

Capucine CHAPEL

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Research interests

Themes:

- Development Economics
- Environmental Economics
- Urban & Territorial Economics

Methods:

- Microeconometrics
- Impact Evaluation
- Machine Learning
- Spatial Statistics

Professional Experience

Postdoctoral Researcher

October 2023 – Present

ERUDITE

Créteil, France

- Social Housing Externalities
- Supervisors: Camille REGNIER and Kévin FOURREY

Doctoral Researcher

October 2020 – September 2023

CESAER-INRAE Research Unit

Dijon, France

- Economic evaluations of green spaces
- Study dimensions and scales: urban/rural, France/Spain/Europe, Real Estate/Tourism markets
- Methods: Causal inference (Augmented Inverse Probability Weighted, Generalized Propensity Score Matching)

Research Assistant

June 2020 – August 2020

Fondation pour les études et recherches sur le développement international *Clermont-Ferrand, France*

- Literature review on the taxation of renewable natural resources
- Reports for a steering committee and webinars on the challenges of mobilizing internal resources in response to the COVID-19 crisis

Research Assistant

June 2019 - July 2019

Laboratoire d'Économie d'Orléans

Orléans, France

- Supervisors: Professor Camelia TURCU and Tais NUNEZ-ROCHA
- Database creation and statistical analysis using STATA
- Report on the impact of environmental regulations on trade
- Organization of the 2019 AFSE Conference

Research Stay

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

April 2022 – June 2022

3 months

Madrid, Spain

- Invited by Professor Coro Chasco and the Regional Economics Research Group (ECONRES)
- Economic evaluation of the Natura 2000 network in Castile and León.

Education

Ph.D. in Economics

October 2020 – Present

University de Bourgogne Franche-Comté

Dijon, France

- Agreenium International Research School doctoral programme
- Title: Three essays on the economic value of recreational amenities provided by green spaces
- Thesis Defense: December 8, 2023
- Supervisors: Julie LE GALLO and Mohamed HILAL
- Jury Members: Florent Sari, Rosella Nicolini, Julien Salanié, Jeanne Dachary-Bernard, Vincent Viguié

Abstract

This thesis analyses how individuals value the recreational amenities of green spaces, firstly in an urban environment in European (chapter 1) and French (chapter 2) cities, and secondly in rural areas (chapter 3). To meet this objective, we use methods for the economic evaluation of green spaces, drawing on the tools of applied microeconomics. More specifically, while chapter 1 is based on a life satisfaction approach, chapters 2 and 3 rely on a revealed preference approach and an impact assessment using propensity scores weighting.

In chapter 1, we examine the determinants of satisfaction with green spaces among city dwellers in major European cities, using data from the 2019 Flash Eurobarometer and the Urban Atlas, with a view to proposing public policies that are consistent with household preferences. We show that it is the improvement of green spaces rather than the current stock that has an impact on satisfaction, and that the accessibility of green spaces has a greater influence than availability.

Using data on rents from the Observatoires Locaux des Loyers and on parks from OpenStreetMap, chapter 2 examines the impact of different types of urban park size on rental rates in the French private rental market. We find that tenants value urban parks differently depending on their size and the uses they offer. More specifically, in descending order of preference, we show that individuals first value large parks, then small parks and finally medium-sized parks.

Finally, in chapter 3, we estimate the impact of areas protected by the Natura 2000 network on nature-based rural tourism in the Spanish region of "Castilla y León". We estimate the marginal willingness to pay for accommodation in a Natura 2000 area at an average of 1.09 euros per person per night. Thus, the implementation of such an initiative leads to the creation of value in the growing nature-based tourism market.

Master's in Development Economics

Université Clermont-Auvergne

With honors

September 2018 – June 2020

Clermont-Ferrand, France

Bachelor's Degree in Economics

Université Clermont-Auvergne

Class Valedictorian, with Highest Honors

September 2015 – June 2018

Clermont-Ferrand, France

Publications

Publication in peer-reviewed journals

- Chapel, C. (2022). Impact of official development assistance projects for renewable energy on electrification in sub-Saharan Africa. *World Development*, 152, 105784.

Abstract

While the African continent has one of the largest renewable energy potentials in the world, it remains the most deprived region for access to electricity. Official development agencies can provide the funds and experience necessary for the sustainable development of this sector to those countries that suffer from limited domestic resources. We estimate the impact of renewable energy aid projects implemented in 19 sub-Saharan African countries on access to electricity for communities in the region. By combining georeferenced data from aid projects in renewable energy from AidData and survey data from the Afrobarometer, we find, using different propensity score matching methods, a positive and significant impact of these projects on electrification of communities. A comparison with the same sample on non-renewable energy projects shows a better efficiency of eco-friendly projects. However, the effectiveness of these projects is heterogeneous and depends greatly on the type of donor, the location, and the initial level of development. Our results contribute to the scholarly debate on aid effectiveness and provide important political implications. Indeed, they suggest that international donors should favour sending funds for renewable energy projects in countries and regions lacking electrification as these funds contribute to better access to electricity while promoting environmentally friendly technologies.

Work in progress

- “Which size for urban green parks? French evidence of the rental market”

Abstract

Faced with increasing urbanisation and climate crisis, the development of green spaces in cities has become a major issue for urban planners. While the need for proximity between housing and green spaces has been widely established in the literature, the question of the size to allocate to the latter is important in a context of strong pressure on land use. We explore this question by taking advantage of databases of the local rent observatories for rental prices and OpenStreetMap for parks. Using a generalised propensity score weighting method, we analyse the preferences between different typologies of park sizes in the private rental market of the largest French urban areas in 2017 and 2018. We show that on average, individuals value large parks more, followed by small and lastly by medium-sized parks. We also detect variations in this hierarchy of preference depending on flat size and its location. These results are of interest not only to property investors looking to increase their rental income, but also to political decision-makers looking to improve existing parks and propose new urban park development projects.

- “What drives urban green satisfaction in major European cities? A life satisfaction approach” *with Sophie Legras - submitted.*

Abstract

This study aims to identify the determinants of satisfaction with green spaces among residents of 72 European cities through a life satisfaction approach using Eurobarometer survey data in 2019 and the green land cover of the Urban Atlas. Using a linear probability model, we regress the satisfaction of city dwellers with regard to green spaces on indicators of availability and accessibility of green spaces at the city level, both in stock and in variation. We show that, in general, satisfaction with green spaces is determined by both their availability and, even more importantly, their accessibility. Furthermore, satisfaction is not driven by the current level of these two indicators, but rather by their improvement since 2012. We also identify heterogeneities in the determinants of satisfaction according to the socio-demographic characteristics of the individuals. In particular, individuals with financial difficulties or children value only the variation of the dimension of accessibility of green spaces whilst individuals who have not always lived in their current city of residence are also impacted by the current stock of accessibility. These results provide an indication of the dimensions to be prioritised for current and future public policies in favour of green spaces.

- “Economic evaluation of the benefits of the Natura 2000 network in “Castilla y León” (Spain) through rural tourism” *with Coro Chasco, Mohamed Hilal, Julie Le Gallo et Javier Vélasquez*

Abstract

The implementation of biodiversity protection initiatives such as the Natura 2000 network requires a trade-off between the ecosystem services generated and the costs and restrictions encountered by local populations and authorities. Using a doubly robust estimator, we conduct a causal economic evaluation of the impact of these protected areas in the Spanish region of “Castilla y León”. Through the prism of nature-based tourism, we show that individuals positively value the areas inside the Natura 2000 network. Therefore, the implementation of such an initiative leads to the creation of value in the growing nature-based market. These results have important implications for tourism stakeholders, public policies, and managers of Natura 2000 protected areas.

Study Reports

- “Natural Resources and Governance: Between Opportunity and Hindrance to Energy Transition” - in French
- “Energy Transition: The Role of Exchanges with Renewable Energy Pioneering Countries” - in French
- “Early Marriage and Girls’ Education in Africa” - in French
- “Environmental Clauses and International Trade” - in French

Seminars and Conferences

GATE Seminar <i>GATE</i>	Upcoming : January 2024 <i>Saint-Etienne (France)</i>
EIDER Seminar <i>UMR TERRITOIRE - INRAE</i>	October 2023 <i>Clermont-Ferrand (France)</i>
ERUDITE Seminar <i>ERUDITE</i>	October 2023 <i>Créteil (France)</i>
10ème Conférence annuelle de la FAERE	September 2023 <i>Montpellier (France)</i>
62nd ERSA Congress	August 2023 <i>en ligne</i>
22èmes Journées Louis-André Gérard-Varet	June 2023 <i>Marseille (France)</i>
39èmes Journées de Microéconomie Appliquée <i>BETA</i>	June 2023 <i>Strasbourg (France)</i>
13th FAERE Thematic Workshop “Cities & Environment” <i>FAERE</i>	June 2023 <i>Champs-sur-Marne (France)</i>
16èmes Journées de Recherche en Sciences Sociales <i>INRAE, SFER, CIRAD</i>	December 2022 <i>Clermont-Ferrand (France)</i>
2nd FAERE Doctoral Workshop <i>FAERE and Solar Academy</i>	November 2022 <i>Le Bourget du Lac (France)</i>

Responsibilities

Co-organizer of internal research seminars <i>CESAER, UMR 1041</i>	October 2020 – November 2021 <i>Dijon, France</i>
Member of the organizing committee for AFSE 2019 <i>Laboratoire d'Économie d'Orléans</i>	June 2019 <i>Orléans, France</i>

Scholarships

- **2022:** DGEP Doctoral School Mobility Scholarship (€1500)
- **2022:** ERASMUS+ Mobility Scholarship (€1600)
- **2022:** EIR-A Mobility Scholarship (€2500)
- **2020 - 2023:** UBFC Doctoral Scholarship

Teaching

Teaching Assistant <i>Université Bourgogne Franche-Comté</i>	2021 – 2023 <i>Dijon, France</i>
○ Econometrics with R (90 hours in Bachelor's Degree, 3rd year, in Economics): Descriptive statistics, simulations, simple and multiple linear regressions with R.	
Teaching Assistant <i>Institut Agro Dijon</i>	2021 – 2023 <i>Dijon, France</i>
○ Statistics (40 hours in Master 1 Agricultural Engineering): ANOVA and linear regression.	

- Microeconomics (22 hours in Bachelor's Degree, 2nd year, in Economic and Social Administration): Producer and consumer theory
- Macroeconomics (18 hours in Bachelor's Degree, 1st year, in Economics): Major functions and macroeconomic equilibrium
- Computer Science (24 hours in Bachelor's Degree, 1st year, in Economics): Introduction to the university's digital environment (ENT), Use of word processing and presentation tools

Other skills and activities

Computer Skills

- Programming: R, Stata, Qgis, SQL
- Office and Presentation Software: L^AT_EX, Canva, Open/Libre/Microsoft Office

Langues

- French : Mother tongue
- English : C1 (TOEIC : 900/990)
- German : A2
- Spanish : A1

Loisirs

- Board game
- Tennis

References

Julie LE GALLO, Full professor in Economics

- Centre d'Économie et de Sociologie appliqués à l'Agriculture et aux Espaces Ruraux (CESAER, UMR 1041)
- Institut Agro Dijon
- Tel : + 33 3 80 77 23 66
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Camille REGNIER, Associate professor in Economics

- ERUDITE
- Université Paris-Est Créteil
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Coro CHASCO YRIGOYEN, Full Professor in Economics

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