UNIVERSITY OF BORDEAUX

Jérémy Do Nascimento Miguel

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Contact Information

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Doctoral Studies

Bordeaux School of Economics, Univ. Bordeaux
PhD Economics, Expected completion Fall 2024
DISSERTATION: "Grades and Standards For African Farmers"

Fulbright Visiting Scholar, UC Berkeley, 2022-2023
Sponsors: Alain de Janvry and Elisabeth Sadoulet

Visiting Scholar, University of Georgia, Fall 2021
Sponsor: Nicholas Magnan

PRIMARY FIELDS: Development
SECONDARY FIELDS: Agricultural Economics, Applied Econometrics

References

Professor Tanguy Bernard
tanguy.bernard@u-bordeaux.fr
Bordeaux School of Economics

Doctor Gashaw T. Abate
G.Abate@cgiar.org
IFPRI - Markets, Trade, and Institutions Unit

Professor Elisabeth Sadoulet
esadoulet@berkeley.edu
UC - Berkeley

Professor Erwin Bulte
erwin.bulte@wur.nl
Wageningen University

Prior Education

University of Bordeaux	M.Sc. Development Economics and Applied Statistics	2019
University of Bordeaux	B.A. Economics and Law	2017

Teaching

Univ. Bordeaux	*Introduction to Stata (Graduate level)*, Lead Instructor	2024
	Microeconomics (Undergraduate level), TA for Ion Lapteacru	2024
	Economic issue in Africa (Graduate level), Lead Instructor with Eric Rougier	2023
	Machine learning for policy evaluation (Graduate level), Lead Instructor	2023
	Causal Inference I (Graduate level), TA for Tanguy Bernard	2021, 2022 & 2024
IFPRI - Ethiopia	*Machine learning for policy evaluation*, Lead Instructor	2023

Languages

French (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (Advanced), Portuguese (Basic)

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

2022 Fulbright Fellowship ($24,500)

Publications

"Competition on Agricultural Markets and Quality of Smallholder Supply", with E. Bulte and B.P. Anissa. *Economic Development and Cultural Change*. 2024. [Text]

Research Papers

"General equilibrium effects of social policy: evidence from the Ethiopian Productive Safety Net Program" (JOB MARKET PAPER)

"Returns to Quality in Rural Agricultural Markets: Evidence from Wheat Markets in Ethiopia." *Revision requested* by *Journal of Development Economics*. 2024. [Text].
In many Sub-Saharan countries, farmers cannot meet the growing urban demand for higher quality products. While the literature has focused on production-side constraints to enhance smallholder farmers' output quality, there is scarce evidence of market-side constraints. Using a sample of 60 wheat markets in Ethiopia, I assess whether farmers received a price premium for supplying higher quality outputs. I exploit a unique feature of the data which precisely measures observable and unobservable quality attributes, and relate them to transaction prices. I find that observable attributes cannot serve as proxies for unobservable ones. Transaction prices further reflect this, indicating that markets only reward quality attributes that are observable at no cost. However, these results hide cross-market heterogeneity. Traders use relational contracting to reduce unobservable quality uncertainty and secure access to high-quality supply. Observable quality attributes are better rewarded in more competitive markets, while unobservable attributes are rewarded in the presence of other value chain actors (i.e., grain millers and farmer cooperatives). Both regression and machine learning approaches support these findings.

"Fixing markets for unobservable quality, Lab-in-the-field evidence from rural wheat traders in Ethiopia." with G. T. Abate, T. Bernard, E. Bulte, and E. Sadoulet.
Enhancing the access of smallholder farmers to profitable value chains can improve their incomes and overall well-being. This requires farmers to adopt new practices and technologies that raise productivity and improve product quality. We focus on the role of the intermediating sector, particularly on the role of traders' expectations regarding the quality of produce supplied by farmers, and analyze incentives for farmers to produce high-quality output. Our theoretical model demonstrates how quality expectations can be a self-fulfilling prophecy-perpetuating either bad equilibria (low quality, low prices) or opening up good ones (high quality, high prices)-and how an institutional innovation such as the introduction and promotion of certification services can set in motion a development trajectory from the bad to the good steady state. We conduct a lab-in-the-field experiment among wheat traders in Ethiopia to study how "demand" for high quality crops is mediated by expectations and certification. Our experimental results provide mixed support for theoretical predictions. While trader expectations regarding farmer supply matter for trader investments, we also find that traders fail to optimally respond to new opportunities created by certification.

"Relaxing information asymmetry at transaction time and agricultural practices: experimental evidence from Ethiopian wheat farmers" with G. T. Abate and T. Bernard.
Adoption of quality-enhancing technologies is often driven by farmers' expected returns, but these returns can be uncertain without proper grading systems. We conducted an experiment with 1,184 wheat farmers in Ethiopia to test the impact of a video-based training intervention on quality measurement and collective marketing. We first provide novel descriptive evidence that crop with different quality are differently used and document sources of quality dispersion. Our intervention can be the trigger point, yet insufficient, to reduce farmers' information asymmetry regarding unobservable quality and traders' weighing scale accuracy. This decline in information asymmetries translate through input adoption: treated farmers increase input intensity utilization by about 0.17 standard deviation. Our results suggest that further interventions could be beneficial for enhancing adoption of improved technologies and commercialization practices.

Research in Progress

"Experimental design for encouraging the adoption of Aflasafe among small-scale farmers in Nigeria" with T. Bernard, Y. Liu, N. Kawarazuka, and T. Wossen. [SPIA presentation].
Data collection stage

"Technology Adoption and the Commercialization of Staple Crops: Evidence from Ugandan Cassava Processing" with M. Kato and J. Silver.
Pilot stage

"Lab-in-the-field experiment with breeding experts" with T. Bernard, B. Kramer, V. Pede, B. Rice, and C. Trachtman.
Data collection stage

Talks

2024	CSAE (Oxford), Doctorissimes (Paris School of Economics)*, BSE Development Seminar*
2023	PACDEV (Univ. Washington), UC Berkeley Dev. Lunch, GARESEC (UC Davis) ICDE (Paris School of Economics), IRES lunch (UC. Louvain)
2022	Journees Doctorales du Developpement (Sorbonne Univ.), MIEDC (Univ. of Minnesota), ICDE (AFEDEV), BSE Ph.D. students' seminar, UC Berkeley Development Lunch
2021	BSE Development Seminar, UGA Development Workshop, NEUDC (Boston University)
2019	BSE Ph.D. students' Seminar

Field Experiences

Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda.

Refereeing

AJAE, European Review of Agricultural Economics, Food Policy, World Development

Activities

2022	Student Representative: Bordeaux School of Economics
2021 - 2022	Co-organizer: BSE Ph.D. students' seminar
2021	Organization committee: International Conference in Development Economics [Link]

Technical competences

Google Earth Engine, LaTeX, QGIS, R, Python, Stata, SurveyCTO

Citizenship

French