

SAERA OH

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Department of Agricultural, Food & Resource Economics (AFRE)

Michigan State University

Updated: November 16, 2025

EDUCATION

Michigan State University	East Lansing, MI
Ph.D., AFRE and Economics (Dual Major)	2020 - 2026 (expected)
DISSERTATION: "Three Essays on Empirical International Trade"	
JOB MARKET PAPER: "Related Party Trade and Gravity: Revisiting the Distance Effects"	
COMMITTEE: Nicole Mason-Wardell (Chair), Oren Ziv (Chair), Songqing Jin, Chun Zhu	
FIELD OF INTEREST: International Trade, Agriculture	
Seoul National University	Seoul, South Korea
M.A., Economics	2016
B.S., Animal Science and Biotechnology	2014

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

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) [\[Link\]](#)

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. [\[Link\]](#)

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

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. [\[Link\]](#)

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. [\[Link\]](#)

WORKING PAPERS

"Related Party Trade and Gravity: Revisiting the Distance Effects" [Job Market Paper] [\[Draft\]](#)

"Global Value Chains and Intellectual Property Right in Agricultural Trade" (with Sunghun Lim and Titus Awokuse) [Draft available upon request]

WORK IN PROGRESS

"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

* 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

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 [\[Link\]](#)

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

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

MSU Dissertation Completion Fellowship	Spring 2026
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

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

Intern

Korea International Cooperation Agency Ghana Office

2012 - 2013

Accra, Ghana

LEADERSHIP

Secretary-Treasurer, MSU AFRE Graduate Student Organization

2022-2024

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Abstract Reviewer, AAEA annual meeting

2023-2025

Abstract Reviewer, European Association of Agricultural Economists annual meeting

2023

SKILLS

Softwares: **R** (Proficient), Python (Intermediate), STATA (Intermediate), SQL (Basic), Microsoft Excel (Intermediate), L^AT_EX

Languages: Korean (Native), English (Fluent)

REFERENCES

Nicole Mason-Wardell

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Oren Ziv

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