Vincent Ricciardi, PhD

Data Scientist | Sustainability Scientist
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EDUCATION

PhD in Resource Management & Environmental Studies, University of British Columbia   2019

MSc in Geography, Pennsylvania State University   2014

BA in Psychology, Kalamazoo College   2009

SKILLS

Coding   Python (5 years), R (7 years), Bash/Unix (4 years)
Skillsets   Inferential Statistics, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) – Spatial Analysis,
          Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing (NLP), Network Analysis

EMPLOYMENT

Jr Data Scientist, World Bank   2019 – Present

Data scientist for high-impact data communication publications

Lead author for chapter in flagship report with over 1 million downloads per year (WDR)
Curated open-access environmental database with over 120k visitors a year (WDI)
Lead environmental scientist for data journalism and visualization project (SDG Atlas)

PhD Student & Research Assistant, University of British Columbia   2015 – 2019

10 publications in 4 years. 3 are in the top 5% of most discussed out of 14 million ranked

Gates Foundation	Led research team to build NLP models to automate meta-analysis
United Nations FAO	Built mixed models to validate a dataset of over 3 million farmers
CGIAR Big Data Platform	Spatially modeled a global baseline on farmer cell phone use
Canada Research Grant	Led research team to harmonize agricultural data from 55 countries

Independent Consultant, Cambodia, Ghana, Thailand, Vietnam   2010 – 2015

Led field research teams. Communicated project impacts to ministry members and funders

USAID Subcontract	Value chain assessment for sweet potatoes
USAID Subcontract	Needs assessment for national agriculture education centers
iDE	Spatial analyses for program assessments
ECHO Asia	Led field work and germination trials on indigenous crops species

Research Assistant

5 publications in 3 years

Pennsylvania State University	Modeled land-use and disease outbreak, Ghana	2012 – 2014
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Collated material for neuroscience study	2007

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (Full list available in Google Scholar)

15 academic publications – 4 in publishing pipeline
20 conference and workshop presentations

Ricciardi, V., Ramankutty, N., Mehrabi, Z., Wittman, H., James, D. Smaller farms are consistently higher yielding and more biodiverse than large farms: A meta-analysis. Nature Sustainability. *In Review*.

Mehrabi, Z., **Ricciardi**, V., Levers, C., McDowell, M. The global digital divide in data-driven agriculture. Science Advances. *In Review.*

Ramankutty, N., **Ricciardi**, V., Mehrabi, Z., Seufert, V. 2019. Trade-offs in the performance of alternative farming systems. Agricultural Economics. *Early View.*

Khoury, D., Kisel, Y., Kantar, M., Barber, E., **Ricciardi**, V., Klirs, C., Kucera, L., Mehrabi, Z., Johnson, N., Klabin, S. and Valiño, Á., 2019. Science-graphic art partnerships to increase research impact. Nature Communications Biology, 2(1): 1-5.

McDowell, G., Huggle, C., Frey, H., Wang, F., **Ricciardi**, V., Cramer, K. 2018. Adaptation action and research in glaciated mountain systems: Are they enough to meet the challenge of climate change? Global Environmental Change. 54: 19-30.

Ricciardi, V., Ramankutty, N., Mehrabi, Z., Jarvis, L., Chookolingo, B. 2018. How much of our world's food do smallholders produce? Global Food Security, 17: 64-72.