

sarah meier | curriculum vitae

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research interests

I am an applied environmental economist with a background in climate sciences. My current research focuses on the intersection of these two disciplines with a focus on natural hazards and biodiversity. I address relevant research questions by leveraging big data, satellite imagery and causal inference techniques.

employment

University of Exeter, Postdoctoral Research Fellow <i>Dragon Capital Research Programme on Biodiversity Economics</i>	Exeter (UK) Oct 2023 – present
University of Birmingham, Research Fellow <i>PhD in Environmental Economics: "Essays on the Economics of Wildfires"</i> Examined by Dr. Sefi Roth and Prof. David Maddison (awarded with no corrections)	Birmingham (UK) Sep 2020 – Jul 2023

education

Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research <i>Master of Science in Climate Sciences w. Specification in Economics (6/6)</i>	Bern (CH) Feb 2019 – Jul 2020
University of Bern <i>Bachelor of Science in Economics (5.13/6)</i>	Bern (CH) Sep 2015 – Feb 2019
Bern University of the Arts <i>Master of Arts in Music, Classical Trumpet (5.65/6)</i>	Bern (CH) Sep 2011 – Jun 2013

publications

Meier, S., Strobl, E. & Elliott, R.J.R. (2024) The impact of wildfire smoke exposure on excess mortality and later-life socioeconomic outcomes: The Great Fire of 1910. *Cliometrica*. 1-64.

Jones, M. W. et al. (2024), State of Wildfires 2023–2024. *Earth System Science Data*. 16(8), 3601–3685.

Meier, S., Elliott, R.J.R. & Strobl, E. (2023) The regional economic impact of wildfires: Evidence from Southern Europe. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*. 118, 102787.

Meier, S., Strobl, E., Elliott, R.J.R., & Kettridge, N. (2023) Cross-country risk quantification of extreme wildfires in Mediterranean Europe. *Risk Analysis*, 43(9), 1745–1762.

working papers

Meier, S., Balmford, B., Faccioli, M., & Groom, B., Public and expert preferences for biodiversity metrics and the implications for shadow pricing

selected work in progress

- The impact of wildfire smoke on local avian biodiversity (with Eric Strobl)
- Forest fragmentation and zoonotic diseases (with Neha Deopa and Kritika Saxena)
- Forest conservation policy, additionality, and socio-environmental implications (with Ben Balmford and Ville Inkinen)

awards, grants & fellowships

Swiss National Science Foundation: Ambizione Fellowship

"Policy decisions in connected systems: Forest loss, biodiversity and human well-being"
(CHF 720,000)

Sep 2025

British Academy/Leverhulme Small Research Grant

"Forest fragmentation and the burden of zoonotic diseases" (£10,000)

Jun 2025

Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Fellow in ITN

University of Birmingham, School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences

Jul 2020 – Sep 2023

2020 Oeschger Young Scientist's Prize

for achieving the second-highest GPA in the Master's program of the Graduate School of Climate Sciences at the University of Bern

2021

conferences & invited presentations

2025: Congress of the Latin American and the Caribbean Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (LAERE), EAERE, Royal Economic Society Annual Conference, 26th BioEcon Conference, NERC/ESRC Economics of Biodiversity Conference, LSE Environment Week, Heartland Environmental and Resource Economics Workshop at Illinois

2024: NERC/ESRC Economics of Biodiversity Conference, MIT Climate Change Adaptation in Response to Wildfires Workshop (invited), AERE, European Urban Economics Association, LAGV Marseille, EAERE, Data-Intensive Research Conference NDIRA, UCSB Occasional Workshop in Environmental and Resource Economics, Swiss Workshop on Environmental Resource and Energy Economics, University of Birmingham Seminar "Quantitative Methods for Finance" by the School of Mathematics & the Royal Statistical Society (invited)

2023: EAERE-ETH Winter School on Natural Resources and Development in Resource-rich Countries, Envecon23, VUA Big Data and Economics Research Network: Workshop on Urban and Environmental Challenges, EAERE

2022: 15th RGS Doctoral Conference in Economics, 13th Columbia Interdisciplinary PhD Workshop in Sustainable Development, Cambridge Land Economy Early Career Researcher's Conference, EGU General Assembly, Fire & Climate Conference, LSE Shifting Landscapes

2021: 12th Columbia Interdisciplinary Workshop in Sustainable Development, 16th International Wildland Fire Safety Summit, 2nd Oxford meeting on Environmental Social Sciences: Challenges and Solutions for Sustainable Development

further details

Statistical Software: Python, R, STATA

Other Software & Tools: L^AT_EX, ArcGIS, Git/GitHub, Google Earth Engine, RMarkdown, Java (data scraping)

Reviewing: Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Environmental and Resource Economics, Nature Communications, Fire Ecology

Languages: German (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), Italian (basic), Spanish (basic)

references

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