

Simon Heß

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POSITIONS

from 2024 **Vienna University of Economics and Business**, assistant professor (tenure track)
2022 – 2024 **University of Vienna**, assistant professor (non-tenured)
2020 – 2022 **Goethe University**, postdoc, Chair of Development Economics, M Schündeln
2018 **Stanford University**, visiting researcher at SIEPR, invited by M Fafchamps
2014 – 2019 **Goethe University**, part-time employed at the Chair of Development Economics
2013 – 2014 **European Bank for Reconstruction & Development**, research analyst, Office of the Chief Economist
2012 – 2013 **University of Konstanz**, student research assistant to H Ursprung and C Alós-Ferrer

DEGREES

2020 **Goethe University**, PhD in Economics (summa cum laude), *Prize for scientific excellence and practical relevance* by the German Economic Association's Committee on Development Economics and the KfW
2013 **University of Konstanz**, MSc in Economics
2011 **University of Konstanz**, BSc in Economics, visiting the American University in Cairo during 2011

PUBLICATIONS

Shared e-scooter services and road safety: Evidence from six European countries (with C Cloud and J Kasinger)
European Economic Review, doi.org/10.1016/j.euroecorev.2023.104593

Environmental Effects of Development Programs: Experimental Evidence from West African Dryland Forests (with M Schündeln and D Jaimovich)
Journal of Development Economics, vol. 153: 102737, 2021, doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2021.102737

Development Projects and Economic Networks: Lessons From Rural Gambia (with M Schündeln and D Jaimovich)
The Review of Economic Studies, vol. 88(3): 1347–1384, 2021, doi.org/10.1093/restud/rdaa033

Randomization Inference with Stata: A Guide and Software 300 citations
Stata Journal, vol. 17(3): 630–651, 2017, doi.org/10.1177/1536867X1701700306

WORKING PAPERS

Political Influence through Kinship Networks: Evidence from the Universe of Registered Voters in Nepal
with P Pathak and M Schündeln (Goethe University).

Causal evidence that herpes zoster vaccination reduces the incidence of dementia [medRxiv 2023.05.23.23290253](https://medrxiv.org/lookup/doi/10.1101/2023.05.23.23290253)
with M Eytting (Mainz and Stanford) and M Xie (Heidelberg and Stanford), P Geldsetzer (Stanford).

The effect of herpes zoster vaccination on the occurrence of deaths due to dementia in England and Wales [medRxiv 2023.09.08.23295225](https://medrxiv.org/lookup/doi/10.1101/2023.09.08.23295225)

with F Michalik (Heidelberg and Stanford), M Eytting (Mainz and Stanford) and M Xie (Heidelberg and Stanford), S Chung (Stanford), P Geldsetzer (Stanford).

Altruism and the Topology of Transfer Networks, [CEPR Discussion Paper 16561](https://cepr.org/discussion/papers/16561)
with M Fafchamps, (Stanford).

WORK IN PROGRESS

Social Networks and the Effect of Political Debates in Young Democracies: Evidence from Gambia
with J Detemple, and M Schündeln (both Goethe University Frankfurt) and H Jawara (University of The Gambia)

German Colonialism
with SO Becker, N Jahangirli, and R Ramachandran (Monash University)

TEACHING

As course instructor

2022, 2023 **Introductory Econometrics**, undergraduate lecture with ~100 students, University of Vienna
Sept 2023 **Causal inference**, 3-day mini course, Monash University Malaysia
Spring 2023 **Causal inference**, undergraduate course with 38 students, University of Vienna
Spring 2022 **Development Economics: Microeconomic Aspects of Development**, MSc lecture, Goethe University; co-taught with M Schündeln
Fall 2021 **Microeconometric Methods and Applications**, MSc seminar, Goethe University
2020, 2021 **Empirical Development Economics** undergraduate lecture, Goethe University; co-taught with M Schündeln

As teaching assistant

2014 – 2020 **Development Economics II, Development Economics III, Evaluation of Development Policy**, MSc courses, Goethe University
2008 – 2013 **Microeconomics II – Game Theory** (undergraduate), **Advanced Microeconomics I** (MSc), **Mathematics for Economists I** (undergraduate), **Mathematics for Economists II** (undergraduate), University of Konstanz

AWARDS & GRANTS

2023 Small research grant, University of Vienna € 2,000
2021 Dissertation award by the KfW Development Bank and the Development Group of the German Economic Association, € 5,000
2020 Sturm & Drang Prize 2020 for the best publication by a young researcher of the Faculty of Economics and Business at Goethe University, € 1,500
2019 – 2022 Joachim Herz fellow for interdisciplinary economics, € 12,500
2013 – 2014 Carlo Schmid fellow for placements in international organizations
2013 VEUK-Award for the best graduate in economics at the University of Konstanz
2011 – 2013 Scholarships from the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes (German National Academic Foundation) and the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIPS

Presentations and invited seminars

2024: Central European University (planned); **2023:** Vienna University of Economics and Business; Standing Committee on Development Economics of the German Economic Association; University of Passau; TU Dresden (planned); **2022:** Trinity College Dublin; University of Vienna; HEC Lausanne; DIME/Worldbank; Annual Conference of the Research Group on Development Economics of the German Economic Association; **2021:** Theory Seminar at Aix Marseille School of Economics; **2020:** 12th World Congress of the Econometric Society; Annual Meeting of the European Economic Association; **2019 and before:** CSAE Conference 2019 at Oxford University; European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Research Seminar; Workshop on Geodata and Economics 2018 by the TU Braunschweig and the Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW); 70th European Meeting of the Econometric Society; Annual Conference of the Research Group on Development Economics of the German Economic Association 2016

Scientific refereeing

Journal of Development Economics, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Land Use Policy, Party Politics

Affiliations and memberships

[German Economic Association](#) (Verein für Socialpolitik); [Research Committee on Development Economics of the German Economic Association](#)