

# LORENZO SILECI

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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I am an environmental and development economist. My current research focusses on the environmental justice implications of climate policy and on the interplay between poverty alleviation and environmental conservation and restoration. I approach these questions by leveraging big data, remotely sensed information and current quasi-experimental methods in causal inference and machine learning.

## CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

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**Grantham Research Institute for Climate Change and the Environment, LSE**

Postdoctoral Research Officer

*The Economics of Biodiversity Additionality (BIOADD)*

## EDUCATION

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**London School of Economics and Political Science, UK**

*September 2018 - April 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**

*September 2016 - 2017*

MSc in Environmental Economics and Climate Change (Distinction)

**University of Sydney, Australia**

*January 2015 - July 2015*

Postgraduate Coursework Exchange Program (Distinction)

**University of Florence, Italy**

*September 2011 - December 2014*

BA in Economics and Trade (110/110 *cum laude*)

## PUBLICATIONS

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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

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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

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**Sileci, L. “Carbon Pricing in Presence of Permeable Borders: The Case of British Columbia’s 2008 Carbon Tax”** (presented at LSE Geography)

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

**Pagel, J. and Sileci, L. “More Than Just Carbon: The Socioeconomic Impact of Large-Scale Tree Planting”** (presented at CEC-PSL)

**Perra, E., Sanfilippo, M. and Sileci, L. “Oil Spills, Agricultural Production and Deforestation in Nigeria”**

**Sileci, L., Palmer, C., and Groom, B. “Policy Layering and Biodiversity Additionality in Indonesia”**

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**GY476: Applied Geographical Information Systems** *MT 2022*  
*London School of Economics and Political Science*

- MSc-level core module in Geographic Data Science

**GY222: Applied Environmental Economics** *LT 2023*  
*London School of Economics and Political Science*

- BSc-level core module in Environmental Policy with Economics

**GY499: Dissertation** *MT-LT 2023*  
*London School of Economics and Political Science*

- Methodological supervision to postgraduate students’ dissertations

**GY350: Dissertation** *MT-LT 2019*  
*London School of Economics and Political Science*

- Methodological supervision to undergraduate students’ dissertations

## CONFERENCES AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS

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

**2022:** LSE Geography, GRI, LSE WIP Seminar

**2021:** LSE Geography, GRI, UniFi DELoS Seminar

**2020:** SWEEET, LSE Geography, GRI

**2019:** LSE Geography, GRI, LEEP

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

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### European University Institute

January 2021 - August 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

May 2020 - January 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

May - June 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

January - April 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

2017-2018

*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

2017-2018

*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

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### Statistical Software

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

### Other Software & Tools

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Google Earth Engine, QGIS, RMarkdown, GitHub, MS Office

### Languages

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

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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*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

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**Prof. Ben Groom**

Department of Economics

University of Exeter

✉ [B.D.Groom@exeter.ac.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:pferraro@jhu.edu)

**Prof. Hendrik Wolff**

Department of Geography and Environment

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