

# SAERA OH

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Department of Agricultural, Food & Resource Economics (AFRE)

Michigan State University

Updated: *October 25, 2025*

## DOCTORAL STUDIES

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Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2020 - 2026 (expected)

**Ph.D.**, AFRE and Economics (Dual Major)

FIELD OF INTEREST: International Trade, Agriculture, Development

DISSERTATION: "Three Essays on Empirical International Trade"

COMMITTEE: Nicole Mason-Wardell (Co-Chair), Oren Ziv (Co-Chair), Songqing Jin, and Chun Zhu

JOB MARKET PAPER: "Related Party Trade and Gravity: Revisiting the Distance Effects"

## PRIOR EDUCATION

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Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea

**M.A.**, Economics

2016

**B.S.**, Animal Science and Biotechnology

2014

## REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

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Sunghun Lim and **Saera Oh**. 2024. "[Geopolitical Risks and Agricultural Trade Diversification in Southern Africa: Port-level Evidence from the Russia-Ukraine War.](#)" *Journal of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association* 3 (4): 724–39. (Lead author)

Sung Ju Cho, **Saera Oh** and Sang Hyeon Lee. 2020. "[The Impact of Structure Similarity of Non-tariff Measures on Agricultural Trade.](#)" *Sustainability* 12(24):10545.

Khan Claudette Mengui, **Saera Oh** and Sang Hyeon Lee. 2019. "[The Technical Efficiency of Small-holder Irish Potato Producers in Santa Subdivision, Cameroon.](#)" *Agriculture* 9(12):259-261

Sung Ju Cho, **Saera Oh** and Sang Hyeon Lee. 2019. "[Impacts of SPS and TBT measures on Korean Agricultural Exports: An Analysis by Disaggregated Products](#)" *Journal of International Trade and Industry Studies* 24(1): 1-19.

**Saera Oh** and Sang Hyeon Lee. 2018. "[Does Trade Contribute to Poverty Reduction? If It Does, Where the Benefit Go?](#)" *The Journal of International Trade and Commerce* 14(2):163–178.

## WORKING PAPERS

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"Related Party Trade and Gravity: Revisiting the Distance Effects" [Job Market Paper]

"Global Value Chains and Intellectual Property Right in Agricultural Trade" (with Sunghun Lim and Titus Awokuse)

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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"Trade Policy, Crop Choice, and Water Stress: Evidence from Mexican Agriculture" (with Hyeseon Shin)

"Transfer Pricing and Policy Shocks: Evidence from Mexico's Trade with China and the United States" (with Oren Ziv)

## SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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*\* indicates the presenter*

**\*Saera Oh**, "Multinational Status and Distance Elasticity: Insights from the Global Banana Trade", *Paper presentation* at 2025 Midwest Economics Association (Kansas City, MO)

Sunghun Lim and **\*Saera Oh**, "Geopolitical Risks and Agricultural Trade Diversification in Southern Africa: Port-level Evidence from the Russia-Ukraine War", *Paper presentation* at 2024 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA)

Sunghun Lim and **\*Saera Oh**, "The Russia-Ukraine War and Wheat Supply Chain in South Africa: A Port-Level Analysis", *Paper presentation* at 2023 International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium (IATRC) Annual Meeting (Clearwater, FL)

**\*Saera Oh**, Sunghun Lim, and Titus Awokuse, "Global Agri-food Value Chains and Intellectual Property Rights in International Trade", *Paper presentation* at 2023 AAEA Annual Meeting (Washington, D.C.)

**\*Saera Oh**, Sunghun Lim, and Titus Awokuse, "Global Value Chains and Intellectual Property Right in Agricultural Trade", *Paper presentation* at 2023 MSU AFRE Graduate Research Symposium (East Lansing, MI)

**\*Saera Oh** and Titus Awokuse, "Effect of Regional Intellectual Property Right on Global Value Chain", *Paper presentation* at 2022 IATRC Annual Meeting (Clearwater, FL)

## OUTREACH PUBLICATION

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Hyeseon Shin, Raphael Gomes de Silva, Valentyn Litvinov, **Saera Oh**, and Anh Phuoc Thien, eds. 2024. [The Future of \(Ag-\) Trade and Trade Governance in Times of Economic Sanctions and Declining Multilateralism.](#), *IATRC Policy Brief*, IATRC

## TEACHING ACTIVITIES

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### Teaching Assistant

AFRE 100 - Decision Making in the Agri-Food System	Fall 2024, Spring 2025
AFRE 232 - Commodity Marketing I	Fall 2025
AFRE 265 - Ecological Economics	Fall 2025

## FELLOWSHIPS

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MSU AFRE Glenn and Sandy Johnson Fellowship (\$10,000)	2024, 2025
MSU Graduate School Research Enhancement Fellowship (\$800)	2024
IATRC Annual Meeting Travel Award	2023
MSU AFRE Graduate Student Professional Travel Fund	2023, 2024
MSU Graduate School Travel Fellowship	2022, 2024

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### Research Assistant

National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Summer 2025

- Supervisors: Sharat Ganapati (Georgetown University), Oren Ziv (Michigan State University)

Michigan State University 2021-2023

- Supervisors: Nicole Mason-Wardell (2024), Zachariah Rutledge (2023), Titus Awokuse (2022-2023), Simone Valle de Souza (2021)

Seoul National University, Agri-food Policy and Trade Lab 2014 - 2015

- Supervisor: Jeong-bin Im

### Researcher

Korea Rural Economic Institute 2016 - 2020

## OTHER EXPERIENCE

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### Intern

Korea International Cooperation Agency Ghana Office 2012 - 2013  
*Accra, Ghana*

## LEADERSHIP

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Secretary-Treasurer, MSU AFRE Graduate Student Organization 2022-2024

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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*Abstract Reviewer*, AAEA annual meeting 2023-2025

*Abstract Reviewer*, European Association of Agricultural Economists annual meeting 2023

## SKILLS

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Softwares: **R** (Proficient), Python (Intermediate), STATA (Intermediate), SQL (Basic), Microsoft Excel (Intermediate),  $\text{\LaTeX}$

Languages: Korean (Native), English (Fluent)

## REFERENCES

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### Nicole Mason-Wardell (Co-Chair)

[masonn@msu.edu](mailto:masonn@msu.edu)

Associate Professor

Department of Agricultural,  
Food, & Resource Economics

### Oren Ziv (Co-Chair)

[orenziv@msu.edu](mailto:orenziv@msu.edu)

Assistant Professor

Department of Economics

### Songqing Jin

[jins@msu.edu](mailto:jins@msu.edu)

Professor

Department of Agricultural,  
Food, & Resource Economics

### Chun (Susan) Zhu

[zhuc@msu.edu](mailto:zhuc@msu.edu)

Professor

Department of Economics