

Joshua W. Deutschmann

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Academic Employment

Development Innovation Lab, Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics,
University of Chicago

Evidence Synthesis and Research Lead, April 2023–

Postdoctoral Scholar, July 2021–April 2023

Affiliations

Secretariat, Innovation Commission for Climate Change, Food Security, and Agriculture,
2023–

Education

Ph.D. Agricultural & Applied Economics, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2021

M.A. Economics, Boston University, 2013

B.A. Economics (Honors Scholar), B.S. Mathematics (In Honors), *Magna Cum Laude*,
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, 2012

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Spillovers without social interactions in urban sanitation

with Molly Lipscomb, Laura Schechter, and Siyao Jessica Zhu.

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, forthcoming.

Privatization of public goods: Evidence from the sanitation sector in Senegal

with Jared Gars, Jean-François Houde, Molly Lipscomb, and Laura Schechter.

Journal of Development Economics, Vol. 160, 2023.

Measuring willingness to pay for reliable electricity: Evidence from Senegal

with Agnieszka Postepska and Leopold Sarr.

World Development, Vol. 138, 2021.

The reform of energy subsidies in Iran: The role of cash transfers,

with Djavad Salehi-Isfahani and Bryce Stucki.

Emerging Markets Finance and Trade, Vol. 51, Issue 6, 2015.

Working Papers

Relaxing multiple agricultural productivity constraints at scale

(*Revised & Resubmitted, Journal of Development Economics*)

with Maya Duru, Kim Siegal, and Emilia Tjernström. *NBER Working Paper No. 26054*

Flexible contracting and quality upgrading under market volatility: experimental evidence
from Senegal (*under review*)

with Tanguy Bernard and Ouambi Yameogo.

Blog and podcast coverage: [World Bank Development Impact Blog](#); [NOVAFRICA Development Economics Job Market Talks Podcast](#)

Recognizing a good deal: short-term subsidies and the dynamics of public service use
(*Revise & Resubmit, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*)

Does others' health count for peanuts? Health, market returns, and pro-sociality
with Gashaw Abate, Tanguy Bernard, and Fatou Fall

Using auctions to improve sanitation at scale
with Jared Gars, Shoshana Griffith, Jean-François Houde, Terence Johnson, Molly Lipscomb, Mbaye Mbeguere, Sarah Nehrling, Laura Schechter, and Siyao Jessica Zhu

Long-run impacts of increased access to asset-collateralized loans on incomes and resilience
with Michael Kremer, Alex Lehner, and Giulio Schinaia

Policy Publications

Evidence Review for Food Security, Nutrition, and Climate-Resilience Interventions (2024)
with Murphy, K., Rudder, J., Cappucci, M., Cherian M., Elmera, C., Fundukova, L., Kaiser-Tedesco, A., Ortiz-Riomalo, A., Puri, J., Salas, I., Songsermsawas, T.

Innovation Commission Research Brief in collaboration with the Development Innovation Lab at the University of Chicago (DIL), the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD), and the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ)

Press Appearances

"The Poop Cartel," July 25, 2018: [Planet Money](#) (Episode 855); July 27, 2018: [All Things Considered](#) and [Goats and Soda](#). NPR

Grants & Fellowships

International Growth Centre (2024): *Reducing Sewer Blockages through Improved Targeting* with Molly Lipscomb [\$43,500]

Wellspring-DIL Ag fund (2022): *Social learning and technology diffusion over the medium run*, with Michael Kremer [\$290,000]

PEDL-CDC Major Research Grant (2022): *Credit for climate change: Water tanks as a means of resilience*, with Tomoko Harigaya and Michael Kremer [\$610,000]

J-PAL King Climate Action Initiative (2021): *Promoting asset-collateralized loans using digital advisory services*, with Tomoko Harigaya and Michael Kremer [\$208,000]

J-PAL King Climate Action Initiative (2021): *Sustainable spillovers: the health and environmental impacts of solar energy adoption*, with Lori Beaman, R Subramanian, and Emilia Tjernström [\$62,000]

PEDL Exploratory Research Grant (2020): *The effect of government relief measures on SME employment and survival in Burkina Faso during the COVID-19 crisis*, with Soumaila Gansonre, Louise Guillouet, and Aristide Ouedraogo [\$40,000]

J-PAL/CEGA Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative (2019): *Credit, uncertainty, and monitoring for technology adoption: The case of Aflasafe in Senegal*, with Tanguy Bernard, Laura Schechter, and Ouambi Yameogo [\$141,000]

PEDL Capacity Building Grant (2019): *Exploring the structure of maize markets in Burkina Faso*, with Soumaila Gansonre, Louise Guillouet, and Aristide Ouedraogo [\$6,000]

CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets (2019): *Enhancing returns to technology adoption through independent certification: the case of Aflasafe in Senegal*, with Tahirou Abdoulaye, Tanguy Bernard, Konlambigue Matieyedou, Laura Schechter, and Ouambi Yameogo [\$315,000]

Kenneth and Pauline Parsons Graduate Fellowship Fund Research Travel Grant (2019)

UW–Madison Student Conference Travel Grant (2020)

UW–Madison Student Research Travel Grant (2019)

UW–Madison AAE Conference Presentation Travel Grants (2018, 2020)

UW–Madison / Mellon Foundation Area and International Studies Research Fellowship (2017)

UW–Madison University Fellowship (2015–2016; 2018–2019)

Invited Seminars

2024 World Bank; Oberlin College; IFPRI

2023 Cornell University, Kennesaw State University

2022 University of Virginia

2021 Toulouse School of Economics; Sherbrooke University

2020 USDA Economic Research Service

2019 IDinsight Dakar

Conferences and Workshops

2025 AEA/ASSA*

2024 Advances with Field Experiments; AGFUND High–Level Workshop; Workshop on the Economics of Food Safety and Agricultural Quality (organizer); World Water Week/ADBI; UNGA79 Science Summit; Brazilian Econometric Society*

2023 Advances with Field Experiments; IPA/GPRL Annual Researcher Gathering; Brazilian Econometric Society

2022 Advances with Field Experiments; NOVAFRICA Conference on Economic Development; AAEA Annual Meeting; IPA/GPRL Annual Researcher Gathering; NEUDC

2021 AEA/ASSA Annual Meeting (Poster); CEPR STEG 2021 Annual Conference; Oxford Centre for the Study of African Economies; AAEA Annual Meeting (International Section); MWIEDC; NBER Risks in Agricultural Supply Chains; ADBI–IFS Workshop on Sanitation and Development

2020 Oxford Centre for the Study of African Economies (cancelled); AAEA Annual Meeting (Selected Presentation, cancelled); LEAP/LdA Virtual Summer School in International and Development Economics; NEUDC; SEA Annual Meeting; APPAM Annual Conference (Poster); PEDL 2020 Conference on Firms in Low–income Countries

2019 Midwest International Economic Development Conference; Global Poverty Research Lab Pre–Analysis Plan Mini–Conference; NBER/African Development Bank: Transforming Rural Africa

2018 Bay Area Behavioral and Experimental Economics Workshop; IDEAS Summer School in Development (Poster); AAEA Annual Meeting (Organized Symposium); North American ESA Conference; PEDL/NYU Abu Dhabi Workshop: The Frontiers of Research in Private Enterprise Development in Low-Income Countries; CEAR/Huebner Summer Risk Institute; Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Dakar WASH MEDS Convening

* planned

Research Experience

University of Wisconsin–Madison

Student PI (Aflasafe Senegal project), 2019–2021

Research Assistant for Emilia Tjernström, 2017–2018

Research Assistant for Laura Schechter, 2015–2016

Innovations for Poverty Action, Dakar Urban Sanitation Project, 2013–2016

Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University

Research Assistant for Djavad Salehi–Isfahani, 2012

Teaching Experience

TA, World Hunger & Malnutrition, UW–Madison, Spring 2020

Professional Service

Referee service: Agricultural Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Review, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Food Policy, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Development Effectiveness, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of International Development, Journal of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association, Lahore Journal of Economics, Q Open, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economics of the Household

Grant review service: IGC SGB Evidence Fund, USAID DIV

Department service: Taylor Hibbard Club President (2016–2017); Graduate Committee Student Representative (2017–2018); Coordinator, AAE Development/Political Economy Lab (2017)

Service to the profession: Mentor for prospective Economics MA and PhD students from African countries, through the Graduate Applications International Network (2022, 2023, 2024)

Other advising:

UChicago economics undergrads working on lead acid battery recycling (2023–);

UChicago Harris MA students working on cleaner cooking fuel in Rwanda (2024–)

Other Professional Experience

Independent Consultant [Analysis, Survey Programming, Data Management]

Research Analyst, The Clark Group/Vela Environmental [now KCoe Isom] (2010–2012)

Intern, groSolar and Chesapeake Solar [now SolarCity/Tesla Solar] (2008, 2009)

Miscellaneous

Affiliations: American Economic Association, Agricultural & Applied Economics Association, Economic Science Association, Royal Economic Society, European Economic Association

Technical Proficiencies: Adobe Creative Suite, FrontlineSMS, \LaTeX , Linux, Matlab, ODK, Python, QGIS, R, Stata, SurveyCTO, Web Design

Foreign Languages: English (native), French (fluent), Portuguese (intermediate), Wolof (basic)

Honors and Awards: National Merit Scholar, National AP Scholar, Eagle Scout

Erdős Number: 4

References

Laura Schechter

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Economics
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