, 2023**

“COVID-19 & Conflict: An Update” Presented at: UN University World Institute for Development Economics Research Conference, **September 6th, 2021**

“Refugee Camps and Deforestation in sub-Saharan Africa” Presented at: Online Agricultural and Resource Economics Seminar (OARES), **December 9th, 2020**. [Click here to watch this talk.](#)

“COVID-19 and Conflict” Presented at: Households in Conflict Network (HiCN) Annual Workshop, **November 11th, 2020**

“Refugee Camps and Deforestation in sub-Saharan Africa”, Poster presented at: Joint Data Center for Forced Displacement (JDC) Research Conference on Forced Displacement, **January 16th, 2020**

“Do Refugees Cause Deforestation? A Quasi-Experimental Spatial Analysis of sub-Saharan Africa 2000-2012”, Presented at Columbia University’s Interdisciplinary PhD Workshop on Sustainable Development, **April 13th, 2019**

Skills

Programming

I primarily code in R, Google Earth Engine, and Stata.

Languages

French (intermediate spoken and written), Modern Standard Arabic (intermediate spoken and written), Egyptian Arabic (intermediate spoken and written)

Peer reviewer for

Agricultural and Resource Economics Review; American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Applied Economics; Canadian Journal of Economics; Climatic Change; Conflict, Security, and Development; Disasters; Economic Development and Cultural Change; Environmental Conservation; European Review of Agricultural Economics; Food Policy; Government and Opposition; International Organization; International Political Science Review; Journal of African Economies; Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists; Journal of Development Economics; Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control; Journal of Peace Research; Middle East Development Journal; PLOS ONE; Political Behavior; Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences; Refuge: Canada's Journal on Refugees; Review of Black Political Economy; Scientific Reports; Translational Issues in Psychological Sciences; World Bank Economic Review; World Development

Other referee services

Grant application reviews: Leverhume Trust (2024); European Research Council (2025)

Grant committee service: National Science Foundation OISE Panel (Summer 2024)

Conference abstract reviews: American Agricultural Economics Association 2024 Annual Meeting

Departmental service

Seminar committee	July 2022–present
Unit standards committee	May–Sept. 2023
Working paper committee	July 2023–present

Awards

American Agricultural Economics Association

AJAE Outstanding Reviewer Award	2024
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Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota

Doctoral Dissertation Award	2022
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Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota

Jason M. Beddow Award for Outstanding Second Year Paper	2020
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Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota

Outstanding Teaching Assistant, 1000 Level Courses	2020
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