

TEREZA VAREJKOVA

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025– Assistant Professor, American University, School of International Service,
Department of Politics, Governance & Economics

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Maryland at College Park, May 2025
M.A. Economics, Sciences Po Paris, 2017
B.A. Social Sciences, Sciences Po Paris, 2015

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Primary: Development Economics
Secondary: Applied Microeconometrics, Environmental and Resource Economics

DISSERTATION

Essays on Development Economics
Committee: Prof. Sebastian Galiani (Chair), Prof. Maureen Cropper, Prof. Guido Kuersteiner

JOB MARKET PAPER

[“Large-Scale Irrigation and Water Use Inequality in South Africa”](#)

Large-scale surface irrigation is essential in keeping agriculture viable in regions prone to drought but it has the potential to exacerbate inequality due to the uneven distribution of its benefits and costs. I investigate this issue in the context of South Africa by estimating heterogeneous effects of irrigation canals on crop productivity and agricultural land expansion by type of farmer. To estimate these effects, I use remote sensing measures of crop yields and a novel land cover classification dataset in a spatial regression discontinuity framework with relative elevation to the nearest canal as the running variable. Areas below the canals serve as the treated group, while areas above serve as the control. The findings show that commercial farmers below canals benefit in terms of higher maize and wheat yields and expand their area under production. Census data further reveal that these expanding commercial farms create employment opportunities for the rural poor. In contrast, subsistence farmers below canals experience lower yields relative to those above and do not expand their cultivated area. Despite the unequal distribution of benefits, a cost-benefit analysis demonstrates that large-scale irrigation infrastructure remains a cost-effective investment.

ONGOING WORK

[“Interoperability between Mobile Money Providers in Tanzania,”](#) working paper

[“Long-Term Impacts of Natural Disasters on Human Capital and Employment: Evidence from the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami,”](#) work in progress

“Adoption of Capital- and Labor-Intensive Technologies to Improve Agricultural Outcomes: Evidence from a Dissemination Program in Burkina Faso,” with Adrien Bouguen, work in progress

“Water Trade as a Climate Adaptation Strategy,” work in progress

TECHNICAL REPORTS

“[Impact Evaluation of the PFR Benin. Endline Report](#),” *Center for Evaluation and Development (C4ED)*, 2023, with Nicholas Barton and Clémentine Sadania

“[Impact evaluation of the integrated soil fertility management dissemination programme in Burkina Faso](#),” 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 123, *International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)*, 2020, with Adrien Bouguen, Markus Frölich, Estelle Koussoubé, and Eugénie Maïga

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, University of Maryland, Economic Development of Underdeveloped Areas (undergraduate), Summer 2022, Winter 2023, Winter 2024

Instructor, University of Maryland, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory and Policy (undergraduate), Summer 2021

Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland, Empirical Microeconometrics (graduate), Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024

Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland, Information, Game Theory, & Market Design (graduate), Spring 2023

Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland, Program Analysis and Evaluation (graduate), Spring 2023

Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory and Policy (undergraduate), Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Spring 2024

Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland, Estimating Policy and Program Impact (undergraduate), Spring 2020, Spring 2021

Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland, Principles of Microeconomics (undergraduate), Fall 2019

Tutor, University of Maryland, Microeconomic Analysis I and II (PhD), Winter 2021, Winter 2022

RESEARCH AND RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Consultant, Center for Evaluation and Development (C4ED), remote, 2020-2022

Research Assistant, Prof. Jessica Goldberg, University of Maryland, 2020-2021

Research Manager, Center for Evaluation and Development (C4ED), University of Mannheim, Germany, 2017-2019

Research Assistant, J-PAL Europe, Paris School of Economics, France, 2019

Research Assistant, Prof. Elise Huillery, Sciences Po Paris, France, 2018

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Visiting Day Poster Competition: First Prize, University of Maryland, 2024

BSOS Dean’s Research Initiative Grant, Graduate Travel Support, University of Maryland, 2024

Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant, University of Maryland, 2024

International Conference Student Support Award, University of Maryland, 2024

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2025: Population Association of America (PAA) Annual Meeting, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg (*virtual*)

2024: Southern Economic Association (SEA) 94th Annual Meeting (scheduled), CSWEP Mentoring Workshop, 2nd Essex PhD Conference in Applied Economics, Development Economics in the South (DevSouth) Workshop (University of Tennessee), German Development Economics Conference (Leibniz University Hannover), 11th International Workshop on Regional, Urban, and Spatial Economics in China (Southeast University, Nanjing; *virtual*)

2023: Twenty-Second Summer School in International and Development Economics

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee for *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, Reviewer for *National Center for Environmental Economics at Environmental Protection Agency*

LANGUAGES

Czech (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), German (intermediate), Italian (intermediate), Russian (beginner)

COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS

Stata, Google Earth Engine, QGIS, Python

REFERENCES

Prof. Sebastian Galiani	University of Maryland	sgaliani@umd.edu	(301) 405-3518
Prof. Maureen Cropper	University of Maryland	mcropper@umd.edu	(301) 405-3483
Prof. Guido Kuersteiner	University of Maryland	gkuerste@umd.edu	(301) 405-3493