

# YUEZHOU YANG

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## EDUCATION

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| <b>London School of Economics (LSE)</b>  | London, UK           |
| Ph.D. in International Development   | expt. June 2023      |
| M.Res. in International Development  | Dec 2018             |
| Department of International Development  |                      |
| Dissertation: <i>Property Institutions, Politics, and Foreign Investment in Africa: Cases of Chinese Agricultural Investments in Tanzania and Zambia</i> |                      |
| <b>University of Illinois (UIUC)</b>   | Urbana-Champaign, US |
| M.Sc. in Bioenergy   | May 2017             |
| Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering  |                      |
| Member, IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy   |                      |
| <b>China Agricultural University (CAU)</b>   | Beijing, China       |
| B.Sc. in Agronomy  | July 2015            |
| College of Agronomy and Biotechnology  |                      |

## PUBLICATION & WORKING PAPERS

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Working papers:

- Property Institutions and State Capacity: Governing Chinese Agricultural Investment in Zambia.
- The Heterogeneity of Chinese Investors in African Agriculture: A Typology of Chinese Economic Actors.
- Negotiable Foreign Capitals in Africa: A Comparative Analysis of the Performances of Chinese State Capital and Global Private Capital in Large-Scale Land Acquisitions in Africa (with Dr. Carolin Dieterle).

Peer-reviewed article:

Li, M., Wang, J., Yang, Y., & Xie, G. (2016). Alkali-based pretreatments distinctively extract lignin and pectin for enhancing biomass saccharification by altering cellulose features in sugar-rich Jerusalem artichoke stem. *Bioresource Technology*, 208, 31-41.

Policy report:

Yang, Y. (2017). The importance of developing sustainability standards for biofuels in the social aspects: evidence of food insecurity and land tenure and access rights abuse. In *Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment, OHCHR*.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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- Land reforms, land laws, land policies, investment policies in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)
- Global land acquisitions, land politics, land tenure regimes, property rights, property institutions in SSA
- Comparative politics and political economy in SSA, China Africa relations
- Chinese overseas economic actors and their behaviors
- Political ecology, biofuel policy, renewable energy policy, environmental policy and environmental governance
- Multi-Scale Intersection: State/Business, State/Society, People/Environment

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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**Ph.D. Dissertation Research Project** LSE  
**Researcher** Sep 2017-present

- Designed doctoral research project based on a large volume of literature review and data analysis
- Conducted 6-month field research trips in Tanzania and Zambia and collected over 140 semi-structured in-depth interviews
- Building theories through process-tracing and typological theorizing
- Policy contribution to land law reforms and in broader application to natural resource governance

**Ownership Project** University of Oxford  
**Research Assistant** Sep 2021-Sep 2022

- Design and propose a methodology for triangulating three types of data that obtained through interviews and secondary resource
- Execute the methodology which involves data inputting running relevant analyses and manipulating the triangulated data to reveal insights, correlation, new questions, etc
- Produce data visualizations suitable both for academic publications and popular audience.

**ESRC-funded Spatial Inequality Project: Tanzania Case Analysis** LSE  
**Research Assistant** Dec 2020-Feb 2021

- Created a time series of regional GDP and regional GDP per capital (2000-2018)
- Created a population by region database
- Analyzed data and interpreted the consistency and movement of political economic factors along the line of spatial inequality.

**World Bank Forest & Fisheries Projects** UIUC  
**Research Assistant** Feb-July 2017

- Designed analytical framework for classifying World Bank forest and fisheries projects since 1950s
- Conducted data collection and analysis, and built up a preliminary dataset.

**Environmental Policy** UIUC & IUCN  
**Policy Analyst** Sep-Dec 2016

- Analyzed the current frameworks and identified the gap to further develop sustainability standards for biofuels in the social aspects
- Delivered a report entitled “*International Inequality in Biofuel Policies and Human Rights to Land and Food Security*,” which evaluated EU and US biofuel policies, seven international standards and certifications, and analyzed the key gaps about the social impacts of biofuels and addressed recommendations.

**National Energy R&D Center for non-Food Biomass** CAU  
**Quantitative Data Analysis** Apr 2013-May 2015

- Conducted thorough policy and literature review on China’s non-food biomass feed stock and non-arable land for energy crops
- Analyzed large-*N* data generated from hundreds of lab experiments by using SPSS
- Drafted a project report on the lignocellulose ethanol potential in China and gave the final presentation for the client, TOTAL.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

<b>Power and Politics in the Modern World: Comparative Perspectives (GV248)</b> Graduate Teaching Assistant	LSE 2020/21 & 2022/23
<b>Development in the International Political Economy (SC IR207)</b> Graduate Teaching Assistant	LSE June-July 2022
<b>Research Design and Dissertation in International Development 22/23 (DV410)</b> Dissertation workshop supervisor and Co-Marker	LSE June 2021
<b>Designing and Implementing Evidence-Informed Policies and Programmes (PP4J4)</b> Co-Marker	LSE Dec 2020-Mar 2021
<b>African Political Economy (DV435)</b> Research Assistant & Student Coach	LSE Jun-Dec 2020
<b>Gender Relations &amp; International Development (GWS512)</b> Designed and Taught Two Lectures	UIUC Jan-May 2017
<b>Environmental Policy (GEOG466)</b> Graduate Teaching Assistant	UIUC May-July 2016

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS**

“Repertoires of control: Contrasting land rights regimes and performance of Chinese agricultural investment in Tanzania and Zambia,” a paper presented on African Studies Association Conference, November 2022.

“The heterogeneity of Chinese investors in Zambian agriculture: A typology of Chinese economic actors,” a paper presented on China and the Global South LSE ID-Fudan IGPP workshop, November 2022.

“Whose troubles whose rights? The stories of Chinese agricultural investment in Tanzania,” a guest lecture to PhD level course, “Africa and International Development” (course convenor, Dr. Xu Jin), at CIDGA, November 2022.

“Beyond China-Africa,” a three minute thesis [video](#) entered national competition representing the LSE, Vitae 3MT® 2021.

“Property Institutions and Their Explanatory Power on Foreign Land Investments in Zambia,” a paper presented on African Studies Association Conference, virtually, November 2020 & 2021.

“Property Institutions, Politics, and Foreign Investment in Africa: Cases of Chinese Agricultural Investments in Tanzania and Zambia,” a paper presented on Development Studies Association Conference, virtually, June 2020 & 2021.

“A Tale of Two Capitals in Two Countries: Property Institutions, Politics, and Foreign Investments in Africa,” a paper presented on Oxford University China-Africa Network, Oxford, February 2020.

“Are You Chinese?” A Reflection on ‘positionality’ from fieldwork experience in Tanzania and Zambia, a paper presented on Chinese Positionality Workshop, SOAS, January 2020.

“International Inequality in Biofuel Policies and Human Rights to Land and Food Security,” a paper presented on Comparative and International Education Society Conference, Environmental and Sustainability Education Special Topics, Atlanta, March 2017.

## **GRANTS & AWARDS**

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- 2022 LSE Final Year Writing-up Grant, LSE  
LSE PhD Academy-ESRC Student Competition Fund, ESRC  
Supplemental Research Financing (RIIF Funds), LSE
- 2021 British Institute in Eastern Africa Thematic Grants, BIEA  
Great Britain-China Educational Trust Chinese Students Award, GBCET  
Supplemental Research Financing (RIIF Funds), LSE
- 2020 Supplemental Research Financing (RIIF Funds), LSE  
PhD Travel Fund, International Development, LSE
- 2019 Supplemental Research Financing (RIIF Funds), LSE  
Santander Travel Fund, Santander-LSE  
PhD Travel Fund, International Development, LSE
- 2018 PhD Travel Fund, International Development, LSE  
Supplemental Research Financing (RIIF Funds), LSE
- 2017 Four-year PhD Scholarship from China Scholarship Council, CSC
- 2014 Scholarship for Outstanding Performance in Academics, CAU
- 2013 Scholarship for Outstanding Performance in Academics, CAU
- 2012 Scholarship for Outstanding Performance in Academics, CAU  
Yang Zhenhui Scholarship for Outstanding Students in CAU

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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- 2022 Organizer of LSE Global China PhD Working Group Seminars, biweekly  
Convener of Conference Panel on ‘Africa-China Research: Co-determining Africa-China engagement and performance by local socio-political dynamics,’ African Studies Association Conference, Philadelphia, November
- 2021 Founder and organizer of LSE Global China PhD Working Group  
Co-Convener of Conference Panel on ‘Unsettling Land Institutions and Actors: New Ideas for land-related Research, Policy and Practice,’ Development Studies Association Conference, virtually, June (with Carolin Dieterle)  
Co-Organizer of Land Politics and Development Seminar, DSA Study Group, monthly (with Carolin Dieterle)
- 2020 Co-Convener of Conference Panel on ‘Beyond the State? Emerging Actors in Land Governance in sub-Saharan Africa,’ Development Studies Association Conference, Birmingham, June (with Carolin Dieterle)  
Co-Organizer of Workshop on ‘Chinese Positionality: A Reflexive Discussion on Conducting Research in Africa,’ LSE-SOAS, January (with Weidi Zhang & Hang Zhou)
- 2019/20 Co-Organizer of Land Politics Working Group Seminar, LSE-UCL, biweekly (with Catherine Boone)

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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### **Anti-Child Labor Project Research Consultant**

Education Volunteers Ghana, Ghana  
July-Aug 2016

- Provided professional ethnographic field research training to research team in an anti-child labor project and designed semi-structured, in-depth interview guidelines
- Produced a project report on eliminating child labor and preventing children from dropping out of school based on a large volume of literature review, elite interviews, and survey data

YUEZHOU YANG – C.V. – January, 2023

## **METHODOLOGY TRAINING**

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2022 Tableau  
2021 STATA, Python  
2020 ArcGis  
2018 Qualitative Methods in Studying Politics, Quantitative Methods in Political Science  
2017 Research Design in Political Science  
2016 Impact Evaluation (Economics), Methods of Field Research (Sociology)  
2014 Agricultural Economics and Management, Agricultural Information Technology (SAS, R Language, Hybrid-Maize, MapInfo, and Matlab), Trial Design and Biostatistics

## **ADDITIONAL**

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- Language: Chinese (native); English (full proficiency); Kiswahili (daily communication)
- Music: Classically trained flutist, Piano and Ukulele beginner!

## **REFERENCES**

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