

LORENZO SILECI

Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment
London School of Economics and Political Science, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE
✉ l.sileci@lse.ac.uk ♦ ☎ +393284477266

RESEARCH INTERESTS

I am an applied economist working at the intersection of environmental and development economics, with a specific focus on the spatially heterogeneous impacts of public policy on human and ecological outcomes. I approach these questions by leveraging big data, remotely sensed information and causal inference techniques.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, LSE 02/2023 -
Postdoctoral Research Officer
The Economics of Biodiversity Additionality (BIOADD)

LSE, Department of Geography and the Environment 02/2023 -
Visiting Research Fellow

EDUCATION

London School of Economics and Political Science, UK 2018 - 2023
PhD in Environmental Economics
Thesis: “Causal Inference in Spatial Environmental Economics”
Examined by Prof. Paul Ferraro and Prof. Hendrik Wolff
Awarded without corrections

London School of Economics and Political Science, UK 2016 - 2017
MSc in Environmental Economics and Climate Change (Distinction)

University of Sydney, Australia 2015
Postgraduate Coursework Exchange Program (Distinction)

University of Florence, Italy 2011 - 2014
BA in Economics and Trade (110/110 *cum laude*)

PUBLICATIONS

3. Groom, B., Palmer, C., and Sileci, L. (2022). “Carbon emissions reductions from Indonesia’s Moratorium on forest concessions are cost-effective yet contribute little to Paris commitments”. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 119 (5), February 2022. [[Available at PNAS](#)]
2. Bates, A. E. *et al.* (2021), “Global COVID-19 lockdown highlights humans as both threats and custodians of the environment”. Biological Conservation 263, 109-175. [[Available at Biological Conservation](#)]
1. Amador-Jiménez, M., Millner, N., Palmer, C., Pennington, R.T. and Sileci, L. (2020). “The Unintended Impact of Colombia’s Covid-19 Lockdown on Forest Fires”. Environmental and Resource Economics 76, 1081-1105. [[Available at Environmental and Resource Economics](#)]

WORKING PAPERS

Sileci, L., “Carbon Pricing with Regressive Co-benefits: Air Quality and Health Effects from British Columbias Carbon Tax are Positive but Unequally Distributed” [[JMP - latest version](#)] (presented at LSE, AERE, EAERE, BIOECON)

Palmer, C., Groom, B., Sileci, L., and Langton, S. (2023) “Biodiversity-food trade-offs when agricultural land is spared from production”. Geography and Environment Discussion Paper Series (34). Department of Geography and Environment, LSE, London, UK. [*Revise and resubmit at Americal Journal of Agricultural Economics*] [[Available at LSE](#)]

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Carbon Pricing in Presence of Permeable Borders: The Case of British Columbia’s 2008 Carbon Tax” [presented at LSE Geography, SASCA PhD Conference]

“More Than Just Carbon: The Socioeconomic Impact of Large-Scale Tree Planting” (with Jeffrey Pagel) [presented at CEC-PSL]

“Oil Spills, Agricultural Production and Deforestation in Nigeria” (with Elena Perra and Marco Sanfilippo)

“Policy Layering and Biodiversity Additionality in Indonesia” (with Ben Groom and Charles Palmer)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

GY476: Applied Geographical Information Systems 2022

London School of Economics and Political Science

- MSc-level core module in Geographic Data Science

GY222: Applied Environmental Economics 2023

London School of Economics and Political Science

- BSc-level core module in Environmental Policy with Economics

GY499: Dissertation 2019-23

London School of Economics and Political Science

- Methodological supervision to postgraduate students’ dissertations

GY350: Dissertation 2019

London School of Economics and Political Science

- Methodological supervision to undergraduate students’ dissertations

CONFERENCES AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2023: IAERE, envecon, AERE, EAERE, BIOECON, CEC-PSL, GRI Empirical Seminar

2022: LSE Geography, SASCA PhD Conference, LSE WIP Seminar

2021: LSE Geography, UniFi DELoS Seminar

2020: SWEEET, LSE Geography, GRI

2019: LSE Geography, GRI, LEEP

2018: LSE Geography, LSE South East Asia Centre, BIOECON

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

European University Institute

01-08/2021

Research Associate, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, Global Governance Programme

- Data visualisation and preliminary analyses;
- Write-up of the Report's data section and technical appendix;
- Development and deployment of the website containing the online appendix for the EUI's GGP "[Services and Economic Development in Africa](#)" project.

European University Institute

05/2020 - 01/2021

Research Assistant, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, Global Governance Programme

- Data collection, cleaning, and harmonisation for the EUI's GGP "[Services and Economic Development in Africa](#)" project.

Carbon Cap Management LLP, London, UK

05-06/2019

External Consultant

- Technical report on the U.S. Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), EU ETS and Western Climate Initiative (WCI) cap-and-trade carbon markets.

LSE Middle East Centre

01-04/2018

Research Assistant

- Project on the Implications of Counter-Insurgency Policies in Palestine: "Do counter-insurgency policies change the way people make decisions? Evidence from a Natural Experiment". Elicitation of Risk and Time Preferences on a dataset of Palestinian households situated in proximity to the West Bank wall.

Grantham Research Institute for Climate Change and the Environment 09/2017 - 04/2018

Research Assistant

- Literature Review for a paper on UK FDI and green innovation. Data Cleaning and Analysis on the ONS UK ARDx Dataset. Accredited Researcher at the UK Office of National Statistics.

LSE, Department of Geography and Environment

09/2017 - 02/2018

Research Assistant

- GIS Analyses and data cleaning for a paper on Land Sparing in Agricultural Landscapes (presented at ENVECON2018, London, UK).

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Statistical Software

R (advanced), STATA (proficient), Python (beginner)

Other Software & Tools

L^AT_EX, Google Earth Engine, QGIS, RMarkdown, GitHub, MS Office

Languages

Italian (native), English (fluent), Spanish (basic)

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Productivity and Merit Scholarship, University of Florence.

2011-2014

Abroad Master Scholarship, Regione Toscana, Italy. €14,000

2016-2017

Research Grant, LSE South East Asia Centre. £5,000.

2018

PhD Research Scholarship, Economic and Social Research Council, UK. Full scholarship.

2018-2022

REFERENCES

Prof. Ben Groom

Department of Economics

University of Exeter

✉ B.D.Groom@exeter.ac.uk

Prof. Charles Palmer

Department of Geography and the Environment

London School of Economics and Political Science

✉ c.palmer1@lse.ac.uk

Prof. Paul Ferraro

Carey Business School

Bloomberg School of Public Health

Whiting School of Engineering

Johns Hopkins University

✉ pferraro@jhu.edu

Prof. Hendrik Wolff

Department of Geography and Environment

London School of Economics and Political Science

✉ h.wolff@lse.ac.uk